

OPERATOR PRECEDENCE PARSING

OPERATOR GRAMMAR

- No ϵ -transition.
- No two adjacent non-terminals.

Eg.

$$E \rightarrow E \text{ op } E \mid \text{id}$$
$$\text{op} \rightarrow + \mid *$$
$$E \rightarrow EF \mid \text{id}$$
$$F \rightarrow FG \mid Y$$
$$G \rightarrow HI \mid J$$

The above grammar is not an operator grammar but:

$$E \rightarrow E + E \mid E * E \mid \text{id}$$

OPERATOR PRECEDENCE

- If a has higher precedence over b; $a .> b$
- If a has lower precedence over b; $a < . b$
- If a and b have equal precedence; $a = . b$

Note:

- id has higher precedence than any other symbol
 - \$ has lowest precedence.
 - if two operators have equal precedence, then we check the **Associativity** of
- But it is an important class because of its widespread applications.
 - It represents a small class of grammar.

A grammar that satisfies the following 2 conditions is called as Operator Precedence Grammar–

- There exists no production rule which contains ϵ on its RHS.
- There exists no production rule which contains two non-terminals adjacent to each other on its RHS.

- **Designing Operator Precedence Parser-**

- In operator precedence parsing,
- Firstly, we define precedence relations between every pair of terminal symbols.
- Secondly, we construct an operator precedence table.

- **Defining Precedence Relations-**

- The precedence relations are defined using the following rules-

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- **Rule-01:**

- If precedence of b is higher than precedence of a, then we define $a < b$
- If precedence of b is same as precedence of a, then we define $a = b$
- If precedence of b is lower than precedence of a, then we define $a > b$

- **Rule-02:**

- An identifier is always given the higher precedence than any other symbol.
- \$ symbol is always given the lowest precedence.

- **Rule-03:**

- If two operators have the same precedence, then we go by checking their associativity.

- **Parsing A Given String-**
- The given input string is parsed using the following steps-
- **Step-01:**
- Insert the following-
 - \$ symbol at the beginning and ending of the input string.
 - Precedence operator between every two symbols of the string by referring the operator precedence table.
- **Step-02:**
- Start scanning the string from LHS in the forward direction until > symbol is encountered.
- Keep a pointer on that location.
- **Step-03:**
- Start scanning the string from RHS in the backward direction until < symbol is encountered.
- Keep a pointer on that location.
- **Step-04:**
- Everything that lies in the middle of < and > forms the handle.
- Replace the handle with the head of the respective production.
- **Step-05:**
- Keep repeating the cycle from Step-02 to Step-04 until the start symbol is reached.

Operator-Precedence Parser

- **Operator grammar**

- small, but an important class of grammars
- we may have an efficient operator precedence parser (a shift-reduce parser) for an operator grammar.

- In an *operator grammar*, no production rule can have:

- ϵ at the right side
- two adjacent non-terminals at the right side.

- **Ex:**

$E \rightarrow AB$

$A \rightarrow a$

$B \rightarrow b$

not operator grammar

operator grammar

$E \rightarrow EOE$

$E \rightarrow id$

$O \rightarrow + | * | /$

not operator grammar

$E \rightarrow E + E \mid$

$E \rightarrow E * E \mid$

$E \rightarrow E / E \mid id$

Precedence Relations

- In operator-precedence parsing, we define three disjoint precedence relations between certain pairs of terminals.

$a < \cdot b$ b has higher precedence than a

$a = \cdot b$ b has same precedence as a

$a \cdot > b$ b has lower precedence than a

- The determination of correct precedence relations between terminals are based on the traditional notions of associativity and precedence of operators. (Unary minus causes a problem).

Using Operator-Precedence Relations

- The intention of the precedence relations is to find the handle of a right-sentential form, $\prec \cdot$ with marking the left end, $\Rightarrow \cdot$ appearing in the interior of the handle, and $\cdot \succ$ marking the right hand.
- In our input string $\$a_1a_2...a_n\$$, we insert the precedence relation between the pairs of terminals (the precedence relation holds between the terminals in that pair).

