



中山大學  
SUN YAT-SEN UNIVERSITY



国家超级计算广州中心  
NATIONAL SUPERCOMPUTER CENTER IN GUANGZHOU

# Compilation Principle 编译原理

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## 第6讲：语法分析(3)

张献伟

[xianweiz.github.io](https://xianweiz.github.io)

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# Review Questions

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- Formal definition of Grammar?

( $T, N, s, \sigma$ ):  $T$  – terminals;  $N$  – non-terminals,  $s$  – start,  $\sigma$  – productions

- Grammar G:  $stmt \rightarrow \mathbf{if} ( expr ) stmt \mathbf{else} stmt$   
                                  |  $\mathbf{while} ( expr ) stmt$  |  $v$   
                                   $expr \rightarrow true$  |  $false$

$N = \{ stmt \ expr \}$

- Is  $\mathbf{if} ( true ) stmt \mathbf{else} v$  an sentence of grammar G?

NO. It is a sentential form (句型), as  $stmt$  is non-terminal symbol.

- Is  $\mathbf{while} ( false ) \mathbf{if} ( true ) v \mathbf{else} v$  an sentence of G?

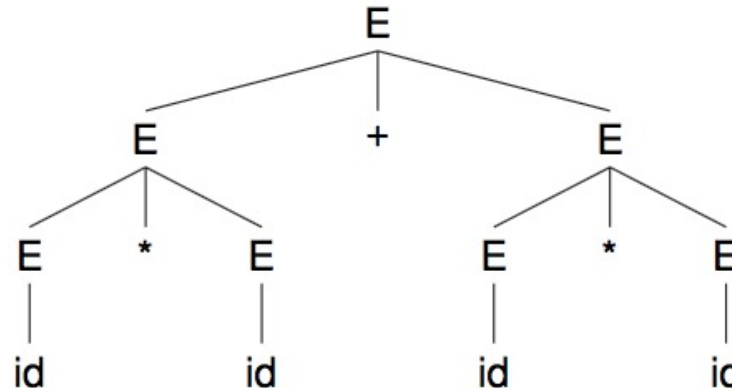
YES. It can be derived using the production rules.

- Describe the languages generated by G:  $list \rightarrow list, id$  |  $id$ ?

A list of one or more ids separated by commas.

# Parse Trees[分析树]

- Both previous derivations result in the same parse tree:



Two derivations of string  
“id \* id + id \* id”  
using grammar:  
 $E \rightarrow E * E \mid E + E \mid (E) \mid id$

- A **parse tree** is a graphical representation of a derivation
  - But filters out the order in which productions are applied to replace non-terminals[过滤了推导顺序信息]
  - Each **interior node** represents the application of a production
    - Labeled with the non-terminal in the LHS of production
  - **Leaves** are labeled by terminals or non-terminals
    - Constitutes a sentential form (read from left to right)
    - Called the **yield**[产出] or **frontier**[边缘] of the tree

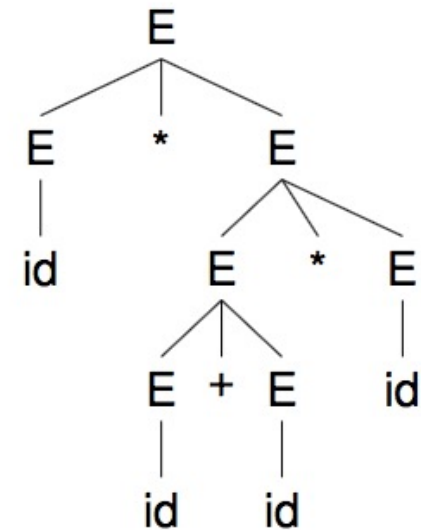
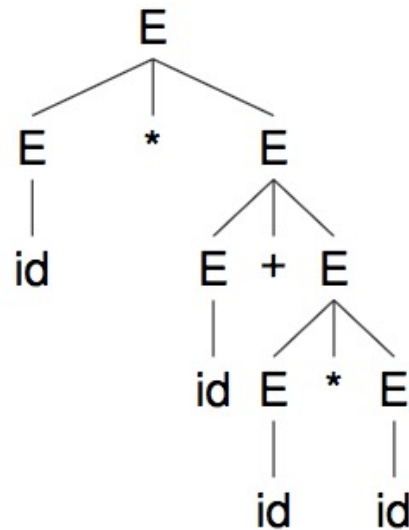
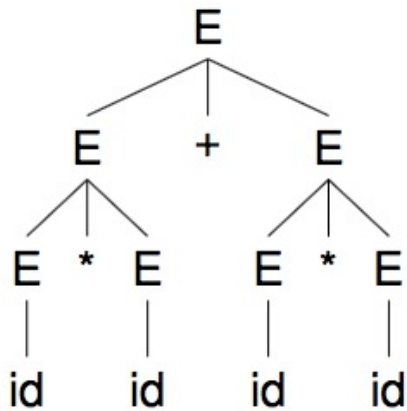
# Parse Trees (cont.)

