

# Programming Languages and Compilers (CS 421)

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Based on slides by Elsa Gunter, which are based in part on previous slides by Mattox Beckman and updated by Vikram Adve and Gul Agha

# Language Syntax and Semantics

- ***Syntax*** describes which strings of symbols are meaningful expressions in a language
- **Semantics** describes the meaning of the program – it directs how to execute it.

"Colorless  
green ideas  
sleep  
furiously"



# Sample Grammar

- Language: Parenthesized sums of 0's and 1's
- $\langle \text{Sum} \rangle ::= 0$
- $\langle \text{Sum} \rangle ::= 1$
- $\langle \text{Sum} \rangle ::= \langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle$
- $\langle \text{Sum} \rangle ::= (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle)$

# Types of Formal Language Descriptions

Regular expressions (regex), regular grammars

- Finite state automata

**Context-free** grammars (CFGs), BNF grammars

- Pushdown automata  
(stack machines)

CFGs can express richer languages than regexes.

e.g., mathched parentheses:

$$S \rightarrow S S \mid (S) \mid \varepsilon$$

**BNF** =  
**Backus Naur Form**

**John  
Backus**



**Peter  
Naur**

# BNF Grammars

- Start with a set of characters, **a,b,c,...**
  - We call these *terminals*
- Add a set of different characters, **X,Y,Z,...**
  - We call these *nonterminals*
- One special nonterminal **S** called *start symbol*

# BNF Grammars

- BNF rules (aka *productions*) have form

$$X ::= y$$

where  $X$  is any nonterminal and  $y$  is a string of terminals and nonterminals

- BNF *grammar* is a set of BNF rules such that every nonterminal appears on the left of some rule

# Sample Grammar

- Terminals: 0 1 + ( )
- Nonterminals:  $\langle \text{Sum} \rangle$
- Start symbol =  $\langle \text{Sum} \rangle$
  
- $\langle \text{Sum} \rangle ::= 0$
- $\langle \text{Sum} \rangle ::= 1$
- $\langle \text{Sum} \rangle ::= \langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle$
- $\langle \text{Sum} \rangle ::= (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle)$
- Can be abbreviated as  
$$\langle \text{Sum} \rangle ::= 0 \mid 1$$
$$\mid \langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle \mid ( )$$

# BNF Derivations

- Given rules

$$\mathbf{X} ::= y\mathbf{Z}w \text{ and } \mathbf{Z} ::= v$$

we may replace  $\mathbf{Z}$  by  $v$  to say

$$\mathbf{X} \Rightarrow y\mathbf{Z}w \Rightarrow yvw$$

- Sequence of such replacements called *derivation*
- Derivation called *right-most* if always replace the right-most non-terminal



# BNF Semantics

- The meaning of a BNF grammar is the set of all strings consisting only of terminals that can be derived from the Start symbol

# BNF Derivations

$\langle \text{Sum} \rangle ::= 0 \mid 1 \mid \langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle \mid (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle)$

- Start with the start symbol:

$\langle \text{Sum} \rangle \Rightarrow$

# BNF Derivations

$\langle \text{Sum} \rangle ::= 0 \mid 1 \mid \langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle \mid (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle)$

- Pick a non-terminal

$\langle \text{Sum} \rangle \Rightarrow$

# BNF Derivations

$\langle \text{Sum} \rangle ::= 0 \mid 1 \mid \langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle \mid (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle)$

■ Pick a rule and substitute:

■  $\langle \text{Sum} \rangle ::= \langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle$

$\langle \text{Sum} \rangle \Rightarrow \langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle$

# BNF Derivations

$\langle \text{Sum} \rangle ::= 0 \mid 1 \mid \langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle \mid (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle)$

- Pick a non-terminal:

$\langle \text{Sum} \rangle \Rightarrow \langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle$

# BNF Derivations

$\langle \text{Sum} \rangle ::= 0 \mid 1 \mid \langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle \mid (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle)$

- Pick a rule and substitute:

- $\langle \text{Sum} \rangle ::= (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle)$

$\langle \text{Sum} \rangle \Rightarrow \langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle$

$\Rightarrow (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle) + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle$

# BNF Derivations

$\langle \text{Sum} \rangle ::= 0 \mid 1 \mid \langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle \mid (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle)$

- Pick a non-terminal:

$\langle \text{Sum} \rangle \Rightarrow \langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle$

$\Rightarrow ( \langle \text{Sum} \rangle ) + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle$

# BNF Derivations

$\langle \text{Sum} \rangle ::= 0 \mid 1 \mid \langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle \mid (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle)$

■ Pick a rule and substitute:

■  $\langle \text{Sum} \rangle ::= \langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle$

$\langle \text{Sum} \rangle \Rightarrow \langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle$

$\Rightarrow ( \langle \text{Sum} \rangle ) + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle$

$\Rightarrow ( \langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle ) + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle$



# BNF Derivations

$\langle \text{Sum} \rangle ::= 0 \mid 1 \mid \langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle \mid (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle)$

- Pick a non-terminal:

$\langle \text{Sum} \rangle \Rightarrow \langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle$

$\Rightarrow (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle) + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle$

$\Rightarrow (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle) + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle$

# BNF Derivations

$\langle \text{Sum} \rangle ::= 0 \mid 1 \mid \langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle \mid (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle)$

■ Pick a rule and substitute:

■  $\langle \text{Sum} \rangle ::= 1$

$\langle \text{Sum} \rangle \Rightarrow \langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle$

$\Rightarrow (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle) + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle$

$\Rightarrow (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle) + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle$

$\Rightarrow (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle + 1) + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle$

# BNF Derivations

$\langle \text{Sum} \rangle ::= 0 \mid 1 \mid \langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle \mid (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle)$

- Pick a non-terminal:

$\langle \text{Sum} \rangle \Rightarrow \langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle$

$\Rightarrow (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle) + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle$

$\Rightarrow (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle) + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle$

$\Rightarrow (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle + 1) + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle$

# BNF Derivations

$\langle \text{Sum} \rangle ::= 0 \mid 1 \mid \langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle \mid (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle)$

■ Pick a rule and substitute:

■  $\langle \text{Sum} \rangle ::= 0$

$\langle \text{Sum} \rangle \Rightarrow \langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle$

$\Rightarrow (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle) + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle$

$\Rightarrow (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle) + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle$

$\Rightarrow (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle + 1) + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle$

$\Rightarrow (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle + 1) + 0$

# BNF Derivations

$\langle \text{Sum} \rangle ::= 0 \mid 1 \mid \langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle \mid (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle)$

- Pick a non-terminal:

$\langle \text{Sum} \rangle \Rightarrow \langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle$

$\Rightarrow (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle) + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle$

$\Rightarrow (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle) + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle$

$\Rightarrow (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle + 1) + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle$

$\Rightarrow (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle + 1) + 0$

# BNF Derivations

$\langle \text{Sum} \rangle ::= 0 \mid 1 \mid \langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle \mid (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle)$

- Pick a rule and substitute

- $\langle \text{Sum} \rangle ::= 0$

$\langle \text{Sum} \rangle \Rightarrow \langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle$

$\Rightarrow (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle) + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle$

$\Rightarrow (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle) + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle$

$\Rightarrow (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle + 1) + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle$

$\Rightarrow (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle + 1) 0$

$\Rightarrow (0 + 1) + 0$

# BNF Derivations

$\langle \text{Sum} \rangle ::= 0 \mid 1 \mid \langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle \mid (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle)$

- $(0 + 1) + 0$  is generated by grammar

$\langle \text{Sum} \rangle \Rightarrow \langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle$   
 $\Rightarrow (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle) + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle$   
 $\Rightarrow (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle) + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle$   
 $\Rightarrow (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle + 1) + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle$   
 $\Rightarrow (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle + 1) + 0$   
 $\Rightarrow (0 + 1) + 0$

# Regular Grammars

- Subclass of BNF
- Only rules of form  
`<nonterminal> ::= <terminal><nonterminal>`  
or `<nonterminal> ::= <terminal>` or  
`<nonterminal> ::=  $\epsilon$`
- Defines same class of languages as regular expressions
- Important for writing lexers (programs that convert strings of characters into strings of tokens)



# Extended BNF Grammars

- Alternatives: allow rules of form  $X ::= y \mid z$ 
  - Abbreviates  $X ::= y, X ::= z$
- Options:  $X ::= y [v] z$ 
  - Abbreviates  $X ::= yvz, X ::= yz$
- Repetition:  $X ::= y \{v\}^* z$ 
  - Can be eliminated by adding new nonterminal  $V$  and rules  
 $X ::= yz, X ::= yVz,$   
 $V ::= v, V ::= vV$

# Parse Trees

- Graphical representation of derivation
- Each node labeled with either non-terminal or terminal
- If node is labeled with a terminal, then it is a leaf (no sub-trees)
- If node is labeled with a non-terminal, then it has one branch for each character in the right-hand side of rule used to substitute for it

# Example

- Consider grammar:

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \text{exp} \rangle & ::= \langle \text{factor} \rangle \\ & \quad | \langle \text{factor} \rangle + \langle \text{factor} \rangle \end{aligned}$$
$$\begin{aligned} \langle \text{factor} \rangle & ::= \langle \text{bin} \rangle \\ & \quad | \langle \text{bin} \rangle * \langle \text{exp} \rangle \end{aligned}$$
$$\langle \text{bin} \rangle ::= 0 \quad | \quad 1$$

- **Task:**  
Build parse tree for  $1 * 1 + 0$  as an  $\langle \text{exp} \rangle$

# Example cont.

- $1 * 1 + 0$ :  $\langle \text{exp} \rangle$

```
 $\langle \text{exp} \rangle ::= \langle \text{factor} \rangle$   
          |  $\langle \text{factor} \rangle + \langle \text{factor} \rangle$   
 $\langle \text{factor} \rangle ::= \langle \text{bin} \rangle$   
              |  $\langle \text{bin} \rangle * \langle \text{exp} \rangle$   
 $\langle \text{bin} \rangle ::= 0 \mid 1$ 
```

$\langle \text{exp} \rangle$  is the start symbol for this parse tree

# Example cont.

■ 1 \* 1 + 0:  $\begin{array}{c} \langle \text{exp} \rangle \\ | \\ \langle \text{factor} \rangle \end{array}$

```
<exp> ::= <factor>
        | <factor> + <factor>

<factor> ::= <bin>
            | <bin> * <exp>

<bin> ::= 0 | 1
```

Use rule:  $\langle \text{exp} \rangle ::= \langle \text{factor} \rangle$

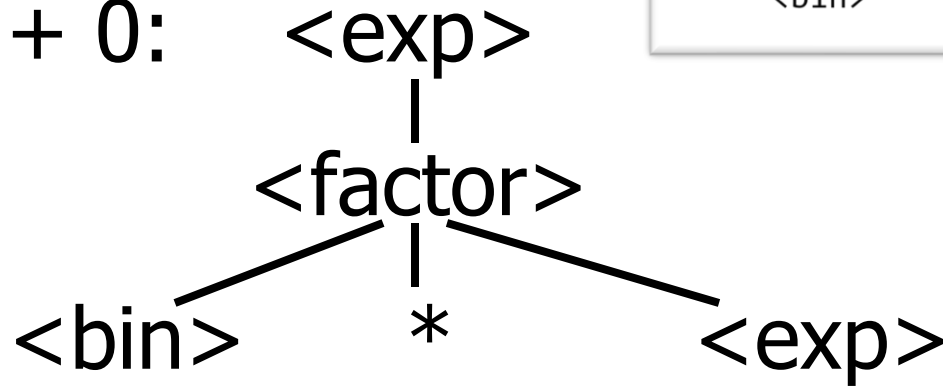
# Example cont.

```
<exp> ::= <factor>
        | <factor> + <factor>

<factor> ::= <bin>
            | <bin> * <exp>

<bin> ::= 0 | 1
```

- 1 \* 1 + 0:



Use rule:  $\langle \text{factor} \rangle ::= \langle \text{bin} \rangle * \langle \text{exp} \rangle$

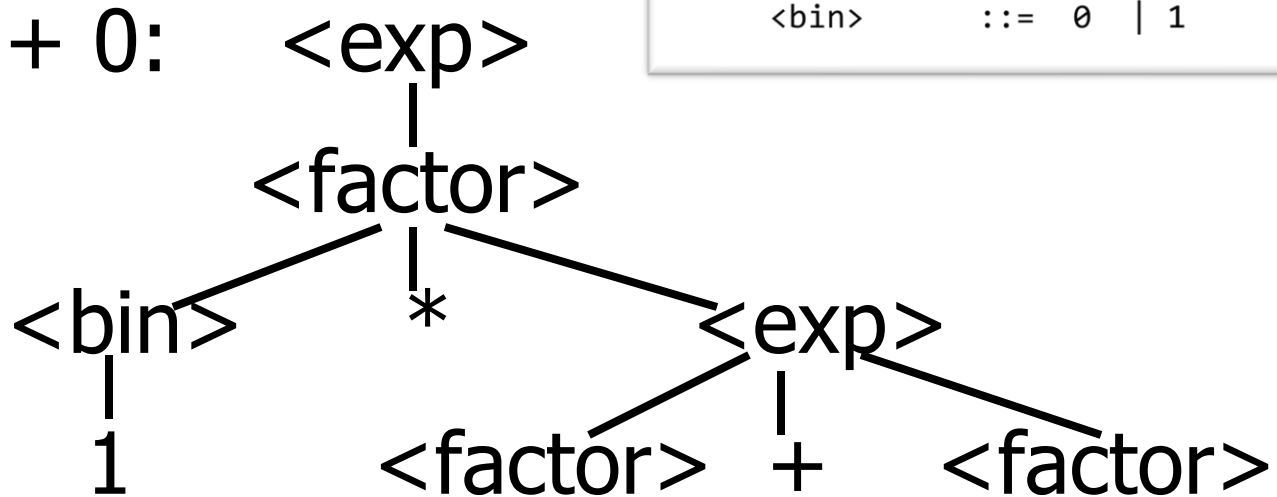
# Example cont.

```
<exp> ::= <factor>
        | <factor> + <factor>

<factor> ::= <bin>
            | <bin> * <exp>

<bin> ::= 0 | 1
```

