

# Notes on LR Parsing

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November 20, 2018

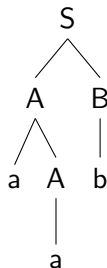
# Readings

- ▶ [http://www.cs.rochester.edu/~nelson/courses/csc\\_173/grammars/cfg.html](http://www.cs.rochester.edu/~nelson/courses/csc_173/grammars/cfg.html)
- ▶ [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Context-free\\_grammar](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Context-free_grammar)
- ▶ [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Context-free\\_language](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Context-free_language)
- ▶ <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Parsing>
- ▶ [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pushdown\\_automata](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pushdown_automata)
- ▶ [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/LR\\_parser](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/LR_parser)
- ▶ <https://parasol.tamu.edu/~rwerger/Courses/434/lec12-sum.pdf>

# Bottom up parsing of CFGs

- ▶ We start with the input and attempt to build the parse tree.
- ▶ If we begin with the input and attempt to build the tree above it, we are doing **bottom-up** parsing.
- ▶ Equivalently, we try to construct a rightmost derivation from right to left, scanning the input left to right.

$$\begin{aligned} S &\rightarrow AB \\ A &\rightarrow aA \mid a \\ B &\rightarrow b \end{aligned}$$



$$S \xRightarrow{S \rightarrow AB} AB \xRightarrow{B \rightarrow b} Ab \xRightarrow{A \rightarrow aA} aAb \xRightarrow{A \rightarrow a} aab$$

# $LR(k)$ grammars

- ▶  $LR(k)$  means we find a rightmost derivation by scanning the input left to right, and have to lookahead at most  $k$  symbols.

# LR parsing: Shift and Reduce

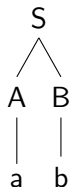
**Shift:** move character from input to stack

**Reduce:** if stack holds RHS of a rule, replace with LHS

$S \rightarrow AB$

$A \rightarrow a$

$B \rightarrow b$



Stack	Input	Rule
\$	ab\$	shift
\$a	b\$	$A \rightarrow a$
\$A	b\$	shift
\$Ab	\$	$B \rightarrow b$
\$AB	\$	$S \rightarrow AB$
\$S	\$	accept

$S \xRightarrow{S \rightarrow AB} AB \xRightarrow{B \rightarrow b} Ab \xRightarrow{A \rightarrow a} ab$

- Note: At all times, stack+input=derivation string

# LR parsing: Shift and Reduce

$$S \rightarrow ASB \mid c$$

$$A \rightarrow a$$

$$B \rightarrow b$$

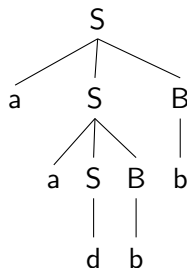

Stack	Input	Rule
\$	aacbb \$	shift
\$ a	acbb \$	$A \rightarrow a$
\$ A	acbb \$	shift
\$ Aa	cbb \$	$A \rightarrow a$
\$ AA	cbb \$	shift
\$ AAc	bb \$	$S \rightarrow c$
\$ AAS	bb \$	shift
\$ AASb	b \$	$B \rightarrow b$
\$ AASB	b \$	$S \rightarrow ASB$
\$ AS	b \$	shift
\$ ASb	\$	$B \rightarrow b$
\$ ASB	\$	$S \rightarrow ASB$
\$ S	\$	accept

$$\begin{aligned}
 S &\xRightarrow{S \rightarrow ASB} ASB \xRightarrow{B \rightarrow b} ASb \xRightarrow{S \rightarrow ASB} AASBb \xRightarrow{B \rightarrow b} AASbb \xRightarrow{S \rightarrow c} \\
 &AAcbb \xRightarrow{A \rightarrow a} Aacbb \xRightarrow{A \rightarrow a} aacbb
 \end{aligned}$$

