

Syntax Directed Translation

Rupesh Nasre.

CS3300 Compiler Design
IIT Madras
July 2018

Frontend

Character stream

Lexical Analyzer

Token stream

Syntax Analyzer

Syntax tree

Semantic Analyzer

Syntax tree

**Intermediate
Code Generator**

Intermediate representation

**Machine-Independent
Code Optimizer**

Intermediate representation

Code Generator

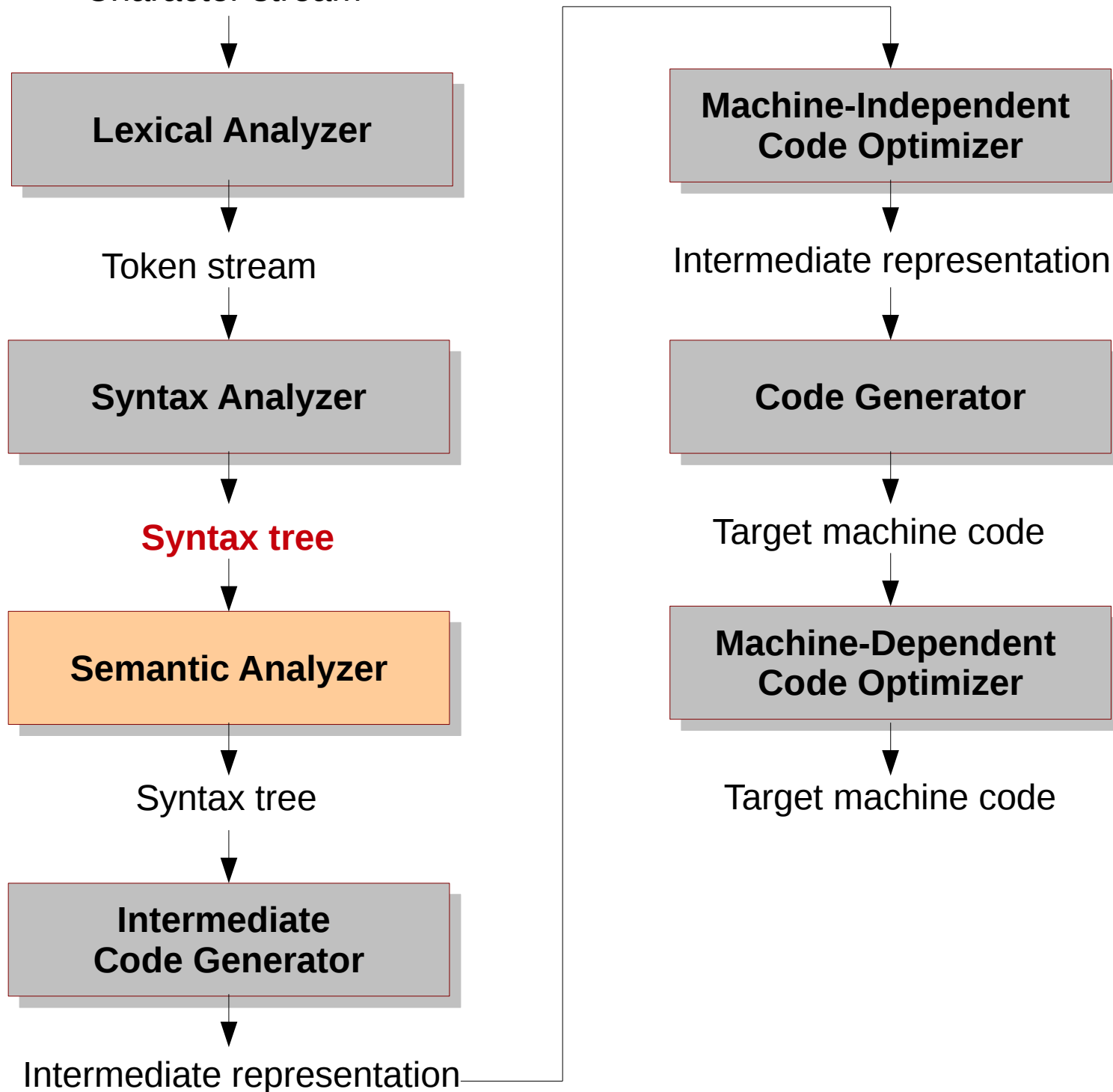
Target machine code

**Machine-Dependent
Code Optimizer**

Target machine code

Backend

**Symbol
Table**



Role of SDT

- To associate actions with productions
- To associate attributes with non-terminals
- To create implicit or explicit syntax tree
- To perform semantic analysis
- ... essentially, to add life to the skeleton.

Example

$E \rightarrow E + T$

```
$$code = "";  
strcat($$.code, $1.code);  
strcat($$.code, $3.code);  
strcat($$.code, "+");
```

SDD

Attributes

$E \rightarrow E + T$

```
{ printf("+"); }
```

SDT

SDTs may be viewed as implementations of SDDs and are important from efficiency perspective.

Productions

Actions

Syntax Directed Definition

- An SDD is a CFG with attributes and rules.
 - Attributes are associated with grammar symbols.
 - Rules are associated with productions.
- An SDD specifies the semantics of productions.
 - It does not enforce a specific way of achieving the semantics.

