

# Introduction to Bottom-Up Parsing

# Outline

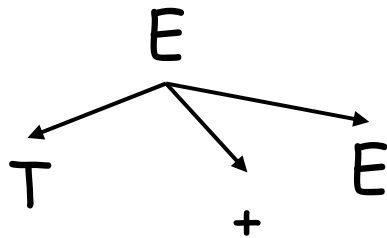
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- Review LL parsing
- Shift-reduce parsing
- The LR parsing algorithm
- Constructing LR parsing tables

# Top-Down Parsing: Review

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- Top-down parsing expands a parse tree from the start symbol to the leaves
  - Always expand the leftmost non-terminal

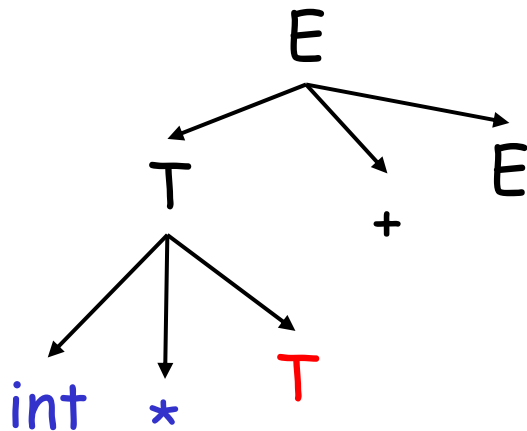


int \* int + int

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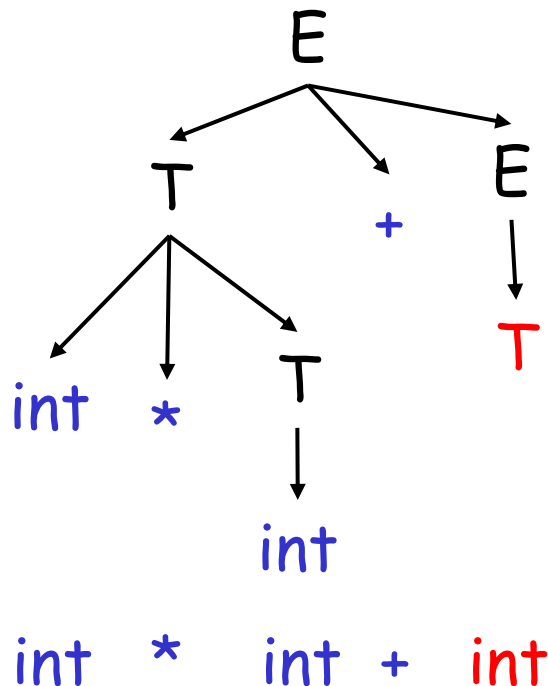


- The leaves at any point form a string  $\beta A \gamma$ 
  - $\beta$  contains only terminals
  - The input string is  $\beta b \delta$
  - The prefix  $\beta$  matches
  - The next token is  $b$

int \* int + int

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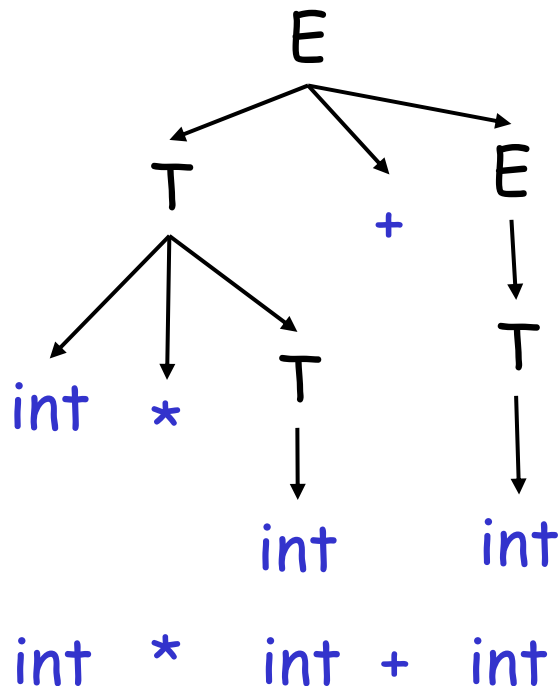


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  - The next token is  $b$

# Predictive Parsing: Review

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- A predictive parser is described by a table
  - For each non-terminal  $A$  and for each token  $b$  we specify a production  $A \rightarrow \alpha$
  - When trying to expand  $A$  we use  $A \rightarrow \alpha$  if  $b$  follows next
- Once we have the table
  - The parsing algorithm is simple and fast
  - No backtracking is necessary

# Constructing Predictive Parsing Tables

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1. Consider the state  $S \rightarrow^* \beta A \gamma$

- With  $b$  the next token
- Trying to match  $\beta b \delta$

There are two possibilities:

- $b$  belongs to an expansion of  $A$ 
  - Any  $A \rightarrow \alpha$  can be used if  $b$  can start a string derived from  $\alpha$
  - We say that  $b \in \text{First}(\alpha)$

Or...



