

Programming Languages and Compilers (CS 421)

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Based in part on slides by Mattox Beckman, as updated by Vikram Adve and Gul Agha

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BNF Derivations

- Given rules

$$\mathbf{X} ::= y\mathbf{Z}w \text{ and } \mathbf{Z} ::= v$$

we may replace \mathbf{Z} by v to say

$$\mathbf{X} \Rightarrow y\mathbf{Z}w \Rightarrow yvw$$

- Sequence of such replacements called *derivation*
- Derivation called *right-most* if always replace the right-most non-terminal

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BNF Semantics

- The meaning of a BNF grammar is the set of all strings consisting only of terminals that can be derived from the Start symbol

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BNF Derivations

- Start with the start symbol:

$\langle \text{Sum} \rangle \Rightarrow$

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BNF Derivations

- Pick a non-terminal

$\langle \text{Sum} \rangle \Rightarrow$

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BNF Derivations

- Pick a rule and substitute:

- $\langle \text{Sum} \rangle ::= \langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle$

$\langle \text{Sum} \rangle \Rightarrow \langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle$

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BNF Derivations

- Pick a non-terminal:

$\langle \text{Sum} \rangle \Rightarrow \langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle$

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BNF Derivations

- Pick a rule and substitute:

■ $\langle \text{Sum} \rangle ::= (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle)$
 $\langle \text{Sum} \rangle \Rightarrow \langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle$
 $\Rightarrow (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle) + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle$

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BNF Derivations

- Pick a non-terminal:

$\langle \text{Sum} \rangle \Rightarrow \langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle$
 $\Rightarrow (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle) + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle$

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BNF Derivations

- Pick a rule and substitute:

■ $\langle \text{Sum} \rangle ::= \langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle$
 $\langle \text{Sum} \rangle \Rightarrow \langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle$
 $\Rightarrow (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle) + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle$
 $\Rightarrow (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle) + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle$

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BNF Derivations

- Pick a non-terminal:

$\langle \text{Sum} \rangle \Rightarrow \langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle$
 $\Rightarrow (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle) + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle$
 $\Rightarrow (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle) + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle$

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BNF Derivations

- Pick a rule and substitute:

■ $\langle \text{Sum} \rangle ::= 1$
 $\langle \text{Sum} \rangle \Rightarrow \langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle$
 $\Rightarrow (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle) + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle$
 $\Rightarrow (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle) + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle$
 $\Rightarrow (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle + 1) + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle$

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BNF Derivations

- Pick a non-terminal:

$$\begin{aligned}\langle \text{Sum} \rangle &\Rightarrow \langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle \\ &\Rightarrow (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle) + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle \\ &\Rightarrow (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle) + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle \\ &\Rightarrow (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle + 1) + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle\end{aligned}$$

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BNF Derivations

- Pick a rule and substitute:

- $\langle \text{Sum} \rangle ::= 0$

$$\begin{aligned}\langle \text{Sum} \rangle &\Rightarrow \langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle \\ &\Rightarrow (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle) + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle \\ &\Rightarrow (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle) + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle \\ &\Rightarrow (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle + 1) + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle \\ &\Rightarrow (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle + 1) + 0\end{aligned}$$

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BNF Derivations

- Pick a non-terminal:

$$\begin{aligned}\langle \text{Sum} \rangle &\Rightarrow \langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle \\ &\Rightarrow (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle) + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle \\ &\Rightarrow (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle) + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle \\ &\Rightarrow (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle + 1) + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle \\ &\Rightarrow (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle + 1) + 0\end{aligned}$$

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BNF Derivations

- Pick a rule and substitute

- $\langle \text{Sum} \rangle ::= 0$

$$\begin{aligned}\langle \text{Sum} \rangle &\Rightarrow \langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle \\ &\Rightarrow (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle) + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle \\ &\Rightarrow (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle) + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle \\ &\Rightarrow (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle + 1) + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle \\ &\Rightarrow (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle + 1) 0 \\ &\Rightarrow (0 + 1) + 0\end{aligned}$$

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BNF Derivations

- $(0 + 1) + 0$ is generated by grammar

$$\begin{aligned}\langle \text{Sum} \rangle &\Rightarrow \langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle \\ &\Rightarrow (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle) + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle \\ &\Rightarrow (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle) + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle \\ &\Rightarrow (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle + 1) + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle \\ &\Rightarrow (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle + 1) + 0 \\ &\Rightarrow (0 + 1) + 0\end{aligned}$$