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- Derivations and parse trees: **many-to-one** relationship
  - Leftmost derivation order: builds tree left to right
  - Rightmost derivation order: builds tree right to left
  - Different parser implementations choose different orders
  - **One-to-one** relationships between parse trees and either leftmost or rightmost derivations[最左或最右推导与分析树具有一对一对应关系]
- Program structure does not depend on order of rule application, instead it depends on what production rules are applied
  - Grammar must define **unambiguously** set of rules applied

# Different Parse Trees

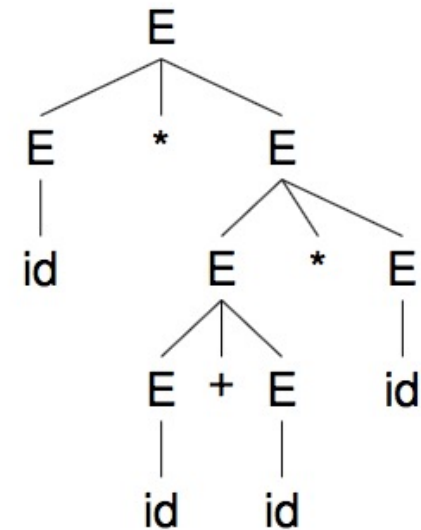
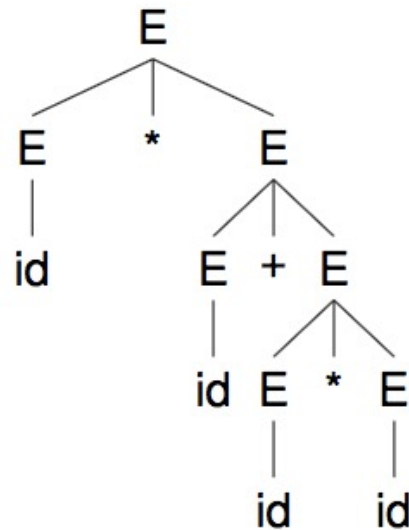
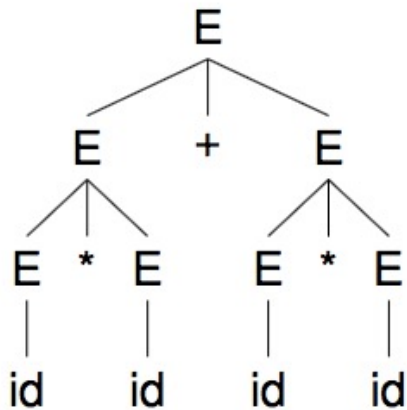
- Grammar  $E \rightarrow E * E \mid E + E \mid (E) \mid id$  is ambiguous[二义的]
  - String  $id * id + id * id$  can result in 3 parse trees (and more)



- Grammar can apply different rules to derive same string
  - Meaning of parse tree 1:  $(id * id) + (id * id)$
  - Meaning of parse tree 2:  $id * (id + (id * id))$
  - Meaning of parse tree 3:  $id * ((id + id) * id)$

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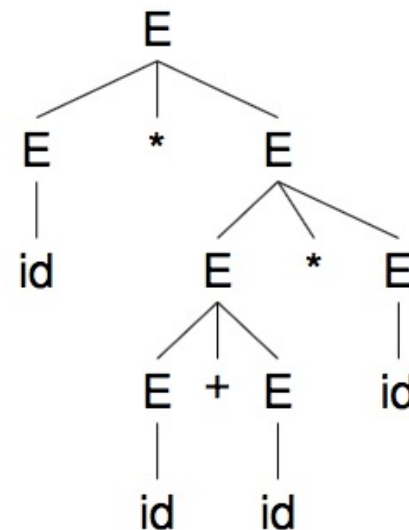
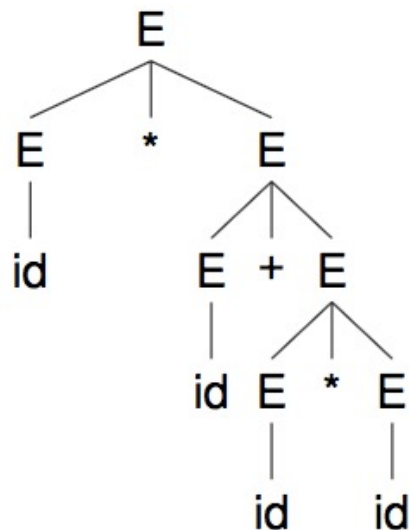
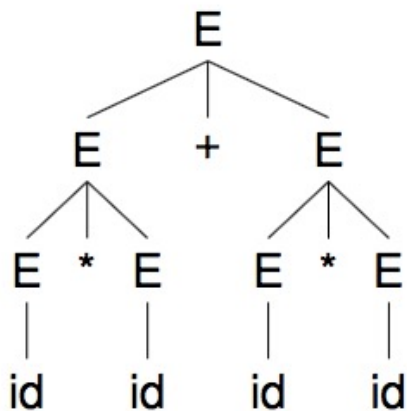


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Preorder?  
Inorder?  
Postorder?

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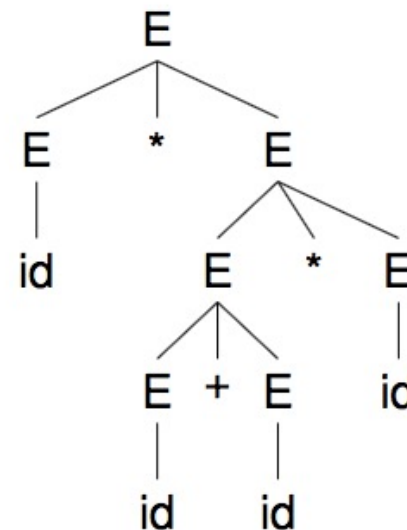
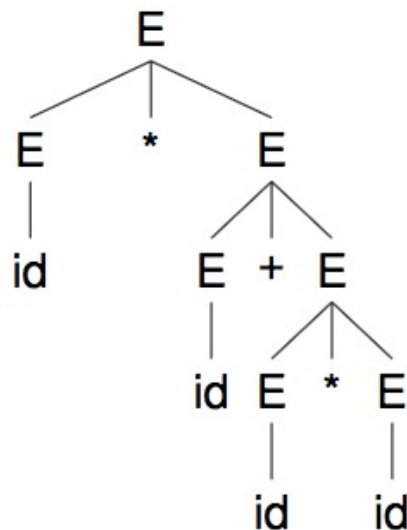
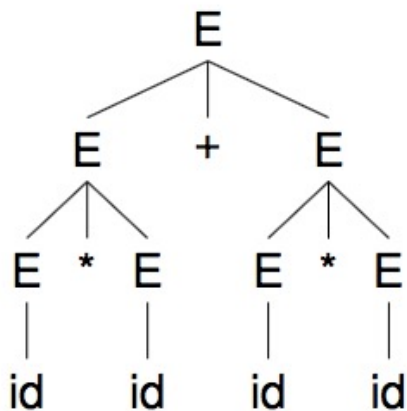
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Inorder? ✓

