# MIT 6.035 <br> Parse Table Construction 

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## Parse Tables (Review)

|  |  | ACTION |  | Goto |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| State | $($ | $)$ | $\$$ | X |
| s0 | shift to s2 | error | error | goto s1 |
| s1 | error | error | accept |  |
| s2 | shift to s2 | shift to s5 | error | goto s3 |
| s3 | error | shift to s4 | error |  |
| s4 | reduce (2) | reduce (2) | reduce (2) |  |
| s5 | reduce (3) | reduce (3) | reduce (3) |  |

- I mplements finite state control
- At each step, look up
- Table[top of state stack] [ input symbol]
- Then carry out the action


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| s2 | shift to s2 | shift to s5 | error | goto s3 |
| s3 | error | shift to s4 | error |  |
| s4 | reduce (2) | reduce (2) | reduce (2) |  |
| s5 | reduce (3) | reduce (3) | reduce (3) |  |

- Shift to $\mathrm{s} n$
- Push input token into the symbol stack
- Push sn into state stack
- Advance to next input symbol


## Parse Tables (Review)

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| s0 | shift to s2 | error | error | goto s1 |
| s1 | error | error | accept |  |
| s2 | shift to s2 | shift to s5 | error | goto s3 |
| s3 | error | shift to s4 | error |  |
| s4 | reduce (2) | reduce (2) | reduce (2) |  |
| s5 | reduce (3) | reduce (3) | reduce (3) |  |

- Reduce ( $n$ )
- Pop both stacks as many times as the number of symbols on the RHS of rule $n$
- Push LHS of rule $n$ into symbol stack


## Parser Generators and Parse Tables

- Parser generator (YACC, CUP)
- Given a grammar
- Produces a (shift-reduce) parser for that grammar
- Process grammar to synthesize a DFA
- Contains states that the parser can be in
- State transitions for terminals and non-terminals
- Use DFA to create an parse table
- Use parse table to generate code for parser


## Example

- The grammar

$$
\begin{aligned}
& S \rightarrow X \$ \\
& X \rightarrow(X) \\
& X \rightarrow(\quad)
\end{aligned}
$$

## DFA States Based on Items

- We need to capture how much of a given production we have scanned so far



## Items

- We need to capture how much of a given production we have scanned so far

- Production Generates 4 items
- $X \rightarrow$ • $(X)$
- $X \rightarrow \quad(\cdot X)$
- $X \rightarrow \quad(X \cdot)$
- $X \rightarrow \quad(X)$ •


## Example of Items

- The grammar

$$
\begin{aligned}
& S \rightarrow X \$ \\
& X \rightarrow(X) \\
& X \rightarrow(\quad)
\end{aligned}
$$

- Items

$$
\begin{aligned}
& S \rightarrow \bullet X \$ \\
& S \rightarrow X \cdot \$ \\
& X \rightarrow \cdot(X) \\
& X \rightarrow(\cdot X) \\
& X \rightarrow(X \cdot) \\
& X \rightarrow(X) \cdot \\
& X \rightarrow \bullet() \\
& X \rightarrow(\bullet) \\
& X \rightarrow(\quad) \cdot
\end{aligned}
$$

## Notation

- If write production as $A \rightarrow \alpha$ c $\beta$
- $\alpha$ is sequence of grammar symbols, can be terminals and nonterminals in sequence
- c is terminal
- $\beta$ is sequence of grammar symbols, can be terminals and nonterminals in sequence
- If write production as $\mathrm{A} \rightarrow \alpha \cdot \mathrm{B} \beta$
- $\alpha, \beta$ as above
- B is a single grammar symbol, either terminal or nonterminal


## Key idea behind items

- States correspond to sets of items
- If the state contains the item $A \rightarrow \alpha \cdot \mathrm{c} \beta$

Parser is expecting to eventually reduce using the production $\mathrm{A} \rightarrow \alpha$ c $\beta$

