

# **Interpreters & More LL Grammars**

CSE 401 Section 5

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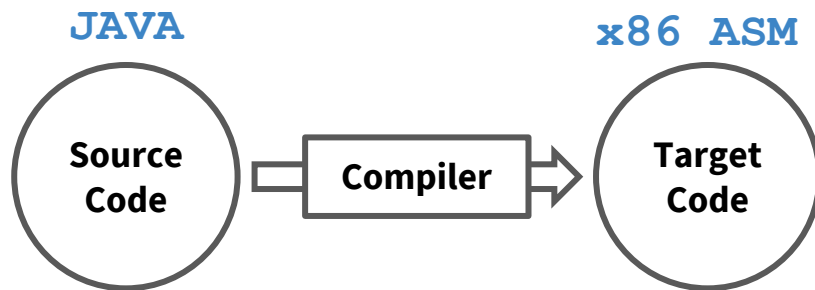
Sam Wolfson

# Announcements

- Parser & AST due ***tonight!***
- Homework 3 (LL grammars) due Monday
  - Only **one** late day max so we can distribute solutions in time for...
- *Midterm next Friday (1 week away)!*

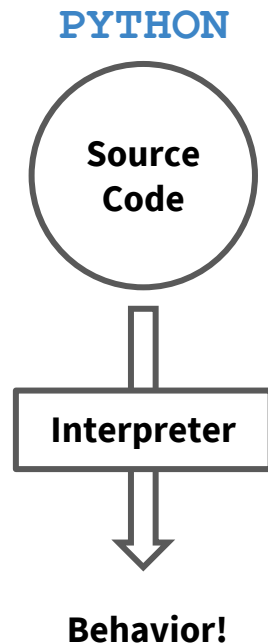
# Interpreters vs. Compilers

- Compilers
  - Translate between different languages
  - e.g. MiniJava  $\Rightarrow$  x86 ASM
  - e.g. Java  $\Rightarrow$  Java Byte Code



# Interpreters vs. Compilers

- Compilers
  - Translate between different languages
  - e.g. MiniJava  $\Rightarrow$  x86 ASM
  - e.g. Java  $\Rightarrow$  Java Byte Code
- Interpreters
  - Take action upon a piece of code as it is read



