

CSE 443  
Compilers

Dr. Carl Alphonse  
alphonse@buffalo.edu  
343 Davis Hall

# Phases of a compiler

Syntactic  
structure

Symbol Table

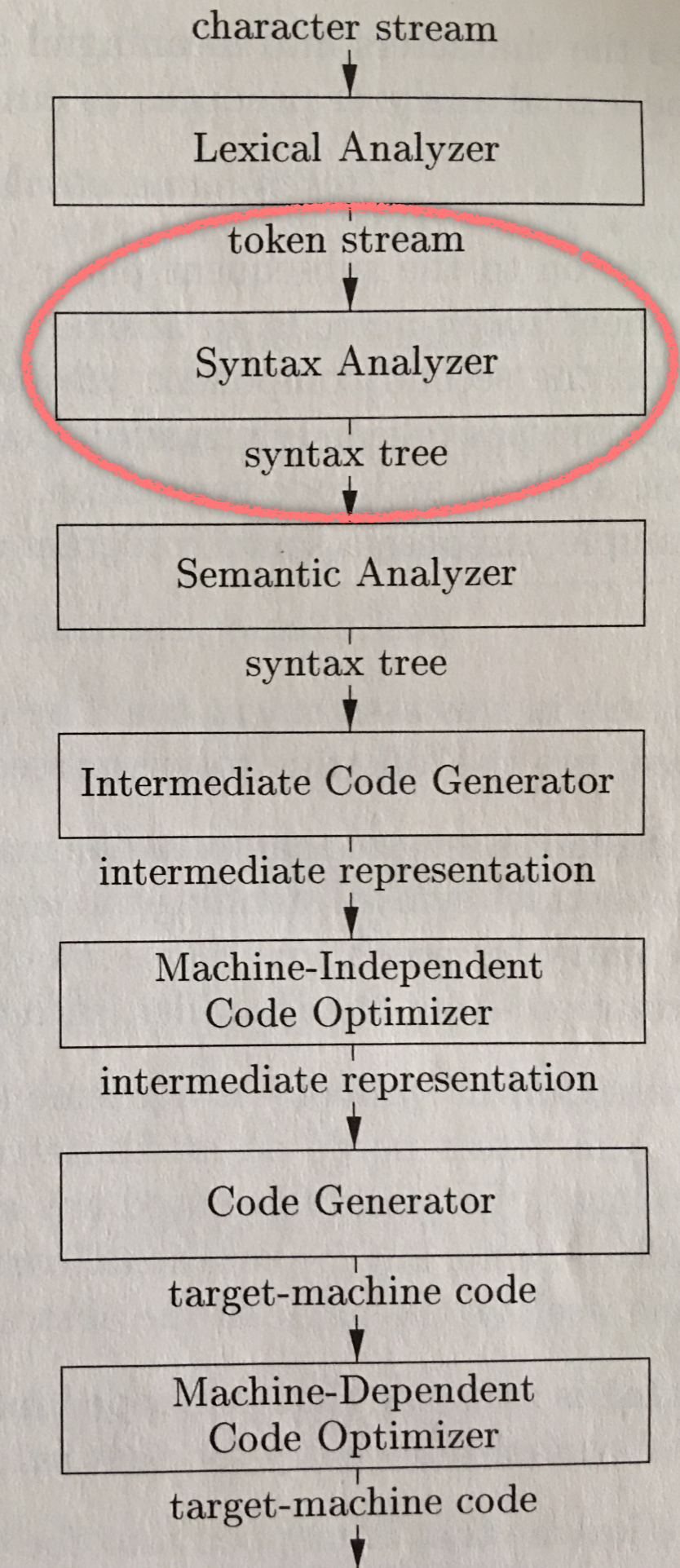


Figure 1.6,  
page 5 of text

# Left factoring

- If two (or more) rules share a prefix then their FIRST sets do not distinguish between rule alternatives.
- If there is a choice point later in the rule, rewrite rule by factoring common prefix
- Example: rewrite

$$A \rightarrow \alpha \beta_1 \mid \alpha \beta_2$$

• as

$$A \rightarrow \alpha A'$$

$$A' \rightarrow \beta_1 \mid \beta_2$$

# Predictive parsing:

a special case of recursive-descent parsing that does not require backtracking

Each non-terminal  $A \in N$  has an associated procedure:

```
void A() {  
    choose an A-production  $A \rightarrow X_1 X_2 \dots X_k$   
    for (i = 1 to k) {  
        if ( $x_i \in N$ ) {  
            call  $x_i()$   
        }  
        else if ( $x_i = \text{current input symbol}$ ) {  
            advance input to next symbol  
        }  
        else error  
    }  
}
```

# Predictive parsing:

a special case of recursive-descent parsing that does not require backtracking

Each non-terminal  $A \in N$  has an associated procedure:

```
void A() {  
    choose an A-production  $A \rightarrow X_1 X_2 \dots X_k$   
    for (i = 1 to k) {  
        if ( $x_i \in N$ ) {  
            call  $x_i()$   
        }  
        else if ( $x_i =$  current input symbol) {  
            advance input to next symbol  
        }  
        else error  
    }  
}
```

There is non-determinism in choice of production. If "wrong" choice is made the parser will need to revisit its choice by backtracking.

A predictive parser can always make the correct choice here.

# FIRST(X)

- if  $X \in T$  then  $\text{FIRST}(X) = \{ X \}$
- if  $X \in N$  and  $X \rightarrow Y_1 Y_2 \dots Y_k \in P$  for  $k \geq 1$ , then
  - add  $a \in T$  to  $\text{FIRST}(X)$  if  $\exists i$  s.t.  $a \in \text{FIRST}(Y_i)$  and  $\varepsilon \in \text{FIRST}(Y_j) \forall j < i$  ( i.e.  $Y_1 Y_2 \dots Y_{i-1} \Rightarrow^* \varepsilon$  )
  - if  $\varepsilon \in \text{FIRST}(Y_j) \forall j \leq k$  add  $\varepsilon$  to  $\text{FIRST}(X)$
- if  $X \rightarrow \varepsilon \in P$ , then add  $\varepsilon$  to  $\text{FIRST}(X)$

# FOLLOW(X)

- Place  $\$$  in  $\text{FOLLOW}(S)$ , where  $S$  is the start symbol ( $\$$  is an end marker)
- if  $A \rightarrow \alpha B \beta \in P$ , then  $\text{FIRST}(\beta) - \{\epsilon\}$  is in  $\text{FOLLOW}(B)$
- if  $A \rightarrow \alpha B \in P$  or  $A \rightarrow \alpha B \beta \in P$  where  $\epsilon \in \text{FIRST}(\beta)$ , then everything in  $\text{FOLLOW}(A)$  is in  $\text{FOLLOW}(B)$

# Table-driven predictive parsing

## Algorithm 4.32 (p. 224)

- INPUT: Grammar  $G = (N, T, P, S)$
- OUTPUT: Parsing table  $M$
- For each production  $A \rightarrow \alpha$  of  $G$ :
  1. For each terminal  $a \in \text{FIRST}(\alpha)$ , add  $A \rightarrow \alpha$  to  $M[A, a]$
  2. If  $\epsilon \in \text{FIRST}(\alpha)$ , then for each terminal  $b$  in  $\text{FOLLOW}(A)$ , add  $A \rightarrow \alpha$  to  $M[A, b]$
  3. If  $\epsilon \in \text{FIRST}(\alpha)$  and  $\$ \in \text{FOLLOW}(A)$ , add  $A \rightarrow \alpha$  to  $M[A, \$]$