- $1 * 1 + 0$ :



Use rules:  $\langle \text{bin} \rangle ::= 1$  and  
 $\langle \text{exp} \rangle ::= \langle \text{factor} \rangle + \langle \text{factor} \rangle$

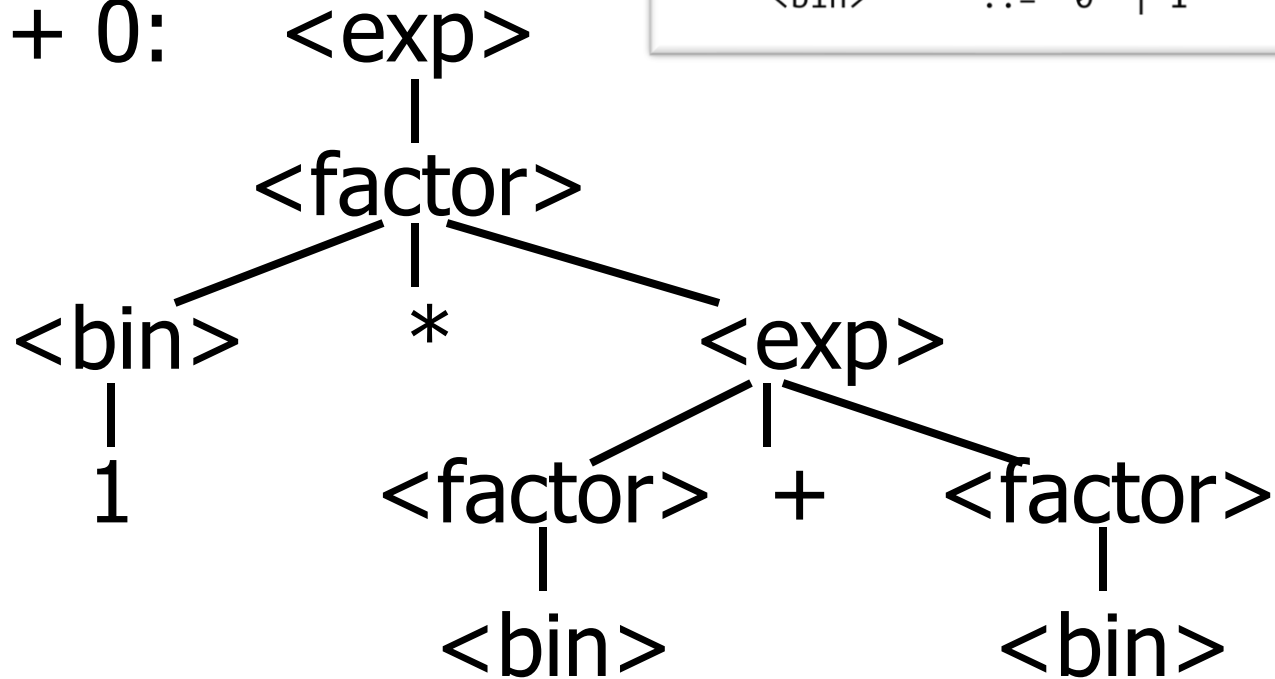
# Example cont.

```
<exp> ::= <factor>
        | <factor> + <factor>

<factor> ::= <bin>
           | <bin> * <exp>

<bin> ::= 0 | 1
```

- 1 \* 1 + 0:



Use rule:  $\langle \text{factor} \rangle ::= \langle \text{bin} \rangle$



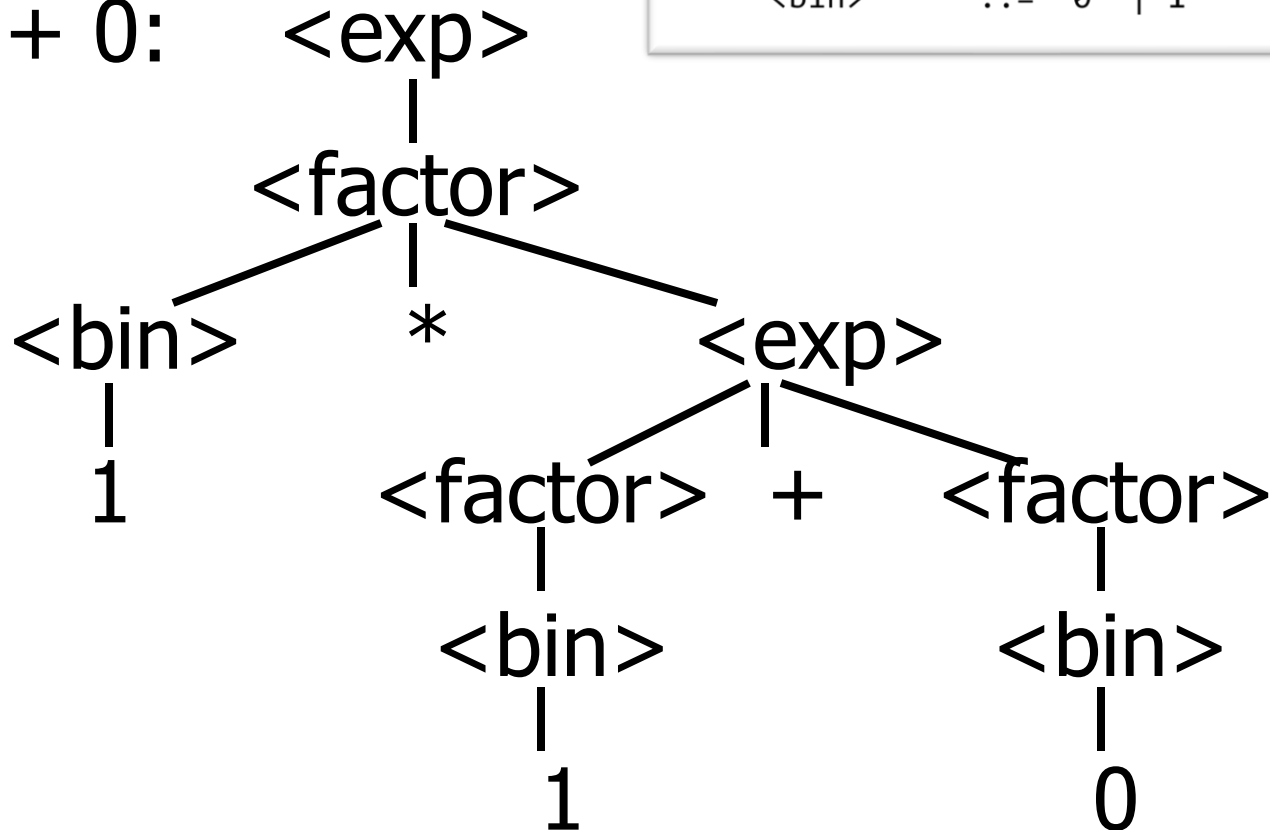
# Example cont.

```
<exp> ::= <factor>
        | <factor> + <factor>

<factor> ::= <bin>
            | <bin> * <exp>

<bin> ::= 0 | 1
```

- 1 \* 1 + 0:



Use rules: <bin> ::= 1 | 0

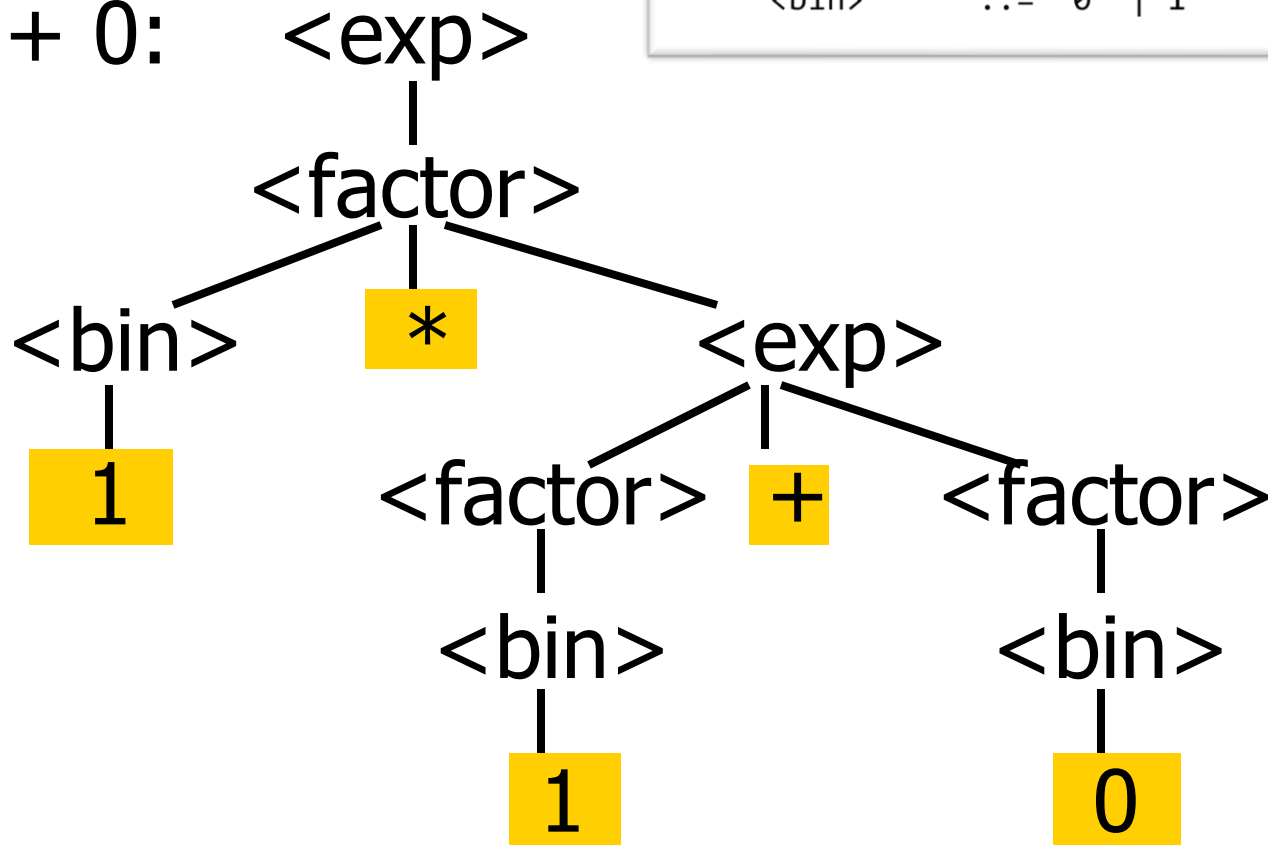
# Example cont.

```
<exp> ::= <factor>
        | <factor> + <factor>

<factor> ::= <bin>
           | <bin> * <exp>

<bin> ::= 0 | 1
```

- 1 \* 1 + 0:



Fringe of tree is string generated by grammar

# Parse Tree Data Structures

- Parse trees may be represented by OCaml datatypes
- One datatype for each nonterminal
- One constructor for each rule
- Defined as mutually recursive collection of datatype declarations

# Example

- Recall grammar:

```
<exp> ::= <factor> | <factor> + <factor>
<factor> ::= <bin> | <bin> * <exp>
<bin> ::= 0 | 1
```

