

# Bottom-Up Parsing

---

- Recall that top-down parsing reflected a leftmost derivation of the grammar
- Bottom-Up Parsing reflects a **rightmost derivation**
  - The parse tree produced is the result of a rightmost derivation
  - The order of the **reductions** performed reflects this
- Top-down parsers have to make **production** decisions based on a small lookahead
- In contrast, bottom-up parsers push incoming tokens onto a stack and only make **reduction** decisions after they gain enough information
  - As a result, they are more powerful (can parse tougher grammars)

# Bottom-Up Parsing

- Compare the order the parse trees are created for leftmost versus rightmost derivations
  - For top-down parsers, **productions** are done corresponding to a leftmost derivation
  - For bottom-up parsers, **reductions** are done in reverse of the rightmost derivation
- Example: **a + b + c \* d**

```
expr -> term expr2
expr2 -> addop term expr2 | ε
term -> factor term2
term2 -> mulop factor term2 | ε
factor -> ( expr ) | IDENT | NUM
addop -> + | -
mulop -> * | /
```

```
expr -> expr addop term | term
term -> term mulop factor | factor
factor -> ( expr ) | IDENT | NUM
addop -> + | -
mulop -> * | /
```

# Bottom-Up Parsing

---

- Like an LL(1) parser, a bottom-up parser uses a stack
  - Holds both terminals and non-terminals
  - Also holds **state** information (like a DFA)
- The stack starts out empty, and ends up after a successful parse with just the **Start symbol**; i.e., the code reduces to just the Start symbol
- The parser uses the state information, plus possibly the next token(s) in the incoming string, to make one of 4 decisions
  1. **Accept** – just the Start symbol remains, and the code is correct
  2. **Shift** – move a token from the incoming string onto the stack
  3. **Reduce** – take a set of symbols from the stack (a production RHS) and reduce it to a single non-terminal (the LHS)
    - Symbols on stack replaced by non-terminal
  4. **Error**
- Bottom-up parsers sometimes called **shift-reduce parsers**

# Bottom-Up Parsing

---

- The grammar used by a bottom-up parser is always **augmented** to contain a new Start symbol
  - New production from new Start Symbol to old start symbol
  - Prevents us from ever having a start symbol on stack until the incoming token stream is empty
- Common bottom-up parsers include **LR(0)** and **LR(1)**
  - Left-to-right scan, rightmost derivation, 0 or 1 character lookahead
  - Because a character which has already been shifted on the stack is not considered lookahead, it is feasible to build a bottom-up parser which does not need a lookahead symbol
    - Uses just the **state** information
    - Not as powerful as LR(1), and can't handle some language constructs well

# Bottom-Up Parsing

- Example: matching parens
  - Note new start symbol
  - Note this is rightmost derivation

$$\begin{aligned} S' &\rightarrow S \\ S &\rightarrow ( S ) S \mid \varepsilon \end{aligned}$$

<u>Stack</u>	<u>Input</u>	<u>Action</u>
	()\$	shift
(	)\$	reduce $S \rightarrow \varepsilon$
(S	)\$	shift
(S)	\$	reduce $S \rightarrow \varepsilon$
(S)S	\$	reduce $S \rightarrow (S)S$
S	\$	reduce $S' \rightarrow S$
S'	\$	accept

# Bottom-Up Parsing

- Example: rudimentary expressions

$$\begin{aligned} S' &\rightarrow E \\ E &\rightarrow E + n \mid n \end{aligned}$$

<u>Stack</u>	<u>Input</u>	<u>Action</u>
	n+n\$	shift
n	+n\$	reduce $E \rightarrow n$
E	+n\$	shift
E+	n\$	shift
E+n	\$	reduce $E \rightarrow E + n$
E	\$	reduce $S' \rightarrow E$
S'	\$	accept

Note: 3<sup>rd</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> line identical except for lookahead – This grammar is not an LR(0) grammar, since it cannot be parsed without lookahead

# Bottom-Up Parsing

---

- The derivation used on previous slide was
$$S' \Rightarrow E \Rightarrow E + n \Rightarrow n + n$$
- Each set of terminals/non-terminals formed during the rightmost derivation is a **right sentential form**
  - Part of this right sentential form will be on stack, part in string
  - The set of symbols on stack is known as a **viable prefix** of the right sentential form
  - A shift-reduce parser will continue to shift tokens until the entire RHS of a production is on the stack
    - At this point, a reduction may change the present right sentential form to another one
      - The complete viable prefix, plus the production which can be used to reduce it, is known as the **handle** of the right sentential form
  - Determining when a **handle** exists on the stack (and thus recognizing if it is time to make a reduction) is the **primary task of a parser**