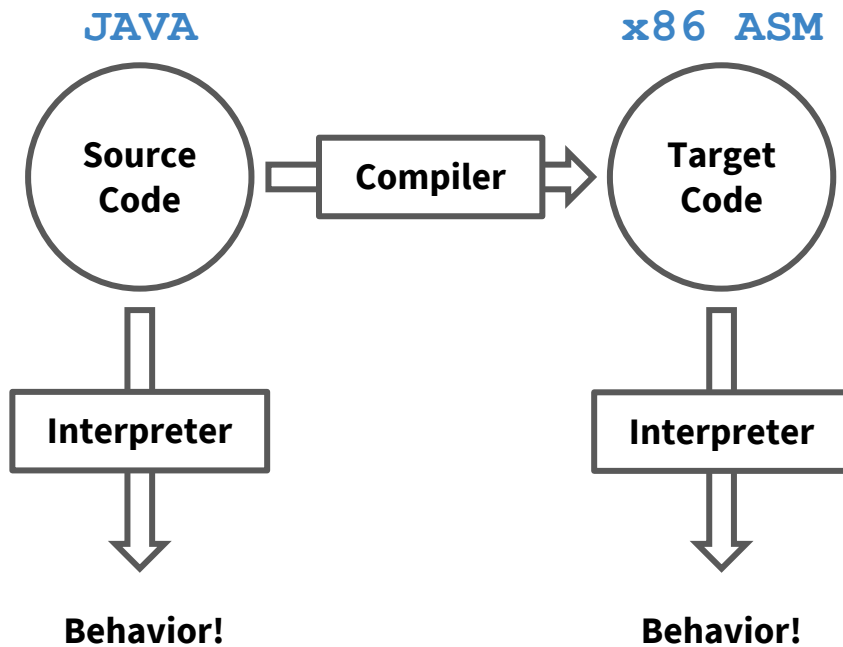
# Interpreters vs. Compilers

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- Translate between different languages
- e.g. MiniJava  $\Rightarrow$  x86 ASM
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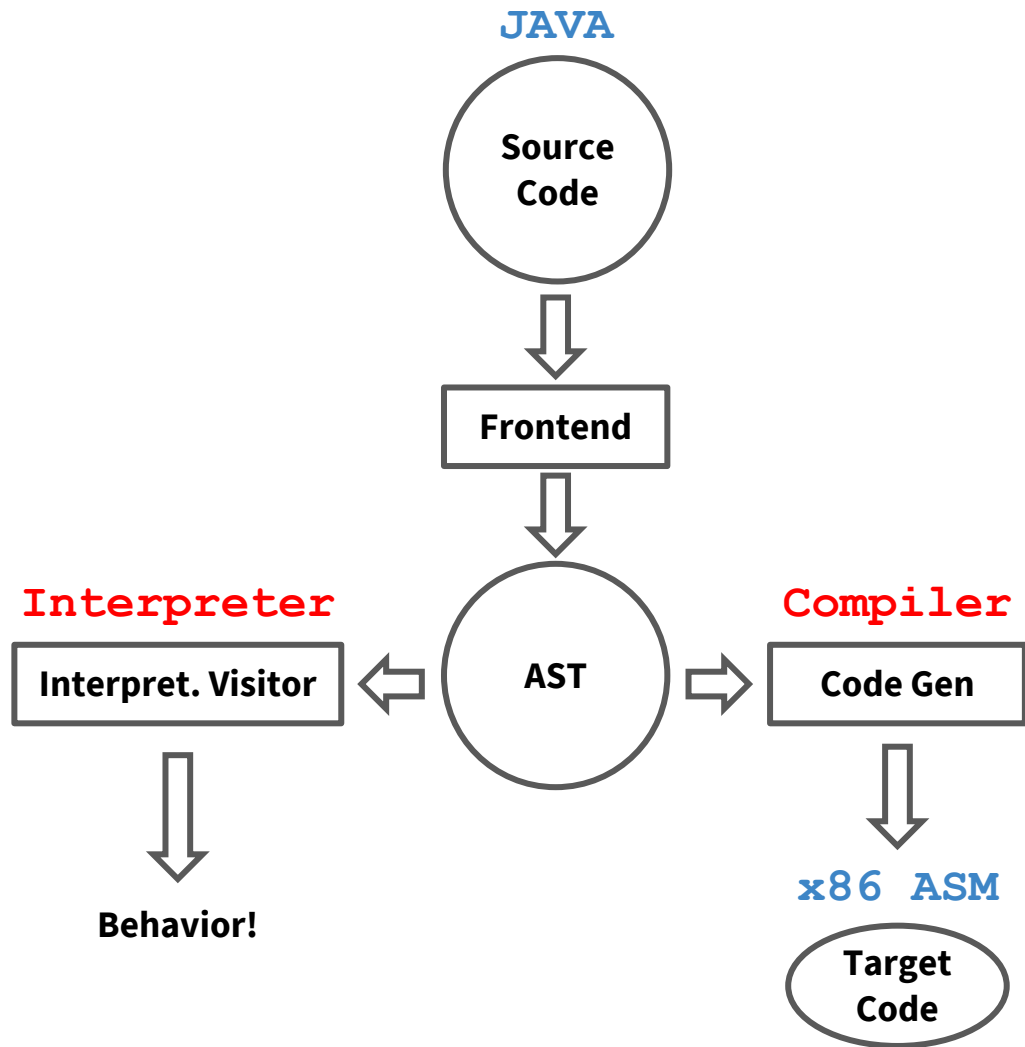
- Interpreters

- Take action upon a piece of code as it is read



# Implementation

- Frontend is the same!
- Interpreters
  - Execute the AST
- Compilers
  - Translate the AST



# **Interpreter Demo**

# LL Grammars

Now that you've taken a look at LL grammars, let's review again...



**L L (1)**



### Left-to-Right

Only takes one pass,  
performed from the left

### Leftmost

At each point, finds the  
derivation for the leftmost  
handle (**top-down**)

### 1 Terminal Lookahead

Must determine derivation  
from the next unparsed  
terminal in the string

# Agenda

- **What LL (Top-Down) Parsing Looks Like**
- LL Grammar Issues
  - FIRST Conflict
  - FIRST FOLLOW Conflict
  - Recursion
  - Indirect Left Recursion