Using Operator -Precedence Relations

$E \rightarrow E+E \mid E-E \mid E^*E \mid E/E \mid E^E \mid (E) \mid -E \mid id$

The partial operator-precedence table for this grammar

	id	+	*	\$
id		$\cdot >$	$\cdot >$	$\cdot >$
+	$< \cdot$	$\cdot >$	$< \cdot$	$\cdot >$
*	$< \cdot$	$\cdot >$	$\cdot >$	$\cdot >$
\$	$< \cdot$	$< \cdot$	$< \cdot$	

- Then the input string $id+id*id$ with the precedence relations inserted will be:

$\$ < \cdot id \cdot > + < \cdot id \cdot > * < \cdot id \cdot > \$$

To Find The Handles

1. Scan the string from left end until the first $\cdot >$ is encountered.
2. Then scan backwards (to the left) over any $=\cdot$ until a $<\cdot$ is encountered.
3. The handle contains everything to left of the first $\cdot >$ and to the right of the $<\cdot$ is encountered.

$\$ < \cdot id \cdot > + < \cdot id \cdot > * < \cdot id \cdot > \$$
 $\$ < \cdot + < \cdot id \cdot > * < \cdot id \cdot > \$$
 $\$ < \cdot + < \cdot * < \cdot id \cdot > \$$
 $\$ < \cdot + < \cdot * \cdot > \$$
 $\$ < \cdot + \cdot > \$$
 $\$ \$$

$E \rightarrow id$

$E \rightarrow id$

$E \rightarrow id$

$E \rightarrow E * E$

$E \rightarrow E + E$

$\$ id + id * id \$$
 $\$ E + id * id \$$
 $\$ E + E * id \$$
 $\$ E + E * \cdot E \$$
 $\$ E + E \$$
 $\$ E \$$

Operator-Precedence Parsing Algorithm

- The input string is $w\$$, the initial stack is $\$$ and a table holds precedence relations between certain terminals

Algorithm:

set p to point to the first symbol of $w\$$;

repeat forever

if ($\$$ is on top of the stack **and** p points to $\$$) **then return**

else {

let a be the topmost terminal symbol on the stack and let b be the symbol pointed to by p ;

if ($a < b$ or $a = b$) **then {** /* SHIFT */

push b onto the stack;

advance p to the next input symbol;

}

else if ($a > b$) **then** /* REDUCE */

repeat pop stack

until (the top of stack terminal is related by $<$ to the terminal most recently popped);

else error();

}

How to Create Operator-Precedence Relations

- We use associativity and precedence relations among operators.

1. If operator O_1 has higher precedence than operator O_2 ,
 $\rightarrow O_1 \cdot > O_2$ and $O_2 < \cdot O_1$

2. If operator O_1 and operator O_2 have equal precedence,
 they are left-associative $\rightarrow O_1 \cdot > O_2$ and $O_2 \cdot > O_1$
 they are right-associative $\rightarrow O_1 < \cdot O_2$ and $O_2 < \cdot O_1$

3. For all operators O ,
 $< \cdot \text{id}$, $\text{id} \cdot > O$, $O < \cdot ($, $(< \cdot O$, $O \cdot >)$, $) \cdot > O$, $O \cdot > \$$, and $\$ < \cdot O$

O

4. Also, let

$(= \cdot)$ $\$ < \cdot ($ $\text{id} \cdot >)$ $) \cdot > \$$
 $(< \cdot (\$ < \cdot \text{id}$ $\text{id} \cdot > \$$ $) \cdot >)$
 $(< \cdot \text{id}$

Operator-Precedence Parsing

Algorithm -- Example

<u><i>stack</i></u>	<u><i>input</i></u>	<u><i>action</i></u>
\$	id+id*id\$ \$ < id	shift
\$id	+id*id\$	id ·> + reduce $E \rightarrow id$
\$	+id*id\$	shift
\$+	id*id\$	shift
\$+id	*id\$	id ·> * reduce $E \rightarrow id$
\$+	*id\$	shift
\$+*	id\$	shift
\$+*id	\$	id ·> \$ reduce $E \rightarrow id$
\$+*	\$	* ·> \$ reduce $E \rightarrow E * E$
\$+	\$	+ ·> \$ reduce $E \rightarrow E + E$
\$	\$	accept