# Bottom-Up Parsing

---

- In our example of a simple expression grammar, we had **E** on top of the stack, which was the rhs of **S' -> E**
  - But we chose to shift instead of reduce at that point
  - So, just because the symbols on top of the stack happen to match a production rhs doesn't mean that we have a **handle** on the stack and it is time for a reduction
    - The lookahead symbols seem to be important
    - We will see that the **state** we are in is also important
- In the matching parens example, we had **S-> ε** as a production
  - Certainly **ε** is always on the top of the stack, but we don't always choose this reduction



# Bottom-Up Parsing

---

- We said that a right sentential form can be split between the stack and the input string
  - Consider the production  $E \rightarrow E + n$
  - There are 4 possible ways this could be split
    - Nothing on stack, just E on stack, etc.
  - We call each of these possibilities an LR(0) item or just item
    - We show the dividing point (stack vs string) with a period (.) – a metasymbol
    - The items for this production are:

$E \rightarrow . E + n$

$E \rightarrow E . + n$

$E \rightarrow E + . n$

$E \rightarrow E + n .$

# Bottom-Up Parsing

---

- For the grammar we saw before, the items are:

$S' \rightarrow \cdot S$

$S' \rightarrow S \cdot$

$S \rightarrow \cdot ( S ) S$

$S \rightarrow ( \cdot S ) S$

$S \rightarrow ( S \cdot ) S$

$S \rightarrow ( S ) \cdot S$

$S \rightarrow ( S ) S \cdot$

$S \rightarrow \cdot$

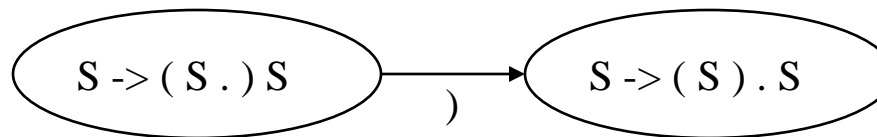
$S' \rightarrow S$

$S \rightarrow ( S ) S \mid \epsilon$

# Bottom-Up Parsing

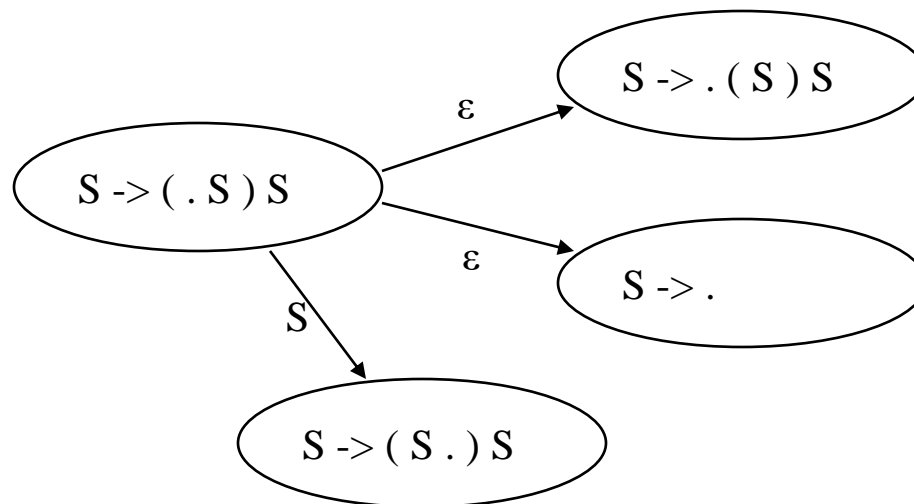
---

- Each of the **items** possible for a grammar could be thought of as a **state the parser** is currently in
  - In fact, this is what we do
    - The items are states of a finite automata, specifically an NFA
  - If I am in state  $S \rightarrow ( S . ) S$ , and I decide to shift, bringing a  $)$  from the input string, I transition to  $S \rightarrow ( S ) . S$
  - It's a bit more complicated when the symbol following the period is a non-terminal, as in  $S \rightarrow ( . S ) S$ 
    - There aren't any  $S$  tokens in the incoming string
    - The only way we're going to get an  $S$  on stack is as the result of a reduction



