



CSE 401 – Compilers

Lecture 7: LR Parsing (part II)

Michael Ringenburg

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Reminders/ Announcements



- Project part 1 is due on Monday.
- Part 2 will be assigned early next week.
 - Will be due 2 weeks after it is assigned.
- Will also assign homework 2 (parsing) next week.
 - Will be due 1 week after it is assigned.
- Midterm in class on February 15.

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Review From Last Week



aABe
aAde
abde
aAbcde
abbcde
aAbcbcde
abbcbcde
...

$$\begin{aligned} S &::= aABe \\ A &::= Abc \mid b \\ B &::= d \end{aligned}$$

- Right-sentential form: α is a right-sentential form of the grammar $G = \langle N, \Sigma, P, S \rangle$ if $S \Rightarrow_{rm}^* \alpha$

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Review From Last Week



aABe
aAde
abde
aAbcde
abbcde
aAbcbcde
abbcbcde
...

$$\begin{aligned} S &::= aABe \\ A &::= Abc \mid b \\ B &::= d \end{aligned}$$

Bold red: Handle

- Handle: The handle of a right-sentential form is the substring corresponding to the right hand side of the production that produced it from the previous step in the rightmost derivation.

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Review From Last Week



aABe

a, aA, aAB, aABe

$S ::= aABe$

aAde

a, aA, aAd

$A ::= Abc \mid b$

abde

a, ab

$B ::= d$

aAbcde

a, aA, aAb, aAbc

abbcde

a, ab

aAbcbcde

a, aA, aAb, aAbc

abbcbcde

a, ab

...

Bold red: Handle

- Viable prefix: a prefix of a right-sentential form that does not continue past the rightmost handle of that sentential form.

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Review From Last Week



aABe

a, aA, aAB, aABe

$S ::= aABe$

aAde

a, aA, aAd

$A ::= Abc \mid b$

abde

a, ab

$B ::= d$

aAbcde

a, aA, aAb, aAbc

abbcde

a, ab

aAbcbcde

a, aA, aAb, aAbc

abbcbcde

a, ab

...

Bold red: Handle

- Viable prefix: a prefix of a right-sentential form that does not continue past the rightmost handle of that sentential form.

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 Review From Last Week 

aABe	a, aA, aAB, aABe,	$S ::= aABe$ $A ::= Abc \mid b$ $B ::= d$
aAd	aAd,	
abde	ab,	
aAbcde	aAb, aAbc	
abbcd		
aAbcbcde		
abbcbcd		

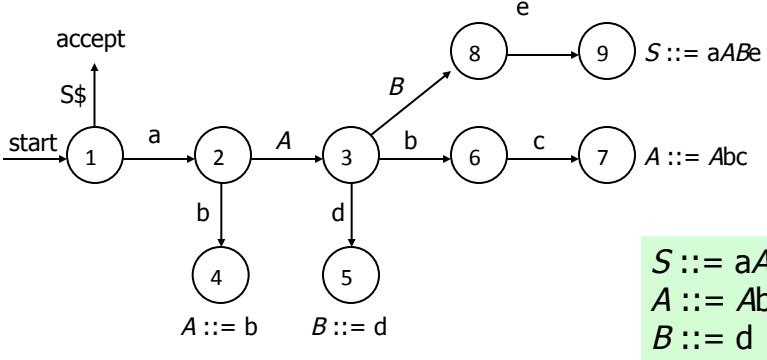
...

Bold red: Handle

- Viable prefix: a prefix of a right-sentential form that does not continue past the rightmost handle of that sentential form.