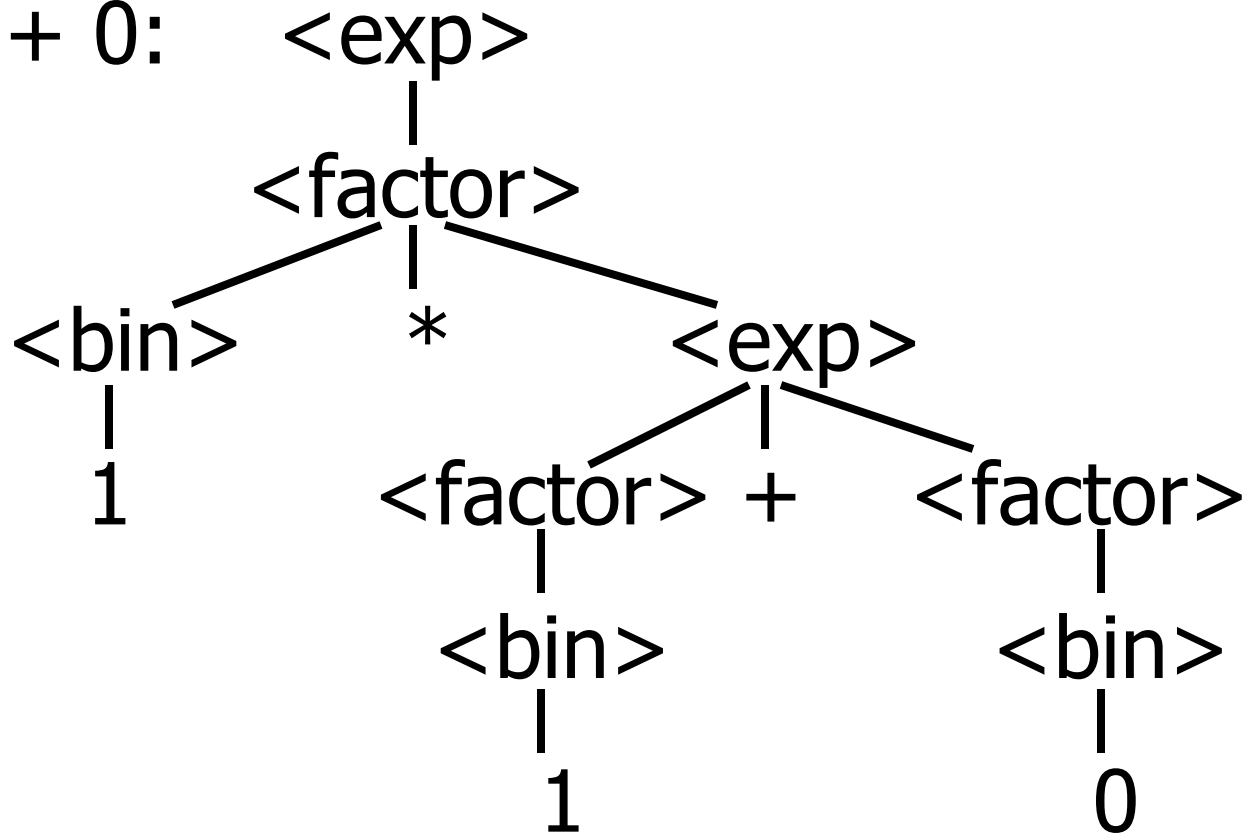
- Represent as Abstract Data Types:

- type exp = Factor2Exp of factor  
| Plus of factor \* factor  
and factor = Bin2Factor of bin  
| Mult of bin \* exp  
and bin = Zero | One

# Example cont.

- type exp = Factor2Exp of factor  
          | Plus of factor \* factor  
and factor = Bin2Factor of bin  
          | Mult of bin \* exp  
and bin = Zero | One

- 1 \* 1 + 0:



# Example cont.

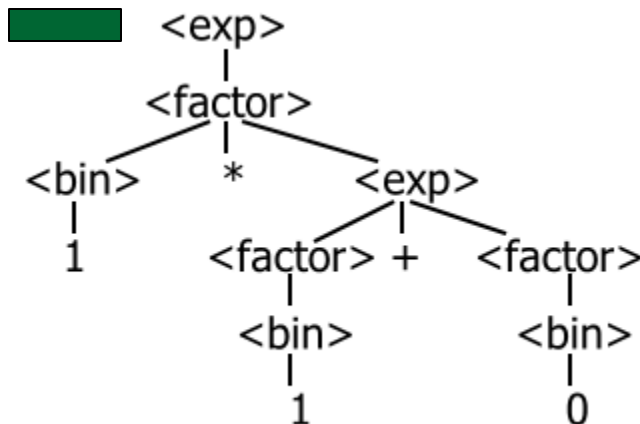
- Can be represented as

Factor2Exp

(Mult(One,

Plus(Bin2Factor One,

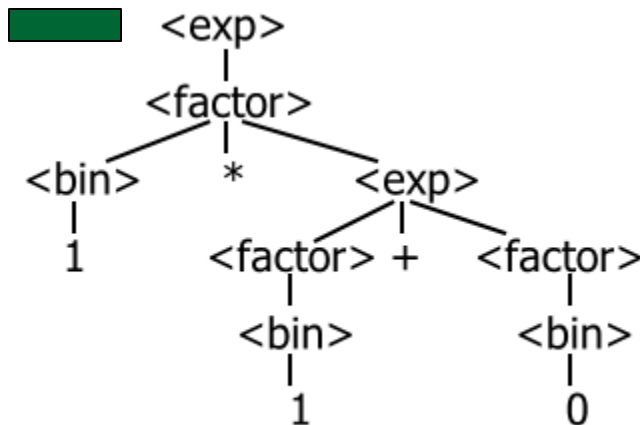
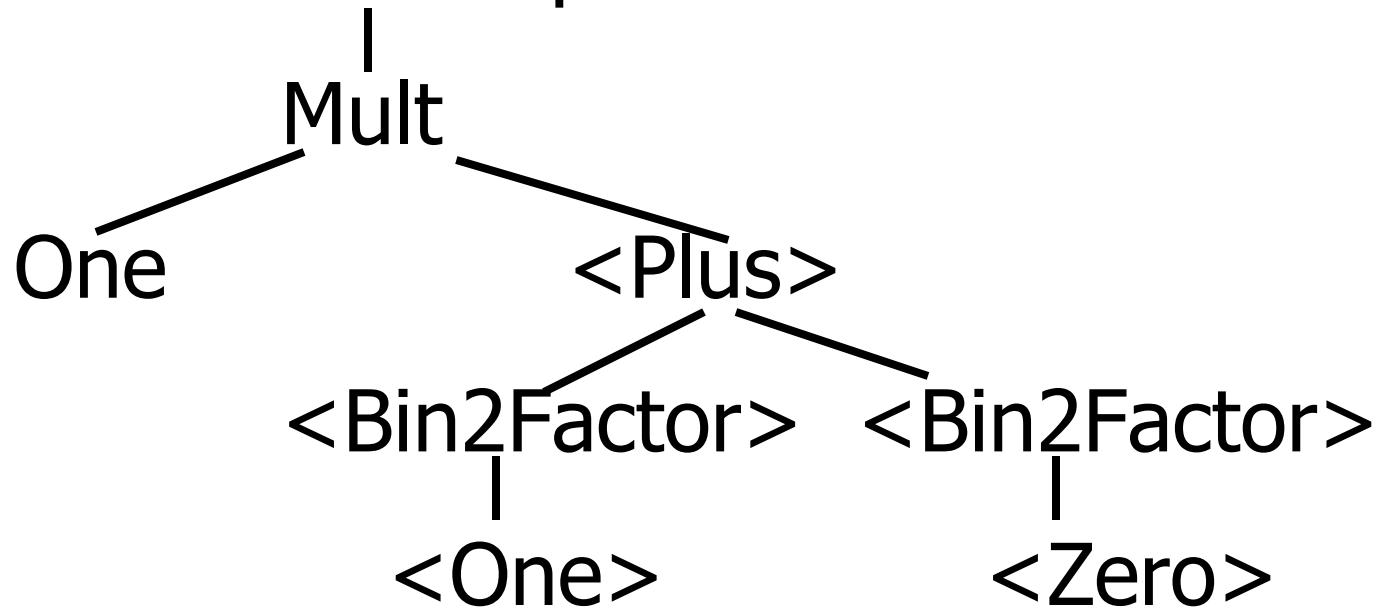
Bin2Factor Zero)))



# Example cont.

- type exp = Factor2Exp of factor  
| Plus of factor \* factor  
and factor = Bin2Factor of bin  
| Mult of bin \* exp  
and bin = Zero | One

- 1 \* 1 + 0: Factor2Exp



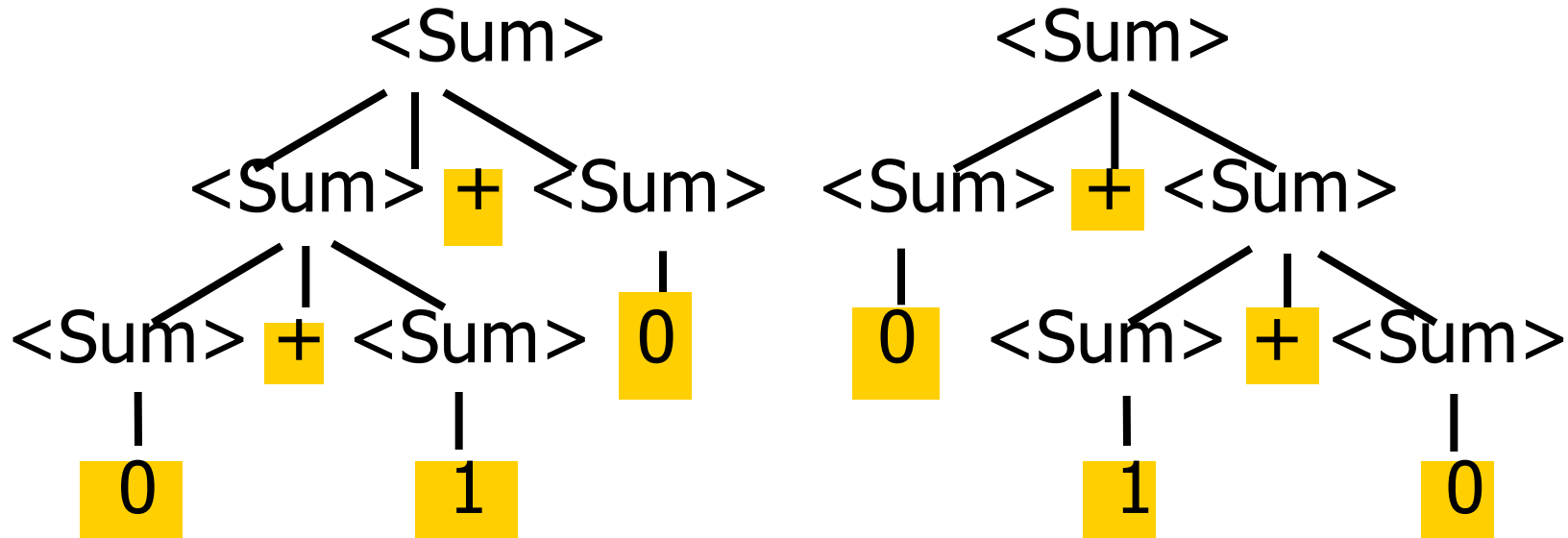
# Ambiguous Grammars and Languages

- A BNF grammar is *ambiguous* if its language contains strings for which there is more than one parse tree
- If all BNFs for a language are ambiguous then the language is *inherently ambiguous*



# Example: Ambiguous Grammar

■  $0 + 1 + 0$



# Example

- What is the result for:

$$3 + 4 * 5 + 6$$

# Example

- What is the result for:

$$3 + 4 * 5 + 6$$

- Possible answers:

- $41 = ((3 + 4) * 5) + 6$
- $47 = 3 + (4 * (5 + 6))$
- $29 = (3 + (4 * 5)) + 6 = 3 + ((4 * 5) + 6)$
- $77 = (3 + 4) * (5 + 6)$

# Example

- What is the value of:

$$7 - 5 - 2$$

# Example

- What is the value of:

$$7 - 5 - 2$$

- Possible answers:
  - In Pascal, C++, SML assoc. left  
 $7 - 5 - 2 = (7 - 5) - 2 = 0$
  - In APL, associate to right  
 $7 - 5 - 2 = 7 - (5 - 2) = 4$

# Two Major Sources of Ambiguity

- Lack of determination of operator ***precedence***
- Lack of determination of operator ***associativity***
- Not the only sources of ambiguity

# Disambiguating a Grammar

- Given ambiguous grammar  $G$ , with start symbol  $S$ , find a grammar  $G'$  with same start symbol, such that  
language of  $G =$  language of  $G'$
- Not always possible
- No algorithm in general

# Disambiguating a Grammar

- Idea: Each non-terminal represents all strings having some property
- Identify these properties (often in terms of things that can't happen)
- Use these properties to inductively guarantee every string in language has a unique parse



# Steps to Grammar Disambiguation

- Identify the rules and a smallest use that display ambiguity
- Decide which parse to keep; why should others be thrown out?
- What syntactic restrictions on subexpressions are needed to throw out the bad (while keeping the good)?
- Add a new non-terminal and rules to describe this set of restricted subexpressions (called stratifying, or refactoring)
- Characterize each non-terminal by a language invariant
- Replace old rules to use new non-terminals
- Rinse and repeat

# Example

- Ambiguous grammar:

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \text{exp} \rangle & ::= 0 \quad | \quad 1 \\ & \quad | \langle \text{exp} \rangle + \langle \text{exp} \rangle \\ & \quad | \langle \text{exp} \rangle * \langle \text{exp} \rangle \end{aligned}$$

- String with more than one parse:

**0 + 1 + 0**

**1 \* 1 + 1**

- Source of ambiguity: associativity and precedence

# How to Enforce Associativity

- Have at most one recursive call per production
- When two or more recursive calls would be natural leave right-most one for right associativity, left-most one for left associativity

# Example

- $\langle \text{Sum} \rangle ::= 0 \mid 1 \mid \langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle$   
 $\mid (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle)$
- Becomes
  - $\langle \text{Sum} \rangle ::= \langle \text{Num} \rangle \mid \langle \text{Num} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle$
  - $\langle \text{Num} \rangle ::= 0 \mid 1 \mid (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle)$

# Operator Precedence

- Operators of highest precedence evaluated first (bind more tightly).

