

# Check-In

Warm-up: Syntax-Directed Definition

Assign SDD rules to each of the following rules according to the following goal:

Goal: Each B translates to whether the subtree has an odd number of "1"s

$$\begin{array}{l} B ::= B 0 \\ \quad | B 1 \\ \quad | \varepsilon \end{array}$$

# Announcements

Administrivia

**Quiz 1 on Friday** Covers material up to and including today's lecture

**Review Session\* (if room available)**

- Thursday at 6:30PM – 8:30

*ECCS 665*

# COMPILER

## CONSTRUCTION

Abstract Syntax Trees

# Last Time

Review: Syntax-Directed Translation

## Working with Parse Trees

- Perspectives on trees
  - Data structure / recursive definition
- Syntax-Directed Definitions
  - Specifies *meaning* of parse trees
    - Digit sequence as integer
    - Expression as its evaluation
    - Expression as its operator count



**Syntax-Directed  
Definition**

# Today's Outline

## Abstract Syntax Trees

### Abstract Syntax Trees

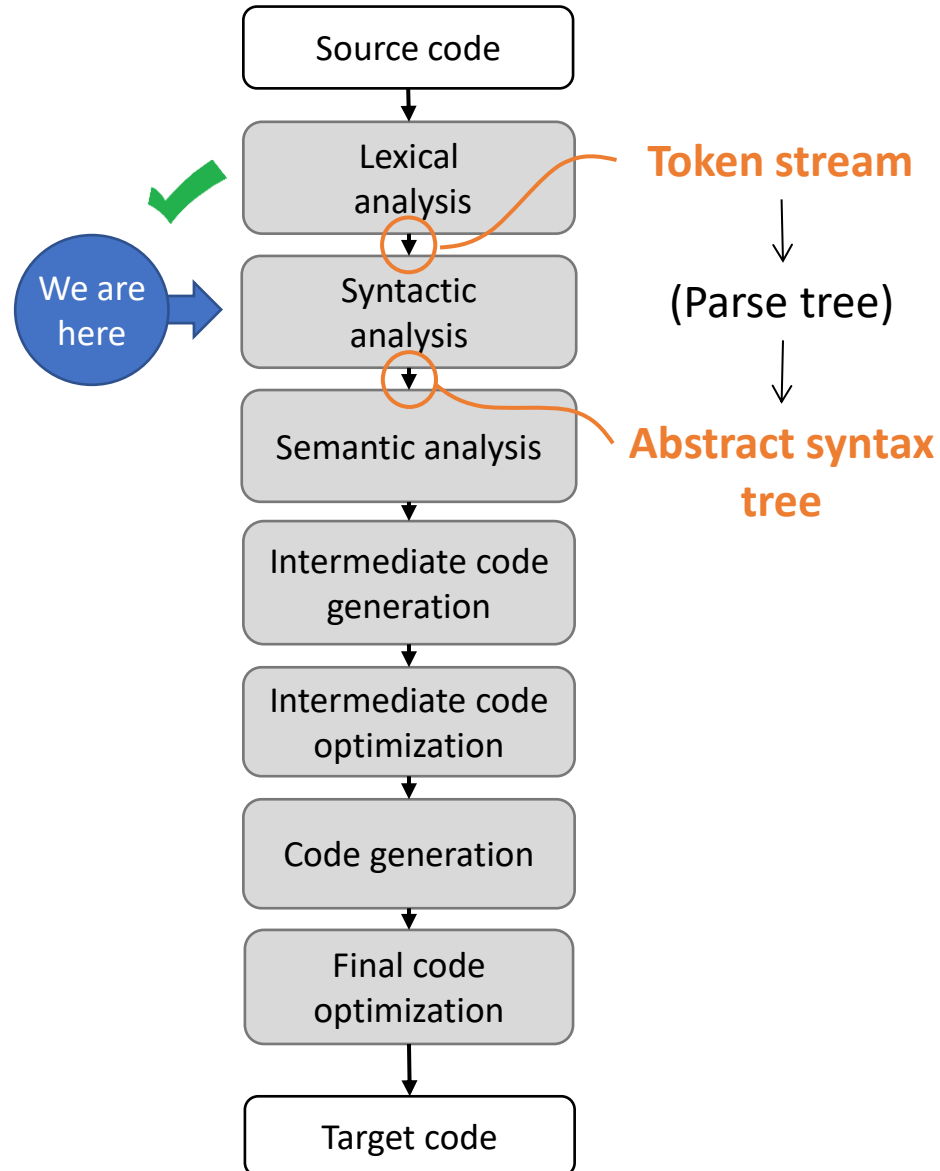
- Context for ASTs
- ASTs for Programs
- ASTs in Code



