



Introduction to Context Free Grammar

CPSC 501 Presentation

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What we have learnt so far...

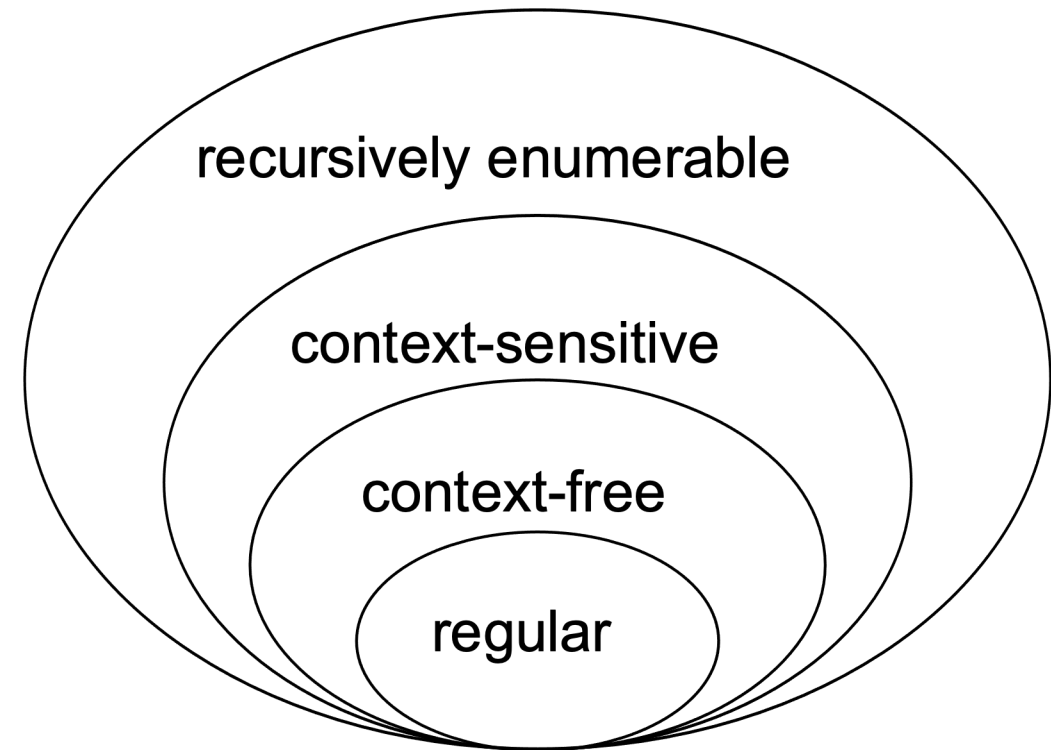
Classes of Formal Grammars

- **Chomsky Hierarchy¹: 4 types of grammars**

- Type 0: Turing-recognizable Languages - Turing Machine
- Type 1: Context-sensitive Languages – Linear-Bounded Automaton
- Type 2: Context-free Languages – Pushdown Automaton
- Type 3: Regular Languages – Finite State Automaton

- **A simple language: $L = \{0^n 1^n \mid n \geq 0\}$**

- Not regular but Turing-recognizable
- Also, context-free!



¹ Noam Chomsky (1956). "Three models for the description of language". IRE Transactions on Information Theory.

Context Free Grammar

Today's Outline

- **The Basics**
 - Syntax, Formal Definition, Derivations
- **Parsing Part 1**
 - A quick look at the Pushdown Automaton
 - CYK Algorithm: Can a string be generated from this grammar?
- **Parsing Part 2**
 - Top-down Parsing
 - Bottom-up Parsing
- **Summary**

The Basics

First Glance

- **An example context free grammar:**
 - $S \rightarrow 0S1$
 - $S \rightarrow \epsilon$

The Basics

Grammar Components

- **An example context free grammar:**
 - $S \rightarrow 0S1$
 - $S \rightarrow \epsilon$
- **Contains a collection of *production rules***
 - Also called substitution rules or rewrite rules.

The Basics

Grammar Components

- **An example context free grammar:**
 - $S \rightarrow 0S1$
 - $S \rightarrow \epsilon$
- **Each production rule ($V \rightarrow w$) contains...**
 - **A symbol called variable or non-terminals**
 - A right arrow
 - A string that contains other variables and terminals

The Basics

Grammar Components

- **An example context free grammar:**
 - $S \rightarrow 0S1$
 - $S \rightarrow \epsilon$
- **Each production rule ($V \rightarrow w$) contains...**
 - A symbol called variable or non-terminals
 - **A right arrow**
 - A string that contains other variables and terminals

The Basics

Grammar Components

- **An example context free grammar:**
 - $S \rightarrow 0S1$
 - $S \rightarrow \epsilon$
- **Each production rule ($V \rightarrow w$) contains...**
 - A symbol called variable or non-terminals
 - A right arrow
 - **A string that contains other variables and terminals**

The Basics

Grammar Components

- An example **context free** grammar:
 - $S \rightarrow 0S1$
 - $S \rightarrow \epsilon$
- Each **production** rule ($V \rightarrow w$) defines...
 - How to **replace** a variable V with a string w **regardless of the current context**.
 - Do this repeatedly until there is no variable left.
 - The result is a string over all terminals.

