

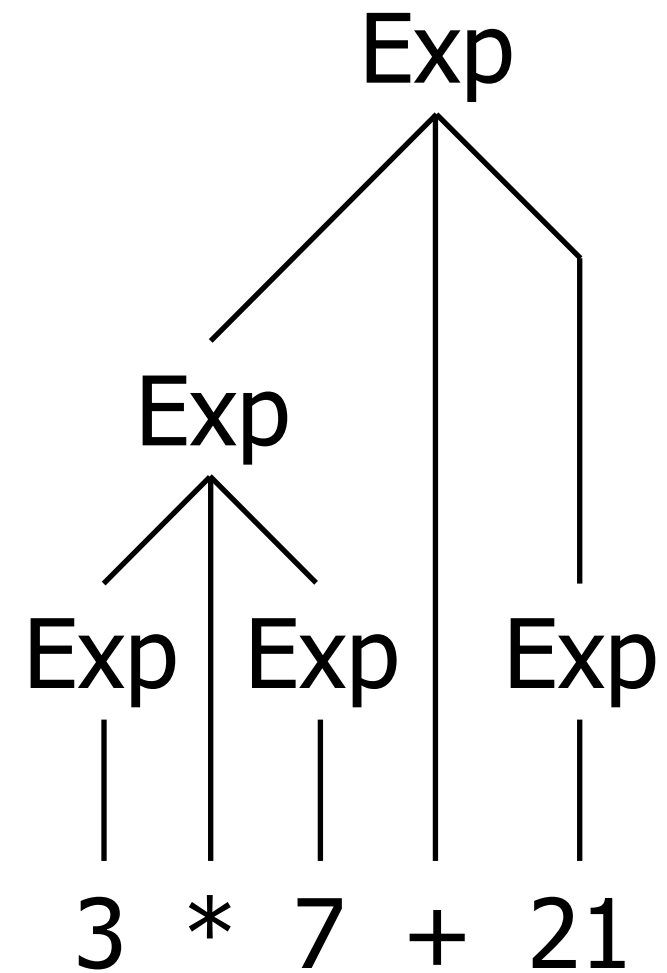
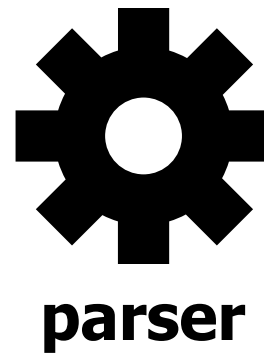
An impressionist landscape painting featuring a large, dark green tree in the foreground, a body of water in the middle ground, and a bright, hazy sky. The brushstrokes are visible and textured.

