

Compiler Construction

Lecture 21: Error Handling in Top-Down Parsing & Strongly Noncircular Attribute Grammars

Thomas Noll

Lehrstuhl für Informatik 2
(Software Modeling and Verification)

RWTH Aachen University

`noll@cs.rwth-aachen.de`

`http://www-i2.informatik.rwth-aachen.de/i2/cc10/`

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- 1 Repetition: $LL(1)$ Parsing
- 2 Error Handling in LL Parsing
- 3 Repetition: (Noncircular) Attribute Grammars
- 4 Strongly Noncircular Attribute Grammars

Definition (Lookahead set)

Given $\pi = A \rightarrow \beta \in P$,

$$\text{la}(\pi) := \text{fi}(\beta \cdot \text{fo}(A)) \subseteq \Sigma_\varepsilon$$

is called the **lookahead set** of π (where $\text{fi}(\Gamma) := \bigcup_{\gamma \in \Gamma} \text{fi}(\gamma)$).

Corollary

- ❶ For all $a \in \Sigma$,
 $a \in \text{la}(A \rightarrow \beta)$ iff $a \in \text{fi}(\beta)$ or $(\beta \Rightarrow^* \varepsilon \text{ and } a \in \text{fo}(A))$
- ❷ $\varepsilon \in \text{la}(A \rightarrow \beta)$ iff $\beta \Rightarrow^* \varepsilon$ and $\varepsilon \in \text{fo}(A)$

Characterization of $LL(1)$

Theorem (Characterization of $LL(1)$)

$G \in LL(1)$ iff for all pairs of rules $A \rightarrow \beta \mid \gamma \in P$ (where $\beta \neq \gamma$):

$$\text{la}(A \rightarrow \beta) \cap \text{la}(A \rightarrow \gamma) = \emptyset.$$

Proof.

on the board



Remark: the above theorem generally does not hold if $k > 1$
(cf. exercises)

The Deterministic Top-Down Automaton

Definition (Deterministic top-down parsing automaton)

Let $G = \langle N, \Sigma, P, S \rangle \in LL(1)$. The **deterministic top-down parsing automaton** of G , $DTA(G)$, is defined by the following components.

- **Input alphabet** Σ , **pushdown alphabet** X , **output alphabet** $[p]$
- **Configurations** $\Sigma^* \times X^* \times [p]^*$, **initial configuration** (w, S, ε) , **final configurations** $\{\varepsilon\} \times \{\varepsilon\} \times [p]^*$ (as $NTA(G)$)
- **Action function**
$$\text{act} : \Sigma_\varepsilon \times X_\varepsilon \rightarrow \{(\alpha, i) \mid \pi_i = A \rightarrow \alpha\} \cup \{\text{pop}, \text{accept}, \text{error}\}$$

with $\text{act}(x, A) := (\alpha, i)$ if $\pi_i = A \rightarrow \alpha$ and $x \in \text{la}(\pi_i)$
$$\begin{aligned}\text{act}(a, a) &:= \text{pop} \\ \text{act}(\varepsilon, \varepsilon) &:= \text{accept} \\ \text{act}(x, y) &:= \text{error} \quad \text{otherwise}\end{aligned}$$
- **Transitions** for $x \in \Sigma_\varepsilon$, $w \in \Sigma^*$, $Y \in X$, $\beta \in X^*$, and $z \in [p]^*$:
$$(xw, Y\beta, z) \vdash \begin{cases} (xw, \alpha\beta, zi) & \text{if } \text{act}(x, Y) = (\alpha, i) \\ (w, \beta, z) & \text{if } \text{act}(x, Y) = \text{pop} \end{cases}$$

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Error configurations of $\text{DTA}(G)$:

- $(aw, A\alpha, z)$ where $a \notin \bigcup_{A \rightarrow \beta \in P} \text{la}(A \rightarrow \beta)$ ($\implies \text{act}(a, A) = \text{error}$)
- $(aw, b\alpha, z)$ where $a \neq b$ ($\implies \text{act}(a, b) = \text{error}$)
- $(\varepsilon, A\alpha, z)$ where $\varepsilon \notin \bigcup_{A \rightarrow \beta \in P} \text{la}(A \rightarrow \beta)$ ($\implies \text{act}(\varepsilon, A) = \text{error}$)
- $(\varepsilon, b\alpha, z)$ ($\implies \text{act}(\varepsilon, b) = \text{error}$)
- (aw, ε, z) ($\implies \text{act}(a, \varepsilon) = \text{error}$)

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- $(\varepsilon, b\alpha, z)$ ($\implies \text{act}(\varepsilon, b) = \text{error}$)
- (aw, ε, z) ($\implies \text{act}(a, \varepsilon) = \text{error}$)

Observation: correct prefix property of LL parsing, i.e., syntactic errors are detected at the earliest possible position (every input prefix which does not produce an error can be extended to a word $w \in L(G)$)

Does **not** mean: error is recognized at the position where it is caused!

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Example: assignment `a := b * c - (d + e);`

Possible corrections:

- remove closing bracket: `a := b * c - (d + e);`
- insert opening bracket: `a := b * (c - (d + e));`

The General Problem

- Let $w = xy \in \Sigma^*$ be the input word such that x is the longest prefix of a word in $L(G)$ (i.e., the error is **detected** at the first symbol of y) and $w \notin L(G)$.