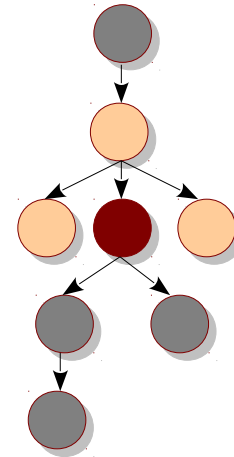
Syntax Directed Translation

- An SDT is done by attaching rules or program fragments to productions.
- The order induced by the syntax analysis produces a translation of the input program.

Attributes

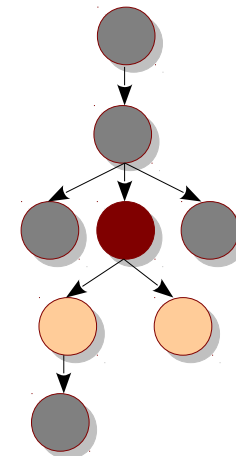
- Inherited

- In terms of the attributes of the node, its parent and siblings.
- e.g., `int x, y, z;` or nested scoping



- Synthesized

- In terms of the attributes of the node and its children.
- e.g., `a + b * c` or most of the constructs from your assignments



SDD for Calculator

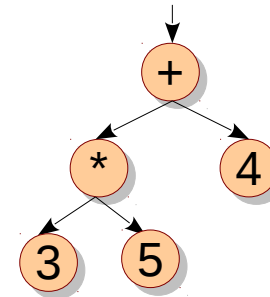
Input string

3 * 5 + 4 \$

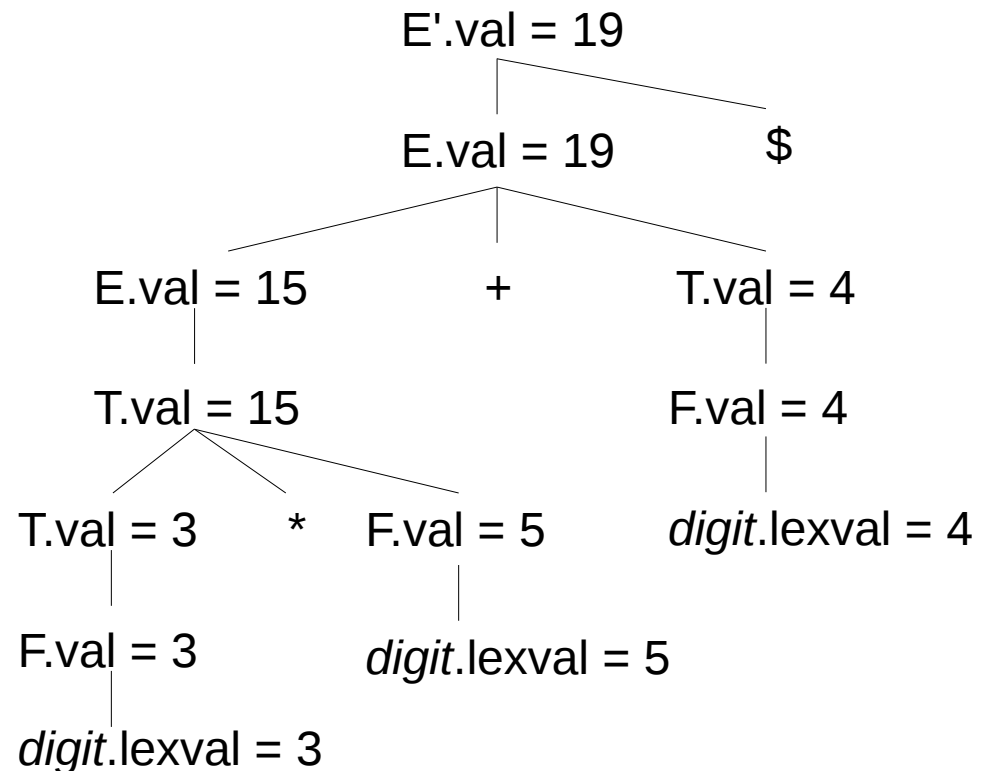
SDD

Sr. No.	Production	Semantic Rules
1	$E' \rightarrow E \$$	$E'.val = E.val$
2	$E \rightarrow E_1 + T$	$E.val = E_1.val + T.val$
3	$E \rightarrow T$	...
4	$T \rightarrow T_1 * F$	...
5	$T \rightarrow F$	...
6	$F \rightarrow (E)$	...
7	$F \rightarrow digit$	$F.val = digit.lexval$

Parse Tree

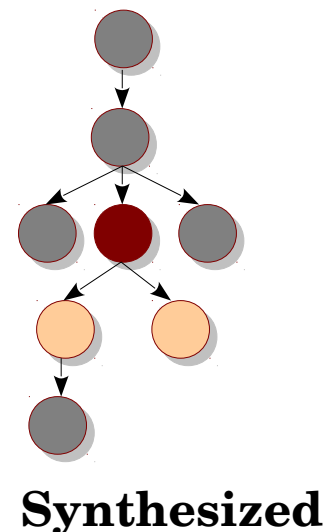
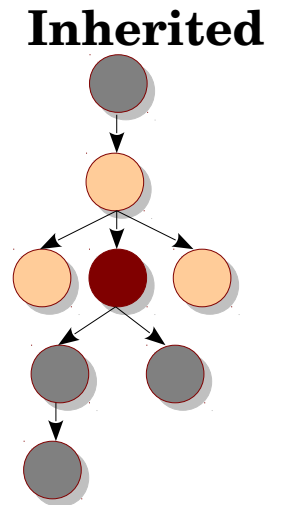


