CS375: Logic and Theory of Computing

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Factorization has two effects:

- (1) Changes the 1st derivation step to a unique step (in most of the cases);
- (2) it does not change the number of options for the 2nd step, but it removes the common factor in all the options so the lookahead box can be a smaller box.

Another example of Grammar

Transformation:

Find an LL(k) grammar where k is as small as possible that is equivalent to the following grammar, S → abS | abcT | ab $T \rightarrow cT \mid c$

 $S \rightarrow abS \mid abcT \mid ab$





 $S \rightarrow ab(S \mid cT \mid \Lambda)$







 \rightarrow abR R \rightarrow S | cT | Λ

 $T \rightarrow cU$

Another example of Grammar

LL(3)?

Transformation:

Find an LL(k) grammar where k is as small as possible that is equivalent to the following grammar $S \rightarrow abS \mid abcT \mid ab$ $T \rightarrow cT \mid c$



$$S \to abR \qquad R \to S \mid cT \mid \Lambda \qquad T \to cU \qquad U \to T \mid \Lambda$$

Step 1

Step 2

LL(1) ?

Find an LL(k) grammar where k is as small as possible that is equivalent to the following grammar.

S \rightarrow abS | abcT | ab $T \rightarrow cT$ | c

First, the language generated by the grammar is $\{(ab)^n, (ab)^nc^m \mid n \ge 1, m \ge 2\}$ Is this grammar LL(3)?

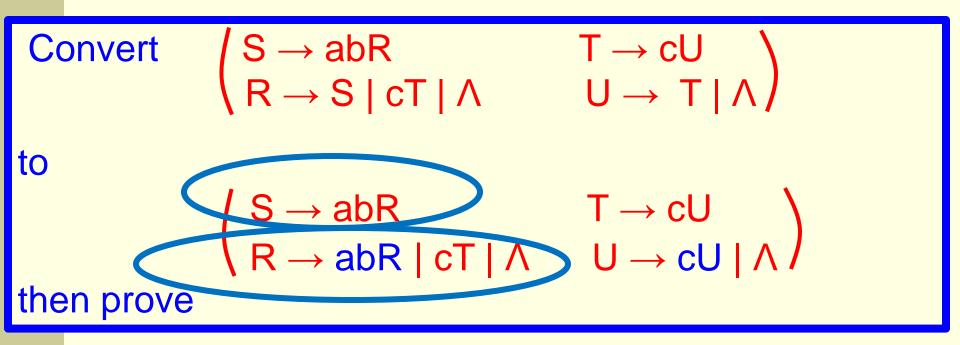
$$S \Rightarrow abS \Rightarrow ababS \Rightarrow \cdots \Rightarrow (ab)^{n-1}S \Rightarrow (ab)^{n-1}ab = (ab)^n$$

$$S \Rightarrow abS \Rightarrow ababS \Rightarrow \cdots \Rightarrow (ab)^{n-1}S \Rightarrow (ab)^{n-1}abcT = (ab)^{n}cT$$
$$\Rightarrow (ab)^{n}ccT \Rightarrow \cdots \Rightarrow (ab)^{n}c^{m-1}T \Rightarrow (ab)^{n}c^{m-1}c = (ab)^{n}c^{m}$$

Is
$$\left(\begin{array}{ll} S \to abR & T \to cU \\ R \to S \mid cT \mid \Lambda & U \to T \mid \Lambda \end{array}\right)$$
 LL(1)
for $\left\{(ab)^n, (ab)^nc^m \mid n \geq 1, m \geq 2\right\}$?

YES

Convert
$$\begin{pmatrix} S \to abR & T \to cU \\ R \to S \mid cT \mid \Lambda & U \to T \mid \Lambda \end{pmatrix}$$
 to $\begin{pmatrix} S \to abR & T \to cU \\ R \to abR \mid cT \mid \Lambda & U \to cU \mid \Lambda \end{pmatrix}$ then prove



Factorization has two effects: (1) changes the 1st derivation step to a unique

step;

(2) it does not change the # of options for the 2nd step, but it removes the common factor in all the options so lookahead box can be a smaller box

Most importantly:

If the size of the factor is 'n', then the grammar is reduced from an LL(k) grammar to an LL(k-n) grammar.

Question: Since each string of the language $\{(ab)^n, (ab)^nc^m \mid n \ge 1, m \ge 2\}$ would have two different parse trees now, one with respect to the old grammar, one with respect to the new grammar, does this mean the language is ambiguous?

There is no such thing as an ambiguous language, but an ambiguous grammar.

If the old grammar is not ambiguous, then the new grammar would still be un-ambiguous.

If the old grammar is ambiguous, then the new grammar would also be ambiguous.

Why?

For instance:

LL(3)?

