



## Compiler Design

### Bottom Up Parsing

Amey Karkare  
Department of Computer Science and Engineering  
IIT Kanpur  
[karkare@iitk.ac.in](mailto:karkare@iitk.ac.in)

## Parsing

- Process of determination whether a string can be generated by a grammar
- Parsing falls in two categories:
  - Top-down parsing:  
Construction of the parse tree starts at the root (from the start symbol) and proceeds towards leaves (token or terminals)
  - Bottom-up parsing:  
Construction of the parse tree starts from the leaf nodes (tokens or terminals of the grammar) and proceeds towards root (start symbol)

2

## Bottom up parsing

- Construct a parse tree for an input string beginning at leaves and going towards root OR
  - Reduce a string w of input to start symbol of grammar
- Consider a grammar

$S \rightarrow aABe$   
 $A \rightarrow Abc \mid b$   
 $B \rightarrow d$

And reduction of a string

$a \underline{b} c d e$   
 $a \underline{A} b c d e$   
 $a \underline{A} d e$   
 $a \underline{A} B e$   
 $\underline{S}$

The sentential forms happen to be a *right most derivation in the reverse order*.

$S \rightarrow a A B e$   
 $\rightarrow a \underline{A} d e$   
 $\rightarrow a \underline{A} b c d e$   
 $\rightarrow a b b c d e$

3

## Shift reduce parsing

- Split string being parsed into two parts
  - Two parts are separated by a special character “.”
  - Left part is a string of terminals and non terminals
  - Right part is a string of terminals
- Initially the input is  $.w$

4

### Shift reduce parsing ...

- Bottom up parsing has two actions
- **Shift**: move terminal symbol from right string to left string

if string before shift is  $\alpha.pqr$

then string after shift is  $\alpha p.qr$

5

### Shift reduce parsing ...

- **Reduce**: immediately on the left of “.” identify a string same as RHS of a production and replace it by LHS

if string before reduce action is  $\alpha\beta.pqr$

and  $A \rightarrow \beta$  is a production

then string after reduction is  $\alpha A.pqr$

6

### Example

Assume grammar is  $E \rightarrow E+E \mid E * E \mid id$

Parse  $id * id + id$

Assume an oracle tells you when to shift / when to reduce

String	action (by oracle)
.id*id+id	shift
id.*id+id	reduce $E \rightarrow id$
E.*id+id	shift
E*.id+id	shift
E*.id.+id	reduce $E \rightarrow id$
E*E.+id	reduce $E \rightarrow E * E$
E.+id	shift
E+.id	shift
E+id.	Reduce $E \rightarrow id$
E+E.	Reduce $E \rightarrow E + E$
E.	ACCEPT

7

### Shift reduce parsing ...

- Symbols on the left of “.” are kept on a stack
  - Top of the stack is at “.”
  - Shift pushes a terminal on the stack
  - Reduce pops symbols (rhs of production) and pushes a non terminal (lhs of production) onto the stack
- The most important issue: when to shift and when to reduce
- Reduce action should be taken only if the result can be reduced to the start symbol

8

### Issues in bottom up parsing

- How do we know which action to take
  - whether to shift or reduce
  - Which production to use for reduction?
- Sometimes parser can reduce but it should not:  
 $X \rightarrow \epsilon$  can always be used for reduction!

9

### Issues in bottom up parsing

- Sometimes parser can reduce in different ways!
- Given stack  $\delta$  and input symbol  $a$ , should the parser
  - Shift  $a$  onto stack (making it  $\delta a$ )
  - Reduce by some production  $A \rightarrow \beta$  assuming that stack has form  $\alpha\beta$  (making it  $\alpha A$ )
  - Stack can have many combinations of  $\alpha\beta$
  - How to keep track of length of  $\beta$ ?

10

### Handles

- The basic steps of a bottom-up parser are
  - to identify a *substring* within a *rightmost sentential* form which matches the RHS of a rule.
  - when this substring is replaced by the LHS of the matching rule, it must produce the previous rightmost-sentential form.
- Such a substring is called a *handle*

### Handle

- A *handle* of a right sentential form  $\gamma$  is
    - a production rule  $A \rightarrow \beta$ , and
    - an occurrence of a sub-string  $\beta$  in  $\gamma$
- such that
- when the occurrence of  $\beta$  is replaced by  $A$  in  $\gamma$ , we get the previous right sentential form in a rightmost derivation of  $\gamma$ .