Annotated Parse Tree

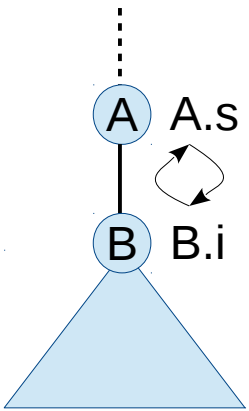


Order of Evaluation

- If there are only synthesized attributes in the SDD, there **exists** an evaluation order.
- Any **bottom-up** order would do; for instance, post-order.
- Helpful for **LR** parsing.
- How about when the attributes are both **synthesized** as well as **inherited**?
- How about when the attributes are **only inherited**?



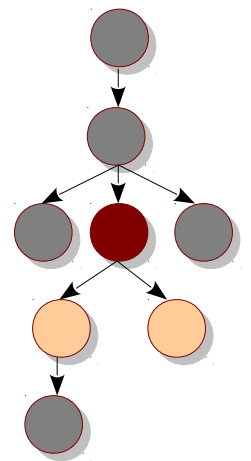
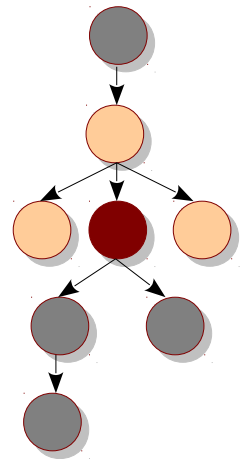
Order of Evaluation



Production	Semantic Rule
$A \rightarrow B$	$A.s = B.i;$ $B.i = A.s + 1;$

- This SDD uses a combination of synthesized and inherited attributes.
- $A.s$ (head) is defined in terms of $B.i$ (body non-terminal). Hence, it is synthesized.
- $B.i$ (body non-terminal) is defined in terms of $A.s$ (head). Hence, it is inherited.
- There exists a *circular dependency* between their evaluations.
- In practice, subclasses of SDDs required for our purpose do have an order.

Inherited



Synthesized

Classwork

- Write semantic rules for the following grammar.
 - It computes terms like $3 * 5$ and $3 * 5 * 7$.
- Now write the annotated parse tree for $3 * 5 * 7$.
- What is the associativity of $*$?

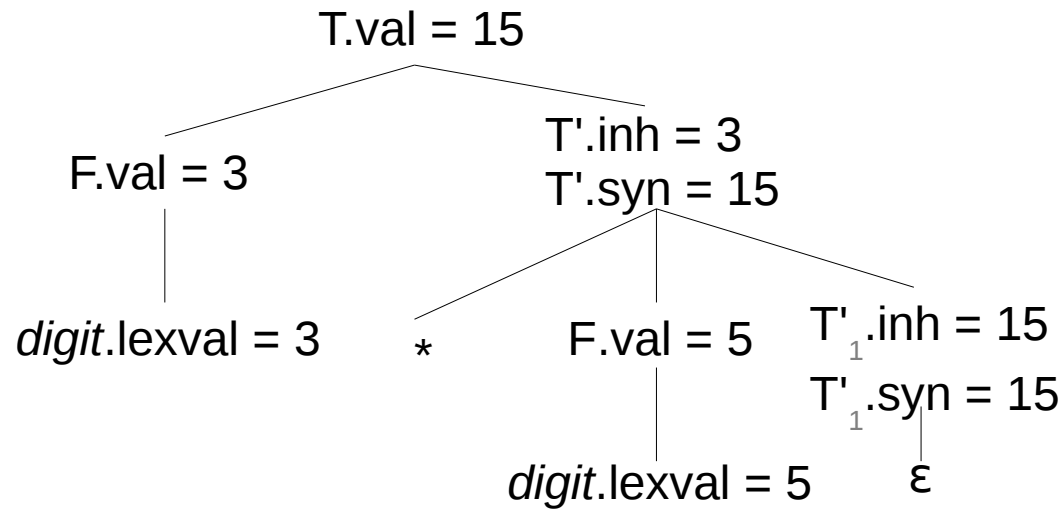
Sr. No.	Production	Semantic Rules
1	$T \rightarrow F T'$	$T.val = F.val * T'.val$
2	$T' \rightarrow * F T'_1$	$T'.val = F.val * T'_1.val$
3	$T' \rightarrow \epsilon$	$T'.val = 1$
4	$F \rightarrow digit$	$F.val = digit.lexval$

Classwork

- Write semantic rules for the following grammar.
 - It computes terms like $3 * 5$ and $3 * 5 * 7$.
- Now write the annotated parse tree for $3 * 5 * 7$.
- What is the associativity of $*$?
- Can you make it left-associative?