## Another LR parse

$$S \rightarrow aSB \mid d$$

$$B \rightarrow b$$



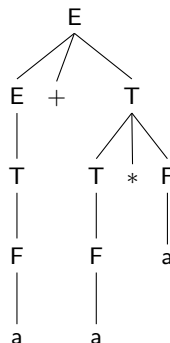
Stack	Input	Rule
\$	aadbb\$	shift
\$a	adbb\$	shift
\$aa	dbb\$	shift
\$aad	bb\$	$S \rightarrow d$
\$aaS	bb\$	shift
\$aaSb	b\$	$B \rightarrow b$
\$aaSB	b\$	$S \rightarrow aSB$
\$aS	b\$	shift
\$aSb	\$	$B \rightarrow b$
\$aSB	\$	$S \rightarrow aSB$
\$S	\$	accept

$$S \xRightarrow{S \rightarrow aSB} aSB \xRightarrow{B \rightarrow b} aSb \xRightarrow{S \rightarrow aSB} aaSBb \xRightarrow{B \rightarrow b} aaSbb \xRightarrow{S \rightarrow d} aadbb$$

# LR parsing arithmetic

 $E \rightarrow E + T \mid T$ 
 $T \rightarrow T * F \mid F$ 
 $F \rightarrow (E) \mid a$ 
 $E \Rightarrow E + T$ 
 $\Rightarrow E + T * F$ 
 $\Rightarrow E + T * a$ 
 $\Rightarrow E + F * a$ 
 $\Rightarrow E + a * a$ 
 $\Rightarrow T + a * a$ 
 $\Rightarrow F + a * a$ 
 $\Rightarrow a + a * a$ 

Stack	Input	Rule
\$	a+a*a\$	shift
\$a	+a*a\$	$F \rightarrow a$
\$F	+a*a\$	$T \rightarrow F$
\$T	+a*a\$	$E \rightarrow T$
\$E	+a*a\$	shift
\$E+	a*a\$	shift
\$E+a	*a\$	$F \rightarrow a$
\$E+F	*a\$	$T \rightarrow F$
\$E+T	*a\$	shift
\$E+T*	a\$	shift
\$E+T*a	\$	$F \rightarrow a$
\$E+T*F	\$	$T \rightarrow T*F$
\$E+T	\$	$E \rightarrow E+T$
\$E	\$	accept





# LR(1) parsing

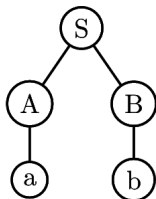
- ▶ The trick is to know when to shift and when to reduce.
- ▶ Hopefully by looking at **only one** symbol of the input.
- ▶ Everything on the stack has already been examined.
- ▶ We can use the entire stack to determine actions.
- ▶ We do this by using a DFA to keep track of stack state.
- ▶ We note each time a RHS appears on top of the stack.
- ▶ If a RHS is on top of the stack, a reduction is *possible*.
  - ▶ We can then choose whether to shift or reduce.
  - ▶ Otherwise you must shift.

# LR(1) parsing

$S \rightarrow AB$

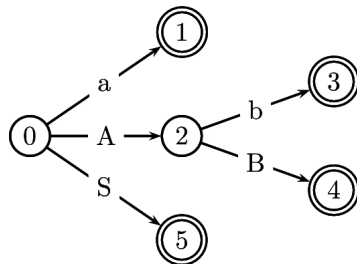
$A \rightarrow a$

$B \rightarrow b$



$S \xRightarrow{S \rightarrow AB} AB \xRightarrow{B \rightarrow b} Ab \xRightarrow{A \rightarrow a} ab$

Stack	Input	Rule
\$	ab\$	shift
\$a	b\$	$A \rightarrow a$
\$A	b\$	shift
\$Ab	\$	$B \rightarrow b$
\$AB	\$	$S \rightarrow AB$
\$S	\$	accept

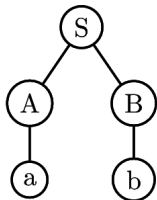


We will store the state of the DFA on the stack, too.

# LR(1) parsing

$$S \rightarrow AB$$

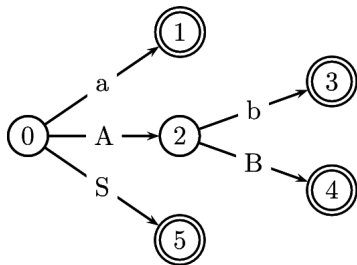
$$A \rightarrow a$$

$$B \rightarrow b$$


$$S \xRightarrow{S \rightarrow AB} AB \xRightarrow{B \rightarrow b} Ab \xRightarrow{A \rightarrow a} ab$$

	a	b	A	B	S	\$
0	1		2		5	
1		$A \rightarrow a$				
2		3		4		
3						$B \rightarrow b$
4						$S \rightarrow AB$
5						accept