- Parser has already parsed an $\alpha$
- It expects the input may contain $c$, then $\beta$
- If the state contains the item $\mathrm{A} \rightarrow \alpha$ -
- Parser has already parsed an $\alpha$
- Will reduce using $A \rightarrow \alpha$
- It the state contains the item $\mathrm{S} \rightarrow \alpha \cdot \$$ and the input buffer is empty
- Parser accepts input


## Correlating Items and Actions

- If the current state contains the item $\mathrm{A} \rightarrow \alpha \cdot \mathrm{C} \beta$ and the current symbol in the input buffer is C
- Parser shifts c onto stack
- Next state will contain $A \rightarrow \alpha c \cdot \beta$
- If the current state contains the item $\mathrm{A} \rightarrow \alpha$ -
- Parser reduces using $A \rightarrow \alpha$
- If the current state contains the item $\mathrm{S} \rightarrow \alpha \cdot \$$ and the input buffer is empty
- Parser accepts input


## Closure() of a set of items

- Closure finds all the items in the same "state"
- Fixed Point Algorithm for Closure(I)
- Every item in I is also an item in Closure(I) If $A \rightarrow \alpha \quad B \beta$ is in Closure(I) and $B \rightarrow \quad \gamma$ is an item, then add $\mathrm{B} \rightarrow \cdot \gamma$ to Closure(I)
- Repeat until no more new items can be added to Closure(I)

Example of Closure

- Closure $(\{x \rightarrow(\cdot x)\})$

$$
\left\{\begin{array}{l}
X \rightarrow \quad(\cdot X) \\
X \rightarrow \cdot(X) \\
X \rightarrow \cdot(\quad)
\end{array}\right.
$$

- Items

$$
\begin{aligned}
& S \rightarrow \bullet X \$ \\
& S \rightarrow X \bullet \$ \\
& X \rightarrow \bullet(X) \\
& X \rightarrow(\bullet X) \\
& X \rightarrow(X \bullet) \\
& X \rightarrow(X) \bullet \\
& X \rightarrow \bullet(\quad) \\
& X \rightarrow(\bullet) \\
& X \rightarrow(\quad)
\end{aligned}
$$

## Another Example

- closure( $\{S \rightarrow$ • $X \$\}$ )

$$
\left\{\begin{array}{l}
S \rightarrow \quad \cdot x \$ \\
x \rightarrow \cdot(x) \\
x \rightarrow \cdot(\quad)
\end{array}\right.
$$

$$
\}
$$

- Items

$$
\begin{aligned}
& S \rightarrow \bullet X \$ \\
& S \rightarrow X \bullet \$ \\
& X \rightarrow \cdot(X) \\
& X \rightarrow(\cdot X) \\
& X \rightarrow(X \cdot) \\
& X \rightarrow(X) \bullet \\
& X \rightarrow \bullet() \\
& X \rightarrow(\bullet) \\
& X \rightarrow(\quad) \cdot
\end{aligned}
$$

## Goto() of a set of items

- Goto finds the new state after consuming a grammar symbol while at the current state
- Algorithm for Goto(I, X) where $I$ is a set of items and X is a grammar symbol

Goto(I, X) $=$ Closure( $\{A \rightarrow \alpha X \cdot \beta \mid A \rightarrow \alpha \cdot X \beta$ in $I\})$

- goto is the new set obtained by "moving the dot" over X

Example of Goto

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { - Goto }(\{X \rightarrow(\cdot X)\}, X) \\
& \{x \rightarrow(x \cdot)
\end{aligned}
$$

- Items

$$
\begin{aligned}
& S \rightarrow \bullet X \$ \\
& S \rightarrow X \cdot \$ \\
& X \rightarrow \bullet(X) \\
& X \rightarrow(\bullet X) \\
& X \rightarrow(X \cdot) \\
& X \rightarrow(X) \bullet \\
& X \rightarrow \bullet() \\
& X \rightarrow(\bullet) \\
& X \rightarrow(\quad) \bullet
\end{aligned}
$$