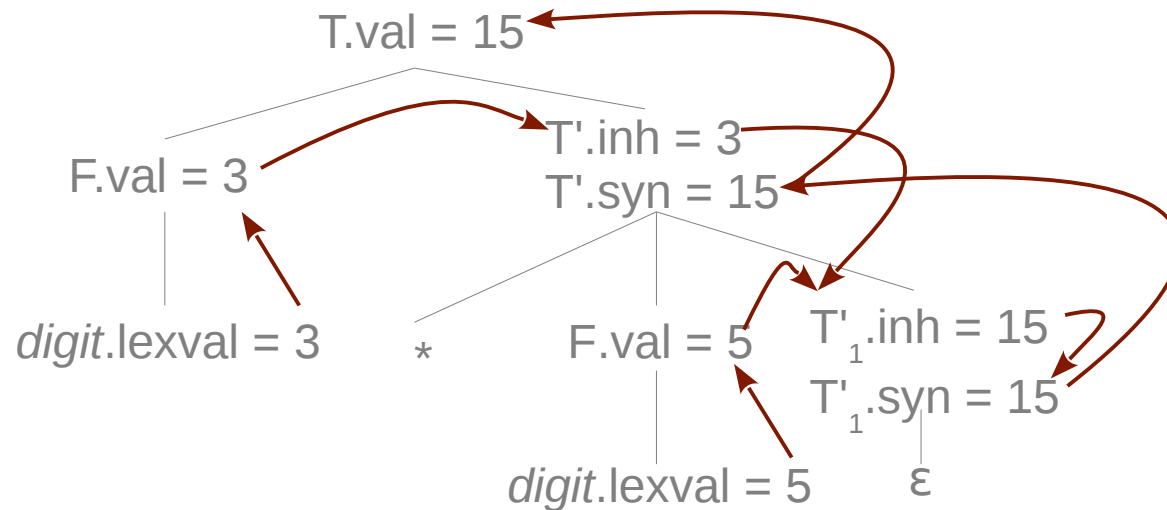
Sr. No.	Production	Semantic Rules
1	$T \rightarrow F T'$	$T'.inh = F.val$ $T.val = T'.syn$
2	$T' \rightarrow * F T'_1$	$T'_1.inh = T'.inh * F.val$ $T'.syn = T'_1.syn$
3	$T' \rightarrow \epsilon$	$T'.syn = T'.inh$
4	$F \rightarrow digit$	$F.val = digit.lexval$

Classwork



Sr. No.	Production	Semantic Rules
1	$T \rightarrow F T'$	$T'.inh = F.val$ $T.val = T'.syn$
2	$T' \rightarrow * F T'_1$	$T'_1.inh = T'.inh * F.val$ $T'.syn = T'_1.syn$
3	$T' \rightarrow \epsilon$	$T'.syn = T'.inh$
4	$F \rightarrow digit$	$F.val = digit.lexval$

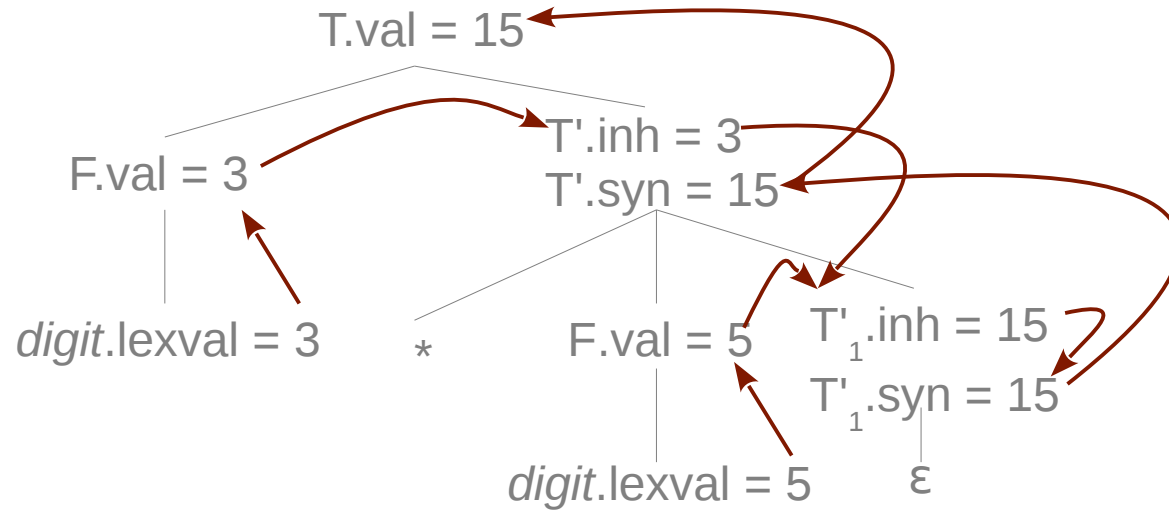
Classwork



What is the order in which rules are evaluated?

