Chapter 7: Syntax-Directed Translation

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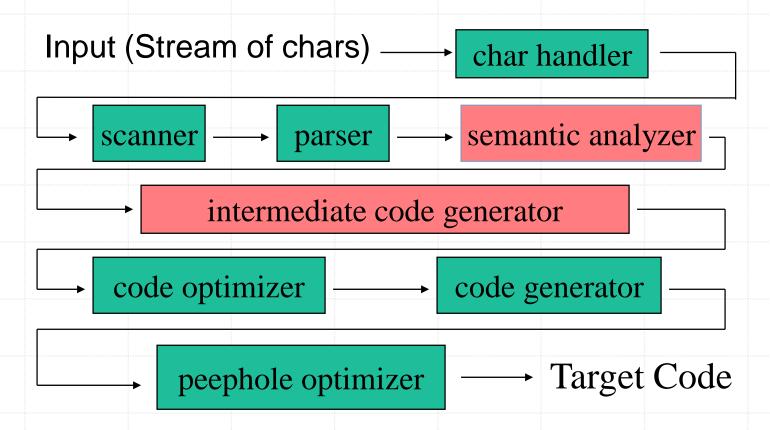
Semantic Analyzer

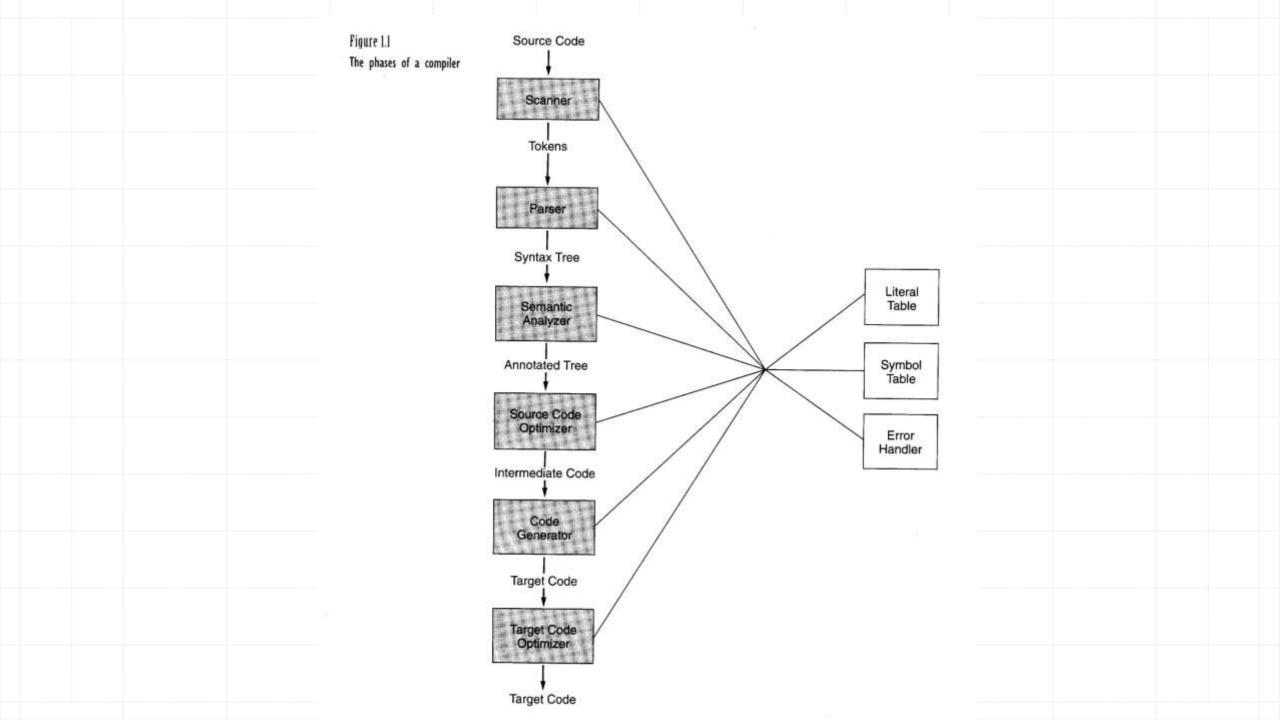
- Semantic Structure
 - What is the program supposed to do?
 - Semantics analysis can be done during syntax analysis phase or intermediate code generator phase or the final code generator.
 - typical static semantic features include declarations and type checking.
 - information (attributes) gathered can be either added to the tree as annotations or entered into the symbol table.

