


THEORY OF COMPUTATION AND COMPILERS

Unit - II

CONTEXT FREE GRAMMARS AND PARSING

- Introduction
- Context-Free Grammars - Derivation, Parse trees, Ambiguity
- **Types of Parsers** 
- LL(K) grammars and LL(1) parsing
- Bottom-up Parsing - handle pruning
- LR Grammar Parsing
- LALR parsing
- Parsing ambiguous grammars
- Error Recovery in Parsing
- YACC programming specification

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Unit-II: Syntax Analysis (or) Parser

Top-Down Parsing:

Predictive Parser (Part-2)

Outline:

- FIRST
- FOLLOW
- Example Problems

FIRST and FOLLOW

- The **predictive parser** can be easily constructed once we know **FIRST** and **FOLLOW** sets.
- These sets of symbols help us to construct the **predictive parsing table** very easily.

Computing FIRST Symbols

Definition: FIRST

- **FIRST** (α) is defined as set of terminals that appear in the beginning of derivation derived from α .
- Formally, **FIRST** (α) is defined as shown below:

FIRST (α) =	ϵ	if $\alpha = \epsilon$
	ϵ	if $\alpha \Rightarrow_* \epsilon$
	a	if $\alpha \Rightarrow_* a\beta$

Computing FIRST Symbols

Example-1: FIRST

Compute FIRST sets for each non-terminals in the following grammar.

$$1. E \rightarrow TE'$$

$$2. E' \rightarrow +TE' \mid \epsilon$$

$$3. T \rightarrow FT'$$

$$4. T' \rightarrow *FT' \mid \epsilon$$

$$5. F \rightarrow (E) \mid id$$

Computing FIRST Symbols

Example-1: Solution

The FIRST sets for the given grammar can be computed by obtaining various derivations as shown below:

$$1. \mathbf{E} \Rightarrow \mathbf{T E'} \Rightarrow \mathbf{FT'E'} \Rightarrow \mathbf{(E) T'E'}$$

$$2. \mathbf{E} \Rightarrow \mathbf{T E'} \Rightarrow \mathbf{FT'E'} \Rightarrow \mathbf{id T'E'}$$

$$\mathbf{FIRST (E)} = \mathbf{FIRST (T)} = \mathbf{FIRST (F)} = \{ (, id \}$$

Computing FIRST Symbols

Example-1: Solution

Consider the derivations not used in previous derivation:

$$3. E' \Rightarrow +TE'$$

$$4. E' \Rightarrow \epsilon$$

$$\text{FIRST}(E') = \{\epsilon, +\}$$

$$5. T' \Rightarrow *FT'$$

$$6. T' \Rightarrow \epsilon$$

$$\text{FIRST}(T') = \{\epsilon, *\}$$

Computing FIRST Symbols

Example-1: Solution

Now, the final FIRST sets are shown below:

	E	E'	T	T'	F
FIRST	(, id	ϵ , +	(, id	ϵ , *	(, id

Computing FIRST Symbols

Use of FIRST sets:

The FIRST sets can be used during predictive parsing while constructing the predictive parsing table as shown below:

- Consider the **A**-Production $\mathbf{A} \rightarrow \alpha \mid \beta$ and assume **FIRST**(α) and **FIRST**(β) are disjoint i.e., **FIRST**(α) \cap **FIRST**(β) = { } which is an empty set.
- If the input symbol obtained from **lexical analyzer** is '**a**' and if '**a**' is in **FIRST**(α) then use the production $\mathbf{A} \rightarrow \alpha$ during parsing.

Computing FIRST Symbols

Use of FIRST sets:

- If the input symbol obtained from **lexical analyzer** is 'b' and if 'b' is in **FIRST(β)** then use the production **$A \rightarrow \beta$** during parsing.

Thus, using **FIRST** sets we can choose what production to use between the two productions **$A \rightarrow \alpha \mid \beta$** when input symbol is **a** or **b**.

Algorithm or Rules to compute FIRST(X):

Algorithm FIRST (X) :

To compute FIRST(X) for all grammar symbols X, apply the following rules until no more terminals or ϵ can be added to any FIRST set.

Rule 1:

If $X \rightarrow a\alpha$ is a production, where 'a' is a terminal then $FIRST(X) = \{a\}$.

Rule 2:

If $X \rightarrow \epsilon$ is a production, then add ϵ to FIRST (X) i.e., $FIRST(X) = \{\epsilon\}$.