The General Problem

- Let $w = xy \in \Sigma^*$ be the input word such that x is the longest prefix of a word in $L(G)$ (i.e., the error is **detected** at the first symbol of y) and $w \notin L(G)$.
- Parser makes assumption about error type and **corrects** w accordingly:
 - Assumes prefix x' of x to be correct
 - Correct prefix property
 $\implies$ there exists $z \in \Sigma^*$ such that $x'z \in L(G)$
 - Parser chooses prefix z' of z and suffix y' of y
 - Parsing resumed with input $w' := x'z'y'$ (at first symbol of z')
(**error recovery**)

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(**error recovery**)
- Desirable properties of correction:
 - At least one symbol of y' can be processed before next error occurs (if $y' \neq \varepsilon$)
 - Preserve as many symbols of w as possible (i.e., x' and y' “long” and z' “short”)

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(**error recovery**)
- Desirable properties of correction:
 - At least one symbol of y' can be processed before next error occurs (if $y' \neq \varepsilon$)
 - Preserve as many symbols of w as possible (i.e., x' and y' “long” and z' “short”)
- $x' \neq x$ hard to implement, therefore usually $x' := x$

Further criteria for “good” error handling:

- Continuation of parsing in any case, independent of severity of error
- High probability of correct error diagnosis
- Suppression of subsequent errors
- Complexity of analyzing correct inputs not impaired

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Observation: no “best method” available

- correction not unique
- experience of programmer
- peculiarities of (programming) language

⇒ employ heuristics

Simplest form of error handling: **panic mode**

Upon occurrence of an error,

- skip input symbols ...
- until a token in a selected set of “separating” or “closing” tokens appears (**synchronizing tokens**)

Panic Mode

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Example: suitable synchronizing tokens in **imperative languages** for

- assignments: “**;**”
- declarations: “**;**” or “**,**”
- control structures: **fi** or **od**
- blocks: **end**

Panic Mode

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Example: suitable synchronizing tokens in **imperative languages** for

- assignments: “;”
- declarations: “;” or “,”
- control structures: **fi** or **od**
- blocks: **end**

Challenge: choose set of synchronizing tokens such that

- parser **recovers quickly** from errors that are likely to occur and
- not too much input is **overread**

(see Aho/Lam/Sethi/Ullman: *Compilers: Principles, Techniques, and Tools*, 2nd ed., pp. 228)

Error Handling Example I

Example 21.1 (cf. Example 9.3)

$$\begin{aligned} G'_{AE} : \quad & E \rightarrow TE' && (1) \\ & E' \rightarrow +TE' \mid \varepsilon && (2, 3) \\ & T \rightarrow FT' && (4) \\ & T' \rightarrow *FT' \mid \varepsilon && (5, 6) \\ & F \rightarrow (E) \mid a \mid b && (7, 8, 9) \end{aligned}$$

$A \in N$	$\text{fo}(A)$
E	$\{\varepsilon,)\}$
E'	$\{\varepsilon,)\}$
T	$\{+, \varepsilon,)\}$
T'	$\{+, \varepsilon,)\}$
F	$\{*, +, \varepsilon,)\}$

Error Handling Example I

Example 21.1 (cf. Example 9.3)

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 G'_{AE} : \quad & E \rightarrow TE' & (1) \\
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 & F \rightarrow (E) \mid a \mid b & (7, 8, 9)
 \end{aligned}$$

$A \in N$	$\text{fo}(A)$
E	$\{\varepsilon,)\}$
E'	$\{\varepsilon,)\}$
T	$\{+, \varepsilon,)\}$
T'	$\{+, \varepsilon,)\}$
F	$\{*, +, \varepsilon,)\}$

With **synchronizing tokens** from fo sets:

$\text{act} : \Sigma_\varepsilon \times X_\varepsilon \rightarrow \{(\alpha, i) \mid \pi_i = A \rightarrow \alpha\} \cup \{\text{pop, accept, error, **sync**}\}$ (empty = error)

act	E	E'	T	T'	F	a	b	$($	$)$	$*$	$+$	ε
a	$(TE', 1)$		$(FT', 4)$		$(a, 8)$	pop	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	
b	$(TE', 1)$		$(FT', 4)$		$(b, 9)$	sync	pop	sync	sync	sync	sync	
(	$(TE', 1)$		$(FT', 4)$		$((E), 7)$	sync	sync	pop	sync	sync	sync	
)	sync	$(\varepsilon, 3)$	sync	$(\varepsilon, 6)$	sync	sync	sync	sync	pop	sync	sync	
*				$(*FT', 5)$	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	pop	sync	
+		$(+TE', 2)$	sync	$(\varepsilon, 6)$	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	pop	
ε	sync	$(\varepsilon, 3)$	sync	$(\varepsilon, 6)$	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	accept

Error Handling Example II

Example 21.1 (continued)

act	E	E'	T	T'	F	a	b	(	)	*	+	ε
a	$(TE', 1)$		$(FT', 4)$		$(a, 8)$	pop	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	
b	$(TE', 1)$		$(FT', 4)$		$(b, 9)$	sync	pop	sync	sync	sync	sync	
(	$(TE', 1)$		$(FT', 4)$		$((E), 7)$	sync	sync	pop	sync	sync	sync	
)	sync	$(\varepsilon, 3)$	sync	$(\varepsilon, 6)$	sync	sync	sync	sync	pop	sync	sync	
*				$(*FT', 5)$	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	pop	sync	
+		$(+TE', 2)$	sync	$(\varepsilon, 6)$	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	pop	
ε	sync	$(\varepsilon, 3)$	sync	$(\varepsilon, 6)$	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	accept

Meaning of table entries:

- act(x, Y) = sync
 $\implies$ pop Y and resume parsing
- act(x, A) = error
 $\implies$ skip x and resume parsing

Error Handling Example II

Example 21.1 (continued)

act	E	E'	T	T'	F	a	b	(	)	*	+	ε
a	$(TE', 1)$		$(FT', 4)$		$(a, 8)$	pop	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	
b	$(TE', 1)$		$(FT', 4)$		$(b, 9)$	sync	pop	sync	sync	sync	sync	
(	$(TE', 1)$		$(FT', 4)$		$((E), 7)$	sync	sync	pop	sync	sync	sync	
)	sync	$(\varepsilon, 3)$	sync	$(\varepsilon, 6)$	sync	sync	sync	sync	pop	sync	sync	
*				$(*FT', 5)$	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	pop	sync	
+		$(+TE', 2)$	sync	$(\varepsilon, 6)$	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	pop	
ε	sync	$(\varepsilon, 3)$	sync	$(\varepsilon, 6)$	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	accept