# Constructing Predictive Parsing Tables (Cont.)

---

## 2. $b$ does not belong to an expansion of $A$

- The expansion of  $A$  is empty and  $b$  belongs to an expansion of  $\gamma$
- Means that  $b$  can appear after  $A$  in a derivation of the form  $S \rightarrow^* \beta A b \omega$
- We say that  $b \in \text{Follow}(A)$  in this case
- What productions can we use in this case?
  - Any  $A \rightarrow \alpha$  can be used if  $\alpha$  can expand to  $\epsilon$
  - We say that  $\epsilon \in \text{First}(A)$  in this case

# Computing First Sets

---

## Definition

$$\text{First}(X) = \{ b \mid X \rightarrow^* b\alpha \} \cup \{ \varepsilon \mid X \rightarrow^* \varepsilon \}$$

## Algorithm sketch

1.  $\text{First}(b) = \{ b \}$
2.  $\varepsilon \in \text{First}(X)$  if  $X \rightarrow \varepsilon$  is a production
3.  $\varepsilon \in \text{First}(X)$  if  $X \rightarrow A_1 \dots A_n$   
and  $\varepsilon \in \text{First}(A_i)$  for  $1 \leq i \leq n$
4.  $\text{First}(\alpha) \subseteq \text{First}(X)$  if  $X \rightarrow A_1 \dots A_n \alpha$   
and  $\varepsilon \in \text{First}(A_i)$  for  $1 \leq i \leq n$

# First Sets: Example

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- Recall the grammar

$$E \rightarrow TX$$

$$T \rightarrow (E) \mid \text{int } Y$$

$$X \rightarrow + E \mid \varepsilon$$

$$Y \rightarrow * T \mid \varepsilon$$

- First sets

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

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

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

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

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

$$\text{First}( T ) = \{ \text{int}, ( \}$$

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

$$\text{First}( X ) = \{ +, \varepsilon \}$$

$$\text{First}( Y ) = \{ *, \varepsilon \}$$

# Computing Follow Sets

---

- Definition

$$\text{Follow}(X) = \{ b \mid S \rightarrow^* \beta X b \delta \}$$

- Intuition

- If  $X \rightarrow A B$  then  $\text{First}(B) \subseteq \text{Follow}(A)$   
and  $\text{Follow}(X) \subseteq \text{Follow}(B)$
- Also if  $B \rightarrow^* \varepsilon$  then  $\text{Follow}(X) \subseteq \text{Follow}(A)$
- If  $S$  is the start symbol then  $\$ \in \text{Follow}(S)$

# Computing Follow Sets (Cont.)

---

## Algorithm sketch

1.  $\$ \in \text{Follow}(S)$
2.  $\text{First}(\beta) - \{\varepsilon\} \subseteq \text{Follow}(X)$ 
  - For each production  $A \rightarrow \alpha X \beta$
3.  $\text{Follow}(A) \subseteq \text{Follow}(X)$ 
  - For each production  $A \rightarrow \alpha X \beta$  where  $\varepsilon \in \text{First}(\beta)$

# Follow Sets: Example

---

- Recall the grammar

$$E \rightarrow TX$$

$$T \rightarrow (E) \mid \text{int } Y$$

$$X \rightarrow + E \mid \varepsilon$$

$$Y \rightarrow * T \mid \varepsilon$$

- Follow sets

$$\text{Follow}(+) = \{ \text{int}, ( \}$$

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

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

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

$$\text{Follow}(\text{int}) = \{ *, +, ) , \$ \}$$

$$\text{Follow}( * ) = \{ \text{int}, ( \}$$

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

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

$$\text{Follow}(Y) = \{ +, ) , \$ \}$$

# Constructing LL(1) Parsing Tables

---

- Construct a parsing table  $T$  for CFG  $G$
- For each production  $A \rightarrow \alpha$  in  $G$  do:
  - For each terminal  $b \in \text{First}(\alpha)$  do
    - $T[A, b] = \alpha$
  - If  $\epsilon \in \text{First}(\alpha)$ , for each  $b \in \text{Follow}(A)$  do
    - $T[A, b] = \alpha$
  - If  $\epsilon \in \text{First}(\alpha)$  and  $\$ \in \text{Follow}(A)$  do
    - $T[A, \$] = \alpha$

# Constructing LL(1) Tables: Example

---

- Recall the grammar

$$E \rightarrow TX$$

$$T \rightarrow (E) \mid \text{int } Y$$

$$X \rightarrow + E \mid \varepsilon$$

$$Y \rightarrow * T \mid \varepsilon$$

- Where in the line of  $Y$  we put  $Y \rightarrow^* T$  ?
  - In the lines of  $\text{First}( *T ) = \{ * \}$
- Where in the line of  $Y$  we put  $Y \rightarrow \varepsilon$  ?
  - In the lines of  $\text{Follow}(Y) = \{ \$, +, ) \}$



# Notes on LL(1) Parsing Tables

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- If any entry is multiply defined then  $G$  is not LL(1)
  - If  $G$  is ambiguous
  - If  $G$  is left recursive
  - If  $G$  is not left-factored
  - And in other cases as well
- For some grammars there is a simple parsing strategy: *Predictive parsing*
- Most programming language grammars are not LL(1)
- Thus, we need more powerful parsing strategies

# Bottom Up Parsing

# Bottom-Up Parsing

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- Bottom-up parsing is more general than top-down parsing
  - And just as efficient
  - Builds on ideas in top-down parsing
  - Preferred method in practice
- Also called **LR** parsing
  - **L** means that tokens are read left to right
  - **R** means that it constructs a rightmost derivation !

