Tools and Analyses for Ambiguous Input Streams

Andrew Begel and Susan L. Graham University of California, Berkeley LDTA Workshop - April 3, 2004



- Programming by Voice
 - Code dictation
 - Voice-based editing commands
- Program Transformations
 - Transformation actions
 - Pattern-matching constructs

- Programming by Voice
 - Code dictation
 - Voice-based editing commands
- Program Transformations
 - Transformation actions
 - Pattern-matching constructs

Human Speech

- Programming by Voice
 - Code dictation
 - Voice-based editing commands
- Program Transformations
 - Transformation actions
 - Pattern-matching constructs

Human Speech

Embedded Languages

- Programming by Voice
 - Code dictation
 - Voice-based editing commands
- Program Transformations
 - Transformation actions
 - Pattern-matching constructs

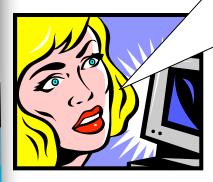
Human Speech

Embedded Languages

Each kind of input stream ambiguity requires new language analyses

Speech Example

for int i equals zero i less than ten i plus plus

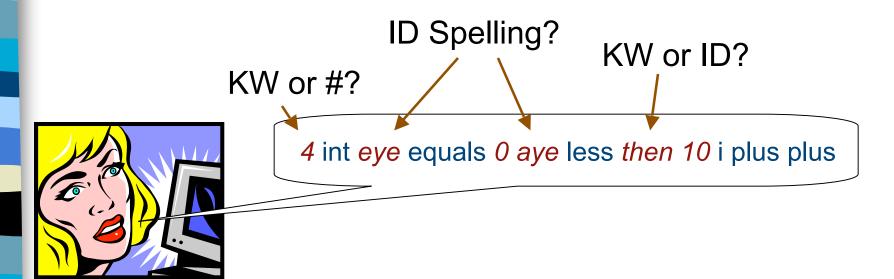


Ambiguities



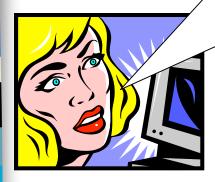
4 int eye equals 0 aye less then 10 i plus plus

Ambiguities



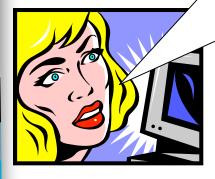
Another Utterance

for times ate equals zero two plus equals one



Many Valid Parses!

for times ate equals zero two plus equals one



```
4 * 8 = zero; to += won
```

```
fore.times(8).equalsZero(2, plus == 1)
```

Embedded Language Example

C and Regexps embedded in Flex

Flex Rule for Identifiers

[a-zA-Z]([a-zA-Z0-9])* i++; RETURN TOKEN(ID);

Embedded Language Example

C and Regexps embedded in Flex

Flex Rule for Identifiers

```
[a-zA-Z]([a-zA-Z0-9])* i++; RETURN_TOKEN(ID);
```

• Why not this interpretation?

```
[a-zA-Z]([a-zA-Z0-9])* i++; RETURN TOKEN(ID);
```

Fortran

DO 57 I = 3,10

Fortran

Do Loop

DO 57 I =
$$3,10$$

Fortran

Do Loop

DO 57 I =
$$3,10$$

DO 57 I =
$$3$$

Fortran

Do Loop

DO 57 I =
$$3,10$$

Assignment

DO
$$57 I = 3$$

Fortran

Do Loop

DO 57 I =
$$3,10$$

Assignment

$$DO57I = 3$$

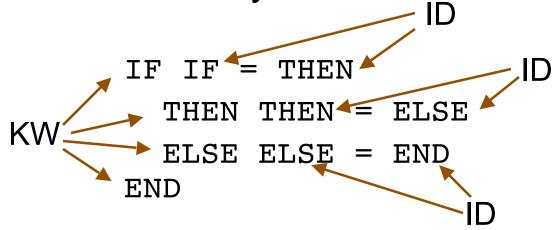
PL/I

Non-reserved Keywords

```
IF IF = THEN
  THEN THEN = ELSE
  ELSE ELSE = END
END
```

PL/I

Non-reserved Keywords



Input Stream Classification

Single Lexical Category

Multiple Lexical Categories

Single Spelling

Spellings
Homophono IF

Multiple

Unambiguous

Homophone IDs
Lexical
misspellings

Non-reserved keywords
Ambiguous interpretations

Homophones

Input Stream Classification

Single Lexical Category

Multiple Lexical Categories

Single Spelling

Multiple Spellings

Unambiguous

Homophone IDs

Lexical

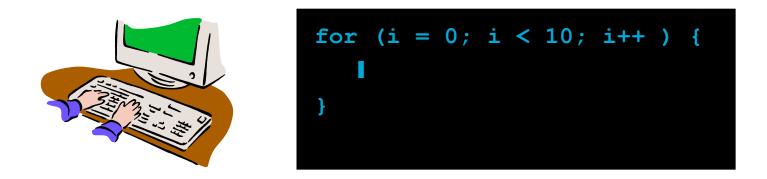
misspellings

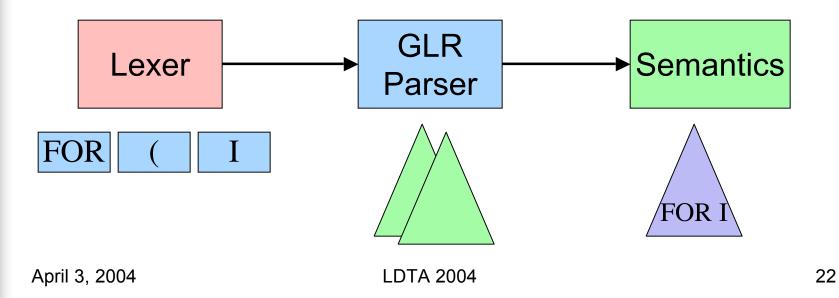
Non-reserved keywords
Ambiguous interpretations

Homophones

Embedded Languages Fall in all Four Categories!