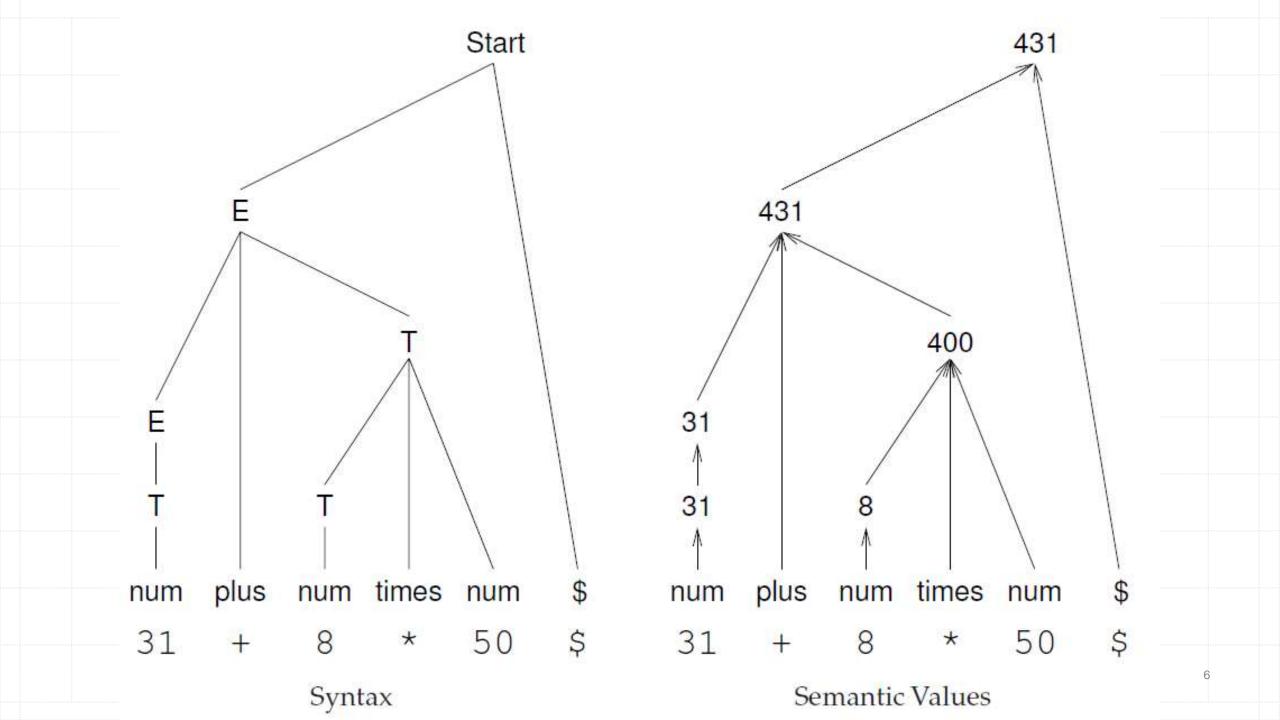
Two Categories of Semantic Analysis

- Semantic analysis can be divided into two categories.
 - The first is the analysis of a program required by the rules of the programming language to establish its correctness and to guarantee proper execution.
 - The second category of semantic analysis is the analysis performed by a compiler to enhance the efficiency of execution of the translated program. This kind of analysis is usually included in discussions of optimization, or code improving techniques.

Compiling Process & Compiler Structure







Semantic Analysis Process

- includes formally:
 - description of the analyses to perform
 - implementation of the analysis (translation of the description) that may use appropriate algorithms.

Description of Semantic Analysis

- 1. Identify attributes (properties) of language (syntactic) entities.
- 2. Write attribute equations (or semantic rules) that express how the computation of such attributes is related to the grammar rules of the language.

Such a set of attributes and equations is called an attribute grammar.

Syntax-directed semantics

• The semantic content of a program is closely related to its syntax.

All modern languages have this property.

Attributes

An attribute is any property of a programming language construct.

 Typical examples of attributes include the data type of a variable, the value of an expression, the location of a variable in memory, the object code of a procedure, the number of significant digits in a number.

Attribute corresponds to the name of a field of a structure.

Attribute Grammars

• In syntax-directed semantics, attributes are associated with grammar symbols of the language. That is, if X is a grammar symbol and a is an attribute associated to X, then we write X, a for the value of an associated to X.

• For each grammar rule $X_0 \to X_1 X_2 \cdots X_n$ the values of the attributes X_i , a_j of each grammar symbol X_i are related to the values of the attributes of other grammar symbols in the rule.

Attribute Grammars

 That is, each relationship is specified by an attribute equation or semantic rule of the form:

$$X_i. a_j = f_{ij}(X_0. a_1, ..., X_0. a_k, X_1. a_1, ..., X_1. a_k, ..., X_n. a_1, ..., X_n. a_k)$$

• An attribute grammar for the attributes $a_1, ..., a_k$ is the collection of all such attribute equations (semantic rules), for all the grammar rules of the language.

Example 6.2

Consider the following grammar for simple integer arithmetic expressions:

$$exp \rightarrow exp + term \mid exp - term \mid term$$

 $term \rightarrow term * factor \mid factor$
 $factor \rightarrow (exp) \mid number$

This grammar is a slightly modified version of the simple expression grammar studied extensively in previous chapters. The principal attribute of an *exp* (or *term* or *factor*) is its numeric value, which we write as *val*. The attribute equations for the *val* attribute are given in Table 6.2.

Table 6.2

Attribute grammar for Example 6.2

Grammar Rule	Semantic Rules
$exp_1 \rightarrow exp_2 + term$	$exp_1.val = exp_2.val + term.val$
$exp_1 \rightarrow exp_2 - term$	$exp_1 .val = exp_2 .val - term.val$
$exp \rightarrow term$	exp.val = term.val
$term_1 \rightarrow term_2 * factor$	$term_1.val = term_2.val * factor.val$
$term \rightarrow factor$	term.val = factor.val
$factor \rightarrow (exp)$	factor.val = exp.val
factor → number	factor.val = number.val

number.val must be computed prior to factor.val

These equations express the relationship between the syntax of the expressions and the semantics of the arithmetic computations to be performed. Note, for example, the difference between the syntactic symbol + (a token) in the grammar rule

$$exp_1 \rightarrow exp_2 + term$$

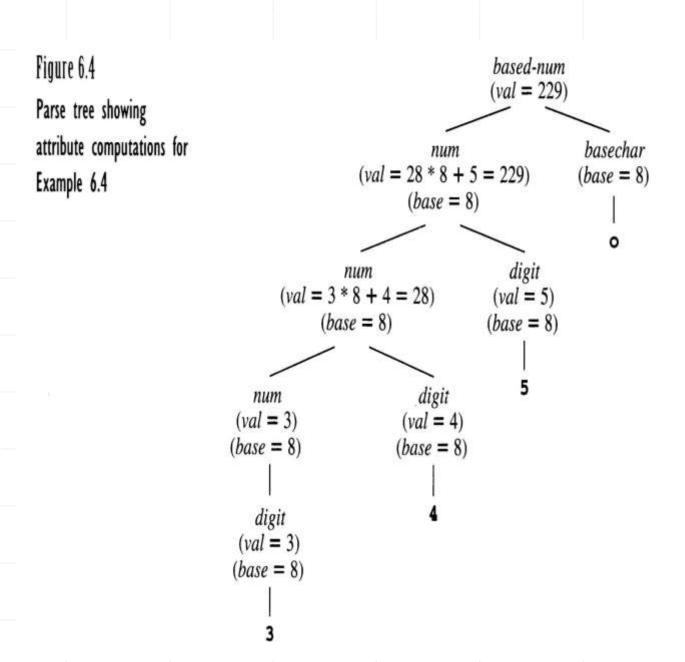
and the arithmetic addition operation + to be performed in the equation

$$exp_1.val = exp_2.val + term.val$$

Attribute grammars may involve several interdependent attributes.