# An Introductory Example

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- LR parsers don't need left-factored grammars and can also handle left-recursive grammars
- Consider the following grammar:

$$E \rightarrow E + ( E ) \mid \text{int}$$

- Why is this not LL(1)?
- Consider the string:  $\text{int} + ( \text{int} ) + ( \text{int} )$

# The Idea

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- LR parsing *reduces* a string to the start symbol by inverting productions:

str  $w$  input string of terminals

repeat

- Identify  $\beta$  in  $str$  such that  $A \rightarrow \beta$  is a production (i.e.,  $str = \alpha \beta \gamma$ )
- Replace  $\beta$  by  $A$  in  $str$  (i.e.,  $str \ w = \alpha A \gamma$ )

until  $str = S$  (the start symbol)

OR all possibilities are exhausted

# A Bottom-up Parse in Detail (1)

---

int + (int) + (int)

int + ( int ) + ( int )

# A Bottom-up Parse in Detail (2)

---

int + (int) + (int)

E + (int) + (int)

E  
|  
int + ( int ) + ( int )

# A Bottom-up Parse in Detail (3)

---

int + (int) + (int)

E + (int) + (int)

E + (E) + (int)

          E                  E  
          |                  |  
int + ( int ) + ( int )



# A Bottom-up Parse in Detail (4)

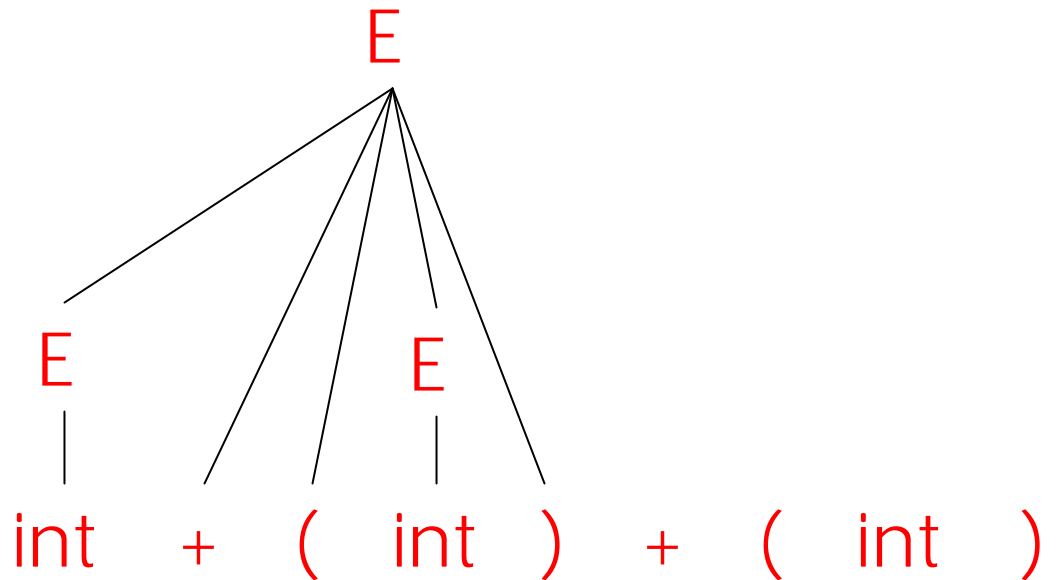
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int + (int) + (int)

E + (int) + (int)

E + (E) + (int)

E + (int)



# A Bottom-up Parse in Detail (5)

---

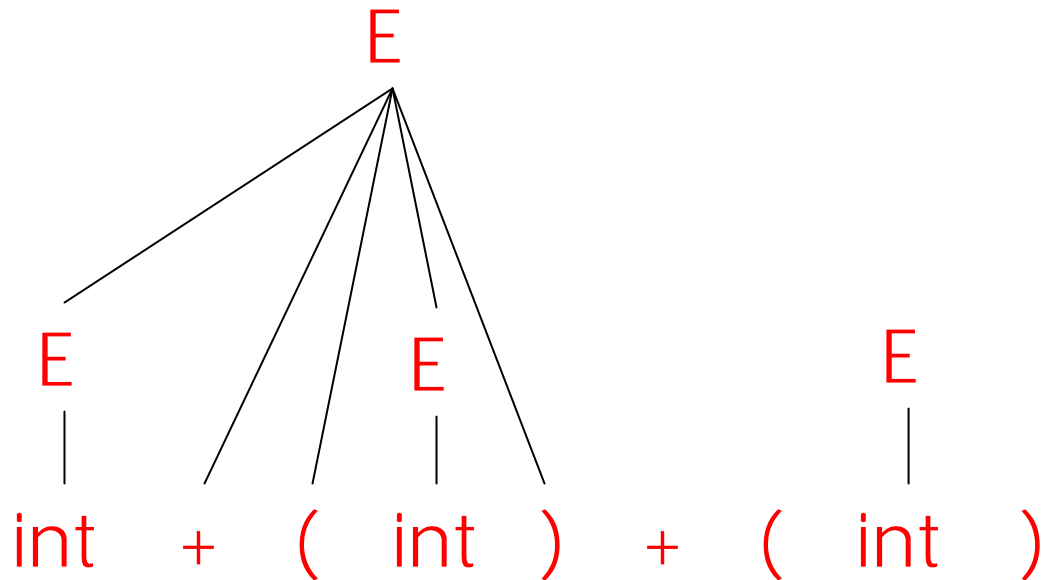
int + (int) + (int)

E + (int) + (int)

E + (E) + (int)

E + (int)

