

COMP3131/9102: Programming Languages and Compilers

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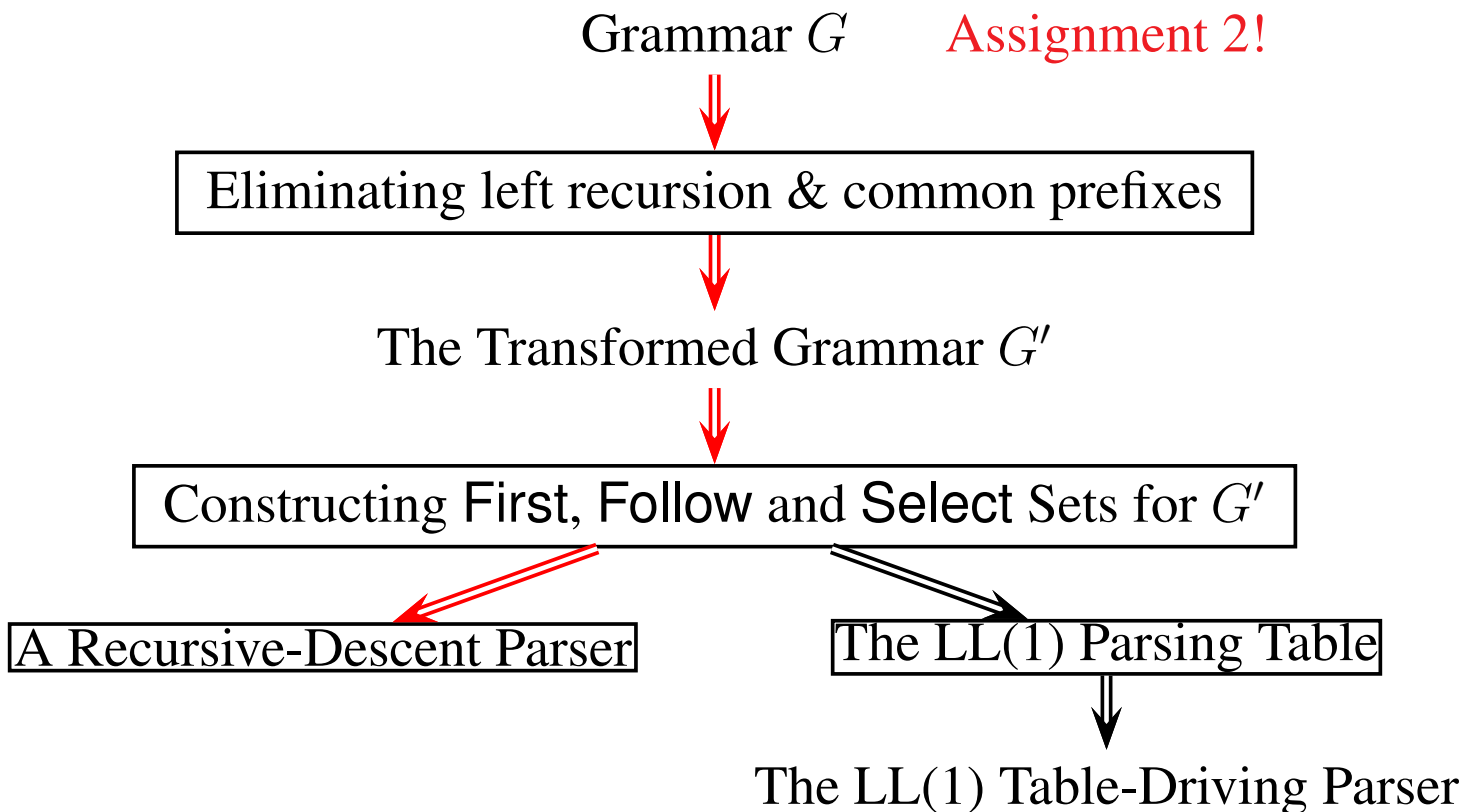
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Week 2 (2nd Lecture): Top-Down Parsing: Recursive-Descent

Write a predictive (or non-backtracking) top-down parser



Lookahead Token(s)

- **Lookahead Token(s)**: The currently scanned token(s) in the input.
- In **Recogniser.java**, **currentToken** represents the lookahead token
- For most programming languages, one token lookahead only.
- Initially, the lookahead token is the leftmost token in the input.

currentChar is the lookahead character used in the scanner.

Top-Down Parsing

- Build the parse tree starting with the start symbol (i.e., the root) towards the sentence being analysed (i.e., leaves).
- Use one token of lookahead, in general
- **Discover the leftmost derivation**
I.e, the productions used in expanding the parse tree represent a leftmost derivation

Predictive (Non-Backtracking) Top-Down Parsing

- To expand a nonterminal, the parser always **predict** (choose) the right alternative for the nonterminal by looking at the lookahead symbol only.
- Flow-of-control constructs, with their distinguishing **keywords**, are detectable this way, e.g., in the VC grammar:

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \text{stmt} \rangle &\rightarrow \langle \text{compound-stmt} \rangle \\ &\quad | \text{ if } "(" \langle \text{expr} \rangle ")" (\text{ELSE } \langle \text{stmt} \rangle)? \\ &\quad | \text{ break } ";" \\ &\quad | \text{ continue } ":" \\ &\quad \dots \end{aligned}$$

- **Prediction happens before the actual match begins.**

Which of the Two Alternatives on S to Choose?