Attribute grammar for octal or decimal number indicated by one-character suffix o (for octal) or d (for decimal)

Attribute grammar for	Grammar Rule	Semantic Rules
Example 6.4	based-num →	based-num.val = num.val
	num basechar	num.base = basechar.base
	basechar → o	basechar.base = 8
	basechar → ā	basechar.base = 10
	$num_1 \rightarrow num_2$ digit	num ₁ .val =
		if digit.val = error or num ₂ .val = error
		then error
		else num2 .val * num1 .base + digit.val
		$num_2.base = num_1.base$
	*	$digit.base = num_1.base$
	num → digit	num.val = digit.val
	_	digit.base = num.base
	digit → 0	digit.val = 0
g. 345o	$digit \rightarrow 1$	digit.val = 1
_	* * *	***
	digit → 7	digit.val = 7
128d	digit → B	digit.val =
1200		if $digit.base = 8$ then $error$ else 8
	digit → 9	digit.val =
128o (x)	-	if digit.base = 8 then error else 9



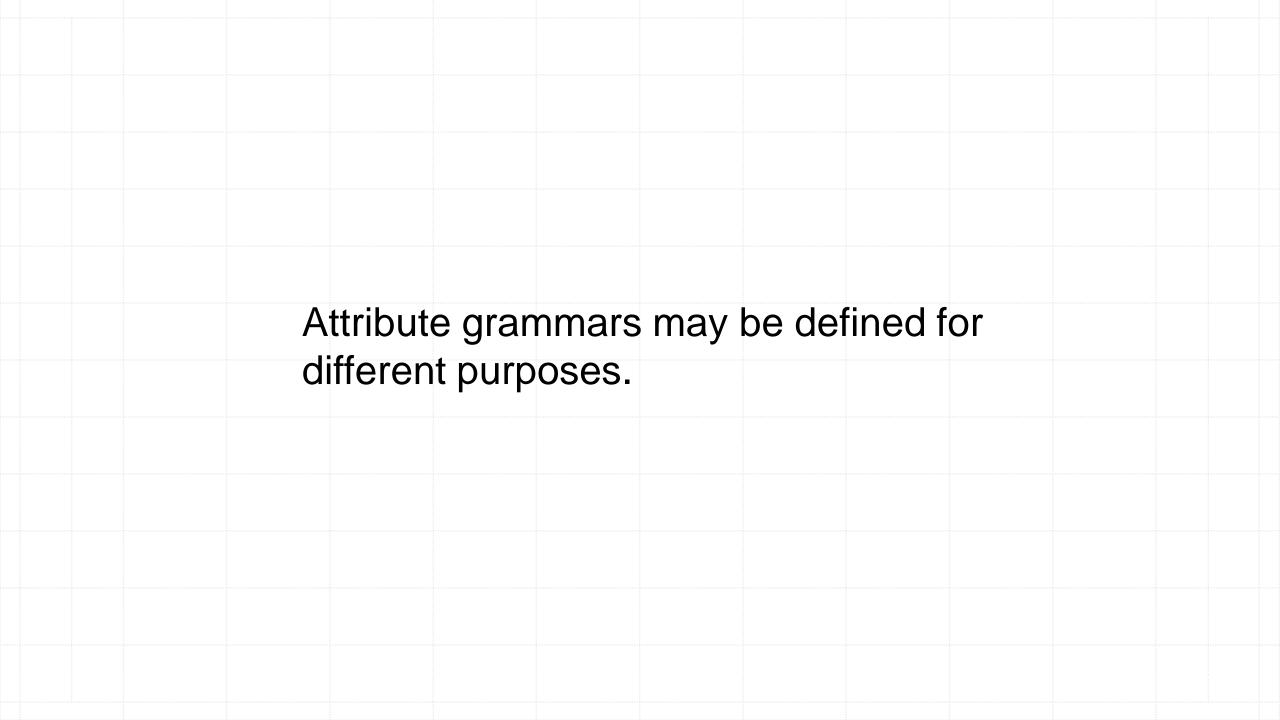


Table 6.6

Attribute grammar for abstract syntax trees of simple integer arithmetic expressions

Grammar Rule	Semantic Rules
$exp_1 \rightarrow exp_2 + term$	$exp_1.tree =$
$exp_1 \rightarrow exp_2$ - term	$mkOpNode (+, exp_2.tree, term.tree)$ $exp_1.tree =$
exp ₁ rexp ₂ term	$mkOpNode(-, exp_2.tree, term.tree)$
exp → term	exp.tree = term.tree
$term_1 \rightarrow term_2 * factor$	term ₁ .tree =
	mkOpNode(*, term2 .tree, factor.tree)
term → factor	term.tree = factor.tree
$factor \rightarrow (exp)$	factor.tree = exp.tree
factor → number	factor.tree =
Description to the control	mkNumNode(number.lexval)

