

4. Semantic analysis and transformation

Input: abstract program tree

Tasks:

name analysis

properties of program entities

type analysis, operator identification

transformation

Compiler module:

environment module

definition module

signature module

tree generator

Output: target tree, intermediate code, target program in case of source-to-source

Standard implementations and generators for compiler modules

Operations of the compiler modules are called at nodes of the abstract program tree

Model: dependent computations in trees

Specification: attribute grammars

generated: tree walking algorithm that calls operations
in specified contexts and in an admissible order

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Objectives:

Tasks and methods of semantic analysis

In the lecture:

Explanation of the

- tasks,
- compiler modules,
- principle of dependent computations in trees.

Suggested reading:

Kastens / Übersetzerbau, Section Introduction of Ch. 5 and 6

4.1 Attribute grammars

Attribute grammar (AG) specifies **dependent computations in the abstract program tree**
declarative: explicit dependencies only; a suitable order of execution is computed

Computations solve the tasks of semantic analysis and transformation

Generator produces a **plan for tree walks**

that execute calls of the computations,
 such that the specified dependencies are obeyed,
 computed values are propagated through the tree

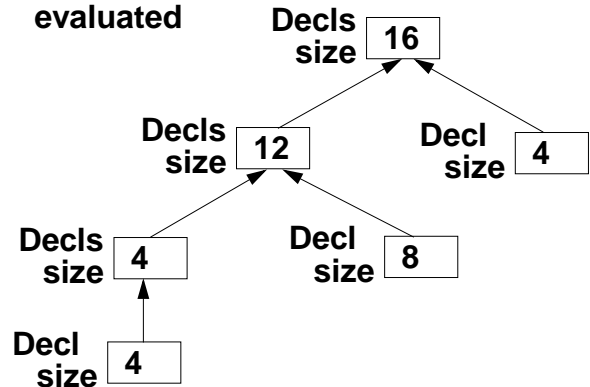
Result: attribute evaluator; applicable for any tree specified by the AG

Example: attribute grammar

```

RULE Decls ::= Decls Decl COMPUTE
    Decls[1].size =
        Add (Decls[2].size, Decl.size);
END;
RULE Decls ::= Decl COMPUTE
    Decls.size = Decl.size;
END;
RULE Decl ::= Type Name COMPUTE
    Decl.size = ...;
END;
  
```

tree with dependent attributes evaluated



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Objectives:

Get an informal idea of attribute grammars

In the lecture:

Explain computations in tree contexts using the example

Suggested reading:

Kastens / Übersetzerbau, Section 5, 5.1

Questions:

Why is it useful NOT to specify an evaluation order explicitly?

Basic concepts of attribute grammars

An AG specifies computations in tree:

expressed by **computations associated to productions of the abstract syntax**

```
RULE p: Y ::= u COMPUTE f(...); g(...); END;
```

computations $f(\dots)$ and $g(\dots)$ are executed in every tree context of type p

An AG specifies dependencies between computations:

expressed by **attributes associated to grammar symbols**

```
RULE p: X ::= u Y v COMPUTE      X.b = f(Y.a);
                                Y.a = g(...);
END;                             post-condition pre-condition
f(Y.a) uses the result of g(...); hence Y.a=g(...) will be executed before f(Y.a)
```

dependent computations in adjacent contexts:

```
RULE r: X ::= v Y w COMPUTE X.b = f(Y.a); END;
RULE p: Y ::= u      COMPUTE Y.a = g(...); END;
```

attributes may specify dependencies without propagating any value:

```
X.GotType = ResetTypeOf(...);
Y.Type = GetTypeOf(...) <- X.GotType;
ResetTypeOf will be called before GetTypeOf
```

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Objectives:

Get a basic understanding of AGs

In the lecture:

Explain

- the AG notation,
- dependent computations,
- adjacent contexts in trees

Suggested reading:

Kastens / Übersetzerbau, Section 5, 5.1

Assignments:

- Read and modify examples in Lido notation to introduce AGs

Definition of attribute grammars

An **attribute grammar** is defined by

a **context-free grammar** **G**, (abstract syntax, tree grammar)

for each **symbol** **X** of **G** a set of **attributes** **A(X)**, written $X.a$ if $a \in A(X)$

for each **production (rule)** **p** of **G** a set of **computations** of one of the forms