S → abS | abcT | ab

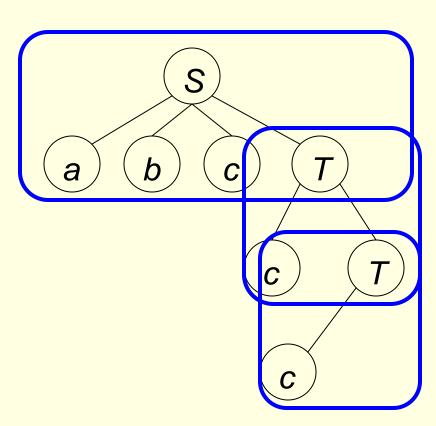
 $T \rightarrow cT \mid c$

For abocc we have

$$S \Rightarrow abc\Gamma$$

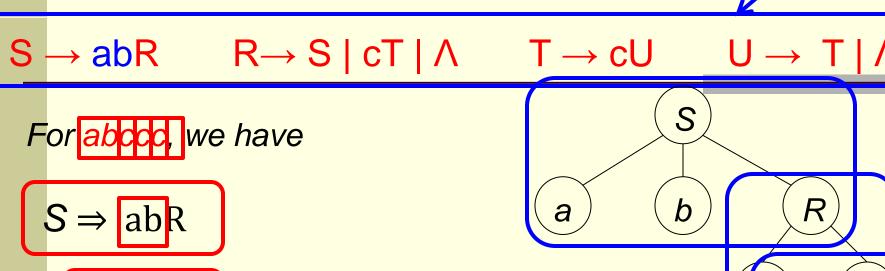
⇒ abc<mark>c'</mark>Γ

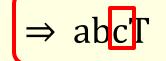
⇒ abcccc

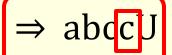


For instance:

LL(1)?

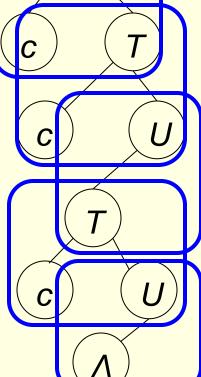






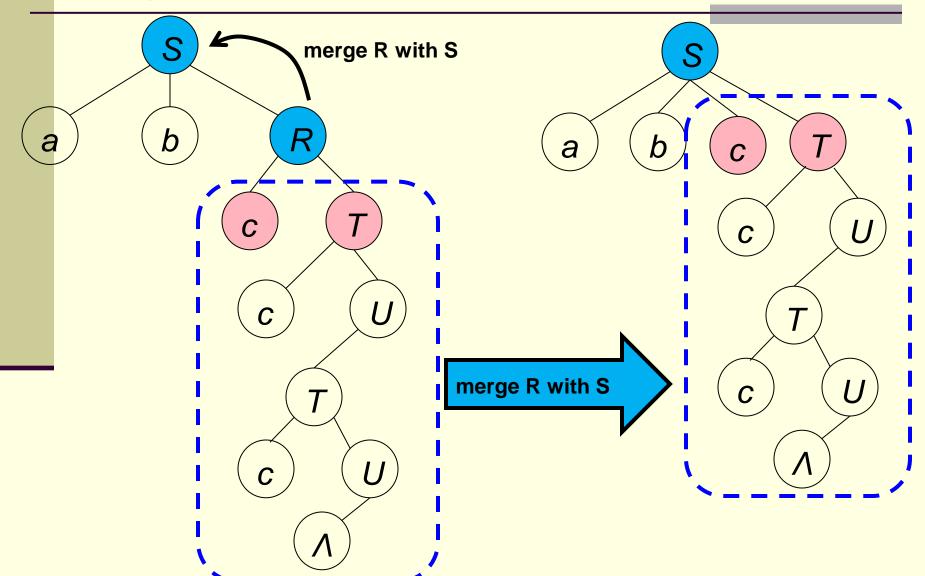
$$\Rightarrow$$
 abccc $^{\Lambda}$

If we merge R with S and U with T we get the parse tree on previous slide.



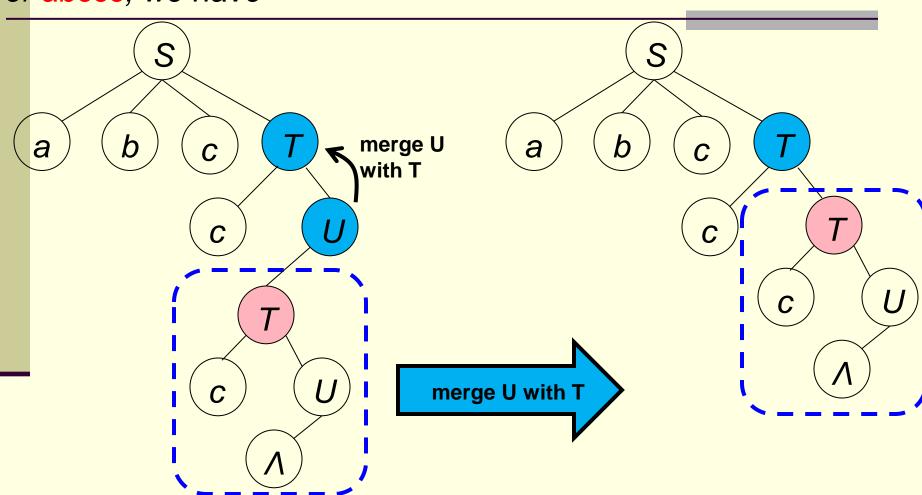
 $S \rightarrow abR$ $R \rightarrow S \mid cT \mid \Lambda$ $T \rightarrow cU$ $U \rightarrow T \mid \Lambda$