Sr. No.	Production	Semantic Rules
1	$T \rightarrow F T'$	$T'.inh = F.val$ $T.val = T'.syn$
2	$T' \rightarrow * F T'_1$	$T'_1.inh = T'.inh * F.val$ $T'.syn = T'_1.syn$
3	$T' \rightarrow \epsilon$	$T'.syn = T'.inh$
4	$F \rightarrow digit$	$F.val = digit.lexval$

Dependency Graph



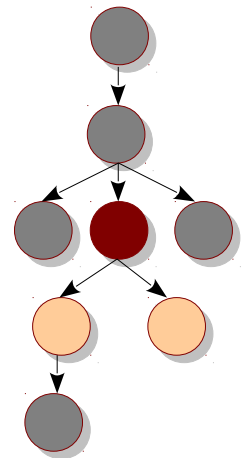
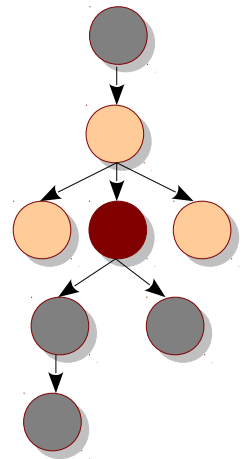
- A dependency graph depicts the flow of information amongst attributes.
- An edge $attr1 \rightarrow attr2$ means that the value of $attr1$ is needed to compute $attr2$.
- Thus, allowable evaluation orders are those sequences of rules N_1, N_2, \dots, N_k such that if $N_i \rightarrow N_j$, then $i < j$.
 - What are such allowable orders?
 - Topological sort
 - What about cycles?

Order of Evaluation

- If there are only synthesized attributes in the SDD, there exists an evaluation order.
- Any bottom-up order would do; for instance, post-order.
- Helpful for LR parsing.
- How about when the attributes are both synthesized as well as inherited?
- How about when the attributes are only inherited?

S-attributed

Inherited



Synthesized

SDD for Calculator

Input string

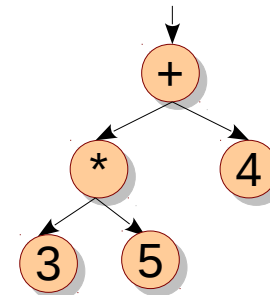
3 * 5 + 4 \$

S-attributed

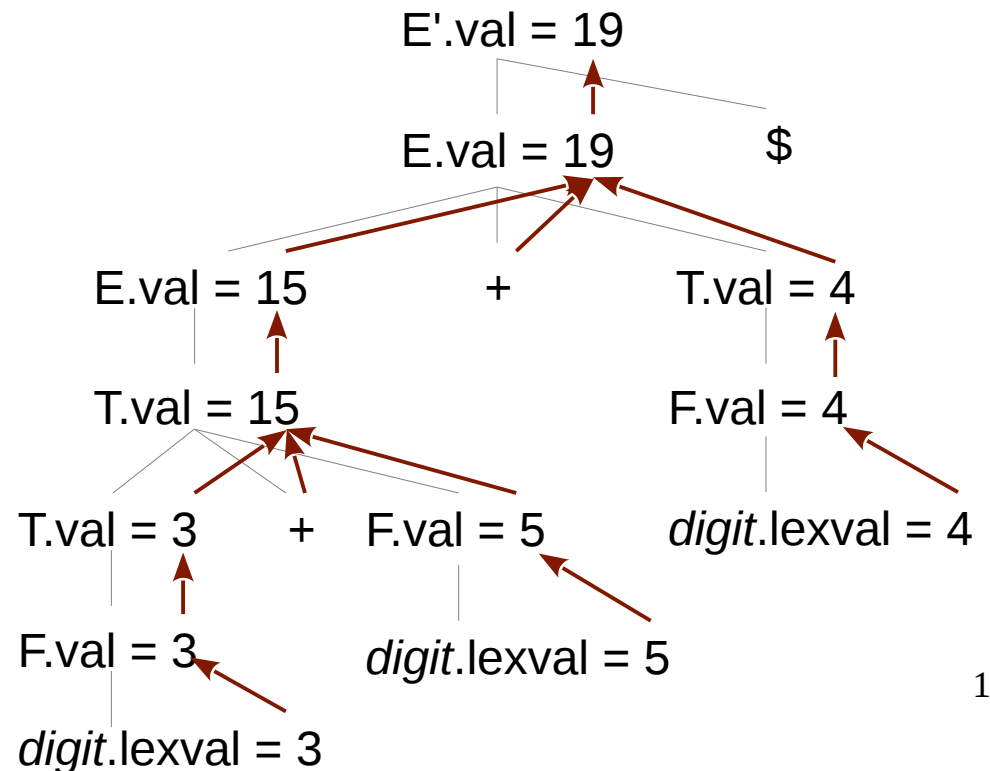
SDD

Sr. No.	Production	Semantic Rules
1	$E' \rightarrow E \$$	$E'.val = E.val$
2	$E \rightarrow E_1 + T$	$E.val = E_1.val + T.val$
3	$E \rightarrow T$	...
4	$T \rightarrow T_1 * F$	...
5	$T \rightarrow F$	...
6	$F \rightarrow (E)$	...
7	$F \rightarrow digit$	$F.val = digit.lexval$

Parse Tree



Annotated Parse Tree



S-attributed SDD

- Every attribute is synthesized.
- A topological evaluation order is well-defined.
- Any bottom-up order of the parse tree nodes.
- In practice, preorder is used.

```
preorder(N) {  
    for (each child C of N, from the left) preorder(C)  
    evaluate attributes of N  
}
```

Can we allow more orderings?