GLR Analysis Architecture



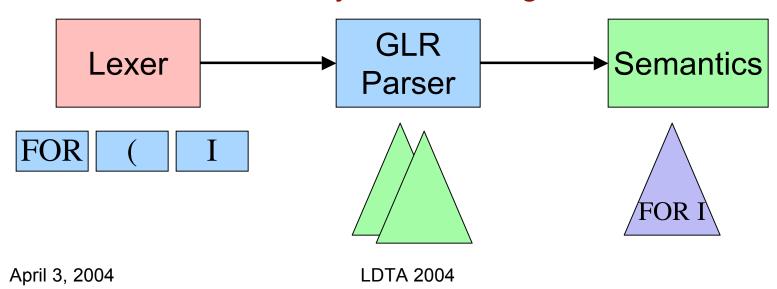


GLR Analysis Architecture

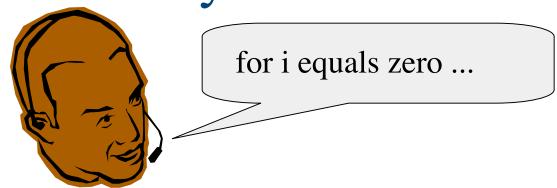


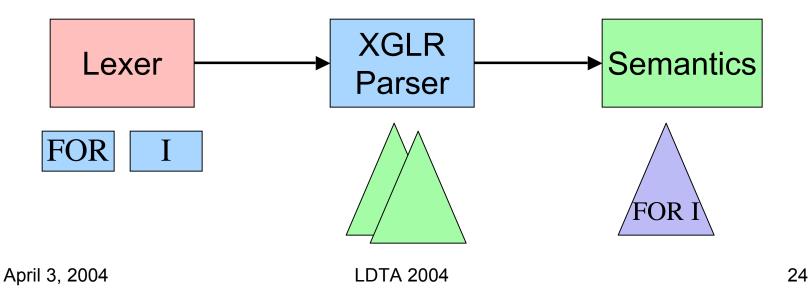
23

Handles syntactic ambiguities

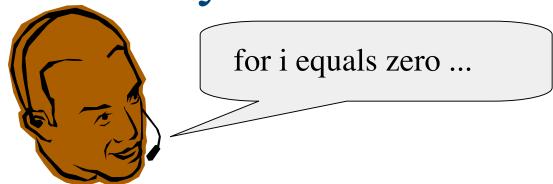


Our Contribution: XGLR Analysis Architecture

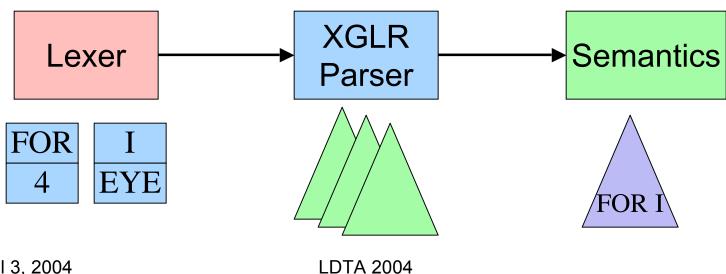




Our Contribution: XGLR Analysis Architecture



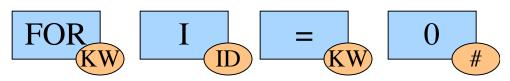
Handles input stream ambiguities



Parse Stack

1

Input Stream

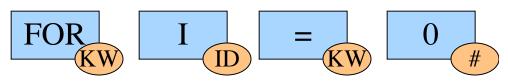


	D	KW	#
1	S2	S3	Err
2	R1	S4	Err
3	S9	R3	S7

Parse Stack

1

Input Stream

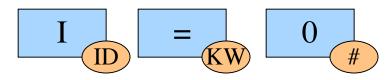


	D	KW	#
1	S2	S3	Err
2	R1	S4	Err
3	S9	R3	S7

Parse Stack



Input Stream



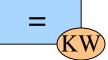
	ID	KW	#
1	S2	S3	Err
2	R1	S4	Err
3	S9	R3	S7

Parse Stack

Input Stream







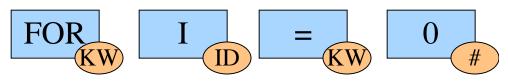
0

1

	ID	KW	#
1	S2	S3	Err
	9	R5	
2	R1	S4	Err
	R2	54	
3	S9	R3	S7

Parse Stack

Input Stream

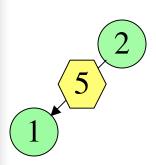


1

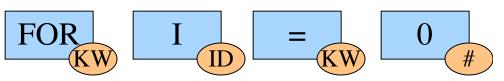
Parse Table

	ID	KW	#
1	S2	S3 R5	Err
2	R1 R2	S4	Err
3	S9	R3	S7

Parse Stack



Input Stream

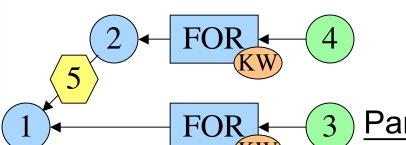


Parse Table

	ID	KW	#
1	S2	S3	Err
l	32	R5	
2	R1	S4	Err
	R2	04	
3	S9	R3	S7

Parse Stack

Input Stream



Parse Table

	ID	KW	#
1	S2	S3 R5	Err
2	R1 R2	S4	Err
3	S9	R3	S7

XGLR in Action

Single Spelling Spellings

Single Lexical Category

Not Shown

Example 1

Multiple

Multiple Lexical Categories

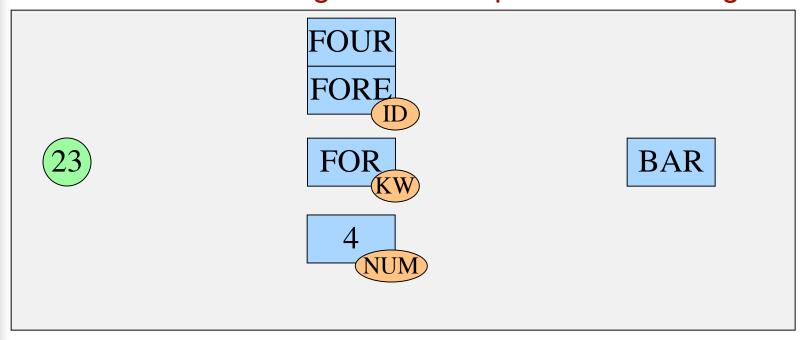
Example 2

Example 1

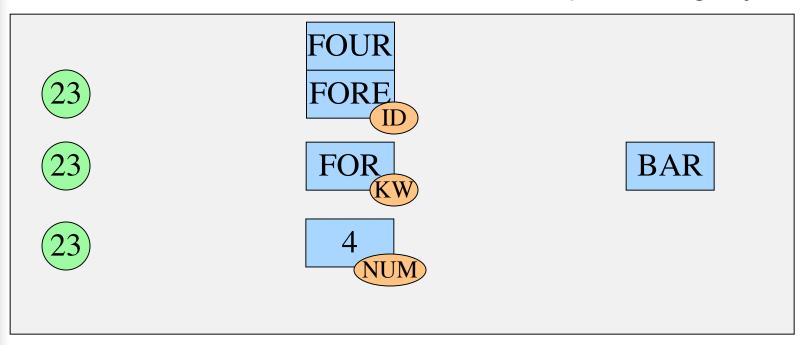
Parsing Homophones

FOR BAR

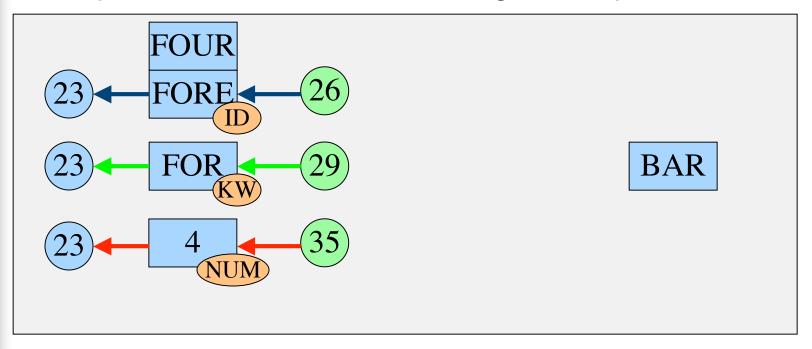
XGLR Extension: Multiple Spellings, Single and Multiple Lexical Categories



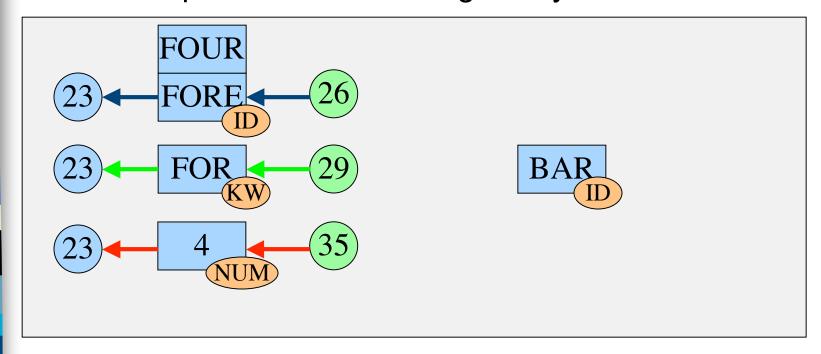
XGLR Extension: Parsers fork due to input ambiguity



