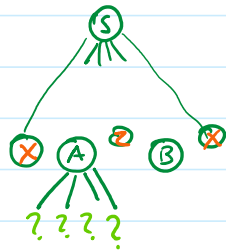


## 10 Recursive Descent Parser

Friday, March 7, 2025 12:33 PM

- types of parsers.
  - Bottom-up
    - ↳ shift-reduce
    - ↳ Bison.
  - Top Down
    - Recursive Descent Parser

- Top-Down Parser:
  - Read input Left-to-Right
  - Produces a Leftmost Derivation
  - called: LL-parsers.



- Most Common types:
  - Recursive Descent - directly encodes grammar rules as code functions.
  - Predictive Parse tables - Table-Driven Algorithm.
- Limitations
  - Not all Context-Free Grammars can be Parsed.
  - Limited to a subclass LL-Grammars.

### • Recursive Descent Parser:-

- Assume :
- global variable token.  
stores the current symbol
  - function getToken()  
reads the next terminal symbol from input and updates token.

Encoding - One code function per Non-terminal Symbol.

Template:-

$A \rightarrow \alpha \beta \gamma$   
 $A \rightarrow a b c$

$parse\_A()$

for each symbol  $x$  in the body of the rule

- if  $x$  is a terminal symbol  
 compare  $x$  to token  
 if the same, consume token

- if  $x$  is a non-terminal symbol  
 call function  $parse\_x()$

if a non-terminal has more than one body the token should determine which body to apply.

E.G #0

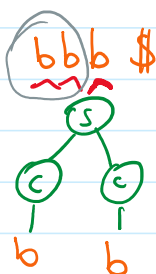
- 1.-  $S \rightarrow CC$
- 2.-  $C \rightarrow aC$
- 3.-  $C \rightarrow b$

```
FUNCTION Parse_S ( )
  Parse_C()
  Parse_C()
END.
```

```
FUNCTION Parse_C ( )
  IF token = 'a' THEN
    getToken()
    Parse_C()
  ELSIF token = 'b' THEN
    getToken()
  ELSE
    error()
  END
END.
```

Starting the Parser:

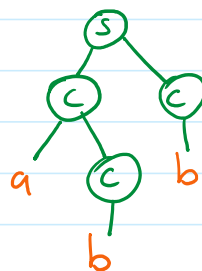
```
FUNCTION main ( )
  getToken()
  Parse_S()
  IF token != '$' THEN
    error()
  END
END.
```



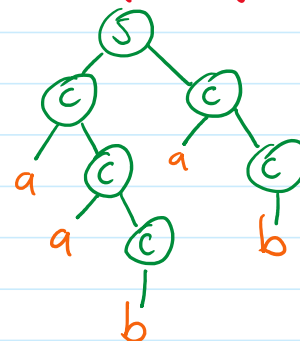
error()!

Trace:

abb\$



aaabab\$



E.G #1

$S \rightarrow dAc \mid b$   
 $A \rightarrow baB \mid \epsilon$   
 $B \rightarrow aS$

```

FUNCTION Parse_S ( )
  IF token = 'd' THEN
    getToken()
    parse_A()
    IF token = 'c' THEN
      getToken()
    ELSE
      error()
    END
  ELSIF token = 'b' THEN
    getToken()
  ELSE
    error()
  END
END.

```

```

FUNCTION Parse_A ( )
  IF token = 'b' THEN
    getToken()
    IF token = 'a' THEN
      getToken()
      parse_B()
    ELSE
      error()
    END
  END
END.

```

Trace:

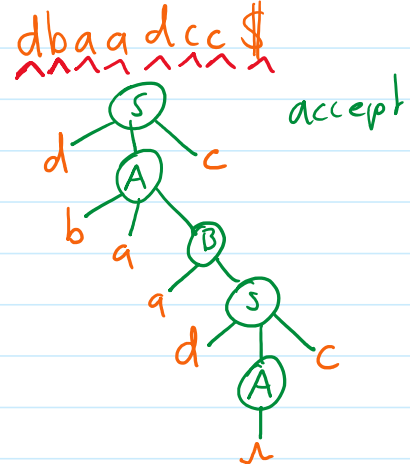
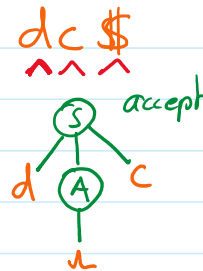
ca\$  
^  
reject.

dba\$  
^^^  
reject.

```

FUNCTION Parse_B ( )
  IF token = 'a' THEN
    getToken()
    parse_S()
  ELSE
    error()
  END
END.

```



## Extended BNF

We extend our grammar format with 2 more shorthands

$[ ]$  option  
 $\{ \}$  repetition

$A \rightarrow a[b]c \equiv A \rightarrow ac \mid abc$

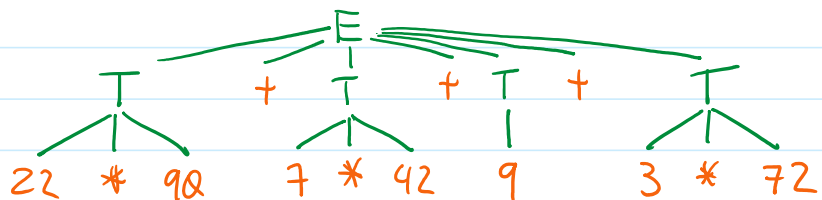
$B \rightarrow a\{b\}c \equiv B \rightarrow ac \mid abc \mid abbc \mid abbbc \mid abbbbc \dots$

zero or more repetitions of b

E.g

$E \rightarrow T \{ + T \}$   
 $T \rightarrow \underline{\text{int}} \{ * \underline{\text{int}} \}$

22 \* 90 + 7 \* 42 + 9 + 3 \* 72



Encoding.

## Encoding.

```
FUNCTION Parse_E ( )
  Parse_T()
  WHILE token = '+' DO
    getToken()
    Parse_T()
  END
END.
```

```
FUNCTION Parse_T ( )
  IsInt()
  WHILE token = '*' DO
    getToken()
    IsInt()
  END
END.
```

E.G.

$S \rightarrow \text{if } C \text{ then } B \text{ [else } B \text{] end}$   
↑ sentinel

```

FUNCTION Parse_S ( )
  IF token = 'if' THEN
    getToken()
    parse_C()
  IF token = 'then' THEN
    | getToken()
    | parse_B()
    |
    IF token = 'else' THEN
      | getToken()
      | parse_B()
    ] option
  END
  IF token = 'end' THEN
    getToken()
  ELSE
    error("end expected")
  END
ELSE
  error("then expected")
END
END
END.

```

E.G.

if .. elsif .. else.

$S \rightarrow \text{if } C \text{ then } B \{ \text{elsif } C \text{ then } B \} [\text{else } B] \text{ end}$

—o— EOF