$X.a = f (\dots Y.b \dots)$ or $g (\dots Y.b \dots)$ where **X** and **Y** occur in **p**

Consistency and completeness of an AG:

Each $A(X)$ is partitioned into two disjoint subsets: $AI(X)$ and $AS(X)$

$AI(X)$: **inherited attributes** are computed in rules **p** where **X** is on the **right**-hand side of **p**

$AS(X)$: **synthesized attributes** are computed in rules **p** where **X** is on the **left**-hand side of **p**

Each rule **p**: $X ::= \dots Y \dots$ has exactly one computation

for all attributes of $AS(X)$, and

for all attributes of $AI(Y)$, for all symbol occurrences on the right-hand side of **p**

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Objectives:

Formal view on AGs

In the lecture:

The completeness and consistency rules are explained using the example of CI-69b

AG Example: Compute expression values

The AG specifies: The value of an expression is computed and printed:

```
ATTR value: int;
```

```
RULE: Root ::= Expr COMPUTE
      printf ("value is %d\n",
              Expr.value);
```

```
END;
```

```
TERM Number: int;
```

```
RULE: Expr ::= Number COMPUTE
      Expr.value = Number;
```

```
END;
```

```
RULE: Expr ::= Expr Opr Expr
      COMPUTE
```

```
      Expr[1].value = Opr.value;
```

```
      Opr.left  = Expr[2].value;
```

```
      Opr.right = Expr[3].value;
```

```
END;
```

```
SYMBOL Opr: left, right: int;
```

```
RULE: Opr ::= '+' COMPUTE
```

```
      Opr.value =
```

```
      ADD (Opr.left, Opr.right);
```

```
END;
```

```
RULE: Opr ::= '*' COMPUTE
```

```
      Opr.value =
```

```
      MUL (Opr.left, Opr.right);
```

```
END;
```

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Objectives:

Exercise formal definition

In the lecture:

- Show synthesized, inherited attributes.
- Check consistency and completeness.

Questions:

- Add a computation such that a pair of sets AI(X), AS(X) is no longer disjoint.
- Add a computation such that the AG is inconsistent.
- Which computations can be omitted without making the AG incomplete?
- What would the effect be if the order of the three computations on the bottom left of the slide was altered?

AG Binary numbers

Attributes: **L.v, B.v** value
 L.lg number of digits in the sequence L
 L.s, B.s scaling of B or the least significant digit of L

```

RULE p1:  D ::= L '.' L    COMPUTE
          D.v = ADD (L[1].v, L[2].v);
          L[1].s = 0;
          L[2].s = NEG (L[2].lg);
END;
RULE p2:  L ::= L B        COMPUTE
          L[1].v = ADD (L[2].v, B.v);
          B.s = L[1].s;
          L[2].s = ADD (L[1].s, 1);
          L[1].lg = ADD (L[2].lg, 1);
END;
RULE p3:  L ::= B          COMPUTE
          L.v = B.v;
          B.s = L.s;
          L.lg = 1;
END;
RULE p4:  B ::= '0'        COMPUTE
          B.v = 0;
END;
RULE p5:  B ::= '1'        COMPUTE
          B.v = Power2 (B.s);
END;

