

LR Parsing, Part 2

Constructing Parse Tables

Parse table construction

Grammar conflict handling

Categories of LR Grammars and Parsers

Need to Automatically Construct LR Parse Tables: Action and GOTO Table

Construct parse tables from the grammar as follows:

- ❑ First build a GOTOgraph (an NFA) to recognize viable prefixes
- ❑ Make it deterministic (DFA)
- ❑ Then fill in Action and Goto tables

Example Grammar G

1. $\langle L \rightarrow L, E$
2. $| E$
3. $E \rightarrow a$
4. $| b$

ACTION table:

state	--	,	a	b
0	X	X	S4	S5
1	A	S2	*	*
2	X	X	S4	S5
3	R1	R1	*	*
4	R3	R3	*	*
5	R4	R4	*	*
6				

GOTO table:

state	L	E
0	1	6
1	*	*
2	*	3
3	*	*
4	*	*
5	*	*
6	*	*

Classes of LR Parsers/Grammars

- ❑ LR(0) – Too weak (no lookahead)
- ❑ SLR(1) – *Simple LR, 1 token lookahead*
- ❑ LALR(1) – Most common, 1 token lookahead
- ❑ LR(1) – 1 token lookahead – big tables
- ❑ LR(k) – k tokens lookahead – Even bigger tables

Differences between LR parsers:

- ❑ Table size varies widely.
- ❑ Errors not discovered as quickly by some variants.
- ❑ Different limitations in the language definitions, grammars.

An NFA Recognizing Viable Prefixes

A.k.a. the "*characteristic finite automaton*" for a grammar G

- ❑ States: LR(0) items (= context-free items) of extended Grammar (definition, see next page)
- ❑ Input stream: The grammar symbols on the stack
- ❑ Start state: $[S' \rightarrow -|.S]$ Final state: $[S' \rightarrow -|S.]$
- ❑ Transitions:
 - **"move dot across symbol"** if symbol found next on stack:

$$\begin{array}{lcl} A \rightarrow \alpha.B\gamma & \text{to} & A \rightarrow \alpha B.\gamma \\ A \rightarrow \alpha.b\gamma & \text{to} & A \rightarrow \alpha b.\gamma \end{array}$$
 - **ϵ -transitions** to LR(0)-items for nonterminal productions from items where the dot precedes that nonterminal:

$$A \rightarrow \alpha.B\gamma \quad \text{to} \quad B \rightarrow .\beta$$

Handle, Viable Prefix

- Consider a rightmost derivation $S \Rightarrow_{rm}^* \beta Xu \Rightarrow_{rm} \beta \alpha u$ for a context-free grammar G .
- α is called a **handle** of the right sentential form $\beta \alpha u$, associated with the rule $X \Rightarrow_{rm} \alpha$
- Each prefix of $\beta \alpha$ is called a **viable prefix** of G .

Example: Grammar G with productions $\{ S \rightarrow aSb \mid c \}$

- Right sentential forms: e.g. c , acb , aSb , $aaaaaSbbbbbb$,
- For c : Handle: c Viable prefixes: ϵ , c
- For acb : Handle: c Viable prefixes: ϵ , a , ac
- For aSb : Handle: aSb Viable prefixes: ϵ , a , aS , aSb
- For $aaSbb$: Handle: aSb Viable prefixes: ϵ , a , aa , aaS , $aaSb$
- ...

Right Derivation and Viable Prefixes

Input: a, b, a

Right derivation (handles are underlined, and blue)

$$\begin{aligned}
 \langle \text{list} \rangle &\Rightarrow_{\text{rm}} \underline{\langle \text{list} \rangle}, \underline{\langle \text{element} \rangle} \\
 &\Rightarrow_{\text{rm}} \langle \text{list} \rangle, \underline{a} \\
 &\Rightarrow_{\text{rm}} \underline{\langle \text{list} \rangle}, \underline{\langle \text{element} \rangle}, a \\
 &\Rightarrow_{\text{rm}} \langle \text{list} \rangle, \underline{b}, a \\
 &\Rightarrow_{\text{rm}} \underline{\langle \text{element} \rangle}, b, a \\
 &\Rightarrow_{\text{rm}} \underline{a}, b, a
 \end{aligned}$$

Some Viable prefixes of the sentential form: $\langle \text{list} \rangle, b, a$ are

$\{ \epsilon; \langle \text{list} \rangle; \langle \text{list} \rangle,; \langle \text{list} \rangle, b; \langle \text{list} \rangle, b,; \langle \text{list} \rangle, b, a \}$

Definition of LR(0) Item

- ❑ An *LR(0) item* of a rule *P* is a rule with a dot “•” somewhere in the right side.

Example:

- ❑ All LR(0) items of the production

1. $\langle \text{list} \rangle \rightarrow \langle \text{list} \rangle , \langle \text{element} \rangle$

are

$\langle \text{list} \rangle \rightarrow \bullet \langle \text{list} \rangle , \langle \text{element} \rangle$

$\langle \text{list} \rangle \rightarrow \langle \text{list} \rangle \bullet , \langle \text{element} \rangle$

$\langle \text{list} \rangle \rightarrow \langle \text{list} \rangle , \bullet \langle \text{element} \rangle$

$\langle \text{list} \rangle \rightarrow \langle \text{list} \rangle , \langle \text{element} \rangle \bullet$

- ❑ Intuitively an *item* is interpreted as how much of the rule we have found and how much remains.
- ❑ ***Items are put together in sets which become the LR analyser's state.***

Informal Construction of GOTO-Graph (NFA/DFA)

We want to construct a DFA which recognises all **viable prefixes** of $G(<SYS>)$:

GOTO-graph

(A GOTO-graph is **not** the same as a GOTO-table but corresponds to an **ACTION + GOTO-table**.)

The graph discovers *viable prefixes*.)

