


# Syntax Directed Translation for LR Parsers

CMPT 379: Compilers

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# Syntax directed Translation

- Models for translation from parse trees into intermediate code
- Representation of translations
  - Attribute Grammars (semantic actions for CFGs) 
  - Tree Matching Code Generators
  - Tree Parsing Code Generators

# Attribute Grammars

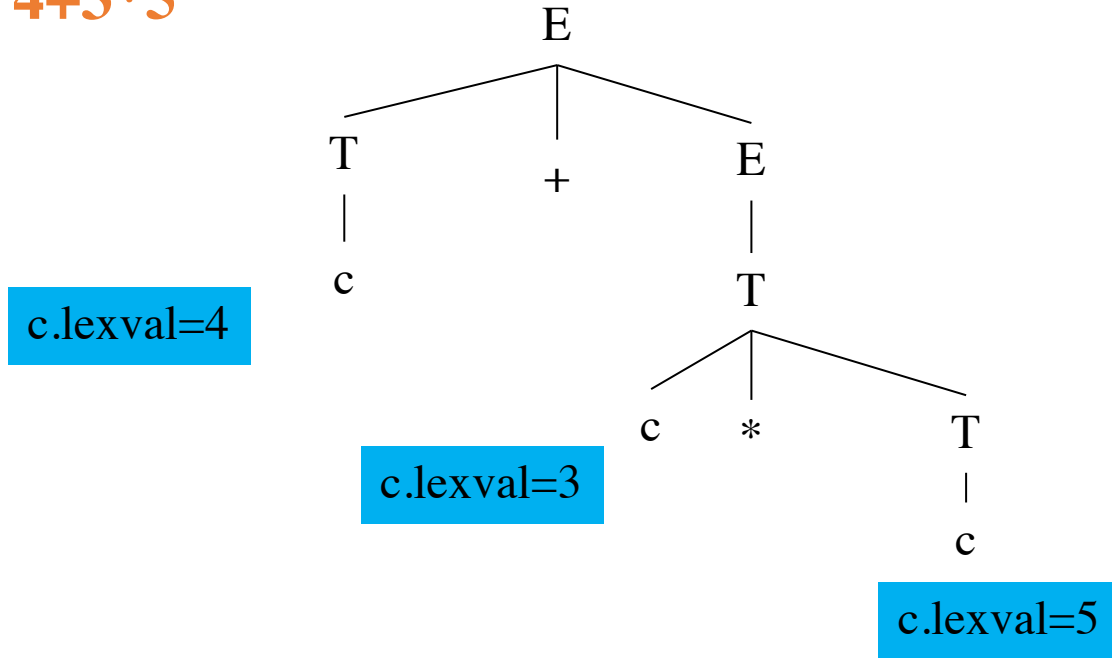
- Syntax-directed translation uses a grammar to produce code (or any other “semantics”)
- We are generalizing context-free grammars
- Each grammar symbol is associated with an attribute
- An attribute can be anything: a string, a number, a tree, any kind of record or object

# Attribute Grammars

- A CFG can be viewed as a function that relates strings to derivations (aka parse trees)
- Similarly, an attribute grammar is a way of relating strings with attributes (or “meanings”)
- Attribute grammars are a method to *decorate* or *annotate* the parse tree with the desired output attributes