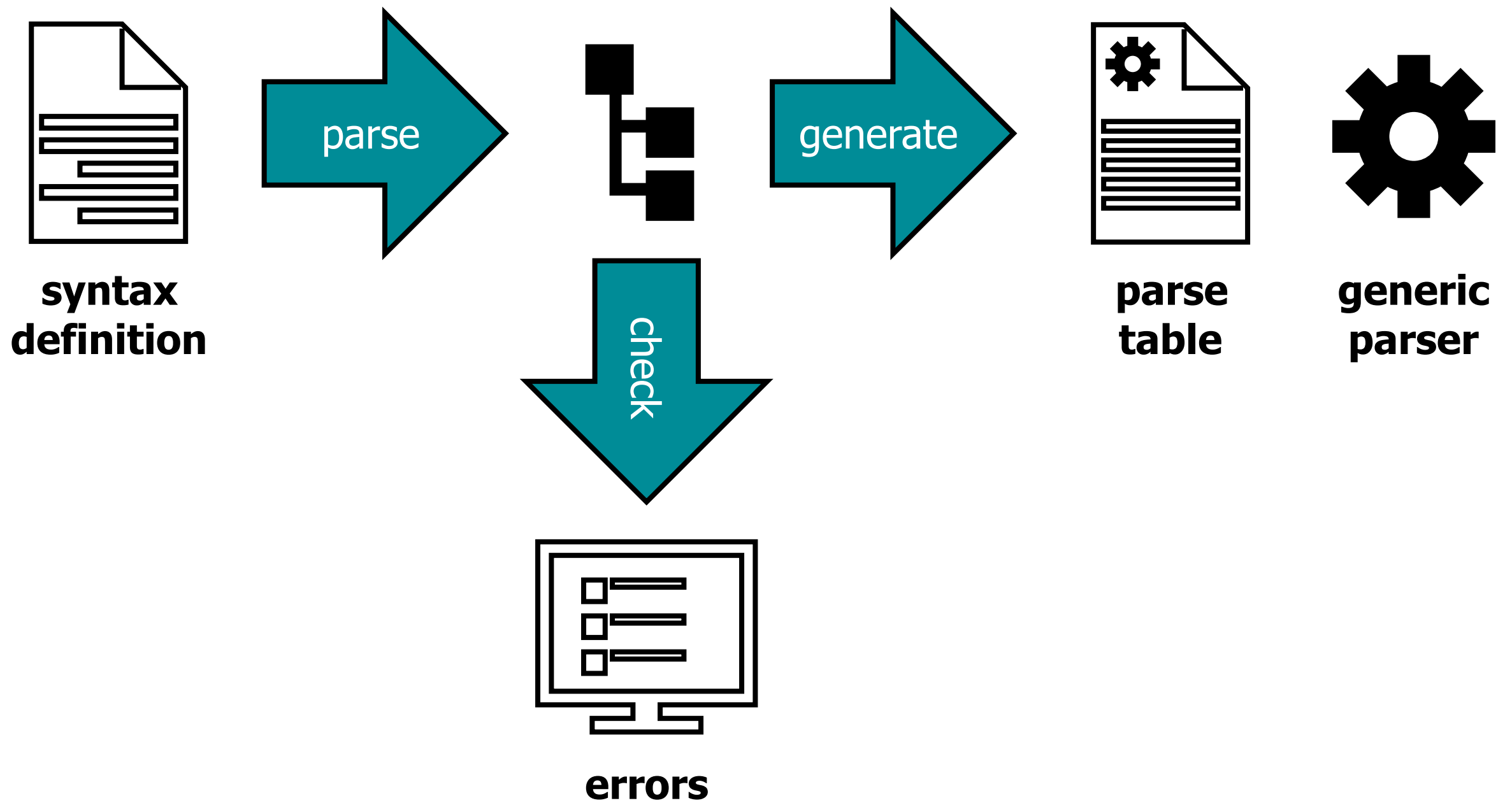
Formal Grammars

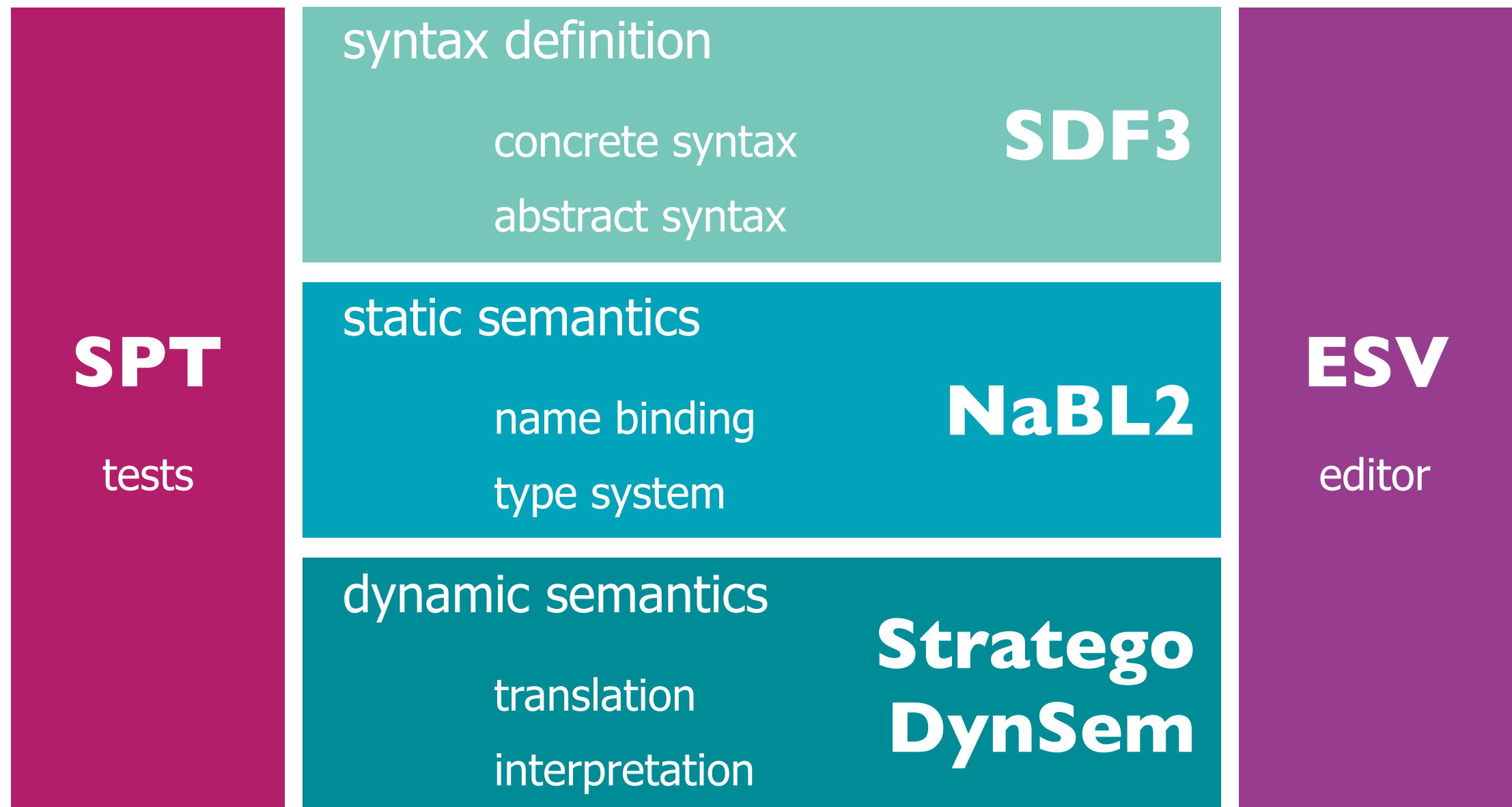
language specification

Guido Wachsmuth, Eelco Visser

3 * 7 + 21







SPT

tests

syntax definition

concrete syntax

abstract syntax

SDF3

static semantics

name binding

type system

NaBL2

dynamic semantics

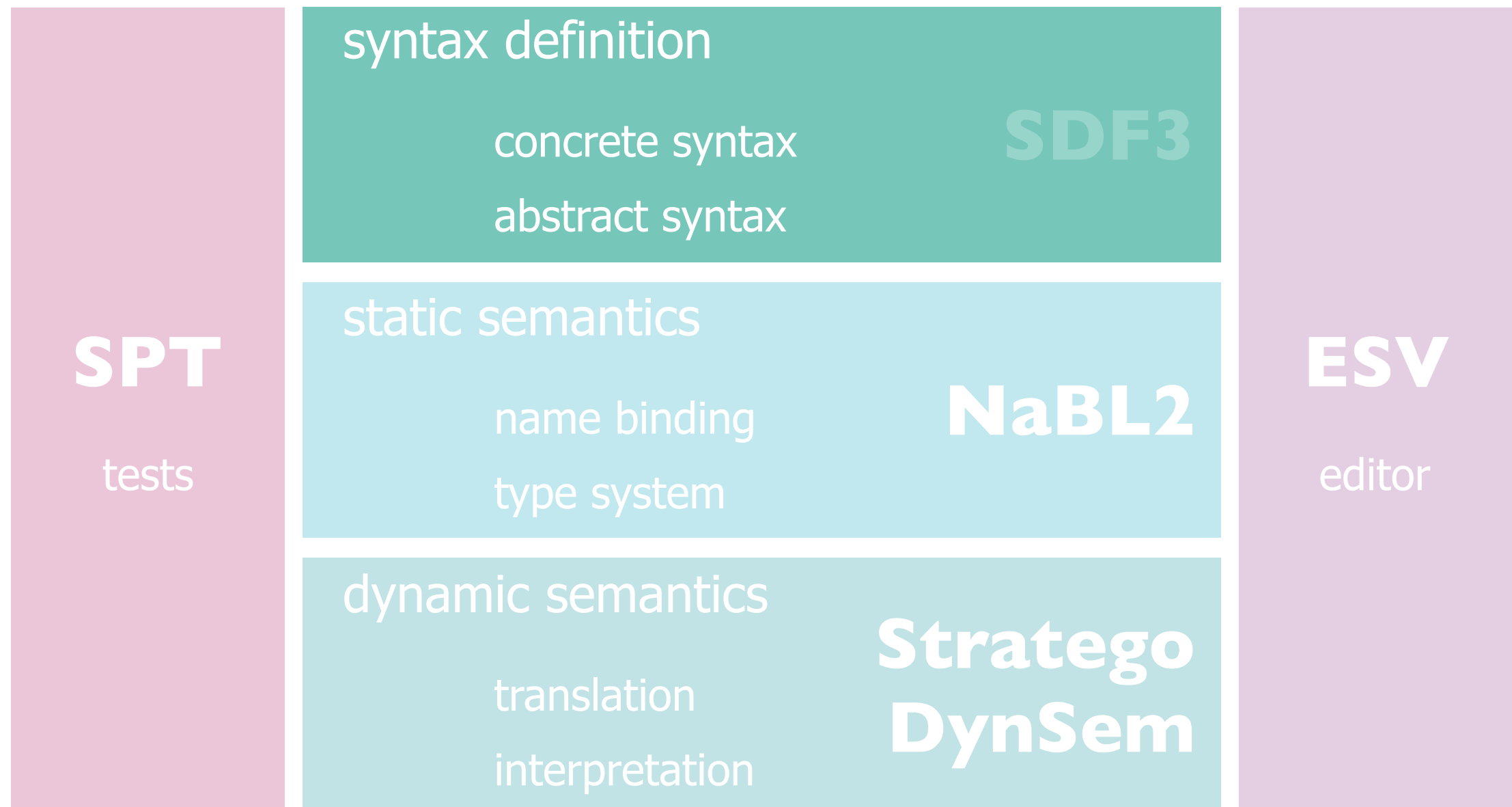
translation

interpretation

**Stratego
DynSem**

ESV

editor



P A R E N T A L

ADVISORY

THEORETICAL CONTENT

formal languages

A close-up photograph of a person's hand holding a silver pen, writing on a spiral-bound notepad. The notepad has lined paper with some handwritten text in blue ink. The background is blurred, showing a person's arm and a blue patterned object. A black rectangular box is overlaid on the left side of the image, containing the text 'infinite productivity' in white.