Issues with S-attributed SDD

- It is too strict!
- There exist reasonable non-cyclic orders that it disallows.
 - If a non-terminal uses attributes of its parent only (no sibling attributes)
 - If a non-terminal uses attributes of its left-siblings only (and not of right siblings).
- The rules may use information “from above” and “from left”.



L-attributed

L-attributed SDD

- Each attribute must be either
 - synthesized, or
 - inherited, but with restriction.

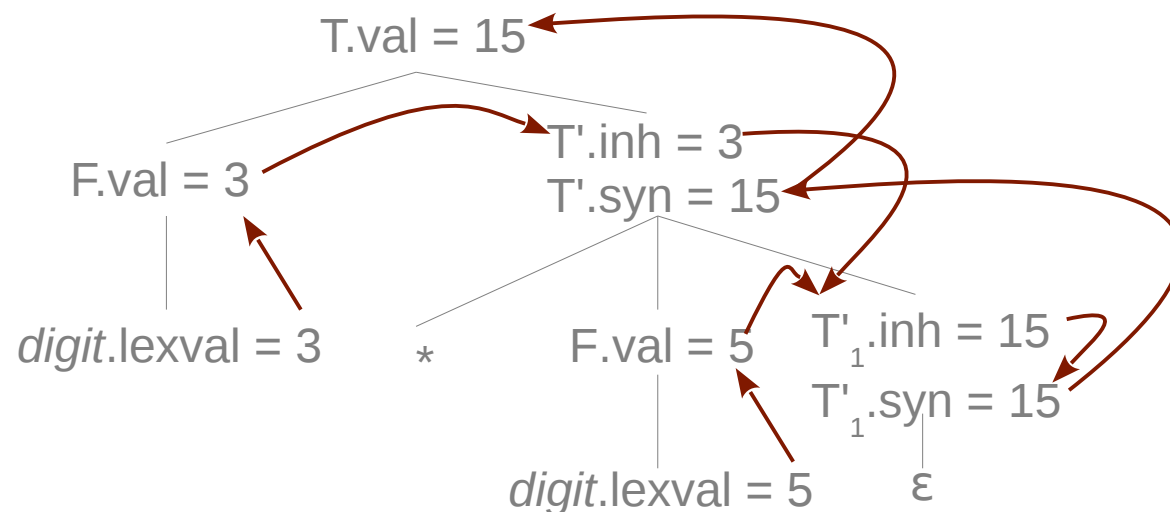
For production $A \rightarrow X_1 X_2 \dots X_n$ with inherited attributes X_i , a computed by an action, the rule may use only

- inherited attributes of A .
 - either inherited or synthesized attributes of X_1, X_2, \dots, X_{i-1} .
 - inherited or synthesized attributes of X_i with no cyclic dependence.
- L is for left-to-right.

Have you seen any such SDD?

Example of L-attributed SDD

Sr. No.	Production	Semantic Rules
1	$T \rightarrow F T'$	$T'.inh = F.val$ $T.val = T'.syn$
2	$T' \rightarrow * F T'_1$	$T'_1.inh = T'.inh * F.val$ $T'.syn = T'_1.syn$
3	$T' \rightarrow \epsilon$	$T'.syn = T'.inh$
4	$F \rightarrow digit$	$F.val = digit.lexval$



Example of non-L-attributed SDD

Production	Semantic rule
$A \rightarrow B C$	$A.s = B.b;$ $B.i = C.c + A.s$

- First rule uses synthesized attributes.
- Second rule has inherited attributes.
- However, B's attribute is dependent on C's attribute, which is on the right.
- Hence, it is not L-attributed SDD.

$S \rightarrow L . L \mid L$
 $L \rightarrow L B \mid B$
 $B \rightarrow 0 \mid 1$

Classwork:

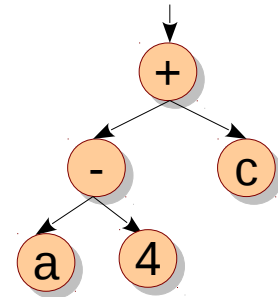
- What does this grammar generate?
- Design L-attributed SDD to compute $S.val$, the decimal value of an input string.
- For instance, 101.101 should output 5.625.
- Idea: Use an inherited attribute $L.side$ that tells which side (left or right) of the decimal point a bit is on.

SDT Applications

- Creating an explicit syntax tree.

- e.g., $a - 4 + c$

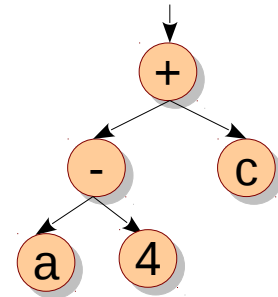
- $p1 = \text{new Leaf}(id_a);$
 - $p2 = \text{new Leaf}(num_4);$
 - $p3 = \text{new Op}(p1, '-', p2);$
 - $p4 = \text{new Leaf}(id_c);$
 - $p5 = \text{new Op}(p3, '+', p4);$



