

## Plan for Today

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### Context Free Grammars

- Create derivation and parse tree for some examples.
- Use syntax-directed translation of parse tree to evaluate examples.

### Top-down Predictive Parsing

### Logistics

- Office hours Friday 3-4.
- PA2a due Wednesday Feb 18th. Partners posted on Canvas just now due to button pressing issue.

## Derivation, Parse Tree, and Interpretation for Example

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### Grammar

Stm  $\rightarrow$  id := Exp  
Exp  $\rightarrow$  num  
Exp  $\rightarrow$  ( Stm, Exp )

### Parse Tree

### String

x := ( y := 42, 7 )

## How about here?

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### Grammar

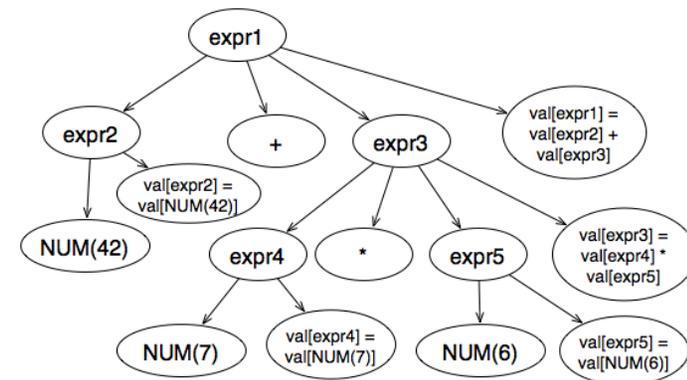
- (1) exp  $\rightarrow$  exp \* exp
- (2) exp  $\rightarrow$  exp + exp
- (3) exp  $\rightarrow$  NUM

### String

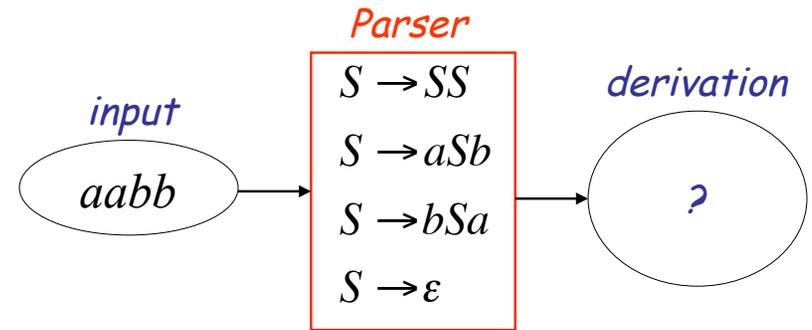
3 + 4 + 5

## Recall Semantic Rules from Monday's Example

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*Example:*



*Exhaustive Search*

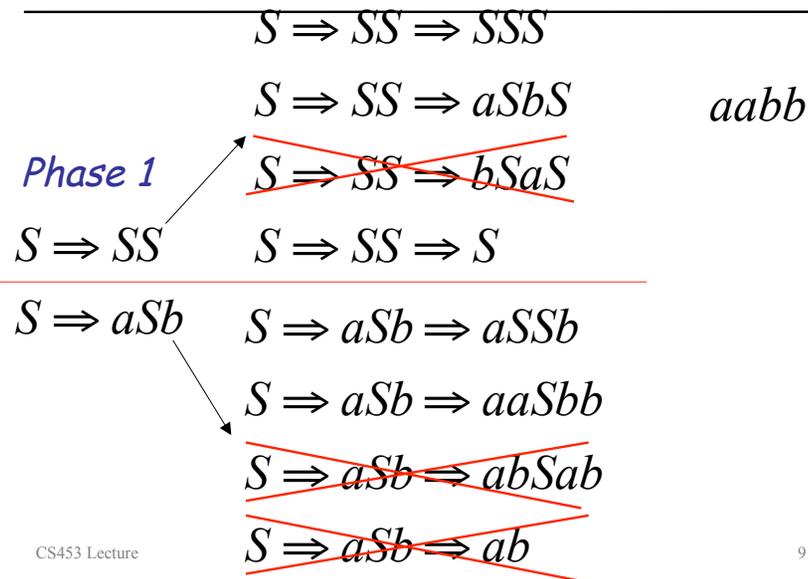
$$S \rightarrow SS \mid aSb \mid bSa \mid \epsilon$$

*Phase 1:*  $S \Rightarrow SS$       *Find derivation of*  
 $S \Rightarrow aSb$               *aabb*  
 $S \Rightarrow bSa$   
 $S \Rightarrow \epsilon$