Postorder?

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**The deepest sub-tree is traversed first, thus higher precedence**

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  - Meaning of parse tree 1:  $(id * id) + (id * id)$
  - Meaning of parse tree 2:  $id * (id + (id * id))$
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Preorder?

Inorder? ✓

Postorder?



# Ambiguity[二义性]

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- Grammar  $G$  is **ambiguous** if
  - It produces **more than one parse tree** for some sentence
  - i.e., there exist a string  $str \in L(G)$  such that
    - more than one parse tree derives  $str$ 
      - $\equiv$  more than one leftmost derivation derives  $str$
      - $\equiv$  more than one rightmost derivation derives  $str$
- Unambiguous grammars are preferred for most parsers[文法最好没有歧义性]
  - Ambiguity of the grammar implies that at least some strings in its language have different structures (parse trees)
  - Thus, such a grammar is unlikely to be useful for a programming language, because two structures for the same string (program) implies two different meanings (executable equivalent programs) for this program

# Ambiguity (cont.)

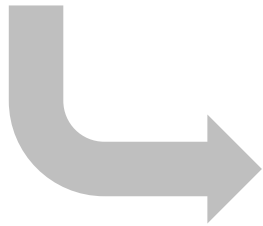
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- Ambiguity is the property of the grammar, not the language
  - Just because  $G$  is ambiguous, does not mean  $L(G)$  is inherently ambiguous
  - A  $G'$  can exist where  $G'$  is unambiguous and  $L(G') \equiv L(G)$
- Impossible to convert ambiguous to unambiguous grammar automatically[歧义不能自动消除]
  - It is (often) possible to rewrite grammar to remove ambiguity
  - Or, use ambiguous grammar, along with disambiguating rules to “throw away” undesirable parse trees, leaving only one tree for each sentence (as in YACC)
    - A parse tree would be used subsequently for semantic analysis; more than one parse tree would imply several interpretations

# Remove Ambiguity[消除二义性]

- Specify precedence[指定优先级]
  - The higher level of the production, the lower priority of operator
  - The lower level of the production, the higher priority of operator
- Specify associativity[指定结合性]
  - If the operator is left associative, induce left recursion in its production
  - If the operator is right associative, induce right recursion in its production

$E \rightarrow E * E \mid E + E \mid (E) \mid id$



$E \rightarrow E + E \mid T$   
 $T \rightarrow T * T \mid F$   
 $F \rightarrow (E) \mid id$

Possible to get  $id + (id + id)$  and  $(id + id) + id$

// lowest precedence +  
// middle precedence \*  
// highest precedence ()



$E \rightarrow E + T \mid T$   
 $T \rightarrow T * F \mid F$   
 $F \rightarrow (E) \mid id$

Now, can only have more '+' on left

// + is left-associative  
// \* is left-associative

# Grammar → Parser[文法到分析器]

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- What exactly is **parsing**, or syntax analysis?[语法分析]
  - To process an input string for a given grammar,
  - and **compose the derivation** if the string is in the language
  - Two subtasks
    - determine if string can be derived from grammar or not
    - build a representation of derivation and pass to next phase
- What is the best representation of derivation?[推导表示]
  - Can be a parse tree or an abstract syntax tree
- An abstract syntax tree is[抽象语法树]
  - Abbreviated representation of a parse tree
  - Drops some details without compromising meaning
    - some terminal symbols that no longer contribute to semantics are dropped (e.g. parentheses)
    - internal nodes may contain terminal symbols

# Example: Abstract Syntax Tree

- AST: condensed form of parse tree
  - Operators and keywords do not appear as leaves (e.g., +)
  - Chains of single productions are collapsed (e.g.,  $E \rightarrow T$ )

G:

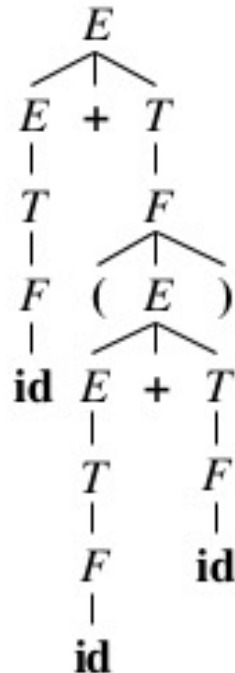
$E \rightarrow E + T \mid T$

$T \rightarrow T * F \mid F$

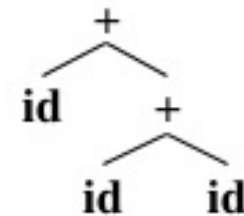
$F \rightarrow (E) \mid \text{id}$

Input:

id + id + id



parse tree



AST

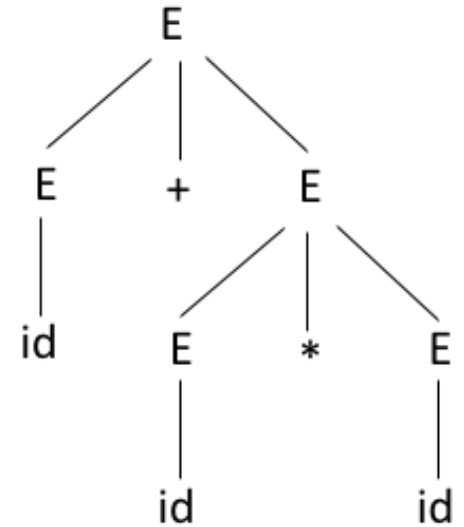
# Summary of CFG[小结]

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- Compilers specify program structure using CFG
  - Most programming languages are not context free
  - Context sensitive analysis can easily be separated out to semantic analysis phase
  
- A parser uses CFG to
  - ... answer if an input  $str \in L(G)$
  - ... and build a parse tree
  - ... or build an AST instead
  - ... and pass it to the rest of compiler
  - ... or give an error message stating that  $str$  is invalid

# Parser Types[分析器类型]

- **Grammar** is used to derive string or construct **parser**
- Most compilers use either **top-down** or **bottom-up** parsers
- **Top-down parsing**[自顶向下分析]
  - Starts from root and expands into leaves
    - Tries to **expand start symbol to input string**
    - Finds leftmost derivation[最左推导]
  - In each step
    - Which non-terminal to replace?
    - Which production of the non-terminal to use?
  - Parser code structure closely mimics grammar
    - Amenable to implementation by hand
    - Automated tools exist to convert to code (e.g. ANTLR)



# Parser Types (cont.)

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- Bottom-up parser[自底向上分析]
  - Starts at leaves and builds up to root
    - Tries to **reduce the input string to the start symbol**
    - Finds reverse order of the rightmost derivation[最右推导的逆 → 最左归约, 也称为规范归约]
  - Parser code structure nothing like grammar
    - Very difficult to implement by hand
    - Automated tools exist to convert to code (e.g. Yacc, Bison)
    - $LL \subset LR$  (Bottom-up works for a larger class of grammars)
- Top-down vs. bottom-up[对比]
  - Top-down: easier to understand and implement manually
    - E.g., ANTLR
  - Bottom-up: more powerful, can be implemented automatically
    - E.g., YACC/Bison



# Example

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- Consider a CFG grammar  $G$

$$S \rightarrow AB$$

$$A \rightarrow aC$$

$$B \rightarrow bD$$

$$D \rightarrow d$$

$$C \rightarrow c$$

- This language has only one sentence:  $L(G) = \{acbd\}$

Top-down (leftmost derivation)

$$S \Rightarrow AB \text{ (1)}$$

$$\Rightarrow aCB \text{ (2)}$$

$$\Rightarrow acB \text{ (3)}$$

$$\Rightarrow acbD \text{ (4)}$$

$$\Rightarrow acbd \text{ (5)}$$

Bottom-up (reverse of rightmost derivation)