Augmented Grammar $G(<sys>)$

0. $<SYS> \rightarrow <list> \mid -$
1. $<list> \rightarrow <list> , <element>$
2. $\quad \quad \mid <element>$
3. $<element> \rightarrow a$
4. $\quad \quad \mid b$

Example. Find viable prefixes in a rightmost derivation below, used for informal construction of a goto graph

$$\begin{aligned} <list> &\Rightarrow_{rm} \underline{<list> , <element>} \\ &\Rightarrow_{rm} <list> , \underline{a} \\ &\Rightarrow_{rm} \underline{<list> , <element>} , a \\ &\Rightarrow_{rm} <list> , \underline{b} , a \\ &\Rightarrow_{rm} \underline{<element>} , b , a \\ &\Rightarrow_{rm} \underline{a} , b , a \end{aligned}$$

Informal Construction of GOTO-Graph (NFA/DFA)

We want to construct a DFA
which recognises all *viable
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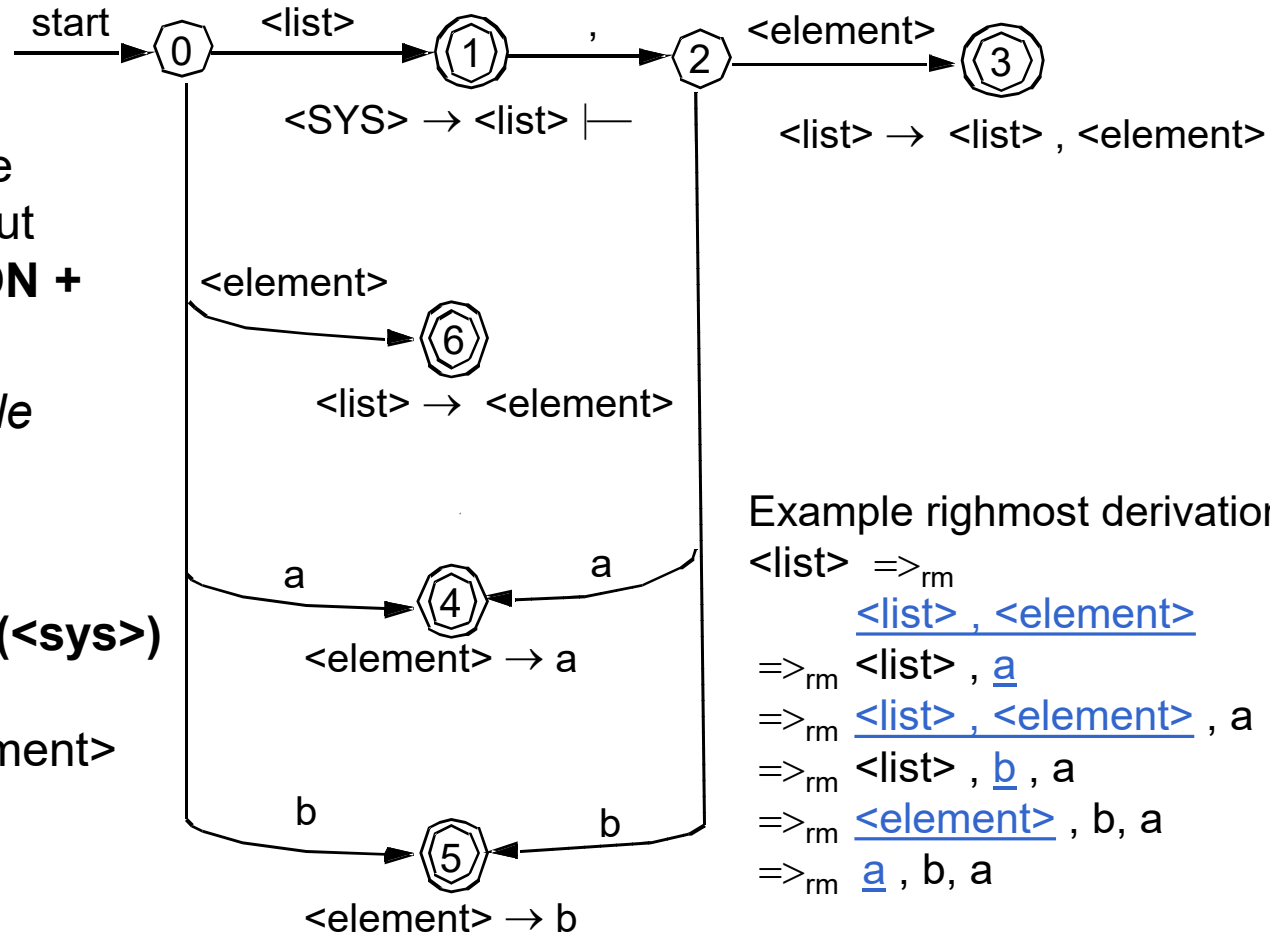
GOTO-graph

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Augmented Grammar $G(<sys>)$

0. $<SYS> \rightarrow <list> \mid -$
1. $<list> \rightarrow <list> , <element>$
2. $\mid <element>$
3. $<element> \rightarrow a$
4. $\mid b$



Example rightmost derivation

$<list> \Rightarrow_{rm} \underline{<list>}, \underline{<element>}$
 $\Rightarrow_{rm} <list> , \underline{a}$
 $\Rightarrow_{rm} \underline{<list>}, \underline{<element>}, a$
 $\Rightarrow_{rm} <list> , \underline{b}, a$
 $\Rightarrow_{rm} \underline{<element>}, b, a$
 $\Rightarrow_{rm} \underline{a}, b, a$

Constructing Sets of LR(0) Items

Set I_0

$\langle \text{SYS} \rangle \rightarrow \bullet \langle \text{list} \rangle \mid \text{--}$	Kernel (Basis)
$\langle \text{list} \rangle \rightarrow \bullet \langle \text{list} \rangle , \langle \text{element} \rangle$ $\langle \text{list} \rangle \rightarrow \bullet \langle \text{element} \rangle$ $\langle \text{element} \rangle \rightarrow \bullet a$ $\langle \text{element} \rangle \rightarrow \bullet b$	Additional Closure (of kernel items)

