

# Context free grammars

- Terminals
- Nonterminals
- Start symbol
- productions

$E \rightarrow E + T$

$E \rightarrow E - T$

$E \rightarrow T$

$T \rightarrow T * F$

$T \rightarrow T / F$

$T \rightarrow F$

$F \rightarrow (F)$

$F \rightarrow \mathbf{id}$

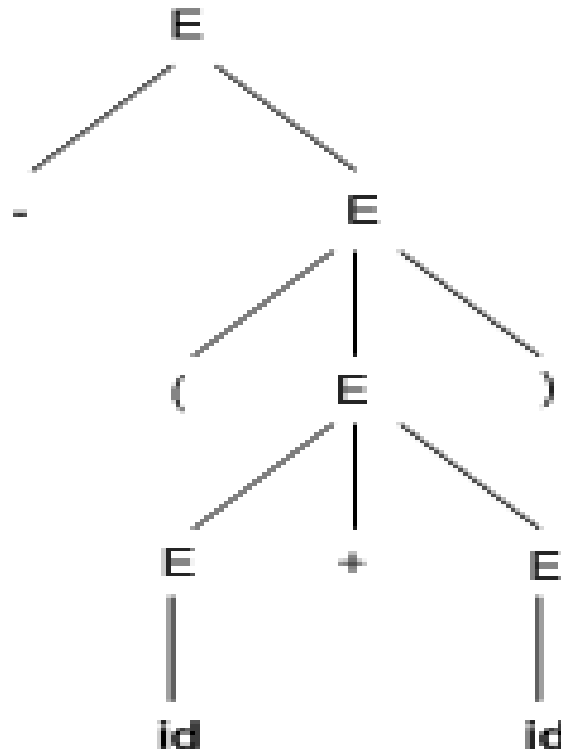
# Derivations

- Productions are treated as rewriting rules to generate a string
- Rightmost and leftmost derivations
  - $E \rightarrow E + E \mid E * E \mid -E \mid (E) \mid \mathbf{id}$
  - Derivations for  $\mathbf{-(id+id)}$ 
    - $E \Rightarrow -E \Rightarrow -(E) \Rightarrow -(E+E) \Rightarrow \mathbf{-(id+E) \Rightarrow -(id+id)}$

# Parse trees

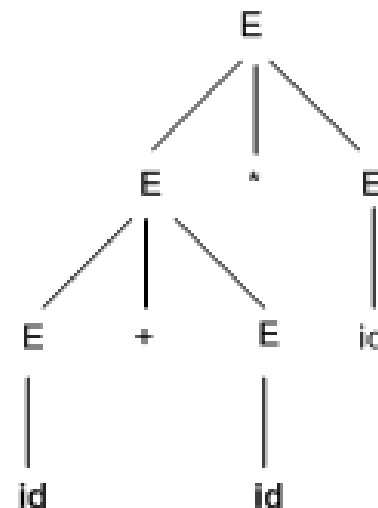
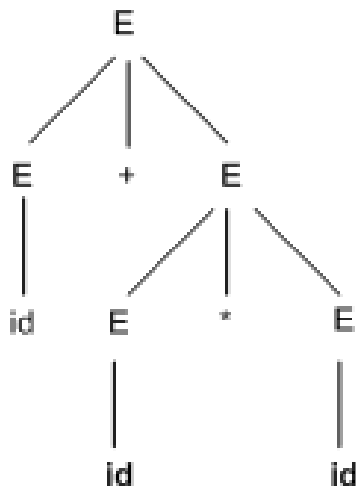
○ **-(id+id)**

➤  $E \Rightarrow -E \Rightarrow -(E) \Rightarrow -(E+E) \Rightarrow -(\text{id}+E) \Rightarrow -(\text{id}+\text{id})$