# Expr concrete syntax tree

Input: **4+3\*5**



$E \rightarrow T + E$

$E \rightarrow T$

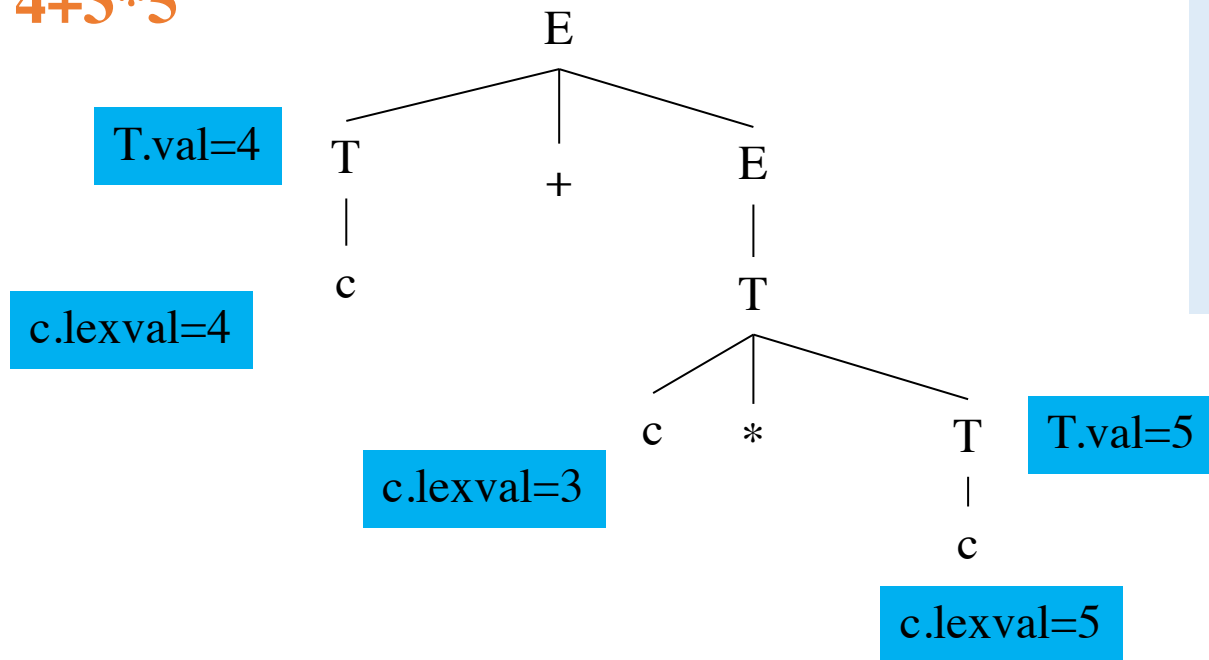
$T \rightarrow c$

$T \rightarrow c * T$

$T \rightarrow ( E )$

# Expr concrete syntax tree

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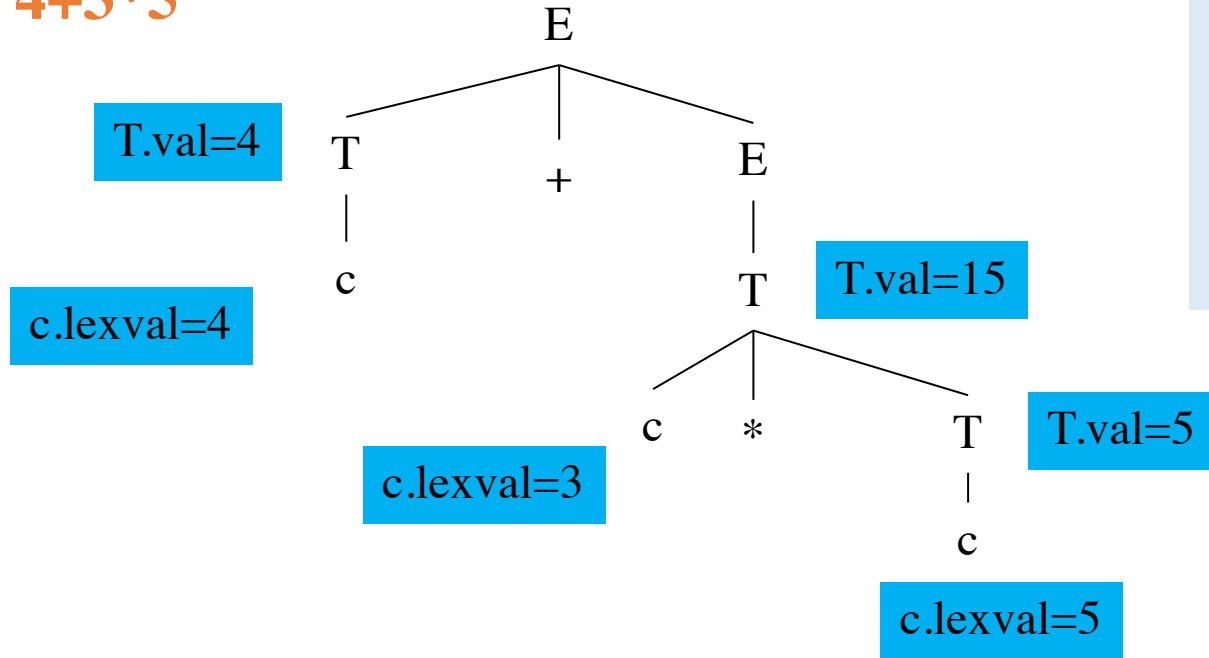
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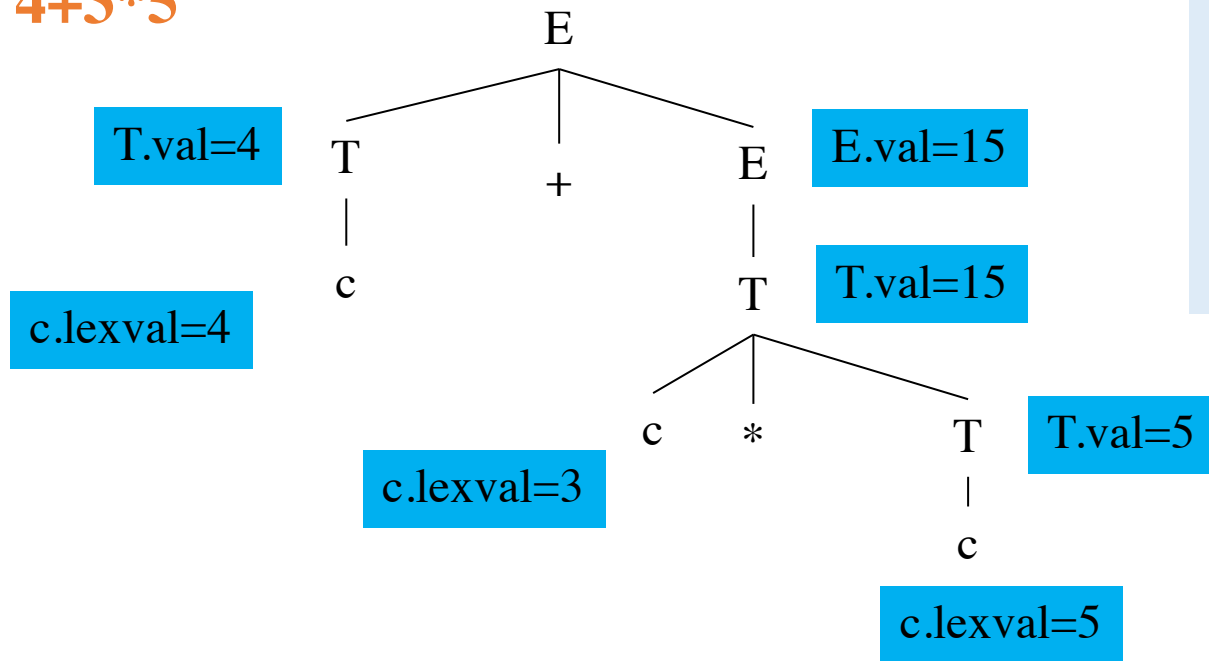
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# Expr concrete syntax tree

Input: **4+3\*5**



$E \rightarrow T + E$

$E \rightarrow T$

$T \rightarrow c$

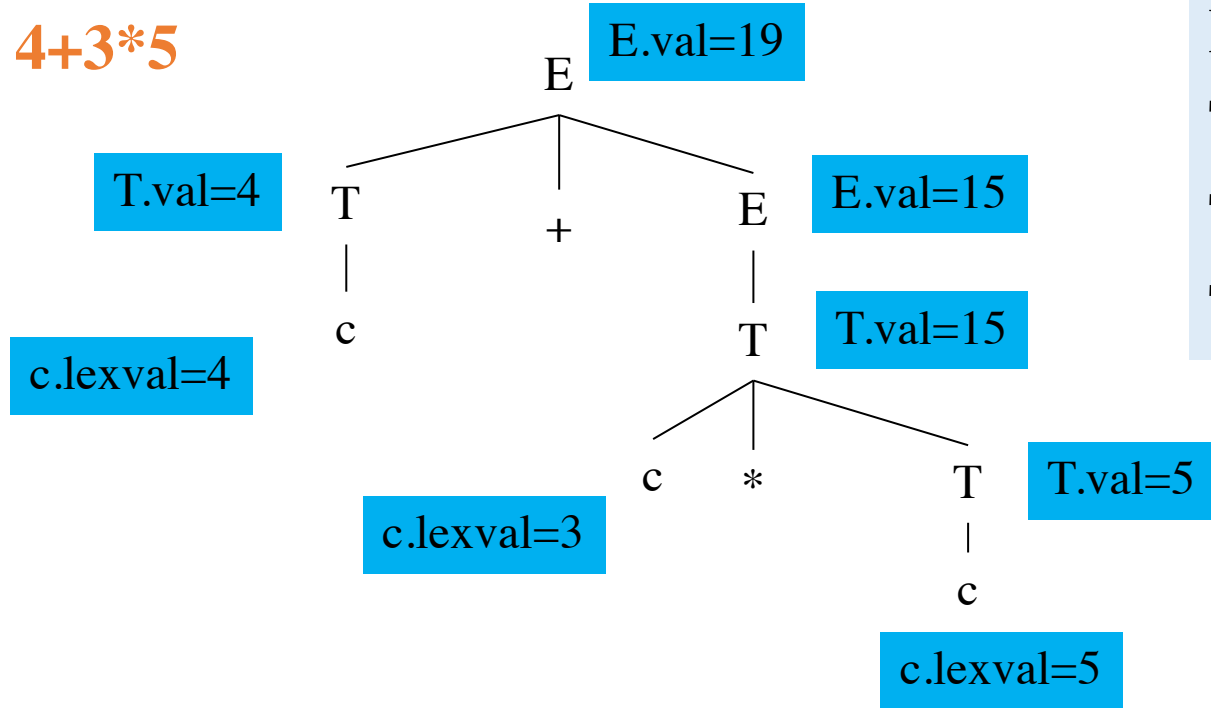
$T \rightarrow c * T$

$T \rightarrow ( E )$



# Expr concrete syntax tree

Input: **4+3\*5**



$E \rightarrow T + E$

$E \rightarrow T$

$T \rightarrow c$

$T \rightarrow c * T$

$T \rightarrow ( E )$

# Syntax directed definition

$T \rightarrow c$

{  $$$$.val = \$1.lexval;$  }

$T \rightarrow c * T$

{  $$$$.val = \$1.lexval * \$3.val ;$  }

$E \rightarrow T$

{  $$$$.val = \$1.val;$  }

$E \rightarrow T + E$

{  $$$$.val = \$1.val + \$3.val;$  }

$T \rightarrow ( E )$

{  $$$$.val = \$2.val;$  }

# Flow of Attributes in *Expr*

- Consider the flow of the attributes in the *E* syntax-directed defn
  - The lhs attribute is computed using the rhs attributes
- Purely bottom-up:
  - compute attribute values of all children (rhs) in the parse tree
  - And then use them to compute the attribute value of the parent (lhs)