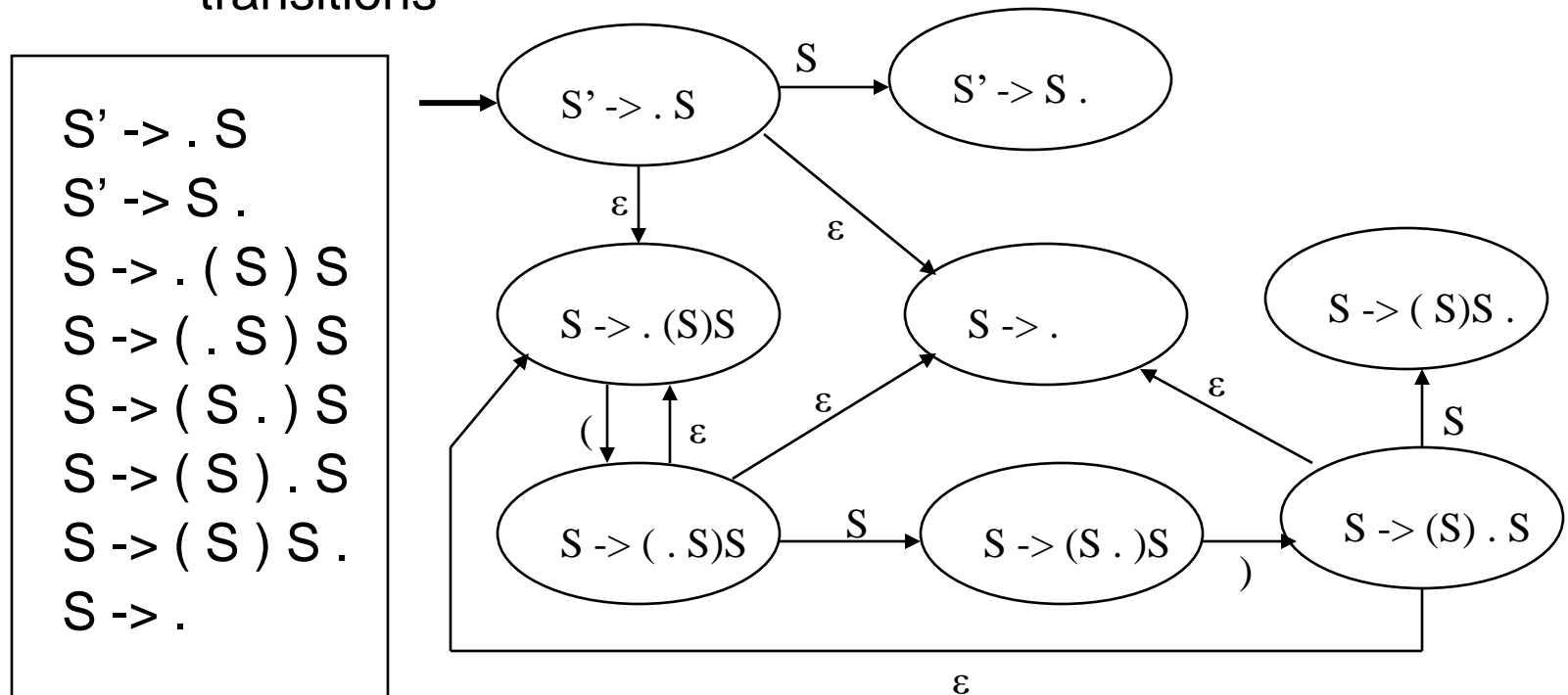
# Bottom-Up Parsing

- So, in the case of  $S \rightarrow (.S)S$ , we will have to go do some reduction to  $S$ , and then we can move to  $S \rightarrow (S.)S$ 
  - We show this in NFA by showing that state  $S \rightarrow (.S)S$  makes  $\epsilon$ -transition to states from which we can build an  $S$ 
    - States with  $S$  on lhs, and period as first symbol on rhs
  - We can then show the transition on  $S$  in the NFA, realizing we can only make this transition immediately following a reduction