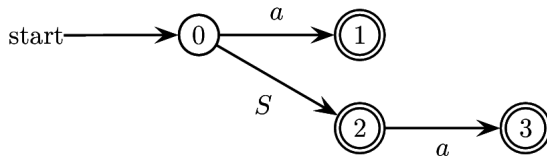
Stack	Input	Rule
0	ab\$	shift
0 a 1	b\$	$A \rightarrow a$
0 A 2	b\$	shift
0 A 2 b 3	\$	$B \rightarrow b$
0 A 2 B 4	\$	$S \rightarrow AB$
0 S 5	\$	accept



Left recursion:  $S \rightarrow Sa \mid a$

Stack	Input
0	a a a a \$
0 a 1	a a a \$
0 S 2	a a a \$
0 S 2 a 3	a a \$
0 S 2	a a \$
0 S 2 a 3	a \$
0 S 2	a \$
0 S 2 a 3	\$
0 S 2	\$

	$a$	$\$$	$S$
0	1		2
1	$S \rightarrow a$		
2	3	accept	
3	$S \rightarrow Sa$	$S \rightarrow Sa$	



Right recursion:  $S \rightarrow aS \mid a$

Stack

0

0 a 1

0 a 1 a 1

0 a 1 a 1 a 1

0 a 1 a 1 a 1 a 1

0 a 1 a 1 a 1 S 2

0 a 1 a 1 S 2

0 a 1 S 2

0 S 3

Input

a a a a \$

a a a \$

a a \$

a \$

\$

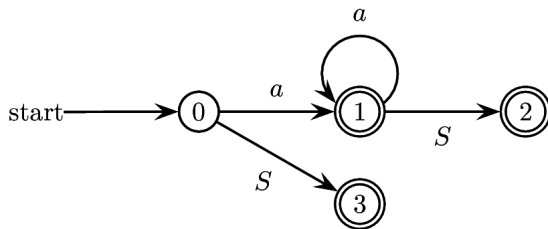
\$

\$

\$

\$

	$a$	$\$$	$S$
0	1		3
1	1	$S \rightarrow a$	2
2		$S \rightarrow aS$	
3		accept	



# Middle recursion: $S \rightarrow aSa \mid bSb \mid c$

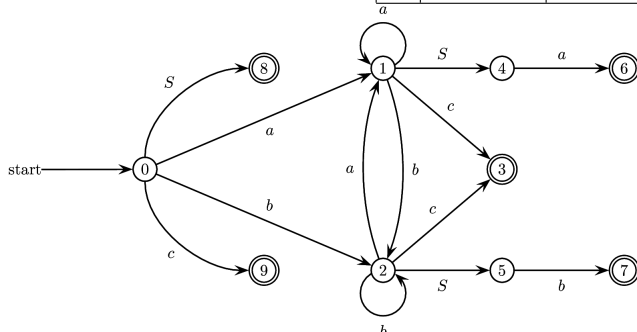
Stack

0  
0 a 1  
0 a 1 b 2  
0 a 1 b 2 c 3  
0 a 1 b 2 S 5  
0 a 1 b 2 S 5 b 7  
0 a 1 S 4  
0 a 1 S 4 a 6  
0 S 8

Input

a b c b a \$  
b c b a \$  
c b a \$  
b a \$  
b a \$  
a \$  
a \$  
\$  
\$

	a	b	c	\$	S
0	1	2	9		8
1	1	2	3		4
2	1	2	3		5
3	$S \rightarrow c$	$S \rightarrow c$			
4	6				
5		7			
6	$S \rightarrow aSa$	$S \rightarrow aSa$		$S \rightarrow aSa$	
7	$S \rightarrow bSb$	$S \rightarrow bSb$		$S \rightarrow bSb$	
8				accept	
9				$S \rightarrow c$	