Algorithms for attribute computation

Dependency graph and evaluation order

Attribute grammar for simple C-like variable declarations

Grammar Rules

Semantic Rules

decl → type var-list

var-list.dtype = type.dtype

type → *int*

type.dtype = integer

type → *float*

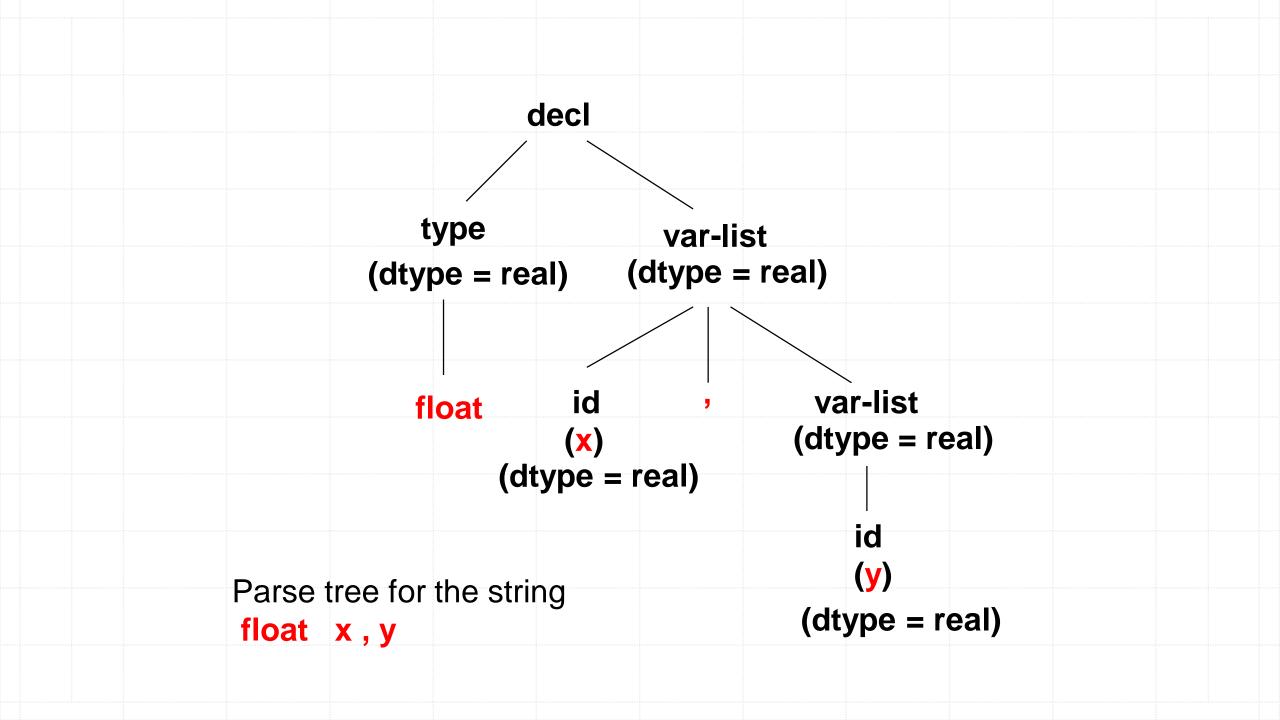
type.dtype = real

 $var-list_1 \rightarrow id$, $var-list_2$

id.dtype = var-list₁.dtype var-list₂.dtype = var-list₁.dtype

var-list → *id*

id.dtype = var-list.dtype



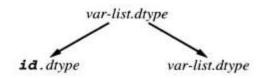
Example 6.7

Consider the grammar of Example 6.3, with the attribute grammar for the attribute dtype given in Table 6.3. In this example the grammar rule var-list₁ \rightarrow id, var-list₂ has the two associated attribute equations

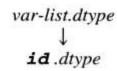
id.
$$dtype = var-list_1.dtype$$

 $var-list_2.dtype = var-list_1.dtype$

and the dependency graph

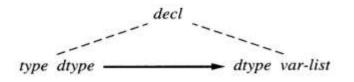


Similarly, the grammar rule var-list $\rightarrow id$ has the dependency graph

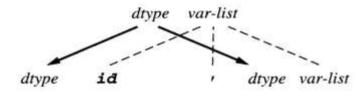


The two rules $type \rightarrow int$ and $type \rightarrow float$ have trivial dependency graphs. Finally, the rule $decl \rightarrow type \ var-list$ with the associated equation var-list.dtype = type.dtype has the dependency graph

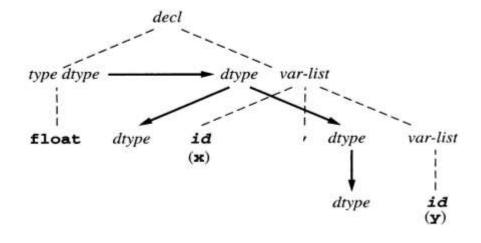
In this case, since decl is not directly involved in the dependency graph, it is not completely clear which grammar rule has this graph associated to it. For this reason (and a few other reasons that we discuss later), we often draw the dependency graph superimposed over a parse tree segment corresponding to the grammar rule. Thus, the above dependency graph can be drawn as

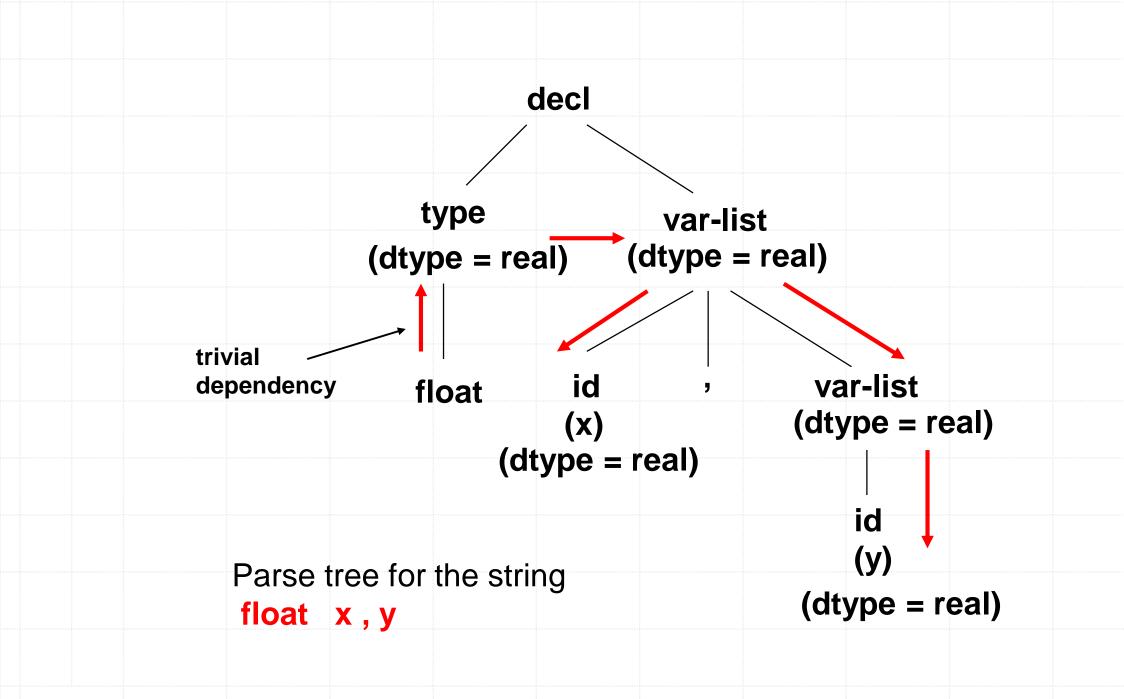


and this makes clearer the grammar rule to which the dependency is associated. Note, too, that when we draw the parse tree nodes we suppress the dot notation for the attributes, and represent the attributes of each node by writing them next to their associated node. Thus, the first dependency graph in this example can also be written as