**Syntax-Directed  
Definition**

# Compiler Construction

## Progress Pics



*We have most of the concepts of syntactic analysis*

## Syntactic Analysis

- Output: AST
- Specification:
  - Syntax: CFG
  - Semantics: SDD

*just need to apply the concepts to a programming language*

# The Parse Tree vs AST

## Abstract Syntax Trees

### Parse tree

- Recognizes valid syntax
- Nodes are rules that constrain structure

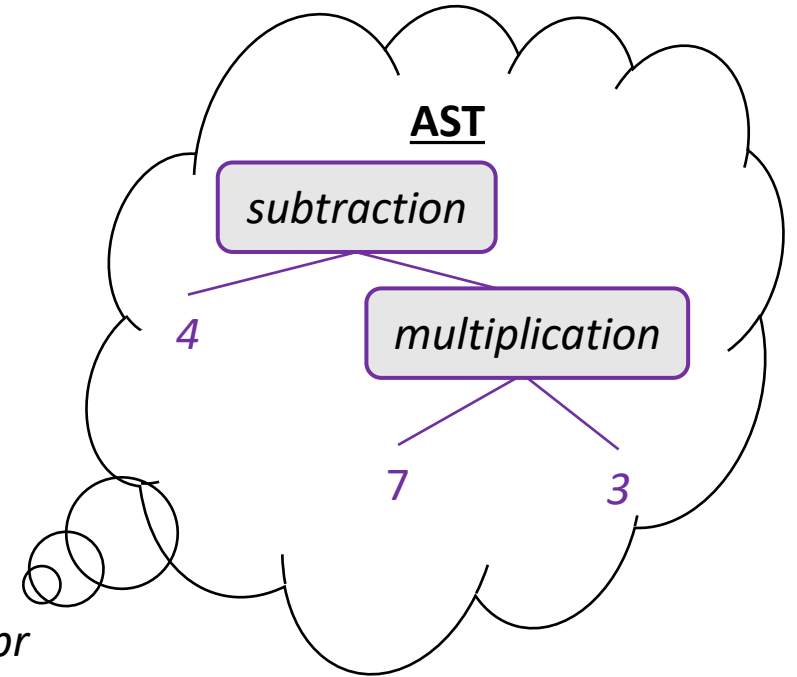
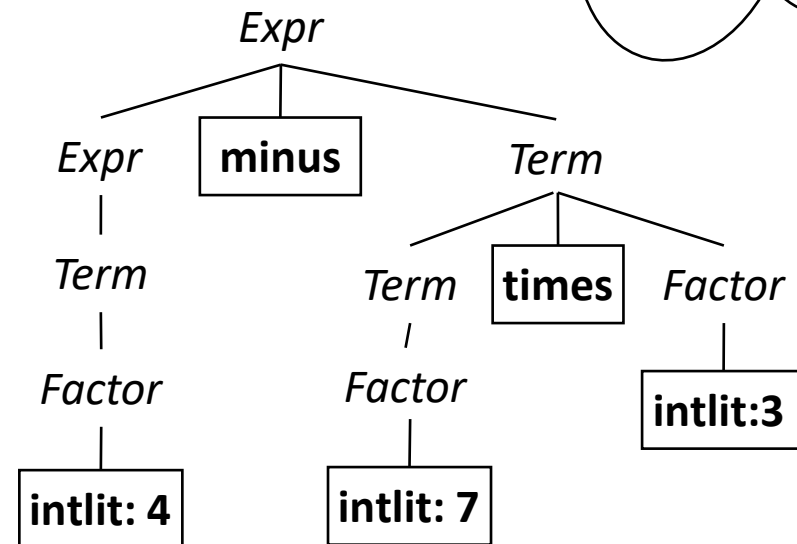
### AST

- Transcends concrete syntax
- Represents program semantics
- Nodes are language concepts

### Flat expression

4 - 7 \* 3

### Parse tree





# AST: Implicit in the Parse Tree

Abstract Syntax Trees

## Parse tree implies an AST

- Syntactic analysis  
“extracts” the AST from  
the parse tree
- Conceptually, a post-  
processing pass over the  
parse tree