Augmented Grammar $G(\langle \text{sys} \rangle)$

0. $\langle \text{SYS} \rangle \rightarrow \langle \text{list} \rangle \mid \text{--}$
1. $\langle \text{list} \rangle \rightarrow \langle \text{list} \rangle , \langle \text{element} \rangle$
2. $\quad \quad \quad \mid \langle \text{element} \rangle$
3. $\langle \text{element} \rangle \rightarrow a$
4. $\quad \quad \quad \mid b$

Set I_1

$\langle \text{SYS} \rangle \rightarrow \langle \text{list} \rangle \bullet \mid \text{--}$ $\langle \text{list} \rangle \rightarrow \langle \text{list} \rangle \bullet , \langle \text{element} \rangle$	Kernel (Basis)
(empty closure as "•" <i>precedes terminals -- and ,</i>)	Additional Closure

Set I_2

$\langle \text{list} \rangle \rightarrow \langle \text{list} \rangle , \bullet \langle \text{element} \rangle$	Kernel (Basis)
$\langle \text{element} \rangle \rightarrow \bullet a$ $\langle \text{element} \rangle \rightarrow \bullet b$	Additional Closure

Set I_3 , etc.

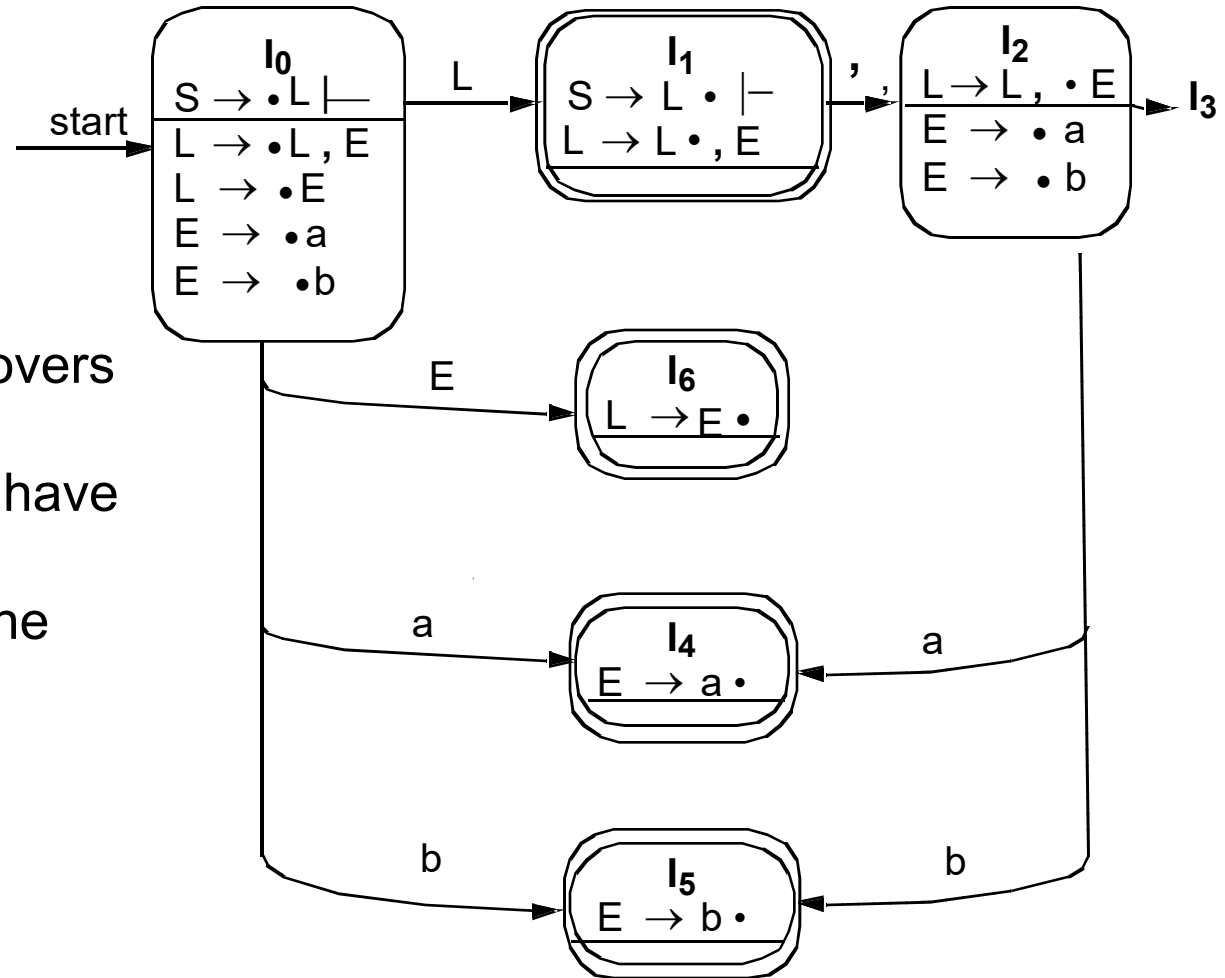
GOTO Graph with States as Sets of LR(0) Items

Based on the canonical collection of LR(0) items draw the GOTO graph.

The GOTO graph discovers those prefixes of right sentential forms which have (at most) one handle furthest to the right in the prefix.

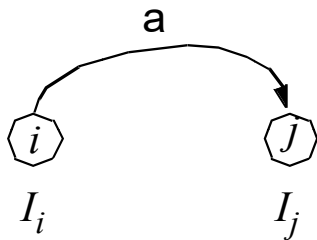
Example Grammar

1. $L \rightarrow L, E$
2. $L \rightarrow E$
3. $E \rightarrow a$
4. $E \rightarrow b$



Fill in Action Table from GOTO Graph

1. If there is an item $\langle A \rangle \rightarrow \alpha \bullet a \beta \in I_i$ and $\text{GOTOgraph}(I_i, a) = I_j$



Fill in **shift j** for row *i* and column for symbol *a*.