# Synthesized Attributes

- **Synthesized attributes** are attributes that are computed purely bottom-up
- A grammar with semantic actions (or syntax-directed definition) can choose to use *only* synthesized attributes
- Such a grammar plus semantic actions is called an **S-attributed definition**

# Inherited Attributes

- Synthesized attributes may not be sufficient for all cases that might arise for semantic checking and code generation
- Consider the (sub)grammar:

Var-decl  $\rightarrow$  Type IdList ;

Type  $\rightarrow$  *int* | *bool*

IdList  $\rightarrow$  ID

IdList  $\rightarrow$  ID , IdList

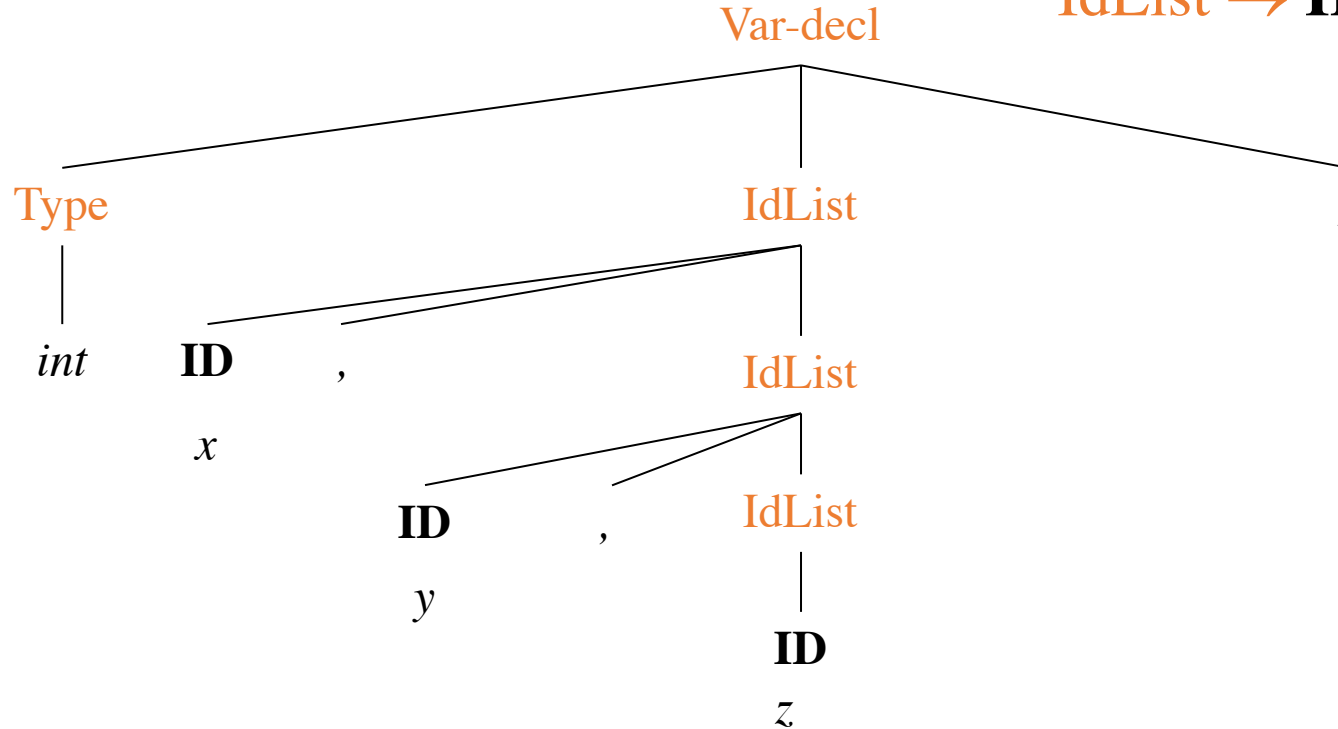
Example input: *int* *x*, *y*, *z* ;