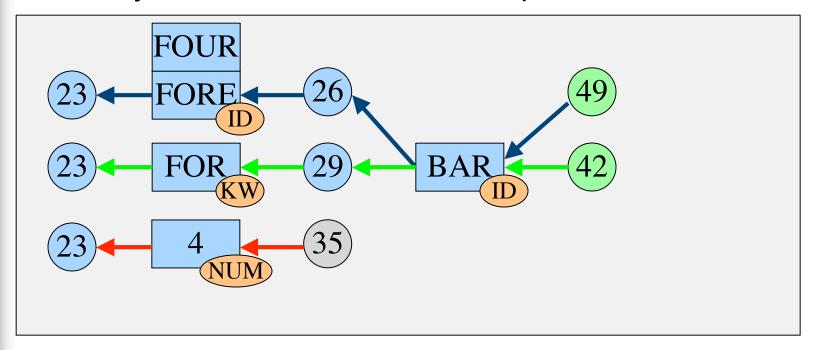
Each parser shifts its now unambiguous input



The next input is lexed unambiguously



ID is only a valid lookahead for two parsers



Parsing Embedded Languages

Example BNF Grammar Contains Languages L and W

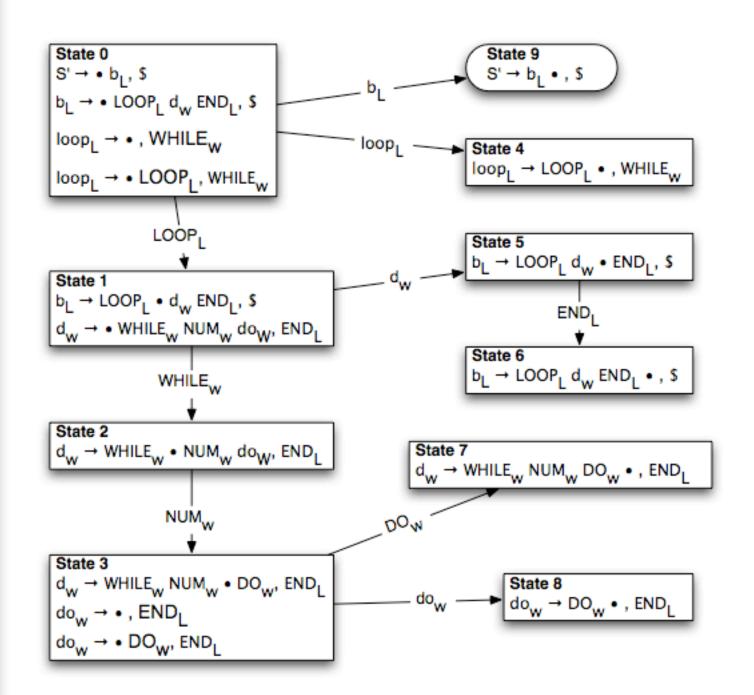
$$\begin{array}{ccc} L & b_L \rightarrow loop_L \ d_W \ END_L \\ & loop_L \rightarrow LOOP_L \ | \ \epsilon \\ \\ d_W \rightarrow WHILE_W \ NUM_W \ do_W \\ \\ W & do_W \rightarrow DO_W \ | \ \epsilon \end{array}$$

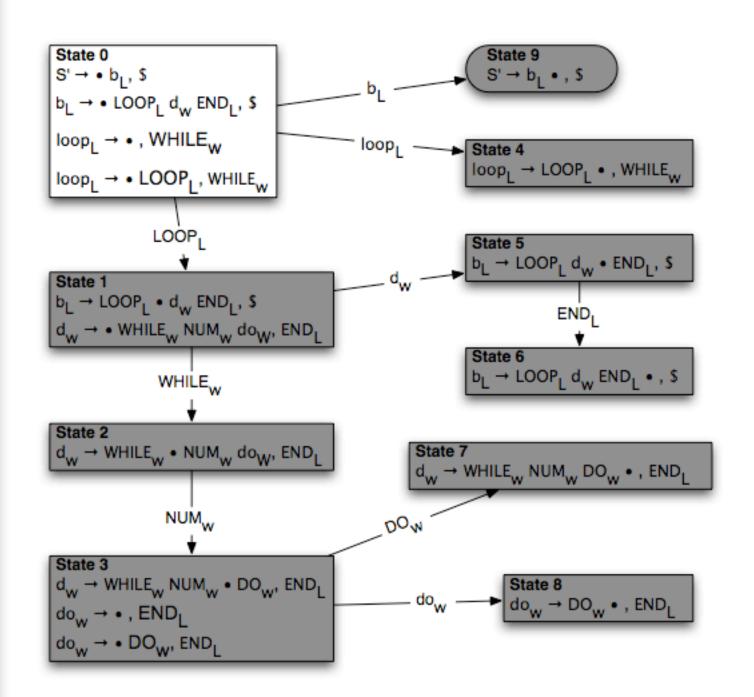
Parsing Embedded Languages

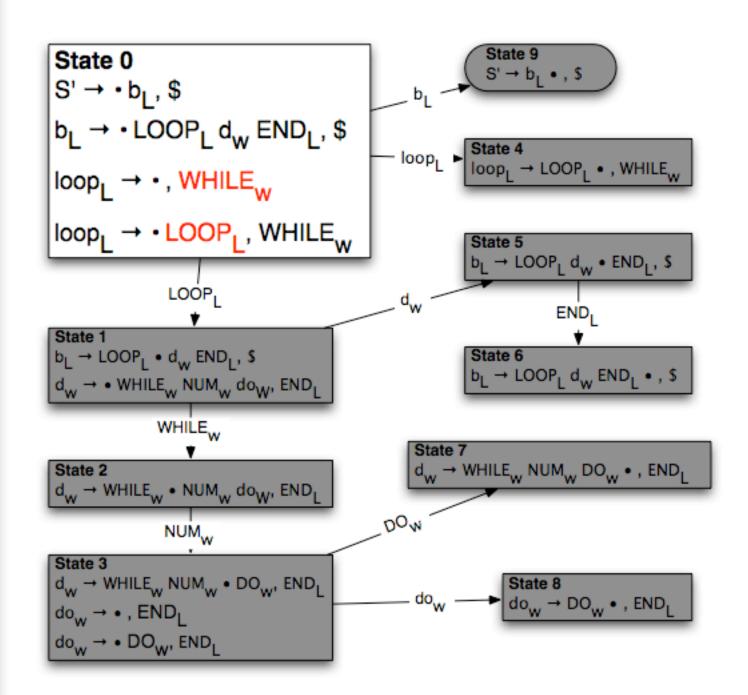
Example BNF Grammar Contains Languages L and W