Finally, the dependency graph for the string float x, y is





Then the pseudocode for a recursive procedure that computes the *dtype* attribute at all required nodes is as follows:

```
procedure EvalType ( T: treenode );
begin
  case nodekind of T of
  decl:
       EvalType ( type child of T );
       Assign dtype of type child of T to var-list child of T;
       EvalType ( var-list child of T);
  type:
       if child of T = int then T.dtype := integer
       else T.dtype := real;
  var-list:
       assign T.dtype to first child of T;
       if third child of T is not nil then
          assign T.dtype to third child;
          EvalType ( third child of T );
  end case;
end EvalType;
```

Procedure PreEval (T: treenode);

begin

for each child C of T **do**compute all inherited attributes of C;
PreEval (C);

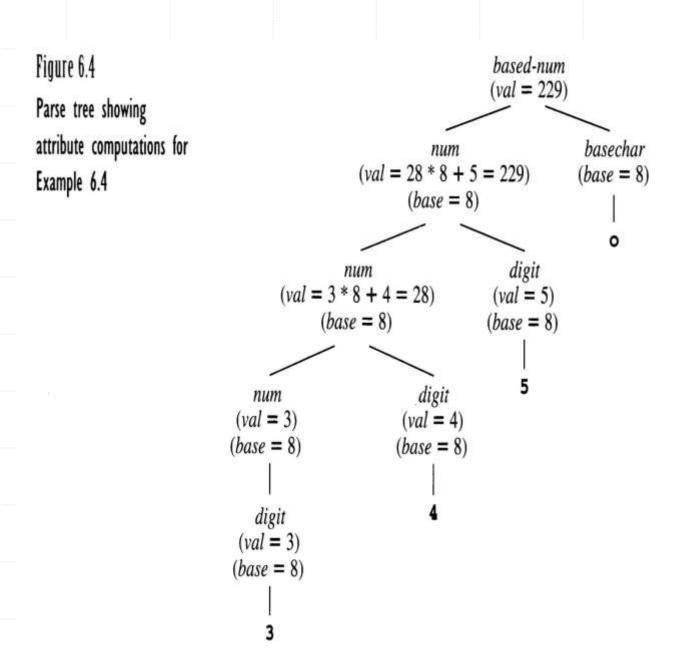
end;

Algorithm for evaluating inherited attributes → preorder traversal

Attribute grammar for octal or decimal number indicated by one-character suffix o (for octal) or d (for decimal)

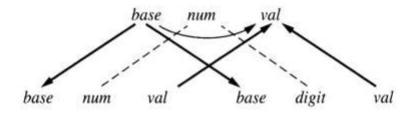
Table 6.4	<u> </u>	
Attribute	grammar	for
Example	6.4	

Grammar Rule	Semantic Rules
based-num →	based-num.val = num.val
num basechar	num.base = basechar.base
basechar → o	basechar.base = 8
basechar → ā	basechar.base = 10
$num_1 \rightarrow num_2 digit$	$num_1.val =$
	if $digit.val = error$ or $num_2.val = error$
	then error
	else num_2 .val * num_1 .base + $digit.val$
	num_2 .base = num_1 .base
·	$digit.base = num_1.base$
num → digit	num.val = digit.val
	digit.base = num.base
digit → 0	digit.val = 0
digit → 1	digit.val = 1
* * *	***
digit → 7	digit.val = 7
digit → 8	digit.val =
	If digit base = 8 then error else 8
digit → 9	digit.val =
	if digit.base = 8 then error else 9



This graph expresses the dependencies of the two associated equations based-num.val = num.val and num.base = basechar.base.

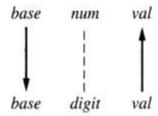
Next we draw the dependency graph corresponding to the grammar rule $num \rightarrow num \ digit$:



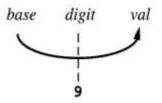
This graph expresses the dependencies of the three attribute equations

```
num<sub>1</sub> .val =
    if digit.val = error or num<sub>2</sub> .val = error
    then error
    else num<sub>2</sub> .val * num<sub>1</sub> .base + digit.val
num<sub>2</sub> .base = num<sub>1</sub> .base
digit.base = num<sub>1</sub> .base
```

The dependency graph for the grammar rule $num \rightarrow digit$ is similar:



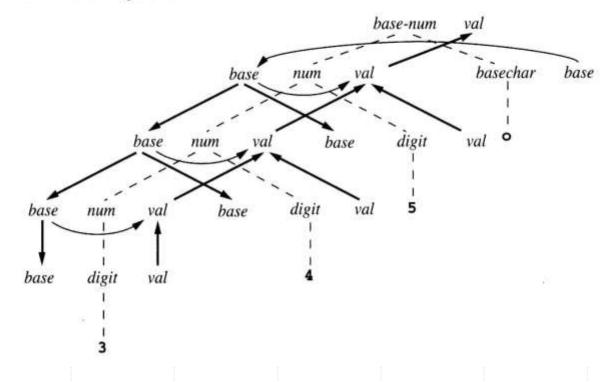
Finally, we draw the dependency graph for the grammar rule $digit \rightarrow 9$:



This graph expresses the dependency created by the equation $digit.val = if \ digit.base = 8$ then error else 9, namely, that digit.val depends on digit.base (it is part of the test in the if-expression). It remains to draw the dependency graph for the string 3450. This is done in Figure 6.6.