Another Example of Goto

- Koto ( $\{x \rightarrow \bullet(X)\}$, ()

$$
\left\{\begin{array}{l}
X \rightarrow \quad(\cdot X) \\
X \rightarrow \cdot(X) \\
X \rightarrow \cdot(\quad)
\end{array}\right.
$$

- Items

$$
\begin{aligned}
& S \rightarrow \bullet X \$ \\
& S \rightarrow X \bullet \$ \\
& X \rightarrow \bullet(X) \\
& X \rightarrow(\bullet X) \\
& X \rightarrow(X \bullet) \\
& X \rightarrow(X) \bullet \\
& X \rightarrow \bullet(\quad) \\
& X \rightarrow(\bullet \quad) \\
& X \rightarrow(\quad) \bullet
\end{aligned}
$$

## Building the DFA states

- Start with the item $S \rightarrow \bullet \beta \$$
- Create the first state to be Closure( $\{S \rightarrow \bullet \beta \$\}$ )
- Pick a state I
- for each item $A \rightarrow \alpha \cdot X \beta$ in I
- find Goto(I, X)
- if Goto(I, X) is not already a state, make one
- Add an edge $X$ from state $I$ to Goto(I, X) state
- Repeat until no more additions possible


## DFA Example



## Constructing A Parse Engine

- Build a DFA - DONE
- Construct a parse table using the DFA


## Creating the parse tables

- For each state
- Transition to another state using a terminal symbol is a shift to that state (shift to sn)
- Transition to another state using a non-terminal is a goto to that state (goto sn)
- If there is an item $A \rightarrow \alpha$ - in the state do a reduction with that production for all terminals ( reduce k)


## Building Parse Table Example

|  |  | ACTION | Goto |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| State | $($ | $)$ | $\$$ | X |
| s0 | shift to s2 | error | error | goto s1 |
| s1 | error | error | accept |  |
| s2 | shift to s2 | shift to s5 | error | goto s3 |
| s3 | error | shift to s4 | error |  |
| s4 | reduce (2) | reduce (2) | reduce (2) |  |
| s5 | reduce (3) | reduce (3) | reduce (3) |  |



## Potential Problem

- No lookahead
- Vulnerable to unnecessary conflicts
- Shift/Reduce Conflicts (may reduce too soon in some cases)
- Reduce/Reduce Conflicts
- Solution: Lookahead
- Only for reductions - reduce only when next symbol can occur after nonterminal from production
- Systematic lookahead, split states based on next symbol, action is always a function of next symbol
- Can generalize to look ahead multiple symbols


## Reduction-Only Lookahead Parsing

- If a state contains $A \rightarrow \beta$ -
- Reduce by $A \rightarrow \beta$ only if next input symbol can follow $A$ in some derivation
- Example Grammar

$$
\begin{aligned}
& S \rightarrow X \$ \\
& X \rightarrow \mathrm{a} \\
& X \rightarrow \mathrm{ab}
\end{aligned}
$$

## Parser Without Lookahead



## Creating parse tables with reductiononly lookahead

- For each state
- Transition to another state using a terminal symbol is a shift to that state (shift to sn) (same as before)
- Transition to another state using a non-terminal is a goto that state (goto sn) (same as before)
- If there is an item $X \rightarrow \alpha$ • in the state do a reduction with that production whenever the current input symbol $T$ may follow $X$ in some derivation (more precise than before)
- Eliminates useless reduce actions

New Parse Table
b never follows $X$ in any derivation resolve shift/reduce conflict to shift

|  | ACTION |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| State | $\mathbf{a}$ | b | \$ | $\mathbf{X}$ |
| s0 | shift to s1 | error | error | goto s3 |
| s1 | reduce(2) | shift to s2 | reduce(2) |  |
| s2 | reduce(3) | reduce(3) | reduce(3) |  |
| s3 | error | error | accept |  |