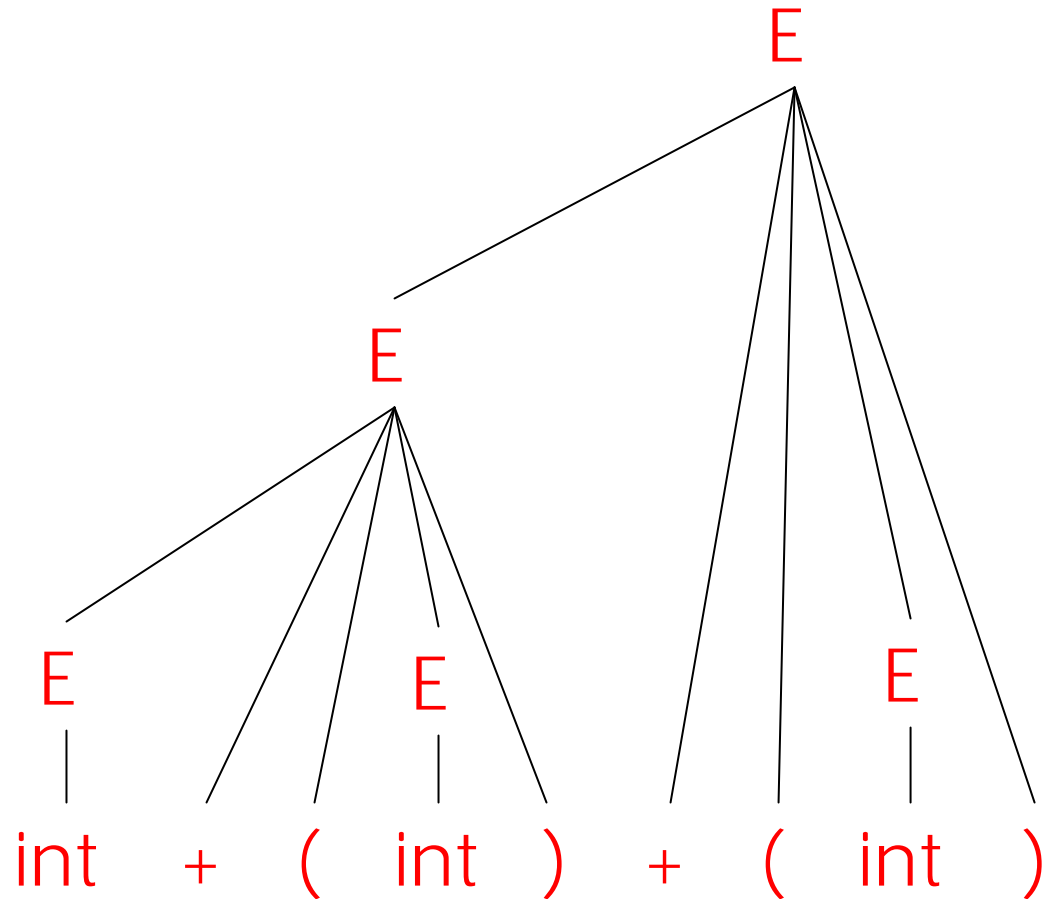
E + (E)



# A Bottom-up Parse in Detail (6)

↑  
int + (int) + (int)  
E + (int) + (int)  
E + (E) + (int)  
E + (int)  
E + (E)  
E

A rightmost  
derivation in reverse



# Important Fact #1

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Important Fact #1 about bottom-up parsing:

*An LR parser traces a rightmost derivation in reverse*

# Where Do Reductions Happen

---

Important Fact #1 has an interesting consequence:

- Let  $\alpha\beta\gamma$  be a step of a bottom-up parse
- Assume the next reduction is by using  $A \rightarrow \beta$
- Then  $\gamma$  is a string of terminals

Why? Because  $\alpha A \gamma \rightarrow \alpha \beta \gamma$  is a step in a right-most derivation

# Notation

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- Idea: Split string into two substrings
  - Right substring is as yet unexamined by parsing (a string of terminals)
  - Left substring has terminals and non-terminals
- The dividing point is marked by a **|**
  - The **|** is not part of the string
- Initially, all input is unexamined: **|** $x_1x_2 \dots x_n$

# Shift-Reduce Parsing

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Bottom-up parsing uses only two kinds of actions:

*Shift*

*Reduce*

# Shift

---

*Shift*: Move **|** one place to the right  
- Shifts a terminal to the left string

$$E + (\text{b}| int ) \Rightarrow E + (int \text{b} )$$

In general:

$$ABC \text{b} xyz \Rightarrow ABCx \text{b} yz$$



# Reduce

---

*Reduce*: Apply an inverse production at the right end of the left string

- If  $E \rightarrow E + (E)$  is a production, then

$$E + (\underline{E + (E)} \mid) \Rightarrow E + (\underline{E} \mid)$$

In general, given  $A \rightarrow xy$ , then:

$$Cbxy \mid ijk \Rightarrow CbA \mid ijk$$

# Shift-Reduce Example

---

$E \rightarrow E + (E) \mid \text{int}$

| int + (int) + (int)\$ shift

int + ( int ) + ( int )



# Shift-Reduce Example

---

$E \rightarrow E + (E) \mid \text{int}$

| int + (int) + (int)\$ shift

int | + (int) + (int)\$ reduce  $E \rightarrow \text{int}$

int + ( int ) + ( int )  
↑

# Shift-Reduce Example

---

$E \rightarrow E + (E) \mid \text{int}$

| int + (int) + (int)\$ shift

int | + (int) + (int)\$ reduce  $E \rightarrow \text{int}$

E | + (int) + (int)\$ shift 3 times

E  
/  
int + ( int ) + ( int )  
↑

# Shift-Reduce Example

---

$E \rightarrow E + (E) \mid \text{int}$

| int + (int) + (int)\$ shift

int | + (int) + (int)\$ reduce  $E \rightarrow \text{int}$

E | + (int) + (int)\$ shift 3 times

E + (int | ) + (int)\$ reduce  $E \rightarrow \text{int}$

E  
/  
int + ( int ) + ( int )  
↑

# Shift-Reduce Example

$E \rightarrow E + (E) \mid \text{int}$

| int + (int) + (int)\$ shift  
int | + (int) + (int)\$ reduce  $E \rightarrow \text{int}$   
E | + (int) + (int)\$ shift 3 times  
E + (int | ) + (int)\$ reduce  $E \rightarrow \text{int}$   
E + (E | ) + (int)\$ shift

Diagram illustrating the state of the expression  $\text{int} + (\text{int}) + (\text{int})$  after the third shift operation. The expression is shown with red text. Above the first  $\text{int}$  and the  $\text{int}$  inside the first parentheses, there is a red  $E$  with a diagonal line pointing down to the respective  $\text{int}$ . An upward-pointing arrow is positioned below the closing parenthesis of the first sub-expression, indicating the current position of the parser's cursor.