Figure 6.6

Dependency graph for the string 3450 (Example 6.8)



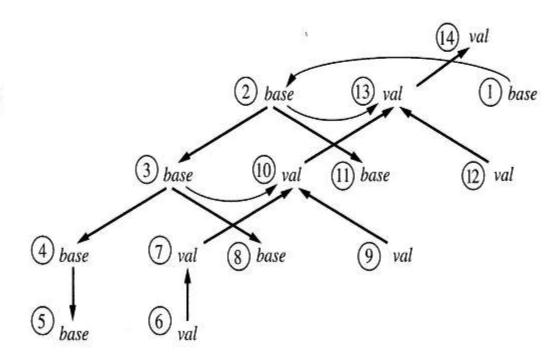
Example 6.9

The dependency graph of Figure 6.6 is a DAG. In Figure 6.7 we number the nodes of the graph (and erase the underlying parse tree for ease of visualization). One topological sort is given by the node order in which the nodes are numbered. Another topological sort is given by the order

12 6 9 1 2 11 3 8 4 5 7 10 13 14

Figure 6.7

Dependency graph for the string 3450 (Example 6.9)



```
procedure EvalWithBase ( T: treenode );
                          begin
                            case nodekind of T of
                            based-num:
                                 EvalWithBase ( right child of T );
                                 assign base of right child of T to base of left child;
                                 EvalWithBase ( left child of T );
                                 assign val of left child of T to T.val;
                            HWH:
                                 assign T.base to base of left child of T;
                                 EvalWithBase ( left child of T );
                                 If right child of T is not nil then
                                    assign T.base to base of right child of T;
                                    EvalWithBase ( right child of T );
base is computed in
                                    If vals of left and right children \neq error then
                                         T.val := T.base*(val of left child) + val of right child
preorder and val in
                                    else T.val := error;
                                 else T.val := val of left child:
                             basechar:
                                 if child of T = \mathbf{o} then T.base := 8
                                 else T.base := 10;
                             digit:
                                 if T.base = 8 and child of T = 8 or 9 then T.val := error
                                  else T.val := numval (child of T);
                             end case;
                           end EvalWithBase;
```

postorder

Synthesized Attributes

• An attribute a is synthesized if, given a grammar rule $A \to X_1 X_2 \cdots X_n$, the only associated attribute equation with an a on the left-hand side is of the form:

$$A.a = f(X_1.a_1, ..., X_1.a_k, ..., X_n.a_1, ..., X_n.a_k)$$

e.g.,
$$E_1 \rightarrow E_2 + E_3$$
 $\{E_1.val = E_2.val + E_3.val;\}$

where E. val represents the attribute (numerical value obtained) for E

An attribute grammar in which all the attributes are synthesized is called S-attributed grammar.

Example 6.2

Consider the following grammar for simple integer arithmetic expressions:

$$exp \rightarrow exp + term \mid exp - term \mid term$$

 $term \rightarrow term * factor \mid factor$
 $factor \rightarrow (exp) \mid number$

This grammar is a slightly modified version of the simple expression grammar studied extensively in previous chapters. The principal attribute of an *exp* (or *term* or *factor*) is its numeric value, which we write as *val*. The attribute equations for the *val* attribute are given in Table 6.2.

Table 6.2

Attribute grammar for Example 6.2

Grammar Rule	Semantic Rules
$exp_1 \rightarrow exp_2 + term$	$exp_1.val = exp_2.val + term.val$
$exp_1 \rightarrow exp_2 - term$	$exp_1.val = exp_2.val - term.val$
$exp \rightarrow term$	exp.val = term.val
$term_1 \rightarrow term_2 * factor$	$term_1.val = term_2.val * factor.val$
$term \rightarrow factor$	term.val = factor.val
$factor \rightarrow (exp)$	factor.val = exp.val
factor → number	factor.val = number.val

These equations express the relationship between the syntax of the expressions and the semantics of the arithmetic computations to be performed. Note, for example, the difference between the syntactic symbol + (a token) in the grammar rule

$$exp_1 \rightarrow exp_2 + term$$

and the arithmetic addition operation + to be performed in the equation

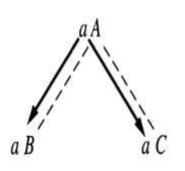
$$exp_1.val = exp_2.val + term.val$$

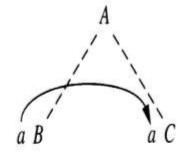
```
Figure 6.8
                   void postEval(SyntaxTree t)
                   { int temp;
C code for the postorder
                     if (t->kind == OpKind)
attribute evaluator for
                     { postEval(t->lchild);
Example 6.11
                        postEval(t->rchild);
                        switch (t->op)
                        { case Plus:
                            t->val = t->lchild->val + t->rchild->val;
                            break;
                          case Minus:
                            t->val = t->lchild->val - t->rchild->val;
                            break;
                          case Times:
                            t->val = t->lchild->val * t->rchild->val;
                            break;
                        } /* end switch */
                     } /* end if */
                   } /* end postEval */
```

Inherited Attributes

• An attribute that is not synthesized is called an inherited attribute.