```

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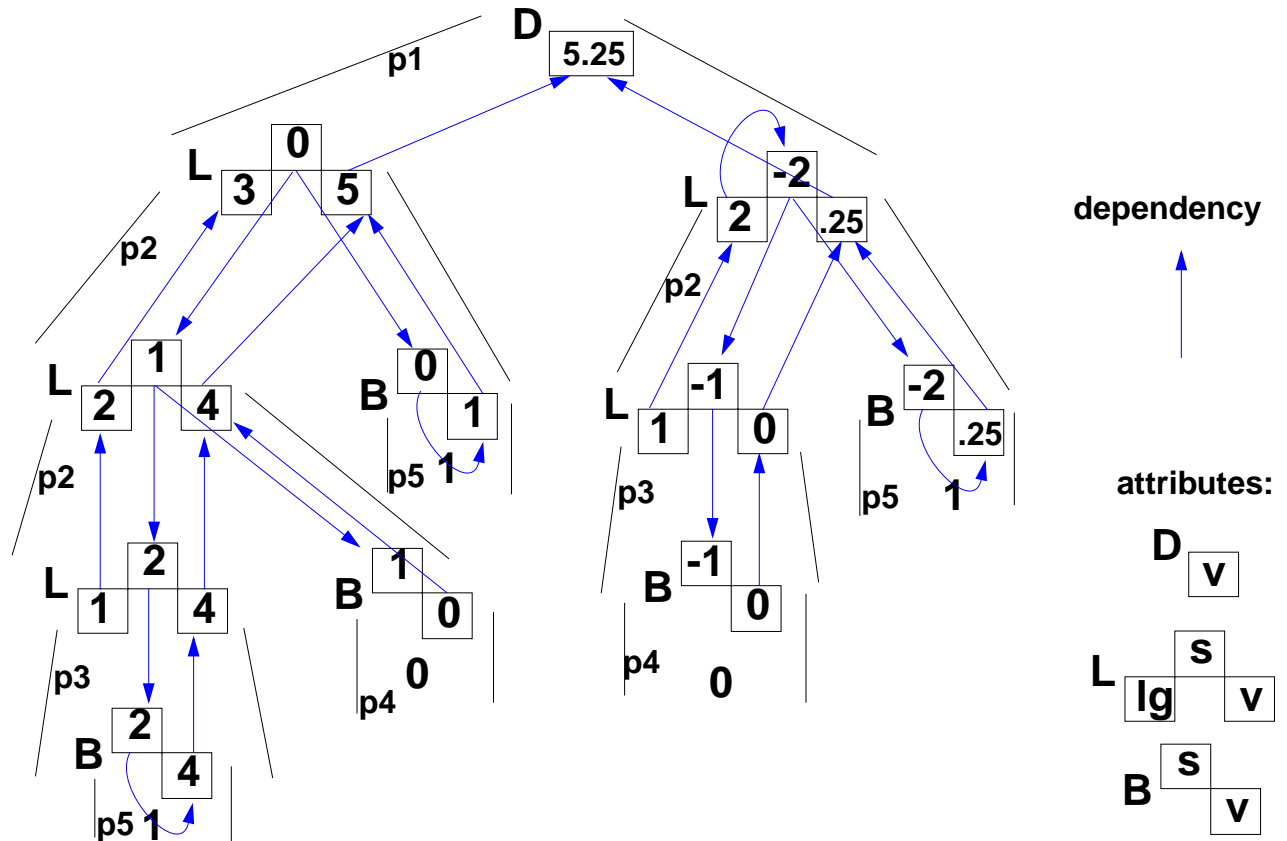
Objectives:

A complete example for an AG

In the lecture:

- Explain the task.
- Explain the role of the attributes.
- Explain the computations in tree contexts.
- Show a tree with attributes and dependencies (CI-71)

An attributed tree for AG Binary numbers



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Objectives:

An attributed tree

In the lecture:

- Show a tree with attributes.
- Show tree contexts specified by grammar rules.
- Relate the dependencies to computations.
- Evaluate the attributes.

Questions:

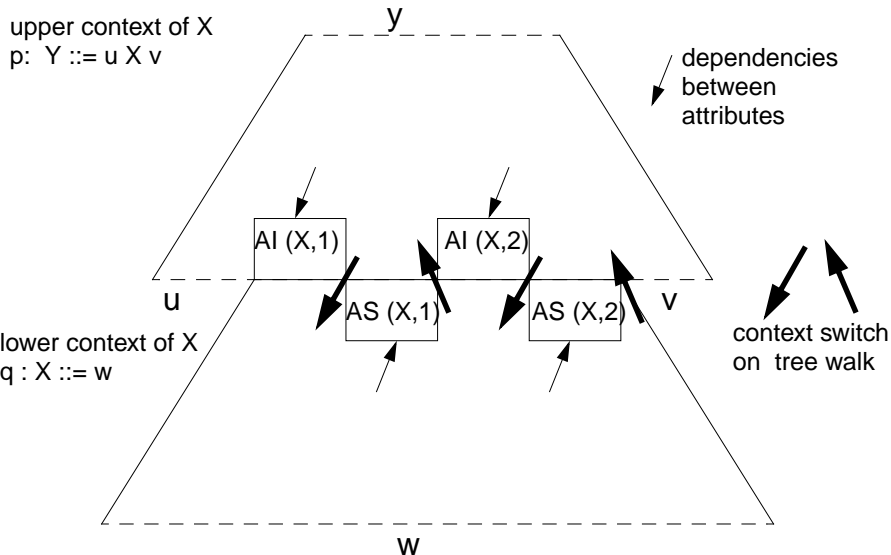
- Some attributes do not have an incoming arc. Why?
- Show that the attributes of each L node can be evaluated in the order lg, s, v.