Algorithm or Rules to compute FIRST(X):

Algorithm FIRST (X) :

Rule 3: If X is a non-terminal and $X \rightarrow Y_1 Y_2 \dots Y_n$ is a production, and if $Y_1 Y_2 \dots Y_{i-1} \Rightarrow_* \epsilon$, then $\text{FIRST}(X) = \text{non-}\epsilon$ symbols in $\text{FIRST}(Y_i)$.

Rule 4:

If $X \rightarrow Y_1 Y_2 \dots Y_n$ is a production, and if $Y_1 Y_2 \dots Y_{i-1} \Rightarrow_* \epsilon$, then $\text{FIRST}(X) = \{\epsilon\}$.

Rule 5:

If X is a terminal or ϵ then $\text{FIRST}(X) = \{X\}$.

Algorithm or Rules to compute FIRST(X):

Examples: FIRST (X)

1. Rule 1 is applied if the first symbol on the right hand side of the production is a terminal. If so, then add only the first symbol.

- Ex 1: if $A \rightarrow aBC$, then $FIRST(A) = \{a\}$
- Ex 2: if $E \rightarrow +TE'$, then $FIRST(E) = \{+\}$
- Ex 3: if $A \rightarrow abc$, then $FIRST(A) = \{a\}$

Algorithm or Rules to compute FIRST(X):

Examples: FIRST(X)

2. Rule 2 is applied only for ϵ -productions.

- Ex 1: if $A \rightarrow \epsilon$, then $FIRST(A) = \{\epsilon\}$
- Ex 2: if $E' \rightarrow \epsilon$, then $FIRST(E') = \{\epsilon\}$

Algorithm or Rules to compute FIRST(X):

Examples: FIRST (X)

3. Rule 3 is applied for all productions not considered in first two steps.

Ex: Consider the productions:

S → **ABCd**

A → **ε** | **+B**

B → **ε** | ***B**

C → **ε** | **%B**

Algorithm or Rules to compute FIRST(X):

Examples: FIRST (X)

3. Rule 3 is applied for all productions not considered in first two steps.

Ex: FIRST (A), FIRST (B) and FIRST (C) are computed using rules 1 & 2 as shown below:

	S	A	B	C
FIRST		$\epsilon, +$	$\epsilon, *$	$\epsilon, \%$

Algorithm or Rules to compute FIRST(X):

Examples: FIRST (X)

3. Rule 3 is applied for all productions not considered in first two steps.

Ex: To compute **FIRST (S)** consider the production **S** \rightarrow **ABCd** and apply rule 3 as shown below:

a) S \rightarrow **ABCd** add non- ϵ symbols of **FIRST (A)** to **FIRST (S)**,

i.e., **FIRST (S) = FIRST (A) - ϵ = {+}**

Algorithm or Rules to compute FIRST(X):

Examples: FIRST (X)

3. Rule 3 is applied for all productions not considered in first two steps.

Ex: To compute FIRST (S) consider the production $S \rightarrow ABCd$ and apply rule 3 as shown below:

b) $S \rightarrow ABCd$ since $A \Rightarrow \epsilon$, add non- ϵ symbols of FIRST (B) to FIRST (S),

i.e., $FIRST(S) = FIRST(B) - \epsilon = \{*\}$

Algorithm or Rules to compute FIRST(X):

Examples: FIRST (X)

3. Rule 3 is applied for all productions not considered in first two steps.

Ex: To compute FIRST (S) consider the production $S \rightarrow ABCd$ and apply rule 3 as shown below:

c) $S \rightarrow ABCd$ since $AB \Rightarrow \epsilon$, add non- ϵ symbols of FIRST (C) to FIRST (S),

i.e., $FIRST(S) = FIRST(C) - \epsilon = \{\%$

Algorithm or Rules to compute FIRST(X):

Examples: FIRST (X)

3. Rule 3 is applied for all productions not considered in first two steps.

Ex: To compute FIRST (S) consider the production $S \rightarrow ABCd$ and apply rule 3 as shown below:

d) $S \rightarrow ABCd$ since $ABC \Rightarrow \epsilon$, add non- ϵ symbols of FIRST (d) to FIRST (S),

i.e., $FIRST(S) = FIRST(d) - \epsilon = \{d\}$

Algorithm or Rules to compute FIRST(X):

Examples: FIRST (X)

3. Rule 3 is applied for all productions not considered in first two steps.

Ex: To compute FIRST (S) consider the production $S \rightarrow ABCd$ and apply rule 3 as shown below:

So, all the FIRST values are shown below:

	S	A	B	C
FIRST	$\epsilon, *, +, d$	$\epsilon, +$	$\epsilon, *$	$\epsilon, \%$

Algorithm or Rules to compute FIRST(X):

Examples: FIRST (X)

4. Rule 4 is applied for all productions whose right hand side gives ϵ .

Ex: Consider the productions:

S \rightarrow **ABC**

A \rightarrow ϵ | **+B**

B \rightarrow ϵ | ***B**

C \rightarrow ϵ | **%B**

Algorithm or Rules to compute FIRST(X):

Examples: FIRST (X)

4. Rule 4 is applied for all productions whose right hand side gives ϵ .

Ex: FIRST (A), FIRST (B) and FIRST (C) are computed using rules 1 & 2 as shown below:

	S	A	B	C
FIRST		$\epsilon, +$	$\epsilon, *$	$\epsilon, \%$

Algorithm or Rules to compute FIRST(X):

Examples: FIRST (X)

4. Rule 4 is applied for all productions whose right hand side gives ϵ .

Ex: To compute FIRST (S), consider the production $S \rightarrow ABC$ and apply rule 3 as shown below:

a) $S \rightarrow ABC$ add non- ϵ symbols of FIRST (A) to FIRST (S),

i.e., FIRST (S) = FIRST (A) - ϵ = {+}

Algorithm or Rules to compute FIRST(X):

Examples: FIRST(X)

4. Rule 4 is applied for all productions whose right hand side gives ϵ .

Ex: To compute FIRST(S), consider the production $S \rightarrow ABC$ and apply rule 3 as shown below:

b) $S \rightarrow ABC$ since $A \Rightarrow \epsilon$, add non- ϵ symbols of FIRST(B) to FIRST(S),

i.e., $FIRST(S) = FIRST(B) - \epsilon = \{*\}$

Algorithm or Rules to compute FIRST(X):

Examples: FIRST(X)

4. Rule 4 is applied for all productions whose right hand side gives ϵ .

Ex: To compute **FIRST(S)**, consider the production **S** \rightarrow **ABC** and apply rule 3 as shown below:

c) S \rightarrow **ABC** since **AB** \Rightarrow ϵ , add non- ϵ symbols of **FIRST(C)** to **FIRST(S)**,

i.e., **FIRST(S)** = **FIRST(C)** - ϵ = {**%**}

Algorithm or Rules to compute FIRST(X):

Examples: FIRST (X)

4. Rule 4 is applied for all productions whose right hand side gives ϵ .

Ex: To compute FIRST (S), consider the production $S \rightarrow ABC$ and apply rule 3 as shown below:

d) $S \rightarrow ABC$ since $ABC \Rightarrow \epsilon$, add ϵ to FIRST (S). [Rule 4]

i.e., FIRST (S) = $\{\epsilon\}$

Algorithm or Rules to compute FIRST(X):

Examples: FIRST (X)

4. Rule 4 is applied for all productions whose right hand side gives ϵ .

Ex: So, All the above **FIRST** values are shown below:

	S	A	B	C
FIRST	$\% , * , + , \epsilon$	$\epsilon , +$	$\epsilon , *$	$\epsilon , \%$

Algorithm or Rules to compute FIRST(X):

Examples: FIRST(X)

5. Rule 5 is applied only for terminals.

Ex 1: + is terminal. So, FIRST(+) = {+}

Ex 2: a is terminal. So, FIRST(a) = {a}

Ex 3: id is terminal. So, FIRST(id) = {id}

Algorithm or Rules to compute FIRST(X):

Note: FIRST (X)

FIRST (X₁X₂X₃...X_n) can be computed as follows:

1. **FIRST (X₁X₂X₃...X_n) = FIRST (X₁) - {ε}**

2. If **FIRST (X₁) = ε**, then **FIRST (X₁X₂X₃...X_n) = FIRST (X₂) - {ε}**

3. If **FIRST (X₁) = ε** and **FIRST (X₂) = ε** then **FIRST (X₁X₂X₃...X_n) = FIRST (X₃) - {ε}**

.....

4. If **FIRST (X₁) = FIRST (X₂) = ... = FIRST (X_n) = ε** then **FIRST (X₁X₂X₃...X_n) = {ε}**

Algorithm or Rules to compute FIRST(X):

Practice Problem: FIRST (X)

Compute **FIRST** values for the following grammar:

$$E \rightarrow TE'$$

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

$$T \rightarrow FT'$$

$$T' \rightarrow *FT' \mid \epsilon$$

$$F \rightarrow (E) \mid id$$

	E	E'	T	T'	F
FIRST	(, id	ϵ , +	(, id	ϵ , *	(, id

Computing FOLLOW Symbols

Definition: FOLLOW

The **FOLLOW (A)** for a **non-terminal A** is defined as the set of terminals 'a' that will appear immediately to the right of A in some sentential form. That is, the set of **terminals 'a'** such that there exists a **derivation** of the form:

$S \Rightarrow^* \alpha A a \beta$ for some α and β .