# Shift-Reduce Example

$E \rightarrow E + (E) \mid \text{int}$

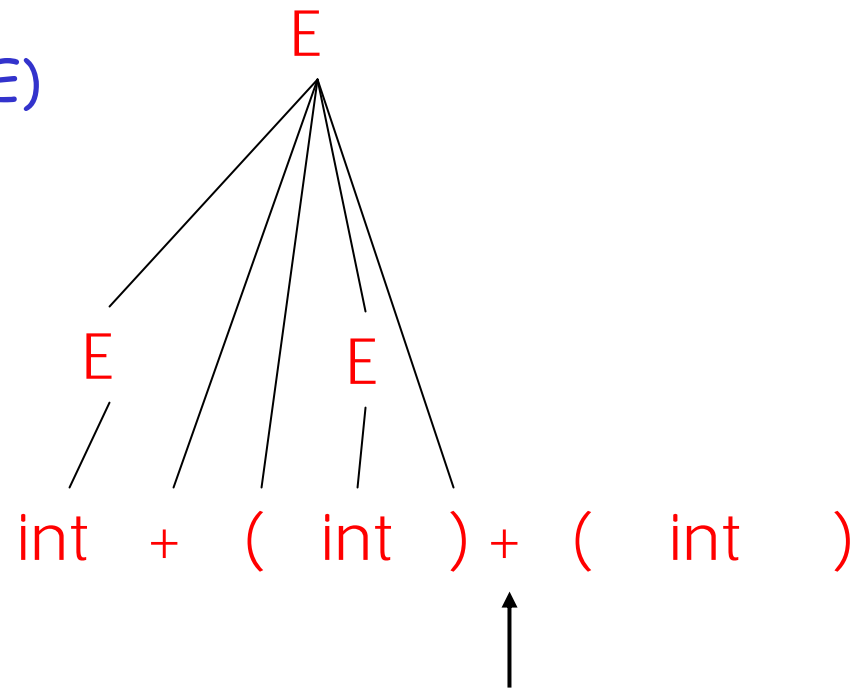
| int + (int) + (int)\$ shift  
int | + (int) + (int)\$ reduce  $E \rightarrow \text{int}$   
E | + (int) + (int)\$ shift 3 times  
E + (int | ) + (int)\$ reduce  $E \rightarrow \text{int}$   
E + (E | ) + (int)\$ shift  
E + (E) | + (int)\$ reduce  $E \rightarrow E + (E)$

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} & E & & E & & & \\ & / & & / & & & \\ \text{int} & + & ( & \text{int} & ) & + & ( & \text{int} & ) \\ & & & & & & \uparrow \end{array}$$

# Shift-Reduce Example

$E \rightarrow E + (E) \mid \text{int}$

| int + (int) + (int)\$ shift  
int | + (int) + (int)\$ reduce  $E \rightarrow \text{int}$   
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E + (int | ) + (int)\$ reduce  $E \rightarrow \text{int}$   
E + (E | ) + (int)\$ shift  
E + (E) | + (int)\$ reduce  $E \rightarrow E + (E)$   
E | + (int)\$ shift 3 times