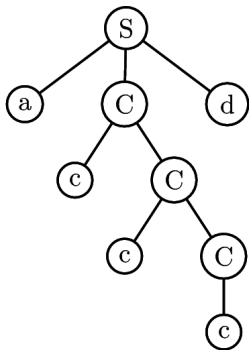


# LR(1) parsing, a more complex example

$S \rightarrow aCd \mid bCD$

$C \rightarrow cC \mid c$

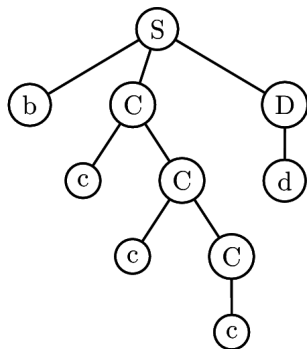
$D \rightarrow d$



Stack	Input	Rule
\$	acccd\$	shift
\$a	cccd\$	shift
\$ac	ccd\$	shift
\$acc	cd\$	shift
\$accc	d\$	$C \rightarrow c$
\$accC	d\$	$C \rightarrow cC$
\$acC	d\$	$C \rightarrow cC$
\$aC	d\$	shift
\$aCd	\$	$S \rightarrow aCd$
\$S	\$	accept

$S \Rightarrow aCd \Rightarrow acCd \Rightarrow accCd \Rightarrow acccd$

# LR(1) parsing



Stack	Input	Rule
\$	bcccd\$	shift
\$b	cccd\$	shift
\$bc	ccd\$	shift
\$bcc	cd\$	shift
\$bccc	d\$	$C \rightarrow c$
\$bccC	d\$	$C \rightarrow cC$
\$bcC	d\$	$C \rightarrow cC$
\$bC	d\$	shift
\$bCd	\$	$D \rightarrow d$
\$bCD	\$	$S \rightarrow bCD$
\$S	\$	accept

$S \Rightarrow bCD \Rightarrow bCd \Rightarrow bcCd \Rightarrow bccCd \Rightarrow bcccd$



# LR(1) parsing

$$S \rightarrow aCd \mid bCD$$

$$C \rightarrow cC \mid c$$

$$D \rightarrow d$$

- ▶  $S \Rightarrow aCd \Rightarrow acCd \Rightarrow accCd \Rightarrow acccd$
- ▶  $S \Rightarrow bCD \Rightarrow bCd \Rightarrow bcCd \Rightarrow bccCd \Rightarrow bcccd$
- ▶ At any point, the derivation string must look like one of these:

$aCd$      $ac^+Cd$      $ac^+d$      $bCD$      $bCd$      $bc^+Cd$      $bc^+d$

- ▶ Whenever we see one of these, we have to know which rule to apply at what point in the shifting of the string.

# LR(1) parsing

$$S \rightarrow aCd \mid bCD$$

$$C \rightarrow cC \mid c$$

$$D \rightarrow d$$

Stack	Input	Rule	Peek
\$aCd	\$	$S \rightarrow aCd$	
\$ac <sup>+</sup> C	d\$	$C \rightarrow cC$	
\$ac <sup>+</sup>	d\$	$C \rightarrow c$	d
\$bCD	\$	$S \rightarrow bCD$	
\$bCd	\$	$D \rightarrow d$	
\$bc <sup>+</sup> C	d\$	$C \rightarrow cC$	
\$bc <sup>+</sup>	d\$	$C \rightarrow c$	d

Stack	Input	Rule
\$	bcccd\$	shift
\$b	cccd\$	shift
\$bc	ccd\$	shift
\$bcc	cd\$	shift
\$bccc	d\$	$C \rightarrow c$
\$bccC	d\$	$C \rightarrow cC$
\$bcC	d\$	$C \rightarrow cC$
\$bC	d\$	shift
\$bCd	\$	$D \rightarrow d$
\$bCD	\$	$S \rightarrow bCD$
\$S	\$	accept

Stack	Input	Rule
\$	acccd\$	shift
\$a	cccd\$	shift
\$ac	ccd\$	shift
\$acc	cd\$	shift
\$accc	d\$	$C \rightarrow c$
\$accC	d\$	$C \rightarrow cC$
\$acC	d\$	$C \rightarrow cC$
\$aC	d\$	shift
\$aCd	\$	$S \rightarrow aCd$
\$S	\$	accept