If **A** is appeared as the last symbol in some **sentential form**, then place **\$** in **FOLLOW (A)** where the symbol **\$** is treated as “**end marker**” symbol.

Algorithm or Rules to compute FOLLOW(A):

Algorithm FOLLOW (A) :

Rule 1:

FOLLOW (S) \leftarrow \$, if **S** is the **Start Symbol**. i.e.,
FOLLOW (S) = { \$ }

Rule 2:

If **A** \rightarrow α **B** β is a production and $\beta \neq \epsilon$ then
FOLLOW (B) \leftarrow non - ϵ symbols in **FIRST (β)** i.e.,
FOLLOW (B) = **FIRST (β)** - { ϵ }.

Algorithm or Rules to compute FOLLOW(A):

Algorithm FOLLOW (A) :

Rule 3:

If $A \rightarrow \alpha B \beta$ or $A \rightarrow \alpha B$ is a production and

$\beta \Rightarrow^* \epsilon$ (i.e. $FIRST(\beta)$ contains ϵ) then

$FOLLOW(B) \leftarrow FOLLOW(A)$ i.e., $FOLLOW(B) = FOLLOW(A)$.

Computing FOLLOW Symbols

Example: FOLLOW(A)

Compute **FIRST** and **FOLLOW** sets for the following grammar:

$$E \rightarrow TE'$$

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

$$T \rightarrow FT'$$

$$T' \rightarrow *FT' \mid \epsilon$$

$$F \rightarrow (E) \mid id$$

Computing FOLLOW Symbols

Example: *Solution* FOLLOW(A)

FIRST values are shown below:

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

	E	E'	T	T'	F
FIRST	(, id	+, ϵ	(, id	*, ϵ	(, id

Computing FOLLOW Symbols

Example: *Solution* FOLLOW(A)

Computing FOLLOW sets:

Rule 1: \$ is placed in FOLLOW(E) since E is the start symbol.

i.e., FOLLOW(E) = {\$}

$$\begin{aligned} E &\rightarrow TE' \\ E' &\rightarrow +TE' \mid \epsilon \\ T &\rightarrow FT' \\ T' &\rightarrow *FT' \mid \epsilon \\ F &\rightarrow (E) \mid id \end{aligned}$$

Computing FOLLOW Symbols

Example: *Solution* FOLLOW(A)

Computing FOLLOW sets:

Rule 2 & 3: apply rule 2 & 3 for every production of the form $A \rightarrow \alpha B \beta$ where B is a non-terminal.

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

Computing FOLLOW Symbols

Example: *Solution* FOLLOW(A)

Computing FOLLOW sets:

$A \rightarrow \alpha B \beta$ <u>Rule 2 ($\beta \neq \epsilon$):</u> FOLLOW (B) \leftarrow (=) FIRST(β) - $\{\epsilon\}$	$A \rightarrow \alpha B \beta$ <u>Rule 3 ($\beta \Rightarrow^* \epsilon$):</u> FOLLOW (B) \leftarrow (=) FOLLOW(A)
$E \rightarrow TE'$ $A \rightarrow \alpha B \beta$, here B is T & β is E' FOLLOW(T) = FIRST(E') - $\{\epsilon\}$ = {+}	$E \rightarrow TE'$ $A \rightarrow \alpha B \beta$, here B is T & β is E' and $E' \Rightarrow^* \epsilon$ FOLLOW(T) = FOLLOW(E)
$E \rightarrow TE'$ $A \rightarrow \alpha B \beta$, here B is E' & β is ϵ Rule 2 not applicable.	$E \rightarrow TE'$ $A \rightarrow \alpha B \beta$, here B is E' & $\beta \Rightarrow^* \epsilon$ FOLLOW(E') = FOLLOW(E)

Computing FOLLOW Symbols

Example: *Solution* FOLLOW(A)

Computing FOLLOW sets:

$A \rightarrow \alpha B \beta$ <u>Rule 2 ($\beta \neq \epsilon$):</u> FOLLOW (B) \leftarrow (=) FIRST(β) - $\{\epsilon\}$	$A \rightarrow \alpha B \beta$ <u>Rule 3 ($\beta \Rightarrow^* \epsilon$):</u> FOLLOW (B) \leftarrow (=) FOLLOW(A)
$E' \rightarrow +TE'$ $A \rightarrow \alpha B \beta$, here B is T & β is E' FOLLOW(T) = FIRST(E') - $\{\epsilon\}$ = {+}	$E' \rightarrow +TE'$ $A \rightarrow \alpha B \beta$, here B is T & β is E' and $E' \Rightarrow^* \epsilon$ FOLLOW(T) = FOLLOW(E')
$E' \rightarrow +TE'$ $A \rightarrow \alpha B \beta$, here B is E' & β is ϵ Rule 2 not applicable.	$E' \rightarrow +TE'$ $A \rightarrow \alpha B \beta$, here B is E' & $\beta \Rightarrow^* \epsilon$ FOLLOW(E') = FOLLOW(E')