Var-decl  $\rightarrow$  Type IdList

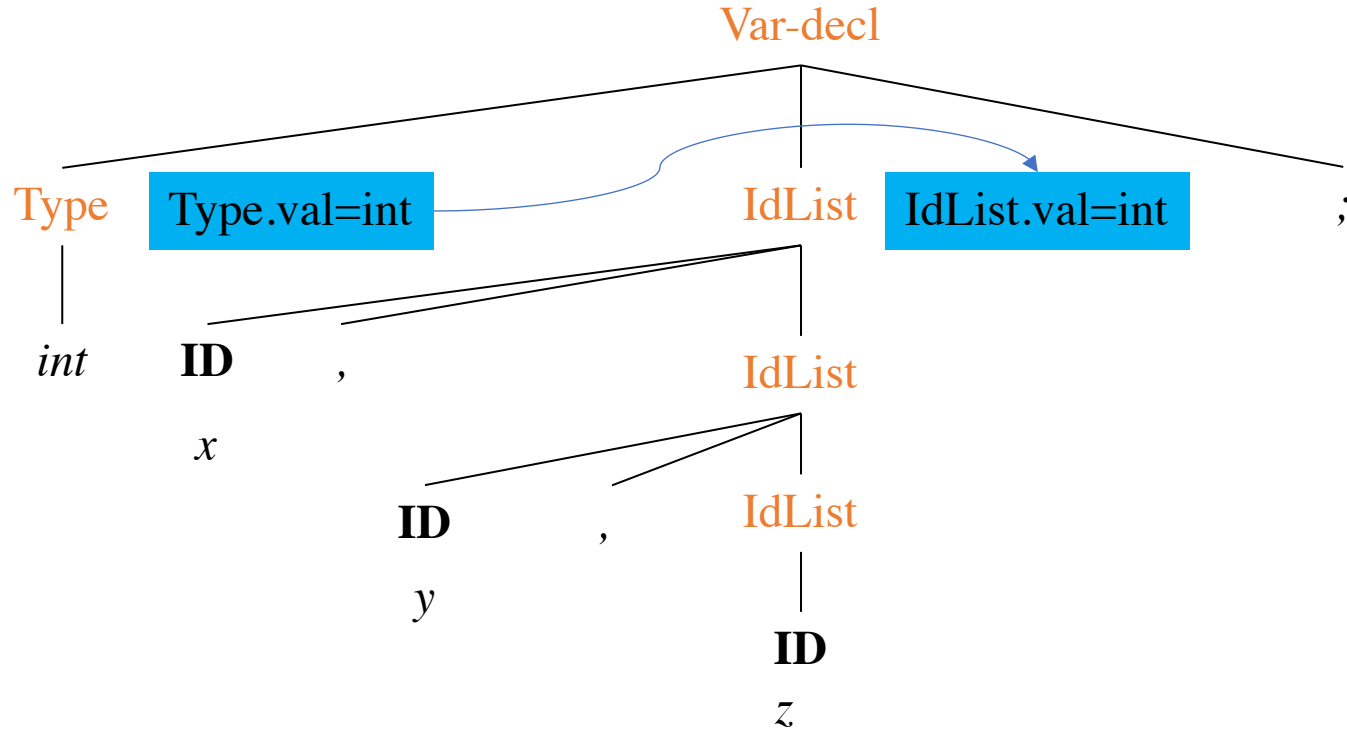
Type  $\rightarrow$  *int* | *bool*

IdList  $\rightarrow$  **ID**

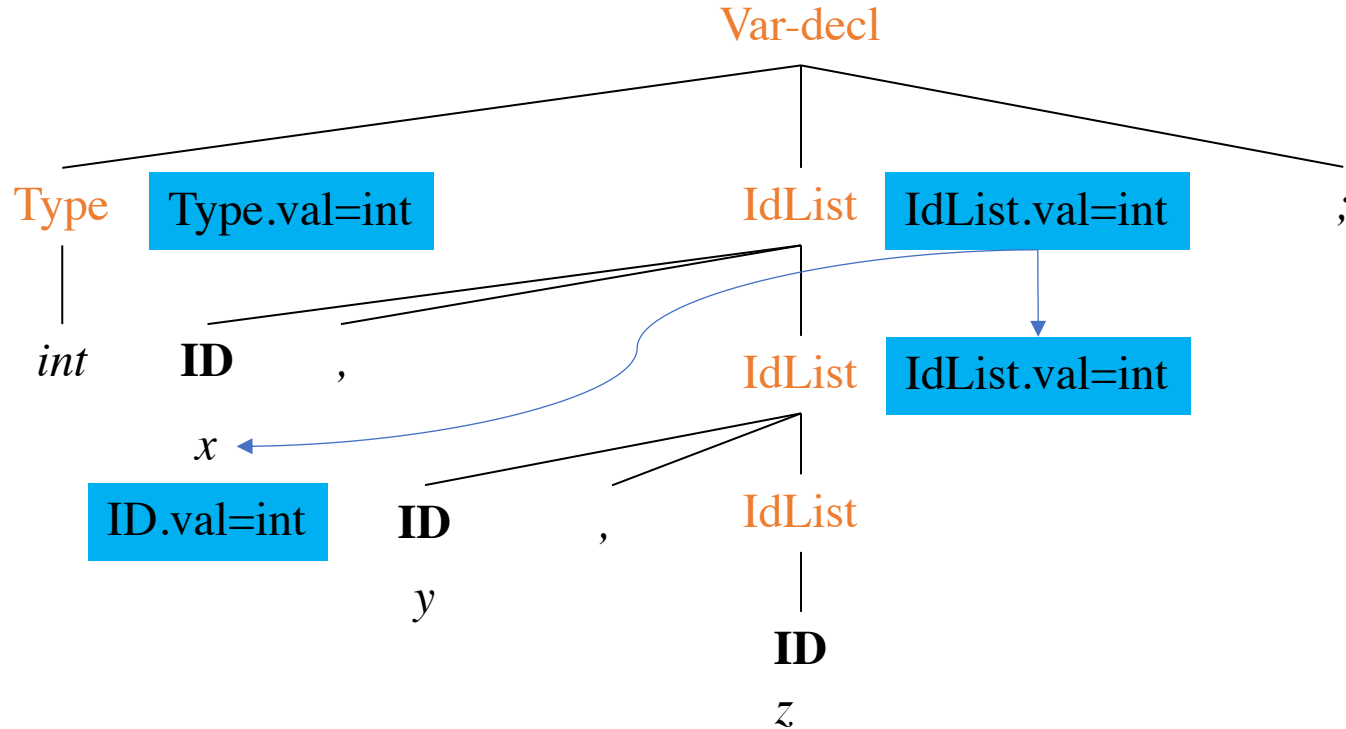
IdList  $\rightarrow$  **ID** , IdList



Example input: *int x, y, z ;*

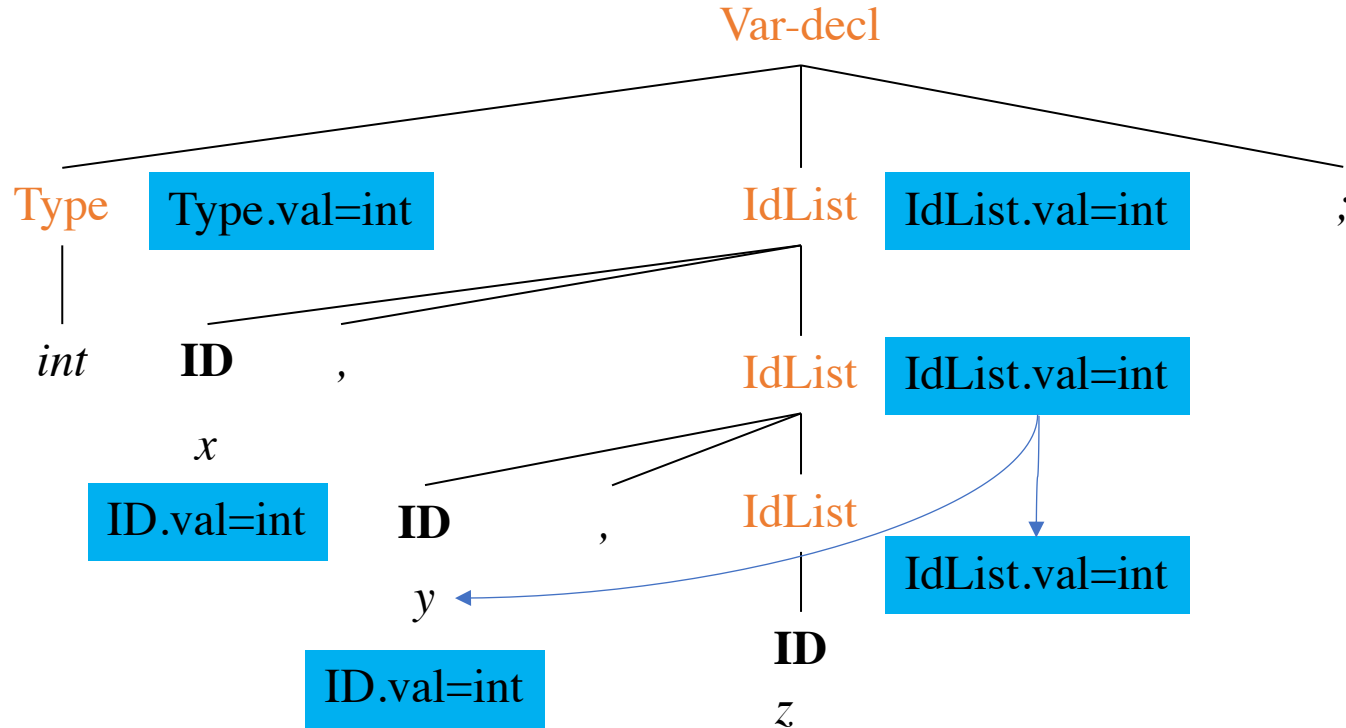


Example input: *int x, y, z ;*

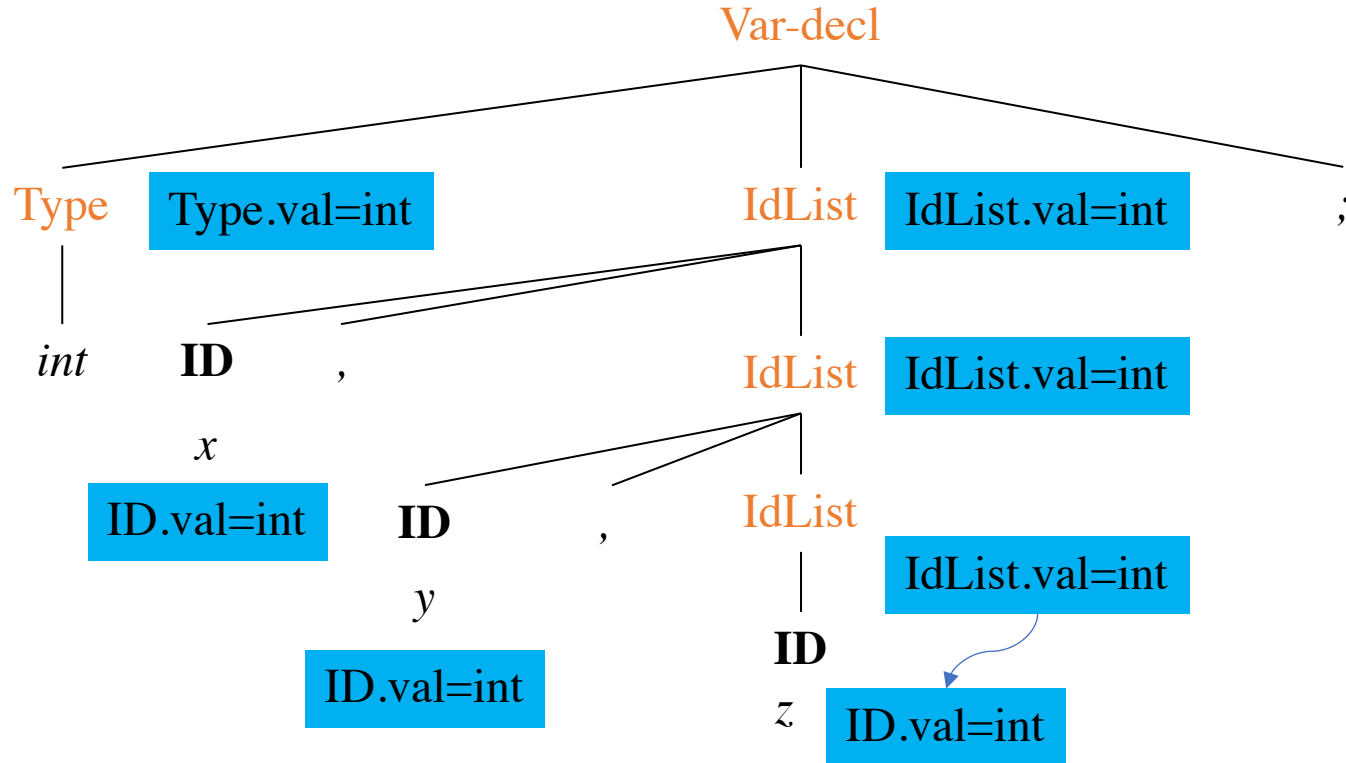




Example input: *int x, y, z ;*



Example input: *int x, y, z ;*



# Flow of Attributes in *Var-decl*

- How do the attributes flow in the *Var-decl* grammar?
- **ID** takes its attribute value from its parent node
- *IdList* takes its attribute from its left sibling *Type*
- or *IdList* takes its attribute from its parent *IdList*

# Syntax-directed definition

**Var-decl**  $\rightarrow$  **Type** **IdList** ;

{ \$2.in = \$1.val; }

**Type**  $\rightarrow$  **int**

{ \$\$ .val = int; }

| **bool**

{ \$\$ .val = bool; }

**IdList**  $\rightarrow$  **ID**

{ \$1.val = \$0.in; }