- Grammar:

$$S \rightarrow aA \mid bB$$

$$A \rightarrow \dots$$

$$B \rightarrow \dots$$

- Sentence: $a \dots$
- The leftmost derivation:

$$S \Rightarrow_{\text{lm}} aA$$

$$\Rightarrow_{\text{lm}} \dots$$

Select the first alternative aA

Which of the Two Alternatives on S to Choose?

- Grammar:

$$S \rightarrow Ab \mid Bc$$

$$A \rightarrow Df \mid CA$$

$$B \rightarrow gA \mid e$$

$$C \rightarrow dC \mid c$$

$$D \rightarrow h \mid i$$

- Sentence: $gchfc$

- The leftmost derivation:

$$\begin{aligned} S &\Longrightarrow_{\text{lm}} Bc && \Longrightarrow_{\text{lm}} gAc && \Longrightarrow_{\text{lm}} gCAc \\ &\Longrightarrow_{\text{lm}} gcAc && \Longrightarrow_{\text{lm}} gcDfc && \Longrightarrow_{\text{lm}} gchfc \end{aligned}$$

Intuition behind First Sets

- Grammar:

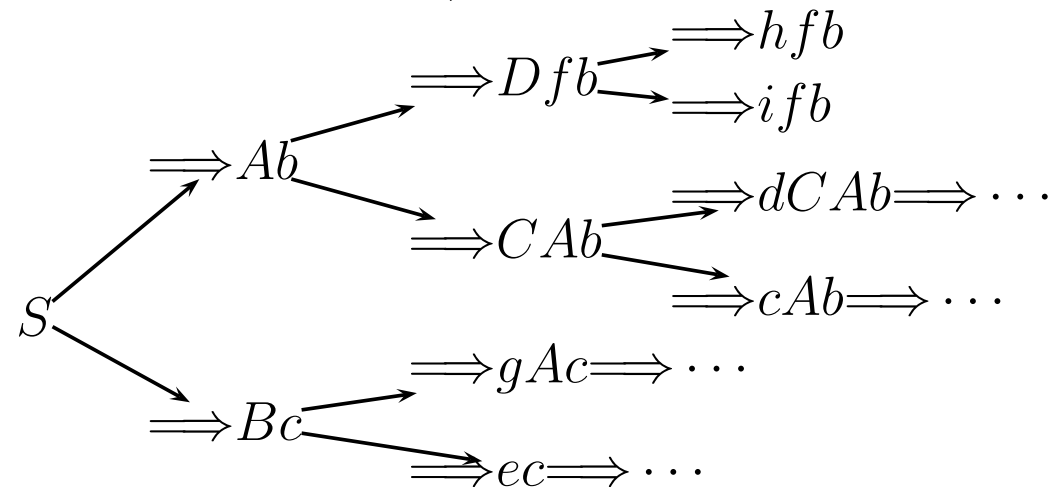
$$S \rightarrow Ab \mid Bc$$

$$A \rightarrow Df \mid CA$$

$$B \rightarrow gA \mid e$$

$$C \rightarrow dC \mid c$$

$$D \rightarrow h \mid i$$



- All possible leftmost derivations:

$$\text{First}(Ab) = \{c, d, h, i\} \quad \text{First}(Bc) = \{e, g\}$$

Definition of First Sets

$\text{First}(\alpha)$:

- The set of all terminals that can begin any strings derived from α .
- if $\alpha \Longrightarrow^* \epsilon$, then ϵ is also in $\text{First}(\alpha)$

Nullable Nonterminals

A nonterminal A is **nullable** if $A \Longrightarrow^* \epsilon$.

A Procedure to Compute $\text{First}(\alpha)$

1. **Case 1:** α is a single symbol or ϵ :

If α is a terminal a , then $\text{First}(\alpha) = \text{First}(a) = \{a\}$

else if α is ϵ , then $\text{First}(\alpha) = \text{First}(\epsilon) = \{\epsilon\}$

else if α is a nonterminal and $\alpha \rightarrow \beta_1 \mid \beta_2 \mid \beta_3 \mid \dots$ then

$$\text{First}(\alpha) = \cup_k \text{First}(\beta_k)$$

2. **Case 2:** $\alpha = X_1 X_2 \dots X_n$:

If $X_1 X_2 \dots X_i$ is nullable **but X_{i+1} is not**, then

$$\text{First}(\alpha) = \text{First}(X_1) \cup \text{First}(X_2) \cup \dots \cup \text{First}(X_{i+1})$$

Add ϵ to $\text{First}(\alpha)$ if and only if α , i.e., $X_1 X_2 \dots X_n$ is nullable

(Note that $\text{First}(X_1)$ must always be added to $\text{First}(\alpha)$.)