Computing FOLLOW Symbols

Example: *Solution* FOLLOW(A)

Computing FOLLOW sets:

$A \rightarrow \alpha B \beta$ <u>Rule 2 ($\beta \neq \epsilon$):</u> $\text{FOLLOW}(B) \leftarrow (=) \text{FIRST}(\beta) - \{\epsilon\}$	$A \rightarrow \alpha B \beta$ <u>Rule 3 ($\beta \Rightarrow^* \epsilon$):</u> $\text{FOLLOW}(B) \leftarrow (=) \text{FOLLOW}(A)$
$T \rightarrow FT'$ $A \rightarrow \alpha B \beta$, here B is F & β is T' $\text{FOLLOW}(F) = \text{FIRST}(T') - \{\epsilon\}$ $= \{*\}$	$T \rightarrow FT'$ $A \rightarrow \alpha B \beta$, here B is F & β is T' and $T' \Rightarrow^* \epsilon$ $\text{FOLLOW}(F) = \text{FOLLOW}(T)$
$T \rightarrow FT'$ $A \rightarrow \alpha B \beta$, here B is T' & β is ϵ Rule 2 not applicable.	$T \rightarrow FT'$ $A \rightarrow \alpha B \beta$, here B is T' & $\beta \Rightarrow^* \epsilon$ $\text{FOLLOW}(T') = \text{FOLLOW}(T)$

Computing FOLLOW Symbols

Example: *Solution* FOLLOW(A)

Computing FOLLOW sets:

$A \rightarrow \alpha B \beta$ <u>Rule 2 ($\beta \neq \epsilon$):</u> FOLLOW (B) \leftarrow (=) FIRST(β) - {ϵ}	$A \rightarrow \alpha B \beta$ <u>Rule 3 ($\beta \Rightarrow^* \epsilon$):</u> FOLLOW (B) \leftarrow (=) FOLLOW(A)
$T' \rightarrow *FT'$ $A \rightarrow \alpha B \beta$, here B is F & β is T' FOLLOW(F) = FIRST(T') - {ϵ} = { * }	$T' \rightarrow *FT'$ $A \rightarrow \alpha B \beta$, here B is F & β is T' and $T' \Rightarrow^* \epsilon$ FOLLOW(F) = FOLLOW(T')
$T' \rightarrow *FT'$ $A \rightarrow \alpha B \beta$, here B is T' & β is ϵ Rule 2 not applicable.	$T' \rightarrow *FT'$ $A \rightarrow \alpha B \beta$, here B is T' & $\beta \Rightarrow^* \epsilon$ FOLLOW(T') = FOLLOW(T')

Computing FOLLOW Symbols

Example: *Solution* FOLLOW(A)

Computing FOLLOW sets:

$A \rightarrow \alpha B \beta$ <u>Rule 2 ($\beta \neq \epsilon$):</u> FOLLOW (B) ← (=) FIRST(β) - {ϵ}	$A \rightarrow \alpha B \beta$ <u>Rule 3 ($\beta \Rightarrow^* \epsilon$):</u> FOLLOW (B) ← (=) FOLLOW(A)
$F \rightarrow (E)$ $A \rightarrow \alpha B \beta$, here B is E & β is $)$ FOLLOW(E) = FIRST() - {ϵ} = {) }	$F \rightarrow (E)$ $A \rightarrow \alpha B \beta$, here B is E & β is $)$ and $\neq \epsilon$ Rule 3 not applicable.

Computing FOLLOW Symbols

Example: *Solution* FOLLOW(A)

FOLLOW values are shown below:

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

	E	E'	T	T'	F
FOLLOW	\$,)	\$,)	+, \$,)	+, \$,)	+, *, \$,)

Computing FOLLOW Symbols

Practice Problem: FOLLOW(A)

Compute **FIRST** and **FOLLOW** sets for the following grammar:

S \rightarrow **iCtS** | **iCtSeS** | **a**

C \rightarrow **b**

Summary...

Top-Down Parsing : Predictive Parser (Part-2)

- FIRST
- FOLLOW
- Example Problems

Reading: Aho2, Section 4.4.2

Next Lecture: Predictive parser cont.