**IdList**  $\rightarrow$  **ID** , **IdList**

{ \$1.val = \$0.in; \$3.in = \$0.in; }

Top-down (inheriting from the left-hand side) uses \$0  
Bottom-up (sending a value to the left-hand-side) uses \$\$

# Inherited Attributes

- **Inherited attributes** are attributes that are computed at a node based on attributes from siblings or the parent
- Typically we combine synthesized attributes and inherited attributes
- Q: It is possible to convert the grammar into a form that *only* uses synthesized attributes?

Var-decl  $\rightarrow$  Type-list **ID** ;

Type-list  $\rightarrow$  Type-list **ID** ,

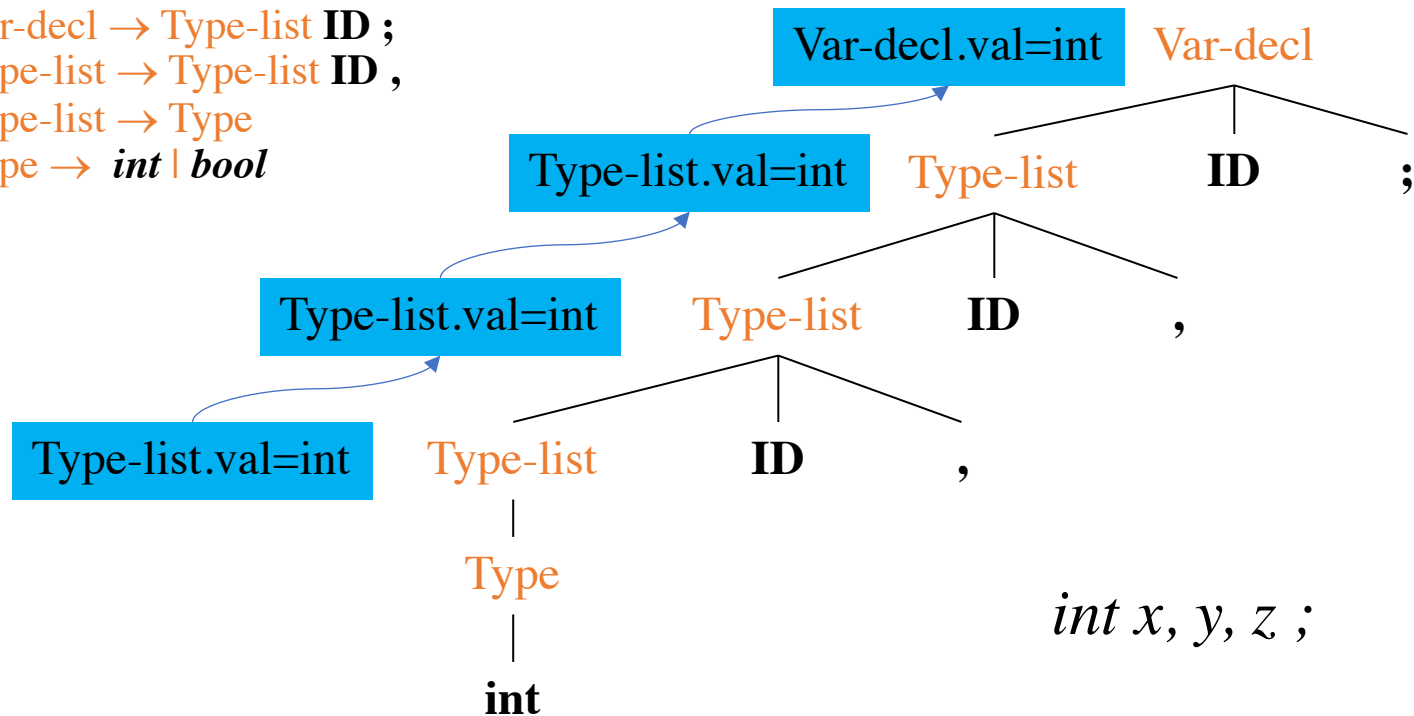
Type-list  $\rightarrow$  Type

Type  $\rightarrow$  *int* | *bool*

*int x, y, z ;*

## Removing Inherited Attributes

Var-decl  $\rightarrow$  Type-list **ID** ;  
 Type-list  $\rightarrow$  Type-list **ID** ,  
 Type-list  $\rightarrow$  Type  
 Type  $\rightarrow$  *int* | *bool*