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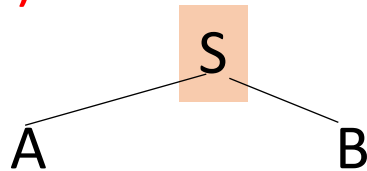
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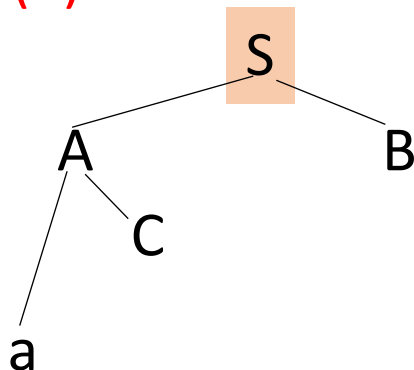
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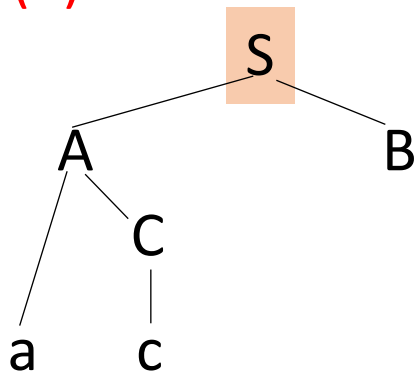
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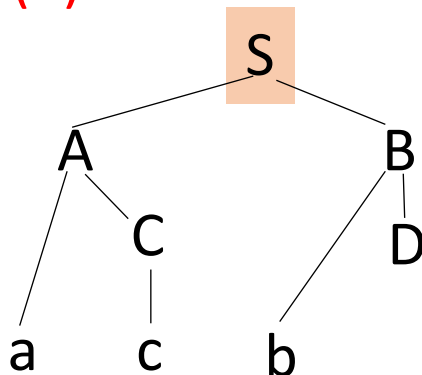
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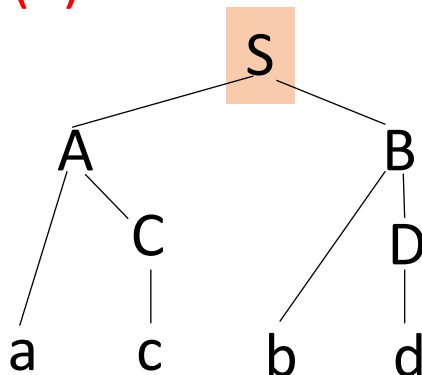
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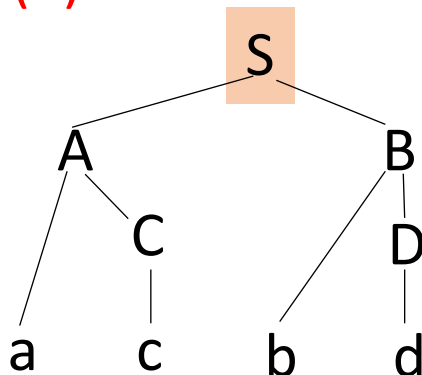
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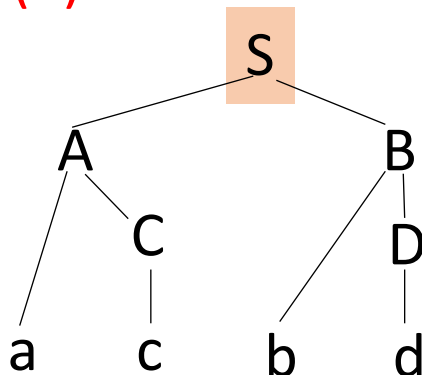
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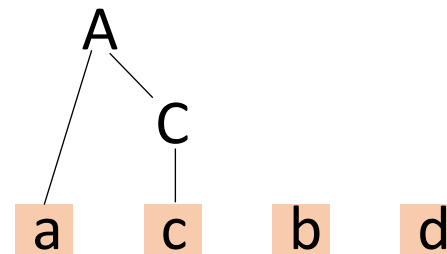
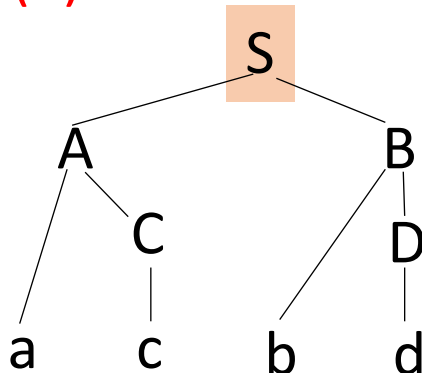
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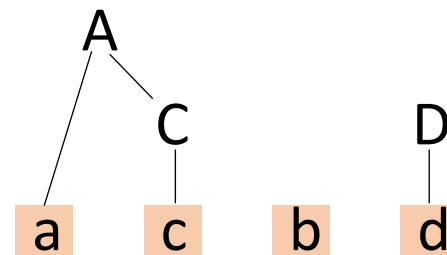
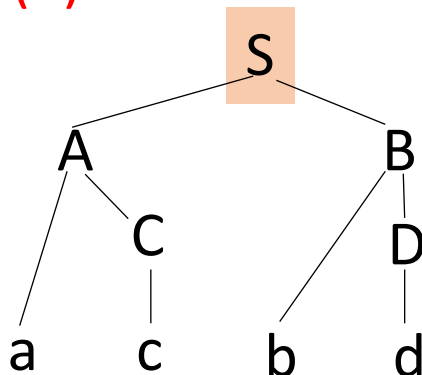
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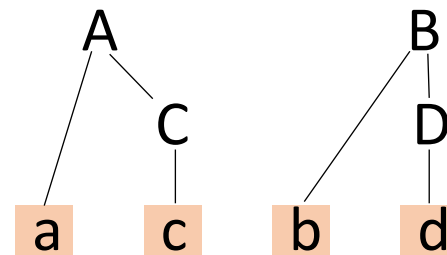
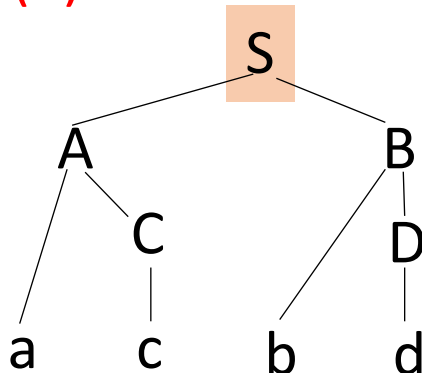
$S \Rightarrow AB$  (5)

$\Rightarrow AbD$  (4)

$\Rightarrow Abd$  (3)

$\Rightarrow aCbD$  (2)

$\Rightarrow acbd$  (1)



# Example

- Consider a CFG grammar G

$S \rightarrow AB$

$A \rightarrow aC$

$B \rightarrow bD$

$D \rightarrow d$

$C \rightarrow c$

- This language has only one sentence:  $L(G) = \{acbd\}$

Top-down (leftmost derivation)

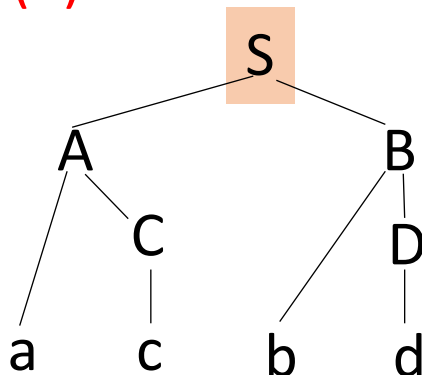
$S \Rightarrow AB$  (1)

$\Rightarrow aCB$  (2)

$\Rightarrow acB$  (3)

$\Rightarrow acbD$  (4)

$\Rightarrow acbd$  (5)



Bottom-up (reverse of rightmost derivation)