# Top-Down Derivation of “a z x”

0.  $S ::= a B$

1.  $B ::= C x \mid y$

2.  $C ::= \epsilon \mid z$

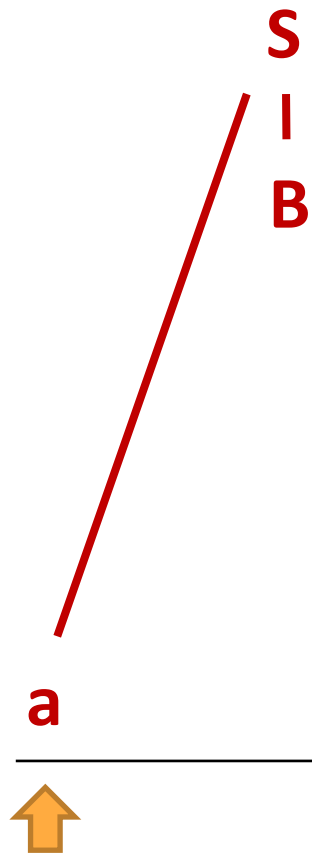
Lookahead

Remaining

**a**

**z x**

# Top-Down Derivation of “a z x”



0.  $S ::= a B$

1.  $B ::= C x \mid y$

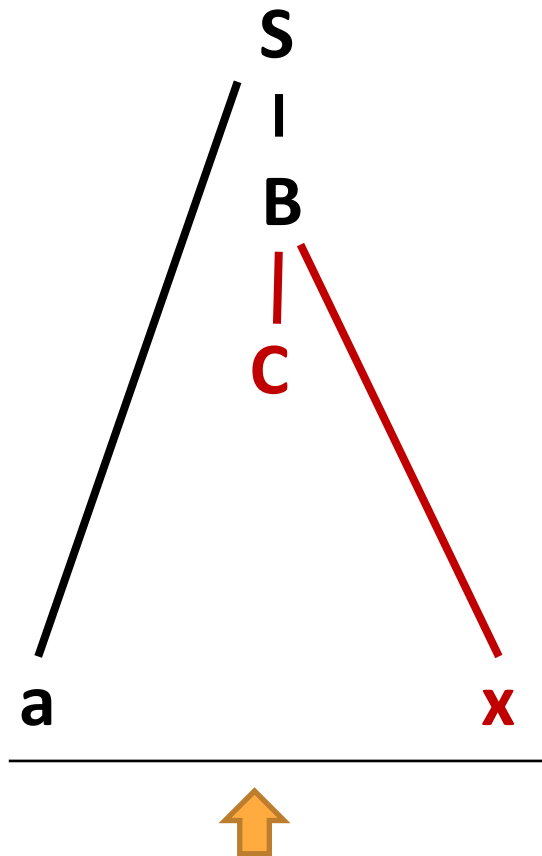
2.  $C ::= \epsilon \mid z$

Lookahead      Remaining

**a**

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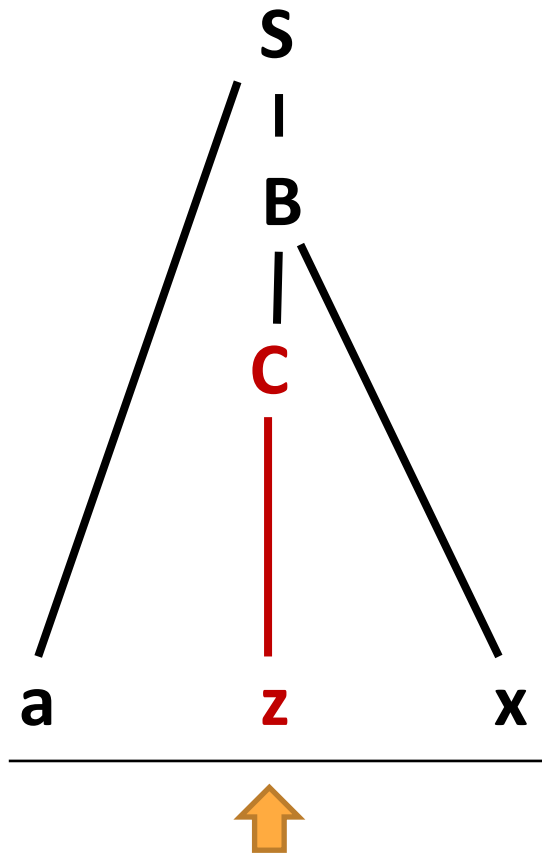
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Lookahead      Remaining

**z**

**x**

# Top-Down Derivation of “a z x”



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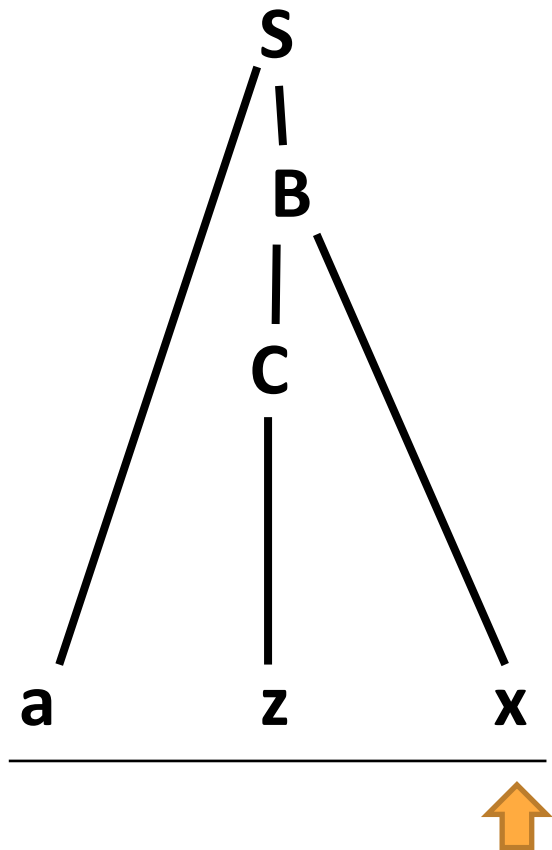
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Lookahead      Remaining

**z**

**x**

# Top-Down Derivation of “a z x”



0.  $S ::= a B$

1.  $B ::= C x \mid y$

2.  $C ::= \epsilon \mid z$

Lookahead      Remaining

**x**

# Agenda

- What LL (Top-Down) Parsing Looks Like
- LL Grammar Issues
  - **FIRST Conflict**
  - FIRST FOLLOW Conflict
  - Recursion
  - Indirect Left Recursion



# Let's change the grammar a little bit. (Grammar 1)

0.  $S ::= a B \mid a w$

1.  $B ::= C x \mid y$

2.  $C ::= \varepsilon \mid z$

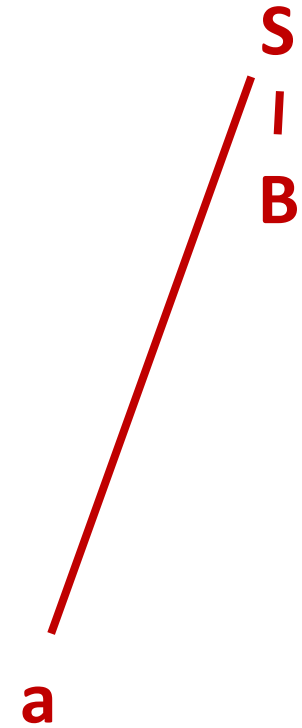
Lookahead

Remaining

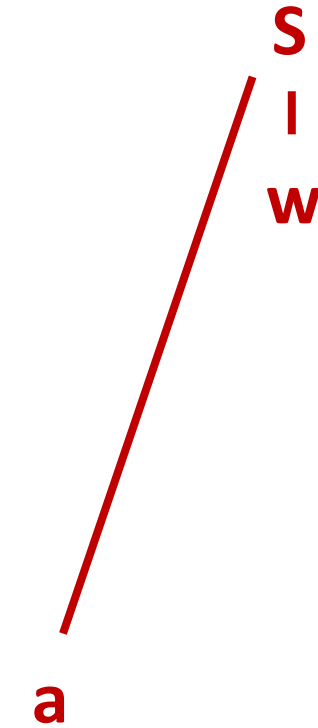
**a**

**z x**

# Top-Down Derivation of "a z x"



OR



0. **S** ::= **a B** | **a w**

1. **B** ::= **C x** | **y**

2. **C** ::=  $\epsilon$  | **z**

Lookahead

Remaining

**a**

**z x**

# Top-Down Derivation of “a z x”

S

I

B

WHICH?

a

---

S

I

w

a

---

We don't know!