infinite productivity

LA DEUXIÈME ANNÉE
DE LATIN

finite models

Théorie 250 pages.

227 Exercices 100 pages.

Lexiques

24 pages blanches pour notes et 4 cartes

Philosophy

Linguistics

lexicology

grammar

morphology

syntax

phonology

semantics

Interdisciplinary

Computer Science

syntax

semantics

Philosophy

Linguistics

lexicology

grammar

morphology

syntax

phonology

semantics

Interdisciplinary

Computer Science

syntax

semantics



vocabulary Σ

finite, nonempty set of elements (words, letters)

alphabet



vocabulary Σ

finite, nonempty set of elements (words, letters)

alphabet

string over Σ

finite sequence of elements chosen from Σ

word, sentence, utterance



vocabulary Σ

finite, nonempty set of elements (words, letters)

alphabet

string over Σ

finite sequence of elements chosen from Σ

word, sentence, utterance

formal language λ

set of strings over a vocabulary Σ

$$\lambda \subseteq \Sigma^*$$



formal grammars

formal grammar G

derivation relation \Rightarrow_G

formal language $L(G) \subseteq \Sigma^*$

$$L(G) = \{w \in \Sigma^* \mid S \Rightarrow_G^* w\}$$



decimal numbers

morphology

$G = (N, \Sigma, P, S)$

Num \rightarrow Digit Num

Num \rightarrow Digit

Digit \rightarrow "0"

Digit \rightarrow "1"

Digit \rightarrow "2"

Digit \rightarrow "3"

Digit \rightarrow "4"

Digit \rightarrow "5"

Digit \rightarrow "6"

Digit \rightarrow "7"

Digit \rightarrow "8"

Digit \rightarrow "9"

decimal numbers

morphology

$G = (N, \Sigma, P, S)$

Num \rightarrow Digit Num

Num \rightarrow Digit

Digit \rightarrow "0"