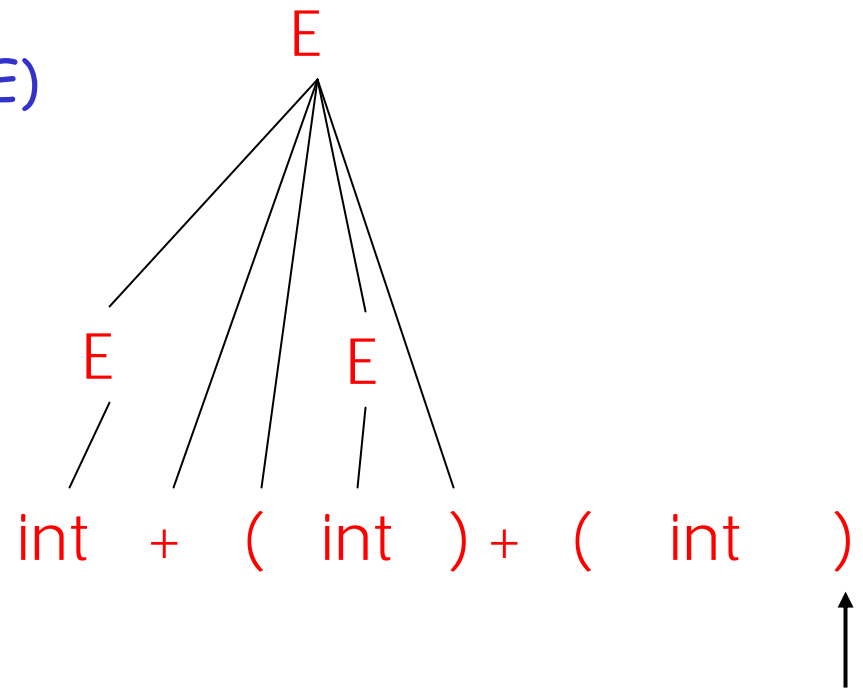




# Shift-Reduce Example

$E \rightarrow E + (E) \mid \text{int}$

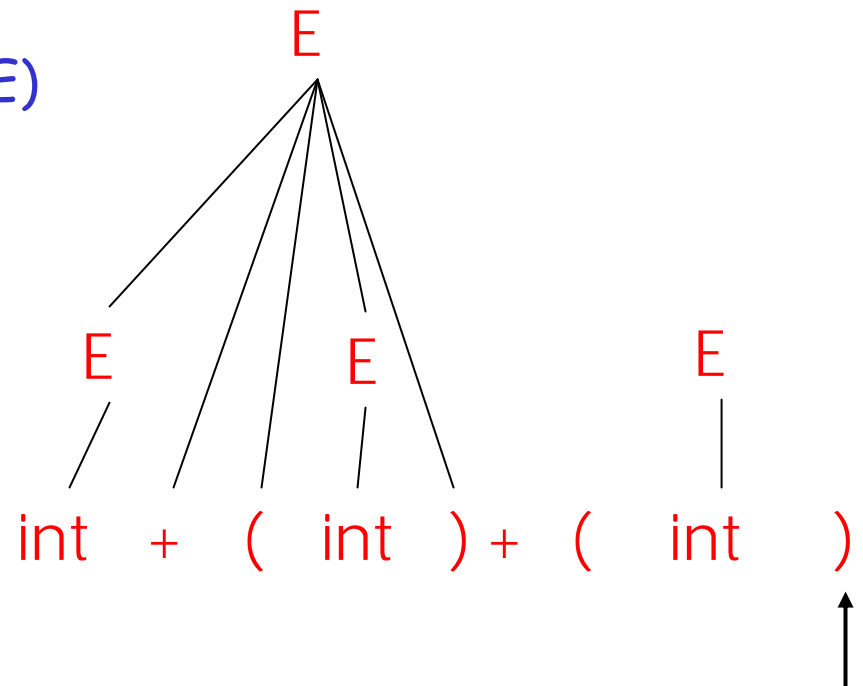
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int | + (int) + (int)\$ reduce  $E \rightarrow \text{int}$   
E | + (int) + (int)\$ shift 3 times  
E + (int | ) + (int)\$ reduce  $E \rightarrow \text{int}$   
E + (E | ) + (int)\$ shift  
E + (E) | + (int)\$ reduce  $E \rightarrow E + (E)$   
E | + (int)\$ shift 3 times  
E + (int | )\$ reduce  $E \rightarrow \text{int}$



# Shift-Reduce Example

$E \rightarrow E + (E) \mid \text{int}$

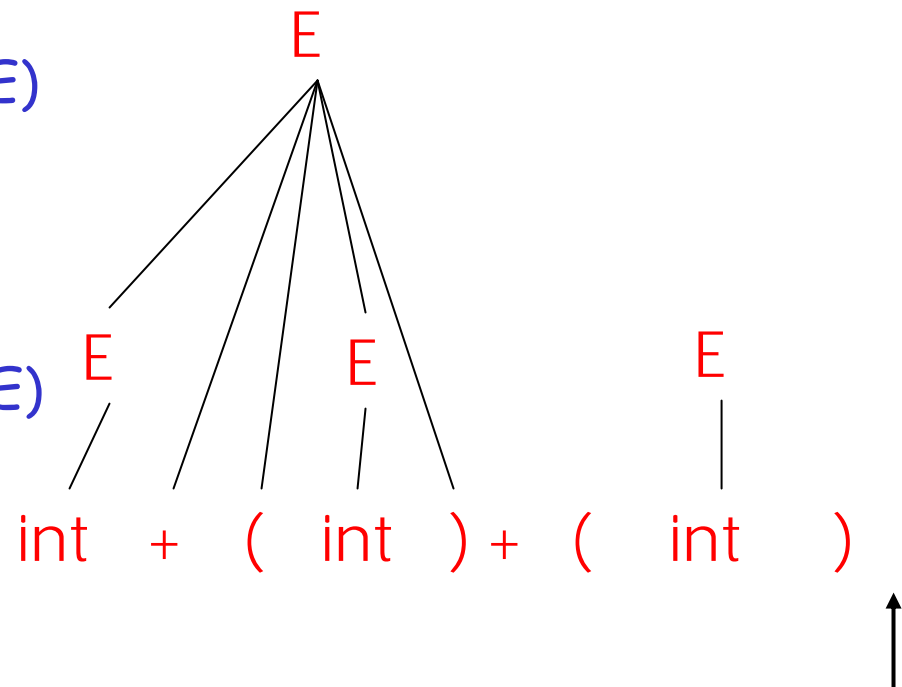
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E + (E | ) + (int)\$ shift  
E + (E) | + (int)\$ reduce  $E \rightarrow E + (E)$   
E | + (int)\$ shift 3 times  
E + (int | )\$ reduce  $E \rightarrow \text{int}$   
E + (E | )\$ shift