Meaning of table entries:

- act(x, Y) = sync
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 $\implies$ skip x and resume parsing

$(+a*b, E, \varepsilon)$

Error Handling Example II

Example 21.1 (continued)

act	E	E'	T	T'	F	a	b	(	)	*	+	ε
a	(TE' , 1)		(FT' , 4)		(a, 8)	pop	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	
b	(TE' , 1)		(FT' , 4)		(b, 9)	sync	pop	sync	sync	sync	sync	
(	(TE' , 1)		(FT' , 4)		((E) , 7)	sync	sync	pop	sync	sync	sync	
)	sync	(ε , 3)	sync	(ε , 6)	sync	sync	sync	sync	pop	sync	sync	
*				($*FT'$, 5)	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	pop	sync	
+		($+TE'$, 2)	sync	(ε , 6)	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	pop	
ε	sync	(ε , 3)	sync	(ε , 6)	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	accept

Meaning of table entries:

- act(x , Y) = sync
 $\implies$ pop Y and resume parsing
- act(x , A) = error
 $\implies$ skip x and resume parsing

$(+a*b, E, \varepsilon)$
 $\vdash (a*b, E, \varepsilon)$

Error Handling Example II

Example 21.1 (continued)

act	E	E'	T	T'	F	a	b	(	)	*	+	ε
a	$(TE', 1)$		$(FT', 4)$		$(a, 8)$	pop	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	
b	$(TE', 1)$		$(FT', 4)$		$(b, 9)$	sync	pop	sync	sync	sync	sync	
(	$(TE', 1)$		$(FT', 4)$		$(E), 7)$	sync	sync	pop	sync	sync	sync	
)	sync	$(\varepsilon, 3)$	sync	$(\varepsilon, 6)$	sync	sync	sync	sync	pop	sync	sync	
*				$(*FT', 5)$	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	pop	sync	
+		$(+TE', 2)$	sync	$(\varepsilon, 6)$	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	pop	
ε	sync	$(\varepsilon, 3)$	sync	$(\varepsilon, 6)$	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	accept

Meaning of table entries:

- act(x, Y) = sync
 $\implies$ pop Y and resume parsing
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$(+a*b, E, \varepsilon)$
 $\vdash (a*b, E, \varepsilon)$
 $\vdash (a*b, TE', 1)$

Error Handling Example II

Example 21.1 (continued)

act	E	E'	T	T'	F	a	b	(	)	*	+	ε
a	$(TE', 1)$		$(FT', 4)$		(a, 8)	pop	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	
b	$(TE', 1)$		$(FT', 4)$		(b, 9)	sync	pop	sync	sync	sync	sync	
(	$(TE', 1)$		$(FT', 4)$		$((E), 7)$	sync	sync	pop	sync	sync	sync	
)	sync	$(\varepsilon, 3)$	sync	$(\varepsilon, 6)$	sync	sync	sync	sync	pop	sync	sync	
*				$(*FT', 5)$	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	pop	sync	
+		$(+TE', 2)$	sync	$(\varepsilon, 6)$	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	pop	
ε	sync	$(\varepsilon, 3)$	sync	$(\varepsilon, 6)$	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	accept

Meaning of table entries:

- act(x, Y) = sync
 $\implies$ pop Y and resume parsing
- act(x, A) = error
 $\implies$ skip x and resume parsing

$(+a*b, E, \varepsilon)$
 $\vdash (a*b, E, \varepsilon)$
 $\vdash (a*b, TE', 1)$
 $\vdash (a*b, FT'E', 14)$

Error Handling Example II

Example 21.1 (continued)

act	E	E'	T	T'	F	a	b	(	)	*	+	ε
a	$(TE', 1)$		$(FT', 4)$		$(a, 8)$	pop	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	
b	$(TE', 1)$		$(FT', 4)$		$(b, 9)$	sync	pop	sync	sync	sync	sync	
(	$(TE', 1)$		$(FT', 4)$		$((E), 7)$	sync	sync	pop	sync	sync	sync	
)	sync	$(\varepsilon, 3)$	sync	$(\varepsilon, 6)$	sync	sync	sync	sync	pop	sync	sync	
*				$(*FT', 5)$	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	pop	sync	
+		$(+TE', 2)$	sync	$(\varepsilon, 6)$	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	pop	
ε	sync	$(\varepsilon, 3)$	sync	$(\varepsilon, 6)$	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	accept

Meaning of table entries:

- $\text{act}(x, Y) = \text{sync}$
 $\implies$ pop Y and resume parsing
- $\text{act}(x, A) = \text{error}$
 $\implies$ skip x and resume parsing

$(+a*b, E, \varepsilon)$
 $\vdash (a*b, E, \varepsilon)$
 $\vdash (a*b, TE', 1)$
 $\vdash (a*b, FT'E', 14)$
 $\vdash (a*b, aT'E', 148)$

Error Handling Example II

Example 21.1 (continued)

act	E	E'	T	T'	F	a	b	(	)	*	+	ε
a	$(TE', 1)$		$(FT', 4)$		$(a, 8)$	pop	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	
b	$(TE', 1)$		$(FT', 4)$		$(b, 9)$	sync	pop	sync	sync	sync	sync	
(	$(TE', 1)$		$(FT', 4)$		$((E), 7)$	sync	sync	pop	sync	sync	sync	
)	sync	$(\varepsilon, 3)$	sync	$(\varepsilon, 6)$	sync	sync	sync	sync	pop	sync	sync	
*				$(*FT', 5)$	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	pop	sync	
+		$(+TE', 2)$	sync	$(\varepsilon, 6)$	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	pop	
ε	sync	$(\varepsilon, 3)$	sync	$(\varepsilon, 6)$	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	accept

