

# Introduction to Compiler Construction

Parsing: Top-down LL(1) Algorithm

## Outline

- 1 LL(1) Parsing
- 2 First Set
- 3 Follow Set
- 4 LL(1) Parse Table
- 5 Removing Left Recursion

## LL(1) Parsing

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The 1 indicates a lookahead of a single token

At the start, the start symbol  $S$  is pushed onto a stack

The parser continues by parsing each symbol as it is removed from the top of the stack

- If the symbol is a terminal, it scans a token from the input; if they do not match, an error is raised
- If the symbol is a non-terminal, the input token is used to decide which rule to apply to replace that non-terminal

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The parser consults this table, given the non-terminal on top of the stack and the next input token to determine which rule to use in replacing the non-terminal

No table entry may contain more than one rule

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LL(1) parse table for the grammar

	+	*	(	)	id	#
$E$			1		1	
$E'$	2			3		3
$T$			4		4	
$T'$	6	5		6		6
$F$			7		8	

## LL(1) Parsing

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**Input:** parse table *table*, productions *rules*, and a sentence *w*

**Output:** a left-most derivation for *w*

```
1: stk ← Stack(#, S)
2: sym ← first symbol in w#
3: while true do
4:   top ← stk.pop()
5:   if top = sym = # then
6:     Halt successfully
7:   else if top is a terminal then
8:     if top = sym then
9:       Advance sym to be the next symbol in w#
10:    else
11:      Halt with an error: sym found where top was expected
12:    end if
13:   else if top is a non-terminal Y then
14:     index ← table[Y, sym]
15:     if index ≠ err then
16:       rule ← rules[index]
17:       If  $Y ::= X_1 X_2 \dots X_n$ , then stk.push( $X_n, \dots, X_2, X_1$ )
18:     else
19:       Halt with an error: no rule to follow
20:     end if
21:   end if
22: end while
```

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	+	*	(	)	id	#
$E$			1		1	
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	+	*	(	)	id	#
$E$			1		1	
$E'$	2			3		3
$T$			4		4	
$T'$	6	5		6		6
$F$			7		8	

Stack	Input	Output
# $E$	id+id*id#	1
# $E' T$	id+id*id#	4
# $E' T' F$	id+id*id#	8
# $E' T' id$	id+id*id#	
# $E' T'$	+id*id#	6
# $E'$	+id*id#	2
# $E' T_+$	+id*id#	
# $E' T$	id*id#	4
# $E' T' F$	id*id#	8
# $E' T' id$	id*id#	
# $E' T'$	*id#	5
# $E' T' F_*$	*id#	

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# $E' T'$	#	6

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# $E' T' F$	id#	8
# $E' T' id$	id#	
# $E' T'$	#	6
# $E'$	#	3

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# $E' T'$	+id*id#	6
# $E'$	+id*id#	2
# $E' T_+$	+id*id#	
# $E' T$	id*id#	4
# $E' T' F$	id*id#	8
# $E' T' id$	id*id#	
# $E' T'$	*id#	5
# $E' T' F_*$	*id#	
# $E' T' F$	id#	8
# $E' T' id$	id#	
# $E' T'$	#	6
# $E'$	#	3
#	#	✓

## LL(1) Parsing

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Assuming both  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are (possibly empty) strings of terminals and non-terminals,  $\text{table}[Y, a] = i$ , where  $i$  is the number of the rule  $Y ::= X_1 X_2 \dots X_n$ , if either

1.  $X_1 X_2 \dots X_n \xRightarrow{*} a\alpha$ , or
2.  $X_1 X_2 \dots X_n \xRightarrow{*} \epsilon$ , and there is a derivation  $S_{\#} \xRightarrow{*} \alpha Y a \beta$

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For this we need two helper functions, *first* and *follow*

First Set

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If  $X_1 X_2 \dots X_n \xrightarrow{*} \epsilon$ , then we say that  $\text{first}(X_1 X_2 \dots X_n)$  includes  $\epsilon$