Production	Semantic Rules
$E \rightarrow E + T$	$$$\text{.node} = \text{new Op}(\$1.\text{node}, '+', \$3.\text{node})$
$E \rightarrow E - T$	$$$\text{.node} = \text{new Op}(\$1.\text{node}, '-', \$3.\text{node})$
$E \rightarrow T$	$$$\text{.node} = \$1.\text{node}$
$T \rightarrow (E)$	$$$\text{.node} = \$2.\text{node}$
$T \rightarrow id$	$$$\text{.node} = \text{new Leaf}(\$1)$
$T \rightarrow num$	$$$\text{.node} = \text{new Leaf}(\$1)$

SDT Applications

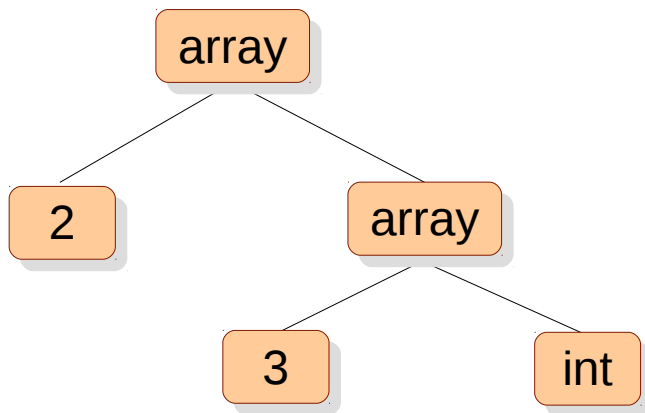
- Creating an explicit syntax tree.
 - e.g., $a - 4 + c$
- **Classwork:**
 - Generate syntax tree using the following grammar.



Production	Semantic Rules
$E \rightarrow T E'$	$$$\text{.node} = \$2.\text{syn}$ $\$2.\text{inh} = \$1.\text{node}$
$E' \rightarrow + T E'_1$	$\$3.\text{inh} = \text{new Op}(\$$.inh, '+', \$2.\text{node})$ $$$\text{.syn} = \$3.\text{syn}$
$E' \rightarrow - T E'_1$	$\$3.\text{inh} = \text{new Op}(\$$.inh, '-', \$2.\text{node})$ $$$\text{.syn} = \$3.\text{syn}$
$E' \rightarrow \epsilon$	$$$\text{.syn} = \$$.inh$
$T \rightarrow (E)$	$$$\text{.node} = \$2.\text{node}$
$T \rightarrow id$	$$$\text{.node} = \text{new Leaf}(\$1)$
$T \rightarrow num$	$$$\text{.node} = \text{new Leaf}(\$1)$

SDT Applications

- Finding type expressions
 - `int` a[2][3] is array of 2 arrays of 3 integers.
 - in functional style: `array(2, array(3, int))`



Production	Semantic Rules
$T \rightarrow B \text{ id } C$	$T.t = C.t$ $C.i = B.t$
$B \rightarrow \text{int}$	$B.t = \text{int}$
$B \rightarrow \text{float}$	$B.t = \text{float}$
$C \rightarrow [\text{num}] C_1$	$C.t = \text{array}(\text{num}, C_1.t)$ $C_1.i = C.i$
$C \rightarrow \epsilon$	$C.t = C.i$

Classwork: Write productions and semantic rules for creating type expressions from array declarations.

SDD for Calculator

Sr. No.	Production	Semantic Rules
1	$E' \rightarrow E \$$	$E'.val = E.val$
2	$E \rightarrow E_1 + T$	$E.val = E_1.val + T.val$
3	$E \rightarrow T$	...
4	$T \rightarrow T_1 * F$	...
5	$T \rightarrow F$	...
6	$F \rightarrow (E)$	...
7	$F \rightarrow digit$	$F.val = digit.lexval$

SDT for Calculator

Sr. No.	Production	Semantic Rules
1	$E' \rightarrow E \$$	print(E.val)
2	$E \rightarrow E_1 + T$	$E.val = E_1.val + T.val$
3	$E \rightarrow T$	...
4	$T \rightarrow T_1 * F$	...
5	$T \rightarrow F$	...
6	$F \rightarrow (E)$	...
7	$F \rightarrow digit$	$F.val = digit.lexval$

SDT for Calculator

Postfix SDT

$E' \rightarrow E \$$	{ print(E.val); }
$E \rightarrow E_1 + T$	{ E.val = E ₁ .val + T.val; }
$E \rightarrow T$	...
$T \rightarrow T_1 * F$	...
$T \rightarrow F$	...
$F \rightarrow (E)$	...
$F \rightarrow digit$	{ F.val = digit.lexval; }

- SDTs with all the actions at the right ends of the production bodies are called *postfix SDTs*.
- Only synthesized attributes are useful here.
- Can be implemented during LR parsing by executing actions when reductions occur.
- The attribute values can be put on a stack and can be retrieved.

Parsing Stack

$A \rightarrow X Y Z$

	X	Y	Z
	X.x	Y.y	Z.z

State / grammar symbol

Synthesized attribute

↑
stack top

Compare with \$1, \$2, ... in Yacc.