The Basics

Grammar Components

- **An example context free grammar:**
 - $S \rightarrow 0S1$
 - $S \rightarrow \epsilon$
- **One more thing: The start variable**
 - Defines the starting point of a sequence of substitutions.
 - Usually, it is the variable of the very first production rule.

The Basics

Formal Definition

- **Components: The 4-tuple (V, Σ, R, S)**
 - V : A finite set of variables
 - Σ : A finite set of terminals that is disjoint from V
 - R : A finite set of production rules
 - S : The start variable ($S \in V$)

The Basics

Formal Definition - Example

- **Components: The 4-tuple (V, Σ, R, S)**
 - V : A finite set of variables
 - Σ : A finite set of terminals that is disjoint from V
 - R : A finite set of production rules
 - S : The start variable ($S \in V$)
- **An example grammar: $V = \{S\}; \Sigma = \{0, 1, \epsilon\}; S_{\text{start}} = S$**
 - $S \rightarrow 0S1$
 - $S \rightarrow \epsilon$ OR: $S \rightarrow 0S1 \mid \epsilon$

The empty string

The Basics

Derivation

- **Generate a string from the start variable**
 - Step 1: Write down the start variable.
 - Step 2: Select a variable on the paper.
 - Step 3: Find the rule that has the selected variable on the left-hand side.
 - Step 4: Replace the selected variable with the right-hand side of that rule.
 - Step 5: Repeat Steps 2 – 5 until there is no variable left on the paper.

The Basics

Derivation – Example 1

- **Generate a string from the start variable**

- Step 1: Write down the start variable.
- Step 2: Select a variable on the paper.
- Step 3: Find the rule that has the selected variable on the left-hand side.
- Step 4: Replace the selected variable with the right-hand side of that rule.
- Step 5: Repeat Steps 2 – 5 until there is no variable left on the paper.

- **Grammar:** $S \rightarrow 0S1 \mid \epsilon$

- **Derivation:** S

The Basics

Derivation – Example 1

- **Generate a string from the start variable**

- Step 1: Write down the start variable.
- Step 2: Select a variable on the paper.
- Step 3: Find the rule that has the selected variable on the left-hand side.
- Step 4: Replace the selected variable with the right-hand side of that rule.
- Step 5: Repeat Steps 2 – 5 until there is no variable left on the paper.

- **Grammar:** $S \rightarrow 0S1 \mid \epsilon$

- **Derivation:** $S \Rightarrow 0S1$

yields

The Basics

Derivation – Example 1

- **Generate a string from the start variable**

- Step 1: Write down the start variable.
- Step 2: Select a variable on the paper.
- Step 3: Find the rule that has the selected variable on the left-hand side.
- Step 4: Replace the selected variable with the right-hand side of that rule.
- Step 5: Repeat Steps 2 – 5 until there is no variable left on the paper.

- **Grammar:** $S \rightarrow 0S1 \mid \epsilon$

- **Derivation:** $S \Rightarrow 0S1 \Rightarrow 00S11 \Rightarrow 00\epsilon 11 = 0011$

The Basics

Derivation – Example 2

- **Generate a string from the start variable**

- **Grammar:** $S \rightarrow aSa \mid bSb \mid \epsilon$

- **Derivation:**

$S \Rightarrow aSa$

$\Rightarrow aaSaa$

$\Rightarrow aabSbaa$

$\Rightarrow aab\epsilon baa$

$= aabbaa$

- $PALINDROME_{\{a,b\}}$

The Basics

Derivation

- **Context Free Grammar $G = (V, \Sigma, R, S)$**
 - V : A finite set of variables
 - Σ : A finite set of terminals that is disjoint from V
 - R : A finite set of production rules
 - S : The start variable ($S \in V$)
- **Context Free Language $L(G) = \{w \in \Sigma^* \mid S \Rightarrow^* w\}$**
 - The set of all strings derived from the start variable.

derives

The Basics

Derivation – Potential Problem?

- **Generate a string from the start variable**
 - Step 1: Write down the start variable.
 - **Step 2: Select a variable on the paper.**
 - Step 3: Find the rule that has the selected variable on the left-hand side.
 - Step 4: Replace the selected variable with the right-hand side of that rule.
 - Step 5: Repeat Steps 2 – 5 until there is no variable left on the paper.
- **What if there are multiple variables on the paper?**
 - Which one should be replaced next?

The Basics

Derivation – Leftmost versus Rightmost

- **Generate a string from the start variable**
 - Step 1: Write down the start variable.
 - **Step 2: Select a variable on the paper.**
 - **Leftmost Derivation:** Always replace the leftmost variable in each step.
 - **Rightmost Derivation:** Always replace the rightmost variable in each step.
 - Step 3: Find the rule that has the selected variable on the left-hand side.
 - Step 4: Replace the selected variable with the right-hand side of that rule.
 - Step 5: Repeat Steps 2 – 5 until there is no variable left on the paper.