*A tree within a tree*

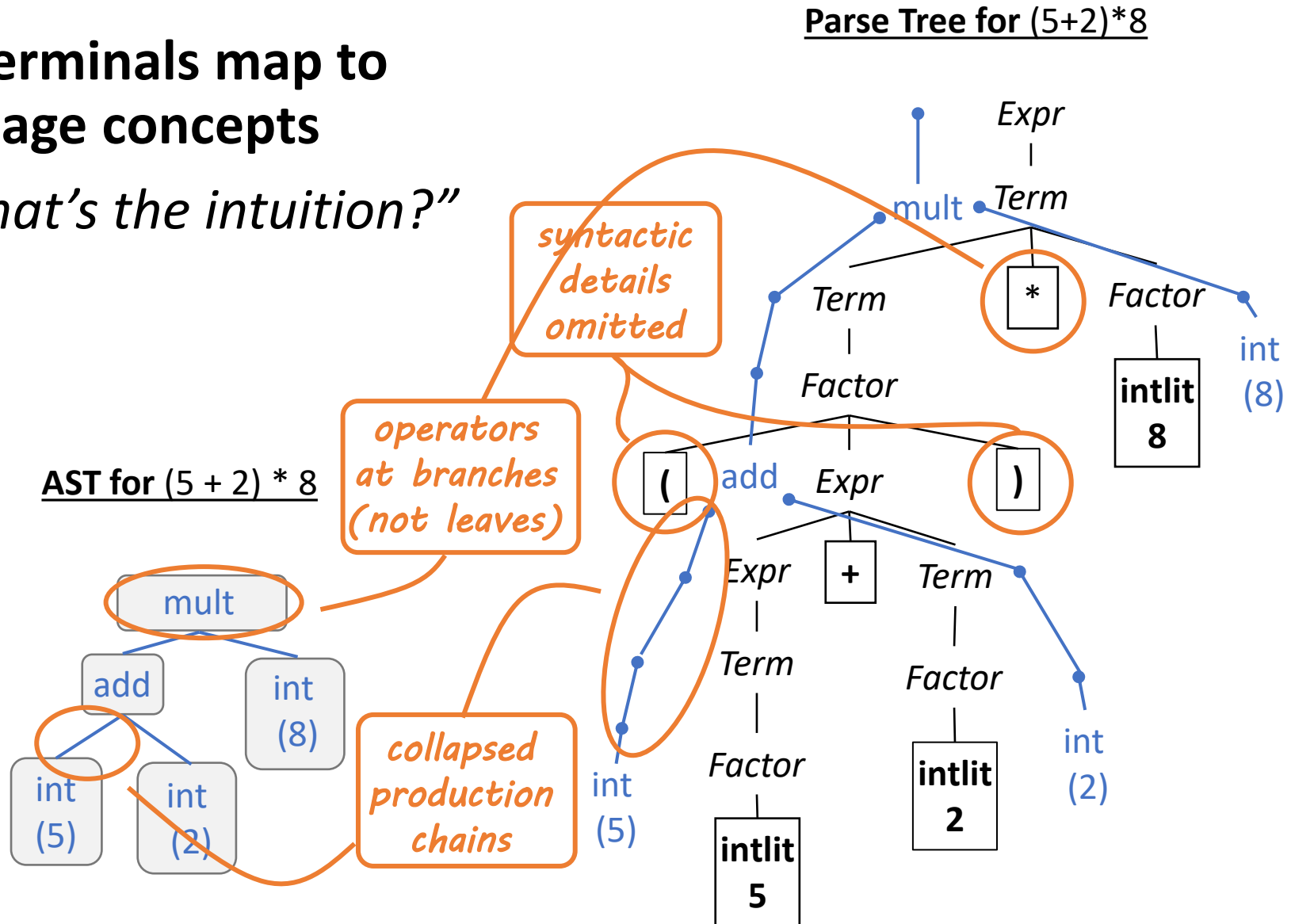


# AST: Implicit in the Parse Tree

Abstract Syntax Trees

## Nonterminals map to language concepts

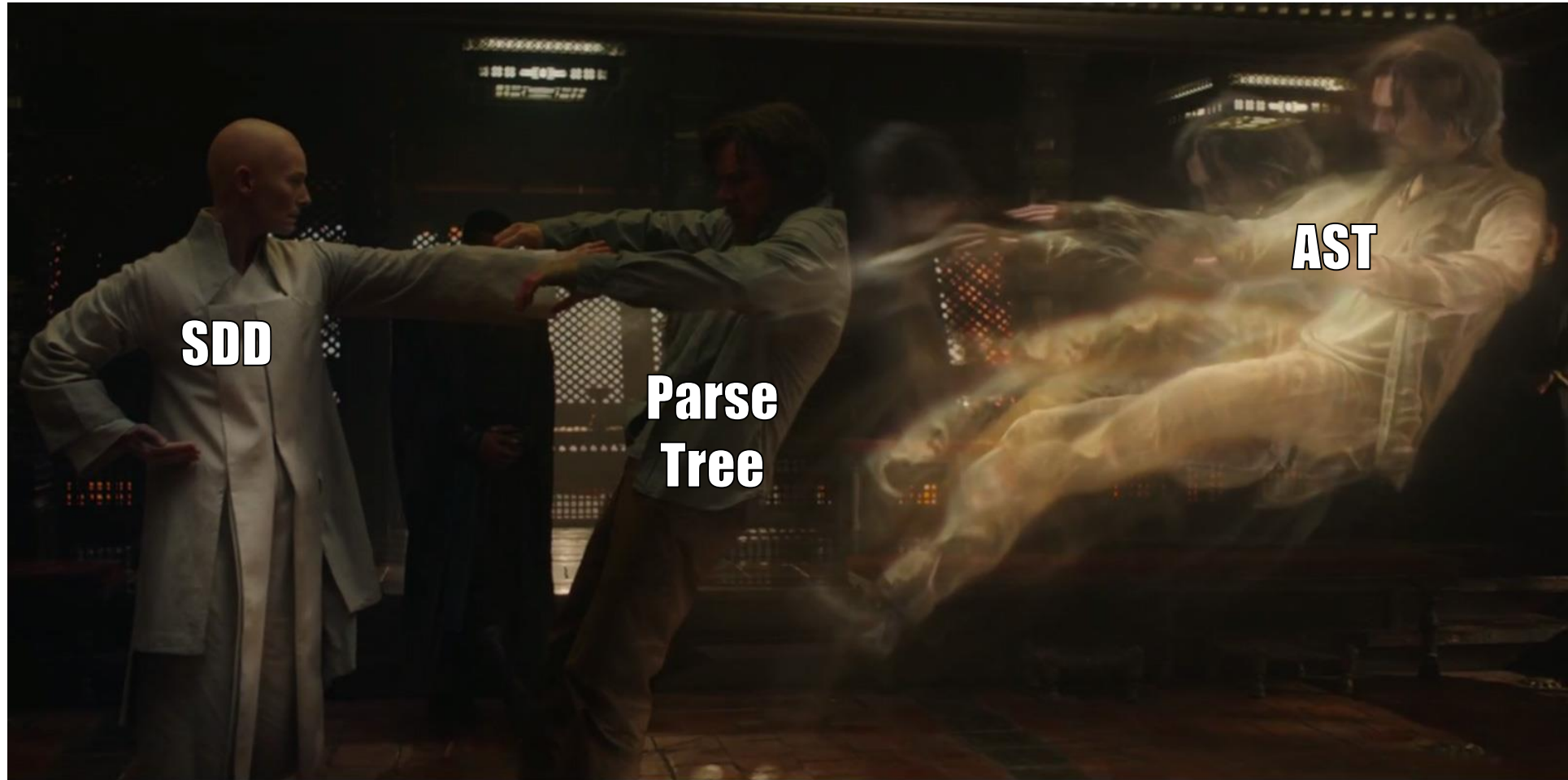
- “What’s the intuition?”