# Removing inherited attributes

Var-decl  $\rightarrow$  Type-List **ID ;**

{ \$\$\$.val = \$1.val; }

Type-list  $\rightarrow$  Type-list **ID ,**

{ \$\$\$.val = \$1.val; }

Type-list  $\rightarrow$  Type

{ \$\$\$.val = \$1.val; }

Type  $\rightarrow$  **int**

{ \$\$\$.val = int; }

| **bool**

{ \$\$\$.val = bool; }

# Direction of inherited attributes

- Consider the syntax directed defns:

$A \rightarrow L M$

$\{ \$1.in = \$0.in; \$2.in = \$1.val; \$$.val = \$2.val; \}$

$A \rightarrow Q R$

$\{ \$2.in = \$0.in; \$1.in = \$2.val; \$$.val = \$1.val; \}$

- Problematic definition:  $\$1.in = \$2.val$
- Incompatible with incremental processing (left to right parsing)



# L-attributed Definitions

- A syntax-directed definition is **L-attributed** if for each production  $A \rightarrow X_1 \dots X_{j-1} X_j \dots X_n$ , for each  $j=1 \dots n$ , each inherited attribute of  $X_j$  depends on:
  - The attributes of  $X_1 \dots X_{j-1}$
  - The inherited attributes of  $A$
- These two conditions ensure left to right and depth first parse tree construction
- Every **S-attributed** definition is **L-attributed**

# LR parsing and inherited attributes

- LR parsing is inherently left to right
- Attributes can be stored on the stack used by the shift-reduce parsing
- For synthesized attributes: when a reduce action is invoked, store the value on the stack based on value popped from stack
- For inherited attributes: transmit the attribute value when executing the **goto** function

# Example: Synthesized Attributes

$T \rightarrow F \quad \{ \$$.val = \$1.val; \}$

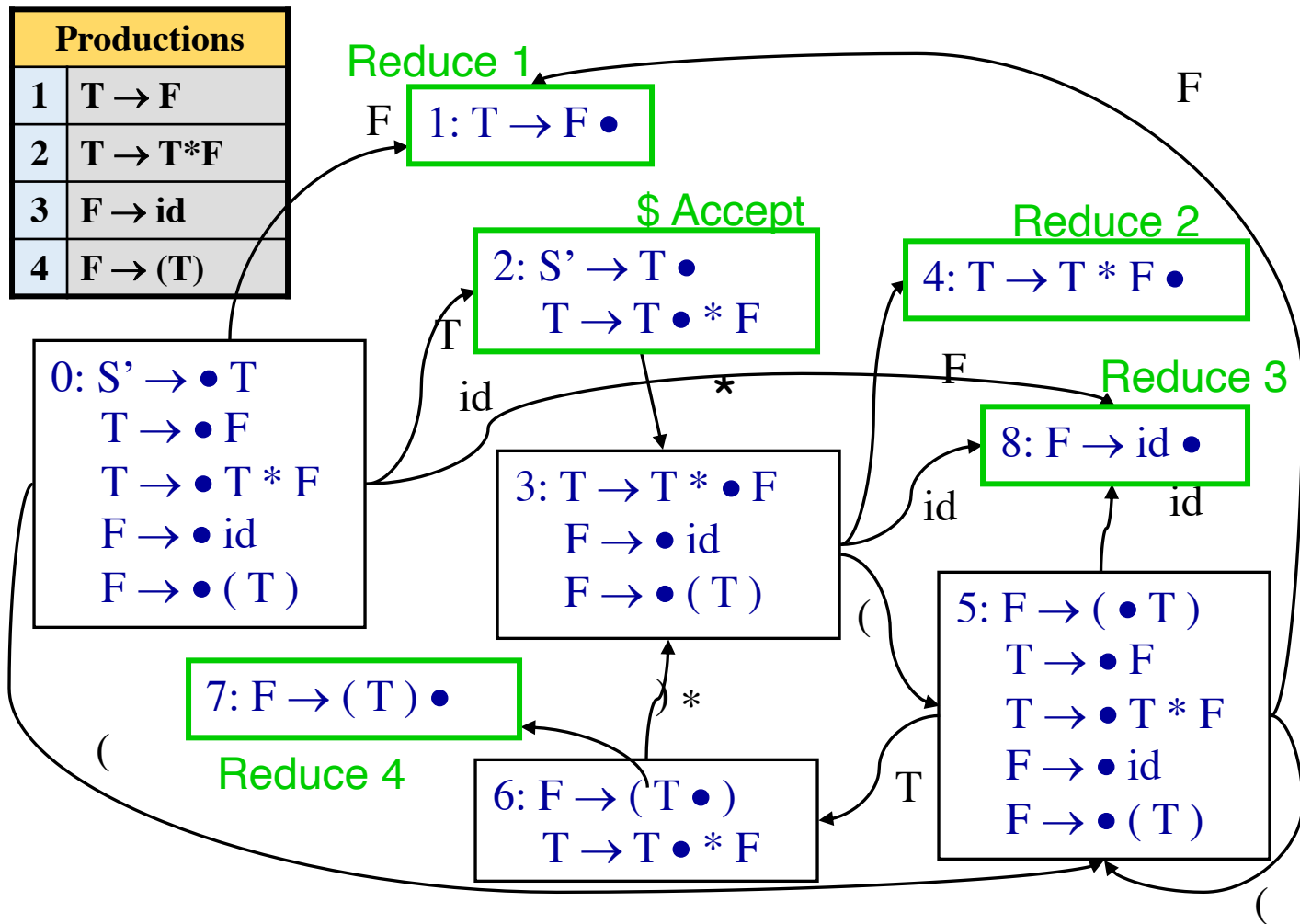
$T \rightarrow T * F$

$\{ \$$.val = \$1.val * \$3.val; \}$

$F \rightarrow \mathbf{id}$

```
{ val := id.lookup();  
  if (val) { $$.val = $1.val; }  
  else { error; }  
}
```

$F \rightarrow ( T ) \quad \{ \$$.val = \$2.val; \}$



Trace “(id<sub>val=3</sub>)\*id<sub>val=2</sub>”

Stack	Input	Action	Attribute Stack
<b>0</b>	<b>( id ) * id \$</b>	<b>Shift 5</b>	
<b>0 5</b>	<b>id ) * id \$</b>	<b>Shift 8</b>	<b>a.Push(id.val==3);</b>
<b>0 5 8</b>	<b>) * id \$</b>	<b>Reduce 3 F→id, pop 8, goto [5,F]=1</b>	<b>{ \$\$ .val = \$1.val }</b>
<b>0 5 1</b>	<b>) * id \$</b>	<b>Reduce 1 T→ F, pop 1, goto [5,T]=6</b>	<b>a.Push(a.Pop==3);</b>
<b>0 5 6</b>	<b>) * id \$</b>	<b>Shift 7</b>	<b>{ \$\$ .val = \$1.val }</b>
<b>0 5 6 7</b>	<b>* id \$</b>	<b>Reduce 4 F→ (T), pop 7 6 5, goto [0,F]=1</b>	<b>a.Push(a.Pop==3);</b> <b>{ \$\$ .val = \$2.val }</b> <b>3 pops; a.Push(3)</b>

Trace “(id<sub>val=3</sub>)\*id<sub>val=2</sub>”