The Basics

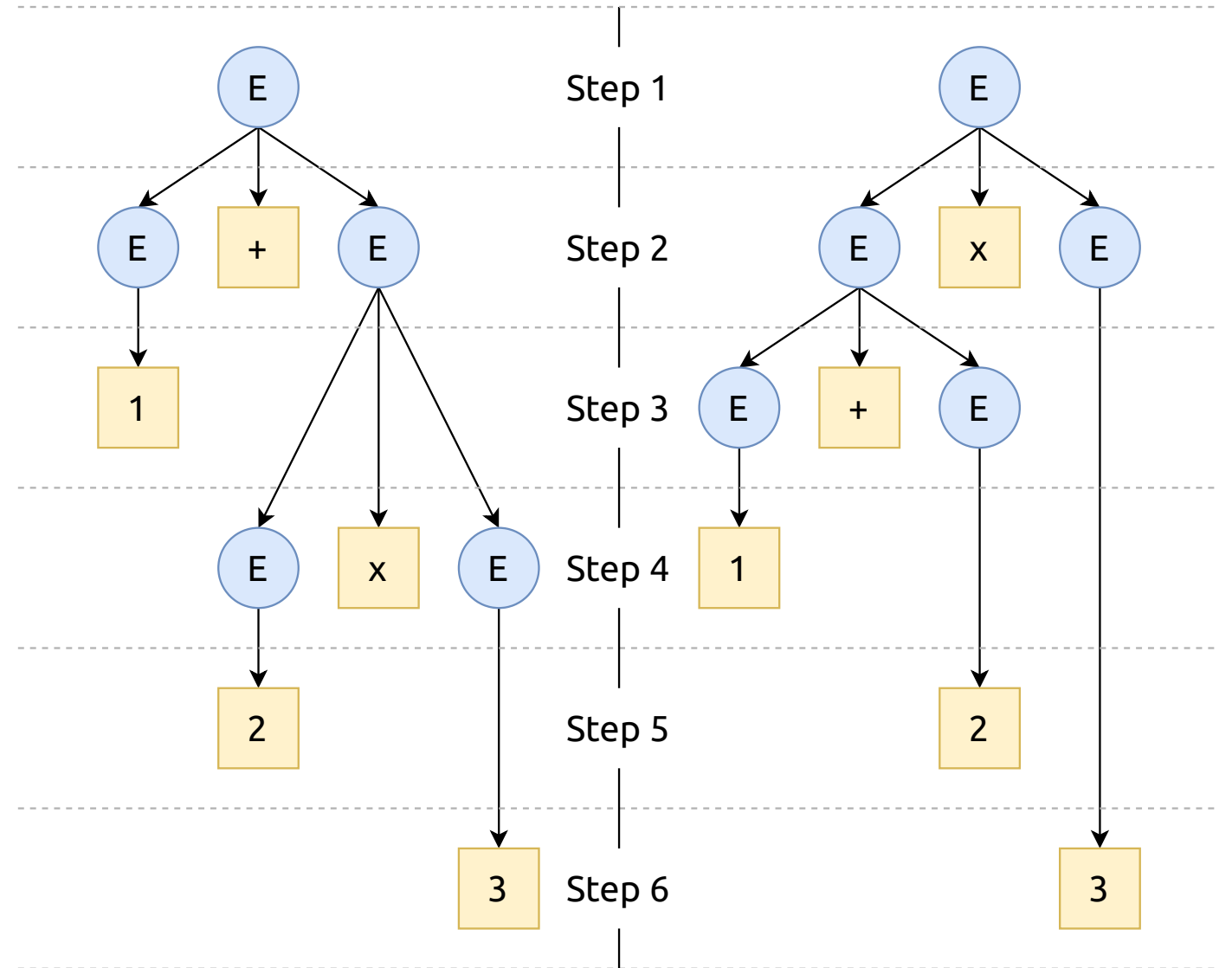
Visualize Derivation

- An example **problematic** grammar
 - $E \rightarrow E + E \mid E \times E \mid n$
 - where E stands for *Expression* and n is any integer literal
- **Derive the string $1 + 2 \times 3$ from E**