For abccc, we have



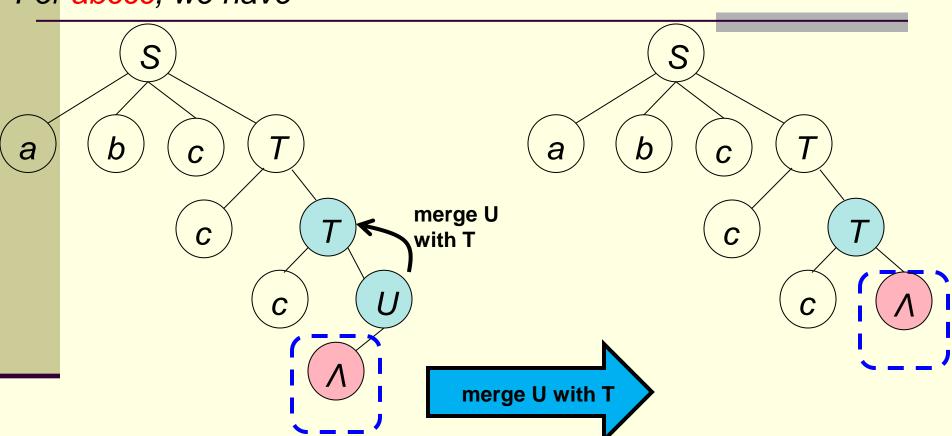
 $S \rightarrow abR$ $R \rightarrow S \mid cT \mid \Lambda$ $T \rightarrow cU$ $U \rightarrow T \mid \Lambda$