# From Parse Tree to AST

Abstract Syntax Trees

SDD knocks the AST out of the parse tree

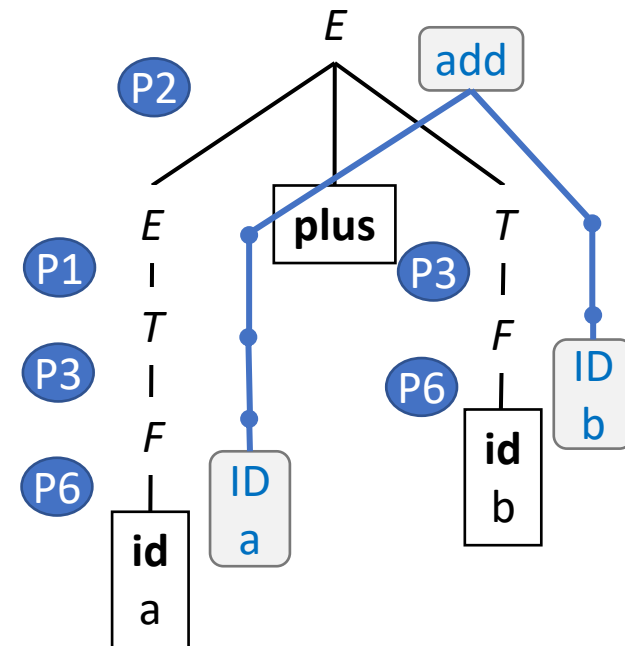


# Defining AST Structure

## Abstract Syntax Trees

<u>CFG Production</u>	<u>AST Building Rule (Pseudocode)</u>
P1 $E ::= T$	$LHS.trans = T.trans$
P2 $E ::= E \text{ plus } T$	$LHS.trans = \text{AddNode}$ where $\text{AddNode.arm1} = E.trans$ $\text{AddNode.arm2} = T.trans$
P3 $T ::= F$	$LHS.trans = F.trans$
P4 $T ::= T \text{ times } F$	$LHS.trans = \text{MultNode}$ where $\text{MultNode.arm1} = T.trans$ $\text{MultNode.arm2} = F.trans$
P5 $F ::= \text{lpar } E \text{ rpar}$	$LHS.trans = E.trans$
P6 $F ::= \text{id}$	$LHS.trans = \text{IDNode}$ where $\text{IDNode.content} = \text{id.value}$

Input String: a + b

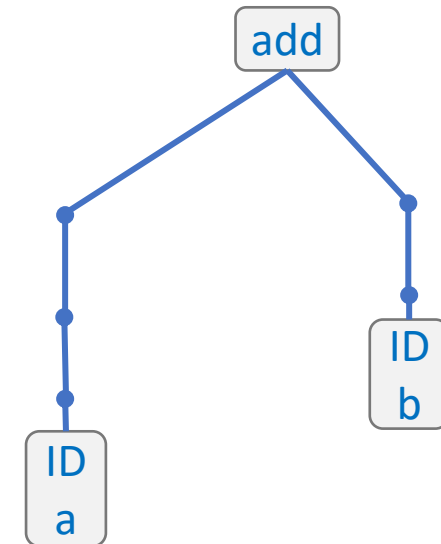


# Defining AST Structure

Abstract Syntax Trees

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P5 $F ::= \text{lpar } E \text{ rpar}$	$LHS.trans = E.trans$
P6 $F ::= \text{id}$	$LHS.trans = \text{IDNode}$ where $\text{IDNode.content} = \text{id.value}$

Input String: a + b



# Today's Outline

## Abstract Syntax Trees

### Abstract Syntax Trees

- Context for ASTs
- ASTs for Programs
- ASTs in Code



**Syntax-Directed  
Definition**

# Capturing Program Constructs

Abstract Syntax Trees – ASTs for Programs

## ASTs can (and must) capture all program constructs

- Simply need to attach the right SDD rule to each production
- May need to tweak the grammar a bit
  - (we already saw this with syntactic ambiguity)