The Basics

Visualize Derivation – Leftmost

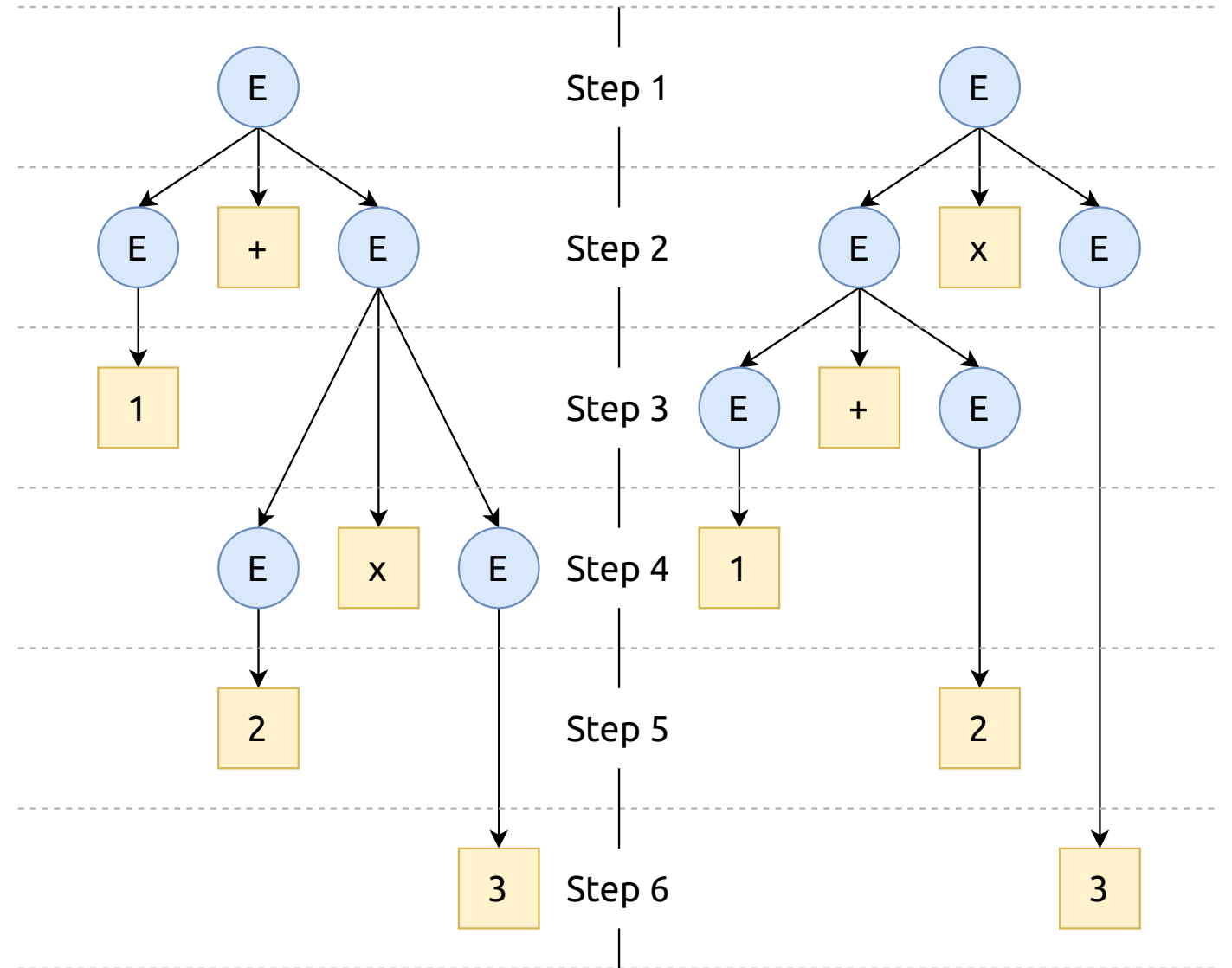
- $E \rightarrow E + E \mid E \times E \mid n$
- String: $1 + 2 \times 3$
- Two leftmost derivations
 - Also, two meanings ☹️
 - $1 + (2 \times 3)$
 - $(1 + 2) \times 3$



The Basics

Ambiguous Grammar

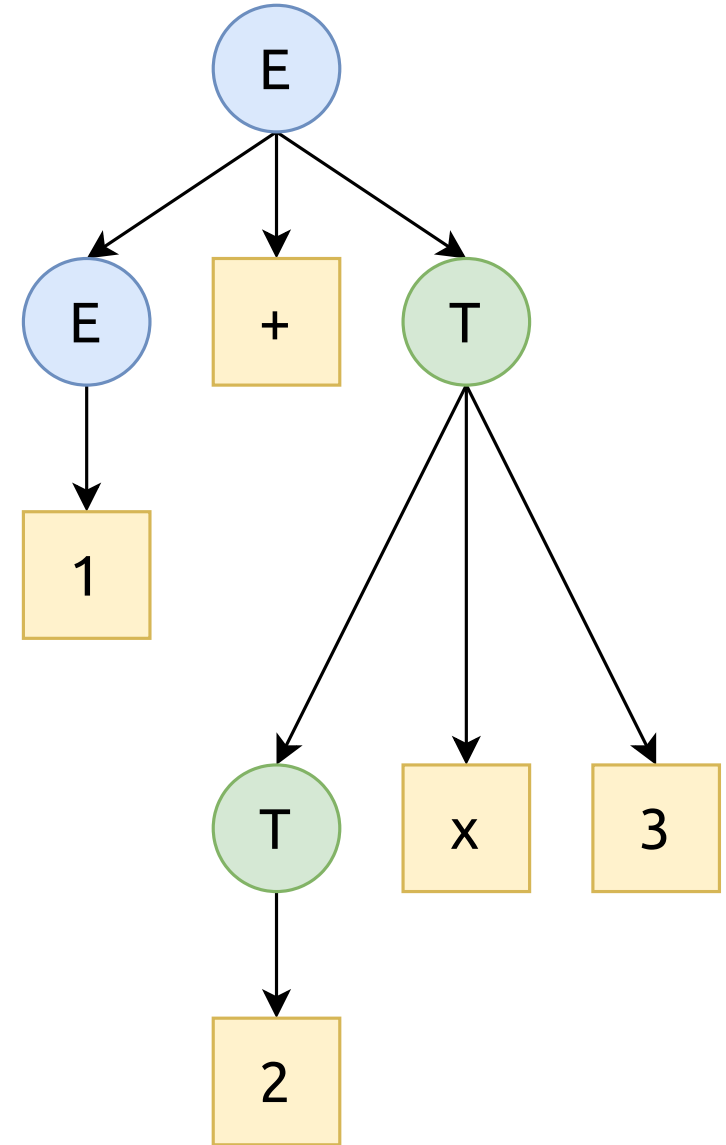
- A context free grammar is ambiguous if a derived string has more than one distinct leftmost derivation.
 - $1 + 2 \times 3 = 9$ or 7 ?
 - The compiler may evaluate the above expression to 9.