# Ambiguity

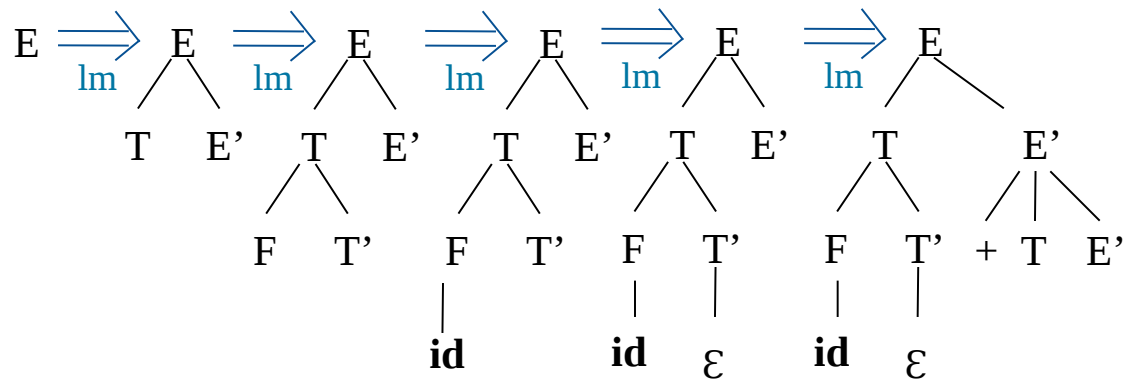
- For some strings there exist more than one parse tree
- Or more than one leftmost derivation
- Or more than one rightmost derivation
- Example:  $\text{id} + \text{id} * \text{id}$



# Introduction

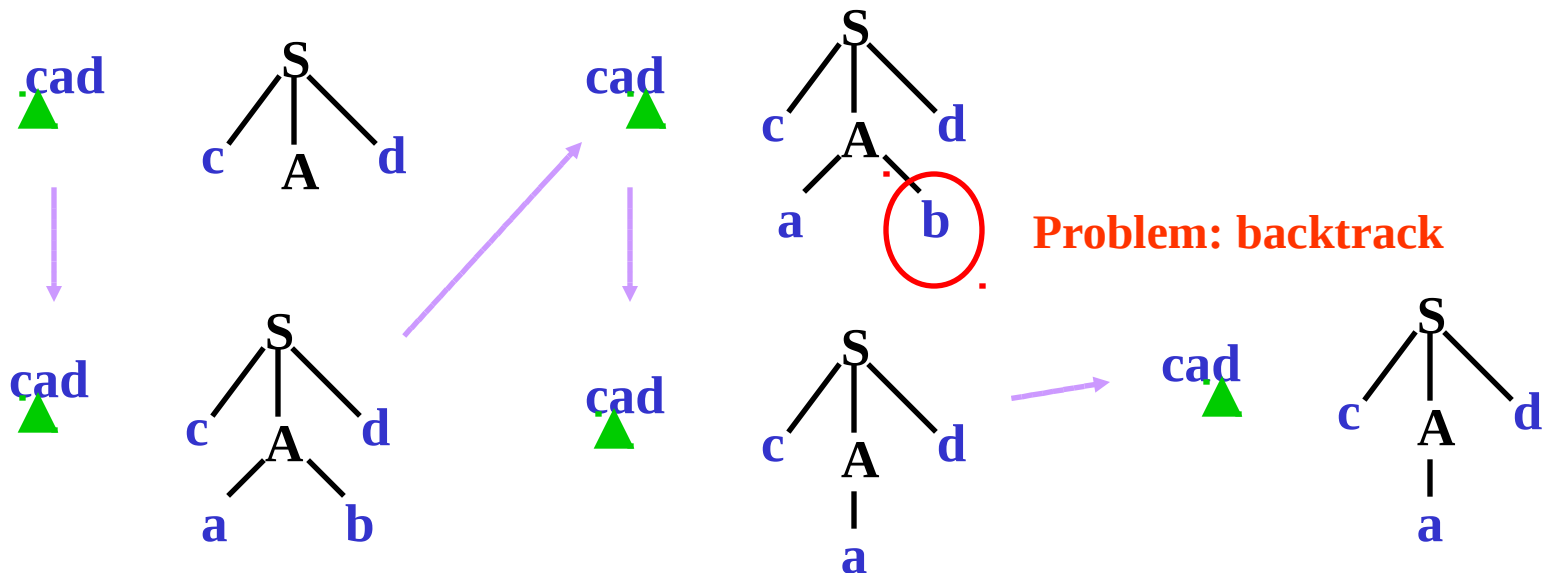
- A Top-down parser tries to create a parse tree from the root towards the leafs scanning input from left to right
- It can be also viewed as finding a leftmost derivation for an input string
- Example: `id+id*id`