Production

$E' \rightarrow E \$$

$E \rightarrow E_1 + T$

$E \rightarrow T$

$T \rightarrow T_1 * F$

$T \rightarrow F$

$F \rightarrow (E)$

$F \rightarrow \text{digit}$

Actions

{ **print**(stack[top - 1].val); **--top**; }

{ stack[top - 2].val += stack[top].val; **top -= 2**; }

{ stack[top].val = stack[top].val; }

{ stack[top - 2].val *= stack[top].val; **top -= 2**; }

{ stack[top].val = stack[top].val; }

{ stack[top - 2].val = stack[top - 1].val; **top -= 2**; }

{ stack[top].val = stack[top].val; }

Actions within Productions

- Actions may be placed at any position within production body. Considered as empty non-terminals called *markers*.
- For production $B \rightarrow X \{action\} Y$, action is performed
 - as soon as X appears on top of the parsing stack in bottom-up parsing.
 - just before expanding Y in top-down parsing if Y is a non-terminal.
 - just before we check for Y on the input in top-down parsing if Y is a terminal.
- SDTs that can be implemented during parsing are
 - Postfix SDTs (S-attributed definitions)
 - SDTs implementing L-attributed definitions

Classwork: Write SDT for infix-to-prefix translation.

Infix-to-Prefix

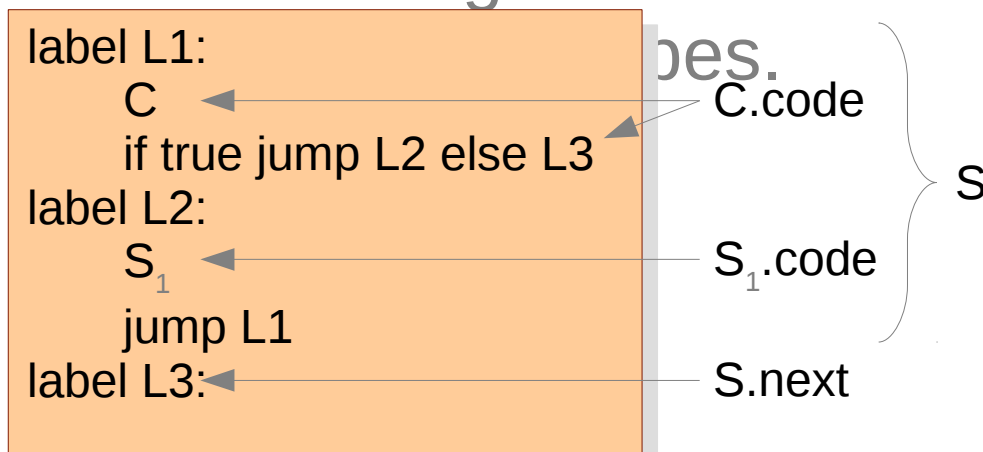
- What is the issue with this SDT?
- The SDT has shift-reduce and reduce-reduce conflicts.
- Recall that each marker is an empty non-terminal. Thus, the parser doesn't know whether to reduce or reduce or shift on seeing a digit.
- Note that the grammar had no conflicts prior to adding actions.
- Such an SDT won't work with top-down or bottom-up parsing.

$$E' \rightarrow E \$$$
$$E \rightarrow \{ \text{print '+'; } \} E_1 + T$$
$$E \rightarrow T$$
$$T \rightarrow \{ \text{print '*'; } \} T_1 * F$$
$$T \rightarrow F$$
$$F \rightarrow (E)$$
$$F \rightarrow \text{digit } \{ \text{print digit.lexval; } \}$$

Classwork: Write SDT for infix-to-prefix translation.

Code Generation for *while*

- We want to generate code for while-construct
 - $S \rightarrow \text{while } (C) S_1$
- We assume that code for S_1 and C are available.
- We also (for now) generate a single code string.
- **Classwork:** What all do we require to generate this code?
 - This would give us an idea of what attributes we



Code Generation for *while*

- Assume we have the following mechanism.
 - `newLabel()` returns a new label name.
You may have used a similar one for temporaries.
 - Each statement has an attribute `next`, that points to the next statement to be executed.
 - Each conditional has two branches `true` and `false`.
 - Each non-terminal has an attribute `code`.

SDD for *while*

$S \rightarrow \text{while} (C) S_1$

```
L1      = newLabel();
L2      = newLabel();
S1.next = L1;
C.false = S.next;
C.true  = L2;
S.code  = "label" + L1 +
          C.code +
          "label" + L2 +
          S1.code;
```

SDT

```
S → while ( { L1 = newLabel(); L2 = newLabel(); C. false = S.next; C.true = L2; }
C )         { S1.next = L2; }
S1        { S.code = "label" + L1 + C.code + "label" + L2 + S1.code; }
```

What is the type of this SDD?

SDD for *while*

$S \rightarrow \text{while } (C) S_1$

```
L1      = newLabel();
L2      = newLabel();
S1.next = L1;
C.false = S.next;
C.true  = L2;
S.code  = "label" + L1 +
          C.code +
          "label" + L2 +
          S1.code;
```

SDT

$S \rightarrow$ while ({ L1 = newLabel(); L2 = newLabel(); C. false = S.next; C.true = L2;
 print("label", L1); }
 C) { S₁.next = L2; print("label", L2); }
 S₁

On-the-fly
code
generation

What is the type of this SDD?

Homework

- Exercises 5.5.5 from ALSU book.