12

## Handle

Formally, if

$$S \rightarrow^{rm*} \alpha A w \rightarrow^{rm} \alpha \beta w,$$

then

- $\beta$  in the position following  $\alpha$ ,
- and the corresponding production  $A \rightarrow \beta$  is a handle of  $\alpha \beta w$ .
- The string  $w$  consists of only terminal symbols

13

## Handle

- We only want to reduce handle and not any RHS
- **Handle pruning:** If  $\beta$  is a handle and  $A \rightarrow \beta$  is a production then replace  $\beta$  by  $A$
- A right most derivation in reverse can be obtained by handle pruning.

14

## Handle: Observation

- *Only terminal symbols can appear to the right of a handle in a rightmost sentential form.*
- Why?

15

## Handle: Observation

Is this scenario possible:

- $\alpha \beta \gamma$  is the content of the stack
- $A \rightarrow \gamma$  is a handle
- The stack content reduces to  $\alpha \beta A$
- Now  $B \rightarrow \beta$  is the handle

In other words, handle is not on top, but buried *inside* stack

Not Possible! Why?

16

## Handles ...

- Consider two cases of right most derivation to understand the fact that handle appears on the top of the stack

$S \rightarrow \alpha Az \rightarrow \alpha \beta B y z \rightarrow \alpha \beta \gamma y z$   
 $S \rightarrow \alpha B x A z \rightarrow \alpha B x y z \rightarrow \alpha \gamma x y z$

17

## Handle always appears on the top

Case I:  $S \rightarrow \alpha Az \rightarrow \alpha \beta B y z \rightarrow \alpha \beta \gamma y z$

stack	input	action
$\alpha \beta \gamma$	yz	reduce by $B \rightarrow \gamma$
$\alpha \beta B$	yz	shift y
$\alpha \beta B y$	z	reduce by $A \rightarrow \beta B y$
$\alpha A$	z	

Case II:  $S \rightarrow \alpha B x A z \rightarrow \alpha B x y z \rightarrow \alpha \gamma x y z$

stack	input	action
$\alpha \gamma$	xyz	reduce by $B \rightarrow \gamma$
$\alpha B$	xyz	shift x
$\alpha B x$	yz	shift y
$\alpha B x y$	z	reduce $A \rightarrow y$
$\alpha B x A$	z	

18

## Shift Reduce Parsers

- The general shift-reduce technique is:
  - if there is no handle on the stack then shift
  - If there is a handle then reduce
- Bottom up parsing is essentially the process of detecting handles and reducing them.
- Different bottom-up parsers differ in the way they detect handles.

19

## Conflicts

- What happens when there is a choice
  - What action to take in case both shift and reduce are valid?  
**shift-reduce conflict**
  - Which rule to use for reduction if reduction is possible by more than one rule?  
**reduce-reduce conflict**

20

## Conflicts

- Conflicts come either because of ambiguous grammars or parsing method is not powerful enough

21

## Shift reduce conflict

Consider the grammar  $E \rightarrow E+E \mid E^*E \mid id$   
and the input  $id+id*id$

stack	input	action	stack	input	action
E+E	*id	reduce by $E \rightarrow E+E$	E+E	*id	shift
E	*id	shift	E+E*	id	shift
E*	id	shift	E+E*id		reduce by $E \rightarrow id$
E*id		reduce by $E \rightarrow id$	E+E*E		reduce by $E \rightarrow E^*E$
E*E		reduce by $E \rightarrow E^*E$	E+E		reduce by $E \rightarrow E+E$
E			E		

22

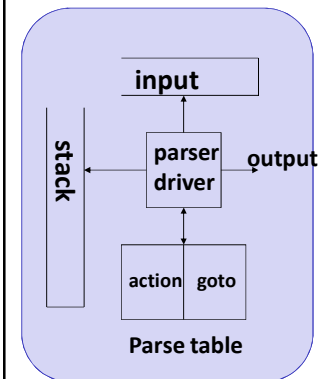
## Reduce reduce conflict

Consider the grammar  $M \rightarrow R+R \mid R+c \mid R$   
 $R \rightarrow c$   
and the input  $c+c$

Stack	input	action	Stack	input	action
c	c+c	shift	c	c+c	shift
R	+c	reduce by $R \rightarrow c$	R	+c	reduce by $R \rightarrow c$
R+	c	shift	R+	c	shift
R+c		reduce by $R \rightarrow c$	R+c		reduce by $M \rightarrow R+c$
R+R		reduce by $M \rightarrow R+R$	M		
M					

23

## LR parsing



- Input buffer contains the input string.
- Stack contains a string of the form  $S_0X_1S_1X_2\ldots X_nS_n$  where each  $X_i$  is a grammar symbol and each  $S_i$  is a state.
- Table contains action and goto parts.
- action table is indexed by state and terminal symbols.
- goto table is indexed by state and non terminal symbols.