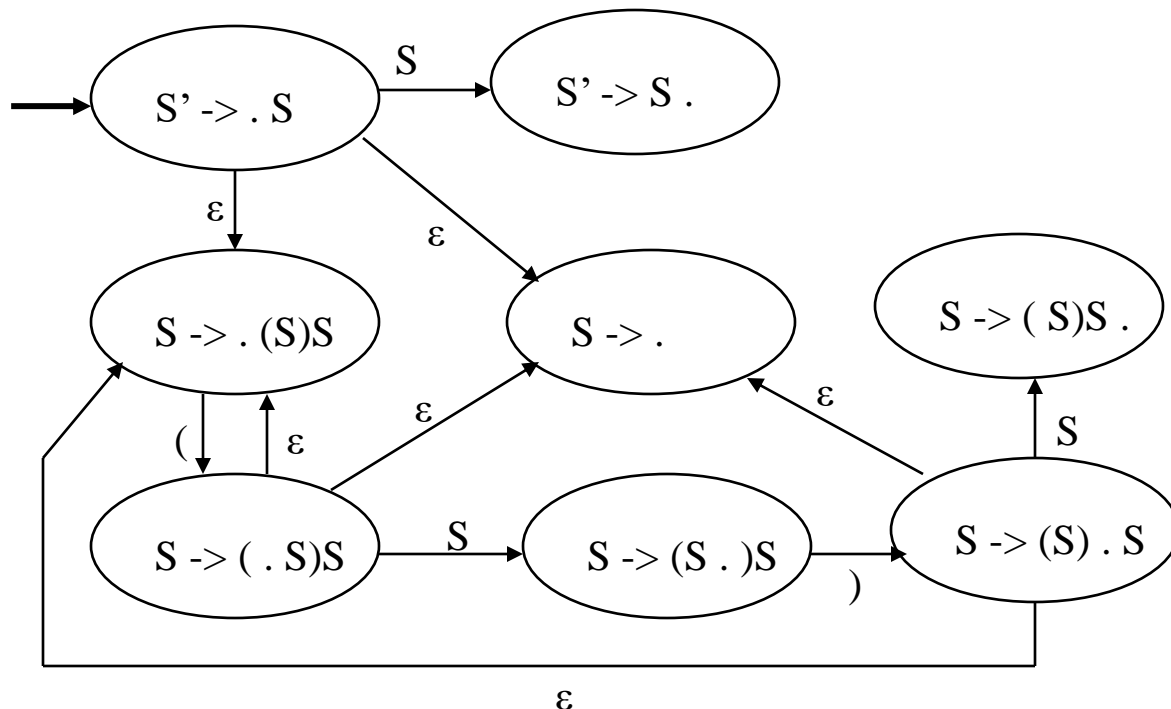
# Bottom-Up Parsing

- Here is NFA for the grammar:
  - No accepting state
  - Purpose isn't to accept string, but to define state transitions

$$\begin{aligned} S' &\rightarrow S \\ S &\rightarrow (S)S \mid \varepsilon \end{aligned}$$


# Bottom-Up Parsing

- We can now construct a DFA, using **subset construction**
  - Just as before, the DFA states consist of sets of states of the NFA; i.e., sets of items
  - What would the DFA look like for this NFA?



# Bottom-Up Parsing

---

- For the following grammar:
  - Construct list of items
  - Construct the NFA
  - Construct the DFA

$$\begin{array}{l} S' \rightarrow E \\ E \rightarrow E + n \mid n \end{array}$$

# LR(0) Parsing

---

- The basic LR(0) parsing algorithm uses a stack, an input string of tokens, and a transition table (formed from DFA)
  - The stack contains not just symbols, but also current state
    - We show it as alternating symbols and states
    - In reality, the state captures the symbol information and only the states have to be stored
  - Input string terminated by \$
  - Transition table shows states vs symbols
    - Typically, columns in table containing non-terminals are in separate section of table called **goto** section
    - Columns containing terminals reflect action on a **shift**
    - Columns in **goto** section reflect transition following a **reduction**



# LR(0) Parsing

---

- Basic LR(0) algorithm
  - If your current state contains a production like  $A \rightarrow B . b C$ , such that the symbol after the period is a terminal, then the required action is to shift
    - Shift next character onto stack
      - This character must be  $b$ , or an error has occurred
    - Change to state containing  $A \rightarrow B b . C$
  - If your current state contains  $A \rightarrow B .$  such that the period is after the last symbol (called a **complete item**), then you should do a reduction by the rule
    - Entire rhs of production must be on the stack
    - Remove all of rhs from stack (including associated states), push  $A$  onto the stack
      - If  $A$  is Start symbol, then **accept** (if input empty)
    - The current stack state must contain  $D \rightarrow E . A F$ 
      - Transition to state containing  $D \rightarrow E A . F$

# LR(0) Parsing

---

- Basic LR(0) algorithm (cont)
  - If  $A \rightarrow B \cdot b C$ , shift
  - If  $A \rightarrow B \cdot$ , reduce
  - If neither, then your parser isn't working correctly
- If the above rules can be executed unambiguously for a particular grammar, the grammar is said to be an LR(0) grammar
  - If a particular state contains both a shift form and a reduce form, then the parser has a shift-reduce conflict cause by an ambiguity in the grammar
  - If a particular state contains 2 different complete items, then a reduce-reduce conflict has occurred due to ambiguity
- Thus, a grammar is LR(0) iff every state either contains only shift items, or contains a single complete item

# LR(0) Parsing

---

- Look at DFA on page 205
  - Is the grammar represented an LR(0) grammar?
- Look at DFA on page 206
  - Is this an LR(0) grammar?

# LR(0) Parsing

---

- Example: grammar  $A \rightarrow (A) \mid a$ 
  - What are the items?
  - What does the NFA look like?
  - We can build DFA directly from items, without needing NFA
    - This is what most parser generators do
    - State 0 includes  $A' \rightarrow \cdot A$ 
      - Any time a period comes before non-terminal, all items which are productions on that terminal (with period before all symbols) are added to the state
      - So, state 0 also includes  $A \rightarrow \cdot (A)$  and  $A \rightarrow \cdot a$
    - State including  $A \rightarrow (\cdot A)$  also must contain above 2
    - Each of other items must also be in the DFA
    - We will look at an algorithm for building DFA without even having to enumerate items following this example

# LR(0) Parsing

- Example (cont): grammar  $A \rightarrow (A) \mid a$ 
  - Given DFA, what does the parsing table look like?
  - What does a parse of the string  $((a))$  look like?

