6.035 Spring 2013

Miniquiz #4

5 minutes

Suppose that our language calls a procedure by giving its name, with parameters surrounded by parentheses, and that arrays are referenced by the same syntax. Since the translation of parameters to procedure calls and indices in array references are different, we want to use different productions to generate lists of parameters and lists of indices. Our grammar might therefore have (among others) productions as follows:

```
(1)
                            ID
                                        parameter_list
                                                          ·) '
                stmt
(2)
                stmt
                                            expr
                            expr
(3)
     parameter_list
                            parameter_list
                                                    parameter
(4)
     parameter_list
                            parameter
(5)
          parameter
                            ID
(6)
                expr
                            ID
                                        expr_list
(7)
                expr
                            ID
(8)
            expr_list
                            expr_list
                                              expr
(9)
           expr_list
                            expr
```

The ID '(' ID ',' ID ')' token stream will be given to a shift-reduce parser for the grammar. Assume that the parser never takes a step that produces a configuration from which it is not possible to produce a parse tree.

1. What configuration (stack and input) will the parser be in after 3 steps?

2. What conflict will occur at the moment? Why?

3. What are the pros and cons of having nondeterminism in the behavior of a program?