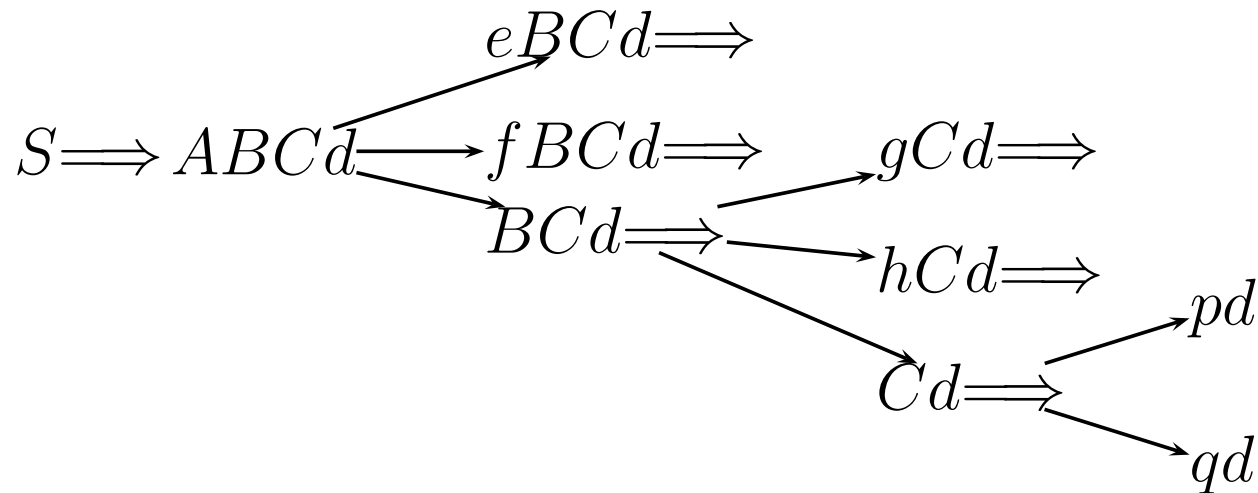
Case 2 of the Procedure for Computing First

$$S \rightarrow ABCd$$

$$A \rightarrow e \mid f \mid \epsilon$$

$$B \rightarrow g \mid h \mid \epsilon$$

$$C \rightarrow p \mid q$$



$$\text{First}(ABCd) = \{e, f, g, h, p, q\}$$

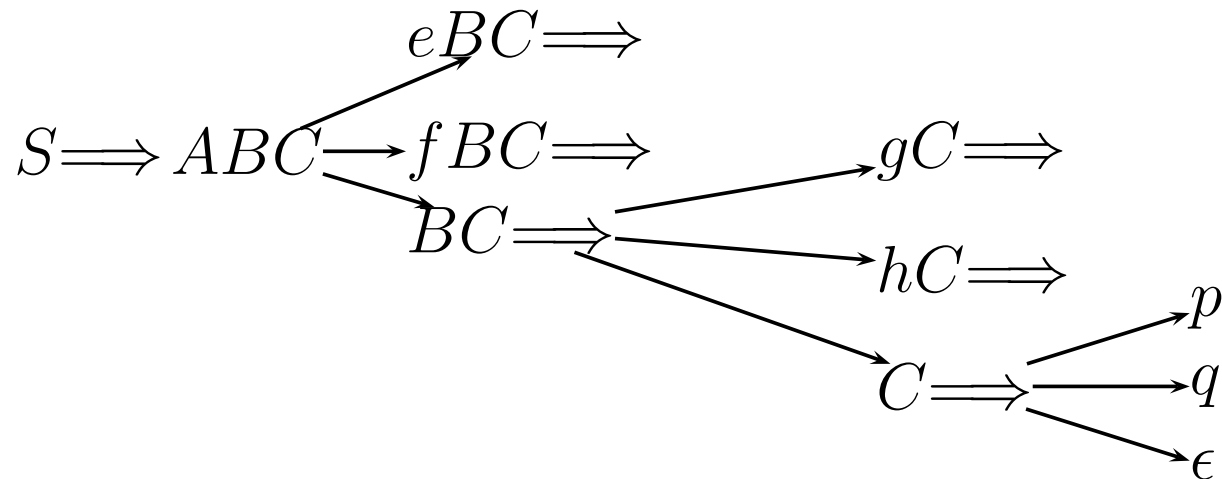
Case 2 of the Procedure for Computing First Again

$S \rightarrow ABC$ ← d deleted from the grammar in slide 189

$A \rightarrow e \mid f \mid \epsilon$

$B \rightarrow g \mid h \mid \epsilon$

$C \rightarrow p \mid q \mid \epsilon$ ← ϵ added to the grammar in slide 189



$\text{First}(ABC) = \{e, f, g, h, p, q, \epsilon\}$

The Expression Grammar

- The grammar with left recursion:

Grammar 1: $E \rightarrow E + T \mid E - T \mid T$
 $T \rightarrow T * F \mid T / F \mid F$
 $F \rightarrow \mathbf{INT} \mid (E)$

- The transformed grammar **without** left recursion:

Grammar 2: $E \rightarrow TQ$
 $Q \rightarrow +TQ \mid -TQ \mid \epsilon$
 $T \rightarrow FR$
 $R \rightarrow *FR \mid /FR \mid \epsilon$
 $F \rightarrow \mathbf{INT} \mid (E)$

First Sets for Grammar 2 (without Recursion)

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{First}(E) &= \text{First}(TQ) = \{ (, \mathbf{INT} \} \\
 \text{First}(T) &= \text{First}(FR) = \{ (, \mathbf{INT} \} \\
 &\quad \text{First}(Q) = \{ +, -, \epsilon \} \\
 &\quad \text{First}(R) = \{ *, /, \epsilon \} \\
 &\quad \text{First}(F) = \{ \mathbf{INT}, (\} \\
 &\quad \text{First}(+TQ) = \{ + \} \\
 &\quad \text{First}(-TQ) = \{ - \} \\
 &\quad \text{First}(*FR) = \{ * \} \\
 &\quad \text{First}(/FR) = \{ / \} \\
 &\quad \text{First}((E)) = \{ (\} \\
 &\quad \text{First}(\mathbf{INT}) = \{ \mathbf{INT} \}
 \end{aligned}$$

Why Follow Sets?

- First sets do not tell us when to apply $A \rightarrow \alpha$ such that $\alpha \Rightarrow^* \epsilon$ (the important special case is $A \rightarrow \epsilon$)
- Follow sets do
- Follow sets constructed only for nonterminals
- By convention, assume every input is terminated by a special end marker (i.e., **the EOF marker**), denoted \$
- Follow sets do not contain ϵ

Definition of Follow Sets

Let A be a nonterminal. Define $\text{Follow}(A)$ to be the set of terminals that can appear immediately to the right of A in some sentential form. That is,

$$\text{Follow}(A) = \{a \mid S \Longrightarrow^* \dots Aa \dots\}$$

where S is the start symbol of the grammar.

A Procedure to Compute Follow Sets

1. If A is the start symbol, add $\$$ to $\text{Follow}(A)$.
2. Look through the grammar for all occurrences of A on the right of productions. Let a typical production be:

$$B \rightarrow \alpha A \beta$$

There are two cases – **both may be applicable**:

- (a) $\text{Follow}(A)$ includes $\text{First}(\beta) - \{\epsilon\}$.
- (b) If $\beta \Rightarrow^* \epsilon$, then include $\text{Follow}(B)$ in $\text{Follow}(A)$.

Follow Sets for Grammar 2 (without Recursion)

$$\text{Follow}(E) = \{), \$\}$$

$$\text{Follow}(Q) = \{), \$\}$$

$$\text{Follow}(T) = \{+, -,), \$\}$$

$$\text{Follow}(R) = \{+, -,), \$\}$$

$$\text{Follow}(F) = \{+, -, *, /,), \$\}$$

Select Sets for Productions

- One Select set for every production in the grammar:
- The Select set for a production of the form $A \rightarrow \alpha$ is:
 - If $\epsilon \in \text{First}(\alpha)$, then

$$\text{Select}(A \rightarrow \alpha) = (\text{First}(\alpha) - \{\epsilon\}) \cup \text{Follow}(A)$$

- Otherwise:

$$\text{Select}(A \rightarrow \alpha) = \text{First}(\alpha)$$

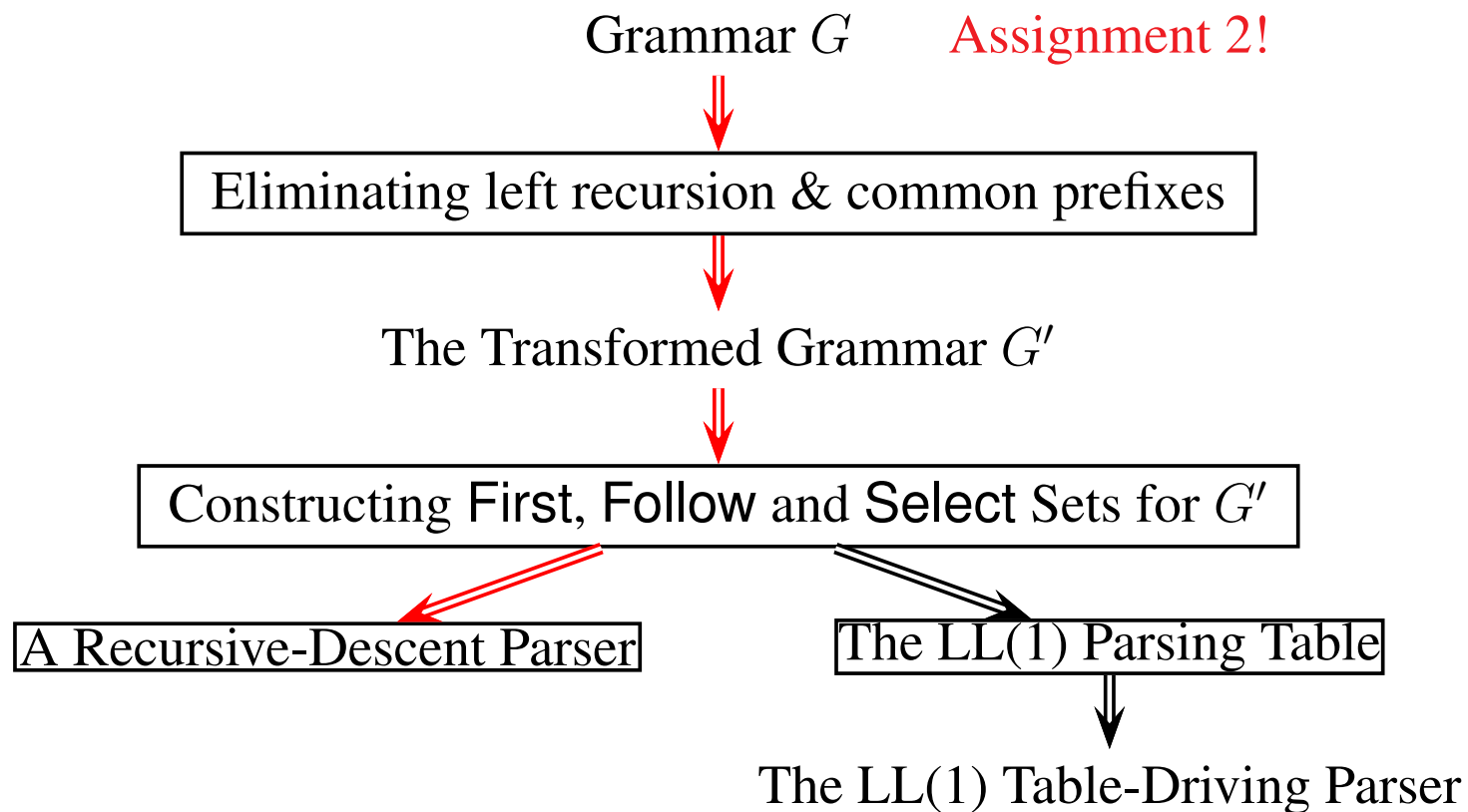
- The Select set predicts $A \rightarrow \alpha$ to be used in a derivation.
- Thus, the Select not needed if A has has one alternative

Select Sets for Grammar 2

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{Select}(E \rightarrow TQ) &= \text{First}(TQ) &&= \{ (, \mathbf{INT} \} \\
 \text{Select}(Q \rightarrow + TQ) &= \text{First}(+TQ) &&= \{ + \} \\
 \text{Select}(Q \rightarrow - TQ) &= \text{First}(-TQ) &&= \{ - \} \\
 \text{Select}(Q \rightarrow \epsilon) &= (\text{First}(\epsilon) - \{ \epsilon \}) \cup \text{Follow}(Q) &&= \{), \$ \} \\
 \text{Select}(T \rightarrow FR) &= \text{First}(FR) &&= \{ (, \mathbf{INT} \} \\
 \text{Select}(R \rightarrow * FR) &= \text{First}(*FR) &&= \{ * \} \\
 \text{Select}(R \rightarrow / FR) &= \text{First}(/FR) &&= \{ / \} \\
 \text{Select}(R \rightarrow \epsilon) &= (\text{First}(\epsilon) - \{ \epsilon \}) \cup \text{Follow}(R) &&= \{ +, -,), \$ \} \\
 \text{Select}(F \rightarrow \mathbf{INT}) &= \text{First}(\mathbf{INT}) &&= \{ \mathbf{INT} \} \\
 \text{Select}(F \rightarrow (E)) &= \text{First}((E)) &&= \{ (\}
 \end{aligned}$$

Lecture 4: Top-Down Parsing: Recursive-Descent

1. Write a predictive (or non-backtracking) top-down parser



Writing a Predictive Recursive-Descent Parser

- The variable **currentToken** is the **lookahead** token, which is initialised to the leftmost token in the program
- A method, called **match**, for matching the **tokens** at production right-hand sides

```
void match(int tokenExpected) {  
    if (currentToken.kind == tokenExpected) {  
        currentToken = scanner.getToken();  
    } else {  
        error: "tokenExpected" expected  
              but "currentToken" found  
    }  
}
```

- A method, called **parseA**, for every nonterminal A

parseA for $A \rightarrow \alpha_1 \mid \cdots \mid \alpha_n$

```
void parseA() {  
    if (currentToken.kind in Select( $A \rightarrow \alpha_1$ ))  
        parse  $\alpha_1$   
    else if (currentToken.kind in Select( $A \rightarrow \alpha_2$ ))  
        parse  $\alpha_2$   
    ...  
    else if (currentToken.kind in Select( $A \rightarrow \alpha_n$ ))  
        parse  $\alpha_n$   
    else  
        syntacticError(...);  
}
```