Dependency analysis for AGs

2 disjoint sets of attributes for each symbol X:

AI (X) : inherited (dt. erworben), **computed in upper contexts** of X

AS (X): synthesized (dt. abgeleitet), **computed in lower contexts** of X.



Objective: Partition of attribute sets, such that

AI (X, i) is computed before the i-th visit of X

AS (X, i) is computed during the i-th visit of X

Necessary precondition for the existence of such a partition:

No node in any tree has direct or indirect dependencies that contradict the evaluation order of the sequence of sets:

AI (X, 1), AS (X, 1), ..., AI (X, k), AS (X, k)

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Objectives:

Understand the concept of attribute partitions

In the lecture:

Explain the concepts

- sets of synthesized and inherited attributes,
- upper and lower context,
- context switch,
- attribute partitions: sequence of disjoint sets which alternate between synthesized and inherited

Suggested reading:

Kastens / Übersetzerbau, Section 5.2

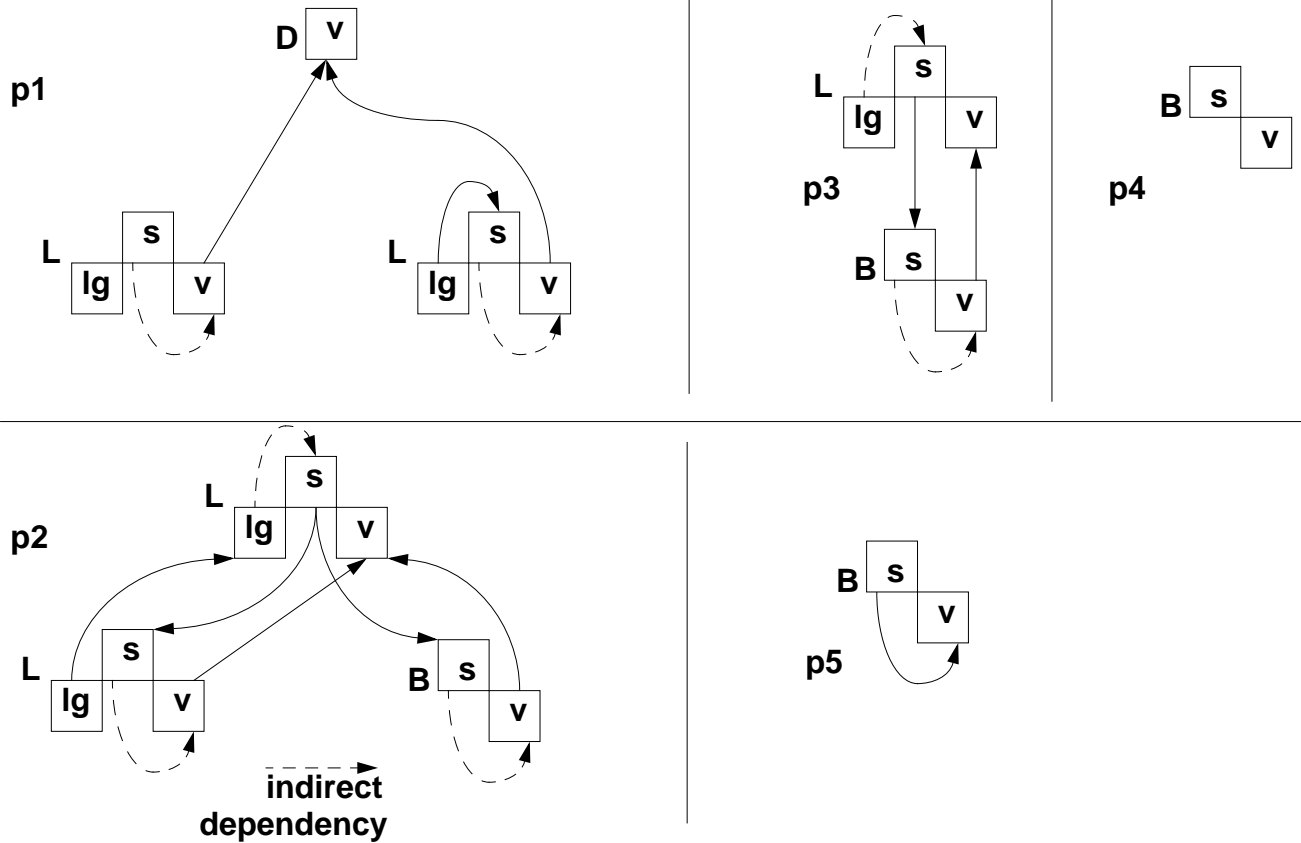
Assignments:

Construct AGs that are as simple as possible and each exhibits one of the following properties:

- There are some tree that have a dependency cycle, other trees don't.
- The cycles extend over more than one context.
- There is an X that has a partition with $k=2$ but not with $k=1$.
- There is no partition, although no tree exists that has a cycle. (caution: difficult puzzle!)

(Exercise 22)

Dependency graphs for AG Binary numbers



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Objectives:

Represent dependencies

In the lecture:

- graph representation of dependencies that are specified by computations,
- compose the graphs to yield a tree with dependencies,
- explain indirect dependencies
- Use the graphs as an example for partitions (CI-72)
- Use the graphs as an example for LAG(k) algorithm (CI-77)

Construction of attribute evaluators

For a given attribute grammar an attribute evaluator is constructed:

- It is **applicable to any tree** that obeys the abstract syntax specified in the rules of the AG.
- It performs a **tree walk** and **executes computations** when visiting a context for which they are specified.
- The execution order obeys the **attribute dependencies**.

Pass-oriented strategies for the tree walk:

AG class

k times **depth-first left-to-right**

LAG (k)

k times depth-first **alternatingly left-to-right / right-to left**

AAG (k)

once **bottom-up**

SAG

The attribute dependencies of the AG are checked
whether the desired pass-oriented strategy is applicable; see LAG(k) algorithm.

non-pass-oriented strategies:

visit-sequences:

OAG

an individual plan for each rule of the abstract syntax

Generator fits the plans to the dependencies.

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Objectives:

Tree walk strategies

In the lecture:

- Show the relation between tree walk strategies and attribute dependencies.

Suggested reading:

Kastens / Übersetzerbau, Section 5, 5.1

Questions:

A grammar class is more powerful if it covers AGs with more complex dependencies.

- Arrange the AG classes in a hierarchy according to that property.

Visit-sequences

A **visit-sequence** (dt. Besuchssequenz) vs_p for each production of the tree grammar:

$$p: X_0 ::= X_1 \dots X_i \dots X_n$$

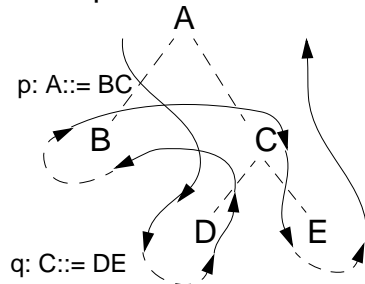
A visit-sequence is a **sequence of operations**:

$\downarrow i, j$ j -th **visit of the i -th subtree**

$\uparrow j$ j -th **return to the ancestor node**

$eval_c$ execution of a **computation c** associated to p

Example in the tree:



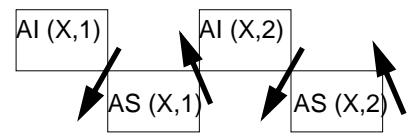
visit-sequences

$vs_p: \dots \downarrow C, 1 \dots \downarrow B, 1 \dots \downarrow C, 2 \dots \uparrow 1$

$vs_q: \dots \downarrow D, 1 \dots \uparrow 1 \dots \downarrow E, 1 \dots \uparrow 2$

attribute partitions

guaranty
correct interleaving:



Implementation:

one procedure for each section of a visit-sequence upto \uparrow
a call with a switch over applicable productions for \downarrow

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Objectives:

Understand the concept of visit-sequences

In the lecture:

Explain

- context switch,
- interleaving of visit-sequences for adjacent contexts,
- partitions are "interfaces" for context switches,
- implementation using procedures and calls

Suggested reading:

Kastens / Übersetzerbau, Section 5.2.2

Assignments:

- Construct a set of visit-sequences for a small tree grammar, such that the tree walk solves a certain task.
- Find the description of the design pattern "Visitor" and relate it to visit-sequences.