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 Review From Last Week 



accept
S\$

start → 1

1 → 2 (a)

1 → 4 (b)

2 → 3 (A)

2 → 5 (d)

3 → 6 (b)

3 → 5 (d)

6 → 7 (c)

8 → 9 (e)

$A ::= b$

$B ::= d$

$S ::= aABe$

$A ::= Abc \mid b$

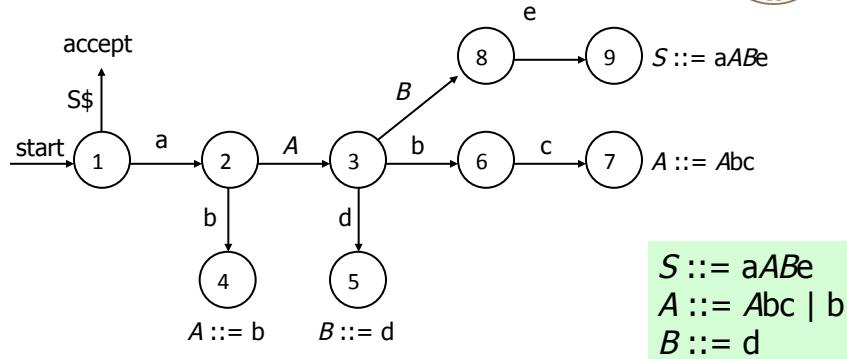
$B ::= d$

- Viable prefixes and handles of a CFG are a regular language, thus can recognize with a DFA.

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Review From Last Week



- Basic idea: Reduce by handle when we reach state corresponding to viable prefix that goes all the way to the end of a handle. Otherwise, shift.

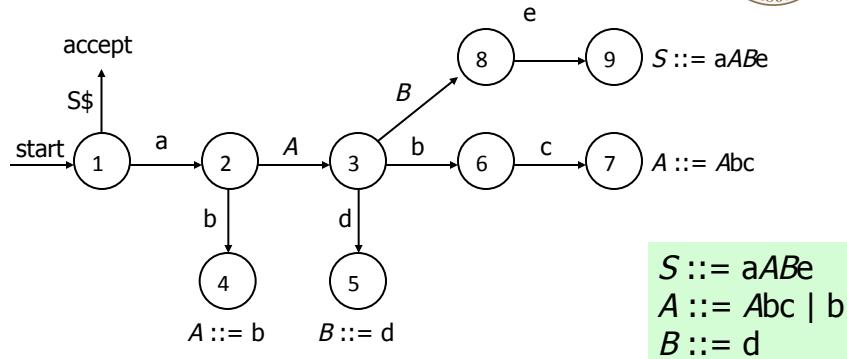
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Review From Last Week



- But, recall from last week that this involved a lot of DFA transitions at every step – *not O(n)*.

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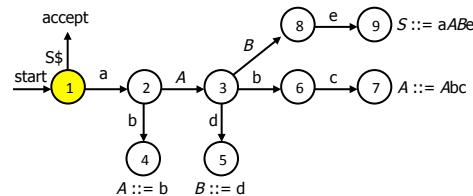
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Trace

$$\begin{aligned} S &::= aABe \\ A &::= Abc \mid b \\ B &::= d \end{aligned}$$

Stack	Input
\$	abbcde\$
\$a	bbcde\$
\$ab	bcde\$
\$aA	bcde\$



- Consider what happens before and after a shift ...

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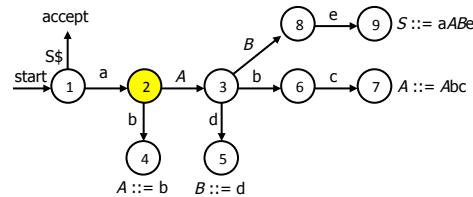
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Trace

$$\begin{aligned} S &::= aABe \\ A &::= Abc \mid b \\ B &::= d \end{aligned}$$

Stack	Input
\$	abbcde\$
\$a	bbcde\$
\$ab	bcde\$
\$aA	bcde\$



- Consider what happens before and after a shift ...

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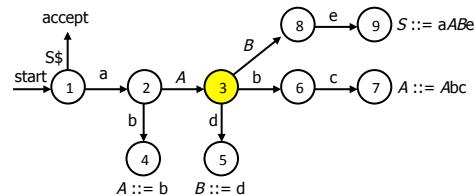
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Trace

$$\begin{aligned} S &::= aABe \\ A &::= Abc \mid b \\ B &::= d \end{aligned}$$

Stack	Input
\$	abbcde\$
\$a	bbcde\$
\$ab	bcde\$
\$aA	bcde\$



- Consider what happens before and after a shift ...