For instance, multiplication (\*) has higher precedence than addition (+)

- Needs to be reflected in grammar

# Precedence Table - Sample

	Fortran	Pascal	C/C++	Ada	SML
highest	**	*, /, div, mod	++, --	**	div, mod, /, *
	*, /	+, -	*, /, %	*, /, mod	+, -, ^
	+, -		+, -	+, -	::

# Precedence in Grammar

- Higher precedence translates to longer derivation chain

- Example:

$$\langle \text{exp} \rangle ::= \begin{array}{l} \theta \mid 1 \\ \mid \langle \text{exp} \rangle + \langle \text{exp} \rangle \mid \langle \text{exp} \rangle * \langle \text{exp} \rangle \end{array}$$

- Becomes

$$\langle \text{exp} \rangle ::= \langle \text{mult\_exp} \rangle \mid \langle \text{exp} \rangle + \langle \text{mult\_exp} \rangle$$
$$\langle \text{mult\_exp} \rangle ::= \langle \text{id} \rangle \mid \langle \text{mult\_exp} \rangle * \langle \text{id} \rangle$$
$$\langle \text{id} \rangle ::= \theta \mid 1$$

# How do we disambiguate in this case?

- Our old friend:

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \text{exp} \rangle & ::= \langle \text{factor} \rangle \\ & \quad | \langle \text{factor} \rangle + \langle \text{factor} \rangle \end{aligned}$$
$$\begin{aligned} \langle \text{factor} \rangle & ::= \langle \text{bin} \rangle \\ & \quad | \langle \text{bin} \rangle * \langle \text{exp} \rangle \end{aligned}$$
$$\langle \text{bin} \rangle ::= 0 \mid 1$$

- How do we make multiplication have higher precedence than addition?



# Moving On With Richer Expressions

- How do we extend the grammar to support nested additions, e.g.,  $1 * (0 + 1)$

$\langle \text{exp} \rangle ::= \langle \text{factor} \rangle$   
 $\quad \quad \quad | \langle \text{factor} \rangle + \langle \text{exp} \rangle$

$\langle \text{factor} \rangle ::= \langle \text{bin} \rangle$   
 $\quad \quad \quad | \langle \text{bin} \rangle * \langle \text{factor} \rangle$

$\langle \text{bin} \rangle ::= 0 \mid 1$

# Moving On With Richer Expressions

- How do we extend the grammar to support nested additions, e.g.,  $1 * (0 + 1)$

$\langle \text{exp} \rangle ::= \langle \text{factor} \rangle$   
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$\langle \text{factor} \rangle ::= \langle \text{bin} \rangle$   
 $\quad \quad \quad | \langle \text{bin} \rangle * \langle \text{factor} \rangle$

$\langle \text{bin} \rangle ::= 0 \mid 1 \mid ( \langle \text{exp} \rangle )$

# Moving On With Richer Expressions

- How do we extend the grammar to support other operations, subtraction and division?

$\langle \text{exp} \rangle ::= \langle \text{factor} \rangle$   
 $\quad \quad \quad | \langle \text{factor} \rangle + \langle \text{exp} \rangle | \langle \text{factor} \rangle - \langle \text{exp} \rangle$

$\langle \text{factor} \rangle ::= \langle \text{bin} \rangle$   
 $\quad \quad \quad | \langle \text{bin} \rangle * \langle \text{factor} \rangle | \langle \text{bin} \rangle / \langle \text{factor} \rangle$

$\langle \text{bin} \rangle ::= 0 | 1 | ( \langle \text{exp} \rangle )$

# Disambiguating Grammars – Dangling Else

- $\text{stmt} ::= \dots$ 
  - | **if** ( expr ) stmt
  - | **if** ( expr ) stmt **else** stmt
  
- How can we parse  
if (e1) if (e2) s1 else s2 ?

# How do you know you have ambiguity?

- The Ocaml parser generator (ocamlyacc) will report ambiguity in the grammar as “conflicts”:
- ***Shift/reduce:*** Usually caused by lack of associativity or precedence information in grammar
- ***Reduce/reduce:*** can't decide between two different rules to reduce by; Not always clear what the problem is, but often right-hand side of one production is the suffix of another
- We will explain what these conflicts mean next time!

# Parser Code

- Ocaml yacc is a parser generator for Ocaml
  - Similar generators exist for other languages
  - Search under: Yacc, Bison, Menhir...
  - Another family: Antlr
- Input: high level specification (<grammar>.mly file)
- Output: tokens (<*grammar*>.mli) and generated parser (<*grammar*>.ml)
  - <*grammar*>.ml defines a parsing function per entry point
  - Parsing function takes a lexing function (lexer buffer to token) and a lexer buffer as arguments
  - Returns semantic attribute of corresponding entry point

# Ocamlyacc Input

- *<grammar>*.mly File format:

%o{

*<header>*

%o}

*<declarations>*

%o%

*<rules>*

%o%

*<trailer>*

# Ocamlyacc <*header*>

- Contains arbitrary Ocaml code
- Typically used to give types and functions needed for the semantic actions of rules and to give specialized error recovery
- May be omitted
- <*trailer*> similar. Possibly used to call parser



# Ocamlyacc Input

- *<grammar>.mly* File format:

%{

*<header>*

%}

*<declarations>*

%%

*<rules>*

%%

*<trailer>*

# Ocamlyacc *<declarations>*

- **%token** *symbol ... symbol*  
Declare given symbols as tokens
- **%token** *<type> symbol ... symbol*
- Declare given symbols as token constructors, taking an argument of type *<type>*
- **%start** *symbol ... symbol*  
Declare given symbols as entry points; functions of same names in *<grammar>.ml*

# Ocamlyacc < *declarations* >

- **%type** < *type* > *symbol* ... *symbol*

Specify type of attributes for given symbols.  
Mandatory for start symbols

- **%left** *symbol* ... *symbol*
- **%right** *symbol* ... *symbol*
- **%nonassoc** *symbol* ... *symbol*

Associate precedence and associativity to given symbols. Same line, same precedence; earlier line, lower precedence (broadest scope)

# Ocamlyacc Input

- *<grammar>*.mly File format:

%{

*<header>*

%}

*<declarations>*

%%

*<rules>*

%%

*<trailer>*

# Ocamlyacc *<rules>*

- *nonterminal* :  
    *symbol ... symbol { semantic\_action }*  
    | ...  
    | *symbol ... symbol { semantic\_action }*  
    ;  
■ Semantic actions are arbitrary Ocaml expressions  
■ Must be of same type as declared (or inferred) for *nonterminal*  
■ Access semantic attributes (values) of symbols by position: \$1 for first symbol, \$2 to second ...

# Example - Grammar

A slight variation of what we've seen earlier:

$\text{Expr} ::= \text{Term} \mid \text{Term} + \text{Expr} \mid \text{Term} - \text{Expr}$

$\text{Term} ::= \text{Factor} \mid \text{Factor} * \text{Term} \mid \text{Factor} / \text{Term}$

$\text{Factor} ::= \text{Id} \mid ( \text{Expr} )$

# Example - Base types

```
Expr ::= Term | Term + Expr | Term - Expr
Term  ::= Factor | Factor * Term | Factor / Term
Factor ::= Id | ( Expr )
```

```
(* File: expr.ml *)
type expr =
  | Term_as_Expr of term
  | Plus_Expr of (term * expr)
  | Minus_Expr of (term * expr)
and term =
  | Factor_as_Term of factor
  | Mult_Term of (factor * term)
  | Div_Term of (factor * term)
and factor =
  | Id_as_Factor of string
  | Parenthesized_Expr_as_Factor of expr
```

# Example - Lexer

```
Expr ::= Term | Term + Expr | Term - Expr
Term  ::= Factor | Factor * Term | Factor / Term
Factor ::= Id | ( Expr )
```

```
{ open Exprparse }
```

```
let numeric = ['0' - '9']
```

```
let letter = ['a' - 'z' 'A' - 'Z']
```

```
rule token = parse
```

```
| "+" {Plus_token}
```

```
| "-" {Minus_token}
```

```
| "*" {Times_token}
```

```
| "/" {Divide_token}
```

```
| "(" {Left_parenthesis}
```

```
| ")" {Right_parenthesis}
```

```
| letter (letter|numeric|"_" )* as id {Id_token id}
```

```
| [' ' '\t' '\n'] {token lexbuf}
```

```
| eof {EOL}
```



# Example - Parser (exprparse.mly)

```
%{  
    open Expr  
%}  
%token <string> Id_token  
%token Left_parenthesis Right_parenthesis  
%token Times_token Divide_token  
%token Plus_token Minus_token  
%token EOL  
  
%start main  
%type <expr> main  
%%
```

# Example - Parser (exprparse.mly)

```
Expr ::= Term | Term + Expr | Term - Expr
Term  ::= Factor | Factor * Term | Factor / Term
Factor ::= Id | ( Expr )
```

expr :

term

{ Term\_as\_Expr \$1 }

| term Plus\_token expr

{ Plus\_Expr (\$1, \$3) }

| term Minus\_token expr

{ Minus\_Expr (\$1, \$3) }

## Example - Base types

```
(* File: expr.ml *)
type expr =
  Term_as_Expr of term
  | Plus_Expr of (term * expr)
  | Minus_Expr of (term * expr)
```

# Example - Parser (exprparse.mly)

```
Expr ::= Term | Term + Expr | Term - Expr
Term  ::= Factor | Factor * Term | Factor / Term
Factor ::= Id | ( Expr )
```

term:

factor

{ Factor\_as\_Term \$1 }

| factor Times\_token term

{ Mult\_Term (\$1, \$3) }

| factor Divide\_token term

{ Div\_Term (\$1, \$3) }

## Example - Base types

```
(* File: expr.ml *)
type expr =
  Term_as_Expr of term
  | Plus_Expr of (term * expr)
  | Minus_Expr of (term * expr)
and term =
  Factor_as_Term of factor
  | Mult_Term of (factor * term)
  | Div_Term of (factor * term)
```

# Example - Parser (exprparse.mly)

```
Expr ::= Term | Term + Expr | Term - Expr
Term  ::= Factor | Factor * Term | Factor / Term
Factor ::= Id | ( Expr )
```

factor:

```
  Id_token
    { Id_as_Factor $1 }
| Left_parenthesis expr Right_parenthesis
  { Parenthesized_Expr_as_Factor $2 }
```

main:

```
| expr EOL
  { $1 }
```

Recall, we previously defined:

```
%start main
%type <expr> main
```

## Example - Base types

```
(* File: expr.ml *)
type expr =
  Term_as_Expr of term
  | Plus_Expr of (term * expr)
  | Minus_Expr of (term * expr)
and term =
  Factor_as_Term of factor
  | Mult_Term of (factor * term)
  | Div_Term of (factor * term)
and factor =
  Id_as_Factor of string
  | Parenthesized_Expr_as_Factor of expr
```

- Call:

- `$ ocaml yacc options exprparse.mly`

- Get:

- Tokens: `exprparse.mli` (can be used in lexer)

- Parser: `exprparse.ml`  
(included in the rest of code)

# Example - Using Parser

```
# #use "expr.ml";;  
...  
# #use "exprparse.ml";;  
...  
# #use "exprlex.ml";;  
...  
# let test s =  
    let lexbuf = Lexing.from_string (s ^ "\n") in  
    main token lexbuf;;
```

# Example - Using Parser

```
# test "a + b";;
```

```
- : expr =
```

```
Plus_Expr
```

```
(Factor_as_Term (Id_as_Factor "a"),
```

```
Term_as_Expr
```

```
(Factor_as_Term (Id_as_Factor "b"))
```

```
)
```

## Example - Base types

```
(* File: expr.ml *)
```

```
type expr =
```

```
  Term_as_Expr of term
```

```
  | Plus_Expr of (term * expr)
```

```
  | Minus_Expr of (term * expr)
```

```
and term =
```

```
  Factor_as_Term of factor
```

```
  | Mult_Term of (factor * term)
```

```
  | Div_Term of (factor * term)
```

```
and factor =
```

```
  Id_as_Factor of string
```

```
  | Parenthesized_Expr_as_Factor of expr
```

# LR Parsing

General plan:

- Read tokens left to right (L)
- Create a rightmost derivation (R)

How is this possible?