Operator-Precedence Relations

	+	-	*	/	^	id	()	\$
+	$\cdot >$	$\cdot >$	$< \cdot$	$< \cdot$	$< \cdot$	$< \cdot$	$< \cdot$	$\cdot >$	$\cdot >$
-	$\cdot >$	$\cdot >$	$< \cdot$	$< \cdot$	$< \cdot$	$< \cdot$	$< \cdot$	$\cdot >$	$\cdot >$
*	$\cdot >$	$\cdot >$	$\cdot >$	$\cdot >$	$< \cdot$	$< \cdot$	$< \cdot$	$\cdot >$	$\cdot >$
/	$\cdot >$	$\cdot >$	$\cdot >$	$\cdot >$	$< \cdot$	$< \cdot$	$< \cdot$	$\cdot >$	$\cdot >$
^	$\cdot >$	$\cdot >$	$\cdot >$	$\cdot >$	$< \cdot$	$< \cdot$	$< \cdot$	$\cdot >$	$\cdot >$
id	$\cdot >$	$\cdot >$	$\cdot >$	$\cdot >$	$\cdot >$			$\cdot >$	$\cdot >$
($< \cdot$	$< \cdot$	$< \cdot$	$< \cdot$	$< \cdot$	$< \cdot$	$< \cdot$	$= \cdot$	
)	$\cdot >$	$\cdot >$	$\cdot >$	$\cdot >$	$\cdot >$			$\cdot >$	$\cdot >$
\$	$< \cdot$	$< \cdot$	$< \cdot$	$< \cdot$	$< \cdot$	$< \cdot$	$< \cdot$		

Handling Unary Minus

- Operator-Precedence parsing cannot handle the unary minus when we also the binary minus in our grammar.
- The best approach to solve this problem, let the lexical analyzer handle this problem.
 - The lexical analyzer will return two different operators for the unary minus and the binary minus.
 - The lexical analyzer will need a lookahead to distinguish the binary minus from the unary minus.
- Then, we make

$O \prec \cdot \text{unary-minus}$ for any operator

$\text{unary-minus} \cdot \succ O$ if unary-minus has higher precedence than O

$\text{unary-minus} \prec \cdot O$ if unary-minus has lower (or equal) precedence than O

Operator-Precedence Grammars

Let G be an ϵ -free operator grammar (No ϵ -Production). For each terminal symbols a and b , the following conditions are satisfied.

1. $a \doteq b$, if \exists a production in RHS of the form $\alpha a \beta b \gamma$, where β is either ϵ or a single non-terminal. Ex $S \rightarrow i C t S e S$ implies $i \doteq t$ and $t \doteq e$.
2. $a < \cdot b$ if for some non-terminal A \exists a production in RHS of the form $A \rightarrow \alpha a A \beta$, and $A \Rightarrow^+ \gamma b \delta$ where γ is either ϵ or a single non-terminal. Ex $S \rightarrow i C t S$ and $C \Rightarrow^+ b$ implies $i < \cdot b$.
3. $a \cdot > b$ if for some non-terminal A \exists a production in RHS of the form $A \rightarrow \alpha A b \beta$, and $A \Rightarrow^+ \gamma a \delta$ where δ is either ϵ or a single non-terminal. Ex $S \rightarrow i C t S$ and $C \Rightarrow^+ b$ implies $b \cdot > t$.

Example: $E \rightarrow E + E \mid E * E \mid (E) \mid \text{id}$ is not a Operator precedence Grammar

By Rule no. 3 we have $+ < \cdot +$ & $+ \cdot > +$. Where as we can modify the Grammar is as follow

$E \rightarrow E + T \mid T, T \rightarrow T * F \mid F, F \rightarrow (E) \mid \text{id}$

Operator Precedence Relations.

To find the Table we have to find the last & first terminal for each non-terminal as follows:

<u>Non terminal</u>	<u>First terminal</u>	<u>Last terminal</u>
E	$*, +, (, \text{id}$	$*, +,), \text{id}$
T	$*, (, \text{id}$	$*,), \text{id}$
F	$(, \text{id}$	$), \text{id}$

By Applying the Rule of Operator Precedence Grammar

	+	*	()	id	\$
+	$\cdot >$	$< \cdot$	$< \cdot$	$\cdot >$	$< \cdot$	$\cdot >$
*	$\cdot >$	$\cdot >$	$< \cdot$	$\cdot >$	$< \cdot$	$\cdot >$
($< \cdot$	$< \cdot$	$< \cdot$	\equiv	$< \cdot$	
)	$\cdot >$	$\cdot >$		$\cdot >$		$\cdot >$
id	$\cdot >$	$\cdot >$		$\cdot >$		$\cdot >$
\$	$< \cdot$	$< \cdot$	$< \cdot$		$< \cdot$	

Operator Precedence Relations, Continue....