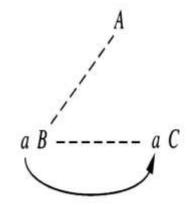
Figure 6.9
Different kinds of inherited dependencies



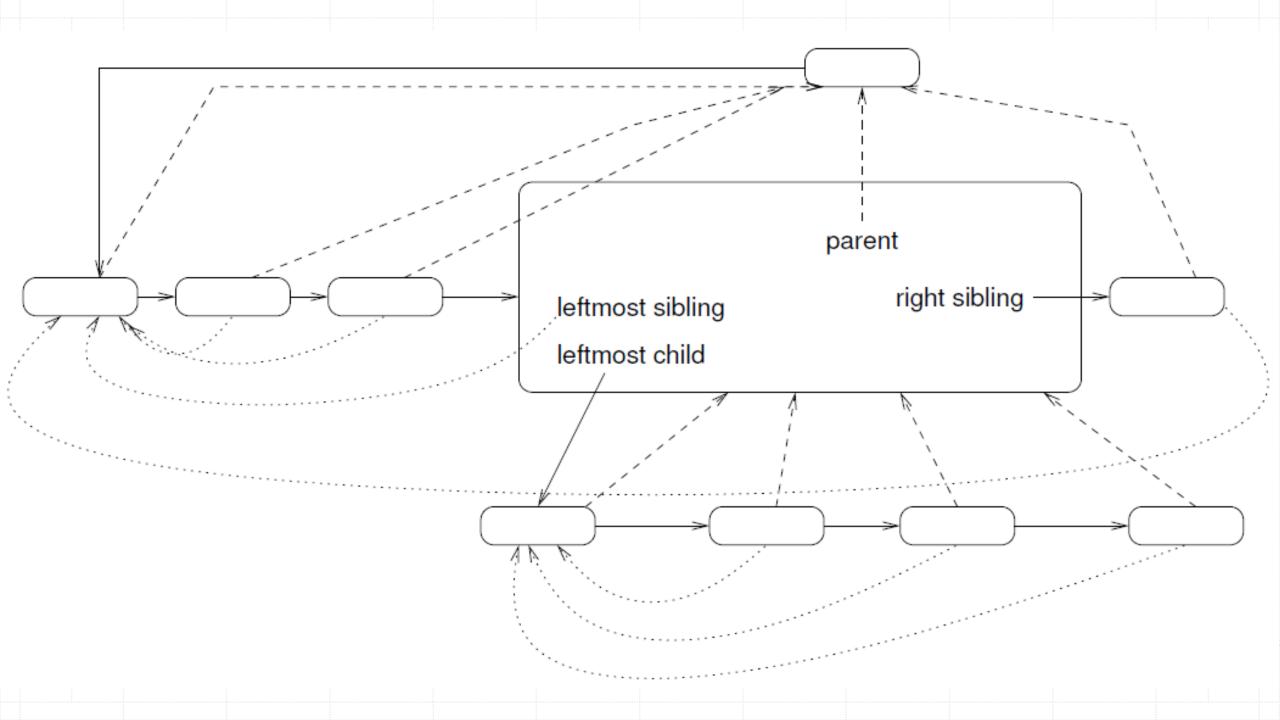


(a) Inheritance from parent to siblings

(b) Inheritance from sibling to sibling



(c) Sibling inheritance via sibling pointers



Computation of Attributes During Parsing

L-attributed grammars

Definition

An attribute grammar for attributes a_1, \ldots, a_k is **L-attributed** if, for each inherited attribute a_j and each grammar rule

$$X_0 \rightarrow X_1 X_2 \dots X_n$$

the associated equations for a_i are all of the form

$$X_{i} \cdot a_{j} = f_{ij}(X_{0} \cdot a_{1}, \dots, X_{0} \cdot a_{k}, X_{1} \cdot a_{1}, \dots, X_{1} \cdot a_{k}, \dots, X_{i-1} \cdot a_{1}, \dots, X_{i-1} \cdot a_{k})$$

That is, the value of a_j at X_i can only depend on attributes of the symbols X_0, \ldots, X_{i-1} that occur to the left of X_i in the grammar rule.

Computing Synthesized Attributes During LR Parsing

- LALR(1) parser are primarily suited to handling synthesized attributes.
- Two stacks are required.
 - value stack and parsing stack

Table 6.8

Parsing and semantic actions for the expression 3*4+5 during an LR parse	ap-	Parsing Stack	Input	Parsing Action	Value Stack	Semantic Action
	1	\$	3*4+5\$	shift	\$	
	2	\$ n	*4+5\$	reduce $E \rightarrow \mathbf{n}$	\$ n	$E.val = \mathbf{n}.val$
	3	\$ E	*4+5\$	shift	\$3	
	4	\$ E *	4+5\$	shift	\$3*	
	5	\$ E * n	+5\$	reduce $E \rightarrow \mathbf{n}$	\$3 * n	$E.val = \mathbf{n}.val$
	6	E * E	+5\$	reduce	\$3 * 4	E_1 .val =
				$E \rightarrow E \star E$		E_2 .val * E_3 .val
	7	\$ E	+5\$	shift	\$ 12	
	8	E +	5 \$	shift	\$ 12 +	
	9	\$E + n	\$	reduce $E \rightarrow \mathbf{n}$	\$ 12 + n	$E.val = \mathbf{n}.val$
	10	E + E	\$	reduce	\$ 12 + 5	E_1 .val =
				$E \rightarrow E + E$		E_2 .val + E_3 .val
	11	\$ E	\$		\$ 17	

Theorem

(From Knuth [1968]). Given an attribute grammar, all inherited attributes can be changed into synthesized attributes by suitable modification of the grammar, without changing the language of the grammar.

Translation (Attribute Computation)

• A translation scheme is merely a context-free grammar in which a <u>program fragment</u> called <u>semantic action</u> is associated with each production.

e.g.
$$A \rightarrow XYZ \{ \alpha \}$$

In a bottom-up parser, the semantic actions α is taken when XYZ is reduced to A. In a top-down parser the action α is taken when A, X, Y, or Z is expanded, whichever is appropriate.

Semantic Action

- In addition to those stated before, the semantic action may also involve:
- 1. the computation of values for variables belonging to the compiler.
- 2. the generation of intermediate code.
- 3. the printing of an error diagnostic.
- 4. the placement of some values in the symbol table.