We are using an *LL(1)*  
parser, we can't see  
more than ***a***!

# What's the issue?

0.  $S ::= \boxed{a B} \mid \boxed{a w}$   
1.  $B ::= C x \mid y$   
2.  $C ::= \varepsilon \mid z$

The FIRST sets of the right-hand sides for the **SAME NON-TERMINAL** must be disjoint!

## Fix: Factor out the Common Prefix

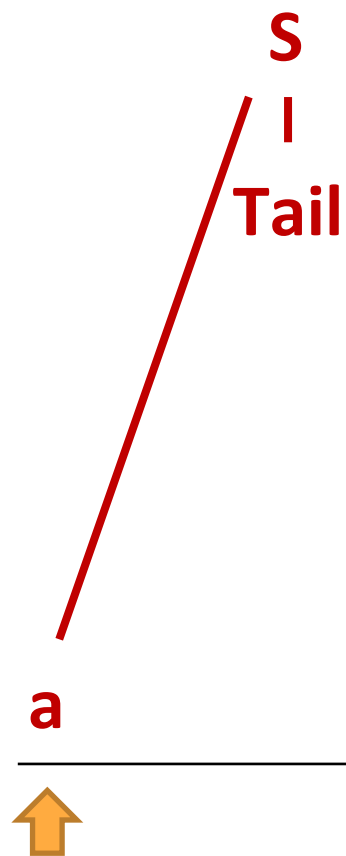
0.  $S ::= a \text{ Tail}$

1.  $\text{Tail} ::= B \mid w$

2.  $B ::= C \ x \mid y$

3.  $C ::= \varepsilon \mid z$

# Top-Down Derivation of “a z x”



0.  $S ::= a \text{ Tail}$

1.  $\text{Tail} ::= B \mid w$

2.  $B ::= C \ x \mid y$

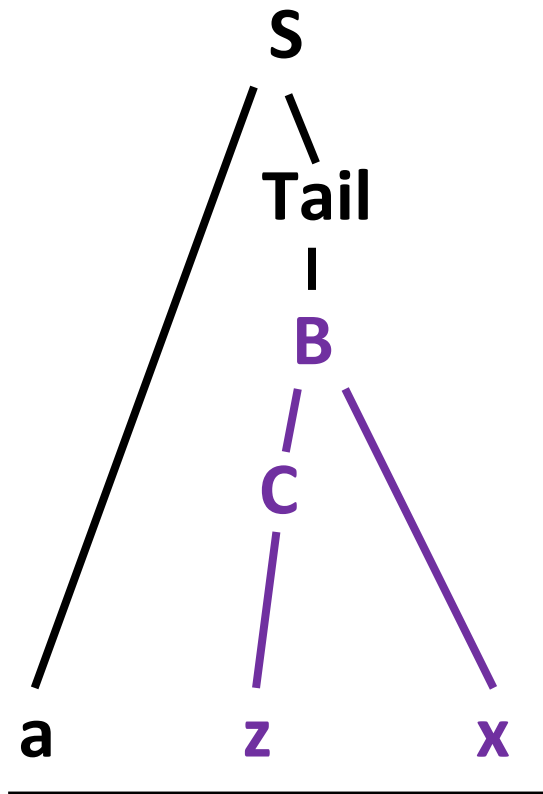
3.  $C ::= \varepsilon \mid z$

Lookahead      Remaining

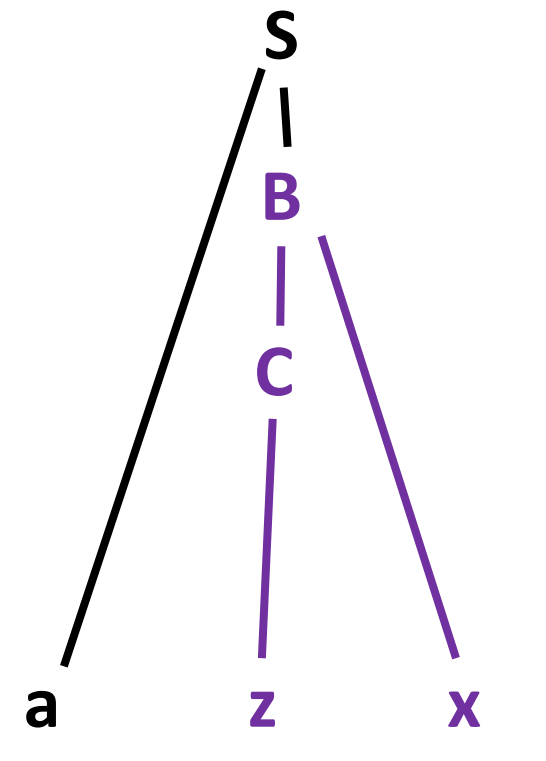
**a**

**z x**

# Top-Down Derivation of “a z x”



Purple trees  
are the same!