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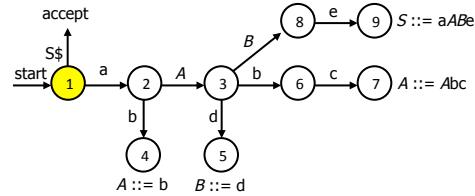
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Trace

$$\begin{aligned} S &::= aABe \\ A &::= Abc \mid b \\ B &::= d \end{aligned}$$

Stack	Input
\$	abbcde\$
\$a	bbcde\$
\$ab	bcde\$
\$aA	bcde\$
\$aAb	cde\$



- Consider what happens before and after a shift ...

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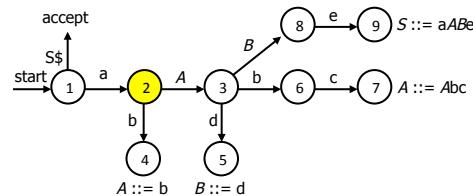
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Trace

$$\begin{aligned} S &::= aABe \\ A &::= Abc \mid b \\ B &::= d \end{aligned}$$

Stack	Input
\$	abbcde\$
\$a	bbcde\$
\$ab	bcde\$
\$aA	bcde\$
\$aAb	cde\$



- Consider what happens before and after a shift ...

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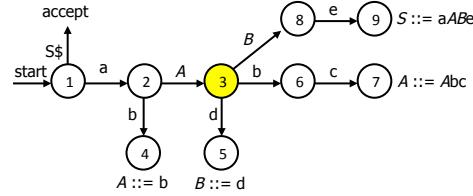
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Trace

$$\begin{aligned} S &::= aABe \\ A &::= Abc \mid b \\ B &::= d \end{aligned}$$

Stack	Input
\$	abbcde\$
\$a	bbcde\$
\$ab	bcde\$
\$aA	bcde\$
\$aAb	cde\$



- Consider what happens before and after a shift ...
- Repeat all of the states from before the shift, and then make one more transition.

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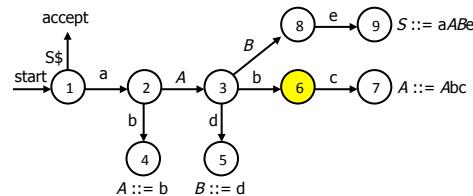
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Trace

$$\begin{aligned} S &::= aABe \\ A &::= Abc \mid b \\ B &::= d \end{aligned}$$

Stack	Input
\$	abbcde\$
\$a	bbcde\$
\$ab	bcde\$
\$aA	bcde\$
\$aAb	cde\$



- Consider what happens before and after a shift ...
- Repeat all of the states from before the shift, and then make one more transition.

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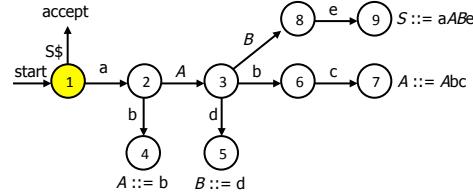
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Trace

$$\begin{aligned} S &::= aABe \\ A &::= Abc \mid b \\ B &::= d \end{aligned}$$

Stack	Input
\$	abbcde\$
\$a	bbcde\$
\$ab	bcde\$
\$aA	bcde\$
\$aAb	cde\$
\$aAbc	de\$
\$aA	de\$
\$aAd	e\$



- Consider what happens before and after a reduce...

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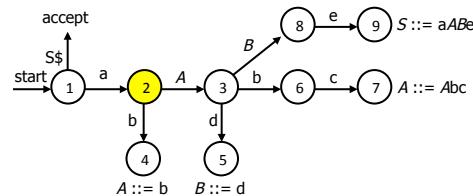
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Trace

$$\begin{aligned} S &::= aABe \\ A &::= Abc \mid b \\ B &::= d \end{aligned}$$

Stack	Input
\$	abbcde\$
\$a	bbcde\$
\$ab	bcde\$
\$aA	bcde\$
\$aAb	cde\$
\$aAbc	de\$
\$aA	de\$
\$aAd	e\$



- Consider what happens before and after a reduce...