Digit \rightarrow "1"

Digit \rightarrow "2"

Digit \rightarrow "3"

Digit \rightarrow "4"

Digit \rightarrow "5"

Digit \rightarrow "6"

Digit \rightarrow "7"

Digit \rightarrow "8"

Digit \rightarrow "9"

Σ : finite set of terminal symbols

decimal numbers

morphology

$G = (N, \Sigma, P, S)$

Num \rightarrow Digit Num

Num \rightarrow Digit

Digit \rightarrow "0"

Digit \rightarrow "1"

Digit \rightarrow "2"

Digit \rightarrow "3"

Digit \rightarrow "4"

Digit \rightarrow "5"

Digit \rightarrow "6"

Digit \rightarrow "7"

Digit \rightarrow "8"

Digit \rightarrow "9"

Σ : finite set of terminal symbols

N : finite set of non-terminal symbols

decimal numbers

morphology

$G = (N, \Sigma, P, S)$

$\text{Num} \rightarrow \text{Digit Num}$

$\text{Num} \rightarrow \text{Digit}$

$\text{Digit} \rightarrow "0"$

$\text{Digit} \rightarrow "1"$

$\text{Digit} \rightarrow "2"$

$\text{Digit} \rightarrow "3"$

$\text{Digit} \rightarrow "4"$

$\text{Digit} \rightarrow "5"$

$\text{Digit} \rightarrow "6"$

$\text{Digit} \rightarrow "7"$

$\text{Digit} \rightarrow "8"$

$\text{Digit} \rightarrow "9"$

Σ : finite set of terminal symbols

N : finite set of non-terminal symbols

$S \in N$: start symbol

decimal numbers

morphology

$$G = (N, \Sigma, P, S)$$

Num \rightarrow Digit Num

Num \rightarrow Digit

Digit \rightarrow "0"

Digit \rightarrow "1"

Digit \rightarrow "2"

Digit \rightarrow "3"

Digit \rightarrow "4"

Digit \rightarrow "5"

Digit \rightarrow "6"

Digit \rightarrow "7"

Digit \rightarrow "8"

Digit \rightarrow "9"

Σ : finite set of terminal symbols

N : finite set of non-terminal symbols

$S \in N$: start symbol

$P \subseteq N \times (N \cup \Sigma)^*$: set of production rules

decimal numbers

production

Num \Rightarrow

Digit Num \Rightarrow

4 Num \Rightarrow

4 Digit Num \Rightarrow

4 3 Num \Rightarrow

4 3 Digit Num \Rightarrow

4 3 0 Num \Rightarrow

4 3 0 Digit \Rightarrow

4 3 0 3

Num \rightarrow Digit Num

Digit \rightarrow "4"

Num \rightarrow Digit Num

Digit \rightarrow "3"

Num \rightarrow Digit Num

Digit \rightarrow "0"

Num \rightarrow Digit

Digit \rightarrow "3"

decimal numbers

production

Num \Rightarrow

Digit Num \Rightarrow

4 Num \Rightarrow

4 Digit Num \Rightarrow

4 3 Num \Rightarrow

4 3 Digit Num \Rightarrow

4 3 0 Num \Rightarrow

4 3 0 Digit \Rightarrow

4 3 0 3

Num \rightarrow Digit Num

Digit \rightarrow "4"

Num \rightarrow Digit Num

Digit \rightarrow "3"

Num \rightarrow Digit Num

Digit \rightarrow "0"

Num \rightarrow Digit

Digit \rightarrow "3"

leftmost derivation

decimal numbers

production

Num \Rightarrow

Digit Num \Rightarrow

Digit Digit Num \Rightarrow

Digit Digit Digit Num \Rightarrow

Digit Digit Digit Digit \Rightarrow

Digit Digit Digit 3 \Rightarrow

Digit Digit 0 3 \Rightarrow

Digit 3 0 3 \Rightarrow

4 3 0 3

Num \rightarrow Digit Num

Num \rightarrow Digit Num

Num \rightarrow Digit Num

Num \rightarrow Digit

Digit \rightarrow "3"

Digit \rightarrow "0"

Digit \rightarrow "3"

