BCSE307L—COMPILER DESIGN

TEXT BOOK:

 Alfred V. Aho, Monica S. Lam, Ravi Sethi, Jeffrey D. Ullman, "Compilers: Principles, Techniques and Tools", Second Edition, Pearson Education Limited, 2014. - - - - - -

Module:2 | SYNTAX ANALYSIS

8 hours

Role of Parser- Parse Tree - Elimination of Ambiguity – Top Down Parsing - Recursive Descent Parsing - LL (1) Grammars – Shift Reduce Parsers- Operator Precedence Parsing - LR Parsers, Construction of SLR Parser Tables and Parsing- CLR Parsing- LALR Parsing.

Parsing Techniques

Operator Precedence

4.6 OPERATOR-PRECEDENCE PARSING

The largest class of grammars for which shift-reduce parsers can be built successfully — the LR grammars — will be discussed in Section 4.7. However, for a small but important class of grammars we can easily construct efficient shift-reduce parsers by hand. These grammars have the property (among other essential requirements) that no production right side is ϵ or has two adjacent nonterminals. A grammar with the latter property is called an operator grammar.

Example 4.27. The following grammar for expressions

$$E \rightarrow EAE \mid (E) \mid -E \mid id$$

 $A \rightarrow + \mid -\mid * \mid / \mid \uparrow$

is not an operator grammar, because the right side *EAE* has two (in fact three) consecutive nonterminals. However, if we substitute for A each of its alternatives, we obtain the following operator grammar:

$$E \rightarrow E + E \mid E - E \mid E * E \mid E / E \mid E \uparrow E \mid (E) \mid - E \mid id$$
 (4.17)

We now describe an easy-to-implement parsing technique called operatorprecedence parsing. Historically, the technique was first described as a manipulation on tokens without any reference to an underlying grammar. In fact, once we finish building an operator-precedence parser from a grammar, we may effectively ignore the grammar, using the nonterminals on the stack only as placeholders for attributes associated with the nonterminals.

In operator-precedence parsing, we define three disjoint precedence relations, $<\cdot$, \doteq , and $\cdot>$, between certain pairs of terminals. These precedence relations guide the selection of handles and have the following meanings:

RELATION	MEANING		
a < b	a "yields precedence to" b		
a = b	a "has the same precedence as" b		
a > b	a "takes precedence over" b		

We should caution the reader that while these relations may appear similar to the arithmetic relations "less than," "equal to," and "greater than," the precedence relations have quite different properties. For example, we could have a < b and a > b for the same language, or we might have none of a < b, $a \neq b$, and a > b holding for some terminals a and b.

Suppose that between a_i and a_{i+1} exactly one of the relations $<\cdot$, =, and > holds. Further, let us use \$ to mark each end of the string, and define \$ $<\cdot$ b and b> \$ for all terminals b. Now suppose we remove the nonterminals from the string and place the correct relation $<\cdot$, =, or $\cdot>$, between each pair of terminals and between the endmost terminals and the \$'s marking the ends of the string. For example, suppose we initially have the right-sentential form id + id * id and the precedence relations are those given in Fig. 4.23. These relations are some of those that we would choose to parse according to grammar (4.17).

	id	+	*	\$
id		·	Ý	·>
+	 < ·	·> !	<·	·>
*	<.	·>	·>	·>
\$	< ⋅	 <-	 <⋅	

Fig. 4.23. Operator-precedence relations.

Then the string with the precedence relations inserted is:

$$\$ < \cdot id > + < \cdot id > * < \cdot id > \$$$

Algorithm 4.5. Operator-precedence parsing algorithm.

Input. An input string w and a table of precedence relations.

Output. If w is well formed, a skeletal parse tree, with a placeholder nonterminal E labeling all interior nodes; otherwise, an error indication.

Method. Initially, the stack contains \$ and the input buffer the string w\$. To parse, we execute the program of Fig. 4.24.

```
(1) set ip to point to the first symbol of w$;
(2) repeat forever
(3)
         if $ is on top of the stack and ip points to $ then
(4)
              return
         else begin
              let a be the topmost terminal symbol on the stack
(5)
                   and let b be the symbol pointed to by ip;
              if a < b or a = b then begin
(6)
(7)
                   push b onto the stack;
                   advance ip to the next input symbol;
(8)
              end:
              else if a > b then
                                          /* reduce */
(9)
(10)
                   repeat
(11)
                        pop the stack
(12)
                   until the top stack terminal is related by <
                        to the terminal most recently popped
(13)
               else error()
          end
```

Fig. 4.24. Operator-precedence parsing algorithm.