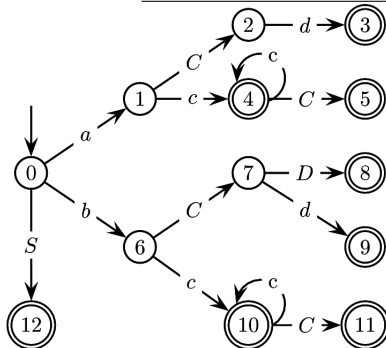
# DFA for LR parsing

$$S \rightarrow aCd \mid bCD$$

$$C \rightarrow cC \mid c$$

$$D \rightarrow d$$

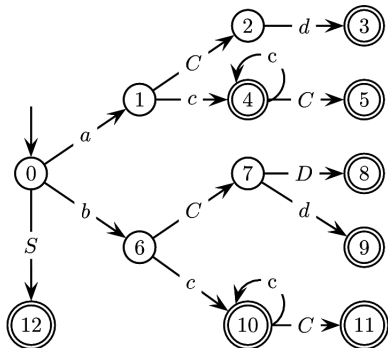
Stack	Input	Rule	Peek
\$aCd	\$	$S \rightarrow aCd$	
\$ac^+C	d\$	$C \rightarrow cC$	
\$ac^+	d\$	$C \rightarrow c$	d
\$bCD	\$	$S \rightarrow bCD$	
\$bCd	\$	$D \rightarrow d$	
\$bc^+C	d\$	$C \rightarrow cC$	
\$bc^+	d\$	$C \rightarrow c$	d



# Using the DFA in LR parsing

Stack	Input	Rule	Peek
\$aCd	\$	$S \rightarrow aCd$	
\$ac^+C	d\$	$C \rightarrow cC$	
\$ac^+	d\$	$C \rightarrow c$	d
\$bCD	\$	$S \rightarrow bCD$	
\$bCd	\$	$D \rightarrow d$	
\$bc^+C	d\$	$C \rightarrow cC$	
\$bc^+	d\$	$C \rightarrow c$	d

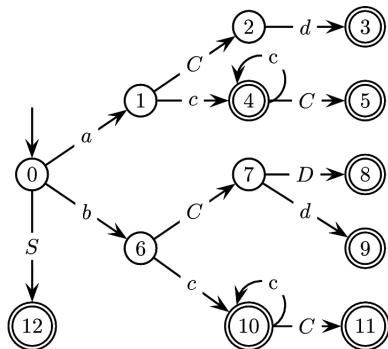
Stack	Input	Rule
0	acccd\$	shift
0 a 1	cccd\$	shift
0 a 1 c 4	ccd\$	shift
0 a 1 c 4 c 4	cd\$	shift
0 a 1 c 4 c 4 c 4	d\$	$C \rightarrow c$
0 a 1 c 4 c 4 C 5	d\$	$C \rightarrow cC$
0 a 1 c 4 C 5	d\$	$C \rightarrow cC$
0 a 1 C 2	d\$	shift
0 a 1 C 2 d 3	\$	$S \rightarrow aCd$
0 S 12	\$	accept



# Using the DFA in LR parsing

Stack	Input	Rule	Peek
\$aCd	\$	$S \rightarrow aCd$	
\$ac^+C	d\$	$C \rightarrow cC$	
\$ac^+	d\$	$C \rightarrow c$	d
\$bCD	\$	$S \rightarrow bCD$	
\$bCd	\$	$D \rightarrow d$	
\$bc^+C	d\$	$C \rightarrow cC$	
\$bc^+	d\$	$C \rightarrow c$	d

Stack	Input	Rule
0	bcccd\$	shift
0 b 6	cccd\$	shift
0 b 6 c 10	ccd\$	shift
0 b 6 c 10 c 10	cd\$	shift
0 b 6 c 10 c 10 c 10	d\$	$C \rightarrow c$
0 b 6 c 10 c 10 C 11	d\$	$C \rightarrow cC$
0 b 6 c 10 C 11	d\$	$C \rightarrow cC$
0 b 6 C 7	d\$	shift
0 b 6 C 7 d 9	\$	$D \rightarrow d$
0 b 6 C 7 D 8	\$	$S \rightarrow bCD$
0 S 12	\$	accept



More examples in notes on repo.

# LR(k) languages, Knuth's theorem

## Theorem

$$\begin{aligned} LR(k) \text{ languages} &= LR(1) \text{ languages} \\ &= \text{deterministic context free languages} \end{aligned}$$

# LR parsing exercises

Redo all the solved examples. Also, find DFAs and tables for the following languages, and trace some parses:

►  $S \rightarrow a \mid b \mid c$

►  $S \rightarrow aSa \mid b$

►  $S \rightarrow ABC$

$A \rightarrow a$

$B \rightarrow b$

$C \rightarrow c$



# Lex and Yacc Style Parsers

- ▶ <http://epaperpress.com/lexandyacc/>
- ▶ <https://docs.racket-lang.org/parser-tools/index.html>