Digit \rightarrow "4"

decimal numbers

production

Num \Rightarrow

Digit Num \Rightarrow

Digit Digit Num \Rightarrow

Digit Digit Digit Num \Rightarrow

Digit Digit Digit Digit \Rightarrow

Digit Digit Digit 3 \Rightarrow

Digit Digit 0 3 \Rightarrow

Digit 3 0 3 \Rightarrow

4 3 0 3

Num \rightarrow Digit Num

Num \rightarrow Digit Num

Num \rightarrow Digit Num

Num \rightarrow Digit

Digit \rightarrow "3"

Digit \rightarrow "0"

Digit \rightarrow "3"

Digit \rightarrow "4"

rightmost derivation

binary expressions

syntax

$G = (N, \Sigma, P, S)$

$\text{Exp} \rightarrow \text{Num}$

$\text{Exp} \rightarrow \text{Exp} \text{ "+" } \text{Exp}$

$\text{Exp} \rightarrow \text{Exp} \text{ "-" } \text{Exp}$

$\text{Exp} \rightarrow \text{Exp} \text{ "*" } \text{Exp}$

$\text{Exp} \rightarrow \text{Exp} \text{ "/" } \text{Exp}$

$\text{Exp} \rightarrow \text{"(" Exp ")"}$

binary expressions

syntax

$G = (N, \Sigma, P, S)$

$\text{Exp} \rightarrow \text{Num}$

$\text{Exp} \rightarrow \text{Exp} \text{ "+" } \text{Exp}$

$\text{Exp} \rightarrow \text{Exp} \text{ "-" } \text{Exp}$

$\text{Exp} \rightarrow \text{Exp} \text{ "*" } \text{Exp}$

$\text{Exp} \rightarrow \text{Exp} \text{ "/" } \text{Exp}$

$\text{Exp} \rightarrow \text{"(" Exp ")"}$

Σ : finite set of terminal symbols

binary expressions

syntax

$G = (N, \Sigma, P, S)$

$\text{Exp} \rightarrow \text{Num}$

$\text{Exp} \rightarrow \text{Exp} \text{ "+" } \text{Exp}$

$\text{Exp} \rightarrow \text{Exp} \text{ "-" } \text{Exp}$

$\text{Exp} \rightarrow \text{Exp} \text{ "*" } \text{Exp}$

$\text{Exp} \rightarrow \text{Exp} \text{ "/" } \text{Exp}$

$\text{Exp} \rightarrow \text{"(" Exp ")"}$

Σ : finite set of terminal symbols

N : finite set of non-terminal symbols

binary expressions

syntax

$G = (N, \Sigma, P, S)$

$\text{Exp} \rightarrow \text{Num}$

$\text{Exp} \rightarrow \text{Exp} \text{ "+" } \text{Exp}$

$\text{Exp} \rightarrow \text{Exp} \text{ "-" } \text{Exp}$

$\text{Exp} \rightarrow \text{Exp} \text{ "*" } \text{Exp}$

$\text{Exp} \rightarrow \text{Exp} \text{ "/" } \text{Exp}$

$\text{Exp} \rightarrow \text{"(" Exp ")"}$

Σ : finite set of terminal symbols

N : finite set of non-terminal symbols

$S \in N$: start symbol

binary expressions

syntax

$G = (N, \Sigma, P, S)$

$\text{Exp} \rightarrow \text{Num}$

$\text{Exp} \rightarrow \text{Exp} \text{ "+" } \text{Exp}$

$\text{Exp} \rightarrow \text{Exp} \text{ "-" } \text{Exp}$

$\text{Exp} \rightarrow \text{Exp} \text{ "*" } \text{Exp}$

$\text{Exp} \rightarrow \text{Exp} \text{ "/" } \text{Exp}$

$\text{Exp} \rightarrow \text{"(" Exp ")"}$

Σ : finite set of terminal symbols

N : finite set of non-terminal symbols

$S \in N$: start symbol

$P \subseteq N \times (N \cup \Sigma)^*$: set of production rules

binary expressions

production

$\text{Exp} \Rightarrow$

$\text{Exp} + \text{Exp} \Rightarrow$

$\text{Exp} + \text{Exp} * \text{Exp} \Rightarrow$

$3 + \text{Exp} * \text{Exp} \Rightarrow$

$3 + 4 * \text{Exp} \Rightarrow$

$3 + 4 * 5$

$\text{Exp} \rightarrow \text{Exp} "+" \text{Exp}$

$\text{Exp} \rightarrow \text{Exp} "*" \text{Exp}$

$\text{Exp} \rightarrow \text{Num}$

$\text{Exp} \rightarrow \text{Num}$

$\text{Exp} \rightarrow \text{Num}$

formal grammar $G = (N, \Sigma, P, S)$

nonterminal symbols N

terminal symbols Σ

production rules $P \subseteq (N \cup \Sigma)^* N (N \cup \Sigma)^* \times (N \cup \Sigma)^*$