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Extended BNF Grammars

- Alternatives: allow rules of form $X ::= y \mid z$
 - Abbreviates $X ::= y, X ::= z$
- Options: $X ::= y [v] z$
 - Abbreviates $X ::= y v z, X ::= y z$
- Repetition: $X ::= y \{ v \}^* z$
 - Can be eliminated by adding new nonterminal V and rules $X ::= y z, X ::= y V z, V ::= v, V ::= v V$

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Parse Trees

- Graphical representation of derivation
- Each node labeled with either non-terminal or terminal
- If node is labeled with a terminal, then it is a leaf (no sub-trees)
- If node is labeled with a non-terminal, then it has one branch for each character in the right-hand side of rule used to substitute for it

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Example

- Consider grammar:
 $\langle \text{exp} \rangle ::= \langle \text{factor} \rangle$
 $\quad \quad \quad | \langle \text{factor} \rangle + \langle \text{factor} \rangle$
 $\langle \text{factor} \rangle ::= \langle \text{bin} \rangle$
 $\quad \quad \quad | \langle \text{bin} \rangle * \langle \text{exp} \rangle$
 $\langle \text{bin} \rangle ::= 0 \mid 1$
- Problem: Build parse tree for $1 * 1 + 0$ as an $\langle \text{exp} \rangle$

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Example cont.

- $1 * 1 + 0$: $\langle \text{exp} \rangle$

$\langle \text{exp} \rangle$ is the start symbol for this parse tree

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Example cont.

- $1 * 1 + 0$: $\langle \text{exp} \rangle$
 $\quad \quad \quad |$
 $\quad \quad \quad \langle \text{factor} \rangle$

Use rule: $\langle \text{exp} \rangle ::= \langle \text{factor} \rangle$

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Example cont.

- $1 * 1 + 0$: $\langle \text{exp} \rangle$
 $\quad \quad \quad |$
 $\quad \quad \quad \langle \text{factor} \rangle$
 $\quad \quad \quad / \quad | \quad \backslash$
 $\quad \quad \quad \langle \text{bin} \rangle \quad * \quad \langle \text{exp} \rangle$

Use rule: $\langle \text{factor} \rangle ::= \langle \text{bin} \rangle * \langle \text{exp} \rangle$

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Example cont.

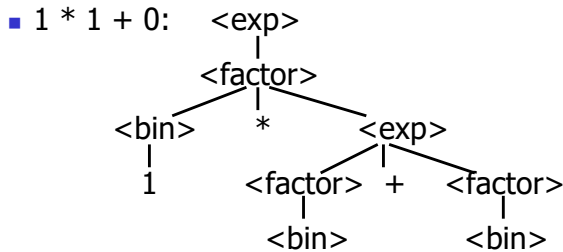
- $1 * 1 + 0$: $\langle \text{exp} \rangle$
 $\quad \quad \quad |$
 $\quad \quad \quad \langle \text{factor} \rangle$
 $\quad \quad \quad / \quad | \quad \backslash$
 $\quad \quad \quad \langle \text{bin} \rangle \quad * \quad \langle \text{exp} \rangle$
 $\quad \quad \quad | \quad \quad \quad / \quad | \quad \backslash$
 $\quad \quad \quad 1 \quad \quad \quad \langle \text{factor} \rangle \quad + \quad \langle \text{factor} \rangle$

Use rules: $\langle \text{bin} \rangle ::= 1$ and
 $\langle \text{exp} \rangle ::= \langle \text{factor} \rangle + \langle \text{factor} \rangle$

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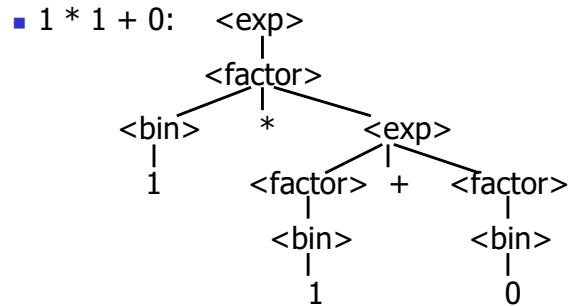
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Example cont.