State	Action	Rule	Input			GoTo
			(	a	)	A
0	Shift		3	2		1
1	Accept	$A' \rightarrow A$				
2	Reduce	$A \rightarrow a$				
3	Shift		3	2		4
4	Shift				5	
5	Reduce	$A \rightarrow (A)$				

# Sets of Items Construction

---

- Next we will look at the technique for determining the DFA states directly from the grammar, and thus building the parse table directly
  - Called **sets of items construction**, which is logical name
- Before we look at algorithm, need to define 2 functions:
  - **closure (I)** – (where I is a set of items) – very similar to  $\epsilon$ -closure; closure (I) includes:
    - All items in I
    - If a item in I has period before non-terminal **A**, include all items of form **A -> . B**
      - Apply this recursively to **B** if it is a non-terminal

# Sets of Items Construction

---

- Another definition – **goto** ( $I, X$ ) where  $I$  is a set of items and  $X$  is a grammar symbol (either terminal or non-terminal)
  - If  $I$  contains  $A \rightarrow B \cdot a C$ , then **goto** ( $I, a$ ) contains **closure**(  $A \rightarrow B a \cdot C$  )
  - Thus, we move period past the symbol, and take closure
- Set of Items Construction
  - Create start state containing closure (  $S' \rightarrow \cdot S$  )
  - For each grammar symbol  $X$ , if **goto** (start state,  $X$ ) is non-empty and is not identical to an existing state, add a new state containing **goto** (start state,  $X$ )
  - Repeat above for all newly created states

# Sets of Items Construction

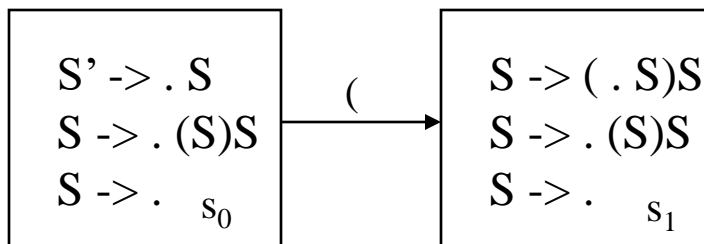
- Example: matching parens

$$\begin{array}{l} S' \rightarrow S \\ S \rightarrow ( S ) S \mid \varepsilon \end{array}$$

- Start state contains closure (  $S' \rightarrow \cdot S$  )

$$\begin{array}{l} S' \rightarrow \cdot S \\ S \rightarrow \cdot (S)S \\ S \rightarrow \cdot \end{array}$$

- Only goto which makes sense are on S and '('
  - goto ( $s_0$ , '(' )



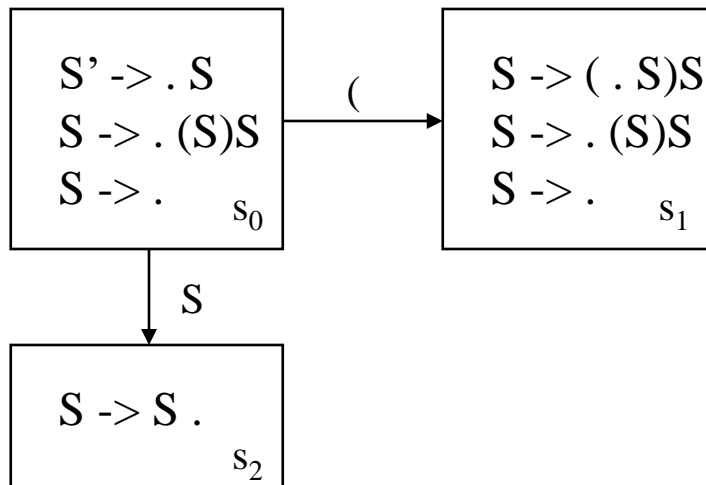


# Sets of Items Construction

- Example (cont)

$S' \rightarrow S$   
 $S \rightarrow ( S ) S \mid \epsilon$

- Goto ( $s_0$ ,  $S$ ) is:



- Done with  $s_0$ , work on  $s_1 \dots$  continue iterating until no more new states created

# Sets of Items Construction

---

- OK, a marathon example
  - Find DFA

$E' \rightarrow E$
$E \rightarrow E + T \mid T$
$T \rightarrow T * F \mid F$
$F \rightarrow (E) \mid \mathbf{ID}$

- I'll get you started
  - Start state is closure ( $E' \rightarrow \cdot E$ )

$E' \rightarrow \cdot E$
$E \rightarrow \cdot E + T$
$E \rightarrow \cdot T$
$T \rightarrow \cdot T * F$
$T \rightarrow \cdot F$
$F \rightarrow \cdot (E)$
$F \rightarrow \cdot \mathbf{ID}$
$s_0$

- Can we create an LR(0) parse table from this grammar?