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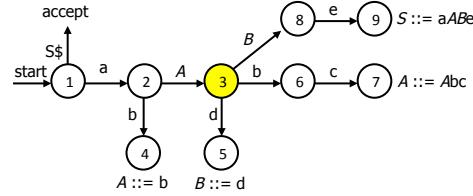
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Trace

$$\begin{aligned} S &::= aABe \\ A &::= Abc \mid b \\ B &::= d \end{aligned}$$

Stack	Input
\$	abbcde\$
\$a	bbcde\$
\$ab	bcde\$
\$aA	bcde\$
\$aAb	cde\$
\$aAbc	de\$
\$aA	de\$
\$aAd	e\$



- Consider what happens before and after a reduce...

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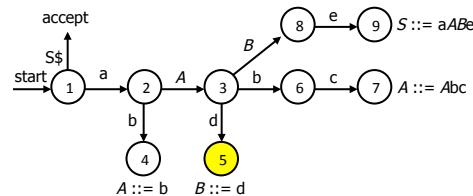
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Trace

$$\begin{aligned} S &::= aABe \\ A &::= Abc \mid b \\ B &::= d \end{aligned}$$

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\$a	bbcde\$
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\$aA	bcde\$
\$aAb	cde\$
\$aAbc	de\$
\$aA	de\$
\$aAd	e\$



- Consider what happens before and after a reduce...

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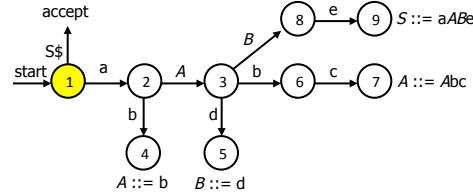
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Trace

$$\begin{aligned} S &::= aABe \\ A &::= Abc \mid b \\ B &::= d \end{aligned}$$

Stack	Input
\$	abbcde\$
\$a	bbcde\$
\$ab	bcde\$
\$aA	bcde\$
\$aAb	cde\$
\$aAbc	de\$
\$aA	de\$
\$aAd	e\$
\$aAB	e\$



- Pop the handle off the stack

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Trace

$$\begin{aligned}
 S &::= aABe \\
 A &::= Abc \mid b \\
 B &::= d
 \end{aligned}$$

Stack	Input	
\$	abbcde\$	
\$a	bbcde\$	
\$ab	bcde\$	
\$aA	bcde\$	
\$aAb	cde\$	
\$aAbc	de\$	
\$aA	de\$	
\$aAd	e\$	
\$aAB	e\$	

• Pop the handle off the stack

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Trace

$$\begin{aligned}
 S &::= aABe \\
 A &::= Abc \mid b \\
 B &::= d
 \end{aligned}$$

Stack	Input	
\$	abbcde\$	
\$a	bbcde\$	
\$ab	bcde\$	
\$aA	bcde\$	
\$aAb	cde\$	
\$aAbc	de\$	
\$aA	de\$	
\$aAd	e\$	
\$aAB	e\$	

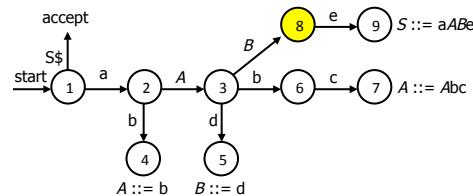
• Repeat all of the states up to the start of the handle

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Trace

$$\begin{aligned} S &::= aABe \\ A &::= Abc \mid b \\ B &::= d \end{aligned}$$

Stack	Input
\$	abbcde\$
\$a	bbcde\$
\$ab	bcde\$
\$aA	bcde\$
\$aAb	cde\$
\$aAbc	de\$
\$aA	de\$
\$aAd	e\$
\$aAB	e\$



- Then make a single transition corresponding to new nonterminal.