Parsing A for $A \rightarrow \alpha$ When A Has a Single Alternative

```
void parseA() {  
    parse  $\alpha$   
}
```


Coding **parse** α_i

- Suppose $\alpha_i = aABbC$, where A , B and C are nonterminals
- **parse** α_i implemented as:

```
match("a");  
parseA();  
parseB();  
match("b");  
parseC();
```

- If $\alpha_i = \epsilon$, then **parse** α_i implemented as:

```
/* empty statement */
```

Coding `parse α_i` : A Concrete Example

```
void parseWhileStmt() throws SyntaxError {  
    match(Token.WHILE);  
    match(Token.LPAREN);  
    parseExpr();  
    match(Token.RPAREN);  
    parseStmt();  
}
```

Parsing Method for the Start Symbol

- If the start symbol S does not appear anywhere else: then

```
void parseS() {  
    code for the alternatives of  $S$   
    match(Token.EOF);  
}
```

- Otherwise, introduce a new start symbol, **Goal**:

```
void parseGoal() {  
    parseS();  
    match(Token.EOF);  
}
```

Term (Predictive) Recursive Descent?

- **Predictive** (or **non-backtracking**): the parser always predicts the right production to use at every derivation step
- **Recursive**, a parsing method may call itself **recursively** either directly or indirectly.
- **Descent**: the parser builds the parse tree (or AST) by **descending** through it as it parses the program (**Assignment 3**).

Outline for the Rest of the Lecture

1. Definition of LL(1) grammar
2. One simplification in the presence of a nullable alternative
3. Eliminate left recursion and common prefixes
4. Write parsing methods in the presence of regular operators
5. Assignment 2

Definition of LL(1) Grammar

- A grammar is **LL(1)** if for every nonterminal of the form:

$$A \rightarrow \alpha_1 \mid \cdots \mid \alpha_n$$

the select sets are pairwise disjoint, i.e.:

$$\text{Select}(A \rightarrow \alpha_i) \cap \text{Select}(A \rightarrow \alpha_j) = \emptyset$$

for all i and j such that $i \neq j$.

- This implies there can be at most one **nullable** alternative

One Simplification When A Has a Nullable Alternative

```

void parseA() {
  if (currentToken.kind in First( $A \rightarrow \alpha_1$ )) {
    parse  $\alpha_1$ 
    ...
  }
  else if (currentToken.kind in First( $A \rightarrow \alpha_{n-1}$ )) {
    parse  $\alpha_{n-1}$ 
  }
  else /*  $A \rightarrow \alpha_n$  as the default (item 4, p. 193/229, Red/Purple Dragon */
    parse  $\alpha_n$ 
  }
}

```

- Suppose $\alpha_n \Rightarrow^* \epsilon$ is the only nullable alternative
- Then **Select**($A \rightarrow \alpha_i$) = **First**(α_i) for $1 \leq i < n$
- In fact, the coding still correct even if all are not nullable!

The Simplified Parsing Method Illustrated

- The grammar:

$$S \rightarrow A b$$

$$A \rightarrow a \mid \epsilon$$

- The language: $\{b, ab\}$

$$\text{Select}(A \rightarrow a) = \text{First}(a) = \{a\}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Select}(A \rightarrow \epsilon) &= (\text{First}(\epsilon) - \{\epsilon\}) \cup \text{Follow}(A) \\ &= \{b\} \end{aligned}$$

```

V1: void parseS() {
    parseA();
    match("b");
    match("EOF");
}

void parseA() {
    if (lookahead is "a")
        match("a");
    else if (lookahead is "b")
        /* do nothing */
    else
        print an error message
}

```

```

V2: void parseS() {
    parseA();
    match("b");
    match("EOF");
}

void parseA() {
    if (lookahead is "a")
        match("a");
    // applies A -> ε otherwise
}

/* Some error detection postponed
but cannot miss any error */

```


Left-Recursive Grammars Are Not LL(1)

The parsing method for E of Grammar 1 in Slide 171:

```
void parseE() {  
    switch (currentToken.kind) {  
        case Token.INT: case Token.LPAREN:  
            parseE();  
            break;  
        case Token.INT: case Token.LPAREN:  
            parseE();  
            match(Token.PLUS);  
            parseT();  
            break;  
        case Token.INT: case Token.LPAREN:  
            parseE();  
            match(Token.MINUS);  
            parseT();  
            break;  
        default:  
            syntacticError(...);  
            break;  
    }  
} /* this does not work */
```

Left Recursion

- **Direct** left-recursion:

$$A \rightarrow A\alpha$$

- **Non-direct** left-recursion:

$$A \rightarrow B\alpha$$

$$B \rightarrow A\beta$$

- Algorithm 4.1 of text eliminates both kinds of left recursion
 - In real programming languages, non-direct left-recursion is rare
 - Not required
- **A grammar with left recursion is not LL(1)**