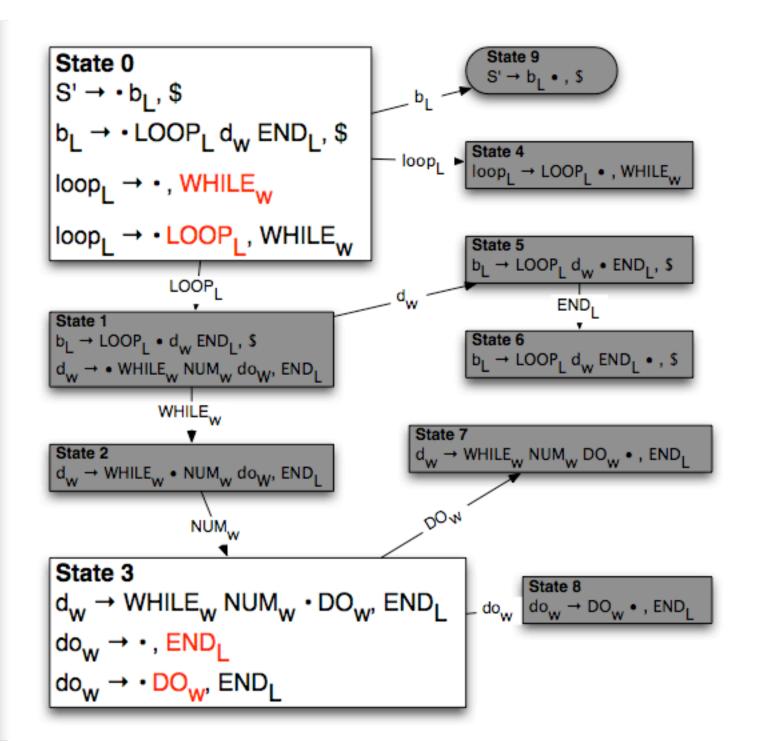
LOOP WHILE 34 END

WHILE 56 DO END

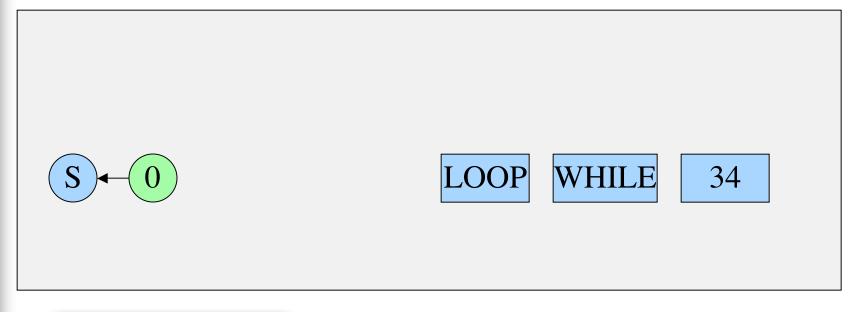


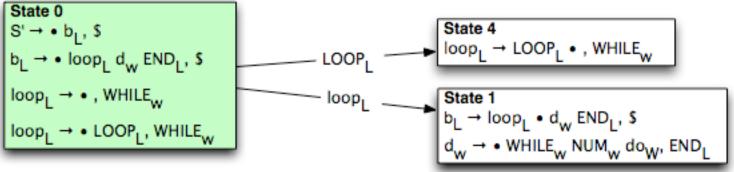


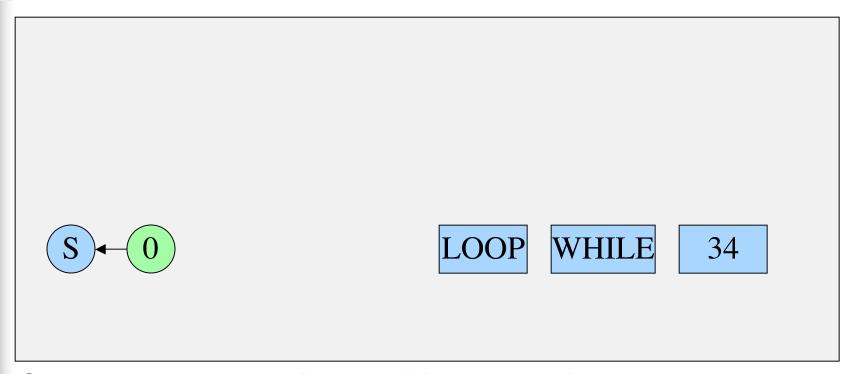




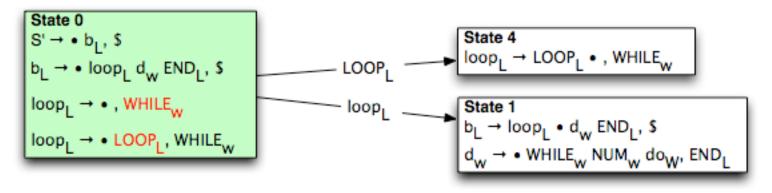
Parsing Embedded Languages

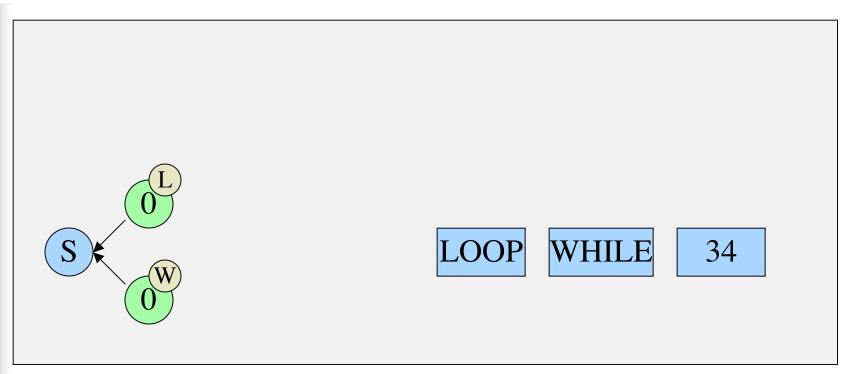




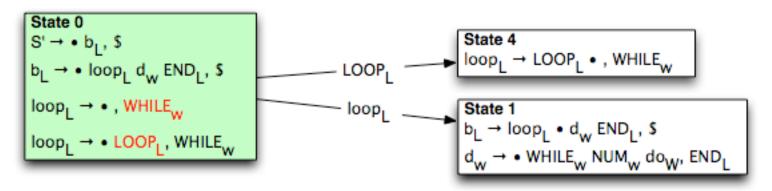


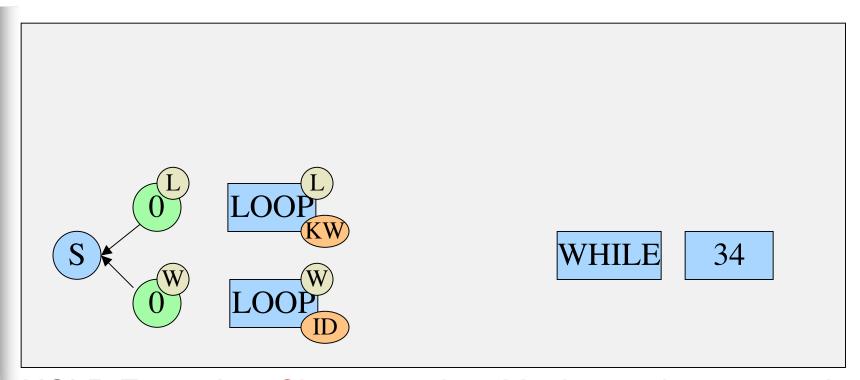
Current parse state has ambiguous lexical language