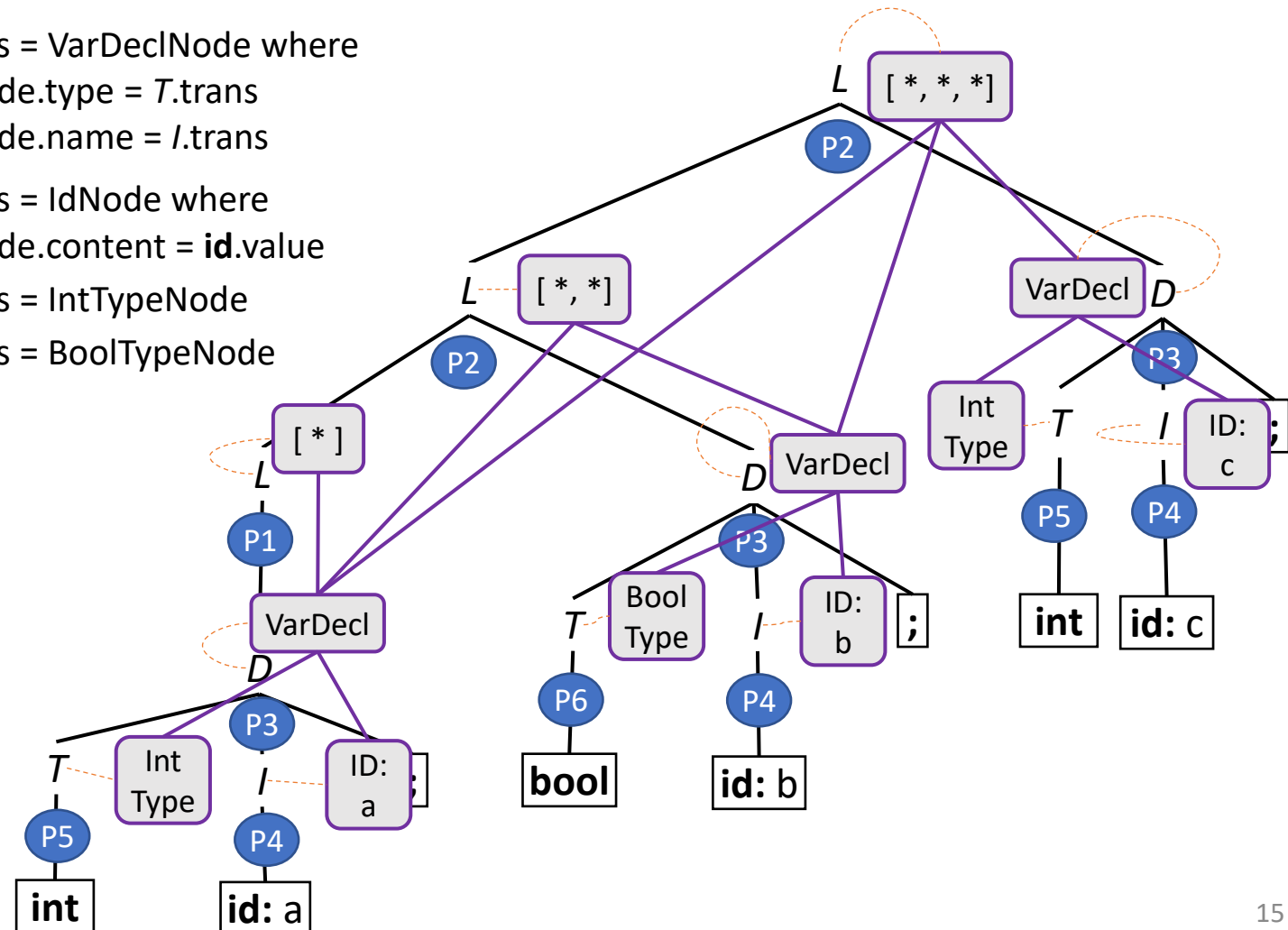
# Capturing Program Constructs

Abstract Syntax Trees – ASTs for Programs

- P1  $L ::= D$        $LHS.trans = [ D.trans ]$
- P2  $| LD$        $LHS.trans = [].addAll(L.trans).add(D.trans)$
- P3  $D ::= T I ;$        $LHS.trans = VarDeclNode$  where  
                                  Node.type =  $T.trans$   
                                  Node.name =  $I.trans$
- P4  $I ::= id$        $LHS.trans = IdNode$  where  
                                  Node.content =  $id.value$
- P5  $T ::= int$        $LHS.trans = IntTypeNode$
- P6  $| bool$        $LHS.trans = BoolTypeNode$