Stack	Input	Action	Attribute Stack
<b>0 1</b>	<b>* id \$</b>	<b>Reduce 1 T→F, pop 1, goto [0,T]=2</b>	<b>{ \$\$ .val = \$1.val } a.Push(a.Pop==3)</b>
<b>0 2</b>	<b>* id \$</b>	<b>Shift 3</b>	<b>a.Push(*)</b>
<b>0 2 3</b>	<b>id \$</b>	<b>Shift 8</b>	<b>a.Push(id.val==2)</b>
<b>0 2 3 8</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>Reduce 3 F→id, pop 8, goto [3,F]=4</b>	<b>a.Push(a.Pop==2)</b>
<b>0 2 3 4</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>Reduce 2 T→T * F pop 4 3 2, goto [0,T]=2</b>	<b>{ \$\$ .val = \$1.val * \$3.val; } 3 pops; a.Push(3*2==6)</b>
<b>0 2</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>Accept</b>	<b>return(6)</b>

# Practice question

$S \rightarrow L . L$

$S \rightarrow L$

$L \rightarrow L . B$

$L \rightarrow B$

$B \rightarrow 0$

$B \rightarrow 1$

This grammar generates binary floating-point numbers, e.g. 101.101

Q: Write down an attribute grammar (syntax directed translation) that converts the input binary into decimal.

e.g.  $101.101 = 5\frac{5}{8} = 5.625$

integer part:  $1 \times 2^2 + 0 \times 2^1 + 1 \times 2^0 = 5$

fractional part:  $1 \times \frac{1}{2^1} + 0 \times \frac{1}{2^2} + 1 \times \frac{1}{2^3} = \frac{5}{8}$

# Practice question

$$E \rightarrow E '+' T$$

$$| T$$

$$T \rightarrow T '*' F$$

$$| F$$

$$F \rightarrow \text{exp} '(' E ')$$

$$| \ln '(' E ')'$$

$$| '-' F$$

$$| 'x'$$

$$| c$$

c stands for any integer constant

Provide a L-attributed syntax directed definition that computes the derivative of an input expression. Explain each attribute used in your attribute grammar.

$D[\text{input string}]$	output string = derivative(input string)
$D[c]$	0
$D[x]$	1
$D[x + c]$	1
$D[E_1 + E_2]$	$D[E_1] + D[E_2]$
$D[-E]$	$-D[E]$
$D[c * E]$	$c * D[E]$
$D[E_1 * E_2]$	$E_1 * D[E_2] + E_2 * D[E_1]$
$D[\text{exp}(x)]$	$\text{exp}(x)$
$D[\ln(x)]$	$1/x$
$D[f(E)]$	$D[E] * f'(E)$ , $f'$ is the derivative of $f$ if $f(E)$ is $\text{exp}(E)$ , $f'(E)$ is $\text{exp}(E)$ if $f(E)$ is $\ln(E)$ , $f'(E)$ is $1/E$



Extra Slides

# Example: Inherited Attributes

$E \rightarrow T R$

$\{ \$2.in = \$1.val; \$$.val = \$2.val; \}$

$R \rightarrow + T R$

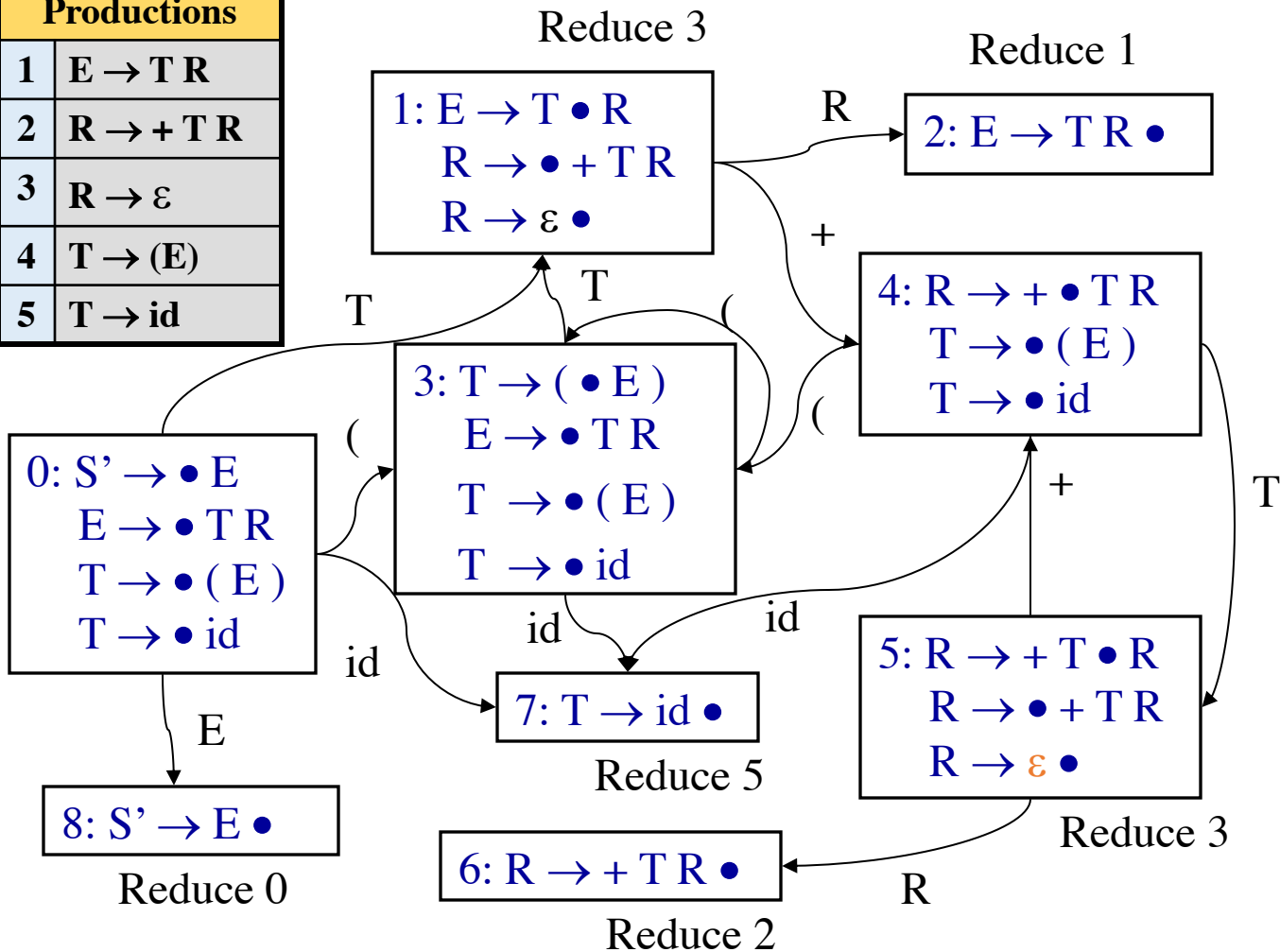
$\{ \$3.in = \$0.in + \$2.val; \$$.val = \$3.val; \}$

