CS 421 — Ambiguous Grammars / First and Follow Sets

Part 1 — Ambigous Grammars

These grammars are ambiguous. Prove that they are ambiguous by giving an input with two parse trees. Give an equivalent grammar that is unambiguous.

Example 1)

$$\begin{array}{cccc} E \rightarrow & E + E \\ \mid & E * E \\ \mid & -E \\ \mid & i \end{array}$$

Let * and + have their usual precedences, and associate to the left. Unary minus binds most tightly.

Problem 1)

$$\begin{array}{cccc} E \rightarrow & E & a & E \\ & \mid & E & b & E \\ & \mid & E & x & E \\ & \mid & E & y & E \\ & \mid & i \end{array}$$

Let a have highest precedence, associating to the left. Next is b, associating to the left. Then we have y associating to the right. Let x have the lowest precedence, and associate to the right.

Part 2 — First and Follow Sets

Calculate the first and follow sets for these grammars.

Example 2)

$$S \rightarrow a E b$$

$$\mid x$$

$$E \rightarrow x y$$

$$\mid \epsilon$$

Example 3)

$$\begin{array}{cccc} S \rightarrow & a \ E \ F \ b \\ & \mid & xE \ F \\ E \rightarrow & x \ y \\ & \mid & \epsilon \\ F \rightarrow & E \ z \ q \\ & \mid & w \ S \end{array}$$

Problem 2)

$$S \rightarrow a F E b$$

$$\mid xF E$$

$$E \rightarrow x y$$

$$\mid \epsilon$$

$$F \rightarrow E z q$$

$$\mid w S$$