start symbol $S \in N$



formal grammar $G = (N, \Sigma, P, S)$

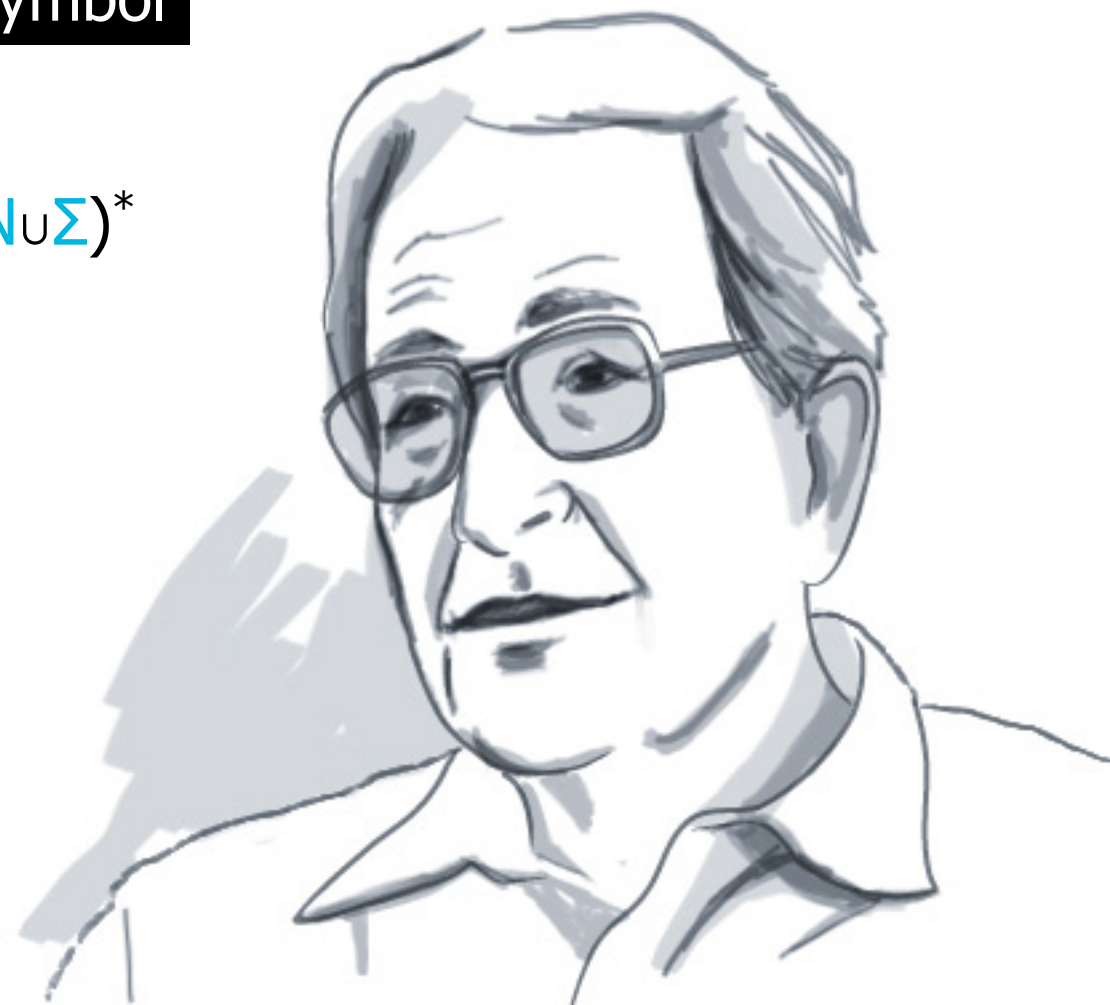
nonterminal symbols N

nonterminal symbol

terminal symbols Σ

production rules $P \subseteq (N \cup \Sigma)^* \boxed{N} (N \cup \Sigma)^* \times (N \cup \Sigma)^*$