$R \rightarrow \epsilon \{ \$$.val = \$0.in; \}$

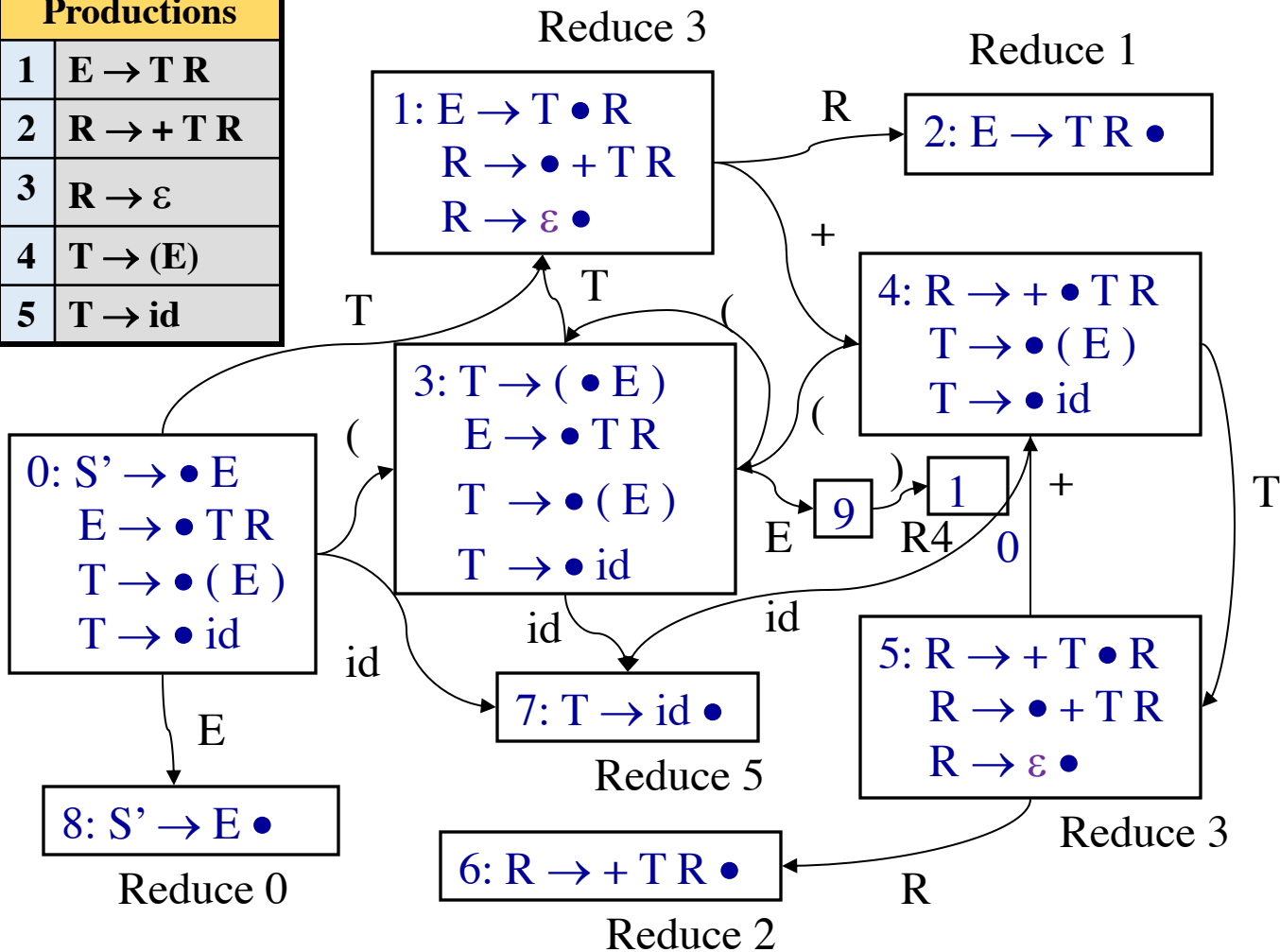
$T \rightarrow ( E ) \{ \$$.val = \$1.val; \}$

$T \rightarrow \text{id} \{ \$$.val = \text{id}.lookup; \}$

Productions	
1	$E \rightarrow T R$
2	$R \rightarrow + T R$
3	$R \rightarrow \varepsilon$
4	$T \rightarrow (E)$
5	$T \rightarrow id$



Productions	
1	$E \rightarrow T R$
2	$R \rightarrow + T R$
3	$R \rightarrow \varepsilon$
4	$T \rightarrow (E)$
5	$T \rightarrow id$



Productions					Attributes
1	$E \rightarrow T R \{ \$2.in = \$1.val; \$.val = \$2.val; \}$				
2	$R \rightarrow + T R \{ \$3.in = \$0.in + \$2.val; \$.val = \$3.val; \}$				
3	$R \rightarrow \epsilon \{ \$.val = \$0.in; \}$				
4	$T \rightarrow (E) \{ \$.val = \$1.val; \}$				
5	$T \rightarrow id \{ \$.val = id.lookup; \}$				

0 7	+ id \$	Reduce 5 $T \rightarrow id$ pop 7, goto [0,T]=1	{ $\$.val = id.lookup$ }
0 1	+ id \$	Shift 4	{ pop; attr.Push(3) $\$2.in = \$1.val$
0 1 4	id \$	Shift 7	$\$2.in := (1).attr$ }
0 1 4 7	\$	Reduce 5 $T \rightarrow id$ pop 7, goto [4,T]=5	{ $\$.val = id.lookup$ }
0 1 4 5	\$	Reduce 3 $R \rightarrow \epsilon$ goto [5,R]=6	{ pop; attr.Push(2); }
			{ $\$3.in = \$0.in + \$1.val$ $(5).attr := (1).attr + 2$ $\$.val = \$0.in$ $\$.val = (5).attr = 5$ }

# Trace “id<sub>val=3</sub>+id<sub>val=2</sub>”

Stack	Input	Action	Attributes
0	id + id \$	Shift 7	
0 7	+ id \$	Reduce 5 T→id pop 7, goto [0,T]=1	{ \$\$val = id.lookup } { pop; attr.Push(3)
0 1	+ id \$	Shift 4	\$2.in = \$1.val
0 1 4	id \$	Shift 7	\$2.in := (1).attr }
0 1 4 7	\$	Reduce 5 T→id pop 7, goto [4,T]=5	{ \$\$val = id.lookup } { pop; attr.Push(2); }
0 1 4 5	\$	Reduce 3 R→ε goto [5,R]=6	{ \$3.in = \$0.in+\$1.val (5).attr := (1).attr+2 \$\$val = \$0.in \$\$val = (5).attr = 5 }

Trace “ $\text{id}_{\text{val}=3} + \text{id}_{\text{val}=2}$ ”

Stack	Input	Action	Attributes
<b>0 1 4 5 6</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>Reduce 2 <math>R \rightarrow + T R</math></b> <b>Pop 4 5 6, goto [1,R]=2</b>	<b>{ <math>\$\$.\text{val} = \\$3.\text{val}</math></b> <b>pop; attr.Push(5); }</b> <hr/>
<b>0 1 2</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>Reduce 1 <math>E \rightarrow T R</math></b> <b>Pop 1 2, goto [0,E]=8</b>	<b>{ <math>\$\$.\text{val} = \\$3.\text{val}</math></b> <b>pop; attr.Push(5); }</b> <hr/>
<b>0 8</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>Accept</b>	<b>{ <math>\$\$.\text{val} = 5</math></b> <b>attr.top = 5; }</b>

# LR parsing with inherited attributes

Bottom-Up/rightmost	
line 3	$ccbca \Leftarrow Acbca$
	$\Leftarrow AcbB$
	$\Leftarrow AB$
	$\Leftarrow S$
	$A \rightarrow c$ $B \rightarrow ca$ $B \rightarrow cbB$ $S \rightarrow AB$

Parse stack at line 3:

$['x'] A ['x'] c b B$

$\$1.in = 'x'$

$\$2.in = \$1.val$

$A \rightarrow c \{ \$$.val = \$0.in \}$

Consider:

$S \rightarrow AB$

$\{ \$1.in = 'x';$   
 $\$2.in = \$1.val \}$

$B \rightarrow cbB$

$\{ \$$.val = \$0.in + 'y'; \}$

Parse stack at line 4:

$['x'] A B$

$['xy']$