- Start at the bottom (left) and work your way up
- Last step has only one non-terminal to be replaced so is right-most
- Working backwards, replace mixed strings by non-terminals
- Always proceed so that there are no non-terminals to the right of the string to be replaced



Example:  $\langle \text{Sum} \rangle ::= 0 \mid 1 \mid (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle)$   
 $\mid \langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle$

( 0 + 1 ) + 0



Example:  $\langle \text{Sum} \rangle ::= 0 \mid 1 \mid (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle)$   
 $\mid \langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle$

( 0 + 1 ) + 0

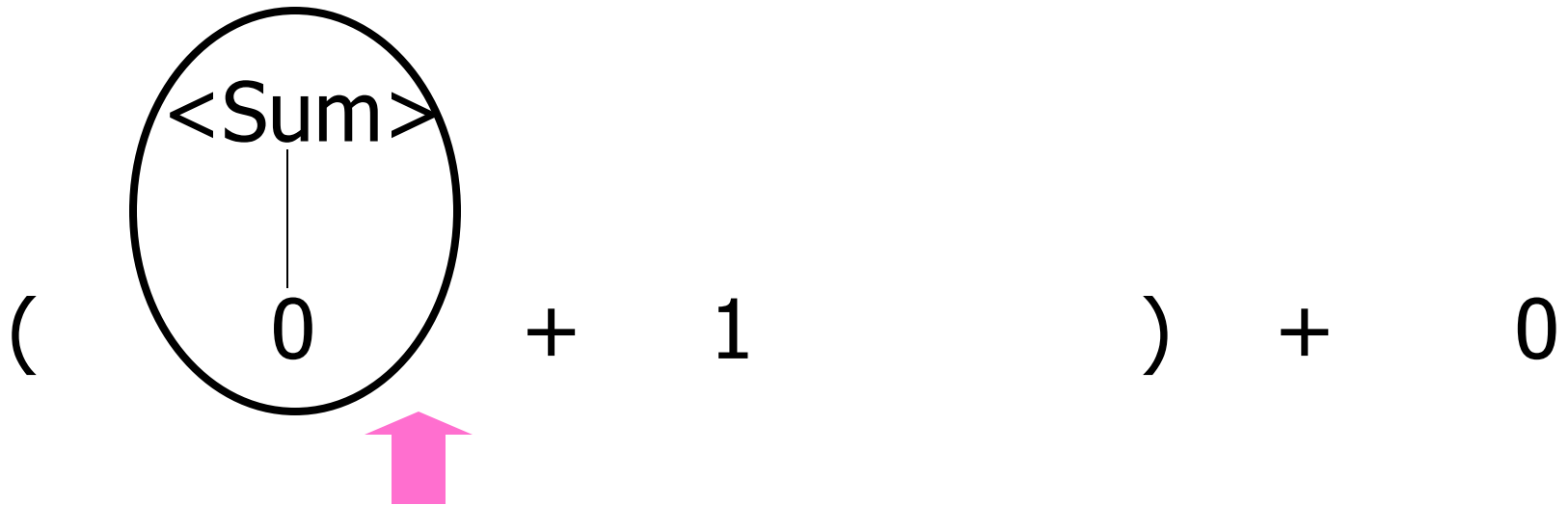


Example:  $\langle \text{Sum} \rangle ::= 0 \mid 1 \mid (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle)$   
 $\mid \langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle$

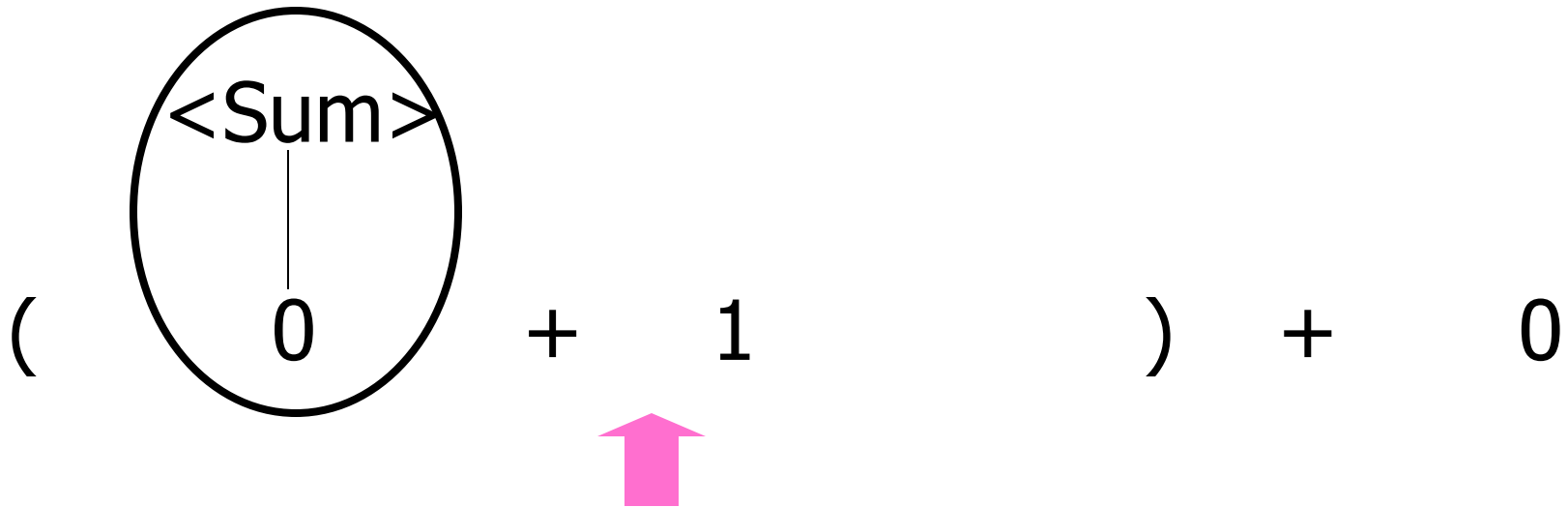
( 0 + 1 ) + 0



Example:  $\langle \text{Sum} \rangle ::= 0 \mid 1 \mid (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle)$   
 $\mid \langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle$



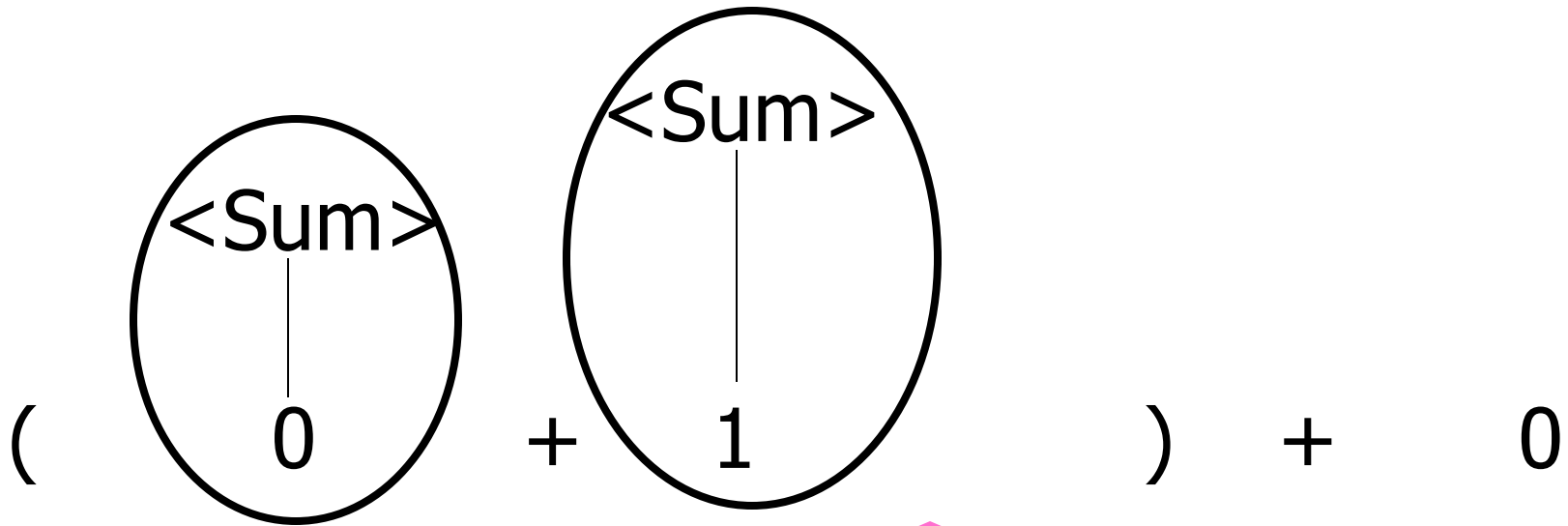
Example:  $\langle \text{Sum} \rangle ::= 0 \mid 1 \mid (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle)$   
 $\mid \langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle$



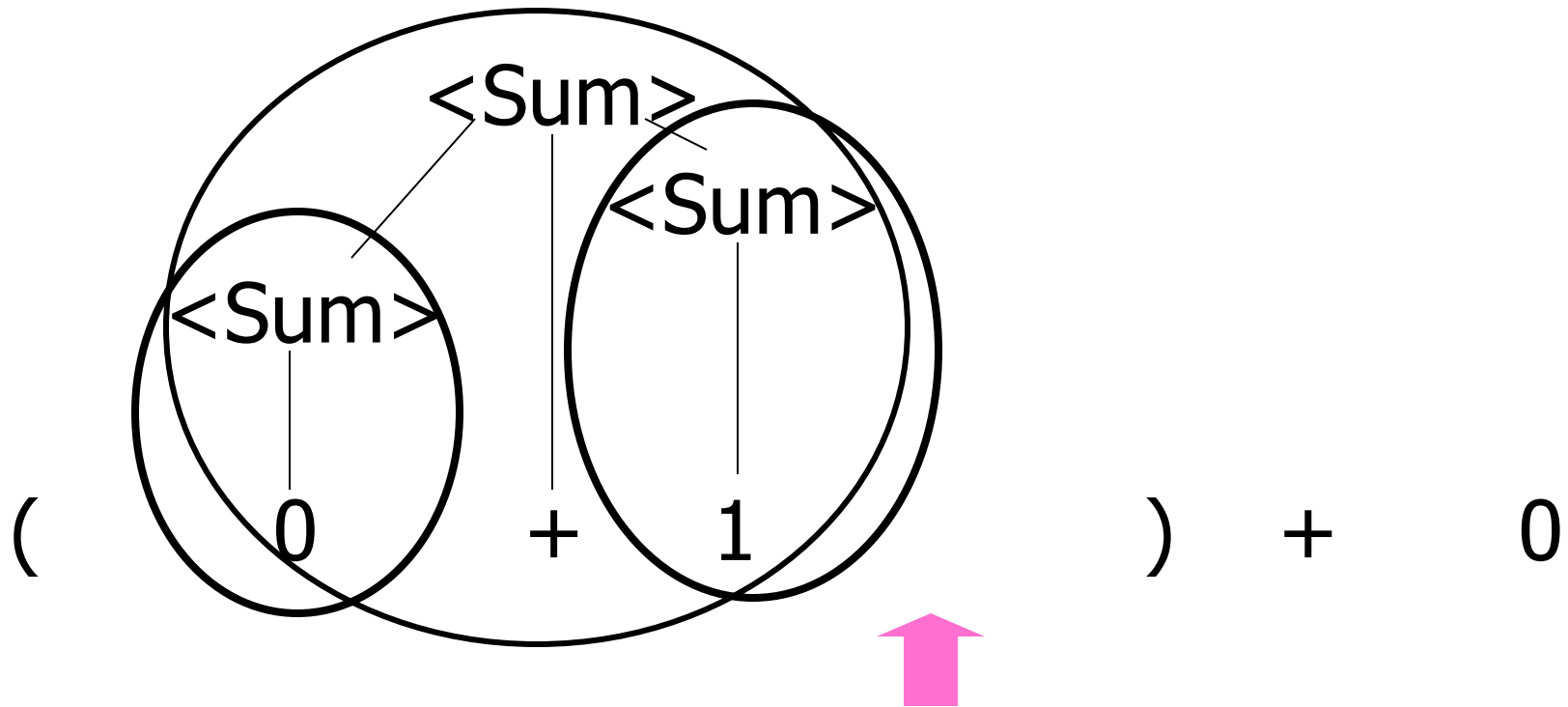
Example:  $\langle \text{Sum} \rangle ::= 0 \mid 1 \mid (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle)$   
 $\mid \langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle$



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 $\mid \langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle$

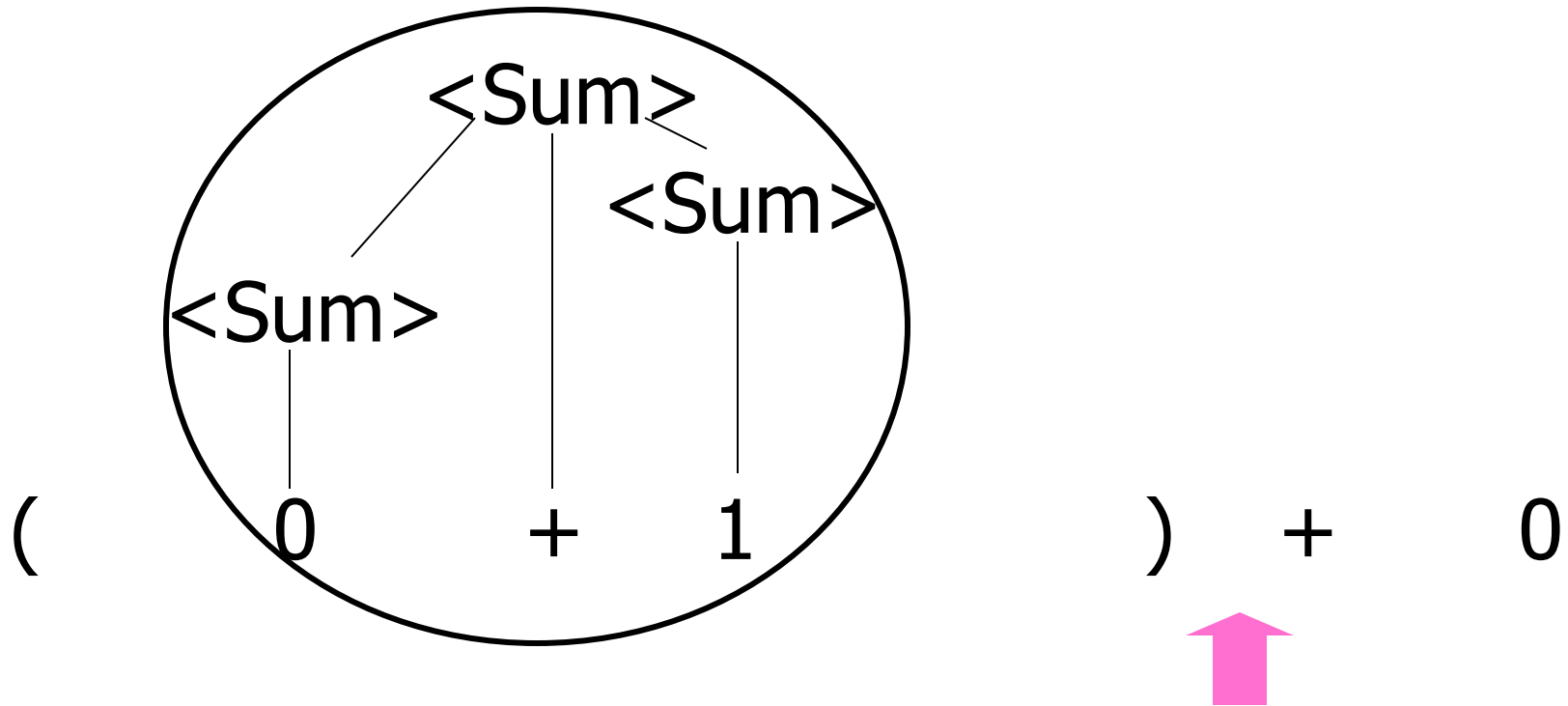


Example:  $\langle \text{Sum} \rangle ::= 0 \mid 1 \mid (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle)$   
 $\mid \langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle$