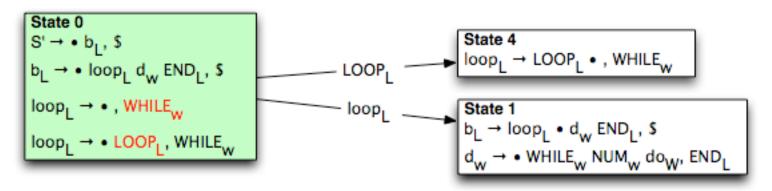


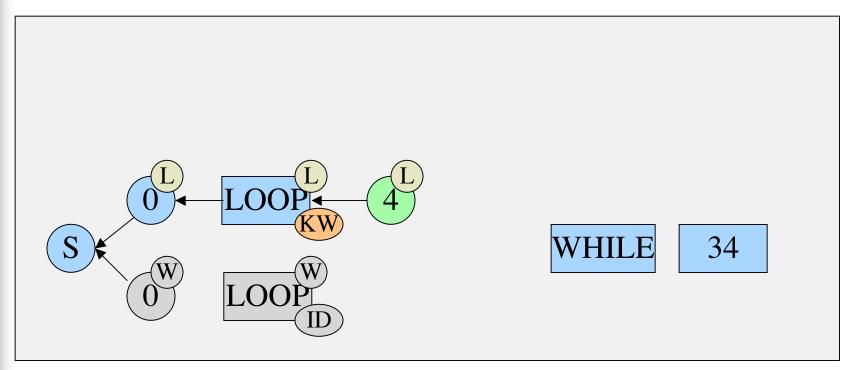
XGLR Extension: Fork parsers, assign one to each lexical language



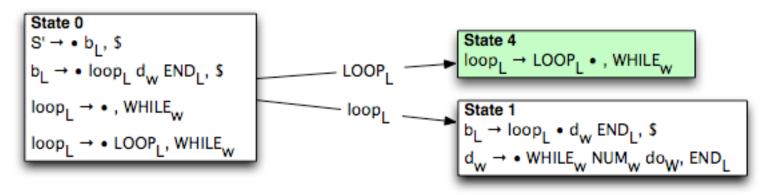


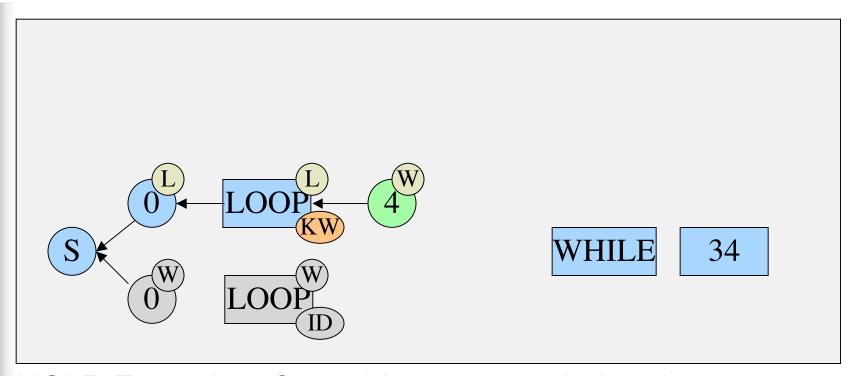
XGLR Extension: Single spelling, Multiple lexical categories Lex lookahead both in language L and W



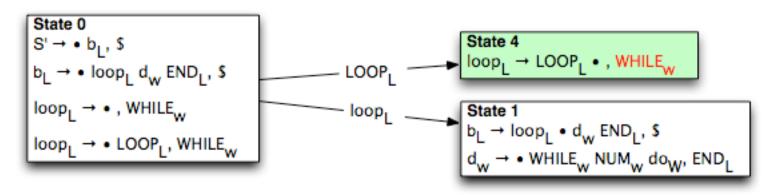


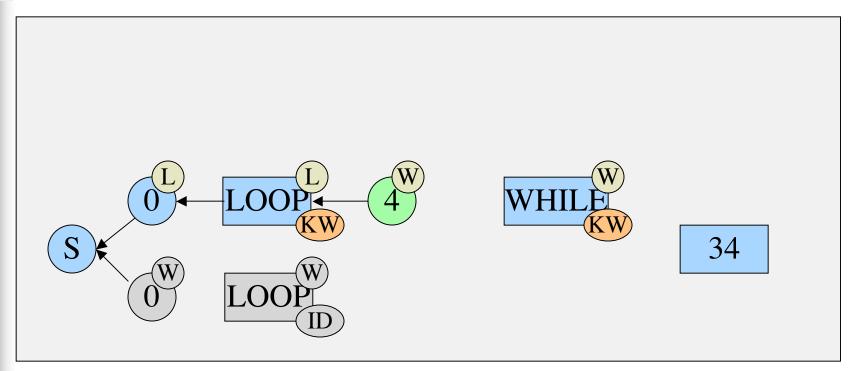
Only LOOP₁ is valid lookahead, and is shifted