Meaning of table entries:

$\vdash (*+b, T'E', 148)$

- act(x, Y) = sync
 $\implies$ pop Y and resume parsing
- act(x, A) = error
 $\implies$ skip x and resume parsing

$(+a*+b, E, \varepsilon)$
 $\vdash (a*+b, E, \varepsilon)$
 $\vdash (a*+b, TE', 1)$
 $\vdash (a*+b, FT'E', 14)$
 $\vdash (a*+b, aT'E', 148)$

Error Handling Example II

Example 21.1 (continued)

act	E	E'	T	T'	F	a	b	(	)	*	+	ε
a	$(TE', 1)$		$(FT', 4)$		$(a, 8)$	pop	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	
b	$(TE', 1)$		$(FT', 4)$		$(b, 9)$	sync	pop	sync	sync	sync	sync	
(	$(TE', 1)$		$(FT', 4)$		$((E), 7)$	sync	sync	pop	sync	sync	sync	
)	sync	$(\varepsilon, 3)$	sync	$(\varepsilon, 6)$	sync	sync	sync	sync	pop	sync	sync	
*				$(*FT', 5)$	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	pop	sync	
+		$(+TE', 2)$	sync	$(\varepsilon, 6)$	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	pop	
ε	sync	$(\varepsilon, 3)$	sync	$(\varepsilon, 6)$	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	accept

Meaning of table entries:

$\vdash (*+b, T'E', 148)$
 $\vdash (*+b, *FT'E', 1485)$

- act(x, Y) = sync
 $\implies$ pop Y and resume parsing
- act(x, A) = error
 $\implies$ skip x and resume parsing

$(+a*+b, E, \varepsilon)$
 $\vdash (a*+b, E, \varepsilon)$
 $\vdash (a*+b, TE', 1)$
 $\vdash (a*+b, FT'E', 14)$
 $\vdash (a*+b, aT'E', 148)$

Error Handling Example II

Example 21.1 (continued)

act	E	E'	T	T'	F	a	b	(	)	*	+	ε
a	$(TE', 1)$		$(FT', 4)$		$(a, 8)$	pop	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	
b	$(TE', 1)$		$(FT', 4)$		$(b, 9)$	sync	pop	sync	sync	sync	sync	
(	$(TE', 1)$		$(FT', 4)$		$((E), 7)$	sync	sync	pop	sync	sync	sync	
)	sync	$(\varepsilon, 3)$	sync	$(\varepsilon, 6)$	sync	sync	sync	sync	pop	sync	sync	
*				$(*FT', 5)$	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	pop	sync	
+		$(+TE', 2)$	sync	$(\varepsilon, 6)$	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	pop	
ε	sync	$(\varepsilon, 3)$	sync	$(\varepsilon, 6)$	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	accept

Meaning of table entries:

$\vdash (*b, T'E', 148)$
 $\vdash (*b, *FT'E', 1485)$
 $\vdash (+b, FT'E', 1485)$

- act(x, Y) = sync
 $\implies$ pop Y and resume parsing
- act(x, A) = error
 $\implies$ skip x and resume parsing

$(+a*b, E, \varepsilon)$
 $\vdash (a*b, E, \varepsilon)$
 $\vdash (a*b, TE', 1)$
 $\vdash (a*b, FT'E', 14)$
 $\vdash (a*b, aT'E', 148)$

Error Handling Example II

Example 21.1 (continued)

act	E	E'	T	T'	F	a	b	(	)	*	+	ε
a	$(TE', 1)$		$(FT', 4)$		$(a, 8)$	pop	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	
b	$(TE', 1)$		$(FT', 4)$		$(b, 9)$	sync	pop	sync	sync	sync	sync	
(	$(TE', 1)$		$(FT', 4)$		$(E), 7)$	sync	sync	pop	sync	sync	sync	
)	sync	$(\varepsilon, 3)$	sync	$(\varepsilon, 6)$	sync	sync	sync	sync	pop	sync	sync	
*				$(*FT', 5)$	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	pop	sync	
+		$(+TE', 2)$	sync	$(\varepsilon, 6)$	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	pop	
ε	sync	$(\varepsilon, 3)$	sync	$(\varepsilon, 6)$	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	accept

Meaning of table entries:

- act(x, Y) = sync
 $\implies$ pop Y and resume parsing
- act(x, A) = error
 $\implies$ skip x and resume parsing

$\vdash (*+b, T'E', 148)$
 $\vdash (*+b, *FT'E', 1485)$
 $\vdash (+b, FT'E', 1485)$
 $\vdash (+b, T'E', 1485)$

$(+a*+b, E, \varepsilon)$
 $\vdash (a*+b, E, \varepsilon)$
 $\vdash (a*+b, TE', 1)$
 $\vdash (a*+b, FT'E', 14)$
 $\vdash (a*+b, aT'E', 148)$

Error Handling Example II

Example 21.1 (continued)

act	E	E'	T	T'	F	a	b	$($	$)$	$*$	$+$	ε
a	$(TE', 1)$		$(FT', 4)$		$(a, 8)$	pop	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	
b	$(TE', 1)$		$(FT', 4)$		$(b, 9)$	sync	pop	sync	sync	sync	sync	
$($	$(TE', 1)$		$(FT', 4)$		$(E), 7)$	sync	sync	pop	sync	sync	sync	
$)$	sync	$(\varepsilon, 3)$	sync	$(\varepsilon, 6)$	sync	sync	sync	sync	pop	sync	sync	
$*$				$(*FT', 5)$	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	pop	sync	
$+$		$(+TE', 2)$	sync	$(\varepsilon, 6)$	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	pop	
ε	sync	$(\varepsilon, 3)$	sync	$(\varepsilon, 6)$	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	accept