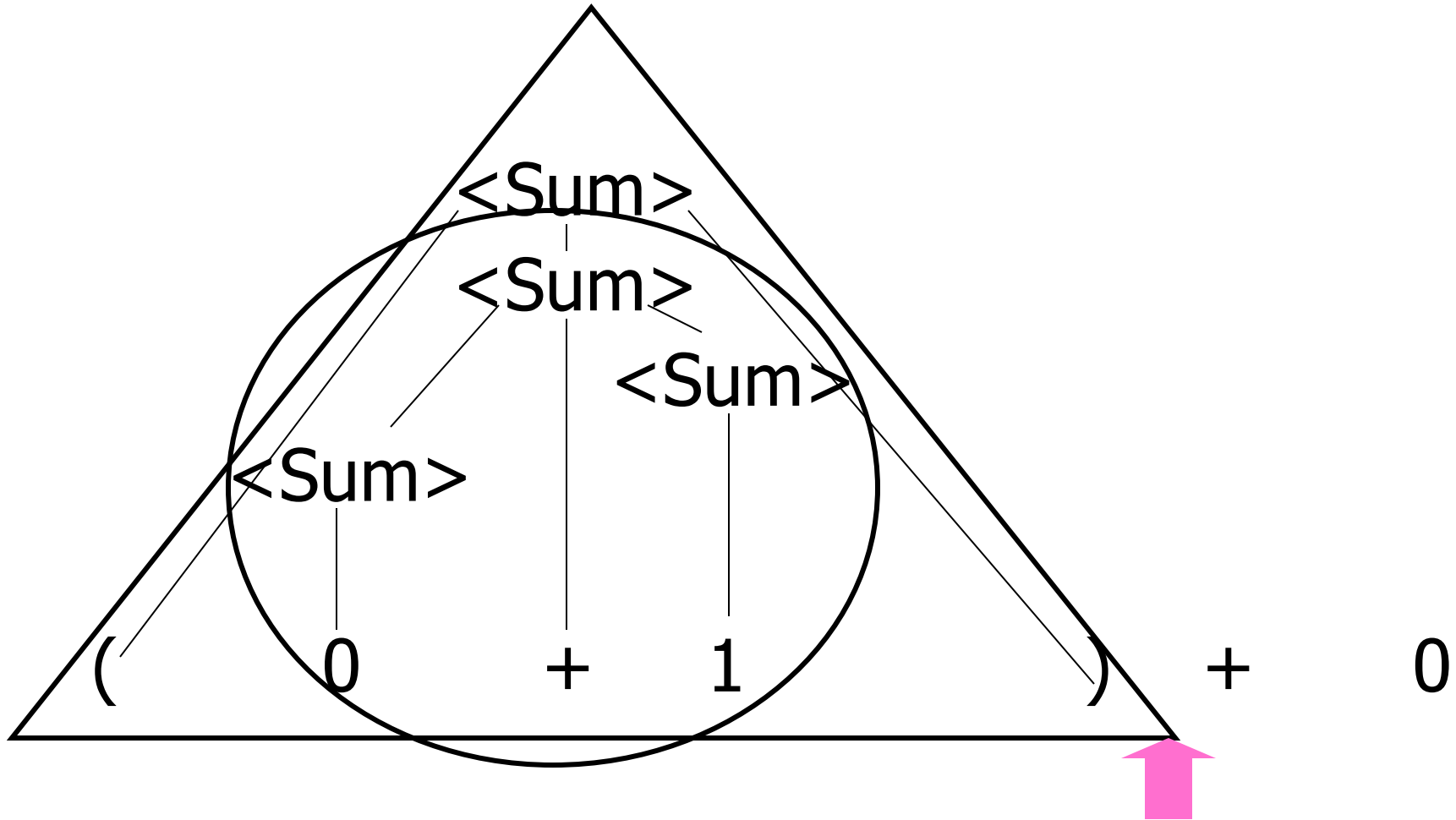




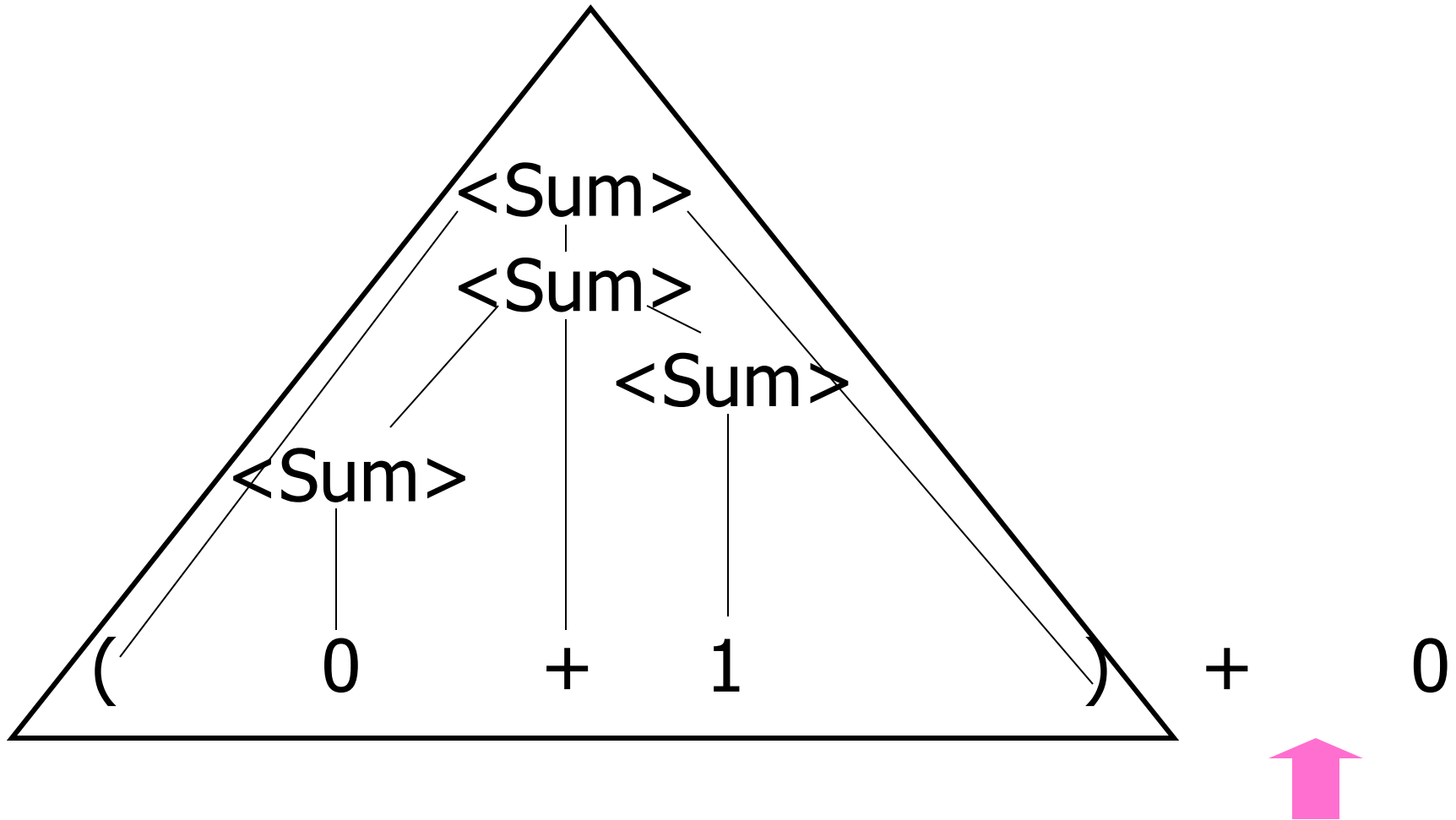
Example:  $\langle \text{Sum} \rangle ::= 0 \mid 1 \mid (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle)$   
 $\mid \langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle$



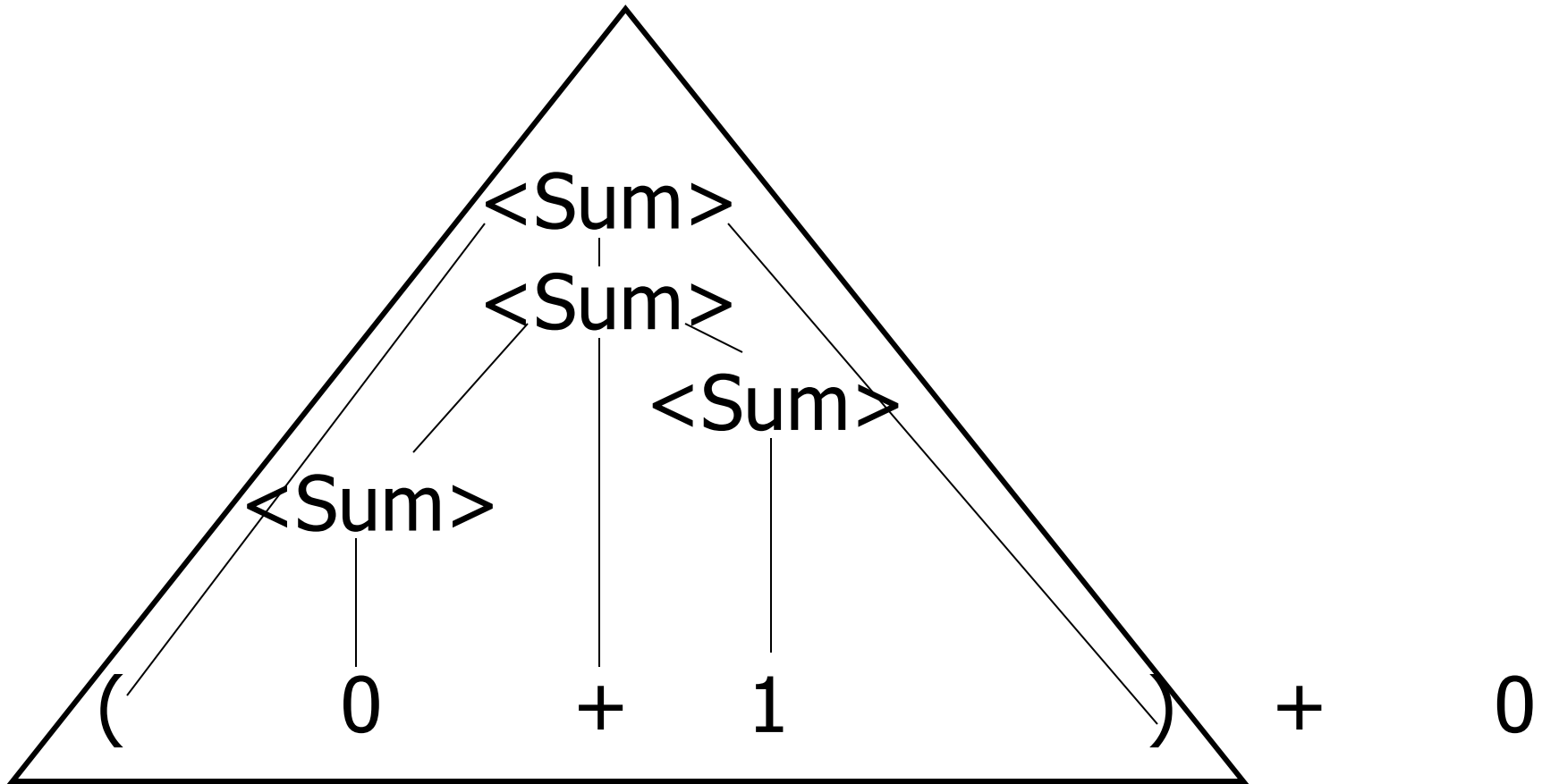
Example:  $\langle \text{Sum} \rangle ::= 0 \mid 1 \mid (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle)$   
 $\mid \langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle$