## More General Lookahead

- Items contain potential lookahead information, resulting in more states in finite state control
- Item of the form [ $\mathrm{A} \rightarrow \alpha \cdot \beta \quad \mathrm{T}]$ says
- The parser has parsed an $\alpha$
- If it parses a $\beta$ and the next symbol is T
- Then parser should reduce by $\mathrm{A} \rightarrow \alpha \beta$
- In addilition to current parser state, all parser actions are function of lookahead symbols


## Terminology

- Many different parsing techniques
- Each can handle some set of CFGs
- Categorization of techniques


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- Many different parsing techniques
- Each can handle some set of CFGs
- Categorization of techniques



## Terminology

- Many different parsing techniques
- Each can handle some set of CFGs
- Categorization of techniques
- L-parse from left to right
- R - parse from right to left $\int$



## Terminology

- Many different parsing techniques
- Each can handle some set of CFGs
- Categorization of techniques
- L - leftmost derivation
- R - rightmost derivation



## Terminology

- Many different parsing techniques
- Each can handle some set of CFGs
- Categorization of techniques
- Number of lookahead characters



## Terminology

- Many different parsing techniques
- Each can handle some set of CFGs
- Categorization of techniques
- Examples: LL(0), LR(1)
- This lecture
- LR(0) parser
$L \mathbf{R}(\mathbf{k})$
- SLR parser - LR(0) parser augmented with follow information


## Summary

- Parser generators - given a grammar, produce a parser
- Standard technique
- Automatically build a pushdown automaton
- Obtain a shift-reduce parser
- Finite state control plus push down stack
- Table driven implementation
- Conflicts: Shift/Reduce, Reduce/Reduce
- Use of lookahead to eliminate conflicts
- SLR parsing (eliminates useless reduce actions)
- LR(k) parsing (lookahead throughout parser)


## Follow() sets in SLR Parsing

For each non terminal $A$, Follow $(A)$ is the set of terminals that can come after $\boldsymbol{A}$ in some derivation

## Constraints for Follow()

- $\$ \in \operatorname{Follow}(S)$, where $S$ is the start symbol
- If $A \rightarrow \alpha B \beta$ is a production then $\operatorname{First}(\beta) \subseteq \operatorname{Follow}(B)$
- If $A \rightarrow \alpha B$ is a production then $\operatorname{Follow}(A) \subseteq \operatorname{Follow}(B)$
- If $A \rightarrow \alpha B \beta$ is a production and $\beta$ derives $\varepsilon$ then $\operatorname{Follow}(A) \subseteq \operatorname{Follow}(B)$


## Algorithm for Follow

for all nonterminals $N T$
Follow(NT) $=\{ \}$
Follow(S) $=\{\$\}$
while Follow sets keep changing
for all productions $A \rightarrow \alpha B \beta$
Follow $(B)-\operatorname{Follow}(B) \cup \operatorname{First}(\beta)$
if ( $\beta$ derives $\varepsilon$ ) Follow $(B)=\operatorname{Follow}(B) \cup F o l l o w(A)$
for all productions $A \rightarrow \alpha B$
Follow $(B)=\operatorname{Follow}(B) \cup F o l l o w(A)$

## Augmenting Example with Follow

- Example Grammar for Follow

$$
\begin{aligned}
& S \rightarrow X \$ \\
& X \rightarrow \mathrm{a} \\
& X \rightarrow \mathrm{ab}
\end{aligned}
$$

Follow(S) $=\{\$\}$
Follow $(X)=\{\$\}$

## SLR Eliminates Shift/Reduce Conflict

|  |  | ACTION |  | Goto |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| State | a | b | \$ | X |
| s0 | shift to s1 | error | error | goto s3 |
| s1 | reduce(2) | shift to s2 | reduce(2) |  |
| s2 | reduce(3) | reduce(3) | reduce(3) |  |
| s3 | error | error | accept |  |



## Basic Idea Behind LR(1)

- Split states in LR(0) DFA based on lookahead
- Reduce based on item and lookahead