**Input String:**

`int a; bool b; int c;`





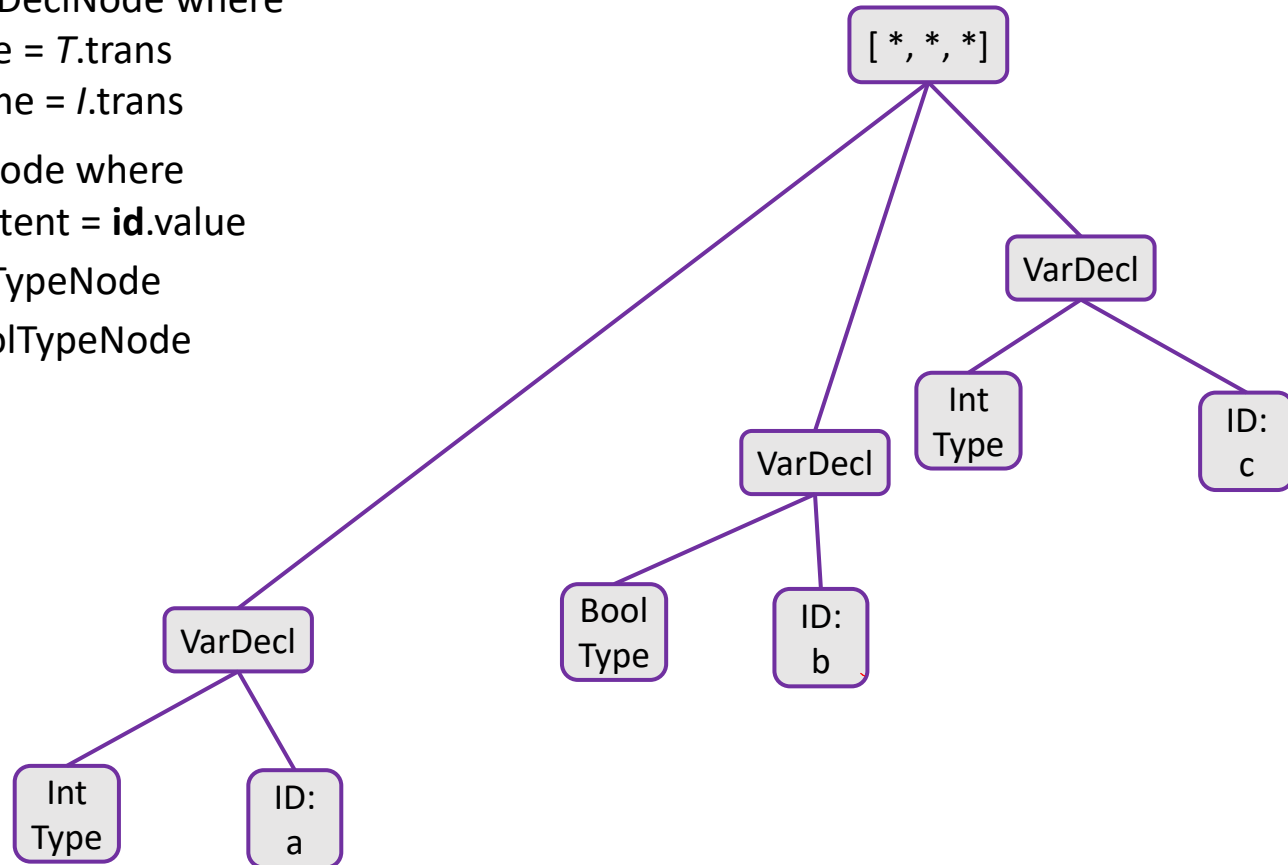
# Capturing Program Constructs

## Abstract Syntax Trees – ASTs for Programs

- P1  $L ::= D$        $LHS.trans = [ D.trans ]$
- P2  $L ::= L D$        $LHS.trans = [].addAll(L.trans).add(D.trans)$
- P3  $D ::= T I ;$        $LHS.trans = VarDeclNode$  where  
                            Node.type =  $T.trans$   
                            Node.name =  $I.trans$
- P4  $I ::= id$        $LHS.trans = IdNode$  where  
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- P5  $T ::= int$        $LHS.trans = IntTypeNode$
- P6  $T ::= bool$        $LHS.trans = BoolTypeNode$

### Input String:

int a; bool b; int c;



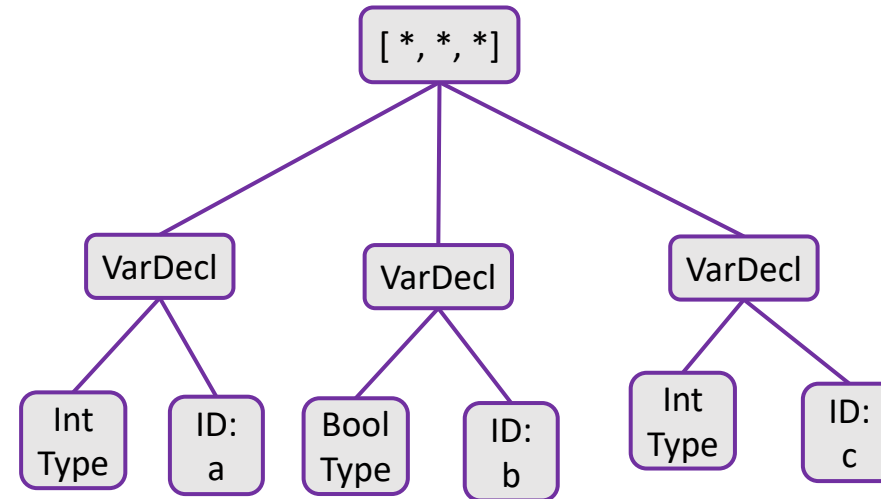
# Capturing Program Constructs

## Abstract Syntax Trees – ASTs for Programs

- P1  $L ::= D$        $LHS.trans = [ D.trans ]$
- P2  $| L D$        $LHS.trans = [].addAll(L.trans).add(D.trans)$
- P3  $D ::= T I ;$        $LHS.trans = VarDeclNode$  where  
Node.type =  $T.trans$   
Node.name =  $I.trans$
- P4  $I ::= id$        $LHS.trans = IdNode$  where  
Node.content =  $id.value$
- P5  $T ::= int$        $LHS.trans = IntTypeNode$
- P6  $| bool$        $LHS.trans = BoolTypeNode$

### Input String:

int a; bool b; int c;