# SLR(1) Parsing

---

- We saw that there were some very trivial grammars we couldn't parse using the LR(0) technique
  - Hey, bottom-up was supposed to be a more powerful technique
- Well, there are some obvious things we could have done to improve the technique
  - We made the decision on whether or not to **shift based solely on what state we are in**
    - We have tokens from the input string handy, but just ignored them
  - If we decided to reduce, we tried to make the decision based solely on what state we are in
    - Only allowed one **complete item** per state
    - Lookahead might help distinguish which reduction is appropriate

# SLR(1) Parsing

- The **Simple LR(1) Parsing** or SLR(1) Parsing method uses lookahead to eliminate some of the **shift-reduce** and **reduce-reduce conflicts**
  - SLR(1) Parsing uses a more powerful parse table
    - Associates shift/reduce decisions with lookahead token

State	Action	Rule	Input			GoTo
			(	a	)	A
0	Shift		3	2		1
1	Reduce	A' -> A				
2	Reduce	A -> a				
3	Shift		3	2		4
4	Shift				5	
5	Reduce	A -> (A)				

State	Input				GoTo
	(	a	)	\$	A
0	s3	s2			1
1				acc	
2			A -> a	A -> a	
3	s3	s2			4
4			s5		
5			A -> (A)	A -> (A)	

# SLR(1) Parsing

---

- SLR(1) Algorithm
  - If your current state contains a production like  $A \rightarrow B \cdot b C$ , and the nextToken is  $b$ , then the required action is to shift and go to state containing  $A \rightarrow B b \cdot C$
  - If your current state contains  $A \rightarrow B \cdot$  and the nextToken is in Follow (A), then reduce by this production (popping rhs of production off stack) and Goto appropriate state for lhs
    - The current stack state must contain  $D \rightarrow E \cdot A F$
    - Transition to state containing  $D \rightarrow E A \cdot F$
  - If the two above rules can be followed unambiguously, i.e., no shift-reduce or reduce-reduce conflicts, then the grammar is an **SLR(1) grammar**
- Note that from same state you could either shift or reduce, based on nextToken
- Note that from same state you could do 2 different reductions, based on nextToken

# SLR(1) Parsing

- Other than parse table changes, everything else stays same
- Example: matching parens
  - Not LR(0) grammar
  - Look at pg 205

$$\begin{aligned} S' &\rightarrow S \\ S &\rightarrow ( S ) S \mid \varepsilon \end{aligned}$$

State	Input			GoTo
	(	)	\$	S
0	s2	S -> $\varepsilon$	S -> $\varepsilon$	1
1			accept	
2	s2	S-> $\varepsilon$	S-> $\varepsilon$	3
3		s4		
4	s2	S-> $\varepsilon$	S-> $\varepsilon$	5
5		S -> (S)S	S -> (S)S	

# SLR(1) Parsing

- Example: rudimentary expressions
  - Not LR(0)
  - See pg 206
  - Follow (E) = ?
  - Parse **n + n + n**

$$\begin{aligned} E' &\rightarrow E \\ E &\rightarrow E + n \mid n \end{aligned}$$

State	Input			GoTo
	n	+	\$	E
0				
1				
2				
3				
4				

# SLR(1) Parsing

---

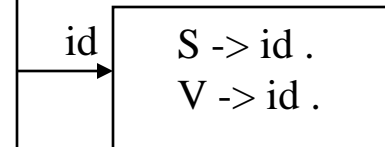
- SLR(1) parsing is powerful, but not perfect
  - Still has problems with **shift-reduce** and **reduce-reduce** conflicts
    - Typically most parser generators will default to performing the shift rather than the reduce
      - Fixes **dangling else**
    - Reduce-reduce occur infrequently in programming languages, and can probably be avoided
- An example of a problem grammar
  - Follow set of both **S** and **V** contains **\$**

$S' \rightarrow S$ $S \rightarrow id \mid V := E$ $V \rightarrow id$ $E \rightarrow V \mid n$
--

Grammar

$S' \rightarrow .S$ $S \rightarrow .id$ $S \rightarrow .V := E$ $V \rightarrow .id$
--

Start state – only partial DFA shown





# LR(1) Parsing

---

- How could SLR(1) Parsing be improved?
  - Once it has a parse table, it used lookahead as effectively as possible
  - However, it doesn't really use lookahead while building the parse table
    - Essentially it uses an LR(0) DFA, and applies lookahead
- LR(1) parsing builds a more advanced DFA, and then uses the same parse table and lookahead techniques as SLR(1) to conduct the parse
  - LR(1) DFA states (and thus parse table) are built keeping track of legal lookahead chars
    - If I am parsing `if (expr) stmt else stmt`, and am starting to parse `expr`, I know that the follow-on token when the `expr` is done has to be a `)`
      - Maybe I can benefit from this knowledge