The Basics

Ambiguous Grammar

- An example problematic grammar ☹️
 - $E \rightarrow E + E \mid E \times E \mid n$
- Fixed grammar without ambiguity 😊
 - $E \rightarrow E + T \mid T$
 - $T \rightarrow T \times n \mid n$
 - $1 + 2 \times 3$ has only one leftmost derivation now.



Parsing Part 1

The Fundamental Idea

- **Pushdown Automaton (PDA)**

- Finite State Automaton + A stack with unlimited amount of memory.
- The machine can also push/pop a symbol onto/from the stack.
- A set of input symbols + A set of stack symbols.

- **Recognize $L = \{0^n 1^n \mid n \geq 0\}$**

- Push "0" onto the stack when the machine reads a "0" from the tape.
- Pop "0" from the stack when the machine reads a "1" from the tape.
- Accept the input if the stack is empty on reading an " ϵ " from the tape.

Parsing Part 1

CYK Algorithm

- **Originally published by Itiroo Sakai in 1961.**
 - Sakai, Itiroo (1962). Syntax in universal translation.
 - 1961 International Conference on Machine Translation of Languages and Applied Language Analysis
- **But named after its rediscoverers:**
 - John Cocke
 - Danial Younger
 - Tadao Kasami

Parsing Part 1

CYK Algorithm

- **Exploit the idea of dynamic programming**
 - Use the solution to a smaller problem to solve a bigger problem.
- **The **standard** version has an important assumption.**
 - The grammar must be rendered into Chomsky Normal Form (CNF).
 - CNF defines constraints on each production rule.
- **There are variants that relax some of the constraints.**
 - "To CNF or not to CNF? An Efficient Yet Presentable Version of the CYK Algorithm" by Lange, Martin; Leiß, Hans in 2009.

Parsing Part 1

Chomsky Normal Form (CNF)

- **Every production rule must be of the form**

- $A \rightarrow BC$

- OR

- $A \rightarrow a$

- **Notes**

- A, B, C are any variables, and a is any terminal.

- B, C must not be the start variable.

- $S \rightarrow \epsilon$ is allowed, if S is the start variable.

Parsing Part 1

Chomsky Normal Form (CNF)

- **Every production rule must be of the form**
 - $A \rightarrow BC$
 - OR
 - $A \rightarrow a$
- **Observations**
 - A variable can be directly replaced by a terminal.
 - Otherwise, a variable is separated into two parts.
 - Each part is replaced by some other string.

Parsing Part 1

Chomsky Normal Form (CNF)

- **[Sip] Every context free grammar can be transformed into CNF.**
- **The transformation is done in 5 steps:**
 - START: Eliminate the start variable from the right-hand sides.
 - TERM: Eliminate right-hand sides with both variables and terminals.
 - BIN: Eliminate right-hand sides with more than 2 variables.
 - DEL: Eliminate all ϵ -rules ($A \rightarrow \epsilon$) not involving the start variable.
 - UNIT: Eliminate all unit rules ($A \rightarrow B$).

Parsing Part 1

Chomsky Normal Form (CNF)

$$S \rightarrow aSa \mid bSb \mid \epsilon$$

$$S' \rightarrow S$$

$$S \rightarrow aSa \mid bSb \mid \epsilon$$

- **The transformation is done in 5 steps:**
 - **START: Eliminate the start variable from the right-hand sides.**
 - Introduce a new start variable S' that derives the original start variable S .
 - TERM: Eliminate right-hand sides with both variables and terminals.
 - BIN: Eliminate right-hand sides with more than 2 variables.
 - DEL: Eliminate all ϵ -rules ($A \rightarrow \epsilon$) not involving the start variable.
 - UNIT: Eliminate all unit rules ($A \rightarrow B$).