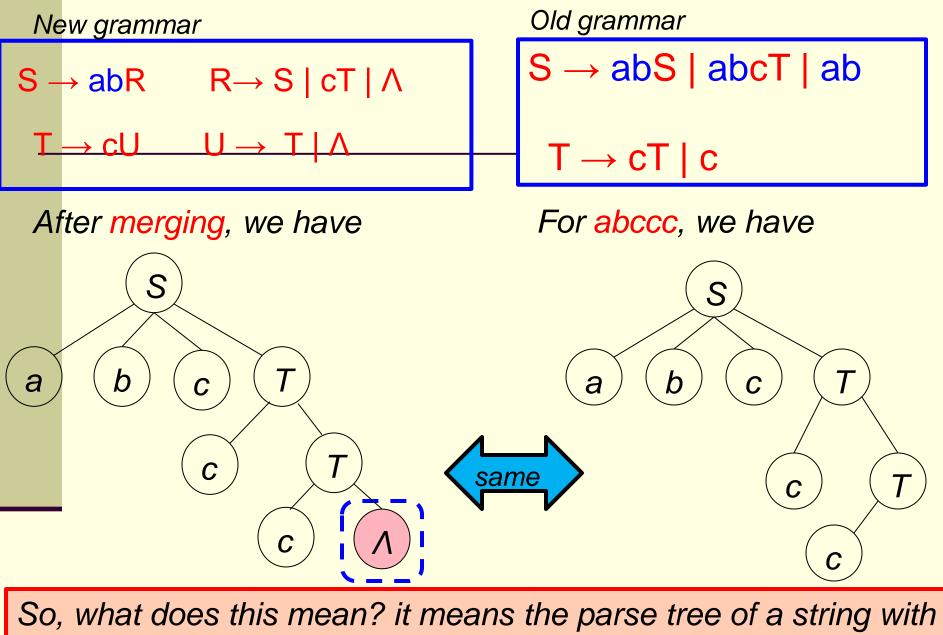
For abccc, we have





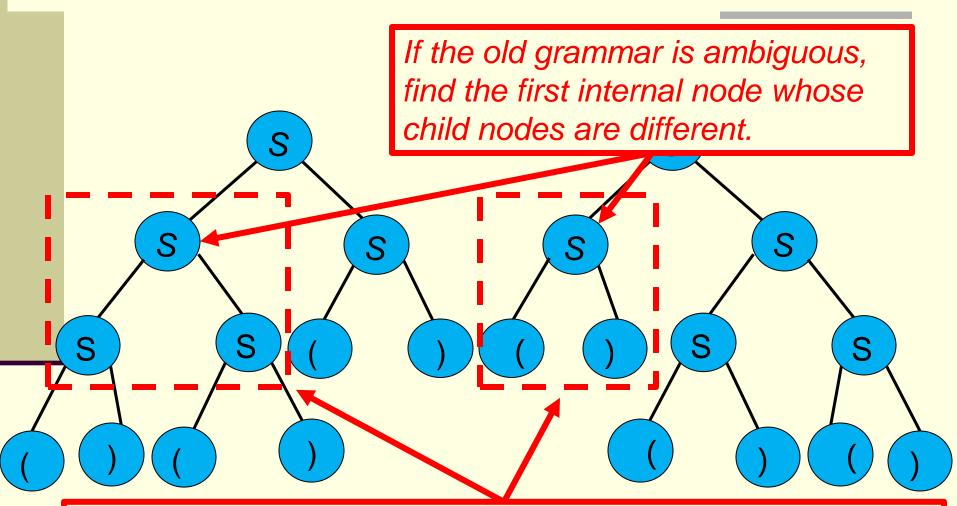
For abccc, we have





So, what does this mean? it means the parse tree of a string with respect to the old grammar can be converted to the parse tree of that string with respect to the new grammar (and vice versa)

If old grammar is ambiguous then the new grammar is ambiguous too. Why?



Then the corresponding internal nodes (the node itself or one of its non-leaf child nodes) in the parse trees generated by the new grammar would be different too.

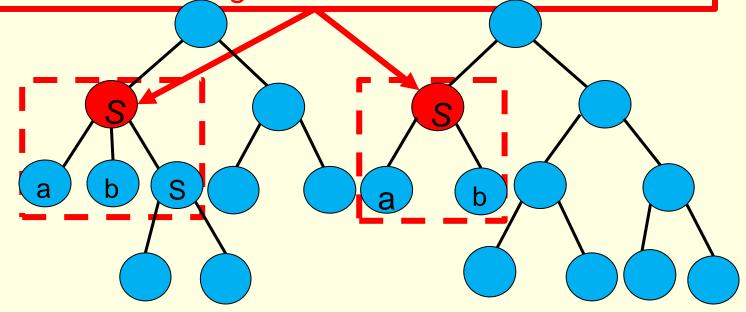
Why? Consider the case that

 $S \rightarrow abS|abcT|ab$ $T \rightarrow cT|\Lambda$

After factorization, we get

$$S \rightarrow abR \quad R \rightarrow S|cT|\Lambda \quad T \rightarrow cT|\Lambda$$

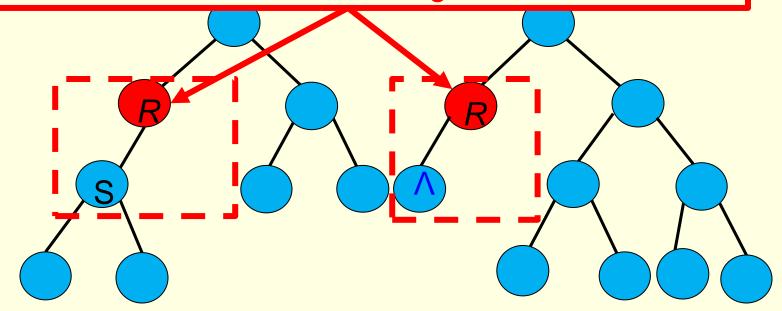
If S is the first internal node whose child nodes are different w.r.t. the old grammar



Why? Consider the case that $S \rightarrow abS|abcT|ab$ $T \rightarrow cT|\Lambda$

> After factorization, we get $S \rightarrow abR \quad R \rightarrow S|cT|\Lambda \quad T \rightarrow cT|\Lambda$

Then R would be the first internal node whose child nodes are different w.r.t. the new grammar



Remove Left Recursion:

A grammar is left-recursive if it has a derivation of the form

 $A(\Rightarrow +)Ax$ for some nonterminal A and sentential form x.

Example. The language $\{ba^n \mid n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ has a grammar

$$S \rightarrow Sa \mid b$$

that is left-recursive.

$$S \Rightarrow^+ Sa^n$$

Remove Left Recursion:

Left-recursive grammars are not LL(k) for any k

For instance, the grammar $S \rightarrow Sa \mid b$ for the language $\{ba^n \mid n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ is not LL(k) for any k.

WHY?

LL(1) case:

Consider: ba

 $S \Rightarrow ?$

LL(2) case:

Consider: b a a

 $S \Rightarrow Sa$

 \Rightarrow ?

Are there any a's to the right of this 'a'?