- 1. If operator θ_1 has higher precedence than operator θ_2 , make $\theta_1 > \theta_2$ and $\theta_2 < \theta_1$. For example, if * has higher precedence than +, make * > + and + < *. These relations ensure that, in an expression of the form E + E * E + E, the central E * E is the handle that will be reduced first.
- 2. If θ_1 and θ_2 are operators of equal precedence (they may in fact be the same operator), then make $\theta_1 > \theta_2$ and $\theta_2 > \theta_1$ if the operators are left-associative, or make $\theta_1 < \theta_2$ and $\theta_2 < \theta_1$ if they are right-associative. For example, if + and are left-associative, then make $+ \cdot > +$, $+ \cdot > -$, $\cdot > -$, and $\cdot > +$. If \uparrow is right associative, then make $\uparrow < \cdot \uparrow$. These relations ensure that E E + E will have handle E E selected and $E \uparrow E \uparrow E$ will have the last $E \uparrow E$ selected.
- 3. Make $\theta < \cdot$ id, id $\cdot > \theta$, $\theta < \cdot$ (, ($< \cdot \theta$,) $\cdot > \theta$, $\theta \cdot >$), $\theta \cdot > \$$, and $\$ < \cdot \theta$ for all operators θ . Also, let

(
$$\stackrel{.}{=}$$
)
 \$ < \cdot id

 (<\cdot (id \cdot > \$)
) \cdot > \$

 (<\cdot id \cdot id \cdot >)
) \cdot >)

These rules ensure that both **id** and (E) will be reduced to E. Also, \$ serves as both the left and right endmarker, causing handles to be found between \$'s wherever possible.

- 1. If operator θ_1 has higher precedence than operator θ_2 , make $\theta_1 > \theta_2$ and $\theta_2 < \theta_1$. For example, if * has higher precedence than +, make * > + and + < *. These relations ensure that, in an expression of the form E + E * E + E, the central E * E is the handle that will be reduced first.
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(
$$\stackrel{.}{=}$$
)
 \$ < \cdot id

 (<\cdot (id \cdot > \$)
) \cdot > \$

 (<\cdot id \cdot id \cdot >)
) \cdot >)

These rules ensure that both **id** and (E) will be reduced to E. Also, \$ serves as both the left and right endmarker, causing handles to be found between \$'s wherever possible.

Example 4.28. Figure 4.25 contains the operator-precedence relations for grammar (4.17), assuming

- 1. † is of highest precedence and right-associative,
- * and / are of next highest precedence and left-associative, and
- 3. + and are of lowest precedence and left-associative,

(Blanks denote error entries.) The reader should try out the table to see that it works correctly, ignoring problems with unary minus for the moment. Try the table on the input $id * (id \dagger id) - id / id$, for example.

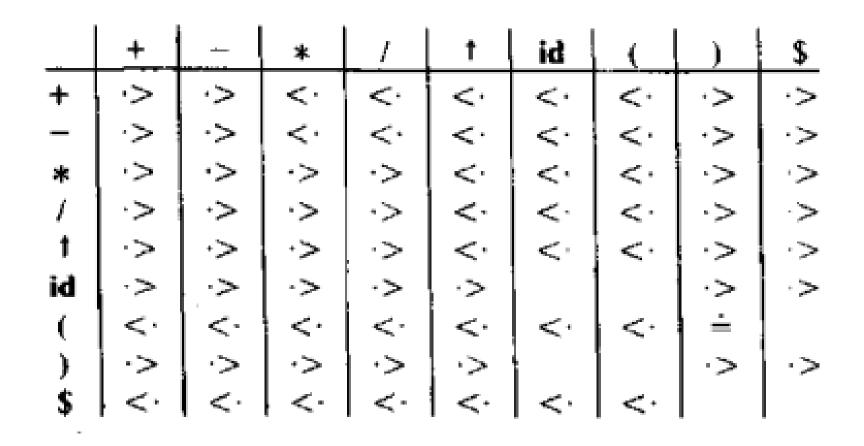


Fig. 4.25. Operator-precedence relations.

Thank You