# Agenda

- What LL (Top-Down) Parsing Looks Like
- LL Grammar Issues
  - FIRST Conflict
  - **FIRST FOLLOW Conflict**
  - Left Recursion
  - Indirect Left Recursion



# Watch out for empty rhs ( $\epsilon$ -productions) too! (Grammar 2)

Changing the grammar again...

0.  $S ::= a B$

1.  $B ::= C x \mid y$

2.  $C ::= \epsilon \mid \mathbf{x}$

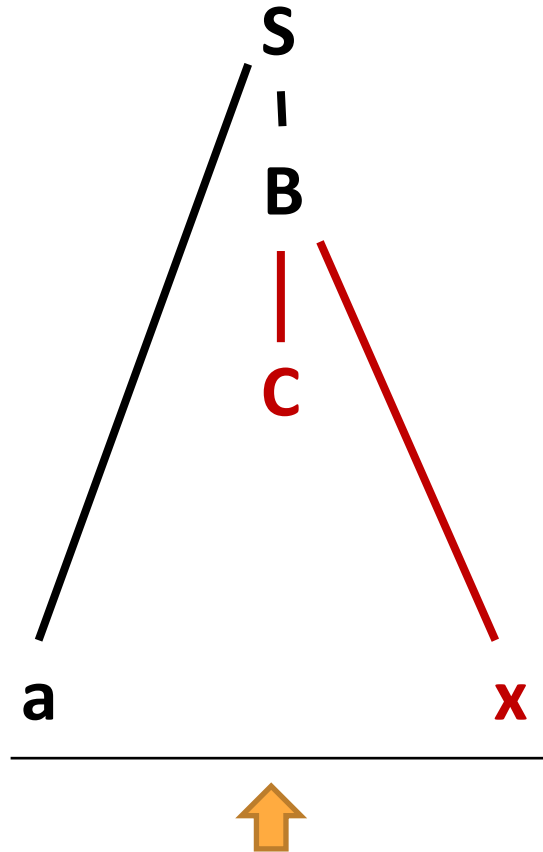
Lookahead

Remaining

**a**

**x**

# Watch out for empty rhs ( $\epsilon$ -productions) too! (Grammar 2)



0.  $S ::= a B$

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Lookahead Remaining

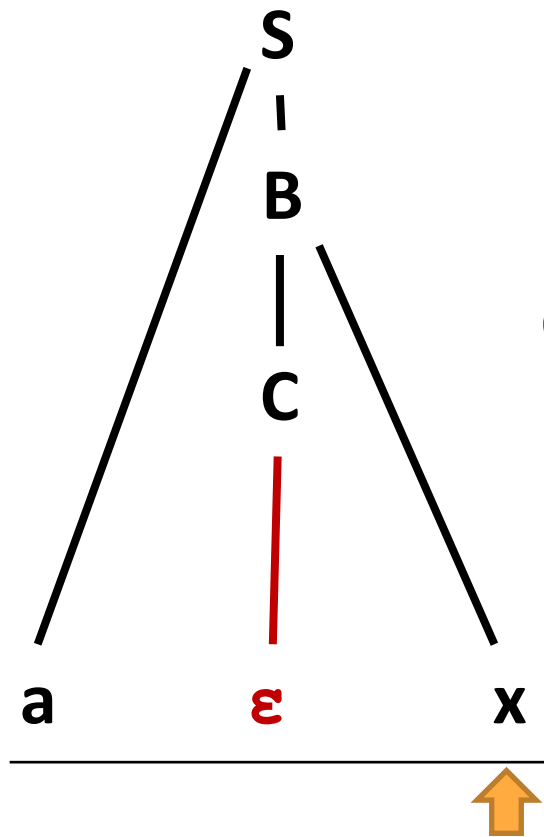
**x**

# Watch out for empty rhs ( $\epsilon$ -productions) too!

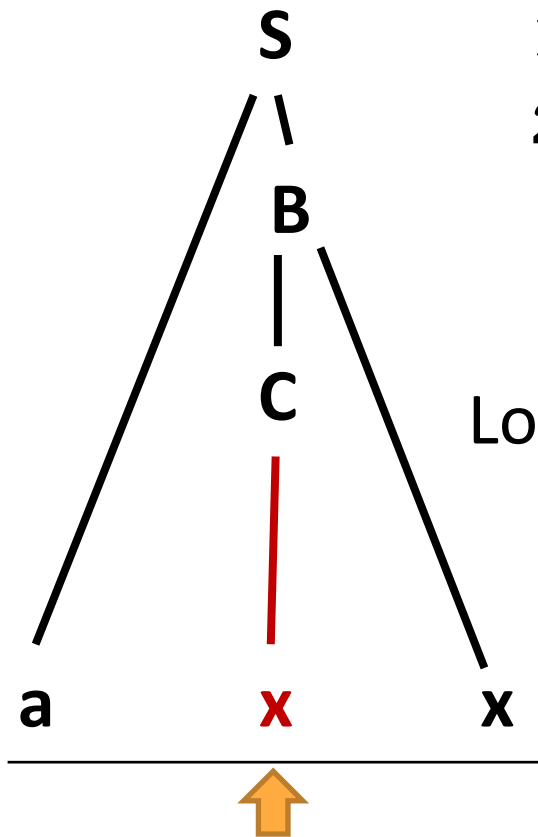
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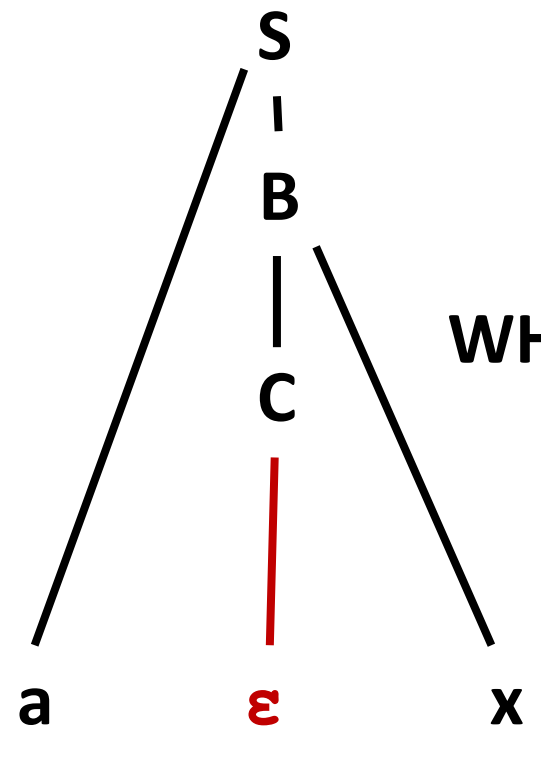
OR