Meaning of table entries:

- act(x, Y) = sync
 $\implies$ pop Y and resume parsing
- act(x, A) = error
 $\implies$ skip x and resume parsing

$\vdash (*b, T'E', 148)$
 $\vdash (*b, *FT'E', 1485)$
 $\vdash (+b, FT'E', 1485)$
 $\vdash (+b, T'E', 1485)$
 $\vdash (+b, E', 14856)$

$(+a*b, E, \varepsilon)$
 $\vdash (a*b, E, \varepsilon)$
 $\vdash (a*b, TE', 1)$
 $\vdash (a*b, FT'E', 14)$
 $\vdash (a*b, aT'E', 148)$

Error Handling Example II

Example 21.1 (continued)

act	E	E'	T	T'	F	a	b	$($	$)$	$*$	$+$	ε
a	$(TE', 1)$		$(FT', 4)$		$(a, 8)$	pop	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	
b	$(TE', 1)$		$(FT', 4)$		$(b, 9)$	sync	pop	sync	sync	sync	sync	
$($	$(TE', 1)$		$(FT', 4)$		$(E), 7)$	sync	sync	pop	sync	sync	sync	
$)$	sync	$(\varepsilon, 3)$	sync	$(\varepsilon, 6)$	sync	sync	sync	sync	pop	sync	sync	
$*$				$(*FT', 5)$	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	pop	sync	
$+$		$(+TE', 2)$	sync	$(\varepsilon, 6)$	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	pop	
ε	sync	$(\varepsilon, 3)$	sync	$(\varepsilon, 6)$	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	accept

Meaning of table entries:

- act(x, Y) = sync
 $\implies$ pop Y and resume parsing
- act(x, A) = error
 $\implies$ skip x and resume parsing

$\vdash (*b, T'E', 148)$
 $\vdash (*b, *FT'E', 1485)$
 $\vdash (+b, FT'E', 1485)$
 $\vdash (+b, T'E', 1485)$
 $\vdash (+b, E', 14856)$
 $\vdash (+b, +TE', 148562)$

$(+a*b, E, \varepsilon)$
 $\vdash (a*b, E, \varepsilon)$
 $\vdash (a*b, TE', 1)$
 $\vdash (a*b, FT'E', 14)$
 $\vdash (a*b, aT'E', 148)$

Error Handling Example II

Example 21.1 (continued)

act	E	E'	T	T'	F	a	b	$($	$)$	$*$	$+$	ε
a	$(TE', 1)$		$(FT', 4)$		$(a, 8)$	pop	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	
b	$(TE', 1)$		$(FT', 4)$		$(b, 9)$	sync	pop	sync	sync	sync	sync	
$($	$(TE', 1)$		$(FT', 4)$		$(E), 7)$	sync	sync	pop	sync	sync	sync	
$)$	sync	$(\varepsilon, 3)$	sync	$(\varepsilon, 6)$	sync	sync	sync	sync	pop	sync	sync	
$*$				$(*FT', 5)$	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	pop	sync	
$+$		$(+TE', 2)$	sync	$(\varepsilon, 6)$	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	pop	
ε	sync	$(\varepsilon, 3)$	sync	$(\varepsilon, 6)$	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	accept

Meaning of table entries:

- act(x, Y) = sync
 $\implies$ pop Y and resume parsing
- act(x, A) = error
 $\implies$ skip x and resume parsing

$(+a*b, E, \varepsilon)$
 $\vdash (a*b, E, \varepsilon)$
 $\vdash (a*b, TE', 1)$
 $\vdash (a*b, FT'E', 14)$
 $\vdash (a*b, aT'E', 148)$

$\vdash (*b, T'E', 148)$
 $\vdash (*b, *FT'E', 1485)$
 $\vdash (+b, FT'E', 1485)$
 $\vdash (+b, T'E', 1485)$
 $\vdash (+b, E', 14856)$
 $\vdash (+b, +TE', 148562)$
 $\vdash (b, TE', 148562)$

Error Handling Example II

Example 21.1 (continued)

act	E	E'	T	T'	F	a	b	(	)	*	+	ε
a	(TE' , 1)		(FT' , 4)		(a, 8)	pop	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	
b	(TE' , 1)		(FT' , 4)		(b, 9)	sync	pop	sync	sync	sync	sync	
(	(TE' , 1)		(FT' , 4)		((E) , 7)	sync	sync	pop	sync	sync	sync	
)	sync	(ε , 3)	sync	(ε , 6)	sync	sync	sync	sync	pop	sync	sync	
*				($*FT'$, 5)	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	pop	sync	
+		($+TE'$, 2)	sync	(ε , 6)	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	pop	
ε	sync	(ε , 3)	sync	(ε , 6)	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	accept

Meaning of table entries:

- act(x , Y) = sync
 $\implies$ pop Y and resume parsing
- act(x , A) = error
 $\implies$ skip x and resume parsing

($+a*b$, E , ε)
 $\vdash$ ($a*b$, E , ε)
 $\vdash$ ($a*b$, TE' , 1)
 $\vdash$ ($a*b$, $FT'E'$, 14)
 $\vdash$ ($a*b$, $aT'E'$, 148)

$\vdash$ ($*b$, $T'E'$, 148)
 $\vdash$ ($*b$, $*FT'E'$, 1485)
 $\vdash$ ($+b$, $FT'E'$, 1485)
 $\vdash$ ($+b$, $T'E'$, 1485)
 $\vdash$ ($+b$, E' , 14856)
 $\vdash$ ($+b$, $+TE'$, 148562)
 $\vdash$ (b , TE' , 148562)
 $\vdash$ (b , $FT'E'$, 1485624)