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Avoiding DFA Rescanning



- Observation 1: no need to restart the DFA after a shift. Stay in same state and process next (shifted) token.
- Observation 2: after a reduction, the contents of the stack prior to the handle are the same as before. After that, new stack will contain a single non-terminal.
 - Scanning the new stack will take us through the same transitions up to the beginning of the handle. Then, one more transition for the new non-terminal.
 - Can record state numbers on the stack with each symbol, and go directly to the appropriate state when we pop the handle from the stack

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New Stack



- Change the stack to contain pairs of states and symbols from the grammar
 $\$s_0 X_1 s_1 X_2 s_2 \dots X_n s_n$
 - State s_0 is the start state
 - When we add a symbol to the stack, push the symbol *plus* new FA state
 - If X_i is the beginning of the handle that we reduce, popping it will reveal s_{i-1} , which is precisely the state the FA was in prior to reading the handle.
- Optimization: in an actual parser, only the state numbers need to be pushed, since they implicitly contain the symbol information (actually, items).

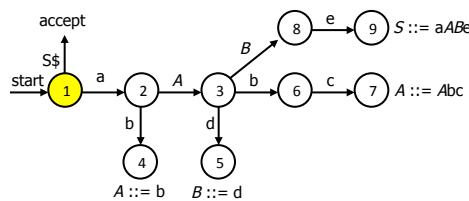
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Trace

$$\begin{aligned} S &::= aABe \\ A &::= Abc \mid b \\ B &::= d \end{aligned}$$

Stack
 $\$s_1$ Input
abbcde\$

Shift first symbol on to stack.

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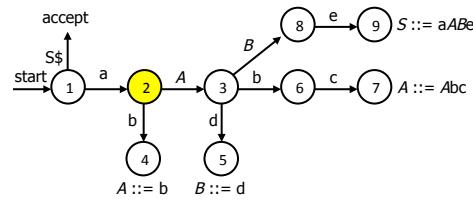
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$S ::= aABe$
 $A ::= Abc \mid b$
 $B ::= d$

Stack
 $\$s_1$
 $\$s_1as_2$

Input
 $abbcde\$$
 $bbcde\$$



Shifted 'a' and state s_2 on to stack, followed 'a' transition.
 Shift again.

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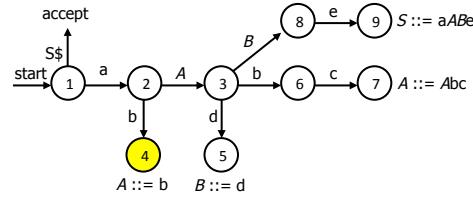
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$S ::= aABe$
 $A ::= Abc \mid b$
 $B ::= d$

Stack
 $\$s_1$
 $\$s_1as_2$
 $\$s_1as_2bs_4$

Input
 $abbcde\$$
 $bbcde\$$
 $bcde\$$



Shifted 'b' and state s_4 on to stack, followed 'b' transition.
 Now, reduce.

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Trace

$$\begin{aligned}
 S &::= aABe \\
 A &::= Abc \mid b \\
 B &::= d
 \end{aligned}$$

Stack	Input	
$\$s_1$	abbcde\$	
$\$s_1as_2$	bbcde\$	
$\$s_1as_2bs_4$	bcde\$	
$\$s_1as_2$	bcde\$	

Pop handle (b), revealing new state s_2 . Go there.

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Trace

$$\begin{aligned}
 S &::= aABe \\
 A &::= Abc \mid b \\
 B &::= d
 \end{aligned}$$

Stack	Input	
$\$s_1$	abbcde\$	
$\$s_1as_2$	bbcde\$	
$\$s_1as_2bs_4$	bcde\$	
$\$s_1as_2As_3$	bcde\$	

- Push nonterminal on left of reduction (A) onto stack, transition on new nonterminal, and push new state.
- Each step – read an input (shift) or produce an output (reduce). $O(n)$, where n is input + output.