Parsing Part 1

Chomsky Normal Form (CNF)

$$S' \rightarrow S$$
$$S \rightarrow aSa \mid bSb \mid \epsilon$$

$$S' \rightarrow S$$
$$S \rightarrow ASA \mid BSB \mid \epsilon$$
$$A \rightarrow a$$
$$B \rightarrow b$$

- **The transformation is done in 5 steps:**
 - START: Eliminate the start variable from the right-hand sides.
 - **TERM: Eliminate right-hand sides with both variables and terminals.**
 - Introduce a new variable X_i for each terminal x_i on the right-hand side.
 - Introduce a new production rule $X_i \rightarrow x_i$.
 - BIN: Eliminate right-hand sides with more than 2 variables.
 - DEL: Eliminate all ϵ -rules ($A \rightarrow \epsilon$) not involving the start variable.
 - UNIT: Eliminate all unit rules ($A \rightarrow B$).

Parsing Part 1

Chomsky Normal Form (CNF)

$$\begin{aligned} S' &\rightarrow S \\ S &\rightarrow \mathbf{ASA} \mid \mathbf{BSB} \mid \epsilon \\ A &\rightarrow a; B \rightarrow b \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} S' &\rightarrow S \\ S &\rightarrow \mathbf{AX} \mid \mathbf{BY} \mid \epsilon \\ \mathbf{X} &\rightarrow \mathbf{SA}; \mathbf{Y} \rightarrow \mathbf{SB} \\ A &\rightarrow a; B \rightarrow b \end{aligned}$$

- **The transformation is done in 5 steps:**
 - START: Eliminate the start variable from the right-hand sides.
 - TERM: Eliminate right-hand sides with both variables and terminals.
 - **BIN: Eliminate right-hand sides with more than 2 variables.**
 - $A \rightarrow X_1X_2 \dots X_n$; Let $Head = X_1$; Let $Tail = X_2X_3 \dots X_n$:
 - Recursively replace the tail sequence of variables with a new variable until $|Tail| = 2$.
 - DEL: Eliminate all ϵ -rules ($A \rightarrow \epsilon$) not involving the start variable.
 - UNIT: Eliminate all unit rules ($A \rightarrow B$).

Parsing Part 1

Chomsky Normal Form (CNF)

$$\begin{aligned} S' &\rightarrow S \\ S &\rightarrow AX \mid BY \mid \epsilon \\ X &\rightarrow SA; Y \rightarrow SB \\ A &\rightarrow a; B \rightarrow b \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} S' &\rightarrow S \mid \epsilon \\ S &\rightarrow AX \mid BY \\ X &\rightarrow SA \mid A; Y \rightarrow SB \mid B \\ A &\rightarrow a; B \rightarrow b \end{aligned}$$

- **The transformation is done in 5 steps:**
 - START: Eliminate the start variable from the right-hand sides.
 - TERM: Eliminate right-hand sides with both variables and terminals.
 - BIN: Eliminate right-hand sides with more than 2 variables.
 - **DEL: Eliminate all ϵ -rules ($A \rightarrow \epsilon$) not involving the start variable.**
 - For each occurrence of an A on the right-hand side:
 - Add a new rule with that occurrence deleted.
 - UNIT: Eliminate all unit rules ($A \rightarrow B$).

Parsing Part 1

Chomsky Normal Form (CNF)

$$\begin{aligned} S' &\rightarrow S \mid \epsilon \\ S &\rightarrow AX \mid BY \\ X &\rightarrow SA \mid A; Y \rightarrow SB \mid B \\ A &\rightarrow a; B \rightarrow b \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} S' &\rightarrow AX \mid BY \mid \epsilon \\ S &\rightarrow AX \mid BY \\ X &\rightarrow SA \mid a; Y \rightarrow SB \mid b \\ A &\rightarrow a; B \rightarrow b \end{aligned}$$

- **The transformation is done in 5 steps:**
 - START: Eliminate the start variable from the right-hand sides.
 - TERM: Eliminate right-hand sides with both variables and terminals.
 - BIN: Eliminate right-hand sides with more than 2 variables.
 - DEL: Eliminate all ϵ -rules ($A \rightarrow \epsilon$) not involving the start variable.
 - **UNIT: Eliminate all unit rules ($A \rightarrow B$).**
 - Whenever $B \rightarrow v$ appears, add a rule $A \rightarrow v$.

Parsing Part 1

Chomsky Normal Form (CNF)

- **The transformation is done in 5 steps:**
 - START: Eliminate the start variable from the right-hand sides.
 - TERM: Eliminate right-hand sides with both variables and terminals.
 - **BIN: Eliminate right-hand sides with more than 2 variables.**
 - **DEL: Eliminate all ϵ -rules ($A \rightarrow \epsilon$) not involving the start variable.**
 - UNIT: Eliminate all unit rules ($A \rightarrow B$).
 - More details and time analysis are covered in the textbook and the paper.
 - "To CNF or not to CNF? An Efficient Yet Presentable Version of the CYK Algorithm"