Error Handling Example II

Example 21.1 (continued)

act	E	E'	T	T'	F	a	b	(	)	*	+	ε
a	$(TE', 1)$		$(FT', 4)$		$(a, 8)$	pop	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	
b	$(TE', 1)$		$(FT', 4)$		$(b, 9)$	sync	pop	sync	sync	sync	sync	
(	$(TE', 1)$		$(FT', 4)$		$((E), 7)$	sync	sync	pop	sync	sync	sync	
)	sync	$(\varepsilon, 3)$	sync	$(\varepsilon, 6)$	sync	sync	sync	sync	pop	sync	sync	
*				$(*FT', 5)$	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	pop	sync	
+		$(+TE', 2)$	sync	$(\varepsilon, 6)$	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	pop	
ε	sync	$(\varepsilon, 3)$	sync	$(\varepsilon, 6)$	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	accept

Meaning of table entries:

- act(x, Y) = sync
 $\implies$ pop Y and resume parsing
- act(x, A) = error
 $\implies$ skip x and resume parsing

$(+a*+b, E, \varepsilon)$
 $\vdash (a*+b, E, \varepsilon)$
 $\vdash (a*+b, TE', 1)$
 $\vdash (a*+b, FT'E', 14)$
 $\vdash (a*+b, aT'E', 148)$

$\vdash (*+b, T'E', 148)$
 $\vdash (*+b, *FT'E', 1485)$
 $\vdash (+b, FT'E', 1485)$
 $\vdash (+b, T'E', 1485)$
 $\vdash (+b, E', 14856)$
 $\vdash (+b, +TE', 148562)$
 $\vdash (b, TE', 148562)$
 $\vdash (b, FT'E', 1485624)$
 $\vdash (b, bT'E', 14856249)$

Error Handling Example II

Example 21.1 (continued)

act	E	E'	T	T'	F	a	b	$($	$)$	$*$	$+$	ε
a	$(TE', 1)$		$(FT', 4)$		$(a, 8)$	pop	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	
b	$(TE', 1)$		$(FT', 4)$		$(b, 9)$	sync	pop	sync	sync	sync	sync	
$($	$(TE', 1)$		$(FT', 4)$		$(E), 7)$	sync	sync	pop	sync	sync	sync	
$)$	sync	$(\varepsilon, 3)$	sync	$(\varepsilon, 6)$	sync	sync	sync	sync	pop	sync	sync	
$*$				$(*FT', 5)$	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	pop	sync	
$+$		$(+TE', 2)$	sync	$(\varepsilon, 6)$	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	pop	
ε	sync	$(\varepsilon, 3)$	sync	$(\varepsilon, 6)$	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	accept

Meaning of table entries:

- act(x, Y) = sync
 $\implies$ pop Y and resume parsing
- act(x, A) = error
 $\implies$ skip x and resume parsing

$(+a*b, E, \varepsilon)$
 $\vdash (a*b, E, \varepsilon)$
 $\vdash (a*b, TE', 1)$
 $\vdash (a*b, FT'E', 14)$
 $\vdash (a*b, aT'E', 148)$

$\vdash (*b, T'E', 148)$
 $\vdash (*b, *FT'E', 1485)$
 $\vdash (+b, FT'E', 1485)$
 $\vdash (+b, T'E', 1485)$
 $\vdash (+b, E', 14856)$
 $\vdash (+b, +TE', 148562)$
 $\vdash (b, TE', 148562)$
 $\vdash (b, FT'E', 1485624)$
 $\vdash (b, bT'E', 14856249)$
 $\vdash (\varepsilon, T'E', 14856249)$

Error Handling Example II

Example 21.1 (continued)

act	E	E'	T	T'	F	a	b	$($	$)$	$*$	$+$	ε
a	$(TE', 1)$		$(FT', 4)$		$(a, 8)$	pop	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	
b	$(TE', 1)$		$(FT', 4)$		$(b, 9)$	sync	pop	sync	sync	sync	sync	
(	$(TE', 1)$		$(FT', 4)$		$(E), 7)$	sync	sync	pop	sync	sync	sync	
)	sync	$(\varepsilon, 3)$	sync	$(\varepsilon, 6)$	sync	sync	sync	sync	pop	sync	sync	
*				$(*FT', 5)$	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	pop	sync	
+		$(+TE', 2)$	sync	$(\varepsilon, 6)$	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	pop	
ε	sync	$(\varepsilon, 3)$	sync	$(\varepsilon, 6)$	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	accept

Meaning of table entries:

- act(x, Y) = sync
 $\implies$ pop Y and resume parsing
- act(x, A) = error
 $\implies$ skip x and resume parsing

$(+a*b, E, \varepsilon)$
 $\vdash (a*b, E, \varepsilon)$
 $\vdash (a*b, TE', 1)$
 $\vdash (a*b, FT'E', 14)$
 $\vdash (a*b, aT'E', 148)$

$\vdash (*b, T'E', 148)$
 $\vdash (*b, *FT'E', 1485)$
 $\vdash (+b, FT'E', 1485)$
 $\vdash (+b, T'E', 1485)$
 $\vdash (+b, E', 14856)$
 $\vdash (+b, +TE', 148562)$
 $\vdash (b, TE', 148562)$
 $\vdash (b, FT'E', 1485624)$
 $\vdash (b, bT'E', 14856249)$
 $\vdash (\varepsilon, T'E', 14856249)$
 $\vdash (\varepsilon, E', 148562496)$