$E \rightarrow TE'$   
 $E' \rightarrow +TE' \mid \epsilon$   
 $T \rightarrow FT'$   
 $T' \rightarrow *FT' \mid \epsilon$   
 $F \rightarrow (E) \mid \mathbf{id}$



# Top-Down Parsing

- Choose production rule based on input symbol
- May require backtracking to correct a wrong choice.
- Example: 
$$\left. \begin{array}{l} S \rightarrow c A d \\ A \rightarrow ab \mid a \end{array} \right\} \text{ input: } cad$$



# Parsing – Top-Down & Predictive

- **Top-Down Parsing**  $\Rightarrow$   
Parse tree / derivation of a  
token string occurs in a  
top down fashion.
- For Example, Consider:

```
type  $\rightarrow$  simple Start symbol  
      |  $\uparrow$  id  
      | array [ simple ] of type  
simple  $\rightarrow$  integer  
      | char  
      | num dotdot num
```

Suppose **input** is :

**array [ num dotdot num ] of integer**

**Parsing** would begin with

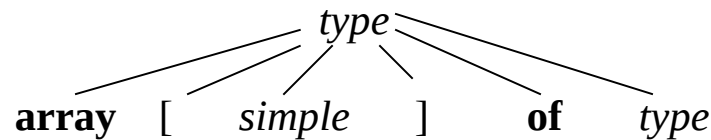
*type*  $\rightarrow$  ???

# Top-Down Parse (type = start symbol)

Input : **array [ num dotdot num ] of integer**

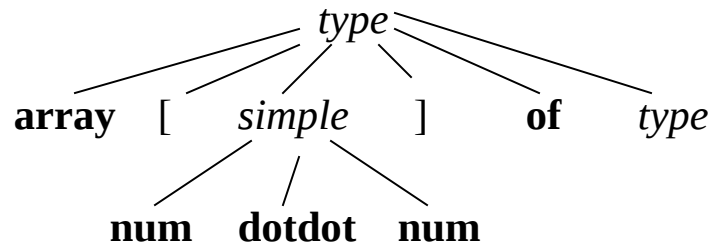
*Lookahead symbol* points to the first token **array**.

*type*  
?



Input : **array [ num dotdot num ] of integer**

*Lookahead symbol* points to the first token **array**.



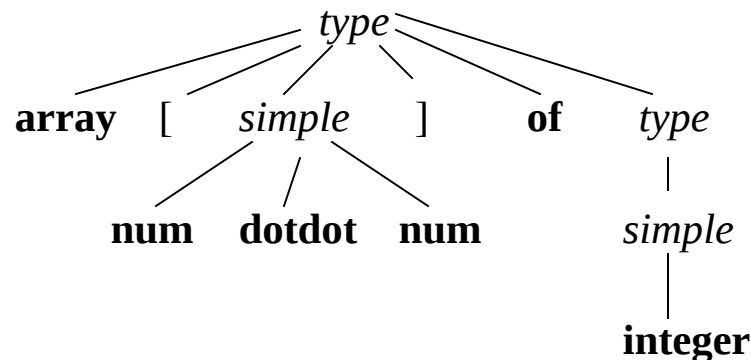
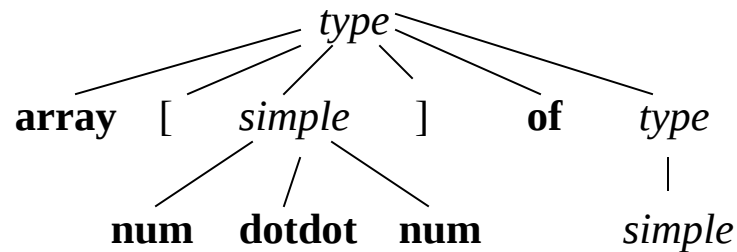
*type* → *simple* **Start symbol**  
| ↑ **id**  
| **array [ simple ] of**  
*type*  
*simple* → **integer**  
| **char**  
| **num dotdot num**



