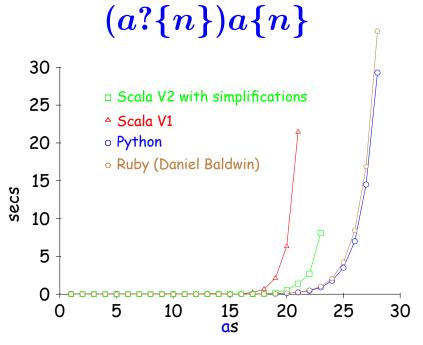
# **Automata and Formal Languages (7)**

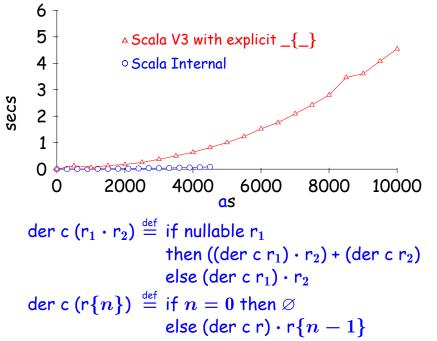
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### **CFG**

#### A context-free grammar G consists of

- a finite set of nonterminal symbols (upper case)
- a finite terminal symbols or tokens (lower case)
- a start symbol (which must be a nonterminal)
- a set of rules

#### $A \rightarrow \text{rhs}$

where rhs are sequences involving terminals and nonterminals (can also be empty).

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where rhs are sequences involving terminals and nonterminals (can also be empty).

We can also allow rules

$$A \rightarrow \mathsf{rhs}_1 | \mathsf{rhs}_2 | \dots$$

### **A CFG Derivation**

- lacktriangle Begin with a string with only the start symbol S
- ② Replace any non-terminal X in the string by the right-hand side of some production  $X \to {\sf rhs}$
- Repeat 2 until there are no non-terminals

$$S \to \ldots \to \ldots \to \ldots \to \ldots$$

# Language of a CFG

Let G be a context-free grammar with start symbol S. Then the language L(G) is:

$$\{c_1 \ldots c_n \mid \forall i. \ c_i \in T \land S \rightarrow^* c_1 \ldots c_n\}$$

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- Terminals are so-called because there are no rules for replacing them
- Once generated, terminals are "permanent"
- Terminals ought to be tokens of the language (at least in this course)

# **Arithmetic Expressions**

$$egin{array}{lll} E & 
ightarrow & num\_token \ E & 
ightarrow & E \cdot + \cdot E \ E & 
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A CFG is left-recursive if it has a nonterminal E such that  $E \rightarrow^+ E$  . . .

#### **Parse Trees**

# **Ambiguous Grammars**

A CFG is ambiguous if there is a string that has at least parse trees.

$$egin{array}{lll} E & 
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ightarrow & E \cdot * \cdot E \ E & 
ightarrow & (\cdot E \cdot) \end{array}$$

$$1 + 2 * 3 + 4$$

# **Dangling Else**

#### Another ambiguous grammar:

$$egin{array}{ll} E & 
ightarrow & ext{if $E$ then $E$} \ & ert & ext{id} \end{array}$$

if a then if x then y else c