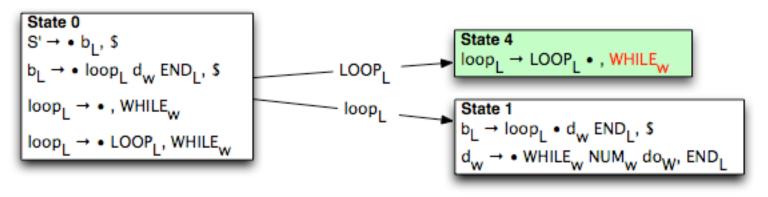


XGLR Extension: State 4 has lexer lookaheads only in language W



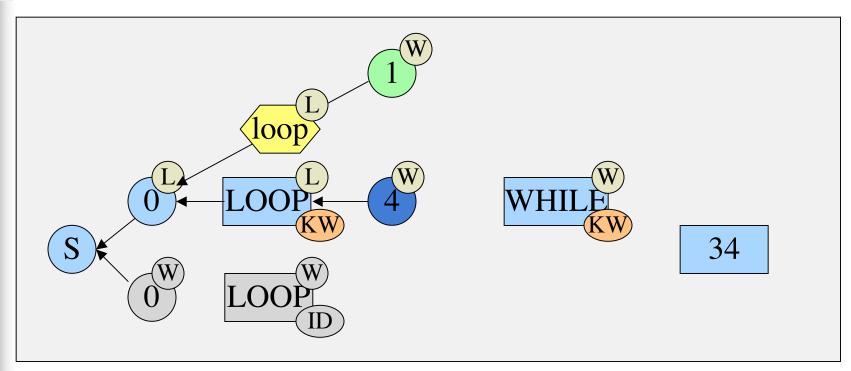


Lex lookahead in language W

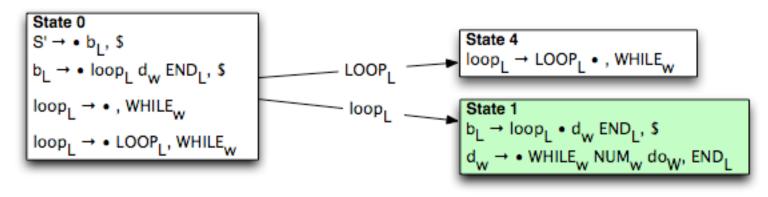


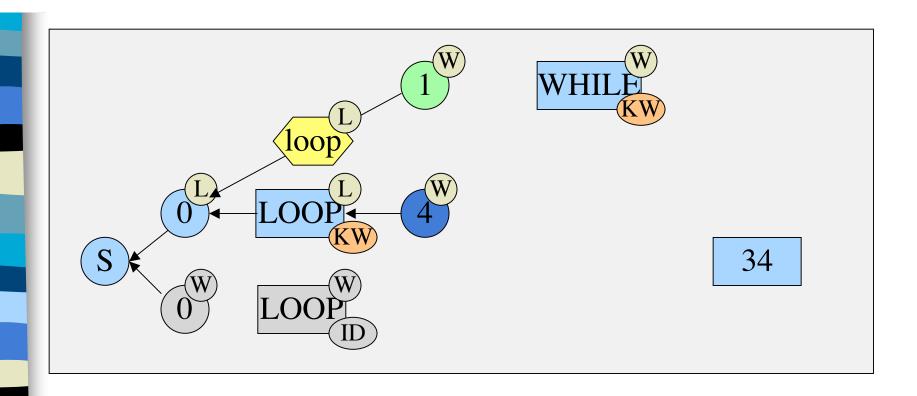
April 3, 2004

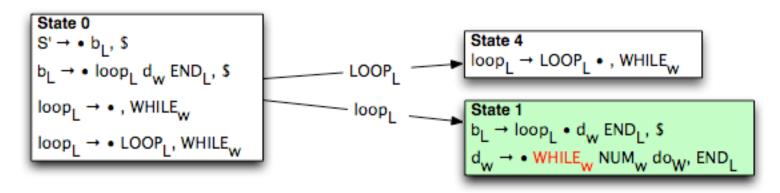
LDTA 2004

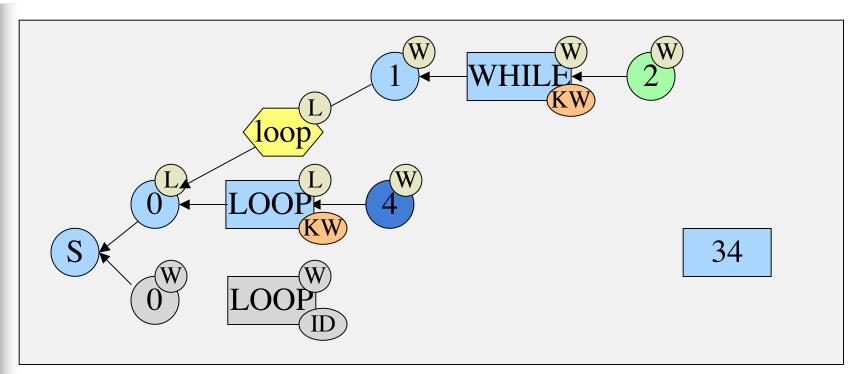


REDUCE by rule 2 and GOTO state 1

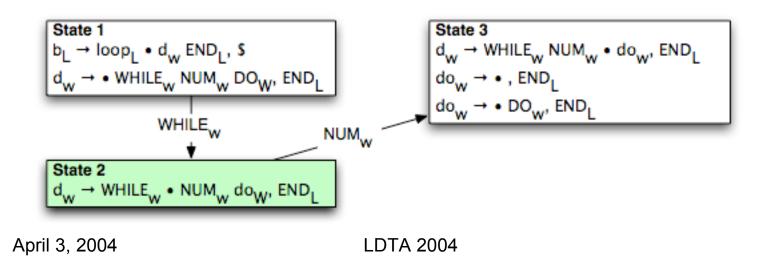


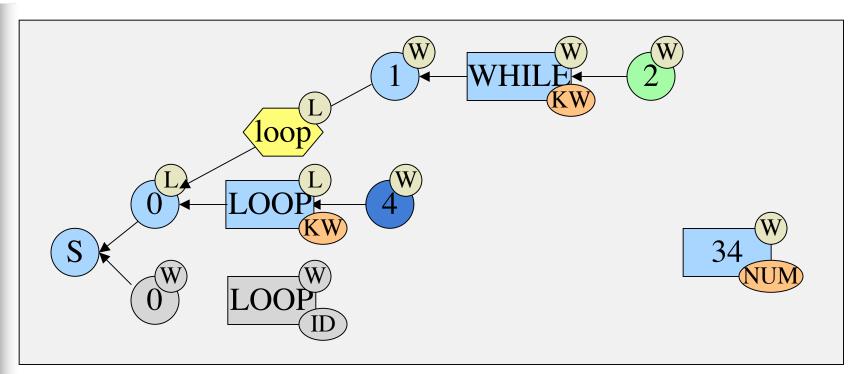




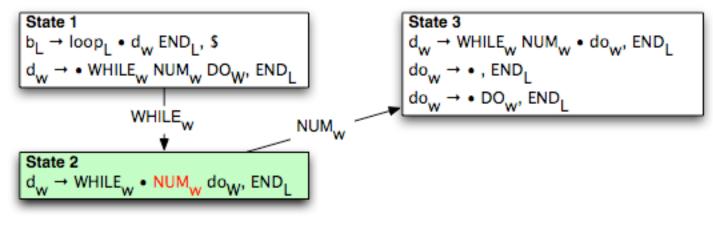


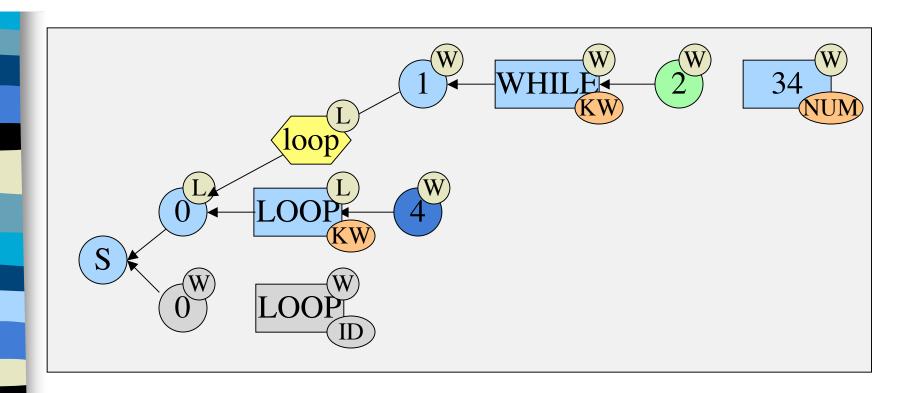
Shift into state 2

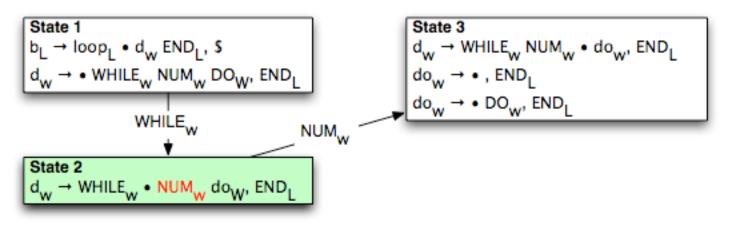


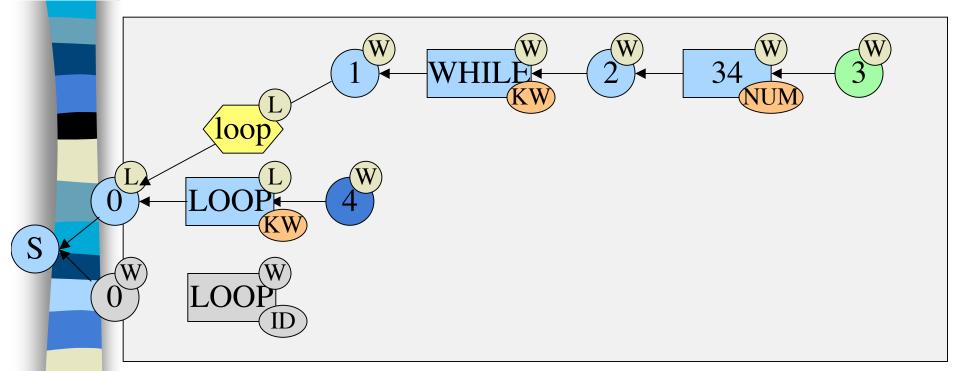


XGLR Extension: Lex lookahead in language W

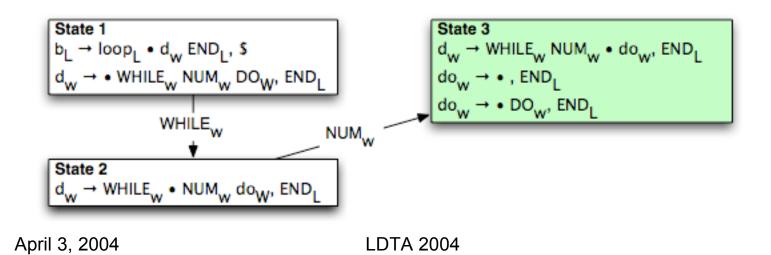


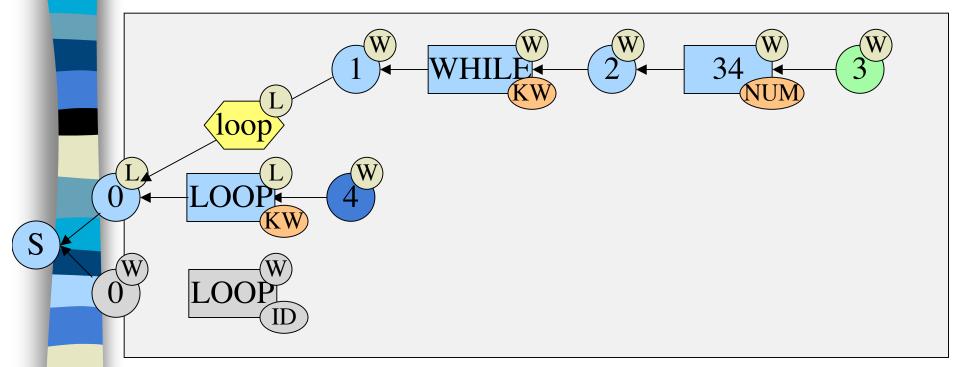




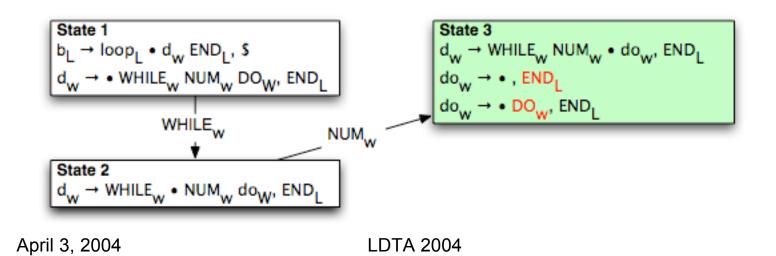


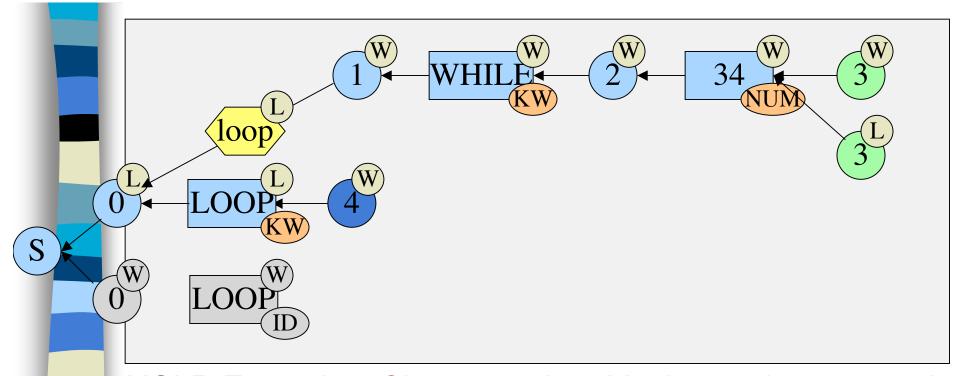
Shift into state 3



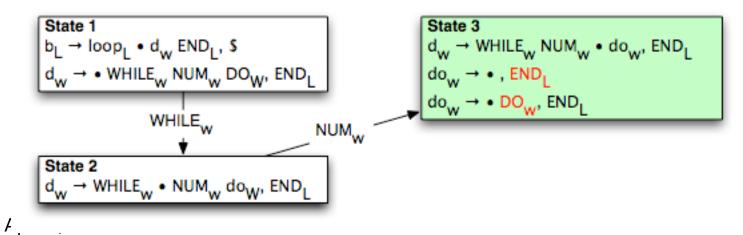


Shift into state 3, which has ambiguous lexical language





XGLR Extension: Single spelling, Multiple lexical categories Fork parsers, assign one to each lexical language



GLR Ambiguity Support

- Fork parser on shift-reduce conflict
- 2. Fork parser on reduce-reduce conflict

XGLR Ambiguity Support

- Fork parser on shift-reduce conflict
- 2. Fork parser on reduce-reduce conflict

