## FIRST and FOLLOW sets

To compute FIRST(X) for all grammar symbols X, apply the following rules until no more terminals or  $\epsilon$  can be added to any FIRST set.

- 1. If *X* is a terminal, then  $FIRST(X) = \{X\}$
- 2. If *X* is a nonterminal, and FIRST(*X*) =  $Y_1Y_2 \dots Y_n$  is a production rule, then
  - everything in  $FIRST(Y_1)$  is in FIRST(X)
  - if  $Y_1 \rightarrow \epsilon$  contains, then everything in FIRST( $Y_2$ ) is also in FIRST(X)
  - repeat for  $Y_2 \rightarrow \epsilon$ , and so on...
- 3. If  $X \to \epsilon$ , then add  $\epsilon$  to FIRST(X)

To compute FOLLOW(*A*) for all nonterminals *A*, apply the following rules until nothing can be added to any FOLLOW set.

- 1. Place \$ in FOLLOW(*S*), where *S* is the start symbol, and \$ is the input right end-marker (i.e. end of the program code).
- 2. If there is a production rule  $X \to \alpha A\beta$ , then everything in FIRST( $\beta$ ) except  $\epsilon$  is in FOLLOW(A)
- 3. If there is a production rule  $X \to \alpha A$ , or a production  $X \to \alpha A\beta$  where FIRST( $\beta$ ) contains  $\epsilon$ , then everything in FOLLOW(X) is in FOLLOW(A)

Given our LL grammar:

 $S \rightarrow E$   $E \rightarrow TE'$   $E' \rightarrow +TE' \mid -TE' \mid \epsilon$   $T \rightarrow FT'$   $T' \rightarrow *FT' \mid /FT' \mid \epsilon$  $F \rightarrow (E) \mid id$ 

Compute the FIRST sets:

- $FIRST(F) = \{ (, id \} \}$
- FIRST $(T') = \{ *, /, \epsilon \}$
- $FIRST(T) = FIRST(F) = \{ (, id \} \}$
- $FIRST(E') = \{+, -, \epsilon\}$
- $FIRST(E) = FIRST(T) = \{ (, id \} \}$
- $FIRST(S) = FIRST(E) = \{ (, id \} \}$

Compute the FOLLOW sets:

- FOLLOW(S) = { \$ }
- FOLLOW(E) = { ) } U FOLLOW(S) = { ), \$ }
- FOLLOW(E') = FOLLOW(E) = { }, \$ }
- FOLLOW(T) = FIRST(E')  $\cup$  FOLLOW(E/E') = { +, -, ), \$ }
- FOLLOW(T') = FOLLOW(T) = { +, -, ), \$ }
- FOLLOW(F) = FIRST(T')  $\cup$  FOLLOW(T/T') = { \*, /, +, -, ), \$ }

Generate the predictive parsing table,  $M[A, \alpha]$ , (for LL grammars) from the FIRST/FOLLOW sets.

For each production rule  $A \rightarrow \alpha$  of the grammar, do the following:

- 1. For each terminal *a* in FIRST(*A*), add  $A \rightarrow \alpha$  to M[A, a]
- 2. If  $\epsilon$  is in FIRST( $\alpha$ ), then for each terminal *b* in FOLLOW(*A*), add  $A \rightarrow \alpha$  to M[A, b].
- 3. Every other entry in the parsing table, M[A, a], implicitly generates an **error**

Non-	Input Symbol							
Terminal	id	+	-	*	/	(	)	\$
S	$S \rightarrow E$					$S \rightarrow E$		
Ε	$E \rightarrow TE'$					$E \rightarrow TE'$		
E'		$E' \rightarrow +TE'$	$E' \rightarrow -TE'$				$E' \to \epsilon$	$E' \to \epsilon$
Т	$T \rightarrow FT'$							
Τ'				$T' \rightarrow * FT'$	$T' \rightarrow /FT'$		$T' \to \epsilon$	$T' \rightarrow \epsilon$
F	$F \rightarrow \mathbf{id}$							