2. If there is a complete item (i.e., ends in a dot "•"):
 $\langle A \rangle \rightarrow \alpha \bullet \in I_i$
 Fill in **reduce x** where *x* is the production number for $x: \langle A \rangle \rightarrow \alpha$

I_i : state *i* (line *i*, itemset *i*)

Filled in Action table

state	--	,	a	b
0	X	X	S4	S5
1	A	S2	*	*
2	X	X	S4	S5
3	R1	R1	*	*
4	R3	R3	*	*
5	R4	R4	*	*
6	R2	R2	*	*

3. If we have $\langle \text{SYS} \rangle \rightarrow \langle S \rangle \bullet \mid \text{--}$ accept the symbol $\mid \text{--}$

4. Otherwise *error*.

State number

ACTION table:

a

Nonterminals

<i>i</i>	shift <i>j</i>	

Table Differences LR(0), SLR(1), LALR(1)

*In which column(s) should **reduce x** be written?*

LR(0) fills in for all input.

SLR(1) fills in for all input in FOLLOW(<A>).

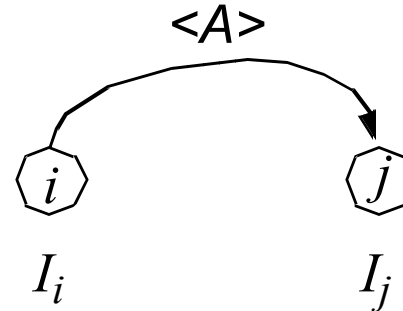
LALR(1) fills in for all those that can follow a certain instance of <A>,
see later

Filling in the GOTO Table

$$\langle A \rangle \rightarrow \alpha \bullet \in I_i$$

If the $\text{GOTOgraph}(I_i, \langle A \rangle) = I_j$

fill in $\text{GOTOtable}[i, \langle A \rangle] = j$



Example Grammar

1. $L \rightarrow L, E$
2. $L \rightarrow E$
3. $E \rightarrow a$
4. $E \rightarrow b$

Filled in GOTO table:

state	L	E
0	1	6
1	*	*
2	*	3
3	*	*
4	*	*
5	*	*
6	*	*

GOTO table:

Nonterminals

		$\langle A \rangle$	
State number	i		
		j	

State number

Computing the LR(0) Item Closure (Detailed Algorithm)

For a set I of LR(0) items compute $Closure(I)$ (union of Kernel and Closure):

1. $Closure(I) := I$ (start with the kernel)
2. If $\exists [A \rightarrow \alpha.B\beta]$ in $Closure(I)$
and \exists production $B \rightarrow \gamma$
then add $[B \rightarrow \cdot\gamma]$ to $Closure(I)$ (if not already there)
3. Repeat Step 2 until no more items can be added to $Closure(I)$.

Remarks:

- ❑ For $s = [A \rightarrow \alpha.B\gamma]$, $Closure(s)$ contains all NFA states reachable from s via ϵ -transitions, i.e., starting from which any substring derivable from $B\beta$ could be recognized. A.k.a. ϵ -closure(s).
- ❑ Then apply the well-known subset construction to transform Closure-NFA \rightarrow DFA.
- ❑ DFA states will be sets unioning closures of NFA states

Representing Sets of Items

Implementation in Parser Generator

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- ❑ Any item $[A \rightarrow \alpha.\beta]$ can be represented by 2 integers:
 - production number
 - position of the dot within the RHS of that production

- ❑ The resulting sets often contain "closure" items (where the dot is at the beginning of the RHS).
 - Can easily be reconstructed (on demand) from other ("kernel") items
 - ▶ **Kernel items**: start state $[S' \rightarrow -|.S]$, plus all items where the dot is not at the left end.
 - Store only kernel items explicitly, to save space

GOTOgraph Function and DFA States

Detailed algorithm

Given: Set I of items, grammar symbol X

□ $GOTOgr(I, X) := \bigcup_{[A \rightarrow \alpha.X\beta] \text{ in } I} Closure(\{[A \rightarrow \alpha.X\beta]\})$

○ To become the state transitions in the DFA

□ Now do the **subset construction** to obtain the DFA states:

$C := Closure(\{[S' \rightarrow \cdot S]\})$ // C : Set of sets of NFA states

repeat

for each set of items I of C :

for each grammar symbol X

if ($GOTOgr(I, X)$ is not empty and not in C)

 add $GOTOgr(I, X)$ to C

until no new states are added to C on a round.

Resulting DFA

- ❑ All states correspond to some viable prefix
- ❑ Final states: contain at least one item with dot to the right
 - recognized some handle \rightarrow reduce *may* (*must*) follow
- ❑ Other states: handle recognition incomplete \rightarrow shift will follow
- ❑ The DFA is also called the **GOTO graph** (**not** the same as the LR GOTO Table!!).

- ❑ This automaton is deterministic as a FA (i.e., selecting transitions considering only input symbol consumption) but can still be nondeterministic as a pushdown automaton (e.g., in state I_1 above: to reduce or not to reduce?)

From DFA to parser tables: ACTION

Detailed Algorithm, Summary

- For each DFA transition $I_i \rightarrow I_j$ reading a terminal a in Σ
(thus, I_i contains items of kind $[X \rightarrow \alpha.a\beta]$)

- enter S_j (shift, new state I_j) in $\text{ACTION}[i, a]$

- For each DFA final state I_i
(containing a complete item $[X \rightarrow \alpha.]$)

- enter R_x
(reduce, x = prod. rule number for $X \rightarrow \alpha$)
in $\text{ACTION}[i, t]$...