XGLR Ambiguity Support

- 1. Fork parser on shift-reduce conflict
- Fork parser on reduce-reduce conflict
- 3. Fork parsers on ambiguous lexical language
 - Single spelling, Multiple lexical categories
- 4. Fork parsers on ambiguous lexical lookahead
 - Single/Multiple Spellings, Multiple lexical categories
 - Shift-shift conflict resolution

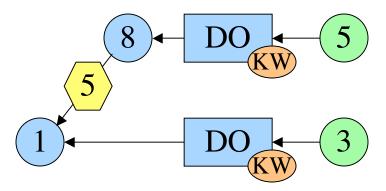
XGLR Ambiguities

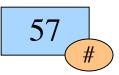
- Many GLR programming language specs have finite, few ambiguities
- XGLR language specs also have finite, but slightly more, ambiguities
 - Lexical ambiguity due to ambiguous input does result in more ambiguous parse forests

XGLR Ambiguities

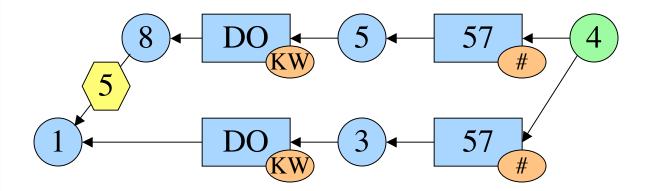
- Many GLR programming language specs have finite, few ambiguities
- XGLR language specs also have finite, but slightly more, ambiguities
 - Lexical ambiguity due to ambiguous input does result in more ambiguous parse forests
- Ambiguity causes parsers to fork
- GLR maintains efficiency by merging parsers when ambiguity is over

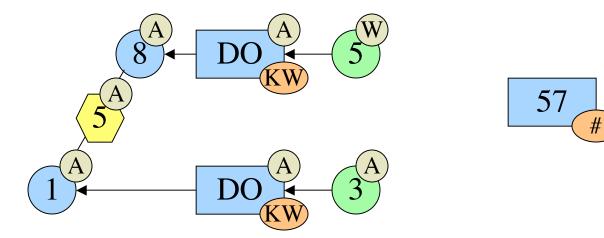
GLR: Parsers merge when in same parse state

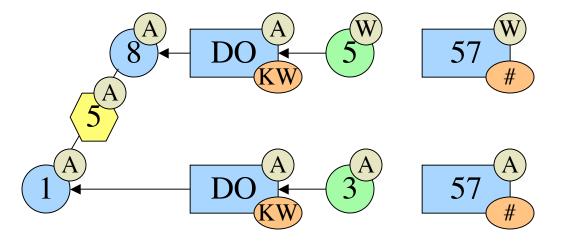


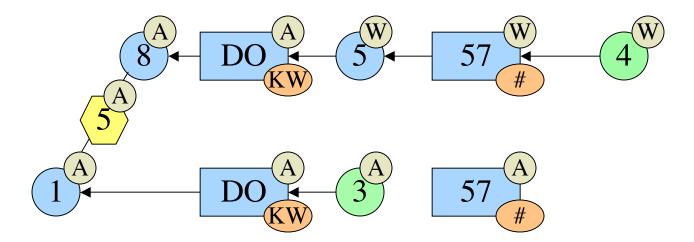


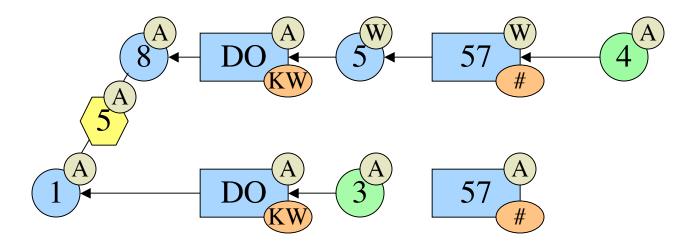
GLR: Parsers merge when in same parse state