# Shift-Reduce Example

$E \rightarrow E + (E) \mid \text{int}$

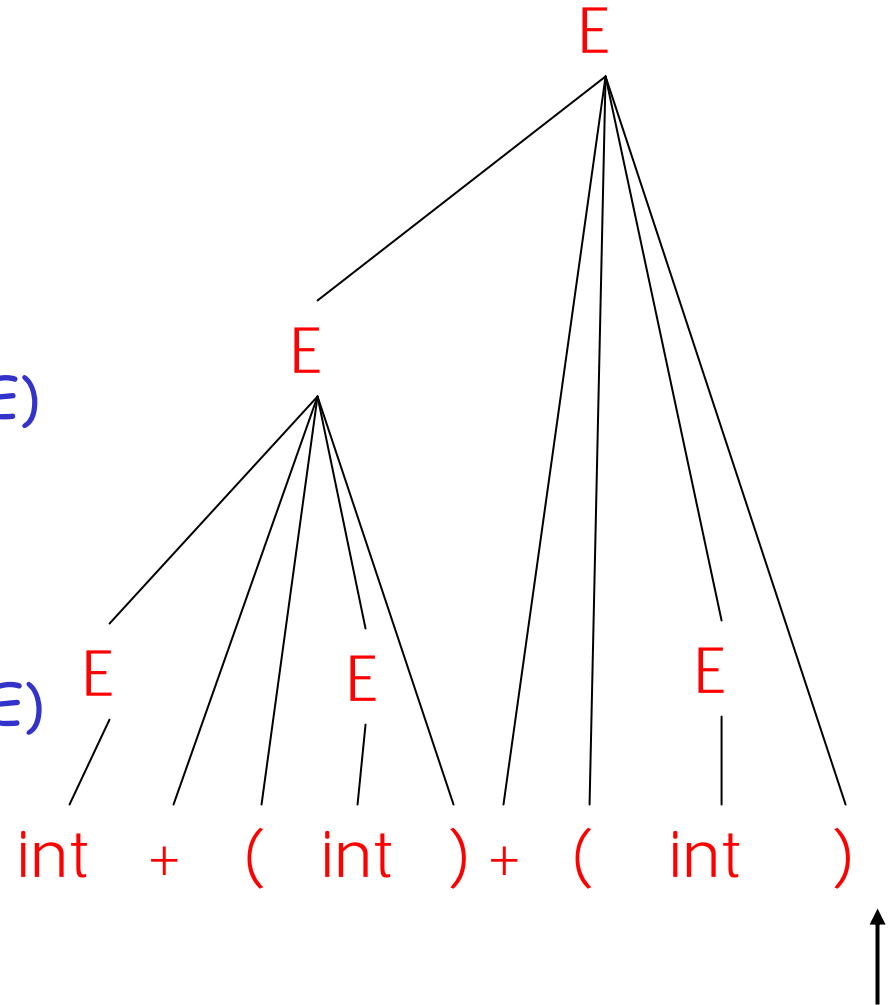
| int + (int) + (int)\$ shift  
int | + (int) + (int)\$ reduce  $E \rightarrow \text{int}$   
E | + (int) + (int)\$ shift 3 times  
E + (int | ) + (int)\$ reduce  $E \rightarrow \text{int}$   
E + (E | ) + (int)\$ shift  
E + (E) | + (int)\$ reduce  $E \rightarrow E + (E)$   
E | + (int)\$ shift 3 times  
E + (int | )\$ reduce  $E \rightarrow \text{int}$   
E + (E | )\$ shift  
E + (E) | \$ reduce  $E \rightarrow E + (E)$



# Shift-Reduce Example

int + (int) + (int)\$	shift
int   + (int) + (int)\$	reduce $E \rightarrow \text{int}$
E   + (int) + (int)\$	shift 3 times
E + (int   ) + (int)\$	reduce $E \rightarrow \text{int}$
E + (E   ) + (int)\$	shift
E + (E)   + (int)\$	reduce $E \rightarrow E + (E)$
E   + (int)\$	shift 3 times
E + (int   )\$	reduce $E \rightarrow \text{int}$
E + (E   )\$	shift
E + (E)   \$	reduce $E \rightarrow E + (E)$
E   \$	accept

$E \rightarrow E + (E) \mid \text{int}$



# The Stack

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- Left string can be implemented by a stack
  - Top of the stack is the **|**
- Shift pushes a terminal on the stack
- Reduce pops 0 or more symbols off of the stack (production RHS) and pushes a non-terminal on the stack (production LHS)

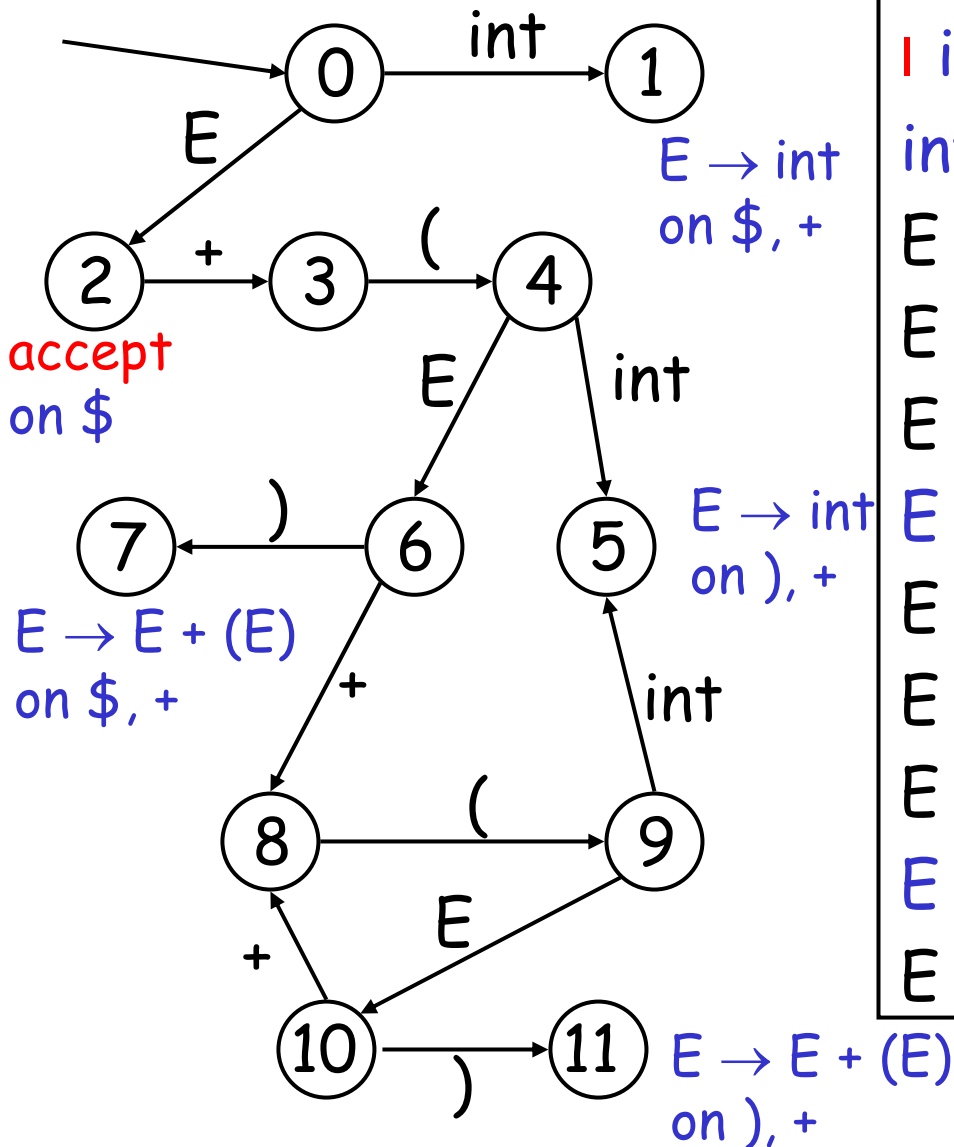
# Key Question: To Shift or to Reduce?