# Top-Down Parse (type = start symbol)

Lookahead symbol

Input : **array** [ **num** **dotdot** **num** ] **of** **integer**



*type* → *simple* **Start symbol**  
| ↑ **id**  
| **array** [ *simple* ] **of**  
*type*  
*simple* → **integer**  
| **char**  
| **num dotdot num**

# Top-Down Parsing

## Recursive Descent

- Parser Operates by Attempting to Match Tokens in the Input Stream

**array [ num dotdot num ] of integer**

```
type → simple  
      | ↑ id  
      | array [ simple ] of type  
simple → integer  
      | char  
      | num dotdot num
```

```
procedure match ( t : token ) ;  
begin  
    if lookahead = t then  
        lookahead := nexttoken  
    else error  
end ;
```

# Recursive Descent (continued)

```
procedure simple ;  
begin  
    if lookahead = integer then match ( integer );  
    else if lookahead = char then match ( char );  
    else if lookahead = num then begin  
        match (num); match (dotdot); match (num)  
    end  
    else error  
end ;
```

```
type → simple  
    | ↑ id  
    | array [ simple ] of type  
simple → integer  
    | char  
    | num dotdot num
```

# Recursive Descent (continued)

```
procedure type ;  
begin  
  if lookahead is in { integer, char, num } then simple  
  else if lookahead = '↑' then begin match ('↑' ); match ( id ) end  
  else if lookahead = array then begin  
    match ( array ); match ('['); simple; match (']'); match (of); type  
  end  
  else error  
end ;
```

```
type → simple  
      | ↑ id  
      | array [ simple ] of type  
simple → integer  
        | char  
        | num dotdot num
```

# How to write tests for selecting the appropriate production rule ?

## Basic Tools:

**First:** Let  $\alpha$  be a string of grammar symbols.  $\text{First}(\alpha)$  is the set that includes every terminal that appears leftmost in  $\alpha$  or in any string originating from  $\alpha$ .

**NOTE:** If  $\alpha \Rightarrow^* \epsilon$ , then  $\epsilon$  is  $\text{First}(\alpha)$ .

**Follow:** Let  $A$  be a non-terminal.  $\text{Follow}(A)$  is the set of terminals  $a$  that can appear directly to the right of  $A$  in some sentential form. ( $S \Rightarrow^* \alpha A a \beta$ , for some  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ ).

**NOTE:** If  $S \Rightarrow^* \alpha A$ , then  $\$$  is  $\text{Follow}(A)$ .

# Computing First(X) : All Grammar Symbols

1. If  $X$  is a terminal,  $\text{First}(X) = \{X\}$
2. If  $X \rightarrow \epsilon$  is a production rule, add  $\epsilon$  to  $\text{First}(X)$
3. If  $X$  is a non-terminal, and  $X \rightarrow Y_1 Y_2 \dots Y_k$  is a production rule

Place  $\text{First}(Y_1) - \epsilon$  in  $\text{First}(X)$

$\begin{matrix} * \\ \text{if } Y_1 \Rightarrow \epsilon, \end{matrix}$  Place  $\text{First}(Y_2) - \epsilon$  in  $\text{First}(X)$

$\begin{matrix} * \\ \text{if } Y_2 \Rightarrow \epsilon, \end{matrix}$  Place  $\text{First}(Y_3) - \epsilon$  in  $\text{First}(X)$

$\dots$   $\begin{matrix} * \end{matrix}$

$\text{if } Y_{k-1} \Rightarrow \epsilon, \text{ Place } \text{First}(Y_k) \text{ in } \text{First}(X)$

NOTE: As soon as  $Y_i \Rightarrow \epsilon$ , Stop.