- ▶ LR(0) parser: for *all* t in Σ (all entries in row i)
- ▶ SLR(1) parser: for all t in $\text{LA}_{\text{SLR}}(i, [X \rightarrow \alpha.]) = \text{FOLLOW}_1(X)$
- ▶ LALR(1) parser: for all t in $\text{LA}_{\text{LALR}}(i, [X \rightarrow \alpha.])$ (see later)

- Collision with an already existing S or R entry? Conflict!!

- For each DFA state containing $[S' \rightarrow S.|--]$

- enter A in $\text{ACTION}[i, |--]$ (accept). NB - Conflict? (as in 2.)

ACTION table:

state	-- ,	a	b
0	X X	S4	S5
1	A S2	*	*
2	X X	S4	S5
3	R1 R1	*	*
4	R3 R3	*	*
5	R4 R4	*	*
6	R2 R2	*	*

From DFA to parser tables: GOTO Table

Summary

1. For each DFA transition $I_i \rightarrow I_j$ reading nonterminal A (i.e., I_i contains an item $[X \rightarrow \alpha.A\beta]$)
 - enter $\text{GOTO}[i, A] = j$

GOTO table:

state	L	E
0	1	6
1	*	*
2	*	3
3	*	*
4	*	*
5	*	*
6	*	*

Conflicts and Categories of LR Grammars and Parsers

Conflict Examples in LR Grammars

❑ Shift – Reduce conflict:

- $E \rightarrow id + E$ (shift +)
- | id (reduce id)

❑ Reduce – Reduce conflict:

- $E \rightarrow id$ (reduce id)
- $Pcall \rightarrow id$ (reduce id)

❑ (Shift – Accept conflict)

- $S' \rightarrow L$ (accept)
- $L \rightarrow L , E$ (shift ,)

Conflicts in LR Grammars

Observe conflicts in DFA (GOTO graph) kernels
or at the latest when filling the ACTION table.

❑ Shift-Reduce conflict

- A DFA accepting state has an outgoing transition, i.e. contains items $[X \rightarrow \alpha.]$ and $[Y \rightarrow \beta.Z\gamma]$ for some Z in $N \cup \Sigma$

❑ Reduce-Reduce conflict

- A DFA accepting state can reduce for multiple nonterminals, i.e. contains at least 2 items $[X \rightarrow \alpha.]$ and $[Y \rightarrow \beta.]$, $X \neq Y$

❑ (Shift/Reduce-Accept conflict)

- A DFA accepting state containing $[S' \rightarrow S.|--]$ contains another item $[X \rightarrow \alpha S.]$ or $[X \rightarrow \alpha S.b\beta]$

Only for LR(0) grammars there are no conflicts.

Handling Conflicts in LR Grammars

(Overview):

❑ Use lookahead

- if lucky, the LR(0) states + a few fixed lookahead sets are sufficient to eliminate all conflicts in the LR(0)-DFA
 - ▶ SLR(1), LALR(1)
- otherwise, use LR(1) items $[X \rightarrow \alpha.\beta, a]$ (a is look-ahead) to build new, larger NFA/DFA
 - ▶ expensive (many items/states \rightarrow very large tables)
- if still conflicts, may try again with $k > 1 \rightarrow$ even larger tables

❑ Rewrite the grammar (factoring / expansion) and retry...

❑ If nothing helps, re-design your language syntax

- Some grammars are not LR(k) for any constant k and cannot be made LR(k) by rewriting either

Look-Ahead (LA) Sets

- For a LR(0) item $[X \rightarrow \alpha.\beta]$ in DFA-state I_i , define
lookahead set $LA(I_i, [X \rightarrow \alpha.\beta])$ (a subset of Σ)

For SLR(1), LALR(1) etc., the LA sets only differ for reduce items:

- For SLR(1):**

$$LA_{SLR}(I_i, [X \rightarrow \alpha.]) = \{ a \text{ in } \Sigma: S' \Rightarrow^* \beta X a \gamma \} = FOLLOW_1(X)$$

for all I_i with $[X \rightarrow \alpha.]$ in I_i

- depends on nonterminal X only, not on state I_i

- For LALR(1):**

$$LA_{LALR}(I_i, [X \rightarrow \alpha.]) = \{ a \text{ in } \Sigma: S' \Rightarrow^* \beta X a w \text{ and the LR(0)-DFA started in } I_0 \text{ reaches } I_i \text{ after reading } \beta \alpha \}$$

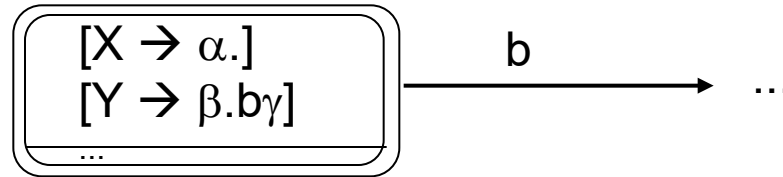
- usually a subset of $FOLLOW_1(X)$, i.e. of SLR LA set
- depends on state I_i

Made it simple:

Is my grammar SLR(1) ?

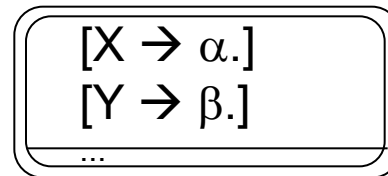
- ❑ Construct the (LR(0)-item) characteristic NFA and its equivalent DFA (= GOTO graph) as above.
- ❑ Consider all conflicts in the DFA states:

- **Shift-Reduce:**



Consider all pairs of conflicting items $[X \rightarrow \alpha.]$, $[Y \rightarrow \beta.b\gamma]$:
If $b \in \text{FOLLOW}_1(X)$ for any of these \rightarrow not SLR(1).

- **Reduce-Reduce:**



Consider all pairs of conflicting items $[X \rightarrow \alpha.]$, $[Y \rightarrow \beta.]$:
If $\text{FOLLOW}_1(X)$ intersects with $\text{FOLLOW}_1(Y)$ \rightarrow not SLR(1).