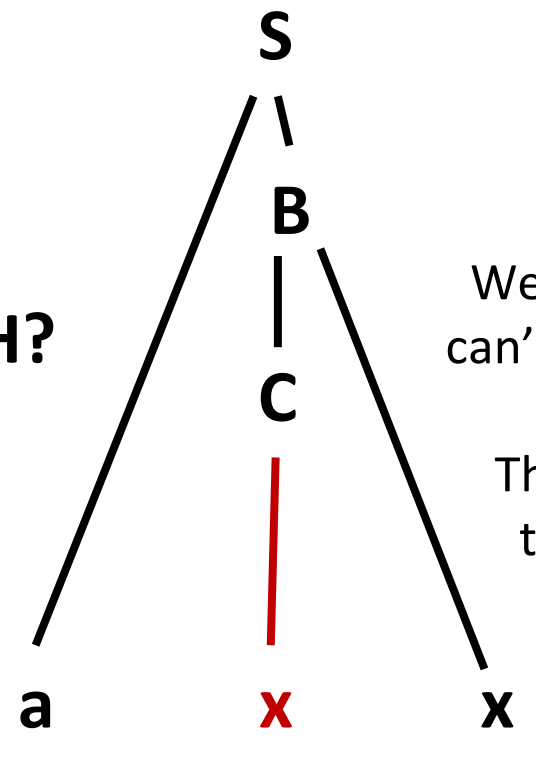
Lookahead Remaining

$x$

# Top-Down Derivation of “a x”



WHICH?



We don't know!

We are using an *LL(1)* parser, we can't look at more than **the only x!**

Therefore, we can't know that there is no input after the x.

# What's the issue?

0.  $S ::= a B$   
1.  $B ::= C \mathbf{x} \mid y$   
2.  $C ::= \varepsilon \mid \mathbf{x}$

Because  $C$  is nullable, its FOLLOW set must also be disjoint from the FIRST sets of its right-hand sides!

# Fix (Various): Substitute the Common Prefix, then Factor

1

0.  $S ::= a B$   
2.  $B ::= x \mid xx \mid y$   
~~3.  $C ::= \epsilon \mid x$~~

2

0.  $S ::= a B$   
2.  $B ::= x \text{ Tail} \mid y$   
3.  $\text{Tail} ::= x \mid \epsilon$

# Agenda

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  - FIRST FOLLOW Conflict
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  - Indirect Left Recursion