Eliminating Direct Left Recursion: Grammar Rewriting

- The grammar G_1 :

$$A \rightarrow \alpha \quad // \alpha \text{ does not begin with } A$$

$$A \rightarrow A\beta_1 \mid A\beta_2$$

- The transformed grammar G_2 :

$$A \rightarrow \alpha A'$$

$$A' \rightarrow \beta_1 A' \mid \beta_2 A' \mid \epsilon$$

Eliminating Direct Left Recursion Using Regular Operators

- The grammar G_1 :

$$A \rightarrow \alpha$$

$$A \rightarrow A\beta_1 \mid A\beta_2$$

- The transformed grammar G_2 :

$$A \rightarrow \alpha(\beta_1 \mid \beta_2)^*$$

- G_1 and G_2 define the same language: $L(G_1) = L(G_2)$
- Recommended to use in Assignment 2

The Expression Grammar

- The grammar with left recursion:

Grammar 1: $E \rightarrow E + T \mid E - T \mid T$
 $T \rightarrow T * F \mid T / F \mid F$
 $F \rightarrow \mathbf{INT} \mid (E)$

- Eliminating left recursion using the Kleene Closure

Grammar 3: $E \rightarrow T ("+" T \mid "-" T)^*$
 $T \rightarrow F ("*" F \mid "/" F)^*$
 $F \rightarrow \mathbf{INT} \mid "(" E ")"$

All tokens are enclosed in double quotes to distinguish them for the regular operators: (,) and *

- Compare with Slide 171

Grammars with Common Prefixes Are Not LL(1)

- The dangling-else grammar:

$$\begin{array}{lll} \langle \text{stmt} \rangle & \rightarrow & \mathbf{IF} \text{ "(" } \langle \text{expr} \rangle \text{ ")" } \langle \text{stmt} \rangle \mathbf{ELSE} \langle \text{stmt} \rangle \\ \langle \text{stmt} \rangle & \rightarrow & \mathbf{IF} \text{ "(" } \langle \text{expr} \rangle \text{ ")" } \langle \text{stmt} \rangle \\ \langle \text{stmt} \rangle & \rightarrow & \mathbf{other} \end{array}$$

- The parsing method according to Slide 181:

```
void parseStmt() {
  switch (currentToken.kind) {
  case Token.IF:
    accept();
    match(Token.LPAREN);
    parseExpr();
    match(Token.RPAREN);
    parseStmt();
    match(Token.ELSE);
    parseStmt();
    break;
  case Token.IF:
    accept();
    match(Token.LPAREN);
    parseExpr();
    match(Token.RPAREN);
    parseStmt();
    break;
  ...
}
```

Eliminating Common Prefixes: Left-Factoring

- The grammar G_1 :

$$A \rightarrow \alpha\beta_1 \mid \alpha\beta_2$$

$$A \rightarrow \gamma$$

- The transformed grammar G_2 :

$$A \rightarrow \alpha A'$$

$$A \rightarrow \gamma$$

$$A' \rightarrow \beta_1 \mid \beta_2$$

- $L(G_1) = L(G_2)$
- A grammar with common prefixes is not LL(1)

Example: Eliminating Common Prefixes

$\langle \text{stmt} \rangle$	\rightarrow	IF "(" $\langle \text{expr} \rangle$ ")" $\langle \text{stmt} \rangle$ ELSE $\langle \text{stmt} \rangle$
$\langle \text{stmt} \rangle$	\rightarrow	IF "(" $\langle \text{expr} \rangle$ ")" $\langle \text{stmt} \rangle$
$\langle \text{stmt} \rangle$	\rightarrow	other



$\langle \text{stmt} \rangle$	\rightarrow	IF "(" $\langle \text{expr} \rangle$ ")" $\langle \text{stmt} \rangle$ $\langle \text{else-clause} \rangle$
$\langle \text{else-clause} \rangle$	\rightarrow	ELSE $\langle \text{stmt} \rangle$ ϵ
$\langle \text{stmt} \rangle$	\rightarrow	other

Eliminating Common Prefixes using Choice Operator

- The grammar G_1 :

$$A \rightarrow \alpha\beta_1 \mid \alpha\beta_2$$

$$A \rightarrow \gamma$$

- The transformed grammar G_2 :

$$A \rightarrow \alpha(\beta_1 \mid \beta_2)$$

$$A \rightarrow \gamma$$

- Recommended to use in Assignment 2

Example: Eliminating Common Prefixes

$\langle \text{stmt} \rangle$	\rightarrow	IF	"(" $\langle \text{expr} \rangle$ ")"	$\langle \text{stmt} \rangle$	ELSE	$\langle \text{stmt} \rangle$
$\langle \text{stmt} \rangle$	\rightarrow	IF	"(" $\langle \text{expr} \rangle$ ")"	$\langle \text{stmt} \rangle$		
$\langle \text{stmt} \rangle$	\rightarrow	other				