**Order
Matters**

Parsing Part 1

CYK Algorithm

- Given a CFG G in CNF and an input string w of length n .
- **Exploit the properties of CNF:** $A \rightarrow BC$ or $A \rightarrow a$; $S \rightarrow \epsilon$ is allowed.
 - Supposed that the input string can be generated from G ...
 - If a string w is ϵ , then there exists a rule $S \rightarrow \epsilon$.
 - If a string w of length 1 can be derived from a variable A ,
 - then there exists a rule $A \rightarrow w$.
 - If a string w of length ≥ 2 can be derived from a variable A ...
 - then there exists a rule $A \rightarrow BC$ such that
 - B derives the substring w_{front} (\leftarrow A smaller problem)
 - C derives the substring w_{back} (\leftarrow A smaller problem)
 - where $w = w_{front} + w_{back}$ (string concatenation)

Parsing Part 1

CYK Algorithm

- Exploit the properties of CNF: $A \rightarrow BC$ or $A \rightarrow a$; $S \rightarrow \epsilon$ is allowed.
 - If a string w of length ≥ 2 can be derived from a variable A ...
 - **Then there exists a rule $A \rightarrow BC$ such that**
 - **B derives the substring w_{front} (\leftarrow A smaller problem)**
 - **C derives the substring w_{back} (\leftarrow A smaller problem)**
 - where $w = w_{front} + w_{back}$ (string concatenation)
 - **Where should we split w into w_{front} and w_{back} ?**
 - We need to try every possible partitions.
 - Good! We reduce a big problem into two smaller problems!
 - Top-down Approach: We could recursively solve the problem now.



Parsing Part 1

CYK Algorithm

- **Bottom-up Approach:**

- If we know which variables generate all substrings of the input up to length k , can we know which variable generates a particular substring of length $k + 1$?

YES!

- Split a substring of length $k + 1$ into two non-empty pieces (there are k possible ways).
- For each rule of form $A \rightarrow BC$:
 - Check whether B can generate the first piece of length $p \leq k$.
 - Check whether C can generate the second piece of length $k + 1 - p \leq k$.
 - If so, then A can generate this substring of length $k + 1$.
- Now we just check every possible substring of length $k + 1$.

Parsing Part 1

CYK Algorithm

- **Bottom-up Approach:**

- If we know which variables generate all substrings of the input up to length k , we know which variable generates a particular substring of length $k + 1$?
- By induction, we know which variables generate the substring of length n .
 - Substring of length n is just the input string.
 - If those variables contain the start variable S , then $w \in L(G)$.

Parsing Part 1

CYK Algorithm

- *Input* = $\langle G_{CNF} = (V, \Sigma, R, S), w = \sigma_1\sigma_2 \dots \sigma_n \rangle$; *Output* = *accept* or *reject*.
- *Table* = $n \times n$ cells
 - where *Table*[i, j] stores a set of variables that can generate the substring $\sigma_i\sigma_{i+1} \dots \sigma_j$ ($i \leq j$).
- If w is empty, if $S \rightarrow \epsilon$ exists then *accept* else *reject*.
- For $i = 1 \dots n$:
 - For each variable A : If $A \rightarrow \sigma_i$ exists, then insert A into *Table*[i, i].
- For $l = 2 \dots n$:
 - For $i = 1 \dots (n - l + 1)$:
 - Let $j = i + l - 1$; For $k = i \dots (j - 1)$:
 - For each rule $A \rightarrow BC$: If *Table*[i, k] contains B and *Table*[$k + 1, j$] contains C , then insert A into *Table*[i, j].
- If *Table*[$1, n$] contains S then *accept* else *reject*.

Parsing Part 2

Practical Parsers

- The standard CYK algorithm only tells us whether an input string can be generated.
- Sometimes, we also want to know **how a string is generated.**
 - e.g., A compiler needs to convert the source code to an abstract syntax tree so that it can perform type checking and produce the assembly code.
 - i.e., Search for the derivation from S to the input string w .

Parsing Part 2

Parser Types

- **Top-down Parsers**

- Build a derivation from the start variable to the input string.
- At each step, the parser selects a variable A and replaces the variable with the right-hand side of the rule $A \rightarrow v$.

- **Bottom-up Parsers**

- Build a derivation from the input string back to the start variable.
- At each step, the parser identifies a substring v that matches the right-hand side of a rule $A \rightarrow v$ and replaces the substring with the variable.

Parsing Part 2

Top-down Parsers

- **Begin with the start variable...**

- At each step, the parser selects a variable and replaces the variable with the right-hand side of the rule.
- Keep expanding the parse tree until the leaves match the input string.

- **Example with input string *bacab*:**

- Derivation: $S \Rightarrow d_1 \Rightarrow d_2 \Rightarrow \dots \Rightarrow d_{n-1} \Rightarrow d_n = bacab$
- Grammar: $S \rightarrow b A C b$; $A \rightarrow aA \mid c$; $C \rightarrow cC \mid a$
- $d_i = baACb$, so d_{i+1} can be one of:
 - $baaACb$ ($A \rightarrow aA$)
 - $bacCb$ ($A \rightarrow c$)
 - $baAcCb$ ($C \rightarrow cC$)
 - $baAab$ ($C \rightarrow a$)

Parsing Part 2

Parser Types

- **Top-down Parsers**

- Recursive descent parsers (with backtracking)
- Predictive parsers: $LL(k)$ parsers (without backtracking)
 - Read the input **L**eft to right; Build **L**eftmost derivation; Peek at most ***k*** symbols.