To produce the Table we have to follow the procedure as:

$\text{LEADING}(A) = \{ a \mid A \Rightarrow^+ \gamma a \delta, \text{ where } \gamma \text{ is } \epsilon \text{ or a single non-terminal.} \}$

$\text{TRAILING}(A) = \{ a \mid A \Rightarrow^+ \gamma a \delta, \text{ where } \delta \text{ is } \epsilon \text{ or a single non-terminal.} \}$

Precedence Functions

- Compilers using operator precedence parsers do not need to store the table of precedence relations.
- The table can be encoded by two precedence functions f and g that map terminal symbols to integers.
- For symbols a and b .
 - $f(a) < g(b)$ whenever $a < \cdot b$
 - $f(a) = g(b)$ whenever $a = \cdot b$
 - $f(a) > g(b)$ whenever $a \cdot > b$

PRECEDENCE TABLE

	id	+	*	\$
id		.>	.>	.>
+	<.	.>	<.	.>
*	<.	.>	.>	.>
\$	<.	<.	<.	.>

Example: $w = \$id + id * id\$$
 $\$<.id.> + <.id.> * <.id.> \$$

BASIC PRINCIPLE

- Scan input string left to right, try to detect `.>` and put a pointer on its location.
- Now scan backwards till reaching `<`.
- String between `<`. And `.>` is our handle.
- Replace handle by the head of the respective production.
- REPEAT until reaching start symbol.

ALGORITHM

```
w ← input
a ← input symbol
b ← stack top
Repeat
{
    if(a is $ and b is $)
        return
    if(a .> b)
        push a into stack
        move input pointer
    else if(a <. b)
        c ← pop stack
        until(c .> b)
    else
        error()
}
```

EXAMPLE

STACK	INPUT	ACTION/REMARK
\$	id + id * id\$	\$ <. Id
\$ id	+ id * id\$	id >. +
\$	+ id * id\$	\$ <. +
\$ +	id * id\$	+ <. Id
\$ + id	* id\$	id .> *
\$ +	* id\$	+ <. *
\$ + *	id\$	* <. Id
\$ + * id	\$	id .> \$
\$ + *	\$	* .> \$
\$ +	\$	+ .> \$
\$	\$	accept

PRECEDENCE FUNCTIONS

- Operator precedence parsers use **precedence functions** that map terminal symbols to integers.

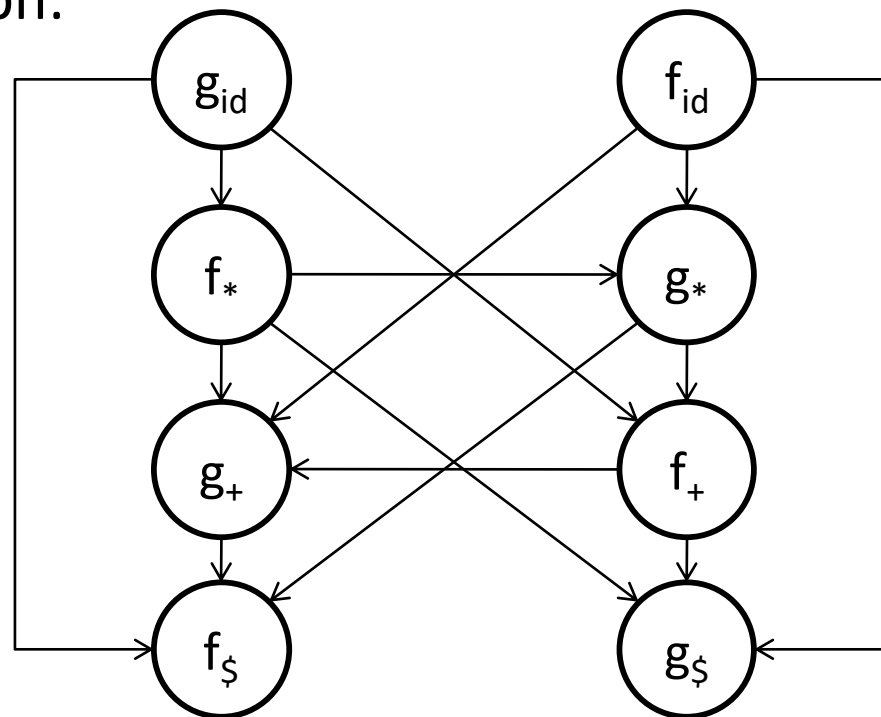
Algorithm for Constructing Precedence Functions