Remove Left Recursion:

Left-recursive grammars are not LL(k) for any k

For instance, the grammar $S \rightarrow Sa \mid b$ for the language $\{ba^n \mid n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ is not LL(k) for any k.

WHY? LL(3) case: Consider: baa a $S \Rightarrow Sa$

⇒ Saa

 \Rightarrow ?

Are there any a's to the right of this 'a'?

Left-recursive grammars are not LL(k) for any k

WHY? Growth direction

Left-recursive:

$$S \Rightarrow Sx_1 \Rightarrow Sx_2x_1 \Rightarrow Sx_3x_2x_1 \Rightarrow \cdots$$
$$\Rightarrow Sx_7 x_6 \cdots x_3 x_2 x_1$$

Scan/matching direction

Input string:

 $x_7 x_6 x_5 x_4 x_3 x_2 x_1$ LL(2)

How would you be able to tell what production(s) to use for the generation of x_7x_6 while we don't have information on x_5x_4 yet.

Left-recursive grammars are not LL(k) for any k

WHY?

Left-recursive:

$$S \Rightarrow Sx_1 \Rightarrow Sx_2x_1 \Rightarrow Sx_3x_2x_1 \Rightarrow \cdots$$
$$\Rightarrow S x_7 x_6 \cdots x_3 x_2 x_1$$

Growth direction

Scan/matching direction

Input string:

$$x_7 x_6 x_5 x_4 x_3 x_2 x_1$$

LL(7)

But what if the length of the input string is 9, 10 or 20?

Left-recursive grammars are bad for parsing

WHY?

Left-recursive grammar:

$$S \rightarrow Sa \mid b \text{ for } \{ ba^n \mid n \in \mathbf{N} \}$$

Input string: baaa

String generation:

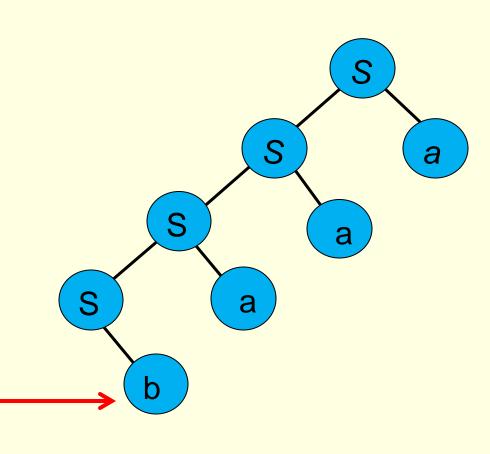
 $S \Rightarrow Sa$

⇒ Saa

⇒ Saaa

⇒ baaa

When 'b' is scanned, how do we know it is a 'b' from baaa or from baa, or from ba?



Left-recursive grammars are not LL(k) for any k

Root, left, right

Left-recursive grammars are bad for parsing

The parse tree is supposed to be built in a **top-down** fashion (or, the symbols in the input string are supposed to be matched with the leaf nodes in a pre-order fashion) and, yet, for a left-recursive grammar, the order is reversed.

Bottom-up

Obtain an LL(k) grammar by removing left-recursion

Consider: A → Aw | Au | Av | a | b

One gets avuw through the following derivation:

 $A \Rightarrow Aw \Rightarrow Auw \Rightarrow Avuw \Rightarrow avuw$

So you obtain avuw this way = (((a)v)u)w

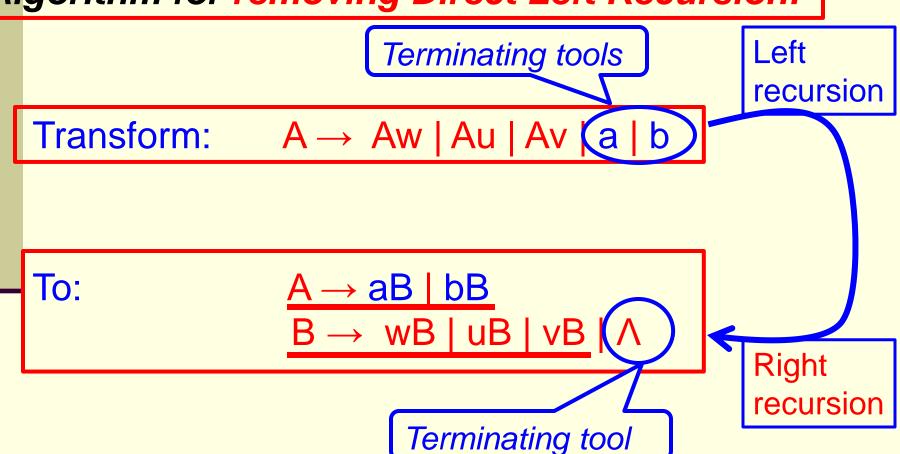
Since (a (v (u (w))))= ((((a) v) u) w)

One can also get avuw the following way:

 $A \Rightarrow aB \Rightarrow avB \Rightarrow avuB \Rightarrow avuwB \Rightarrow avuw\Lambda = avuw$

(Change end point to start point, change start point to end point)

Algorithm for removing Direct Left Recursion:

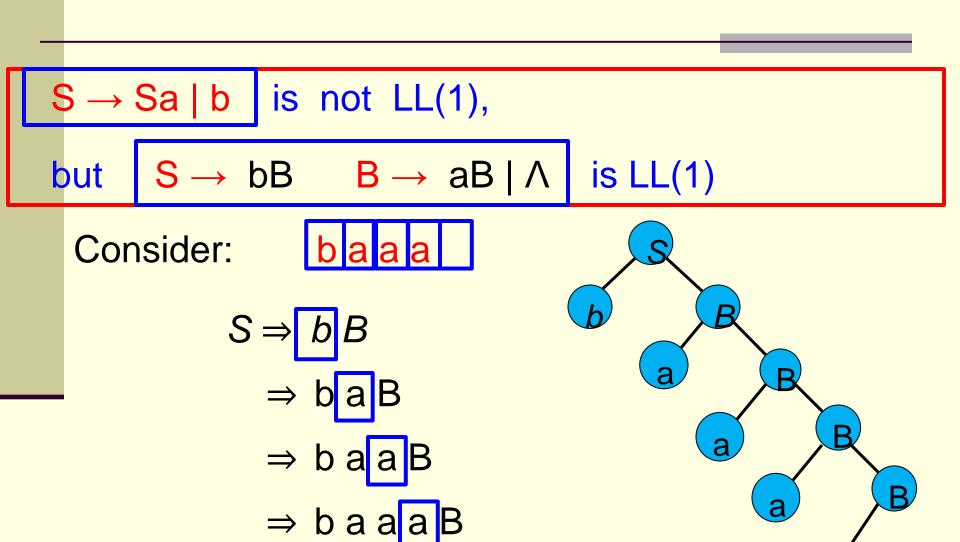


Example: removing left-recursion of S → Sa | b

Transform: $S \rightarrow b$ $S \rightarrow Sa$

To:

$$S \rightarrow bB \leftarrow B \rightarrow aB \mid \Lambda \rightarrow AB \mid \Lambda$$



 \Rightarrow baaa Λ

Right-recursive:

Growth direction

baaaa...

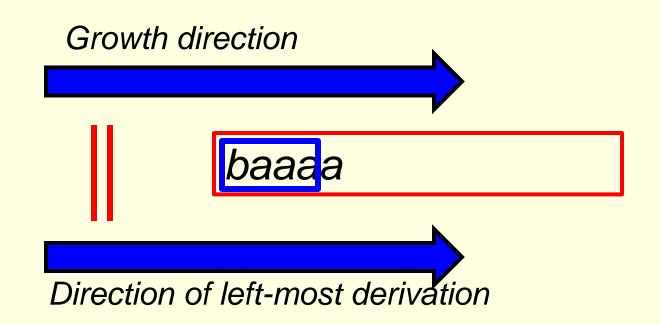
$$S \Rightarrow bB$$

$$\Rightarrow baB$$

$$\Rightarrow baaB$$

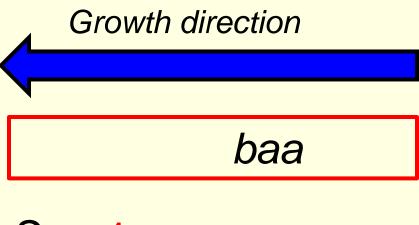
Direction of left-most derivation

Right-recursive:



The left-most derivation process knows all the previous foot steps of the string growing process

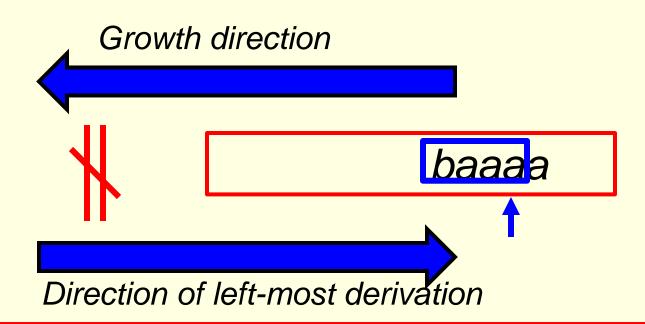
Left-recursive:



$$S \Rightarrow A \ a$$
$$\Rightarrow A \ aa$$
$$\Rightarrow baa$$

Direction of left-most derivation

Left-recursive:



The left-most derivation process does not know the previous foot steps of the string growing process.