**First Set** · First Set of a Single Symbol

## First Set · First Set of a Single Symbol

**Input:** a context-free grammar  $G = (N, T, S, P)$

**Output:**  $\text{first}(X)$  for all symbols  $X \in T \cup N$

```
1: for  $X \in T$  do
2:    $\text{first}(X) \leftarrow \{X\}$ 
3: end for
4: for  $X \in N$  do
5:    $\text{first}(X) \leftarrow \{\}$ 
6: end for
7: if  $X ::= \epsilon \in P$  then
8:   Add  $\epsilon$  to  $\text{first}(X)$ 
9: end if
10: repeat
11:   for  $Y ::= X_1 X_2 \dots X_n \in P$  do
12:     Add  $\text{first}(X_1 X_2 \dots X_n)$  to  $\text{first}(Y)$ 
13:   end for
14: until no new symbols are added to any set
```

**First Set** · First Set of a Sequence of Symbols

## First Set · First Set of a Sequence of Symbols

**Input:** a context-free grammar  $G = (N, T, S, P)$  and a sequence of symbols  $X_1 X_2 \dots X_n$

**Output:**  $\text{first}(X_1 X_2 \dots X_n)$

1:  $F \leftarrow \text{first}(X_1)$

2:  $i \leftarrow 2$

3: **while**  $\epsilon \in F$  and  $i \leq n$  **do**

4:      $F \leftarrow F - \epsilon$

5:     Add  $\text{first}(X_i)$  to  $F$

6:      $i \leftarrow i + 1$

7: **end while**

8: **return**  $F$

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8.  $F ::= \text{id}$

$\text{first}(E) =$   
 $\text{first}(E') =$   
 $\text{first}(T) =$   
 $\text{first}(T') =$   
 $\text{first}(F) =$

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$$\begin{aligned}\text{first}(E) &= \{\} \\ \text{first}(E') &= \{\} \\ \text{first}(T) &= \{\} \\ \text{first}(T') &= \{\} \\ \text{first}(F) &= \{\}\end{aligned}$$

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8.  $F ::= \text{id}$

$$\text{first}(E) = \{\}$$

$$\text{first}(E') = \{\epsilon, +\}$$

$$\text{first}(T) = \{(, \text{id}\}$$

$$\text{first}(T') = \{\epsilon, *\}$$

$$\text{first}(F) = \{(, \text{id}\}$$

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$$\begin{aligned}\text{first}(E) &= \{ (, \text{id} \} \\ \text{first}(E') &= \{ \epsilon, + \} \\ \text{first}(T) &= \{ (, \text{id} \} \\ \text{first}(T') &= \{ \epsilon, * \} \\ \text{first}(F) &= \{ (, \text{id} \}\end{aligned}$$

Follow Set

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$\text{follow}(X)$  is the set of all terminals that can start strings derivable from what can follow  $X$  in a derivation

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Formally,  $\text{follow}(X) = \{a \mid S \xRightarrow{*} wX\alpha \text{ and } \alpha \xRightarrow{*} a \dots\}$

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Alternate definition

1.  $\text{follow}(S)$  contains  $\#$ , ie, the terminator follows the start symbol
2. If there is a rule  $Y ::= \alpha X \beta$  in  $P$ ,  $\text{follow}(X)$  contains  $\text{first}(\beta) - \{\epsilon\}$
3. If there is a rule  $Y ::= \alpha X \beta$  in  $P$  and either  $\beta = \epsilon$  or  $\text{first}(\beta)$  contains  $\epsilon$ ,  $\text{follow}(X)$  contains  $\text{follow}(Y)$