Questions:

- Describe visit-sequences which let trees being traversed twice depth-first left-to-right.

Visit-sequences for the AG Binary numbers

vs_{p1}: D ::= L '.' L

↓L[1],1; L[1].s=0; ↓L[1],2; ↓L[2],1; L[2].s=NEG(L[2].lg);

↓L[2],2; D.v=ADD(L[1].v, L[2].v); ↑1

vs_{p2}: L ::= L B

↓L[2],1; L[1].lg=ADD(L[2].lg,1); ↑1

L[2].s=ADD(L[1].s,1); ↓L[2],2; B.s=L[1].s; ↓B,1; L[1].v=ADD(L[2].v, B.v); ↑2

vs_{p3}: L ::= B

L.lg=1; ↑1; B.s=L.s; ↓B,1; L.v=B.v; ↑2

vs_{p4}: B ::= '0'

B.v=0; ↑1

vs_{p5}: B ::= '1'

B.v=Power2(B.s); ↑1

Implementation:

Procedure vs<i><p> for each section of a vs_p to a ↑i
a call with a switch over alternative rules for ↓X,i

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Objectives:

Example for visit-sequences (CI-75)

In the lecture:

- Show tree walk

Questions:

- Check that adjacent visit-sequences interleave correctly.
- Check that all dependencies between computations are obeyed.
- Write procedures that implement these visit-sequences.

D
V

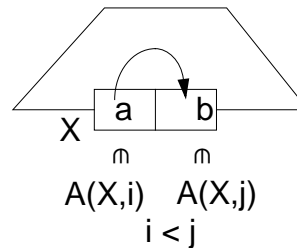
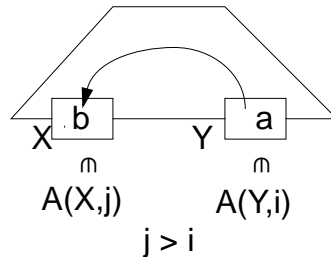
Show that the visit-sequences of CI-76 produce this tree walk for the tree of CI-71.

LAG (k) condition and algorithm

An AG is a LAG(k), if: For each symbol X there is an attribute partition $A(X, 1), \dots, A(X, k)$, such that the attributes in $A(X, i)$ can be computed in the i-th depth-first left-to-right pass.

Necessary and sufficient condition over dependency graphs - expressed graphically:

A dependency
from right to left



A dependency
at one symbol
on the right-hand
side

Algorithm: computes $A(1), \dots, A(k)$, if the AG is LAG(k), for $i = 1, 2, \dots$

$A(i) :=$ all attributes that are not yet assigned

remove attributes from $A(i)$ as long as the following rules are applicable:

- remove $X.b$, if there is a context where it depends on an attribute of $A(i)$ according to the pattern given above,
- remove $Z.c$, if it depends on a removed attribute

Finally: all attributes are assigned to a passes $i = 1, \dots, k$ the AG is **LAG(k)**
all attributes are removed from $A(i)$ the AG is **not LAG(k) for any k**

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Objectives:

Understand the LAG condition

In the lecture:

- Explain the LAG(k) condition,
- motivate it by depth-first left-to-right tree walks,
- explain the algorithm using the example of CI-73.

Suggested reading:

Kastens / Übersetzerbau, Section 5.2.3

Assignments:

- Check LAG(k) condition for AGs ([Exercise 20](#))

Questions:

- At the end of each iteration of the i-loop one of three conditions hold. Formulate them.