Repeat above steps until no more elements are added to any  $\text{First}(\ )$  set.  $\begin{matrix} * \end{matrix}$

Checking “ $Y_j \Rightarrow \epsilon$  ?” essentially amounts to checking whether  $\epsilon$  belongs to  $\text{First}(Y_j)$

# Computing First(X) : All Grammar Symbols - continued

**Informally, suppose we want to compute**

**$\text{First}(X_1 X_2 \dots X_n) = \text{First}(X_1) - \in \text{“+”}$**

**$\text{First}(X_2)$  if  $\in$  is in  $\text{First}(X_1) - \in \text{“+”}$**

**$\text{First}(X_3)$  if  $\in$  is in  $\text{First}(X_2) - \in \text{“+”}$**

**...**

**$\text{First}(X_n)$  if  $\in$  is in  $\text{First}(X_{n-1})$**

**Note 1: Only add  $\in$  to  $\text{First}(X_1 X_2 \dots X_n)$  if  $\in$  is in  $\text{First}(X_i)$  for all  $i$**

**Note 2: For  $\text{First}(X_1)$ , if  $X_1 \rightarrow Z_1 Z_2 \dots Z_m$ , then we need to compute  $\text{First}(Z_1 Z_2 \dots Z_m)$  !**

# Example 1

---

**Given the production rules:**

$$S \rightarrow i E t S S' \mid a$$

$$S' \rightarrow e S \mid \epsilon$$

$$E \rightarrow b$$



# Example 1

Given the production rules:

$$S \rightarrow i E t SS' \mid a$$

$$S' \rightarrow eS \mid \epsilon$$

$$E \rightarrow b$$

Verify that

$$\text{First}(S) = \{ i, a \}$$

$$\text{First}(S') = \{ e, \epsilon \}$$

$$\text{First}(E) = \{ b \}$$

# Example 2

Computing First for:  $E \rightarrow TE'$

$TE' \rightarrow TF' TE' \mid \epsilon$

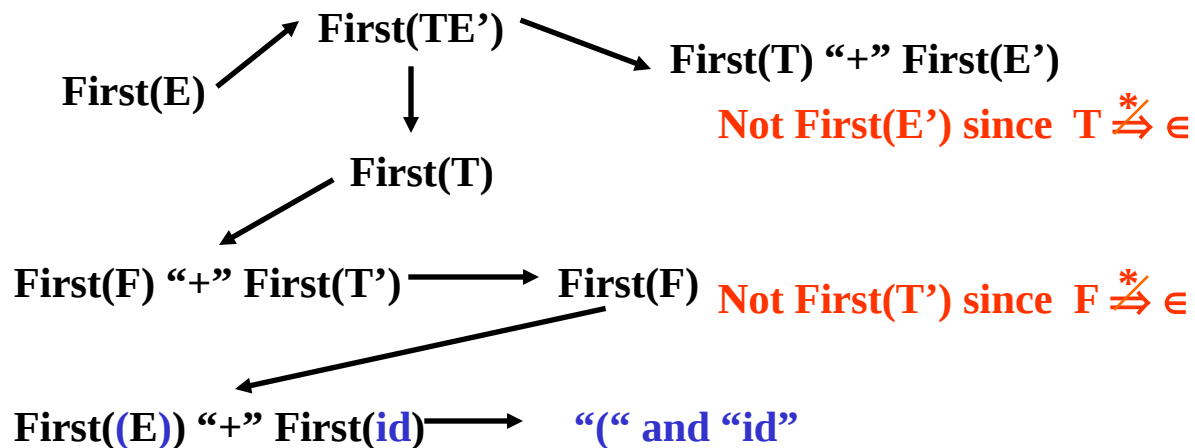
$FT' \rightarrow (E) FT' \mid \epsilon$

# Example 2

Computing First for:  $E \rightarrow TE'$

$TE' \rightarrow FT' \mid \epsilon$

$FT' \rightarrow (E)FT' \mid id$



Overall:  $\text{First}(E) = \{ (, id \} = \text{First}(F)$

$\text{First}(E') = \{ +, \epsilon \}$   $\text{First}(T') = \{ *, \epsilon \}$

$\text{First}(T) \rightarrow \text{First}(F) = \{ (, id \}$

# Computing Follow(A) : All Non-Terminals

1. Place \$ in Follow(A), where A is the start symbol and \$ signals end of input
2. If there is a production  $B \rightarrow \alpha A \beta$ , then everything in First( $\beta$ ) is in Follow(A) except for  $\epsilon$ .
3. If  $B \rightarrow \alpha A$  is a production, or  $B \rightarrow \alpha A \beta$  and  $\beta \xRightarrow{*} \epsilon$  (First( $\beta$ ) contains  $\epsilon$ ), then everything in Follow(B) is in Follow(A)

(Whatever followed B must follow A, since nothing follows A from the production rule)

**We'll calculate Follow for two grammars.**

# The Algorithm for Follow – pseudocode

1. Initialize Follow( $X$ ) for all non-terminals  $X$  to empty set. Place  $\$$  in Follow( $S$ ), where  $S$  is the start NT.
2. Repeat the following step until no modifications are made to any Follow-set

For any production  $X \rightarrow X_1 X_2 \dots X_m$

For  $j=1$  to  $m$ ,

if  $X_j$  is a non-terminal then:

**Follow( $X_j$ ) = Follow( $X_j$ )  $\cup$  (First( $X_{j+1}, \dots, X_m$ ) -  $\{\epsilon\}$ );**

**If First( $X_{j+1}, \dots, X_m$ ) contains  $\epsilon$  or  $X_{j+1}, \dots, X_m = \epsilon$**

**then Follow( $X_j$ ) = Follow( $X_j$ )  $\cup$  Follow( $X$ );**

# Computing Follow : 1<sup>st</sup> Example

**Recall:**

$S \rightarrow i E t SS' \mid a$

$\text{First}(S) = \{ i, a \}$

$S' \rightarrow eS \mid \epsilon$

$\text{First}(S') = \{ e, \epsilon \}$

$E \rightarrow b$

$\text{First}(E) = \{ b \}$

# Computing Follow : 1<sup>st</sup> Example

**Recall:**

$S \rightarrow i E t SS' \mid a$	$\text{First}(S) = \{ i, a \}$
$S' \rightarrow eS \mid \epsilon$	$\text{First}(S') = \{ e, \epsilon \}$
$E \rightarrow b$	$\text{First}(E) = \{ b \}$

**Follow(S)** – Contains \$, since S is start symbol

Since  $S \rightarrow i E t SS'$ , put in  $\text{First}(S')$  – not  $\epsilon$

Since  $S' \xRightarrow{*} \epsilon$ , Put in  $\text{Follow}(S)$

Since  $S' \rightarrow eS$ , put in  $\text{Follow}(S')$     So....  $\text{Follow}(S) = \{ e, \$ \}$

**Follow(S') = Follow(S)    HOW?**

**Follow(E) = { t }**

# Example 2

Compute Follow for:

$E \rightarrow TE'$

$TE' \rightarrow FT' \mid \epsilon$

$FT' \rightarrow (E)FT' \mid \epsilon$



# Example 2

Compute Follow for:

$E \rightarrow TE'$

$TE' \rightarrow TE' + TE' \mid \epsilon$

$FT' \rightarrow (E)FT' \mid id \in$

	First		Follow
E	( id	E	\$ )
E'	$\in +$	E'	\$ )
T	( id	T	+ \$ )
T'	$\in *$	T'	+ \$ )
F	( id	F	+ * \$ )

}.