24

## Example

Consider a grammar  
and its parse table

$$\begin{array}{l} E \rightarrow E + T \mid T \\ T \rightarrow T * F \mid F \\ F \rightarrow ( E ) \mid \text{id} \end{array}$$

State	id	+	*	(	)	\$	E	T	F
0	s5			s4			1	2	3
1		s6				acc			
2		r2	s7		r2	r2			
3		r4	r4		r4	r4			
4	s5			s4			8	2	3
5		r6	r6		r6	r6			
6	s5			s4				9	3
7	s5			s4					10
8		s6			s11				
9		r1	s7		r1	r1			
10		r3	r3		r3	r3			
11		r5	r5		r5	r5			

action

goto

25

## Actions in an LR (shift reduce) parser

- Assume  $S_i$  is top of stack and  $a_i$  is current input symbol
- Action  $[S_i, a_i]$  can have four values
  - $s_j$ : shift  $a_i$  to the stack, goto state  $S_j$
  - $r_k$ : reduce by rule number  $k$
  - $acc$ : Accept
  - $err$ : Error (empty cells in the table)

26

## Driving the LR parser

Stack:  $S_0 X_1 S_1 X_2 \dots X_m S_m$     Input:  $a_i a_{i+1} \dots a_n \$$

- If  $\text{action}[S_m, a_i] = \text{shift } S$   
Then the configuration becomes  
Stack:  $S_0 X_1 S_1 \dots X_m S_m a_i S$     Input:  $a_{i+1} \dots a_n \$$
- If  $\text{action}[S_m, a_i] = \text{reduce } A \rightarrow \beta$   
Then the configuration becomes  
Stack:  $S_0 X_1 S_1 \dots X_{m-r} S_{m-r} A S$     Input:  $a_i a_{i+1} \dots a_n \$$   
Where  $r = |\beta|$  and  $S = \text{goto}[S_{m-r}, A]$

27

## Driving the LR parser

Stack:  $S_0 X_1 S_1 X_2 \dots X_m S_m$     Input:  $a_i a_{i+1} \dots a_n \$$

- If  $\text{action}[S_m, a_i] = \text{accept}$   
Then parsing is completed. HALT
- If  $\text{action}[S_m, a_i] = \text{error (or empty cell)}$   
Then invoke error recovery routine.

28

## Parse: id + id \* id

State	id	+	*	(	)	\$	E	T	F
0	s5			s4			1	2	3
1		s6				acc			
2		r2	s7		r2	r2			
3		r4	r4		r4	r4			
4	s5			s4			8	2	3
5		r6	r6		r6	r6			
6	s5			s4				9	3
7	s5			s4					10
8		s6			s11				
9		r1	s7		r1	r1			
10		r3	r3		r3	r3			
11		r5	r5		r5	r5			

1.  $E \rightarrow E + T$
2.  $E \rightarrow T$
3.  $T \rightarrow T * F$
4.  $T \rightarrow F$
5.  $F \rightarrow ( E )$
6.  $F \rightarrow id$

29

## Parse id + id \* id

Stack	Input	Action
0	id+id*id\$	shift 5
0 id 5	+id*id\$	reduce by $F \rightarrow id$
0 F 3	+id*id\$	reduce by $T \rightarrow F$
0 T 2	+id*id\$	reduce by $E \rightarrow T$
0 E 1	+id*id\$	shift 6
0 E 1 + 6	id*id\$	shift 5
0 E 1 + 6 id 5	*id\$	reduce by $F \rightarrow id$
0 E 1 + 6 F 3	*id\$	reduce by $T \rightarrow F$
0 E 1 + 6 T 9	*id\$	shift 7
0 E 1 + 6 T 9 * 7	id\$	shift 5
0 E 1 + 6 T 9 * 7 id 5	\$	reduce by $F \rightarrow id$
0 E 1 + 6 T 9 * 7 F 10	\$	reduce by $T \rightarrow T * F$
0 E 1 + 6 T 9	\$	reduce by $E \rightarrow E + T$
0 E 1	\$	ACCEPT

30

## Configuration of a LR parser

- The tuple  $\langle \text{Stack Contents, Remaining Input} \rangle$  defines a *configuration* of a LR parser
- Initially the configuration is  $\langle S_0, a_0 a_1 \dots a_n \$ \rangle$
- Typical final configuration on a successful parse is  $\langle S_0 X_1 S_i, \$ \rangle$

31

## LR parsing Algorithm

Initial state:  $S_0$  Stack:  $S_0$  Input:  $w\$$

```

while (1) {
    if (action[S,a] = shift S') {
        push(a); push(S'); ip++
    } else if (action[S,a] = reduce A → β) {
        pop (2*|β|) symbols;
        push(A); push (goto[S'',A])
        (S'' is the state at stack top after popping symbols)
    } else if (action[S,a] = accept) {
        exit
    } else { error }
}

```

32