# Let's change the grammar again! (Grammar 3)

0.  $S ::= S B \mid a \mid w$

1.  $B ::= C x \mid y$

2.  $C ::= \varepsilon \mid z$

Lookahead

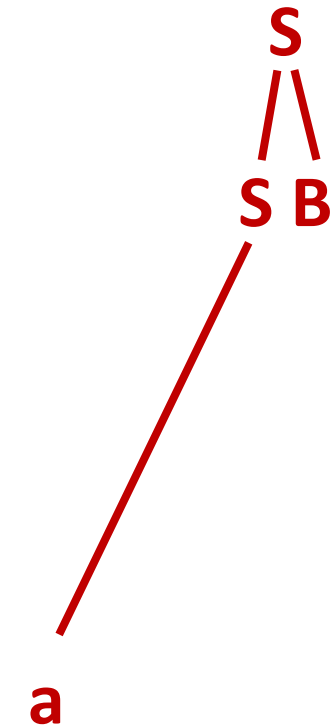
Remaining

**a**

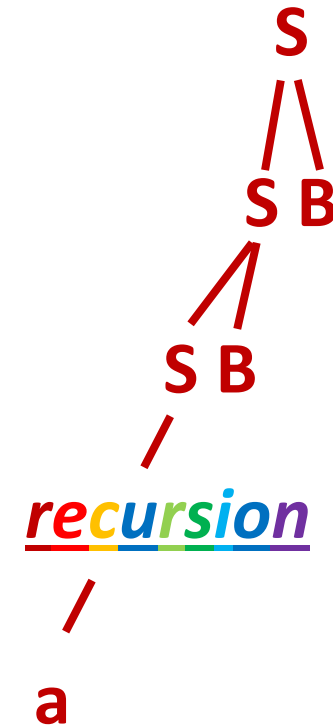
**z x**



# Top-Down Derivation of “a z x”



OR



0.  $S ::= S B \mid a \mid w$

1.  $B ::= C x \mid y$

2.  $C ::= \varepsilon \mid z$

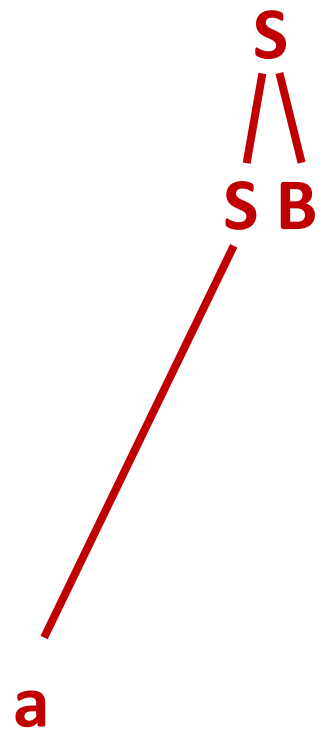
Lookahead

**a**

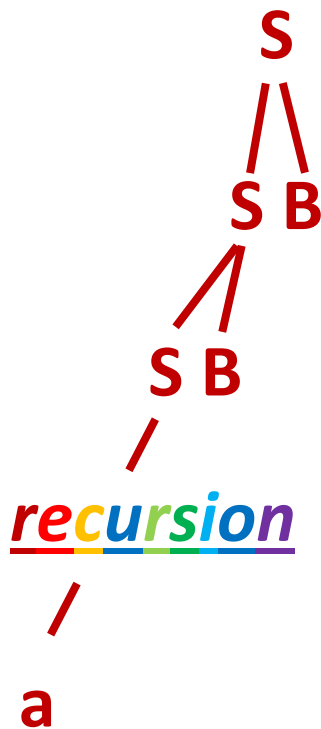
Remaining

**z x**

# Top-Down Derivation of “a z x”



WHICH?



We don't know!

We are using an *LL(1)* parser, we can't see more than ***a***!

# What's the issue?

0.  $S ::= \mathbf{S} B \mid a \mid w$   
1.  $B ::= C x \mid y$   
2.  $C ::= \varepsilon \mid z$

**Left recursion** can't be parsed by LL(1) parsers!

# To fix the issue: Make a tail rule again!

0.  $S ::= a \text{ Tail} \mid w \text{ Tail}$

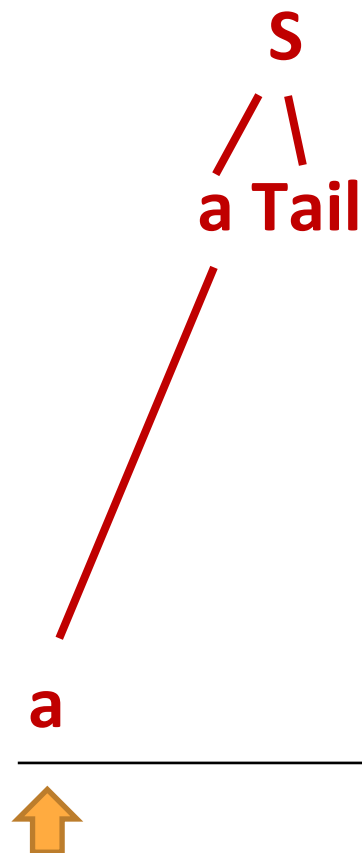
1.  $\text{Tail} ::= B \text{ Tail} \mid \varepsilon$

2.  $B ::= C \ x \mid y$

3.  $C ::= \varepsilon \mid z$

1. Turn suffix of all  $S$ 's recursive rhs into a tail non-terminal.
2. Append the tail non-terminal to all of its rhs options.
3. Add the empty string ( $\varepsilon$ ) as a rhs for the tail production.
4. Append the tail to every non-recursive rhs.