*AST: much more intuitive  
program representation*

# Today's Outline

## Abstract Syntax Trees

### Abstract Syntax Trees

- Context for ASTs
- ASTs for Programs
- ASTs in Code

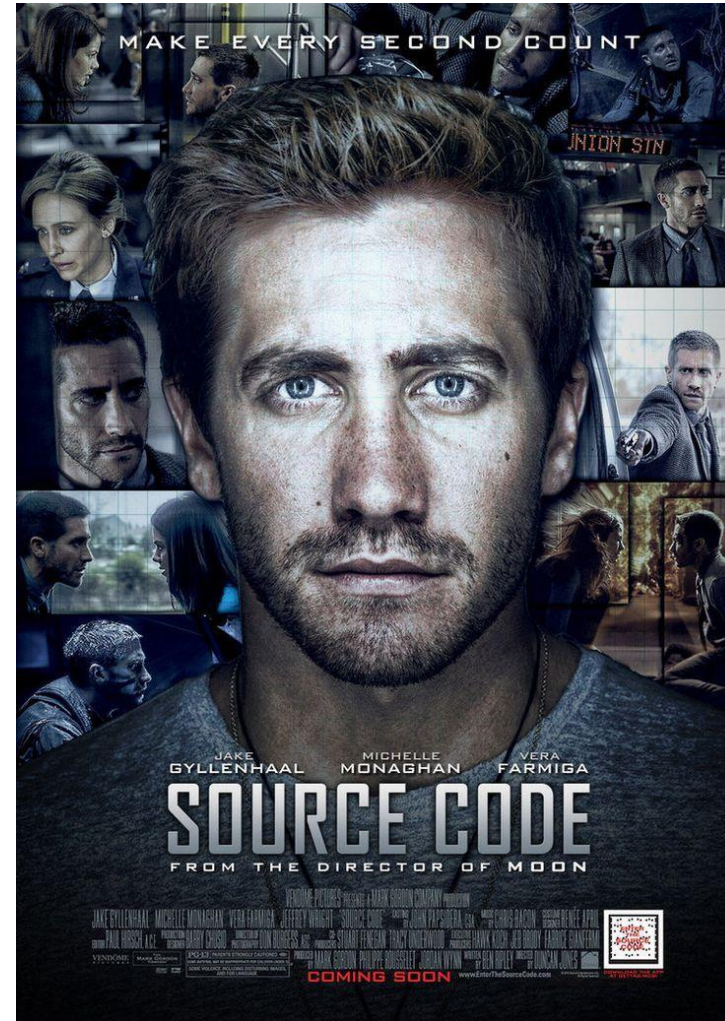


**Syntax-Directed  
Definition**

# What do ASTs Look like *in Code*?

Abstract Syntax Trees – ASTs in Code

- Let's contemplate source code to implement ASTs



# Implementing AST Nodes

Abstract Syntax Trees – ASTs in Code

## We've given AST nodes pseudocode properties

- We'll lean into that with C++ classes and members

```
class DeclNode{
    TypeNode& type;
    IDNode& name;
};
```

### CFG Production   Rule

*Decl ::= Type ID ;*   *LHS.trans = DeclNode* where

*.type = Type.trans*

*.name = ID.trans*

```
class IDNode{
    char * content;
};
```

*ID ::= id*

*LHS.trans = IDNode* where

*.content = id.value*

# Recall OOP: is-a vs has-a

## Abstract Syntax Trees – ASTs in Code

```
class Lunch {
public:
    void eat(){ ... }
};

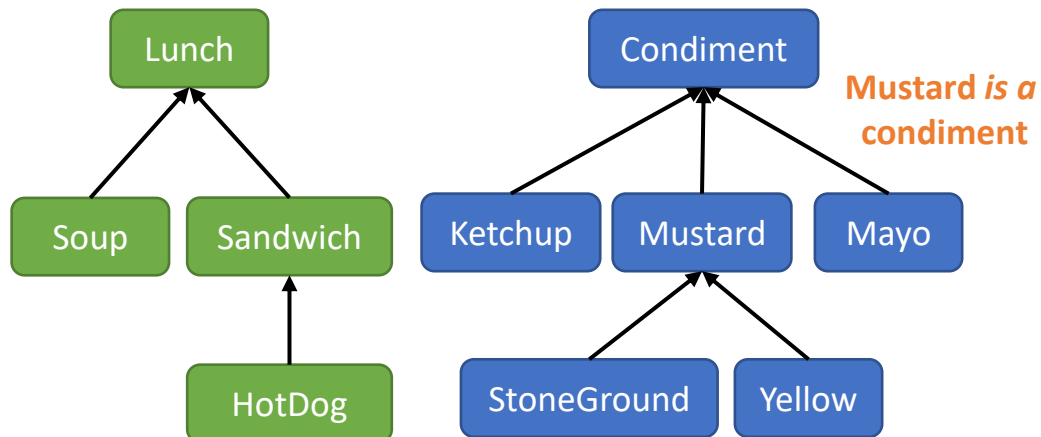
class HotDog : public Sandwich{
public:
    Ketchup * myK;
    Mustard * myM;
};
```

```
int main(){
    HotDog * h = new HotDog();
    Mustard * m = new Yellow();
    h->myM = m;
    h->eat();
    h->myM = k; (error)
}
```