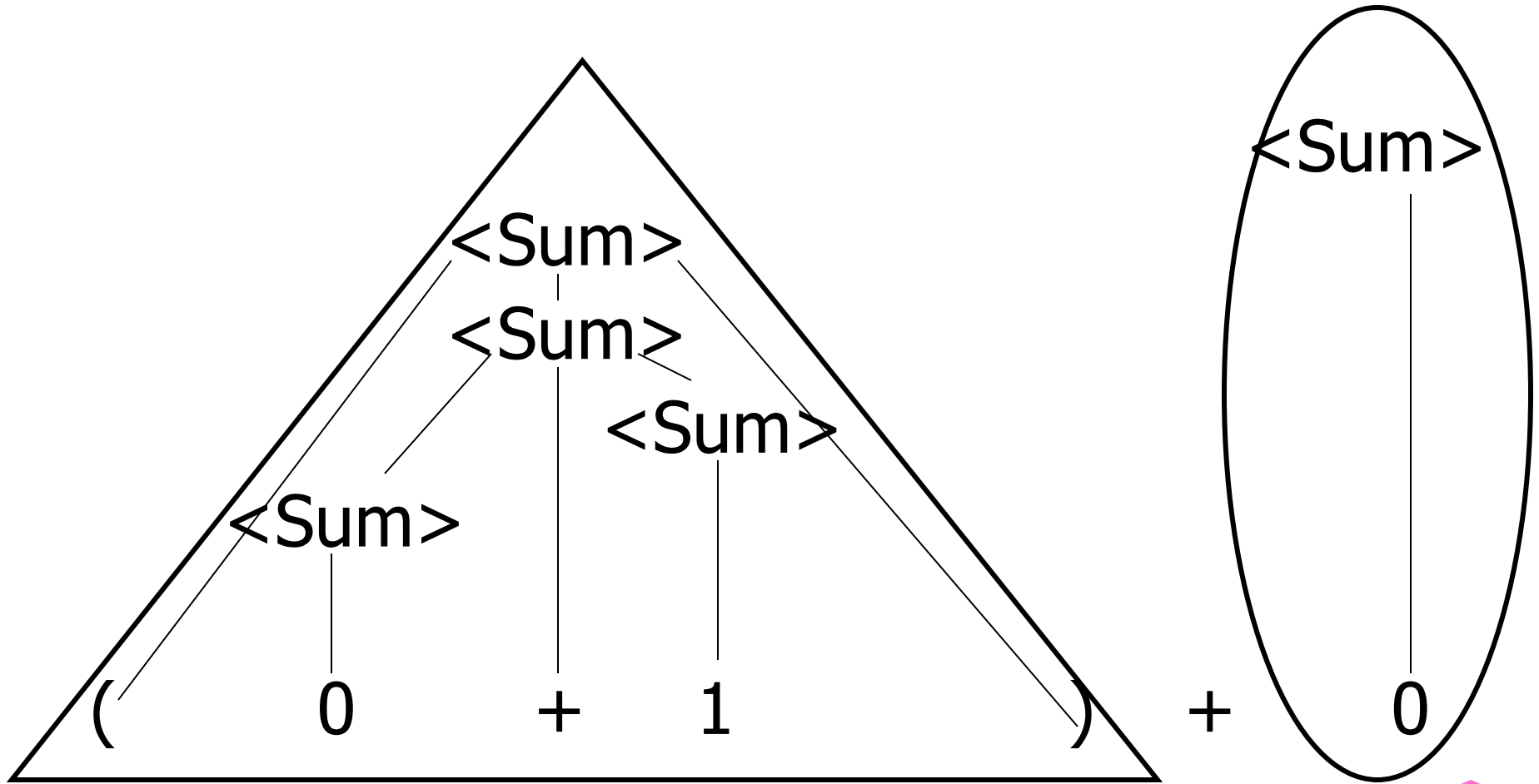
Example:  $\langle \text{Sum} \rangle ::= 0 \mid 1 \mid (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle)$   
 $\mid \langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle$



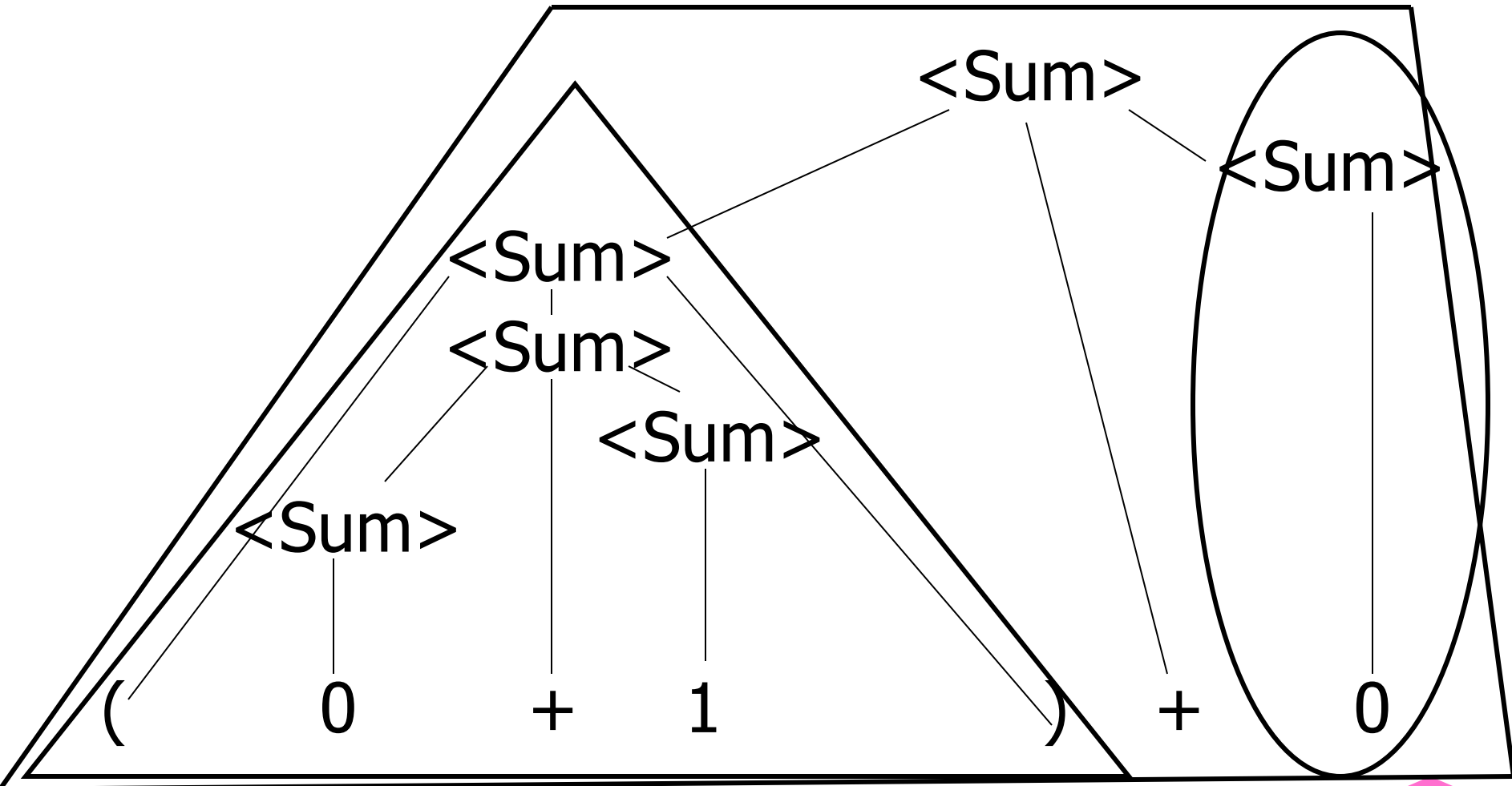
Example:  $\langle \text{Sum} \rangle ::= 0 \mid 1 \mid (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle)$   
 $\mid \langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle$



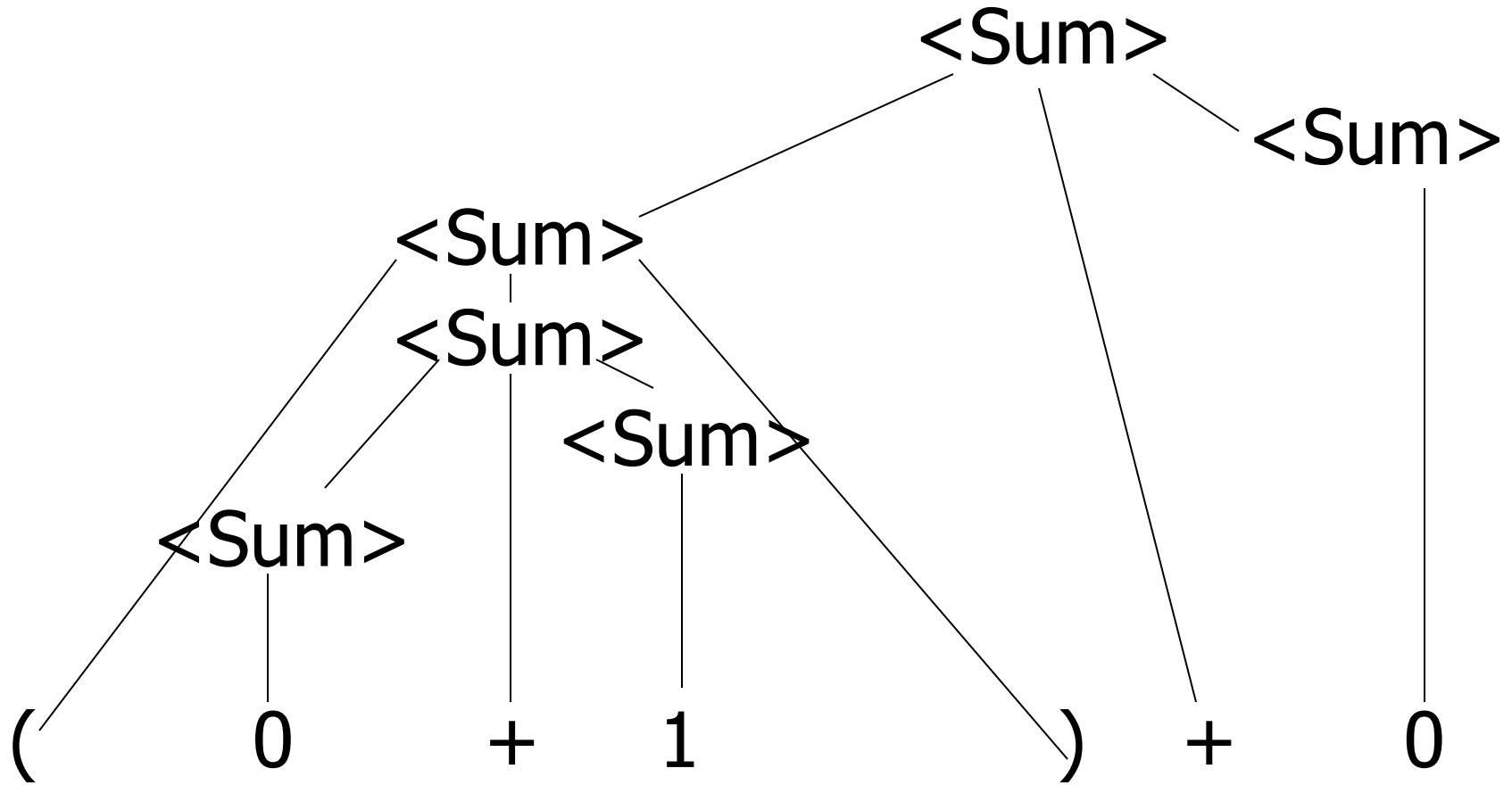
Example:  $\langle \text{Sum} \rangle ::= 0 \mid 1 \mid (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle)$   
 $\mid \langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle$



Example:  $\langle \text{Sum} \rangle ::= 0 \mid 1 \mid (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle) \mid \langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle$



Example:  $\langle \text{Sum} \rangle ::= 0 \mid 1 \mid (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle)$   
 $\mid \langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle$



# LR Parsing Tables

- Build a pair of tables, Action and Goto, from the grammar
  - This is the hardest part, we omit here
  - Rows labeled by states
  - For Action, columns labeled by terminals and “end-of-tokens” marker
    - (more generally strings of terminals of fixed length)
  - For Goto, columns labeled by non-terminals



# Action and Goto Tables

- Given a state and the next input, Action table says either
  - **shift** and go to state  $n$ , or
  - **reduce** by production  $k$  (explained in a bit)
  - **accept** or **error**
- Given a state and a non-terminal, Goto table says
  - go to state  $m$

# LR(i) Parsing Algorithm

- Based on push-down automata
- Uses states and transitions (as recorded in Action and Goto tables)
- Uses a stack containing states, terminals and non-terminals

# LR(i) Parsing Algorithm

0. Insure token stream ends in special “end-of-tokens” symbol
1. Start in state 1 with an empty stack
2. Push **state**(1) onto stack
- 3. Look at next  $i$  tokens from token stream ( $toks$ ) (don't remove yet)
4. If top symbol on stack is **state**( $n$ ), look up action in Action table at  $(n, toks)$

# LR(i) Parsing Algorithm

5. If action = **shift**  $m$ ,

- a) Remove the top token from token stream and push it onto the stack
- b) Push **state**( $m$ ) onto stack
- c) Go to step 3

# LR(i) Parsing Algorithm

6. If action = **reduce**  $k$  where production  $k$  is  
 $E ::= u$
- a) Remove  $2 * \text{length}(u)$  symbols from stack ( $u$  and all the interleaved states)
  - b) If new top symbol on stack is **state**( $m$ ), look up new state  $p$  in  $\text{Goto}(m, E)$
  - c) Push  $E$  onto the stack, then push **state**( $p$ ) onto the stack
  - d) Go to step 3

# LR(i) Parsing Algorithm

7. If action = **accept**

- Stop parsing, return success

8. If action = **error**,

- Stop parsing, return failure

Example:  $\langle \text{Sum} \rangle = 0 \mid 1 \mid (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle)$   
 $\mid \langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle$

