



# Compiler Design



# Lecture-14

## Constructing the Parsing Table I: First and Follow



# Topics Covered

- Left factoring of a grammar
- Predictive Parser
- Constructing the Parsing Table I: First and Follow

# Left-Factoring a Grammar II

- Here is the procedure used to left-factor a grammar:
  - For each non-terminal  $A$ , find the longest prefix  $\alpha$  common to two or more of its alternatives.
  - Replace all the  $A$  productions:
$$A \rightarrow \alpha\beta_1 \mid \alpha\beta_2 \dots \mid \alpha\beta_n \mid \gamma$$
(where  $\gamma$  represents all alternatives that do not begin with  $\alpha$ )
  - By:
$$A \rightarrow \alpha A' \mid \gamma$$
$$A' \rightarrow \beta_1 \mid \beta_2 \mid \dots \mid \beta_n$$

# Left-Factoring a Grammar III

- Here is an example of a common grammar that needs left factoring:

$$S \rightarrow iEtS \mid iEtSeS \mid a$$
$$E \rightarrow b$$

( i stands for “if”; t stands for “then”; and e stands for “else”)

- Left factored, this grammar becomes:

$$S \rightarrow iEtSS' \mid a$$
$$S' \rightarrow eS \mid \epsilon$$
$$E \rightarrow b$$

# Predictive Parser: Details

- The key problem during predictive parsing is that of determining the production to be applied for a non-terminal.
- This is done by using a parsing table.
- A parsing table is a two-dimensional array  $M[A,a]$  where  $A$  is a non-terminal, and  $a$  is a terminal or the symbol  $\$$ , meaning “end of input string”.
- The other inputs of a predictive parser are:
  - The input buffer, which contains the string to be parsed followed by  $\$$ .
  - The stack which contains a sequence of grammar symbols with, initially,  $\$S$  (end of input string and start symbol) in it.

# Predictive Parser: Informal Procedure

- The predictive parser considers  $X$ , the symbol on top of the stack, and  $a$ , the current input symbol. It uses,  $M$ , the parsing table.
  - If  $X=a=\$$   $\rightarrow$  halt and return success
  - If  $X=a\neq\$$   $\rightarrow$  pop  $X$  off the stack and advance input pointer to the next symbol
  - If  $X$  is a non-terminal  $\rightarrow$  Check  $M[X,a]$ 
    - If the entry is a production rule, then replace  $X$  on the stack by the Right Hand Side of the production
    - If the entry is blank, then halt and return failure

# Predictive Parser

## An Example

	id	+	*	(	)	\$
E	E → TE'			E → TE'		
E'		E' → + TE'			E' → ε	E' → ε
T	T → FT'			T → FT'		
T'		T' → ε	T' → * FT'		T' → ε	T' → ε
F	F → id			F → (E)		

Parsing Table

Algorithm Trace →

Stack	Input	Output
\$E	id+id*id\$	
\$E'T	id+id*id\$	E → TE'
\$E'T'F	id+id*id\$	T → FT'
\$E'T'id	id+id*id\$	F → id
\$E'T'	+id*id\$	
\$E'	+id*id\$	T' → ε
\$E'T+	+id*id\$	E' → +TE'
\$E'T	id*id\$	
\$E'T'F	id*id\$	T → FT'
\$E'T'id	id*id\$	F → id
\$E'T'	*id\$	
\$E'T'F*	*id\$	T' → *FT'
\$E'T'F	id\$	
\$E'T'id	id\$	F → id
\$E'T'	\$	
\$E'	\$	T' → ε
\$	\$	E' → ε



# Constructing the Parsing Table I: First and Follow

- First( $\alpha$ ) is the set of terminals that begin the strings derived from  $\alpha$ . Follow(A) is the set of terminals  $a$  that can appear to the right of  $A$ . First and Follow are used in the construction of the parsing table.
- Computing First:
  - If  $X$  is a terminal, then  $\text{First}(X)$  is  $\{X\}$
  - If  $X \rightarrow \epsilon$  is a production, then add  $\epsilon$  to  $\text{First}(X)$
  - If  $X$  is a non-terminal and  $X \rightarrow Y_1 Y_2 \dots Y_k$  is a production, then place  $a$  in  $\text{First}(X)$  if for some  $i$ ,  $a$  is in  $\text{First}(Y_i)$  and  $\epsilon$  is in all of  $\text{First}(Y_1) \dots \text{First}(Y_{i-1})$

# Constructing the Parsing Table II: First and Follow

- Computing Follow:

- Place \$ in Follow(S), where S is the start symbol and \$ is the input right endmarker.
- If there is a production  $A \rightarrow \alpha B \beta$ , then everything in First( $\beta$ ) except for  $\epsilon$  is placed in Follow(B).
- If there is a production  $A \rightarrow \alpha B$ , or a production  $A \rightarrow \alpha B \beta$  where First( $\beta$ ) contains  $\epsilon$ , then everything in Follow(A) is in Follow(B)

Example:  $E \rightarrow TE'$        $E' \rightarrow +TE' \mid \epsilon$   
 $T \rightarrow FT'$        $T' \rightarrow *FT' \mid \epsilon$   
 $F \rightarrow (E) \mid id$

First(E) = First(T) = First(F) = {(, id}      First(E') = {+,  $\epsilon$ }  
 First(T') = {\*,  $\epsilon$ }

Follow(E) = Follow(E') = {), \$}  
 Follow(F) = {+, \*, ), \$}  
 Follow(T) = Follow(T') = {+, ), \$}

# Constructing the Parsing Table III

- Algorithm for constructing a predictive parsing table:
  1. For each production  $A \rightarrow \alpha$  of the grammar, do steps 2 and 3
  2. For each terminal  $a$  in  $\text{First}(\alpha)$ , add  $A \rightarrow \alpha$  to  $M[A, a]$
  3. If  $\epsilon$  is in  $\text{First}(\alpha)$ , add  $A \rightarrow \alpha$  to  $M[A, b]$  for each terminal  $b$  in  $\text{Follow}(A)$ . If  $\epsilon$  is in  $\text{First}(\alpha)$ , add  $A \rightarrow \alpha$  to  $M[A, \$]$  for each terminal  $b$  in  $\text{Follow}(A)$ . If  $\epsilon$  is in  $\text{First}(\alpha)$  and  $\$$  is in  $\text{Follow}(A)$ , add  $A \rightarrow \alpha$  to  $M[A, \$]$ .
  4. Make each undefined entry of  $M$  be an error.

# LL(1) Grammars

- A grammar whose parsing table has no multiply-defined entries is said to be LL(1)
- No ambiguous or left-recursive grammar can be LL(1).
- A grammar  $G$  is LL(1) iff whenever  $A \rightarrow \alpha \mid \beta$  are two distinct productions of  $G$ , then the following conditions hold:
  - For no terminal  $a$  do both  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  derive strings beginning with  $a$
  - At most one of  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  can derive the empty string
  - If  $\beta$  can (directly or indirectly) derive  $\epsilon$ , then  $\alpha$  does not derive any string beginning with a terminal in  $\text{Follow}(A)$ .