Generators for attribute grammars

LIGA	University of Paderborn	OAG
FNC-2	INRIA	ANCAG (Oberklasse von OAG)
Synthesizer Generator	Cornell University	OAG, inkrementell
CoCo	Universität Linz	LAG(1)

Properties of the generator LIGA

- integrated **in the Eli system**, cooperates with other Eli tools
- **high level specification language** Lido
- modular and **reusable AG components**
- object-oriented constructs usable for **abstraction of computational patterns**
- computations are **calls of functions** implemented outside the AG
- **side-effect computations** can be controlled by dependencies
- notations for **remote attribute access**
- **visit-sequence** controlled attribute evaluators, implemented in C
- **attribute storage optimization**

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Objectives:

See what generators can do

In the lecture:

- Explain the generators
- Explain properties of LIGA

Suggested reading:

Kastens / Übersetzerbau, Section 5.4

State attributes without values

```

RULE: Root ::= Expr COMPUTE
    Expr.print = "yes";
    printf ("\n") <- Expr.printed;
END;

RULE: Expr ::= Number COMPUTE
    Expr.printed =
        printf ("%d ", Number) <- Expr.print;
END;

RULE: Opr  ::= '+' COMPUTE
    Opr.printed = printf ("+ ") <- Opr.print;
END;

RULE: Opr  ::= '*' COMPUTE
    Opr.printed = printf ("* ") <- Opr.print;
END;

RULE: Expr  ::= Expr Opr Expr COMPUTE
    Expr[2].print = Expr[1].print;
    Expr[3].print = Expr[2].printed;
    Opr.print = Expr[3].printed;
    Expr[1].printed = Opr.printed;
END;

```

The attributes **print** and **printed** do not have a value

They just describe pre- and post-conditions of computations:

Expr.print:
postfix output has been done up to not including this node

Expr.printed:
postfix output has been done up to including this node

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Objectives:

Understand state attributes

In the lecture:

Explain

- attributes without values,
- representing only dependencies between computations.

Questions:

How would the output look like if we had omitted the state attributes and their dependencies?

Dependency pattern CHAIN

```
CHAIN print: VOID;

RULE: Root ::= Expr COMPUTE
    CHAINSTART HEAD.print = "yes";
    printf ("\n ") <- TAIL.print;
END;

RULE: Expr ::= Number COMPUTE
    Expr.print =
        printf ("%d ", Number) <- Expr.print;
END;

RULE: Opr ::= '+' COMPUTE
    Opr.post = printf ("+") <- Opr.pre;
END;

RULE: Expr ::= Expr Opr Expr COMPUTE
    Opr.pre = Expr[3].print;
    Expr[1].print = Opr.post;
END;
```

A CHAIN specifies a **left-to-right depth-first** dependency through a subtree.

Trivial computations of the form $X.a = Y.b$ in the CHAIN order can be **omitted**. They are added as needed.

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Objectives:

See LIDO construct CHAIN

In the lecture:

- Explain the CHAIN pattern.
- Compare the example with CI-78a

Dependency pattern INCLUDING

```
ATTR depth: int;

RULE: Root ::= Block COMPUTE
    Block.depth = 0;
END;

RULE: Statement ::= Block COMPUTE
    Block.depth =
        ADD (INCLUDING Block.depth, 1);
END;

TERM Ident: int;

RULE: Definition ::= 'define' Ident COMPUTE
    printf ("%s defined on depth %d\n ",
            StringTable (Ident),
            INCLUDING Block.depth);
END;
```

`INCLUDING Block.depth`
accesses the `depth` attribute of the next upper node of
type `Block`.

An **attribute** at the root of a subtree is **used from within the subtree**.

Propagation through the contexts in between is **omitted**.

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Objectives:

See LIDO construct INCLUDING

In the lecture:

Explain the use of the INCLUDING construct.

Dependency pattern CONSTITUENTS

```

RULE: Block ::= '{' Sequence '}' COMPUTE
    Block.DefDone =
        CONSTITUENTS Definition.DefDone;
END;

RULE: Definition ::= 'Define' Ident COMPUTE
    Definition.DefDone =
        printf ("%s defined in line %d\n",
            StringTable(Ident), LINE);
END;

RULE: Usage ::= 'use' Ident COMPUTE
    printf ("%s used in line %d\n ",
        StringTable(Ident), LINE),
    <- INCLUDING BLOCK.DefDone;
END;

```

CONSTITUENTS Definition.DefDone accesses the DefDone attributes of all Definition nodes in the subtree below this context

A computation **accesses attributes from the subtree below** its context.

Propagation through the contexts in between is **omitted**.

The shown combination with INCLUDING is a common dependency pattern.

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Objectives:

See LIDO construct CONSTITUENTS

In the lecture:

Explain the use of the CONSTITUENTS construct.