- **Bottom-up Parsers**

- Shift-reduce parsers (without backtracking)
- $LR(k)$ parsers (without backtracking)
 - Read the input **L**eft to right; Build **R**ightmost derivation in reverse; Peek at most ***k*** symbols.

Parsing Part 2

$LL(1)$ Parser – A Quick Glance

- **Peek the next symbol is sufficient to choose the correct production rule**
 - $S \rightarrow aP \mid bQ$
 - Supposed that the parser is parsing the variable S .
 - If the next symbol is a , the parser consumes a and starts to parse the variable P .
 - If the next symbol is b , the parser consumes b and starts to parse the variable Q .
- **Constraints on the context free grammar**
 - The constrained grammar is known as $LL(1)$ grammar.
 - The first symbol of all strings derived from a variable must be unique.
 - $S \rightarrow aP \mid bQ \mid aR$

Parsing Part 2

$LL(1)$ Parser – Constraints

- **Constraints on the context free grammar**
 - The constrained grammar is known as $LL(1)$ grammar.
 - The **first symbol** of all strings derived from a variable must be unique.
 - Problematic ☹:
 - $S \rightarrow aP \mid bQ \mid aR$
 - Fixed ☺:
 - $S \rightarrow aX \mid bQ$
 - $X \rightarrow Q \mid R$
 - $Q \rightarrow c \mid q$
 - $R \rightarrow d \mid r$

Parsing Part 2

$LL(1)$ Parser – Constraints

- **Constraints on the context free grammar**

- The constrained grammar is known as $LL(1)$ grammar.
- The first symbol of all strings derived from a variable must be unique.
- Left recursion is not allowed.
 - $E \rightarrow E + T \mid T$
 - $T \rightarrow T \times n \mid n$
 - When the parser is parsing E ...
 - It needs to parse E , then $+$, and finally T .
 - It needs to parse E , ...
 - Stack overflow.

Parsing Part 2

$LL(1)$ Parser – Constraints

- **Constraints on the context free grammar**
 - The constrained grammar is known as $LL(1)$ grammar.
 - The first symbol of all strings derived from a variable must be unique.
 - Left recursion is not allowed.
 - $E \rightarrow E + T \mid T$
 - $T \rightarrow T \times n \mid n$
 - Left recursions removed:
 - $E \rightarrow TZ; Z \rightarrow + E \mid \epsilon$
 - $T \rightarrow nR; R \rightarrow \times T \mid \epsilon$

Parsing Part 2

$LL(1)$ Parser – JavaCC Example

- **Generate a parser for the grammar:**

- $E \rightarrow T + E \mid T - E \mid T$

- $T \rightarrow n \times T \mid n$

- $E \rightarrow T ((+|-) T)^*$

- $T \rightarrow P (\times P)^*$

- $P \rightarrow n$

Context Free Grammar Summary

- **The Basics**

- Syntax: $A \rightarrow w$
- Formal Definition: $G = (V, \Sigma, R, S)$
- Derivation: $S \Rightarrow w_1 \Rightarrow w_2 \Rightarrow \dots \Rightarrow w_n; S \Rightarrow^* w_n$
 - Leftmost Derivation versus Rightmost Derivation
 - Ambiguous Grammar
 - Parse Tree: Visual Derivations

Context Free Grammar Summary

- **Parsing**

- Pushdown Automaton: Finite State Automaton + Stack
- Chomsky Normal Form: Constraints and Transformations
- Cocke-Younger-Kasami Algorithm (CYK Algorithm)
- Top-Down Parsing versus Bottom-Up Parsing
 - Recursive Descent Parsers
 - $LL(k)$ Parsers
 - $LL(1)$ Parsers: Constraints and Solutions

Context Free Grammar

Questions?

Thanks for joining today



Any Questions?

Context Free Grammar

References & Notes

- **"Three models for the description of language"**
 - Noam Chomsky (1956), IRE Transactions on Information Theory.
- **"To CNF or not to CNF? An Efficient Yet Presentable Version of the CYK Algorithm"**
 - Martin Lange, Hans Leiß (2009), Informatica Didactica.
- **"Introduction to the Theory of Computation"**
 - Section 2.1 and Section 2.2: Basics of CFG and PDA.
 - Chapter 7: Section 7.2 Theorem 7.16: The CYK Algorithm.

Context Free Grammar

References & Notes

- **"Modern Compiler Implementation in Java"**
 - Second Edition, Andrew Appel, 2002
- **"Comparison of parser generators – Deterministic CFG"**
 - https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Comparison_of_parser_generators#Deterministic_context-free_languages
- **"JavaCC Parser Generator"**
 - <https://javacc.github.io/javacc/>