Follow Set

## Follow Set

**Input:** a context-free grammar  $G = (N, T, S, P)$

**Output:**  $\text{follow}(X)$  for all symbols  $X \in N$

```
1:  $\text{follow}(S) \leftarrow \{\#\}$ 
2: for  $X \in N$  do
3:    $\text{follow}(X) \leftarrow \{\}$ 
4: end for
5: repeat
6:   for  $Y ::= X_1X_2 \dots X_n \in P$  do
7:     for  $X_i \in X_1X_2 \dots X_n$  do
8:       Add  $\text{first}(X_{i+1}X_{i+2} \dots X_n) - \{\epsilon\}$  to  $\text{follow}(X_i)$ 
9:       If  $X_i$  is the last symbol or  $\epsilon \in \text{first}(X_{i+1} \dots X_n)$ , add  $\text{follow}(Y)$  to  $\text{follow}(X_i)$ 
10:    end for
11:   end for
12: until no new symbols are added to any set
```

**Follow Set** · Example (Follow Sets for the Arithmetic Expression Grammar)

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  6.  $T' ::= \epsilon$
  7.  $F ::= (E)$
  8.  $F ::= \text{id}$
- $\text{first}(E) = \{ (, \text{id} \}$   
 $\text{first}(E') = \{ +, \epsilon \}$   
 $\text{first}(T) = \{ (, \text{id} \}$   
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$$\text{first}(E') = \{ +, \epsilon \}$$

$$\text{first}(T) = \{ (, \text{id} \}$$

$$\text{first}(T') = \{ *, \epsilon \}$$

$$\text{first}(F) = \{ (, \text{id} \}$$

$$\text{follow}(E) = \{ \# \}$$

$$\text{follow}(E') = \{ \}$$

$$\text{follow}(T) = \{ \}$$

$$\text{follow}(T') = \{ \}$$

$$\text{follow}(F) = \{ \}$$

## Follow Set · Example (Follow Sets for the Arithmetic Expression Grammar)

1.  $E ::= T E'$
2.  $E' ::= + T E'$
3.  $E' ::= \epsilon$
4.  $T ::= F T'$
5.  $T' ::= * F T'$
6.  $T' ::= \epsilon$
7.  $F ::= (E)$
8.  $F ::= \text{id}$

$$\text{first}(E) = \{ (, \text{id} \}$$

$$\text{first}(E') = \{ +, \epsilon \}$$

$$\text{first}(T) = \{ (, \text{id} \}$$

$$\text{first}(T') = \{ *, \epsilon \}$$

$$\text{first}(F) = \{ (, \text{id} \}$$

$$\text{follow}(E) = \{ ), \# \}$$

$$\text{follow}(E') = \{ \# \}$$

$$\text{follow}(T) = \{ +, \# \}$$

$$\text{follow}(T') = \{ +, \# \}$$

$$\text{follow}(F) = \{ *, +, \# \}$$

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$$\text{first}(T) = \{ (, \text{id} \}$$

$$\text{first}(T') = \{ *, \epsilon \}$$

$$\text{first}(F) = \{ (, \text{id} \}$$

$$\text{follow}(E) = \{ ), \# \}$$

$$\text{follow}(E') = \{ ), \# \}$$

$$\text{follow}(T) = \{ +, ), \# \}$$

$$\text{follow}(T') = \{ +, ), \# \}$$

$$\text{follow}(F) = \{ *, +, ), \# \}$$



## LL(1) Parse Table

**Input:** a context-free grammar  $G = (N, T, S, P)$

**Output:** LL(1) parse table for  $G$

```
1: for  $Y \in N$  do
2:   for  $Y ::= X_1 X_2 \dots X_n \in P$  with index  $i$  do
3:     for  $a \in \text{first}(X_1 X_2 \dots X_n) - \{\epsilon\}$  do
4:       table[ $Y, a$ ]  $\leftarrow i$ 
5:       if  $\epsilon \in \text{first}(X_1 X_2 \dots X_n)$  then
6:         for  $a \in \text{follow}(Y)$  do
7:           table[ $Y, a$ ]  $\leftarrow i$ 
8:         end for
9:       end if
10:    end for
11:  end for
12: end for
```

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8.  $F ::= \text{id}$

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$\text{first}(E') = \{ \epsilon, + \}$