Example: removing left-recursion of

S → Saa | aab |aac

Transform:

$$S \rightarrow aab \mid aac$$

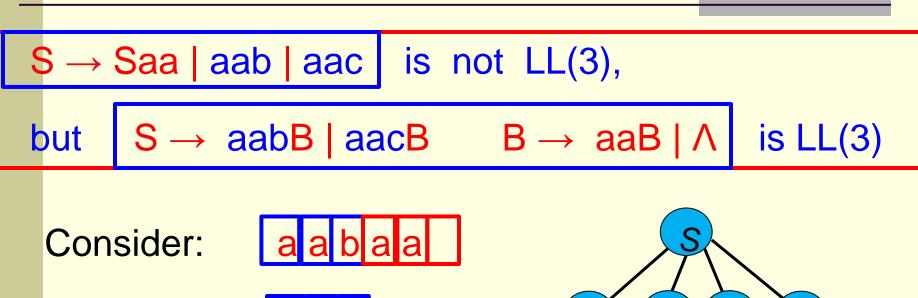
 $S \rightarrow Saa$

Convert
productions
that are
used as
terminating
tools first

To:

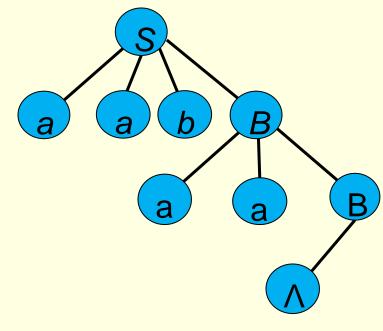
$$B \rightarrow aaB \mid \Lambda$$

Remove Direct Left Recursion:





- \Rightarrow a a b a a B
- ⇒ aabaa Λ
- = aabaa



A right-recursive grammar is always LL(k) for some k

 $S \rightarrow aabB \mid aacB \quad B \rightarrow aaB \mid \Lambda$

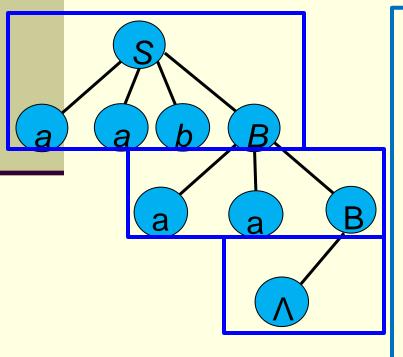
WHY?

Consider:

aabaa

Right-recursive:

$$S \Rightarrow x_1 S \Rightarrow x_1 x_2 S \Rightarrow x_1 x_2 x_3 S \Rightarrow \cdots$$
$$\Rightarrow x_1 x_2 x_3 \cdots x_{n-1} x_n S$$



So no matter how big the input string is, one can always find a k large enough so that if k symbols are read each time, one can always tell if the right most symbol of the lookahead box is the result of some m-th derivation step

Use factorization to make a right recursive grammar more efficient:

Rewrite
$$S \rightarrow aabB \mid aacB \quad B \rightarrow aaB \mid \Lambda$$
 to be LL(1)

Note that $S \rightarrow aabB \mid aacB \quad = S \rightarrow aa(bB \mid cB)$

Transform: $S \rightarrow aabB \mid aacB \quad B \rightarrow aaB \mid \Lambda$

To: $S \rightarrow aaA$
 $A \rightarrow bB \mid cB$
 $B \rightarrow aaB \mid \Lambda$

Show this is LL(1)
 $B \rightarrow aaB \mid \Lambda$

Use factorization to make a right recursive grammar more efficient:

```
Transform: S \rightarrow aabB \mid aacB \quad B \rightarrow aaB \mid \Lambda

To: S \rightarrow aaA
A \rightarrow bB \mid cB
B \rightarrow aaB \mid \Lambda
```

Factorization makes 'S \rightarrow aaA' a unique first production. This production will always be used as the first step in the derivation step (you don't need to scan anything), and the common factor on the right side of this production provides an automatic match on the first part of the input string (e.g., for aabaa, you automatically get a match on aa from the first production), so you can start your first scan on the third or fourth symbol and yet with a smaller lookahead box.

Remove Indirect Left Recursion:

$$S \rightarrow Ab \mid a \qquad A \rightarrow Sa \mid b \quad is left recursive$$

(Because
$$S \Rightarrow Ab \Rightarrow Sab$$
)

To remove indirect left recursion:

- 1. Replace A in $S \rightarrow Ab$ by the right side of $A \rightarrow Sa \mid b$
- 2. Then remove the left recursion

Remove Indirect Left Recursion:

Step 1:

$$S \rightarrow Ab \mid a \qquad A \rightarrow Sa \mid b$$



$$S \rightarrow Sab \mid bb \mid a$$

Step 2:



$$S \rightarrow bbB \mid aB$$

$$B \rightarrow abB \mid \Lambda$$

Remove Indirect Left Recursion:

Example: remove left recursion from

$$S \rightarrow Ab \mid a$$

$$S \rightarrow Ab \mid a \qquad A \rightarrow SAa \mid b$$

Step 1:

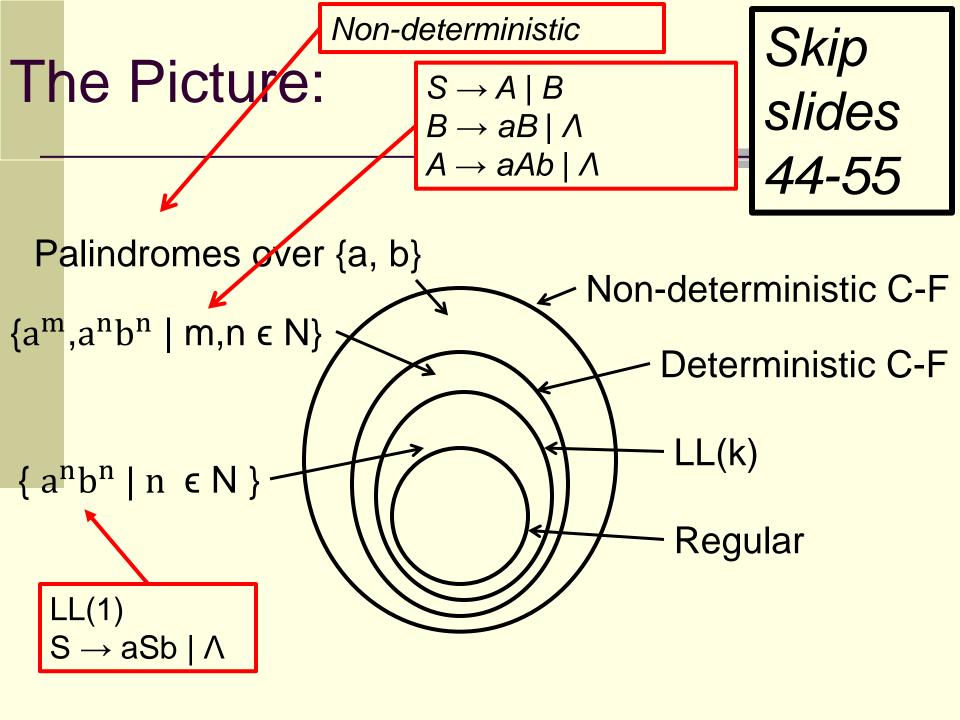
$$S \rightarrow SAab \mid bb \mid a \qquad A \rightarrow SAa \mid b$$

$$A \rightarrow SAa \mid b$$

Step 2:

$$S \rightarrow bbB \mid aB$$

$$B \rightarrow AabB \mid \Lambda$$
 $A \rightarrow SAa \mid b$

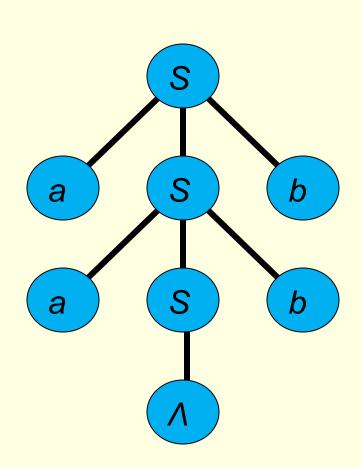


The grammar $\{S \rightarrow aSb / \Lambda\}$ for the language

 $a^n b^n \mid n \in \mathbb{N}$ is LL(1)

Consider a a b b

Q.E.D.



```
The grammar \{S \rightarrow A \mid B \quad A \rightarrow aAb \mid \Lambda \quad B \rightarrow aB \mid \Lambda \} for the language \{a^m, a^nb^n \mid m, n \in \mathbb{N}\} is not LL(k) for any k
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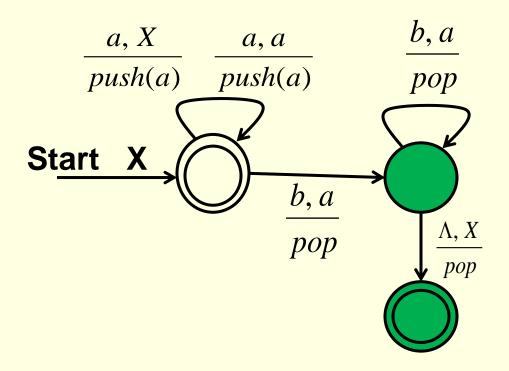
For k=1, consider: a

For k=2, consider: aa

For k=3, consider: aaa

. . .

The grammar $\{S \rightarrow A \mid B = A \rightarrow aAb \mid A = B \rightarrow aB \mid A \}$ for the language $\{a^m, a^nb^n \mid m, n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ is not LL(k) for any k, but is deterministic



End of Context-Free Language and Pushdown Automata IV