1. Create functions f_a for each grammar terminal a and for the end of string symbol.
2. Partition the symbols in groups so that f_a and g_b are in the same group if $a = \cdot b$ (there can be symbols in the same group even if they are not connected by this relation).
3. Create a directed graph whose nodes are in the groups, next for each symbols a and b do: place an edge from the group of g_b to the group of f_a if $a < \cdot b$, otherwise if $a \cdot > b$ place an edge from the group of f_a to that of g_b .
4. If the constructed graph has a cycle then no precedence functions exist. When there are no cycles collect the length of the longest paths from the groups of f_a and g_b respectively.

- Consider the following table:

	id	+	*	\$
id		.>	.>	.>
+	<.	.>	<.	.>
*	<.	.>	.>	.>
\$	<.	<.	<.	.>

- Resulting graph:



- From the previous graph we extract the following precedence functions:

	id	+	*	\$
f	4	2	4	0
id	5	1	3	0

Problem-01:

Consider the following grammar-

$E \rightarrow EAE \mid id$

$A \rightarrow + \mid x$

Construct the operator precedence parser and parse the string $id + id \times id$.

Solution-

Step-01:

We convert the given grammar into operator precedence grammar.

The equivalent operator precedence grammar is-

$E \rightarrow E + E \mid E \times E \mid id$

Step-02:

The terminal symbols in the grammar are $\{ id, +, \times, \$ \}$

We construct the operator precedence table as-

	id	+	\times	\$
id		>	>	>
+	<	>	<	>
\times	<	>	>	>
\$	<	<	<	

Parsing Given String-

Given string to be parsed is **$id + id \times id$** .

We follow the following steps to parse the given string-

Step-01:

We insert \$ symbol at both ends of the string as-

$\$ id + id \times id \$$

We insert precedence operators between the string symbols as-

$\$ < id > + < id > \times < id > \$$

Step-02:

We scan and parse the string as-

$\$ < \underline{id} > + < id > \times < id > \$$

$\$ E + < \underline{id} > \times < id > \$$

$\$ E + E \times < \underline{id} > \$$

$\$ E + E \times E \$$

$\$ + \times \$$

$\$ < + < \underline{\times} > \$$

$\$ < \underline{+} > \$$

$\$ \$$

Problem-02:

Consider the following grammar-

$$S \rightarrow (L) \mid a$$

$$L \rightarrow L , S \mid S$$

Construct the operator precedence parser and parse the string (a , (a , a)).

Solution-

The terminal symbols in the grammar are { (,) , a , , }

We construct the operator precedence table as-

	a	()	,	\$
a		>	>	>	>
(<	>	>	>	>
)	<	>	>	>	>
,	<	<	>	>	>
\$	<	<	<	<	

Parsing Given String-

Given string to be parsed is (a , (a , a)).

We follow the following steps to parse the given string-

Step-01:

We insert \$ symbol at both ends of the string as-

$$\$(a , (a , a)) \$$$

We insert precedence operators between the string symbols as-

$$\$(< (< a > , < (< a > , < a >) >) > \$$$

Step-02:

We scan and parse the string as-

$$\begin{aligned} &\$(< (\underline{< a >} , < (< a > , < a >) >) > \$ \\ &\$(< (S , < (\underline{< a >} , < a >) >) > \$ \\ &\$(< (S , < (S , \underline{< a >}) >) > \$ \\ &\$(< (S , \underline{< (S , S) >}) > \$ \\ &\$(< (S , \underline{< (L , S) >}) > \$ \\ &\$(< (S , \underline{< (L) >}) > \$ \\ &\$ \underline{< (S , S) >} \$ \\ &\$ \underline{< (L , S) >} \$ \\ &\$ \underline{< (L) >} \$ \\ &\$ \underline{< S >} \$ \\ &\$ \$ \end{aligned}$$