Consider the following basic programminglanguage constructs for generating intermediate codes:

- Declarations (V)
- 2. arithmetic assignment operations (V)
- 3. Boolean expressions (V)
- 4. flow-of-control statements` if-statement(V) while (V)
- 5. array references (Δ)
- 6. procedure calls (V)
- 7. switch statements (Δ)
- 8. structure-type references (Δ)

Bottom-up Translation of S-attributed Grammars

- A bottom-up parser uses a stack to hold information about subtrees that have been parsed. We can use extra fields in the parser stack to hold the values of synthesized attributes.
- e.g. $A \to XYZ \{A. a = f(X. x, Y. y, Z. z)\}$
- Before reduction: the value of the attribute Z.z is in $val\ [top]$, Y.y is in $val\ [top-1]$, and X.x is in $val\ [top-2]$.
- After reduction: top is decremented by 2, A. a is put in val [top]

For Special Conditions: Hook

stmt → IF cond THEN stmt ELSE stmt

==>

stmt → IF cond THEN { action to emit appropriate conditional jump }

stmt ELSE { action to emit appropriate unconditional jump } stmt

or $hook1 \rightarrow \lambda$ { action to emit appropriate conditional jump } $hook2 \rightarrow \lambda$ { action to emit appropriate unconditional jump }

stmt → IF cond THEN hook1 stmt ELSE hook2 stmt

Semantic Actions for different language constructs

Declarations

e.g. int x, y, z;

float w, z, s;

Suggested grammar: (Note: This is a very simple grammar mainly used for explanation.)

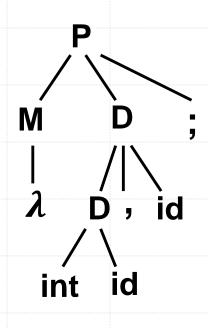
```
P \rightarrow MD;

M \rightarrow \lambda /* \text{ empty string }*/

D \rightarrow D, id

| int id

| float id
```



int x, y;

(Syntax-directed) Translation

```
D \rightarrow float id \{ enter (id.name, float, of fset); \}
                 D.type = float;
                 offset = offset + 8;
                 /*bytes, width of float*/
                D.offset = offset;
D \rightarrow D_1, id { enter (id. name, D_1. type, D_1. of fset);
                 D.type = D_1.type;
                 If D_1. type == int
                     D.offset = D_1.offset + 4;
                 else if D_1. type == float
                     D.offset = D_1.offset + 8;
                 offset = D.offset;
```

Note: We can construct a data structure to store the information (attributes) of *D*. (i.e., *D. type* and *D. offset*)

Avoided grammar:

```
D \rightarrow int \ namelist ; \mid float \ namelist ; namelist \rightarrow id, namelist \mid id
```

int namelist; id int x;

Why?

When the 'id' is reduced into namelist, we cannot know the type of 'id' (int or float?) immediately. Therefore, it is troublesome to enter such type information into the corresponding field of the 'id' in the symbol table. Hence, we must use special coding technique (e.g. linked list keeping the ids name (pointers to symbol table) to achieve such a purpose. (* In other words, we need backpatch to chain the data type.)

Acceptable grammar

```
D \rightarrow int intlist; | float floatlist; intlist \rightarrow id, intlist | id floatlist \rightarrow id, floatlist | id
```

Advantage: The above-mentioned problem will not happen. That is, when 'id' is reduced, we can identify the type of id. (If id is reduced to intlist, then id is of "int" type)

Defect: too much production will occur. => too many states => bad performance

Grammar with cloned productions

```
1 Start
                   \rightarrow Num<sub>ans</sub> $
                          call PRINT(ans)
2 Num<sub>ans</sub>
                   → o OctDigs<sub>octans</sub>
                          ans ← octans
                       DecDigs<sub>decans</sub>
3
                          ans ← decans
4 DecDigs_{up} \rightarrow DecDigs_{below} d_{next}
                          up \leftarrow below \times 10 + next
                     | d<sub>first</sub>
5
                         up \leftarrow first
6 OctDigs<sub>up</sub> \rightarrow OctDigs<sub>below</sub> d<sub>next</sub>
                         if next \ge 8
                          then ERROR("Non-octal digit")
                          up \leftarrow below \times 8 + next
                     dfirst
                          if first \geq 8
                          then ERROR("Non-octal digit")
                          up \leftarrow first
```

How to handle the following declaration? x, y, z : float

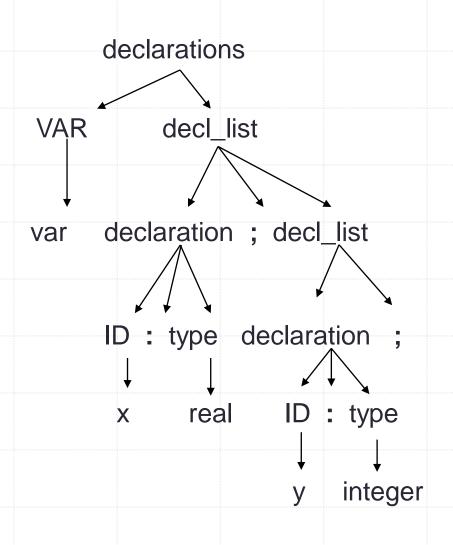
- Two approaches:
- (I) $decl \rightarrow id_list':'type$ $id_list \rightarrow id_list','id \mid id$ $type \rightarrow int \mid float$
- (II) $decl \rightarrow id'$: 'type | id, decl $type \rightarrow int | float$
- Which one is better for LR parsing? Why?

Grammar Rule	Semantic Rules		
decl → id_list':' type	$id_list.dtype = type.dtype$		
$id_list_1 \rightarrow id_list_2','id$	$id_list_2.dtype = id_list_1.dtype$ $id.dtype = id_list_1.dtype$		
id	$id.dtype = id_list.dtype$		
type → int	type.dtype = int		
float	type.dtype = float		

Grammar Rule	Semantic Rules		
decl → id':' type	id.dtype = type.dtype decl.dtype = type.dtype		
id , decl	id.dtype = decl.dtype		
type → int	type.dtype = int		
float	type.dtype = float		

```
Suggested Grammar for the following Declaration:
var x,y,z : real; u,v,t : integer; ...
declarations: VAR decl_list
              /* empty (no declaration is permitted) */
decl_list : declaration ';'
              | declaration ';' decl_list
declaration : ID ':' type
              | ID ',' declaration
              : REAL
type
              INTEGER
```

Try to construct a parse tree for the following declaration and see how to parse it: var x: real; y: integer;



The following grammar for declaration is difficult for attribute gathering.

declaration : id_list ':' type ;

id_list : ID

| id_list ',' ID

type : REAL

INTEGER