- **(Shift-Accept:** similar to Shift-Reduce)

Example: L-Values in C Language

- L-values on left hand side of assignment.

Part of a C grammar:

1. $S' \rightarrow S$

2. $S \rightarrow L = R$

3. $\quad \mid R$

4. $L \rightarrow *R$

5. $\quad \mid \text{id}$

6. $R \rightarrow L$

- Avoids that R (for R-values) appears as LHS of assignments

- But $*R = \dots$ is ok.

- This grammar is LALR(1) but not SLR(1):

Example (cont.)

LR(0) parser has a shift-reduce conflict in kernel of state I_2 :

❑ $I_0 = \{ [S' \rightarrow .S], [S \rightarrow .L=R], [S \rightarrow .R], [L \rightarrow .*R], [L \rightarrow .id], R \rightarrow .L] \}$

❑ $I_1 = \{ [S' \rightarrow S.] \}$

❑ $I_2 = \{ [S \rightarrow L.=R], [R \rightarrow L.] \}$

Shift = or reduce to R?

❑ $I_3 = \{ [S \rightarrow R.] \}$

❑ $I_4 = \{ [L \rightarrow *.R], [R \rightarrow .L], [L \rightarrow .*R], [L \rightarrow .id] \}$

❑ $I_5 = \{ [L \rightarrow id.] \}$

❑ $I_6 = \{ [S \rightarrow L=.R], [R \rightarrow .L], [L \rightarrow .*R], L \rightarrow .id] \}$

❑ $I_7 = \{ [L \rightarrow *R.] \}$

❑ $I_8 = \{ [R \rightarrow L.] \}$

❑ $I_9 = \{ [S \rightarrow L=R.] \}$

$FOLLOW_1(R) = \{ |-, = \}$ → SLR(1) still shift-reduce conflict in I_2
as = does not disambiguate



Example (cont.)

- ❑ $I_0 = \{ [S' \rightarrow \cdot S], [S \rightarrow \cdot L = R], [S \rightarrow \cdot R], [L \rightarrow \cdot *R], [L \rightarrow \cdot id], R \rightarrow \cdot L] \}$
- ❑ $I_1 = \{ [S' \rightarrow S \cdot] \}$
- ❑ $I_2 = \{ [S \rightarrow L \cdot = R], [R \rightarrow L \cdot] \}$
- ❑ $I_3 = \{ [S \rightarrow R \cdot] \}$
- ❑ $I_4 = \{ [L \rightarrow * \cdot R], [R \rightarrow \cdot L], [L \rightarrow \cdot *R], [L \rightarrow \cdot id] \}$
- ❑ $I_5 = \{ [L \rightarrow id \cdot] \}$
- ❑ $I_6 = \{ [S \rightarrow L = \cdot R], [R \rightarrow \cdot L], [L \rightarrow \cdot *R], [L \rightarrow \cdot id] \}$
- ❑ $I_7 = \{ [L \rightarrow *R \cdot] \}$
- ❑ $I_8 = \{ [R \rightarrow L \cdot] \}$
- ❑ $I_9 = \{ [S \rightarrow L = R \cdot] \}$

$LA_{LALR} (I_2, [R \rightarrow L \cdot]) = \{ | - \}$ \rightarrow LALR(1) parser is conflict-free
 as computation path $I_0 \dots I_2$ does not really allow $=$ following R .
 $=$ can only occur after R if $"*R"$ was encountered before.

LALR(1) Parser Construction

Method 1: (simple but not practical)

1. Construct the LR(1) items (see later). (If there is already a conflict, stop.)
2. Look for sets of LR(1) items that have the same kernel, and merge them.
3. Construct the ACTION table as for LR(1).
If a conflict is detected, the grammar is not LALR(1).
4. Construct the GOTOgraph function:
For each merged $J = I_1 \cup I_2 \cup \dots \cup I_r$,
the kernels of $\text{GOTOgr}(I_1, X)$, ..., $\text{GOTOgr}(I_r, X)$ are identical because the kernels of I_1, \dots, I_r are identical.

Set $\text{GOTOgr}(J, X) := \bigcup \{ I : I \text{ has the same kernel as } \text{GOTOgr}(I_1, X) \}$

Method 2: (practical, used) (details see textbook)

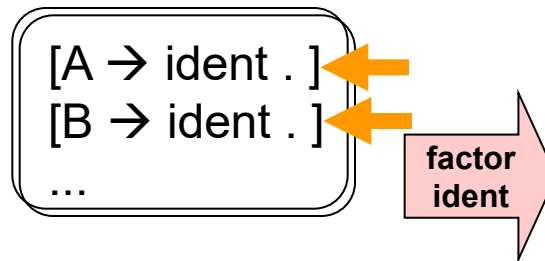
1. Start from LR(0) items and construct kernels of DFA states I_0, I_1, \dots
2. Compute lookahead sets by propagation along the $\text{GOTOgr}(I_j, X)$ edges (fixed point iteration).

Solve Conflicts by Rewriting the Grammar

- ❑ Eliminate Reduce-Reduce Conflict:

Factoring

$S \rightarrow (A) \mid (B)$
 $A \rightarrow \text{char} \mid \text{integer} \mid \text{ident}$
 $B \rightarrow \text{float} \mid \text{double} \mid \text{ident}$

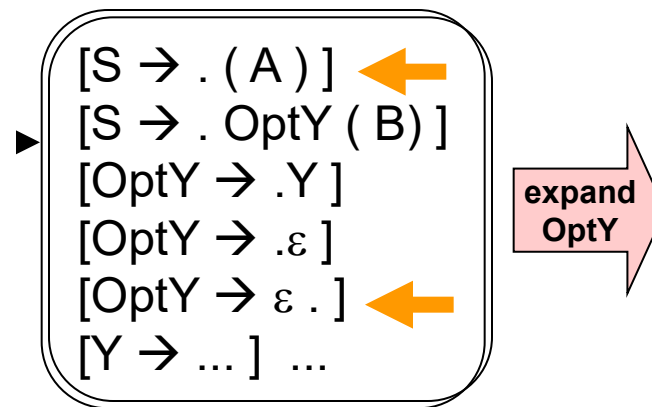


$S \rightarrow (A) \mid (B) \mid (C)$
 $A \rightarrow \text{char} \mid \text{integer}$
 $B \rightarrow \text{float} \mid \text{double}$
 $C \rightarrow \text{ident}$