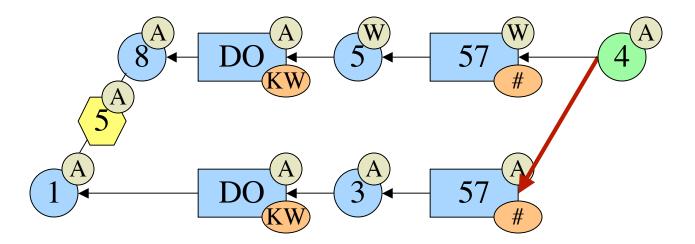




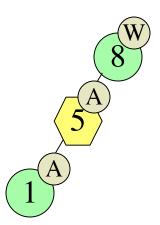






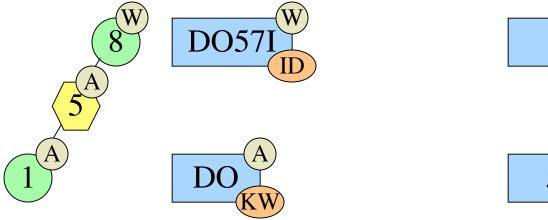


XGLR: Parsers merge when in same parse state and same lexical state and same input position



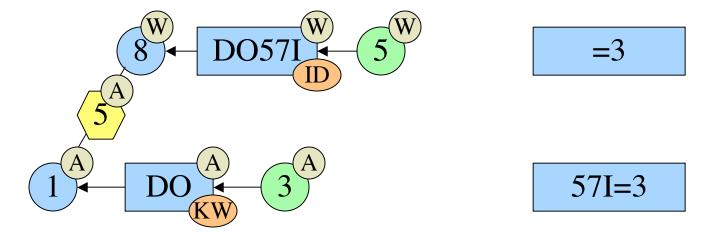
DO57I=3

XGLR: Parsers merge when in same parse state and same lexical state and same input position

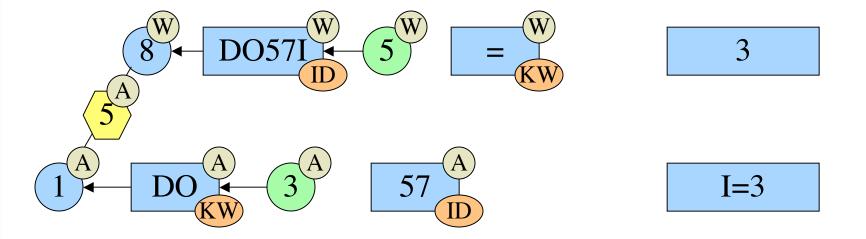


=3

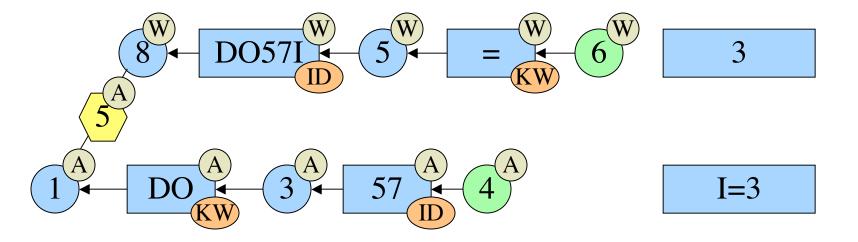
57I = 3

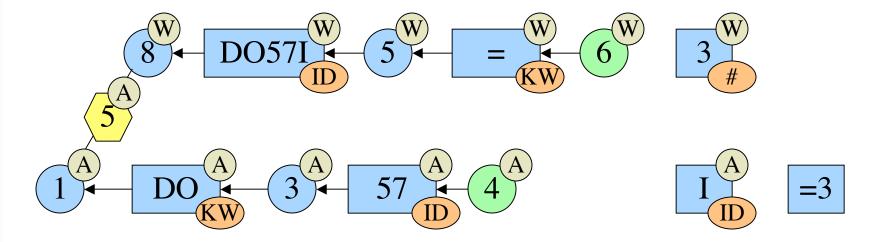


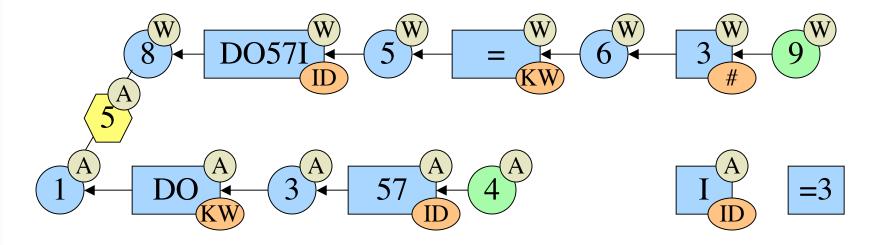
XGLR: Parsers merge when in same parse state and same lexical state and same input position

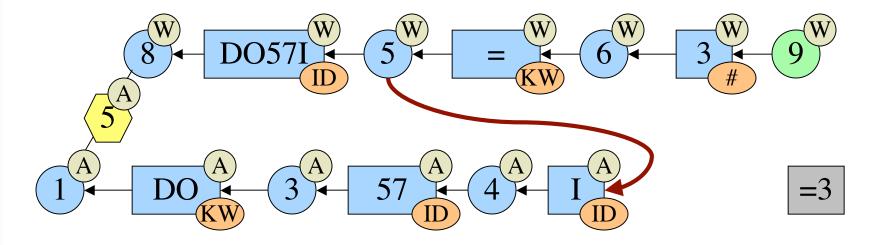


76









Implementation

- Keep map: *lookahead* → *parser* to use when looking for parsers to merge with
- Sort parsers by position of lookahead in the input
 - Enables pruning of map as parsers move past a particular input location
 - Extra memory required is bounded by dynamic separation between first and last parsers

Related Work

- GLR Parsing Algorithm
 - Tomita [1985]
 - Farshi [1991]
 - Rekers [1992]
 - Johnstone et. al. [2002]
- Incremental GLR
 - Wagner [1997]
- GLR Implementations (that I heard of before today)
 - ASF+SDF [1993]
 - Elkhound [2004]
 - Bison [2003]
 - DParser [2002]
 - Aycock and HorspoolApril 3, [1899]

- Scannerless Parsing (or Context-Free Scanning)
 - Salomon and Cormack [1989]
 - Visser [1997]van den Brand [2002]
- Ambiguous Input Streams
 - Aycock and Horspool [2001]
- Embedded Languages
 - ASF+SDF [1997]
 - Van de Vanter and Boshernitsan (CodeProcessor) [2000]

Future Work

- Semantic Analysis of Embedded Languages
- Automated Semantic Disambiguation

Contributions

- Generalized GLR to handle input stream ambiguities
- Classified input stream ambiguities into four categories
- Implemented XGLR algorithm in Harmonia framework
- 4. Constructed combined lexer and parser generator to support embedded languages and lexical ambiguities at each stage of analysis
- Enabled analysis of embedded languages, programming by voice, and legacy languages