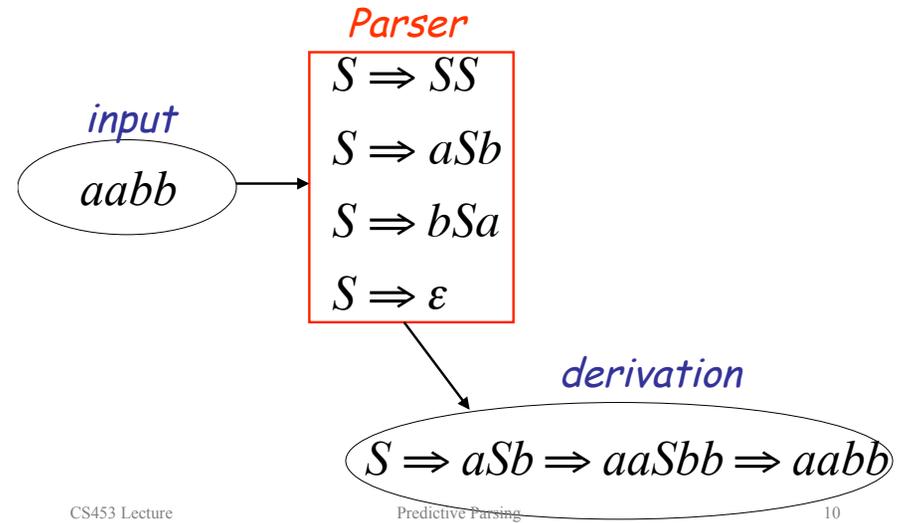
*All possible derivations of length 1*

$S \Rightarrow SS$                       *aabb*  
 $S \Rightarrow aSb$   
 ~~$S \Rightarrow bSa$~~   
 ~~$S \Rightarrow \epsilon$~~

Phase 2  $S \rightarrow SS \mid aSb \mid bSa \mid \epsilon$



Final result of exhaustive search  
(top-down parsing)



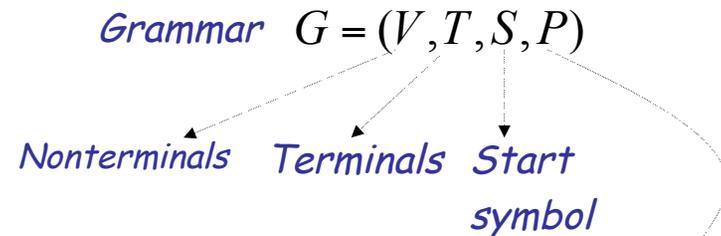
For general context-free grammars:

The exhaustive search approach is extremely costly:  $O(|P||w|)$

There exists a parsing algorithm that parses a string  $w$  in time  $|w|^3$  for any CFG (Earley parser)

For LL(1) grammars, a simple type of CFGs that we will meet soon, we can use Predictive parsing and parse in  $|w|$  time

Context-Free Grammars



Productions of the form:

$$A \rightarrow x$$

Nonterminal   String of symbols,  
Nonterminals and terminals

## Predictive Parsing

Predictive parsing, such as recursive descent parsing, creates the parse tree TOP DOWN, starting at the start symbol, and doing a LEFT-MOST derivation.

For each non-terminal  $N$  there is a function recognizing the strings that can be produced by  $N$ , with one (case) clause for each production.

Consider:

```
start    -> stmts EOF
stmts    -> ε | stmt stmts
stmt     -> ifStmt | whileStmt | ID = NUM
ifStmt   -> IF id { stmts }
whileStmt -> WHILE id { stmts }
```

can each production clause be uniquely identified by looking ahead one token? Let's predictively build the parse tree for  
if t { while b { x = 6 } } S

## Recursive Descent Parsing

Each non-terminal becomes a function

that mimics the RHSs of the productions associated with it and chooses a particular RHS:  
an alternative based on a look-ahead symbol  
and throws an exception if no alternative applies

When does this work?

## Example Predictive Parser: Recursive Descent

```
start    -> stmts EOF
stmts    -> ε | stmt stmts
stmt     -> ifStmt | whileStmt
ifStmt   -> IF id { stmts }
whileStmt -> WHILE id { stmts }
```

```
void start() { switch(m_lookahead) {
  case IF, WHILE, EOF: stmts(); match(Token.Tag.EOF); break;
  default: throw new ParseException(...);
}}
void stmts() { switch(m_lookahead) {
  case IF, WHILE: stmt(); stmts(); break;
  case EOF: break;
  default: throw new ParseException(...);
}}
void stmt() { switch(m_lookahead) {
  case IF: ifStmt(); break;
  case WHILE: whileStmt(); break;
  default: throw new ParseException(...);
}}
void ifStmt() { switch(m_lookahead) {
  case IF: match(id); match(OPENBRACE);
           stmts(); match(CLOSEBRACE); break;
  default: throw new ParseException(...);
}}
```

## First

Given a phrase  $\gamma$  of terminals and non-terminals (a rhs of a production),  $FIRST(\gamma)$  is the set of all terminals that can begin a string derived from  $\gamma$ .