- ❑ Eliminate Shift-Reduce Conflict: (one token lookahead: '(')

Inline-Expansion

$S \rightarrow (A) \mid \text{OptY}(B)$
 $\text{OptY} \rightarrow Y \mid \varepsilon$
 $Y \rightarrow \dots$
 $A \rightarrow \dots$
 $B \rightarrow \dots$



$S \rightarrow (A) \mid (B) \mid Y(B)$
 $Y \rightarrow \dots$
 $A \rightarrow \dots$
 $B \rightarrow \dots$

LR(k) Grammar - Formal Definition

□ Let G' be the augmented grammar for G
 (i.e., extended by new start symbol S'
 and production rule $S' \rightarrow S \mid \dots$)

□ G is called a **LR(k) grammar** if

- $S' \xRightarrow{*}_{rm} \alpha X w \xRightarrow{*}_{rm} \alpha \beta w$ and
- $S' \xRightarrow{*}_{rm} \gamma Y x \xRightarrow{*}_{rm} \alpha \beta y$ and
- $w[1:k] = y[1:k]$

imply that $\alpha = \gamma$ and $X = Y$ and $x = y = w$.

i.e., considering at most k symbols after the handle,
 in each rightmost derivation the handle can be localized
 and the production to be applied can be determined.

Remark: w, x, y in Σ^* α, β, γ in $(N \cup \Sigma)^*$ X, Y in N

Some grammars are not LR(k) for any fixed k

□ Example:

$$\begin{array}{l} S \rightarrow a B c \\ B \rightarrow b B b \\ \quad | \quad b \end{array}$$

- describes language $\{ a b^{2N+1} c : N \geq 0 \}$

□ This grammar is not LR(k) for any fixed k .

Proof: As k is fixed (constant), consider for any $n > k$:

- $S \Rightarrow^* a b^n B b^n c \Rightarrow a b^n \underline{b} b^n c$
- $S \Rightarrow^* a b^{n+1} B b^{n+1} c \Rightarrow a b^{n+1} \underline{b} b^{n+1} c$

By the LR(k) definition,

- $\alpha = a b^n \quad \beta = b \quad w = b^n c$
- $\gamma = a b^{n+1} \quad \beta = b \quad y = b^{n+1} c$

The handle cannot be localized with only limited lookahead size k

Although $w[1:k] = y[1:k]$, we have $\alpha \neq \gamma \rightarrow$ grammar is not LR(k).

No ambiguous grammar is LR(k) for any fixed k

$\square S \rightarrow$

 if E **then** S

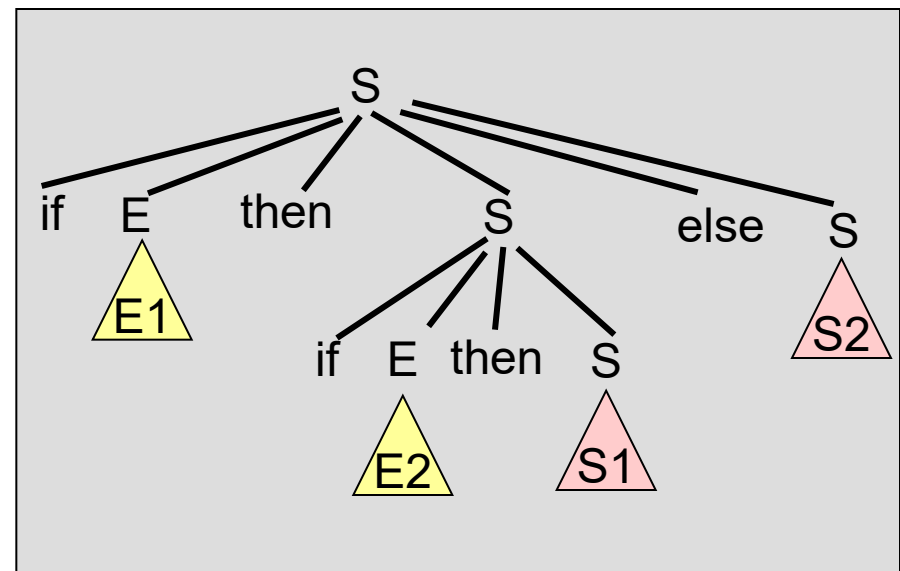
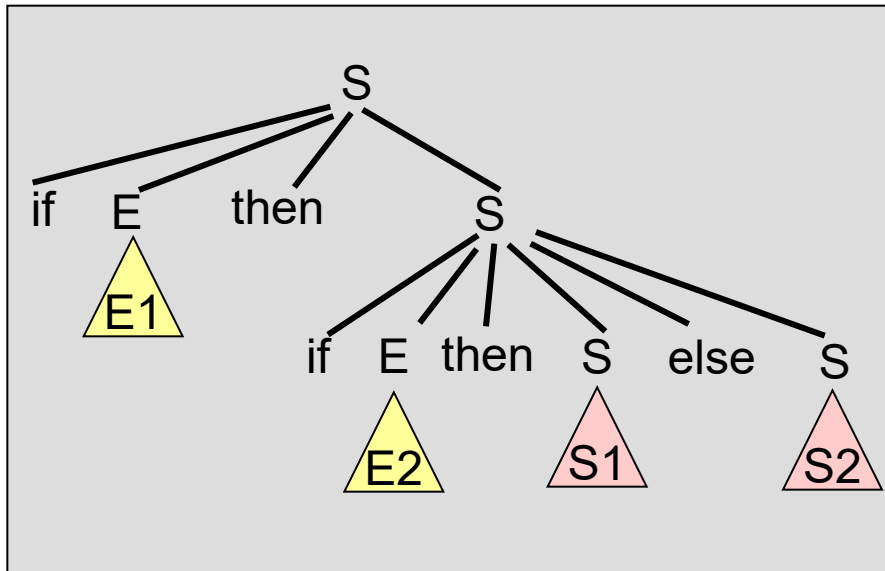
 | **if** E **then** S **else** S

 | *other statements*

...