$\text{first}(T) = \{ (, \text{id} \}$

$\text{first}(T') = \{ \epsilon, * \}$

$\text{first}(F) = \{ (, \text{id} \}$

$\text{follow}(E) = \{ ), \# \}$

$\text{follow}(E') = \{ ), \# \}$

$\text{follow}(T) = \{ +, ), \# \}$

$\text{follow}(T') = \{ +, ), \# \}$

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7.  $F ::= (E)$

8.  $F ::= \text{id}$

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$\text{follow}(E) = \{ ), \# \}$

$\text{first}(E') = \{ \epsilon, + \}$

$\text{follow}(E') = \{ ), \# \}$

$\text{first}(T) = \{ (, \text{id} \}$

$\text{follow}(T) = \{ +, ), \# \}$

$\text{first}(T') = \{ \epsilon, * \}$

$\text{follow}(T') = \{ +, ), \# \}$

$\text{first}(F) = \{ (, \text{id} \}$

$\text{follow}(F) = \{ *, +, ), \# \}$

	+	*	(	)	id	#
$E$						
$E'$						
$T$						
$T'$						
$F$						

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5.  $T' ::= * F T'$

6.  $T' ::= \epsilon$

7.  $F ::= (E)$

8.  $F ::= \text{id}$

$$\text{first}(E) = \{ (, \text{id} \}$$

$$\text{follow}(E) = \{ ), \# \}$$

$$\text{first}(E') = \{ \epsilon, + \}$$

$$\text{follow}(E') = \{ ), \# \}$$

$$\text{first}(T) = \{ (, \text{id} \}$$

$$\text{follow}(T) = \{ +, ), \# \}$$

$$\text{first}(T') = \{ \epsilon, * \}$$

$$\text{follow}(T') = \{ +, ), \# \}$$

$$\text{first}(F) = \{ (, \text{id} \}$$

$$\text{follow}(F) = \{ *, +, ), \# \}$$

	+	*	(	)	id	#
$E$			1		1	
$E'$						
$T$						
$T'$						
$F$						

## LL(1) Parse Table · Example (Parser Table for the Arithmetic Expression Grammar)

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$$6. T' ::= \epsilon$$

$$7. F ::= (E)$$

$$8. F ::= \text{id}$$

$$\text{first}(E) = \{ (, \text{id} \}$$

$$\text{first}(E') = \{ \epsilon, + \}$$

$$\text{first}(T) = \{ (, \text{id} \}$$

$$\text{first}(T') = \{ \epsilon, * \}$$

$$\text{first}(F) = \{ (, \text{id} \}$$

$$\text{follow}(E) = \{ ), \# \}$$

$$\text{follow}(E') = \{ ), \# \}$$

$$\text{follow}(T) = \{ +, ), \# \}$$

$$\text{follow}(T') = \{ +, ), \# \}$$

$$\text{follow}(F) = \{ *, +, ), \# \}$$

	+	*	(	)	id	#
$E$			1		1	
$E'$	2					
$T$						
$T'$						
$F$						

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6.  $T' ::= \epsilon$

7.  $F ::= (E)$

8.  $F ::= \text{id}$

$\text{first}(E) = \{ (, \text{id} \}$

$\text{follow}(E) = \{ ), \# \}$

$\text{first}(E') = \{ \epsilon, + \}$

$\text{follow}(E') = \{ ), \# \}$

$\text{first}(T) = \{ (, \text{id} \}$

$\text{follow}(T) = \{ +, ), \# \}$

$\text{first}(T') = \{ \epsilon, * \}$

$\text{follow}(T') = \{ +, ), \# \}$

$\text{first}(F) = \{ (, \text{id} \}$

$\text{follow}(F) = \{ *, +, ), \# \}$

	+	*	(	)	id	#
$E$			1		1	
$E'$	2			3		3
$T$						
$T'$						
$F$						

## LL(1) Parse Table · Example (Parser Table for the Arithmetic Expression Grammar)

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$\text{follow}(E) = \{ ), \# \}$

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$\text{follow}(T) = \{ +, ), \# \}$

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$\text{follow}(T') = \{ +, ), \# \}$