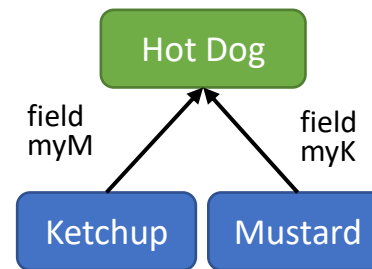
A hot dog *is a* sandwich

A hot dog *is a* lunch

### Inheritance (*is-a* relation)



### Components (*has-a* relation)



A hot dog *has a* mustard topping

# ASTs In Code: Connecting Subtrees

Abstract Syntax Trees – ASTs in Code

## *Naive* AST Implementation

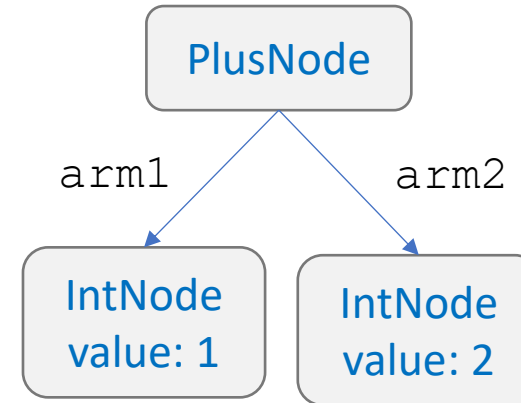
```
class PlusNode
{   IntNode& arm1;
    IntNode& arm2;
};

class IntNode
{   int value; };

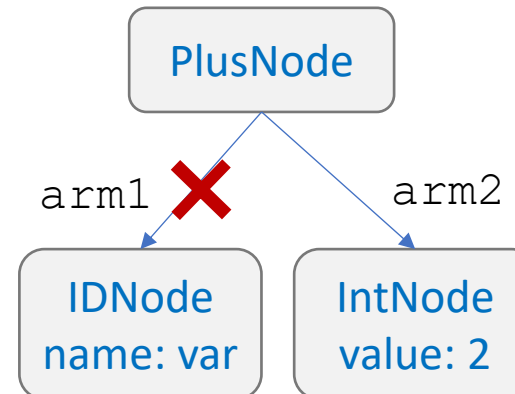
class IDNode
{   std::string content; };
```

*Oops! Disallows  
Variables in  
expressions!*

### AST for 1+2



### AST for var+2





# ASTs: Connecting Subtrees

Abstract Syntax Trees – ASTs in Code

## *Naïve* AST Implementation

```
class ASTNode{ ... };
```

```
class PlusNode : public ASTNode  
{ IntNode& left;  
  IntNode& right;  
};
```

*ASTNode*

```
class IntNode : public ASTNode  
{ int value; };
```

```
class IDNode : public ASTNode  
{ std::string content; };
```

```
class DeclNode : public ASTNode  
{ ... }
```

## Class hierarchy for AST Nodes

ASTNode

└─> IntNode

└─> IDNode

└─> DeclNode

⋮

# ASTs: Connecting Subtrees

Abstract Syntax Trees – ASTs in Code

*Less Naïve*  
~~Naïve~~

## AST Implementation

```
class ASTNode{ };
```

*Wrongly allows  
all node types!  
Too generic!*

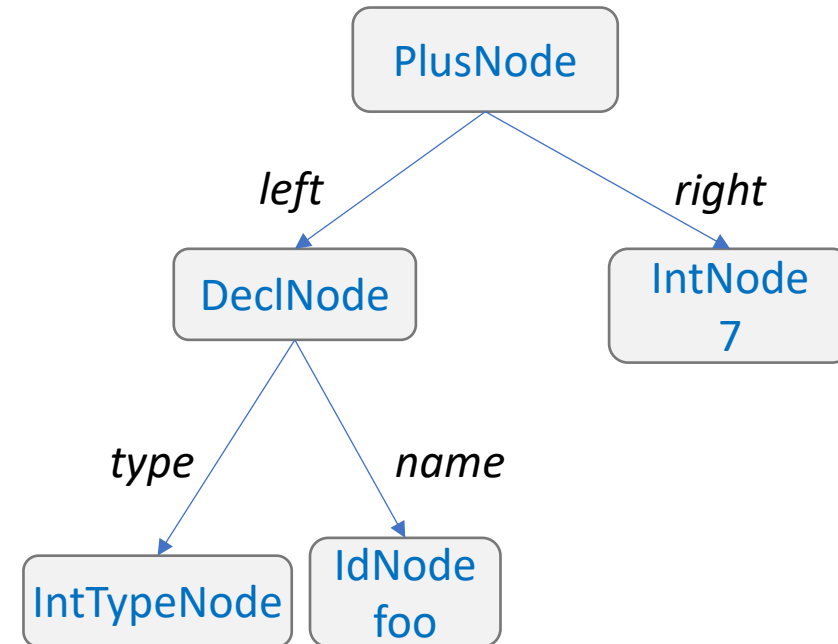
```
class PlusNode : public ASTNode  
{ ASTNode& left;  
  ASTNode& right;  
};
```

```
class IntNode : public ASTNode  
{ int value; };
```

```
class IDNode : public ASTNode  
{ std::string content; };
```

```
class DeclNode : public ASTNode  
{ ... }
```

int foo; + 7



# ASTs: Connecting Subtrees

Abstract Syntax Trees – ASTs in Code

*Ok*  
~~Less Naive~~  
~~Naive~~

## AST Implementation

```
class ASTNode{ };
```

```
class ExprNode : public ASTNode {};
```

```
class PlusNode : public ASTNode  
{ ASTNode& left;  
  ASTNode& right;  
};
```

ExprNode

```
class IntNode : public ASTNode  
{ int value; };
```

ExprNode

```
class IDNode : public ASTNode  
{ std::string content; };
```

ExprNode

```
class DeclNode : public ASTNode  
{ ... }
```

## Solution:

Proper line of succession

### Class hierarchy for AST Nodes

ASTNode

↳ ExprNode

↳ IntNode

↳ IDNode

⋮

↳ DeclNode

⋮

# Crafting the AST Hierarchy

Abstract Syntax Trees – ASTs in Code

## **Which classes should inherit which other classes?**

- No one “right way” to do it

# Summary

## Abstract Syntax Trees

### **The Abstract Syntax Tree**

- A lightweight abstraction of the program syntax
- A data structure in the compiler's host language
  - Lexical Tokens: Flex Regular Expression Rules
  - Parse Tree: Bison Context-Free Grammar Rules
  - AST: Back to C++ objects and classes