$\langle \text{stmt} \rangle$	\rightarrow	IF	"(" $\langle \text{expr} \rangle$ ")"	$\langle \text{stmt} \rangle$	(ELSE	$\langle \text{stmt} \rangle$)	?
$\langle \text{stmt} \rangle$	\rightarrow	other						

Compare with Slide 198

Coding **parse** α_i in the Presence of Regular Operators

- Suppose $\alpha_i = a(A)^*(B)^+b(C)?$, where A , B and C are nonterminals or a sequence of terminals and nonterminals
- **parse** α_i implemented as:

```
match("a");  
while (currentToken.kind is in First(A))  
    parse A;  
do {  
    parse B;  
} while (currentToken.kind is in First(B))  
match("b");  
if (currentToken.kind is in First(C))  
    parse C;
```

Assignment 2

- A subset of VC already implemented for you
- For expressions, you need to eliminate left-recursion on several nonterminals as illustrated in Slide 195
- You also need to eliminate some common prefixes (e.g., one for $\langle \text{primary-expr} \rangle$) as illustrated in Slide 200.
- A simple left-factoring can fix the LL(2) construct:
$$\langle \text{prog} \rangle \rightarrow (\langle \text{func-decl} \rangle \mid \langle \text{var-decl} \rangle)^*$$
- Everything else should be quite straightforward

Reading

- Chapter 2
- Red Dragon: Pages 176 – 178 and 188 – 190
- Purple Dragon: 4.3.3 – 4.3.4 and Pages 217 – 226

Next Class: Top-Down Parsing Revisited

First Sets for Grammar 1 (with Recursion)

$$\text{First}(E) = \text{First}(E + T) = \text{First}(E - T) =$$

$$\text{First}(T) = \text{First}(T * F) = \text{First}(T / F) =$$

$$\text{First}(F) = \{ (, \text{INT} \}$$

$$\text{First}((E)) = \{ (\}$$

$$\text{First}(\text{INT}) = \{ \text{INT} \}$$

The explicit construction is left as an exercise.

Follow Sets for Grammar 1 (with Recursion)

$$\text{Follow}(E) = \{+, -,), \$\}$$

$$\text{Follow}(T) = \text{Follow}(F) = \{+, -, *, /,), \$\}$$

The explicit construction is left as an exercise.

Select Sets for Grammar 1

Follow sets not used since the grammar has no ϵ -productions

$$\text{Select}(E \rightarrow E + T) = \text{First}(E + T) = \{ (, \mathbf{INT} \}$$

$$\text{Select}(E \rightarrow E - T) = \text{First}(E - T) = \{ (, \mathbf{INT} \}$$

$$\text{Select}(E \rightarrow T) = \text{First}(T) = \{ (, \mathbf{INT} \}$$

$$\text{Select}(T \rightarrow T * F) = \text{First}(T * F) = \{ (, \mathbf{INT} \}$$

$$\text{Select}(T \rightarrow T / F) = \text{First}(T / F) = \{ (, \mathbf{INT} \}$$

$$\text{Select}(T \rightarrow F) = \text{First}(F) = \{ (, \mathbf{INT} \}$$

$$\text{Select}(F \rightarrow \mathbf{INT}) = \text{First}(\mathbf{INT}) = \{ \mathbf{INT} \}$$

$$\text{Select}(F \rightarrow (E)) = \text{First}((E)) = \{ (\}$$

The explicit construction is left as an exercise.

Eliminating Direct Left Recursion: Grammar Rewriting

— General Case —

- The grammar G_1 :

$$A \rightarrow \alpha_1 \mid \alpha_2 \mid \cdots \mid \alpha_n \text{ // } \alpha_i \text{ does not begin with } A$$

$$A \rightarrow A\beta_1 \mid A\beta_2 \mid \cdots \mid A\beta_m$$

- The transformed grammar G_2 :

$$A \rightarrow \alpha_1 A' \mid \alpha_2 A' \mid \cdots \mid \alpha_n A'$$

$$A' \rightarrow \beta_1 A' \mid \beta_2 A' \mid \cdots \mid \beta_m A' \mid \epsilon$$

- G_1 and G_2 define the same language: $L(G_1) = L(G_2)$
- **Example:** in Slide 171, Grammar 2 is the transformed version of Grammar 1

Eliminating Direct Left Recursion Using Regular Operators

— General Case —

- The grammar G_1 :

$$A \rightarrow \alpha_1 \mid \alpha_2 \mid \cdots \mid \alpha_n$$

$$A \rightarrow A\beta_1 \mid A\beta_2 \mid \cdots \mid A\beta_m$$

- The transformed grammar G_2 :

$$A \rightarrow (\alpha_1 \mid \cdots \mid \alpha_n)(\beta_1 \mid \cdots \mid \beta_m)^*$$

- G_1 and G_2 define the same language: $L(G_1) = L(G_2)$