$FIRST(T^*F) = ?$

$FIRST(F) = ?$

$FIRST(XYZ) = FIRST(X) ?$

**NO!  $X$  could produce  $\epsilon$  and then  $FIRST(Y)$  comes into play**

**we must keep track of which non terminals are NULLABLE**

## FIRST example

```
start    -> stmts EOF
stmts    -> ε | stmt stmts
stmt     -> ifStmt | whileStmt | ID = NUM
ifStmt   -> IF id { stmts }
whileStmt -> WHILE id { stmts }
```

## FIRST and FOLLOW sets

### NULLABLE

- X is a nonterminal
- nullable(X) is true if X can derive the empty string

### FIRST

- $FIRST(z) = \{z\}$ , where z is a terminal
- $FIRST(X) = \text{union of all } FIRST(rhs_i)$ , where X is a nonterminal and  $X \rightarrow rhs_i$  is a production
- $FIRST(rhs_i) = \text{union all of } FIRST(sym)$  on rhs up to and including first nonnullable

### FOLLOW(Y), only relevant when Y is a nonterminal

- look for Y in rhs of rules (lhs  $\rightarrow$  rhs) and union all FIRST sets for symbols after Y up to and including first nonnullable
- if all symbols after Y are nullable then also union in FOLLOW(lhs)

## Follow

It also turns out to be useful to determine which terminals can directly **follow** a non terminal X (to decide parsing X is finished).

terminal t is in FOLLOW(X) if there is any derivation containing Xt.

This can occur if the derivation contains XYZt and Y and Z are nullable

## Constructive Definition of nullable, first and follow

for each terminal t,  $FIRST(t) = \{t\}$

Another Transitive Closure algorithm:

keep doing STEP until nothing changes

STEP:

for each production  $X \rightarrow Y_1 Y_2 \dots Y_k$

0: if  $Y_1$  to  $Y_k$  nullable (or  $k=0$ ) nullable(X) = true

for each i from 1 to k, each j from i+1 to k

1: if  $Y_1 \dots Y_{i-1}$  nullable (or  $i=1$ )  $FIRST(X) += FIRST(Y_i)$  //+: union

2: if  $Y_{i+1} \dots Y_k$  nullable (or  $i=k$ )  $FOLLOW(Y_i) += FOLLOW(X)$

3: if  $Y_{i+1} \dots Y_{j-1}$  nullable (or  $i+1=j$ )  $FOLLOW(Y_i) += FIRST(Y_j)$

We can compute nullable, then FIRST, and then FOLLOW

## Class Exercise

Compute nullable, FIRST and FOLLOW for

$Z \rightarrow d \mid X Y Z$   
 $X \rightarrow a \mid Y$   
 $Y \rightarrow c \mid \epsilon$

## Constructing the Predictive Parser Table

A predictive parse table has a row for each non-terminal X, and a column for each input token t. Entries table[X,t] contain productions:

for each X  $\rightarrow$  gamma  
 for each t in FIRST(gamma)  
 table[X,t] = X $\rightarrow$ gamma  
 if gamma is nullable  
 for each t in FOLLOW(X)  
 table[X,t] = X $\rightarrow$ gamma

Compute the predictive

parse table for

$Z \rightarrow d \mid X Y Z$   
 $X \rightarrow a \mid Y$   
 $Y \rightarrow c \mid \epsilon$

	a	c	d
X	X $\rightarrow$ a X $\rightarrow$ Y	X $\rightarrow$ Y	X $\rightarrow$ Y
Y	Y $\rightarrow$ $\epsilon$	Y $\rightarrow$ $\epsilon$ Y $\rightarrow$ c	Y $\rightarrow$ $\epsilon$
Z	Z $\rightarrow$ XYZ	Z $\rightarrow$ XYZ	Z $\rightarrow$ XYZ Z $\rightarrow$ d

## Multiple entries in the Predictive parse table: Ambiguity

An ambiguous grammar will lead to multiple entries in the parse table.

Our grammar IS ambiguous, e.g.  $Z \rightarrow d$   
 but also  $Z \rightarrow XYZ \rightarrow YZ \rightarrow d$

For grammars with no multiple entries in the table, we can use the table to produce one parse tree for each valid sentence. We call these grammars LL(1): Left to right parse, Left-most derivation, 1 symbol lookahead.

A recursive descent parser examines input left to right. The order it expands non-terminals is leftmost first, and it looks ahead 1 token.

## One more time

Balanced parentheses grammar 1:

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

1. Augment the grammar with EOF/\$
2. Construct Nullable, First and Follow
3. Build the predictive parse table, what happens?

## One more time, but this time with feeling ...

Balanced parentheses grammar 2:

$$S \rightarrow (S)S \mid \varepsilon$$

1. Augment the grammar with EOF/\$
2. Construct Nullable, First and Follow
3. Build the predictive parse table
4. Using the predictive parse table, construct the parse tree for  
     $( ) ( ( ) ) \$$   
    and  
     $( ) ( ) ( ) \$$