Error Handling Example II

Example 21.1 (continued)

act	E	E'	T	T'	F	a	b	(	)	*	+	ε
a	$(TE', 1)$		$(FT', 4)$		$(a, 8)$	pop	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	
b	$(TE', 1)$		$(FT', 4)$		$(b, 9)$	sync	pop	sync	sync	sync	sync	
(	$(TE', 1)$		$(FT', 4)$		$(E), 7)$	sync	sync	pop	sync	sync	sync	
)	sync	$(\varepsilon, 3)$	sync	$(\varepsilon, 6)$	sync	sync	sync	sync	pop	sync	sync	
*				$(*FT', 5)$	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	pop	sync	
+		$(+TE', 2)$	sync	$(\varepsilon, 6)$	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	pop	
ε	sync	$(\varepsilon, 3)$	sync	$(\varepsilon, 6)$	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	sync	accept

Meaning of table entries:

- act(x, Y) = sync
 $\implies$ pop Y and resume parsing
- act(x, A) = error
 $\implies$ skip x and resume parsing

$(+a*+b, E, \varepsilon)$
 $\vdash (a*+b, E, \varepsilon)$
 $\vdash (a*+b, TE', 1)$
 $\vdash (a*+b, FT'E', 14)$
 $\vdash (a*+b, aT'E', 148)$

$\vdash (*+b, T'E', 148)$
 $\vdash (*+b, *FT'E', 1485)$
 $\vdash (+b, FT'E', 1485)$
 $\vdash (+b, T'E', 1485)$
 $\vdash (+b, E', 14856)$
 $\vdash (+b, +TE', 148562)$
 $\vdash (b, TE', 148562)$
 $\vdash (b, FT'E', 1485624)$
 $\vdash (b, bT'E', 14856249)$
 $\vdash (\varepsilon, T'E', 14856249)$
 $\vdash (\varepsilon, E', 148562496)$
 $\vdash (\varepsilon, \varepsilon, 1485624963)$

- 1 Repetition: $LL(1)$ Parsing
- 2 Error Handling in LL Parsing
- 3 Repetition: (Noncircular) Attribute Grammars
- 4 Strongly Noncircular Attribute Grammars

Formal Definition of Attribute Grammars

Definition (Attribute grammar)

Let $G = \langle N, \Sigma, P, S \rangle \in CFG_\Sigma$ with $X := N \uplus \Sigma$.

- Let $Att = Syn \uplus Inh$ be a set of (synthesized or inherited) attributes, and let $V = \bigcup_{\alpha \in Att} V^\alpha$ be a union of value sets.
- Let $att : X \rightarrow 2^{Att}$ be an attribute assignment, and let $syn(Y) := att(Y) \cap Syn$ and $inh(Y) := att(Y) \cap Inh$ for every $Y \in X$.
- Every production $\pi = Y_0 \rightarrow Y_1 \dots Y_r \in P$ determines the set
$$Var_\pi := \{\alpha.i \mid \alpha \in att(Y_i), i \in \{0, \dots, r\}\}$$
of attribute variables of π with the subsets of inner and outer variables:
$$In_\pi := \{\alpha.i \mid (i = 0, \alpha \in syn(Y_i)) \text{ or } (i \in [r], \alpha \in inh(Y_i))\}$$
$$Out_\pi := Var_\pi \setminus In_\pi$$
- A semantic rule of π is an equation of the form
$$\alpha.i = f(\alpha_1.i_1, \dots, \alpha_n.i_n)$$
where $n \in \mathbb{N}$, $\alpha.i \in In_\pi$, $\alpha_j.i_j \in Out_\pi$, and $f : V^{\alpha_1} \times \dots \times V^{\alpha_n} \rightarrow V^\alpha$.
- For each $\pi \in P$, let E_π be a set with exactly one semantic rule for every inner variable of π , and let $E := (E_\pi \mid \pi \in P)$.

Then $\mathfrak{A} := \langle G, E, V \rangle$ is called an attribute grammar: $\mathfrak{A} \in AG$.

Definition (Attribution of syntax trees)

Let $\mathfrak{A} = \langle G, E, V \rangle \in AG$, and let t be a syntax tree of G with the set of nodes K .

- K determines the set of **attribute variables of t** :

$$Var_t := \{\alpha.k \mid k \in K \text{ labelled with } Y \in X, \alpha \in \text{att}(Y)\}.$$

- Let $k_0 \in K$ be an (inner) node where production $\pi = Y_0 \rightarrow Y_1 \dots Y_r \in P$ is applied, and let $k_1, \dots, k_r \in K$ be the corresponding successor nodes. The **attribute equation system** E_{k_0} of k_0 is obtained from E_π by substituting every attribute index $i \in \{0, \dots, r\}$ by k_i .
- The **attribute equation system** of t is given by

$$E_t := \bigcup \{E_k \mid k \text{ inner node of } t\}.$$

Goal: **unique solvability** of equation system
 $\implies$ avoid cyclic dependencies

Definition (Circularity)

An attribute grammar $\mathfrak{A} = \langle G, E, V \rangle \in AG$ is called **circular** if there exists a syntax tree t such that the attribute equation system E_t is recursive (i.e., some attribute variable of t depends on itself). Otherwise it is called **noncircular**.

Remark: because of the division of Var_π into In_π and Out_π , cyclic dependencies cannot occur at production level (see Corollary 16.8).

Observation: a cycle in the dependency graph D_t of a given syntax tree t is caused by the occurrence of a “cover” production

$\pi = A_0 \rightarrow w_0 A_1 w_1 \dots A_r w_r \in P$ in a node k_0 of t such that

- the dependencies in E_{k_0} yield the “upper end” of the cycle and
- for at least one $i \in [r]$, some attributes in $\text{syn}(A_i)$ depend on attributes in $\text{inh}(A_i)$.

Example

on the board

To identify such “critical” situations we need to determine for each $i \in [r]$ the possible ways in which attributes in $\text{syn}(A_i)$ can depend on attributes in $\text{inh}(A_i)$.