# LR(1) Parsing

- Consider the problem grammar below
  - Both the follow set of  $V$  and  $S$  contain  $\$$ , but we can see that the  $V \rightarrow \cdot id$  item was only added to the Start State because of the  $S \rightarrow \cdot V := E$  item
    - Thus, in this state, the follow-on character to  $V$  can only be  $:=$ , not  $\$$
    - So, when I hit state where it's time to make a reduction, I could reduce  $S \rightarrow id \cdot$  if lookahead is  $\$$  and reduce  $V \rightarrow id \cdot$  if the lookahead is  $:=$
    - But SLR(1) doesn't track this info, LR(1) does

$S' \rightarrow S$ $S \rightarrow id \mid V := E$ $V \rightarrow id$ $E \rightarrow V \mid n$
--

Grammar

$S' \rightarrow \cdot S$ $S \rightarrow \cdot id$ $S \rightarrow \cdot V := E$ $V \rightarrow \cdot id$
--

Start state – only partial DFA shown

$S \rightarrow id \cdot$ $V \rightarrow id \cdot$
--

# LR(1) Parsing

---

- Essentially what LR(1) Parsing does is eliminate some of the **reduce-reduce** conflicts which we would find in an SLR(1) parser
  - In practice, almost all language constructs can be expressed by an LR(1) grammar
  - You can certainly design a non-ambiguous language which would not be LR(1), but it would likely be contrived
- Approach
  - We define a new type of item, an **LR(1) item**
    - Consists of an LR(0) item and a lookahead char/set
  - Build a DFA, or do Sets of LR(1) Items Construction, using slightly modified rules
  - From this DFA or Sets of Items, we can build the parse table
    - Format is the same as SLR(1), just has more states
  - Use parse table as we did in SLR(1)

# LR(1) Parsing

---

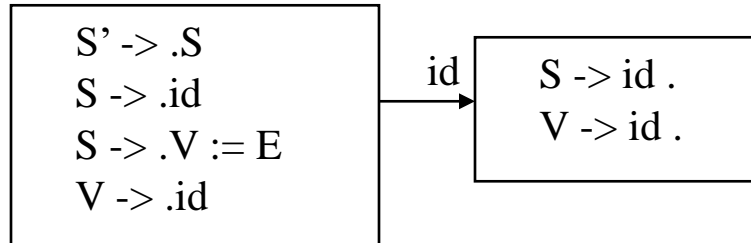
- Building Sets of Items
  - Start with  $S' \rightarrow .S, \$$
  - Take **closure** similar to before
    - For every item of form  $S \rightarrow B.CD, x$ , we create a closure containing all productions on  $C$ , with each terminal in  $\text{First}(D)$  - if  $\text{First}(D)$  contains  $\epsilon$ , then add  $x$  as lookahead
      - If  $C \rightarrow E|F$  and  $\text{First}(D) = \{ +, ( \}$ , then we add following LR(1) items
        - $C \rightarrow .E, +$
        - $C \rightarrow .E, ($
        - $C \rightarrow .F, +$
        - $C \rightarrow .F, ($
  - Compute **goto** and **shift** same as before
    - $S \rightarrow B.CD, x$  transitions to  $S \rightarrow BC.D, x$

# LR(1) Parsing

- Below is the non-SLR(1) grammar

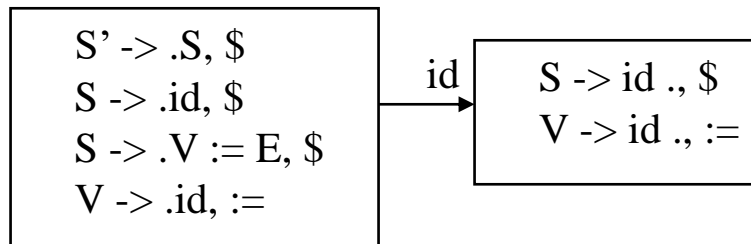
```
S' -> S
S -> id | V := E
V -> id
E -> V | n
```

Grammar



Old start state – only partial DFA shown

- With LR(1) Sets of Items
  - Now I can properly choose between reductions



LR(1) start state – only partial DFA shown

# LR(1) Parsing

---

- Again, if we can build a non-ambiguous parse table from our Sets of Items, we say that the grammar was an LR(1) grammar
- So, LR(1) is the most powerful parser of the 6 we will study
  - However, it has a problem ... state explosion
  - Remember, we have to have epsilon-transitions (or closure) for every terminal character in the First set of the next symbol
    - In a full-size programming language, this could be a large set of characters and a huge number of states
  - Not practical to build a compiler this way
- LALR(1) Parsing (the last one, I promise) solves this problem
  - This is the one YACC and most other parser generators use