Problem-03:

Consider the following grammar-

$E \rightarrow E + E \mid E \times E \mid \text{id}$

1. Construct Operator Precedence Parser.

2. Find the Operator Precedence Functions.

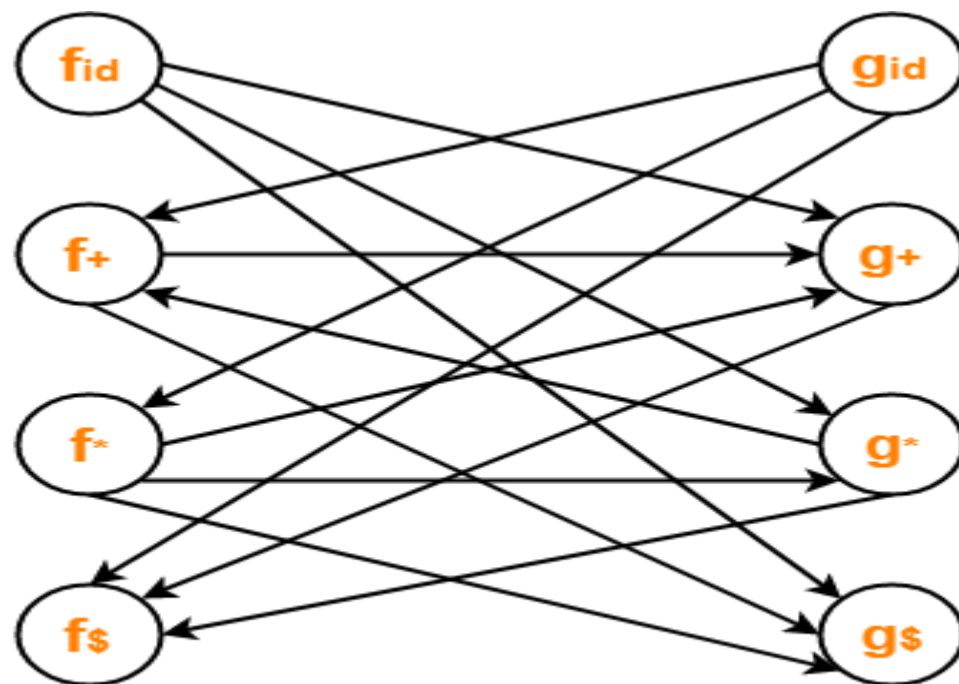
The terminal symbols in the grammar are

$\{ +, \times, \text{id}, \$ \}$

We construct the operator precedence table as-

Operator Precedence Table

g \rightarrow					
f \downarrow		id	+	\times	\$
	id		>	>	>
	+	<	>	<	>
	\times	<	>	>	>
	\$	<	<	<	



Here, the longest paths are-

is

• $f_{\text{id}} \rightarrow g_{\times} \rightarrow f_{+} \rightarrow g_{+} \rightarrow f_{\$}$

• $g_{\text{id}} \rightarrow f_{\times} \rightarrow g_{\times} \rightarrow f_{+} \rightarrow g_{+} \rightarrow f_{\$}$

The resulting precedence functions are-

	+	\times	id	\$
f	2	4	4	0
g	1	3	5	0

Disadvantages of Operator Precedence Parsing

- **Disadvantages:**

- It cannot handle the unary minus (the lexical analyzer should handle the unary minus).
- Small class of grammars.
- Difficult to decide which language is recognized by the grammar.

- **Advantages:**

- simple
- powerful enough for expressions in programming languages

Error Recovery in Operator-Precedence Parsing

Error Cases:

1. No relation holds between the terminal on the top of stack and the next input symbol.
2. A handle is found (reduction step), but there is no production with this handle as a right side

Error Recovery:

1. Each empty entry is filled with a pointer to an error routine.
2. Decides the popped handle “looks like” which right hand side. And tries to recover from that situation.