# Top-Down Derivation of “a z x”



0.  $S ::= a \text{ Tail} \mid w \text{ Tail}$

1.  $\text{Tail} ::= B \text{ Tail} \mid \varepsilon$

2.  $B ::= C \ x \mid y$

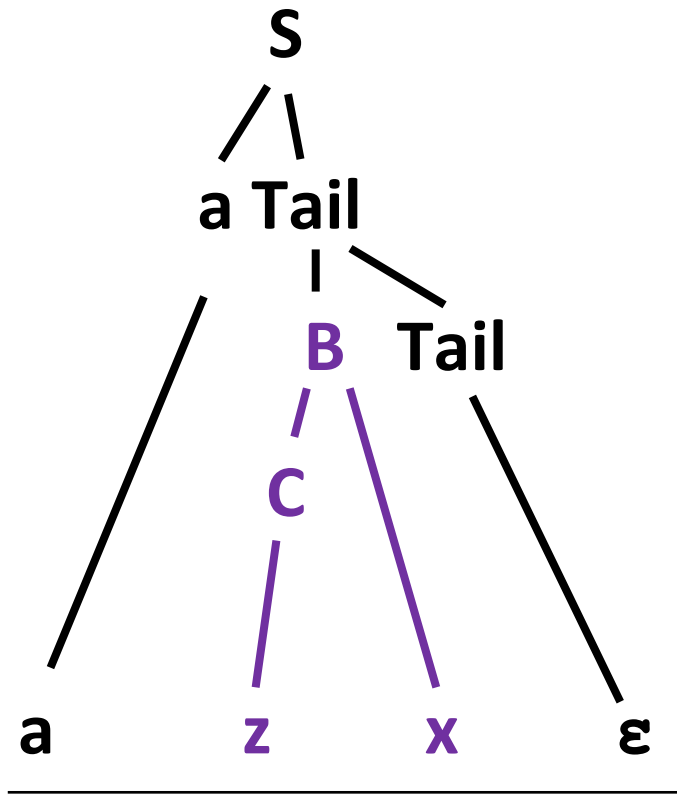
3.  $C ::= \varepsilon \mid z$

Lookahead      Remaining

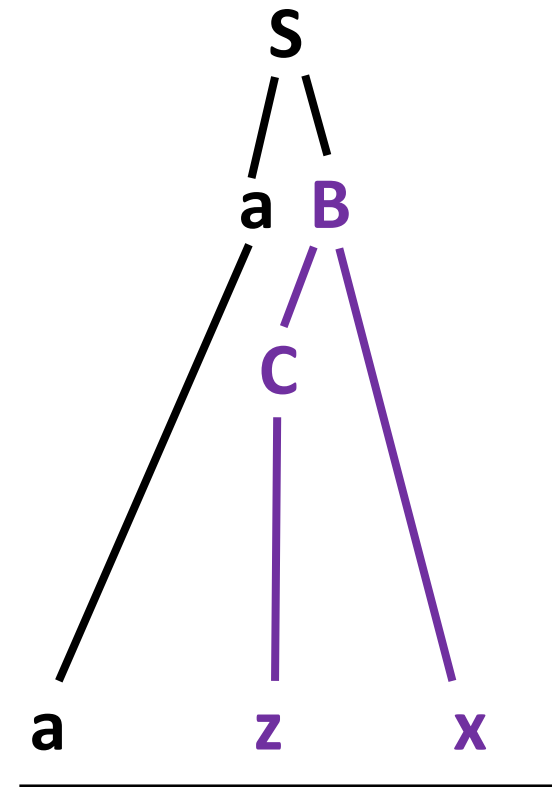
**a**

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# Top-Down Derivation of “a z x”



Purple trees are the same again!



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# Watch out for indirect left recursion, too!

Changing the grammar again...

0.  $S ::= B w \mid a B$

1.  $B ::= S \mid z x \mid y$

~~2.  $C ::= C x \mid y$~~

Lookahead

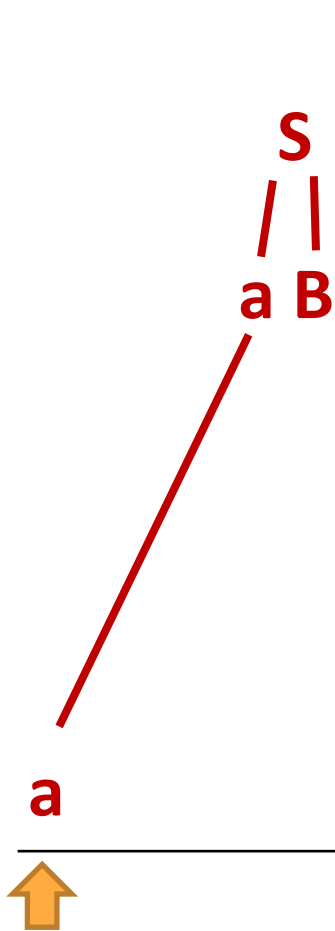
Remaining

**a**

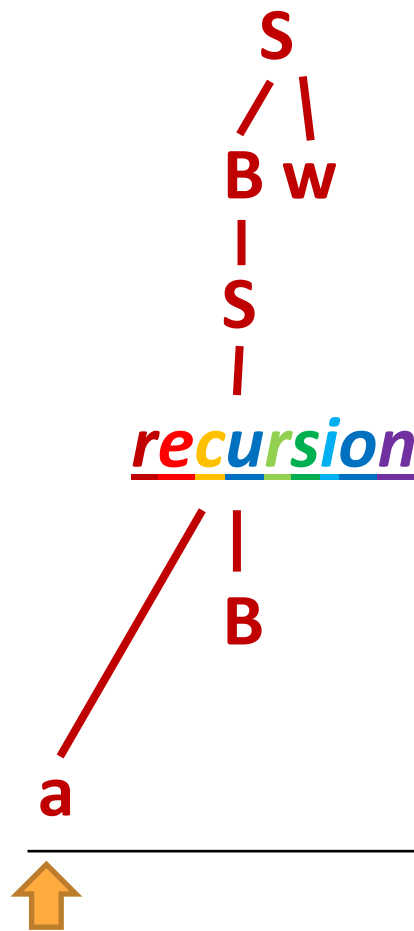
**z x**



# Watch out for indirect left recursion, too!



OR



0.  $S ::= B w \mid a B$

1.  $B ::= S \mid z x$

Lookahead

a

Remaining

$z x$

# To fix the issue: Substitute, then eliminate left recursion!

1     0.  $S ::= S w \mid z x w \mid a S \mid a z x$   
      ~~1.  $B ::= S \mid z x$~~

2     0.  $S ::= z x w \text{Tail} \mid a S \text{Tail} \mid a z x \text{Tail}$   
      1.  $\text{Tail} ::= w \text{Tail} \mid \epsilon$

3     0.  $S ::= z x w \text{Tail} \mid a a\text{Tail}$   
      1.  $a\text{Tail} ::= S \text{Tail} \mid z x \text{Tail}$   
      2.  $\text{Tail} ::= w \text{Tail} \mid \epsilon$

*Note:* **NEVER** remove the starting non-terminal!

The start symbol of the new grammar should be the same