# LALR(1) Parsing

---

- We are only going to take a brief look at LALR(1)
  - More powerful than SLR(1)
  - Almost as powerful as LR(1)
- Key concept is to look for multiple states that are identical in their LR(0) core, differing only in the lookahead portion of their items
  - If two states have same core, their nature is such that they must transition to states which also have same core
- If we combine states with the same core, and have a set of lookahead chars, we dramatically reduce # of states
  - In fact, will be identical to # of LR(0) states
- In practice, rarely lose any of the power of LR(1)
- Compare Fig 5-7 and Fig 5-9 (pgs 220, 225)

# YACC

---

- Next we will look briefly at YACC, as an example of a parser generator or compiler-compiler
  - Stands for “Yet Another Compiler-Compiler”
  - Due to time, we will only look quickly at YACC
- YACC is a LALR(1) parser generator, created for the Unix environment
  - There are numerous implementations of YACC, and those included with the latest GNU release are called Bison
- Similar to Lex, you specify your grammar in an input file in YACC language, and then run YACC
  - It creates a .c file which can be compiled into your compiler
  - Typically called y.tab.c or ytab.c



# YACC

---

- Typically, a YACC source file uses a .y suffix
- It is divided into 3 sections, with a %% (like Lex) dividing the sections
  - 1<sup>st</sup> section is used for preprocessor directives and definitions
    - % token LPAREN\_TOKEN 258 defines a token used later and assigns a numeric value
    - % start stmt says that the start symbol for grammar is stmt – defaults to first production listed in section 2
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> section contains grammar rules
    - $A \rightarrow B \mid C$  would be:  

```
A          : B      { code for B }  
              | C      { code for C }  
              ;
```
    - Inside the braces, you put C code that we want executed when the production is selected

# YACC

---

- The C code allowed inside braces allows a special set of pseudo-variables
  - `$$` refers to the lhs of the production
  - `$1` refers to the 1<sup>st</sup> symbol on rhs of production
  - `A : B addop C { $$ = $1 + $3 } [ for calculator]`
  - `A : B addop C { $$ = new BinaryExpression (PLUS);  
    $$->lChild = $1;  
    $$->rChild = $3; } [for compiler]`
- 3<sup>rd</sup> section contains top-level C routines
  - Need to specify a `yyerror()` routine
  - YACC will create `yyparse()` which is entry point for parser
  - YACC assumes a routine `yylex()` will be available

# YACC

---

- When you run YACC, it tries to do LALR(1) parsing on the grammar you specify
  - It will produce an output file which shows the **states** it creates
  - It will show results of whether it found **shift-reduce** or **reduce-reduce** conflicts
  - If it found conflicts, it lets you know, but takes its best guess
    - **Shift-reduce** conflicts resolved in favor of **shift**
      - Fixes **dangling else problem**
    - **Reduce-reduce** resolved in favor of production listed first
      - Likely there is a problem with the grammar
- Look at YACC input file for Tiny on pg 539

# Error Recovery in LR Parsers

---

- So, your LALR(1) parser is cooking away at the tokens in your program, and it hits a state where there is no shift or reduction specified in the table entry corresponding to the current lookahead
  - We don't want to just abort the parse
  - Need a method to get synced back up
- Options for things we could do (will do some combo)
  - Add some new state onto the stack
  - Start deleting states from the stack until you could press on
  - Start removing tokens from input stream until you can press on
- Must ensure that method will not infinite loop, even if it means consuming tokens and never recover

# Error Recovery in LR Parsers

---

- YACC approach is pretty good
  - They add error productions at locations where they want to recover
    - Define an **error** token
    - Look at line 4047 on pg 539
    - Don't have to recover for all possible non-terminals
      - If you find an error somewhere in a statement, report it, and can press on parsing the next statement, that's pretty good recovery
  - When an error occurs, start popping states until get to state which contains **error** as a valid lookahead
    - Basically throwing away tokens we have already seen until we hit a sync point
    - Since parser is in error recovery mode, consider **error** to be the next token

# Error Recovery in LR Parsers

---

- YACC approach (cont)
  - We are in state now where **error** is a valid lookahead, and **error** is the nextToken
    - Can just press on
      - Shift **error** onto stack
      - Do reduction of **error** to lhs non-terminal
  - Stack is in a stable state, but now the input string may contain residue from the production we reduced from error
    - Parser stays in **error mode**, and starts examining input tokens
    - If input makes sense, continue parsing
    - If input doesn't make sense, silently discard input
  - Once 3 input tokens have been shifted without another error occurring, parser exits **error mode**

# Error Recovery in LR Parsers

---

- YACC approach isn't perfect, and may result in quite a bit input being discarded
  - Consider if [ a == b) ...
    - The entire if\_stmt will be discarded, which may be hundreds of lines of code
- You would prefer to get error checking on the discarded code
- No magic solutions
  - You can tweak your grammar to add more of the error productions at critical locations
  - If you set up certain scenarios, you would probably be able to cause Netbeans or Visual C++ to miss errors
    - Of course, Visual has so many bugs of its own that it has trouble distinguishing your errors