Definition (Attribute dependence)

Let $\mathfrak{A} = \langle G, E, V \rangle \in AG$ with $G = \langle N, \Sigma, P, S \rangle$.

- If t is a syntax tree with root label $A \in N$ and root node k , $\alpha \in \text{syn}(A)$, and $\beta \in \text{inh}(A)$ such that $\beta.k \rightarrow_t^+ \alpha.k$, then **α is dependent on β below A in t** (notation: $\beta \xrightarrow{A} \alpha$).
- For every syntax tree t with root label $A \in N$,
$$\text{is}(A, t) := \{(\beta, \alpha) \in \text{inh}(A) \times \text{syn}(A) \mid \beta \xrightarrow{A} \alpha \text{ in } t\}.$$
- For every $A \in N$,
$$\text{IS}(A) := \{\text{is}(A, t) \mid t \text{ syntax tree with root label } A\} \\ \subseteq 2^{\text{Inh} \times \text{Syn}}.$$

Remark: it is important that $\text{IS}(A)$ is a **system** of attribute dependence sets, not a **union** (later: **strong noncircularity**).

Example

on the board

- 1 Repetition: $LL(1)$ Parsing
- 2 Error Handling in LL Parsing
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Simplifying the Circularity Test

Idea: to simplify the circularity test, do not distinguish between attribute dependences which are caused by **different syntax trees**

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Definition 21.2 (Attribute dependence (modified))

Let $\mathfrak{A} = \langle G, E, V \rangle \in AG$ with $G = \langle N, \Sigma, P, S \rangle$.

- Reminder: if t is a syntax tree with root label $A \in N$ and root node k , $\alpha \in \text{syn}(A)$, and $\beta \in \text{inh}(A)$ such that $\beta.k \rightarrow_t^+ \alpha.k$, then α **is dependent on β below A in t** (notation: $\beta \xrightarrow{A} \alpha$).

Simplifying the Circularity Test

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- Reminder: if t is a syntax tree with root label $A \in N$ and root node k , $\alpha \in \text{syn}(A)$, and $\beta \in \text{inh}(A)$ such that $\beta.k \rightarrow_t^+ \alpha.k$, then α is dependent on β below A in t (notation: $\beta \xrightarrow{A} \alpha$).
- For every $A \in N$,

$$\begin{aligned} IS'(A) &:= \{(\beta, \alpha) \mid \beta \xrightarrow{A} \alpha \text{ in some syntax tree with root label } A\} \\ &\subseteq \text{Inh} \times \text{Syn} \end{aligned}$$

The Strong Circularity Test

Algorithm 21.3 (Strong circularity test for attribute grammars)

Input: $\mathfrak{A} = \langle G, E, V \rangle \in AG$ with $G = \langle N, \Sigma, P, S \rangle$

The Strong Circularity Test

Algorithm 21.3 (Strong circularity test for attribute grammars)

Input: $\mathfrak{A} = \langle G, E, V \rangle \in AG$ with $G = \langle N, \Sigma, P, S \rangle$

Procedure: ① for every $A \in N$, *iteratively construct* $IS'(A)$ as follows:

- ① if $\pi = A \rightarrow w \in P$, then $is[\pi] \subseteq IS'(A)$
- ② if $\pi = A \rightarrow w_0 A_1 w_1 \dots A_r w_r \in P$, then $is[\pi; IS'(A_1), \dots, IS'(A_r)] \subseteq IS'(A)$

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② test whether there exists

$\pi = A \rightarrow w_0 A_1 w_1 \dots A_r w_r \in P$ such that the following relation is *cyclic*:

$$\rightarrow_\pi \cup \bigcup_{i=1}^r \{(\beta.p_i, \alpha.p_i) \mid (\beta, \alpha) \in IS'(A_i)\}$$

(where $p_i := \sum_{j=1}^i |w_{j-1}| + i$)

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Output: “yes” or “no”

The Strong Circularity Test

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Input: $\mathfrak{A} = \langle G, E, V \rangle \in AG$ with $G = \langle N, \Sigma, P, S \rangle$

Procedure: ① for every $A \in N$, *iteratively construct* $IS'(A)$ as follows:

① if $\pi = A \rightarrow w \in P$, then $is[\pi] \subseteq IS'(A)$

② if $\pi = A \rightarrow w_0 A_1 w_1 \dots A_r w_r \in P$, then $is[\pi; IS'(A_1), \dots, IS'(A_r)] \subseteq IS'(A)$

② test whether there exists

$\pi = A \rightarrow w_0 A_1 w_1 \dots A_r w_r \in P$ such that the following relation is *cyclic*:

$$\rightarrow_\pi \cup \bigcup_{i=1}^r \{(\beta.p_i, \alpha.p_i) \mid (\beta, \alpha) \in IS'(A_i)\}$$

(where $p_i := \sum_{j=1}^i |w_{j-1}| + i$)

Output: “yes” or “no”

Example 21.4

on the board

Strongly Noncircular Attribute Grammars

Definition 21.5 (Strong noncircularity)

An attribute grammar is called **strongly noncircular** if Algorithm 21.3 yields the answer “no”.

Strongly Noncircular Attribute Grammars

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An attribute grammar is called **strongly noncircular** if Algorithm 21.3 yields the answer “no”.

Lemma 21.6

*The time complexity of the strong circularity test is **polynomial** in the size of the attribute grammar (= maximal length of right-hand sides of productions).*

Strongly Noncircular Attribute Grammars

Definition 21.5 (Strong noncircularity)

An attribute grammar is called **strongly noncircular** if Algorithm 21.3 yields the answer “no”.

Lemma 21.6

*The time complexity of the strong circularity test is **polynomial** in the size of the attribute grammar (= maximal length of right-hand sides of productions).*

Proof.

omitted