$\text{first}(F) = \{ (, \text{id} \}$

$\text{follow}(F) = \{ *, +, ), \# \}$

	+	*	(	)	id	#
$E$			1		1	
$E'$	2			3		3
$T$			4		4	
$T'$						
$F$						

## LL(1) Parse Table · Example (Parser Table for the Arithmetic Expression Grammar)

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$$\text{first}(F) = \{ (, \text{id} \}$$

$$\text{follow}(F) = \{ *, +, ), \# \}$$

	+	*	(	)	id	#
$E$			1		1	
$E'$	2			3		3
$T$			4		4	
$T'$		5				
$F$						

## LL(1) Parse Table · Example (Parser Table for the Arithmetic Expression Grammar)

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$$7. F ::= (E)$$

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$$\text{follow}(T) = \{ +, ), \# \}$$

$$\text{follow}(T') = \{ +, ), \# \}$$

$$\text{follow}(F) = \{ *, +, ), \# \}$$

	+	*	(	)	id	#
<i>E</i>			1		1	
<i>E'</i>	2			3		3
<i>T</i>			4		4	
<i>T'</i>	6	5		6		6
<i>F</i>						

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$$6. T' ::= \epsilon$$

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$$\text{first}(E) = \{ (, \text{id} \}$$

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$$\text{first}(T) = \{ (, \text{id} \}$$

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$$\text{first}(F) = \{ (, \text{id} \}$$

$$\text{follow}(F) = \{ *, +, ), \# \}$$

	+	*	(	)	id	#
$E$			1		1	
$E'$	2			3		3
$T$			4		4	
$T'$	6	5		6		6
$F$			7		8	



## LL(1) Parse Table

We say a grammar is LL(1) if the parse table has no conflicts, ie, no entries with more than one rule

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If a grammar is LL(1), then it is unambiguous

It is possible for a grammar not to be LL(1) but LL( $k$ ) for some  $k > 1$ , which would mean a parse table having columns for each combination of  $k$  symbols

Not all context-free grammars are LL(1), but for many that are not, we can define equivalent grammars that are LL(1)

## Removing Left Recursion

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One type of grammar that is not LL(1) is a grammar having a rule with direct left recursion

$$Y ::= Y \alpha$$

$$Y ::= \beta$$

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$$Y ::= Y \alpha$$

$$Y ::= \beta$$

Equivalent grammar without the direct left recursion

$$Y ::= \beta Y'$$

$$Y' ::= \alpha Y'$$

$$Y' ::= \epsilon$$

## Removing Left Recursion · Example

## Removing Left Recursion · Example

$$E ::= E + T$$
$$E ::= T$$
$$T ::= T * F$$
$$T ::= F$$
$$F ::= (E)$$
$$F ::= \text{id}$$

## Removing Left Recursion · Example

$$E ::= E + T$$
$$E ::= T$$
$$T ::= T * F$$
$$T ::= F$$
$$F ::= (E)$$
$$F ::= \text{id}$$

Equivalent LL(1) grammar

$$E ::= T E'$$
$$E' ::= + T E'$$
$$E' ::= \epsilon$$
$$T ::= F T'$$
$$T' ::= * F T'$$
$$T' ::= \epsilon$$
$$F ::= (E)$$
$$F ::= \text{id}$$

## Removing Left Recursion

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**Input:** a context-free grammar  $G = (N, T, S, P)$

**Output:**  $G$  with left recursion eliminated

1: Arbitrarily enumerate the non-terminals of  $G$

2: **for**  $i := 1$  to  $n$  **do**

3:     **for**  $j := 1$  to  $i - 1$  **do**

4:         Replace pairs of rules of the form  $X_i ::= X_j\alpha$  and  $X_j ::= \beta_1|\beta_2|\dots|\beta_k$  by the rules  $X_i ::= \beta_1\alpha|\beta_2\alpha|\dots|\beta_k\alpha$

5:         Eliminate any direct left recursion

6:     **end for**

7: **end for**