## LR(1) Items

- Items will keep info on
- production
- right-hand-side position (the dot)
- look ahead symbol
- $\operatorname{LR}(1)$ item is of the form $[\mathrm{A} \rightarrow \alpha \cdot \beta \quad \mathrm{T}]$
- $\mathrm{A} \rightarrow \alpha \beta$ is a production
- The dot in $\mathrm{A} \rightarrow \alpha \cdot \beta$ denotes the position
- T is a terminal or the end marker (\$)


## Meaning of LR(1) Items

- Item $[\mathrm{A} \rightarrow \alpha \cdot \beta \quad \mathrm{T}]$ means
- The parser has parsed an $\alpha$
- If it parses a $\beta$ and the next symbol is T
- Then parser should reduce by $\mathrm{A} \rightarrow \alpha \beta$
- The grammar

$$
\begin{aligned}
& S \rightarrow X \$ \\
& X \rightarrow(X) \\
& X \rightarrow \varepsilon
\end{aligned}
$$

- Terminal symbols
- '(' ')'
- End of input symbol
- '\$’

LR(1) Items
$\left.\left[S \rightarrow \cdot X_{\$} \quad\right)\right]$
$[S \rightarrow \cdot X \$ \quad(]$
$[S \rightarrow \cdot X \$ \quad \$]$
$[S \rightarrow X \cdot \$$
$[S \rightarrow X \cdot \$$
]
$[S \rightarrow X \cdot \$$
( ]
$[X \rightarrow \cdot(X)$
\$]
$[X \rightarrow \cdot(X)$
) ]
$\left[X \rightarrow{ }^{-}(X)\right.$
$[X \rightarrow$ (•X) $)]$
$\left[\begin{array}{lll}{[X \rightarrow} & (\cdot X) & (]\end{array}\right.$


## Creating a LR(1) Parser Engine

- Need to define Closure() and Goto() functions for LR(1) items
- Need to provide an algorithm to create the DFA
- Need to provide an algorithm to create the parse table


## Closure algorithm

Closure(I)
repeat for all items $[A \rightarrow \alpha \cdot X \beta \quad c]$ in I
for any production $X \rightarrow \gamma$
for any $\mathrm{d} \in \operatorname{First}(\beta \mathrm{c})$

$$
\mathrm{I}=\mathrm{I} \cup\{[\mathrm{X} \rightarrow \bullet \gamma \mathrm{~d}]\}
$$

until I does not change

## Goto algorithm

Goto(I, X)

$$
J=\{ \}
$$

for any item [A $\rightarrow \alpha \cdot X \beta \quad$ c] in I

$$
\mathrm{J}=\mathrm{J} \cup\{[\mathrm{~A} \rightarrow \alpha X \cdot \beta \quad \mathrm{c}]\}
$$

return Closure(J )

## Building the LR(1) DFA

- Start with the item [ < S'> $\rightarrow$ • <S> \$ I]
- I irrelevant because we will never shift \$
- Find the closure of the item and make an state
- Pick a state I
- for each item $[A \rightarrow \alpha \cdot X \beta \quad$ c] in I
- find Goto(I, X)
- if Goto(I, X) is not already a state, make one
- Add an edge X from state I to Goto(I, X) state
- Repeat until no more additions possible


## Creating the parse tables

- For each LR(1) DFA state
- Transition to another state using a terminal symbol is a shift to that state (shift to sn)
- Transition to another state using a non-terminal symbol is a goto that state (goto $s n$ )
- If there is an item [ $\mathrm{A} \rightarrow \alpha$ - a] in the state, action for input symbol a is a reduction via the production $\mathrm{A} \rightarrow \alpha$ (reduce $k$ )


## LALR(1) Parser

- Motivation
- LR(1) parse engine has a large number of states
- Simple method to eliminate states
- If two LR(1) states are identical except for the look ahead symbol of the items
Then Merge the states
- Result is LALR(1) DFA
- Typically has many fewer states than LR(1)
- May also have more reduce/reduce conflicts

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