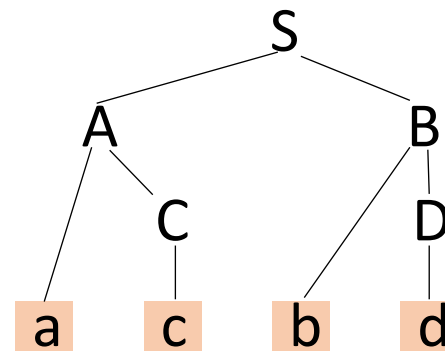
$S \Rightarrow AB$  (5)

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# Preview: Bottom-up Parsing[自低向上]

---

- Consider a CFG grammar G

$S \rightarrow AB$

$A \rightarrow aC$

$B \rightarrow bD$

$D \rightarrow d$

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# Preview: Bottom-up Parsing[自低向上]

- Consider a CFG grammar G

$S \rightarrow AB$

$A \rightarrow aC$

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Stack	Input	Action
\$	acbd\$	Shift
\$a	cbd\$	Shift
\$ac	bd\$	Reduce
\$aC	bd\$	Reduce
\$A	bd\$	Shift
\$Ab	d\$	Shift
\$Abd	\$	Reduce
\$AbD	\$	Reduce
\$AB	\$	Reduce
\$S	\$	<u>SUCCESS!</u>

Bottom-up (reverse of rightmost derivation)

$S \Rightarrow AB$  (5)  
 $\Rightarrow AbD$  (4)  
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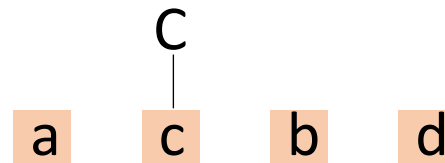
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$S \rightarrow AB$

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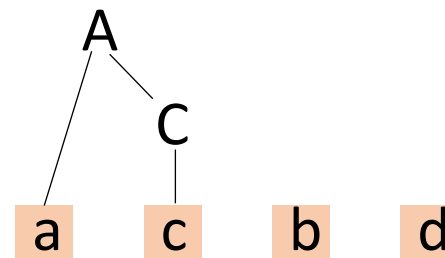
$D \rightarrow d$

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\$	acbd\$	Shift
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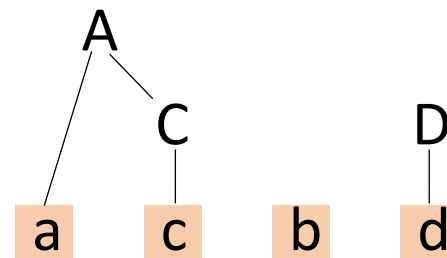
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Bottom-up (reverse of rightmost derivation)

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# Preview: Bottom-up Parsing[自低向上]

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$S \rightarrow AB$

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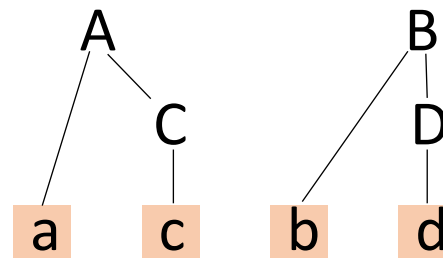
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# Preview: Bottom-up Parsing[自低向上]

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Bottom-up (reverse of rightmost derivation)

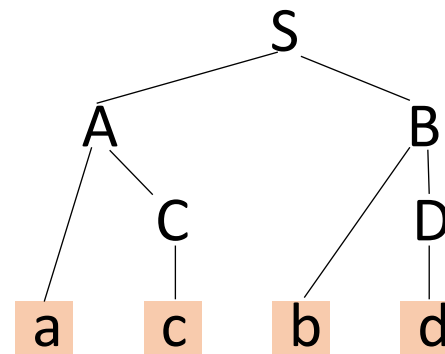
$S \Rightarrow AB$  (5)

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# Top-down Parsers[自顶向下]

---

- **Recursive descent parser (RDP, 递归下降分析) with backtracking[回溯]**
  - Implemented using recursive calls to functions that implement the expansion of each non-terminal
  - Goes through all possible expansions by **trial-and-error** until match with input; backtracks when mismatch detected
  - Simple to implement, but may take exponential time
- **Predictive parser[预测分析]**
  - Recursive descent parser with prediction (no backtracking)
  - Predict next rule by looking ahead  $k$  number of symbols
  - Restrictions on the grammar to avoid backtracking
    - Only works for a class of grammars called  $LL(k)$

# RDP with Backtracking[回溯]

---

- **Approach:** for a non-terminal in the derivation, productions are tried in some order until
  - A production is found that generates a portion of the input, or
  - No production is found that generates a portion of the input, in which case backtrack to previous non-terminal
- Terminals of the derivation are compared against input
  - Match: advance input, continue parsing
  - Mismatch: backtrack, or fail
- Parsing fails if no derivation generates the entire input

# Recursive Decent Example

---

- Consider the grammar

$$S \rightarrow cAd \quad A \rightarrow ab \mid a$$

- To construct a parse tree top-down for input string  $w=cad$ 
  - Begin with a tree consisting of a single node labeled  $S$
  - The input pointer pointing to  $c$ , the first symbol of  $w$
  - $S$  has only one production, so we use it to expand  $S$  and obtain the tree



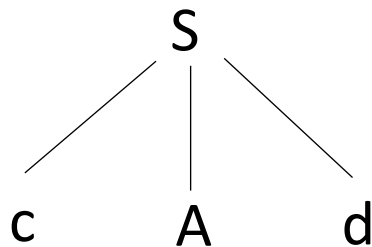
# Recursive Decent Example

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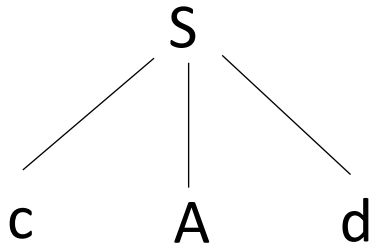
# Recursive Decent Example (cont.)