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Encoding the DFA in a Table



- Given these optimizations, and *a stack containing states*, a shift-reduce parser's DFA can be encoded in two tables
 - *action table* rows contain state and columns contain input symbols. Encodes what to do given current state and next symbol (e.g., shift and go to state 4).
 - *goto table* rows contain *uncovered* states (states revealed after pop) and columns contain nonterminals. Encodes transition to take after a reduction, given uncovered state and new nonterminal.
 - Based on transition we'd take from uncovered state if we saw the nonterminal. E.g., reduce to A and uncover s_2 , goto s_3)
- Note necessity of the stack ... can't be done with just an FA, because language grammars are not regular.

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Action Table Actions (1)



- Given the current state and input symbol, the main possible actions are
 - *si* – shift the input symbol and state i onto the stack (i.e., shift and move to state i)
 - *rj* – reduce using grammar production j
 - The production number tells us how many <symbol, state> pairs to pop off the stack

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Action Table Actions (2)



- Other possible *action* table entries
 - *accept*
 - **blank** – no transition – syntax error
 - A LR parser will detect an error as soon as possible on a left-to-right scan
 - A real compiler needs to produce an error message, recover, and continue parsing when this happens.
Various strategies exist for this, e.g., advance past next semicolon token.

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Goto



- When a reduction is performed using production $A ::= \beta$, $|\beta|$ <symbol, state> pairs are popped from the stack revealing a state *uncovered_s* on the top of the stack.
- $\text{goto}[\text{uncovered}_s, A]$ is the new state to push on the stack when reducing with production $A ::= \beta$ (after popping handle and pushing A)

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Dijkstra



“Thou shalt not use goto”

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Dijkstra, revisited



“Thou shalt not use goto,
*except as a table in an LR
parser.*”

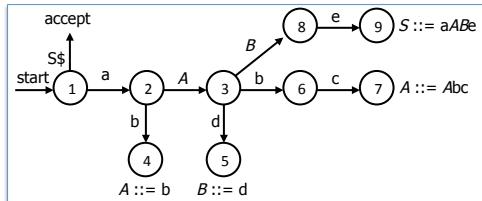
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LR Parse Table for

1. $S ::= aAB\epsilon$
2. $A ::= Abc$
3. $A ::= b$
4. $B ::= d$



Table



State	action						goto		
	a	b	c	d	e	\$	A	B	S
0						acc			
1	s2								
2		s4							
3		s6			s5				
4	r3	r3	r3	r3	r3	r3			
5	r4	r4	r4	r4	r4	r4			
6			s7						
7	r2	r2	r2	r2	r2	r2			
8						s9			
9	r1	r1	r1	r1	r1	r1			

LR Parsing Algorithm Pseudocode

```

word = scanner.getToken();
while (true) {
    s = state on top of stack;
    if (action[s, word] = si) {
        push word; push i; // i is state
        word = scanner.getToken();
    } else if (action[s, word] = rj) {
        pop 2 * length of right side of
        production j;
        uncovered_s = top of stack;
        push left side A of production j ;
        push state goto[uncovered_s, A];
    }
} else if (action[s, word] = accept ) {
    return;
} else {
    // no entry in action table
    report syntax error;
    halt or attempt recovery;
}

```

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Example

Stack
\$s₁Input
abbcde\$

S	action						goto		
	a	b	c	d	e	\$	A	B	S
0						ac			
1	s2							g0	
2		s4					g3		
3		s6		s5				g8	
4	r3	r3	r3	r3	r3	r3			
5	r4	r4	r4	r4	r4	r4			
6			s7						
7	r2	r2	r2	r2	r2	r2			
8					s9				
9	r1	r1	r1	r1	r1	r1			

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LR States – Where do they come from?



- Idea is that each state of this DFA encodes
 - The set of all possible productions that we could be looking at, given the current state of the parse, and
 - *Where* we are in the right hand side of each of those productions
 - Part-way through: shift
 - All the way through: reduce
 - Preview: Could there be some ambiguity here?
 - Reduce-Reduce and Shift-Reduce conflicts

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Items



- An *item* is a production with a dot in the right hand side
- Example: Items for production $A ::= XY$

$$A ::= .XY$$

$$A ::= X.Y$$

$$A ::= XY.$$
- Idea: The dot represents a position in the production

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$S ::= aABe$
DFA with items for $A ::= Abc \mid b$
 $B ::= d$