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Idea: use a finite automaton (DFA) to decide when to shift or reduce

- The input is the stack
- The language consists of terminals and non-terminals
- We run the DFA on the stack and we examine the resulting state  $X$  and the token  $tok$  after  $|$ 
  - If  $X$  has a transition labeled  $tok$  then shift
  - If  $X$  is labeled with " $A \rightarrow \beta$  on  $tok$ " then reduce

# LR(1) Parsing: An Example



int + (int) + (int)\$	shift
int   + (int) + (int)\$	$E \rightarrow \text{int}$
E   + (int) + (int)\$	shift(x3)
E + (int   ) + (int)\$	$E \rightarrow \text{int}$
E + (E   ) + (int)\$	shift
E + (E)   + (int)\$	$E \rightarrow E+(E)$
E   + (int)\$	shift (x3)
E + (int   )\$	$E \rightarrow \text{int}$
E + (E   )\$	shift
E + (E)   \$	$E \rightarrow E+(E)$
E   \$	accept

# Representing the DFA

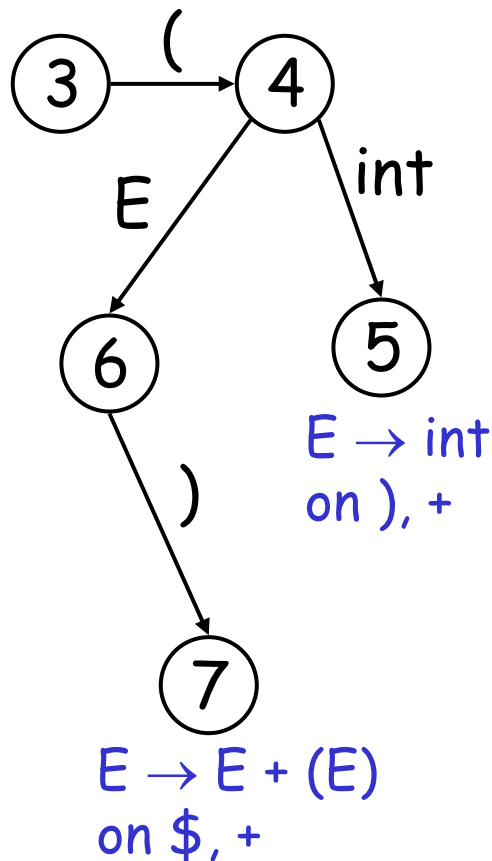
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- Parsers represent the DFA as a 2D table
  - Recall table-driven lexical analysis
- Lines correspond to DFA states
- Columns correspond to terminals and non-terminals
- Typically columns are split into:
  - Those for terminals: **action** table
  - Those for non-terminals: **goto** table



# Representing the DFA: Example

- The table for a fragment of our DFA:



	int	+	(	)	\$	E
...						
3			s4			
4	s5					g6
5		$r_{E \rightarrow int}$		$r_{E \rightarrow int}$		
6	s8		s7			
7		$r_{E \rightarrow E+(E)}$			$r_{E \rightarrow E+(E)}$	
...						

# The LR Parsing Algorithm

---

- After a shift or reduce action we rerun the DFA on the entire stack
  - This is wasteful, since most of the work is repeated
- Remember for each stack element on which state it brings the DFA
- LR parser maintains a stack
$$\langle \text{sym}_1, \text{state}_1 \rangle \dots \langle \text{sym}_n, \text{state}_n \rangle$$
$$\text{state}_k \text{ is the final state of the DFA on } \text{sym}_1 \dots \text{sym}_k$$

# The LR Parsing Algorithm

---

Let  $I = w\$$  be initial input

Let  $j = 0$

Let DFA state 0 be the start state

Let  $\text{stack} = \langle \text{dummy}, 0 \rangle$

repeat

case  $\text{action}[\text{top\_state}(\text{stack}), I[j]]$  of

$\text{shift } k$ : push  $\langle I[j++], k \rangle$

$\text{reduce } X \rightarrow A$ :

    pop  $|A|$  pairs,

    push  $\langle X, \text{Goto}[\text{top\_state}(\text{stack}), X] \rangle$

$\text{accept}$ : halt normally

$\text{error}$ : halt and report error

# LR Parsers

---

- Can be used to parse more grammars than LL
- Most programming languages grammars are LR
- LR Parsers can be described as a simple table
- There are tools for building the table
- How is the table constructed?