

# Weeding

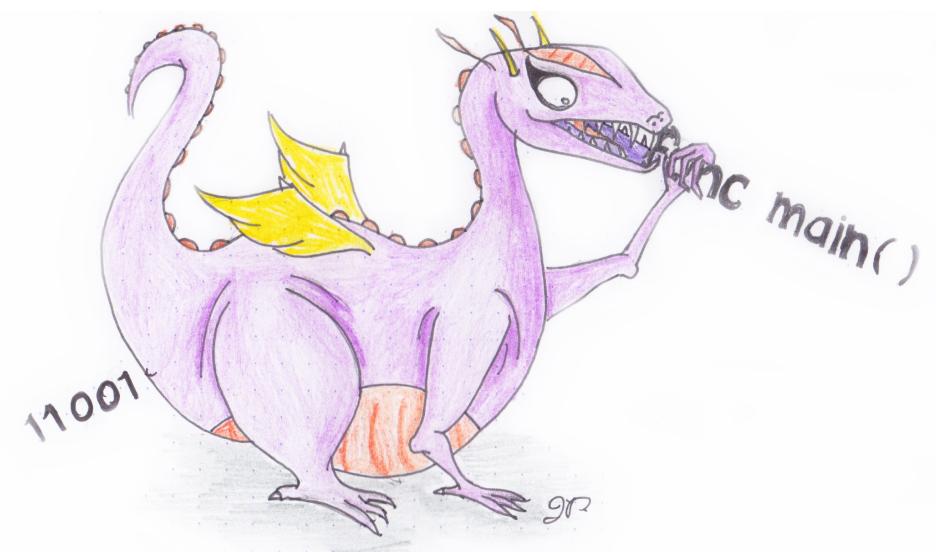
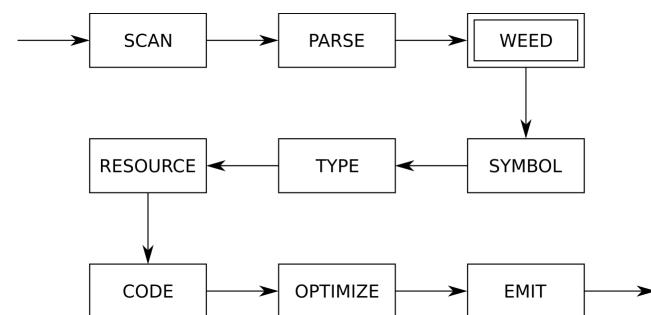
COMP 520: Compiler Design (4 credits)

Alexander Krolik

[alexander.krolik@mail.mcgill.ca](mailto:alexander.krolik@mail.mcgill.ca)

MWF 9:30-10:30, TR 1080

<http://www.cs.mcgill.ca/~cs520/2018/>



# Weeding

LALR(1) grammars (those used by `bison`) accept a subset of context-free languages.

Sometimes, programming languages require more power, such as when

- Our language is not context-free;
- Our language is not LALR(1) (for now let's ignore the fact that `bison` also now supports GLR); or
- An LALR(1) grammar is too big and complicated.

In these cases we can use a parsing trick

- Use a more liberal grammar which accepts a slightly larger language; and
- A separate phase can then `weed` out the bad parse trees.

# JOOS Cast Expressions

The JOOS grammar calls for casts calls for a rule

```
castexpression : '(' identifier ')' unaryexpressionnotminus
```

But this is not LALR(1)!

State 194

```
88 assignment: tIDENTIFIER . '=' expression
116 castexpression: '(' tIDENTIFIER . ')' unaryexpressionnotminus
118 postfixexpression: tIDENTIFIER . [tINSTANCEOF, tEQ, tLEQ, tGEQ, tNEQ, tAND, tOR,
      ')', '<', '>', '+', '-', '*', '/', '%']
127 receiver: tIDENTIFIER . ['.']

')'    shift, and go to state 232
'='    shift, and go to state 192

')'    [reduce using rule 118 (postfixexpression)]
'.'    reduce using rule 127 (receiver)
$default reduce using rule 118 (postfixexpression)
```

When the next token is ) , we can either reduce the identifier to an expression to form a parenthetical expression, or shift to form the cast.

# JOOS Cast Expressions

Instead, we can use a more general rule which avoids the shift-reduce conflict

```
castexpression : '(' expression ')' unaryexpressionnotminus
```

This rule is LALR(1), so `bison` can generate the corresponding parser. However, it will also accept invalid cast expressions like `(4) x`.