$\langle \text{Sum} \rangle \Rightarrow$

$= \square (0 + 1) + 0$  shift

# LR(i) Parsing Algorithm

0. Insure token stream ends in special “end-of-tokens” symbol
1. Start in state 1 with an empty stack
2. Push **state**(1) onto stack
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 $\mid \langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle$

$\langle \text{Sum} \rangle \Rightarrow$

$= \square (0 + 1) + 0$       shift

# LR(i) Parsing Algorithm

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- a) Remove the top token from token stream and push it onto the stack
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Example:  $\langle \text{Sum} \rangle = 0 \mid 1 \mid (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle)$   
 $\mid \langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle$

$\langle \text{Sum} \rangle \Rightarrow$

$= (\square 0 + 1) + 0$       shift  
 $= \square (0 + 1) + 0$       shift

Example:  $\langle \text{Sum} \rangle = 0 \mid 1 \mid (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle)$   
 $\mid \langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle$

$\langle \text{Sum} \rangle \Rightarrow$

$\Rightarrow (0 \square + 1) + 0$       reduce  
 $= (\square 0 + 1) + 0$       shift  
 $= \square (0 + 1) + 0$       shift

# LR(i) Parsing Algorithm

6. If action = **reduce**  $k$  where production  $k$  is

$E ::= u$

- a) Remove  $2 * \text{length}(u)$  symbols from stack ( $u$  and all the interleaved states)
- b) If new top symbol on stack is **state**( $m$ ), look up new state  $p$  in  $\text{Goto}(m, E)$
- c) Push  $E$  onto the stack, then push **state**( $p$ ) onto the stack
- d) Go to step 3

Example:  $\langle \text{Sum} \rangle = 0 \mid 1 \mid (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle)$   
 $\mid \langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle$

$\langle \text{Sum} \rangle \Rightarrow$

$= (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle \square + 1) + 0$       shift  
 $\Rightarrow (0 \square + 1) + 0$       reduce  
 $= (\square 0 + 1) + 0$       shift  
 $= \square (0 + 1) + 0$       shift

Example:  $\langle \text{Sum} \rangle = 0 \mid 1 \mid (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle)$   
 $\mid \langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle$

$\langle \text{Sum} \rangle \Rightarrow$

$=$	$( \langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \square 1 ) + 0$	shift
$=$	$( \langle \text{Sum} \rangle \square + 1 ) + 0$	shift
$\Rightarrow$	$( 0 \square + 1 ) + 0$	reduce
$=$	$( \square 0 + 1 ) + 0$	shift
$=$	$\square ( 0 + 1 ) + 0$	shift

Example:  $\langle \text{Sum} \rangle = 0 \mid 1 \mid (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle)$   
 $\mid \langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle$

$\langle \text{Sum} \rangle \Rightarrow$

$\Rightarrow ( \langle \text{Sum} \rangle + 1 \square ) + 0$	reduce
$= ( \langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \square 1 ) + 0$	shift
$= ( \langle \text{Sum} \rangle \square + 1 ) + 0$	shift
$\Rightarrow ( 0 \square + 1 ) + 0$	reduce
$= ( \square 0 + 1 ) + 0$	shift
$= \square ( 0 + 1 ) + 0$	shift



Example:  $\langle \text{Sum} \rangle = 0 \mid 1 \mid (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle)$   
 $\mid \langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle$

$\langle \text{Sum} \rangle \Rightarrow$

$\Rightarrow (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle \square) + 0$  reduce  
 $\Rightarrow (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle + 1 \square) + 0$  reduce  
 $= (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \square 1) + 0$  shift  
 $= (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle \square + 1) + 0$  shift  
 $\Rightarrow (0 \square + 1) + 0$  reduce  
 $= (\square 0 + 1) + 0$  shift  
 $= \square (0 + 1) + 0$  shift

# LR(i) Parsing Algorithm

6. If action = **reduce**  $k$  where production  $k$  is  
 $E ::= u$
- a) Remove  $2 * \text{length}(u)$  symbols from stack ( $u$  and all the interleaved states)
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  - c) Push  $E$  onto the stack, then push **state**( $p$ ) onto the stack
  - d) Go to step 3

Example:  $\langle \text{Sum} \rangle = 0 \mid 1 \mid (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle)$   
 $\mid \langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle$

$\langle \text{Sum} \rangle \Rightarrow$

$= (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle \square) + 0$  shift  
 $\Rightarrow (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle \square) + 0$  reduce  
 $\Rightarrow (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle + 1 \square) + 0$  reduce  
 $= (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \square 1) + 0$  shift  
 $= (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle \square + 1) + 0$  shift  
 $\Rightarrow (0 \square + 1) + 0$  reduce  
 $= (\square 0 + 1) + 0$  shift  
 $= \square (0 + 1) + 0$  shift

Example:  $\langle \text{Sum} \rangle = 0 \mid 1 \mid (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle)$   
 $\mid \langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle$

$\langle \text{Sum} \rangle \Rightarrow$

$\Rightarrow (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle) \square + 0$       reduce  
 $= (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle \square) + 0$       shift  
 $\Rightarrow (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle \square) + 0$       reduce  
 $\Rightarrow (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle + 1 \square) + 0$       reduce  
 $= (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \square 1) + 0$       shift  
 $= (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle \square + 1) + 0$       shift  
 $\Rightarrow (0 \square + 1) + 0$       reduce  
 $= (\square 0 + 1) + 0$       shift  
 $= \square (0 + 1) + 0$       shift

Example:  $\langle \text{Sum} \rangle = 0 \mid 1 \mid (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle)$   
 $\mid \langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle$

$\langle \text{Sum} \rangle \Rightarrow$

=	$\langle \text{Sum} \rangle \square + 0$	shift
=>	$(\langle \text{Sum} \rangle) \square + 0$	reduce
=	$(\langle \text{Sum} \rangle \square) + 0$	shift
=>	$(\langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle \square) + 0$	reduce
=>	$(\langle \text{Sum} \rangle + 1 \square) + 0$	reduce
=	$(\langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \square 1) + 0$	shift
=	$(\langle \text{Sum} \rangle \square + 1) + 0$	shift
=>	$(0 \square + 1) + 0$	reduce
=	$(\square 0 + 1) + 0$	shift
=	$\square (0 + 1) + 0$	shift

Example:  $\langle \text{Sum} \rangle = 0 \mid 1 \mid (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle)$   
 $\mid \langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle$

$\langle \text{Sum} \rangle \Rightarrow$

=	$\langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \square 0$	shift
=	$\langle \text{Sum} \rangle \square + 0$	shift
=>	$(\langle \text{Sum} \rangle) \square + 0$	reduce
=	$(\langle \text{Sum} \rangle \square) + 0$	shift
=>	$(\langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle \square) + 0$	reduce
=>	$(\langle \text{Sum} \rangle + 1 \square) + 0$	reduce
=	$(\langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \square 1) + 0$	shift
=	$(\langle \text{Sum} \rangle \square + 1) + 0$	shift
=>	$(0 \square + 1) + 0$	reduce
=	$(\square 0 + 1) + 0$	shift
=	$\square (0 + 1) + 0$	shift

Example:  $\langle \text{Sum} \rangle = 0 \mid 1 \mid (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle)$   
 $\mid \langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle$

$\langle \text{Sum} \rangle$	$\Rightarrow$		
	$\Rightarrow$	$\langle \text{Sum} \rangle + 0 \square$	reduce
	$=$	$\langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \square 0$	shift
	$=$	$\langle \text{Sum} \rangle \square + 0$	shift
	$\Rightarrow$	$( \langle \text{Sum} \rangle ) \square + 0$	reduce
	$=$	$( \langle \text{Sum} \rangle \square ) + 0$	shift
	$\Rightarrow$	$( \langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle \square ) + 0$	reduce
	$\Rightarrow$	$( \langle \text{Sum} \rangle + 1 \square ) + 0$	reduce
	$=$	$( \langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \square 1 ) + 0$	shift
	$=$	$( \langle \text{Sum} \rangle \square + 1 ) + 0$	shift
	$\Rightarrow$	$( 0 \square + 1 ) + 0$	reduce
	$=$	$( \square 0 + 1 ) + 0$	shift
	$=$	$\square ( 0 + 1 ) + 0$	shift

Example:  $\langle \text{Sum} \rangle = 0 \mid 1 \mid (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle)$   
 $\mid \langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle$

$\langle \text{Sum} \rangle$	$\Rightarrow \langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle \square$	reduce
	$\Rightarrow \langle \text{Sum} \rangle + 0 \square$	reduce
	$= \langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \square 0$	shift
	$= \langle \text{Sum} \rangle \square + 0$	shift
	$\Rightarrow (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle) \square + 0$	reduce
	$= (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle \square) + 0$	shift
	$\Rightarrow (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle \square) + 0$	reduce
	$\Rightarrow (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle + 1 \square) + 0$	reduce
	$= (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \square 1) + 0$	shift
	$= (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle \square + 1) + 0$	shift
	$\Rightarrow (0 \square + 1) + 0$	reduce
	$= (\square 0 + 1) + 0$	shift
	$= \square (0 + 1) + 0$	shift



Example:  $\langle \text{Sum} \rangle = 0 \mid 1 \mid (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle)$   
 $\mid \langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle$

$\langle \text{Sum} \rangle \square$	$\Rightarrow \langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle \square$	reduce
	$\Rightarrow \langle \text{Sum} \rangle + 0 \square$	reduce
	$= \langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \square 0$	shift
	$= \langle \text{Sum} \rangle \square + 0$	shift
	$\Rightarrow (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle) \square + 0$	reduce
	$= (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle \square) + 0$	shift
	$\Rightarrow (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle \square) + 0$	reduce
	$\Rightarrow (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle + 1 \square) + 0$	reduce
	$= (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \square 1) + 0$	shift
	$= (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle \square + 1) + 0$	shift
	$\Rightarrow (0 \square + 1) + 0$	reduce
	$= (\square 0 + 1) + 0$	shift
	$= \square (0 + 1) + 0$	shift

# LR(i) Parsing Algorithm

7. If action = **accept**

- Stop parsing, return success

8. If action = **error**,

- Stop parsing, return failure

# LR(i) Parsing Algorithm

- Based on push-down automata
- Uses states and transitions (as recorded in Action and Goto tables)
- Uses a stack containing states, terminals and non-terminals

# LR(i) Parsing Algorithm

0. Insure token stream ends in special “end-of-tokens” symbol
1. Start in state 1 with an empty stack
2. Push **state**(1) onto stack
- 3. Look at next  $i$  tokens from token stream ( $toks$ ) (don't remove yet)
4. If top symbol on stack is **state**( $n$ ), look up action in Action table at  $(n, toks)$

# LR(i) Parsing Algorithm

5. If action = **shift**  $m$ ,

- a) Remove the top token from token stream and push it onto the stack
- b) Push **state**( $m$ ) onto stack
- c) Go to step 3

# LR(i) Parsing Algorithm

6. If action = **reduce**  $k$  where production  $k$  is

$E ::= u$

- a) Remove  $2 * \text{length}(u)$  symbols from stack ( $u$  and all the interleaved states)
- b) If new top symbol on stack is **state**( $m$ ), look up new state  $p$  in  $\text{Goto}(m, E)$
- c) Push  $E$  onto the stack, then push **state**( $p$ ) onto the stack
- d) Go to step 3

# LR(i) Parsing Algorithm

7. If action = **accept**

- Stop parsing, return success

8. If action = **error**,

- Stop parsing, return failure

# Adding Synthesized Attributes

- Add to each **reduce** a rule for calculating the new synthesized attribute from the component attributes
- Add to each non-terminal pushed onto the stack, the attribute calculated for it
- When performing a **reduce**,
  - gather the recorded attributes from each non-terminal popped from stack
  - Compute new attribute for non-terminal pushed onto stack



# Shift-Reduce Conflicts

- **Problem:** can't decide whether the action for a state and input character should be **shift** or **reduce**
- Caused by ambiguity in grammar
- Usually caused by lack of associativity or precedence information in grammar

Example:  $\langle \text{Sum} \rangle = 0 \mid 1 \mid (\langle \text{Sum} \rangle)$   
 $\mid \langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle$

$\square 0 + 1 + 0$  shift  
 $\rightarrow 0 \square + 1 + 0$  reduce  
 $\rightarrow \langle \text{Sum} \rangle \square + 1 + 0$  shift  
 $\rightarrow \langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \square 1 + 0$  shift  
 $\rightarrow \langle \text{Sum} \rangle + 1 \square + 0$  reduce  
 $\rightarrow \langle \text{Sum} \rangle + \langle \text{Sum} \rangle \square + 0$

# Example - cont

- **Problem:** shift or reduce?
- You can shift-shift-reduce-reduce or reduce-shift-shift-reduce
- Shift first - right associative
- Reduce first- left associative

# Reduce - Reduce Conflicts

- **Problem:** can't decide between two different rules to reduce by
- Again caused by ambiguity in grammar
- **Symptom:** RHS of one production suffix of another
- Requires examining grammar and rewriting it
- Harder to solve than shift-reduce errors

# Example

- $S ::= A \mid aB$      $A ::= abc$      $B ::= bc$

□ abc                    shift

a □ bc                    shift

ab □ c                    shift

abc □

- Problem: reduce by  $B ::= bc$  then by  $S$   
 $::= aB$ , or by  $A ::= abc$  then  $S ::= A$ ?