is ambiguous – the following statement has 2 parse trees:

if $E1$ **then** **if** $E2$ **then** $S1$ **else** $S2$



- ❑ Consider situation
(configuration of shift-reduce parser)

--| ... **if E then S** **else** ... |--

- ❑ Not clear whether to
 - shift else
(following production 2, i.e. **if E then S** is not handle), or
 - reduce handle **if E then S** to S (following production 1)
- ❑ Any fixed-size lookahead (else and beyond) does not help!
- ❑ Suggestion: Rewrite grammar to make it unambiguous

Rewriting the grammar...

$$S \rightarrow \text{MatchedS} \\ | \text{OpenS}$$

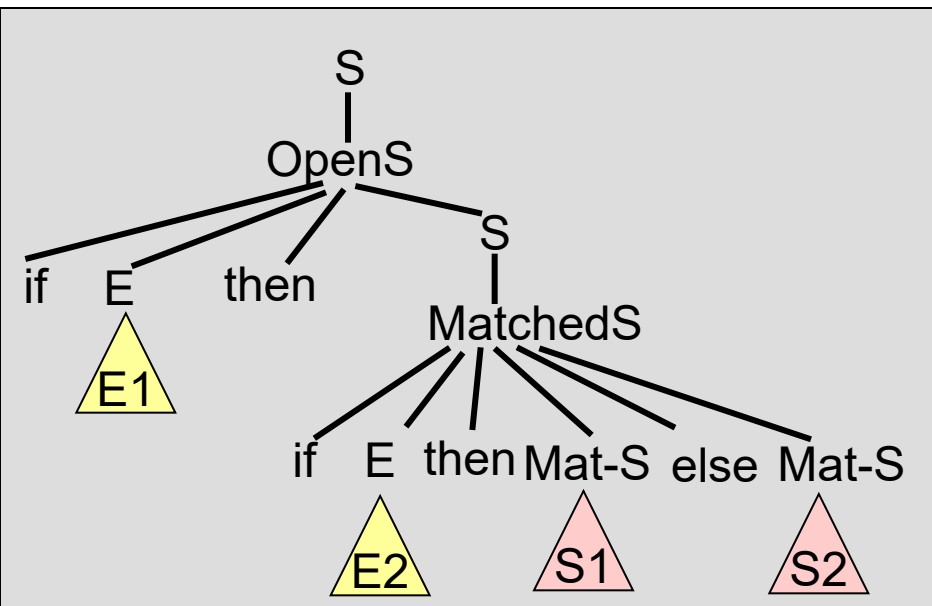
$$\text{MatchedS} \rightarrow \text{if } E \text{ then MatchedS else MatchedS} \\ | \text{ other statements}$$

$$\text{OpenS} \rightarrow \text{if } E \text{ then } S \\ | \text{if } E \text{ then MatchedS else OpenS}$$

...

is no longer ambiguous

Impossible now to derive any sentential form containing an OpenS nonterminal from a MatchedS



Some grammars are not LR(k) for any fixed k

- Grammar with productions

$$S \rightarrow a S a \mid \varepsilon$$

is unambiguous but not LR(k) for any fixed k . (Why?)

- An equivalent LR grammar for the same language is

$$S \rightarrow a a S \mid \varepsilon$$

LR(1) Items and LR(k) Items

LR(k) parser: Construction similar to LR(0) / SLR(1) parser,
but plan for distinguishing between states for $k > 0$ tokens
lookahead already from the beginning

- States in the LR(0) GOTO graph may be split up

□ LR(1) items:

$[A \rightarrow \alpha.\beta, a]$ for all productions $A \rightarrow \alpha\beta$ and all a in Σ

□ Can be combined for lookahead symbols with equal behavior:
 $[A \rightarrow \alpha.\beta, a|b]$ or $[A \rightarrow \alpha.\beta, L]$ for a subset L of Σ

□ Generalized to $k > 1$:

$[A \rightarrow \alpha.\beta, a_1a_2...a_k]$

Interpretation of $[A \rightarrow \alpha.\beta, a]$ in a state:

□ If β not ε , ignore second component (as in LR(0))

□ If $\beta = \varepsilon$, i.e. $[A \rightarrow \alpha., a]$, reduce only if next input symbol = a .

LR(1) Parser

- ❑ NFA start state is $[S' \rightarrow \cdot S, | -]$
- ❑ Modify computation of $Closure(I)$, $GOTO(I, X)$ and the subset computation for LR(1) items
 - Details see [\[ASU86, p.232\]](#) or [\[ALSU06, p.261\]](#)
- ❑ Can have many more states than LR(0) parser
 - Which may help to resolve some conflicts

Interesting to know...

- ❑ For each $LR(k)$ grammar with some constant $k > 1$ there exists an equivalent* grammar G' that is $LR(1)$.
- ❑ For any $LL(k)$ grammar there exists an equivalent $LR(k)$ grammar (but not vice versa!)
 - e.g., language $\{ a^n b^n : n > 0 \} \cup \{ a^n c^n : n > 0 \}$ has a $LR(0)$ grammar but no $LL(k)$ grammar for any constant k .
- ❑ Some grammars are $LR(0)$ but not $LL(k)$ for any k
 - e.g., $S \rightarrow A b$
 $A \rightarrow Aa \mid a$ (left recursion, could be rewritten)

* Two grammars are *equivalent* if they describe the same language.

Thank you! Questions?

Next lecture: Semantics