---

- Consider the grammar

$$S \rightarrow cAd \quad A \rightarrow ab \mid a$$

- To construct a parse tree top-down for input string  $w=cad$ 
  - The leftmost leaf, labeled  $c$ , matches the first symbol of  $w$ 
    - So we advance the input pointer to  $a$  (i.e., the 2<sup>nd</sup> symbol of  $w$ ) and consider the next leaf  $A$
  - Next, expand  $A$  using  $A \rightarrow ab$ 
    - Have a match for the 2<sup>nd</sup> input symbol,  $a$ , so advance the input pointer to  $d$ , the 3<sup>rd</sup> input symbol



# Recursive Decent Example (cont.)

- Consider the grammar

$$S \rightarrow cAd \quad A \rightarrow ab \mid a$$

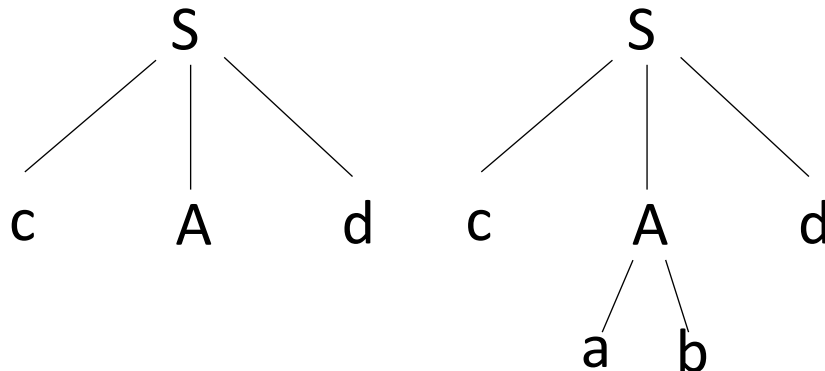
- To construct a parse tree top-down for input string  $w=cad$

- The leftmost leaf, labeled  $c$ , matches the first symbol of  $w$

- So we advance the input pointer to  $a$  (i.e., the 2<sup>nd</sup> symbol of  $w$ ) and consider the next leaf  $A$

- Next, expand  $A$  using  $A \rightarrow ab$

- Have a match for the 2<sup>nd</sup> input symbol,  $a$ , so advance the input pointer to  $d$ , the 3<sup>rd</sup> input symbol

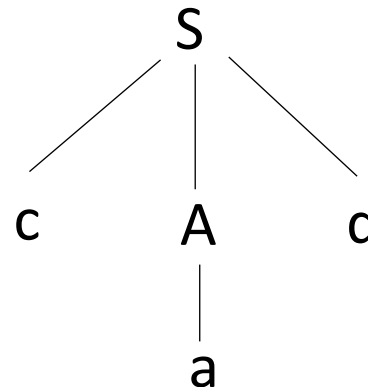
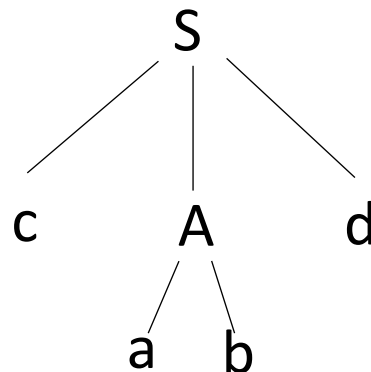
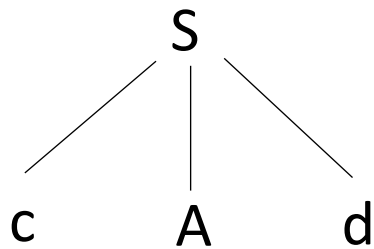


# Recursive Decent Example (cont.)

- Consider the grammar

$S \rightarrow cAd$     $A \rightarrow ab \mid a$

- To construct a parse tree top-down for input string  $w=cad$ 
  - $b$  does not match  $d$ , report failure and go back to  $A$ 
    - See whether there is another alternative for  $A$  that has not been tried
    - In going back to  $A$ , we must reset the input pointer as well
  - Leaf  $a$  matches the 2<sup>nd</sup> symbol of  $w$ , and leaf  $d$  matches the 3<sup>rd</sup>
  - We have produced a parse tree for  $w$ , we halt and announce successful completion of parsing



# Left Recursion Problem[左递归问题]

---

- Recursive descent **doesn't work with left recursion**
  - Right recursion is OK
- Why is left recursion[左递归] a problem?
  - For left recursive grammar
$$A \rightarrow Ab|c$$
  - We may repeatedly choose to apply  $A b$ 
$$A \Rightarrow A b \Rightarrow A b b \dots$$
  - Sentence can grow indefinitely w/o consuming input
    - Non-terminal: expand, terminal: match
  - How do you know when to stop recursion and choose  $c$ ?
- Rewrite the grammar so that it is right recursive[改为右递归]
  - Which expresses the same language