To fix the grammar, we can use a clever action

```
castexpression : '(' expression ')' unaryexpressionnotminus {  
    if ($2->kind != idK) yyerror("identifier expected");  
    $$ = makeEXPcast($2->val.idE.name, $4);  
}  
;
```

Hacks like this only work sometimes.

# Division by Constant 0

If we wish to disallow division by a constant zero, we can always rewrite our grammar

```
exp : tIDENTIFIER
      | tINTCONST
      | exp '*' exp
      | exp '/' pos
      | exp '+' exp
      | exp '-' exp
      | '(' exp ')'
;

pos : tIDENTIFIER
      | tINTCONSTPOSITIVE
      | exp '*' exp
      | exp '/' pos
      | exp '+' exp
      | exp '-' exp
      | '(' pos ')'
;
```

While this is correct, we have doubled the size of our grammar – this is not a very modular technique.

# Division by Constant 0

Instead, we use the default grammar and weed out division by constant 0 using a simple modular traversal.  
Return 1 if an illegal division occurs, 0 otherwise.

```
int zerodivEXP(EXP *e) {
    switch (e->kind) {
        case idK:
        case intconstK:
            return 0;
        case timesK:
            return zerodivEXP(e->val.timesE.left) ||
                   zerodivEXP(e->val.timesE.right);
        case divK:
            if (e->val.divE.right->kind==intconstK &&
                e->val.divE.right->val.intconstE == 0) return 1;

            return zerodivEXP(e->val.divE.left) ||
                   zerodivEXP(e->val.divE.right);
        case plusK:
            return zerodivEXP(e->val.plusE.left) ||
                   zerodivEXP(e->val.plusE.right);
        case minusK:
            return zerodivEXP(e->val.minusE.left) ||
                   zerodivEXP(e->val.minusE.right);
    }
}
```

# Requirements of JOOS Programs

- All local variable declarations must appear at the beginning of a statement sequence

```
int i;
int j;
i = 17;
int b; /* illegal */
b = i;
```

- Every branch through the body of a non-void method must terminate with a return statement

```
/* illegal */
public boolean foo(Object x, Object y) {
    if (x.equals(y))
        return true;
}
```

Also may not return from within a while-loop etc.

These are hard or impossible to express through an LALR(1) grammar.

# Weeding Local Declarations

Return 1 if declarations may follow, 0 otherwise.

```
int weedSTATEMENTlocals(STATEMENT *s, int localsallowed) {
    if (s == NULL) return 0;
    switch (s->kind) {
        case skipK:
            return 0;
        case localK:
            if (!localsallowed) {
                reportError("illegally placed local declaration", s->lineno);
            }
            return 1;
        case expK:
            return 0;
        case returnK:
            return 0;
        case sequenceK:
            int onlylocalsfirst = weedSTATEMENTlocals(
                s->val.sequenceS.first, localsallowed);
            int onlylocalssecond = weedSTATEMENTlocals(
                s->val.sequenceS.second, onlylocalsfirst);
            return onlylocalsfirst && onlylocalssecond;
```

# Weeding Local Declarations

```
case ifK:  
    weedSTATEMENTlocals(s->val.ifS.body, 0);  
    return 0;  
case ifelseK:  
    weedSTATEMENTlocals(s->val.ifelseS.thenpart, 0);  
    weedSTATEMENTlocals(s->val.ifelseS.elsepart, 0);  
    return 0;  
case whileK:  
    weedSTATEMENTlocals(s->val.whileS.body, 0);  
    return 0;  
case blockK:  
    weedSTATEMENTlocals(s->val.blockS.body, 1);  
    return 0;  
case superconsK:  
    return 1;  
}  
}
```

# Weeding Return Statements

Return 1 if a path returns, 0 otherwise

```
int weedSTATEMENTreturns(STATEMENT *s) {
    if (s != NULL) return 0;
    switch (s->kind) {
        case skipK:
            return 0;
        case localK:
            return 0;
        case expK:
            return 0;
        case returnK:
            return 1;
        case sequenceK:
            return weedSTATEMENTreturns(s->val.sequenceS.second);
        case ifK:
            return 0;
        case ifelseK:
            return weedSTATEMENTreturns(s->val.ifelseS.thenpart) &&
                   weedSTATEMENTreturns(s->val.ifelseS.elsepart);
        case whileK:
            return 0;
        case blockK:
            return weedSTATEMENTreturns(s->val.blockS.body);
        case superconsK:
            return 0;
    }
}
```