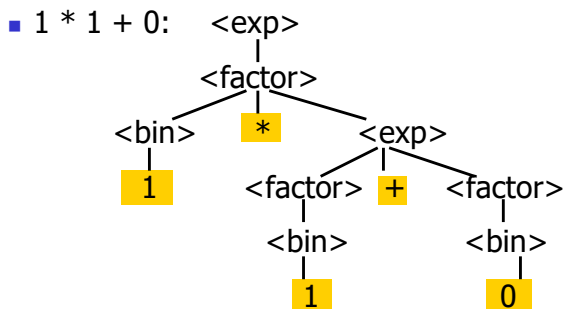
Use rule: $\langle \text{factor} \rangle ::= \langle \text{bin} \rangle$

Example cont.



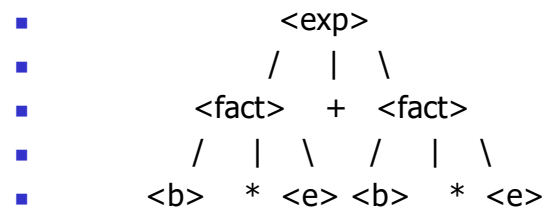
Use rules: $\langle \text{bin} \rangle ::= 1 \mid 0$

Example cont.



Fringe of tree is string generated by grammar

Your Turn: 1 * 0 + 0 * 1



Parse Tree Data Structures

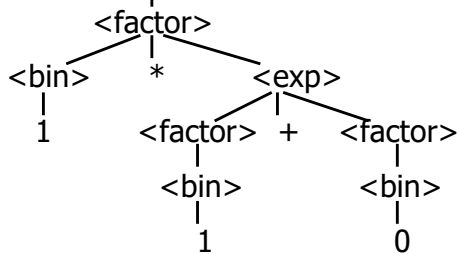
- Parse trees may be represented by OCaml datatypes
- One datatype for each nonterminal
- One constructor for each rule
- Defined as mutually recursive collection of datatype declarations

Example

- Recall grammar:
 - $\langle \text{exp} \rangle ::= \langle \text{factor} \rangle \mid \langle \text{factor} \rangle + \langle \text{factor} \rangle$
 - $\langle \text{factor} \rangle ::= \langle \text{bin} \rangle \mid \langle \text{bin} \rangle * \langle \text{exp} \rangle$
 - $\langle \text{bin} \rangle ::= 0 \mid 1$
- type `exp = Factor2Exp of factor`
 | `Plus of factor * factor`
 and `factor = Bin2Factor of bin`
 | `Mult of bin * exp`
 and `bin = Zero | One`

Example cont.

- 1 * 1 + 0: <exp>



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Example cont.

- Can be represented as

```

Factor2Exp
(Mult(One,
      Plus(Bin2Factor One,
           Bin2Factor Zero)))
  
```

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Ambiguous Grammars and Languages

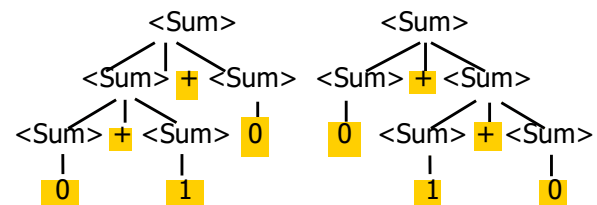
- A BNF grammar is *ambiguous* if its language contains strings for which there is more than one parse tree
- If all BNF's for a language are ambiguous then the language is *inherently ambiguous*

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Example: Ambiguous Grammar

- 0 + 1 + 0



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Example

- What is the result for:

$$3 + 4 * 5 + 6$$

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Example

- What is the result for:

$$3 + 4 * 5 + 6$$

- Possible answers:

- 41 = ((3 + 4) * 5) + 6
- 47 = 3 + (4 * (5 + 6))
- 29 = (3 + (4 * 5)) + 6 = 3 + ((4 * 5) + 6)
- 77 = (3 + 4) * (5 + 6)

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Example

- What is the value of:

$$7 - 5 - 2$$

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Example

- What is the value of:

$$7 - 5 - 2$$

- Possible answers:

- In Pascal, C++, SML assoc. left

$$7 - 5 - 2 = (7 - 5) - 2 = 0$$

- In APL, associate to right

$$7 - 5 - 2 = 7 - (5 - 2) = 4$$

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Two Major Sources of Ambiguity

- Lack of determination of operator precedence
- Lack of determination of operator associativity

- Not the only sources of ambiguity

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