# Left Recursion[左递归]

---

- A grammar is left recursive if
  - It has a nonterminal  $A$  such that there is a derivation  $A \Rightarrow^+ A\alpha$  for some string  $\alpha$
- Recursion types [直接和间接左递归]
  - **Immediate left recursion**, where there is a production  $A \rightarrow A\alpha$
  - Non-immediate: left recursion involving derivation of 2+ steps
    - $S \rightarrow Aa \mid b$
    - $A \rightarrow Sd \mid \epsilon$
    - $S \Rightarrow Aa \Rightarrow Sda$
- Algorithm to systematically eliminates left recursion from a grammar

# Remove Left Recursion[消除左递归]

---

- Grammar:  $A \rightarrow A\alpha \mid \beta$  ( $\alpha \neq \beta$ ,  $\beta$  doesn't start with  $A$ )

$$A \Rightarrow A\alpha$$

$$\Rightarrow A\alpha\alpha$$

...

$$\Rightarrow A\alpha\dots\alpha\alpha$$

$$\Rightarrow \beta\alpha\dots\alpha\alpha$$

- Rewrite to:

$$A \rightarrow \beta A'$$

// begins with  $\beta$  ( $A'$  is a new non-terminal)

$$A' \rightarrow \alpha A' \mid \varepsilon$$

//  $A'$  is to produce a sequence of  $\alpha$

$$\Rightarrow \alpha\alpha A'$$

...

$$\Rightarrow \alpha\dots\alpha A' \Rightarrow \alpha\dots\alpha$$

# Remove Left Recursion[消除左递归]

- Grammar:  $A \rightarrow A\alpha \mid \beta$  ( $\alpha \neq \beta$ ,  $\beta$  doesn't start with  $A$ )

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$$\Rightarrow A\alpha\alpha$$

...

$$\Rightarrow A\alpha\dots\alpha\alpha$$

$$\Rightarrow \beta\alpha\dots\alpha\alpha$$

$$r = \beta\alpha^*$$

- Rewrite to:

$$A \rightarrow \beta A'$$

// begins with  $\beta$  ( $A'$  is a new non-terminal)

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//  $A'$  is to produce a sequence of  $\alpha$

$$\Rightarrow \alpha\alpha A'$$

...

$$\Rightarrow \alpha\dots\alpha A' \Rightarrow \alpha\dots\alpha$$



# Remove Left Recursion (cont.)

---

- Grammar:

$$A \rightarrow A\alpha \mid \beta$$

to

$$A \rightarrow \beta A'$$

$$A' \rightarrow \alpha A' \mid \varepsilon$$

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

- $T \rightarrow T * F \mid F$

- $F \rightarrow (E) \mid \text{id}$

# Remove Left Recursion (cont.)

---

- Grammar:

$$A \rightarrow A\alpha \mid \beta$$

to

$$A \rightarrow \beta A'$$

$$A' \rightarrow \alpha A' \mid \varepsilon$$

- $E \rightarrow E \underline{+ T} \mid T$   
 $\alpha$

- $T \rightarrow T * F \mid F$

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# Remove Left Recursion (cont.)

---

- Grammar:

$$A \rightarrow A\alpha \mid \beta$$

to

$$A \rightarrow \beta A'$$

$$A' \rightarrow \alpha A' \mid \varepsilon$$

- $E \rightarrow E \underline{+ T} \mid \underline{T}$   
 $\alpha \quad \beta$

- $T \rightarrow T * F \mid F$

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# Remove Left Recursion (cont.)

---

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to

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$$A' \rightarrow \alpha A' \mid \varepsilon$$

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 $\alpha \quad \beta$



$$E \rightarrow TE'$$

$$E' \rightarrow +TE' \mid \varepsilon$$

- $T \rightarrow T * F \mid F$

- $F \rightarrow (E) \mid \text{id}$

# Remove Left Recursion (cont.)

---

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$$A \rightarrow A\alpha \mid \beta$$

to

$$A \rightarrow \beta A'$$

$$A' \rightarrow \alpha A' \mid \varepsilon$$

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 $\alpha \quad \beta$



$$E \rightarrow TE'$$

$$E' \rightarrow +TE' \mid \varepsilon$$

- $T \rightarrow T \underline{* F} \mid \underline{F}$   
 $\alpha \quad \beta$

- $F \rightarrow (E) \mid \text{id}$

# Remove Left Recursion (cont.)

- Grammar:

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- $E \rightarrow E \underline{+ T} \mid \underline{T}$   
 $\alpha \quad \beta$



$$E \rightarrow TE'$$
$$E' \rightarrow +TE' \mid \varepsilon$$

- $T \rightarrow T \underline{* F} \mid \underline{F}$   
 $\alpha \quad \beta$



$$T \rightarrow FT'$$
$$T' \rightarrow *FT' \mid \varepsilon$$

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# Remove Left Recursion (cont.)

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- Grammar:

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to

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$$E' \rightarrow +TE' \mid \varepsilon$$

- $T \rightarrow T \underline{* F} \mid \underline{F}$   
 $\alpha \quad \beta$



$$T \rightarrow FT'$$

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- $F \rightarrow (E) \mid \text{id}$



$$F \rightarrow (E) \mid \text{id}$$

# Summary of Recursive Descent[小结]

- **Recursive descent** is a simple and general parsing strategy
  - Left-recursion must be eliminated first
    - Can be eliminated automatically using some algorithm
  - $L(\text{Recursive\_descent}) \equiv L(\text{CFG}) \equiv \text{CFL}$
- However it is not popular because of **backtracking**
  - Backtracking requires re-parsing the same string
  - Which is inefficient (can take exponential time)
  - Also undoing semantic actions may be difficult
    - E.g. removing already added nodes in parse tree