start symbol $S \in N$



formal grammar $G = (N, \Sigma, P, S)$

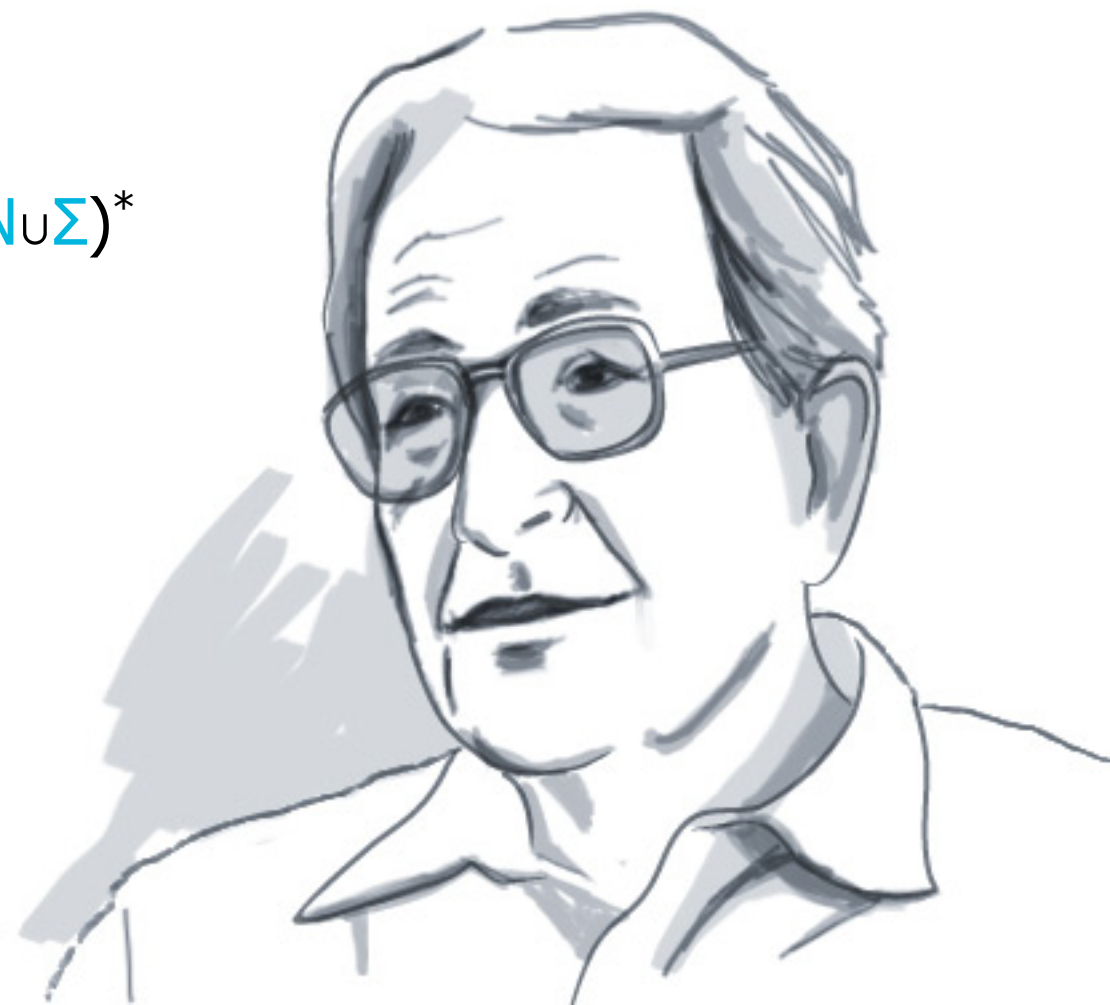
nonterminal symbols N

terminal symbols Σ

production rules $P \subseteq \boxed{(N \cup \Sigma)^*} N \boxed{(N \cup \Sigma)^*} \times (N \cup \Sigma)^*$

start symbol $S \in N$

context



formal grammar $G = (N, \Sigma, P, S)$

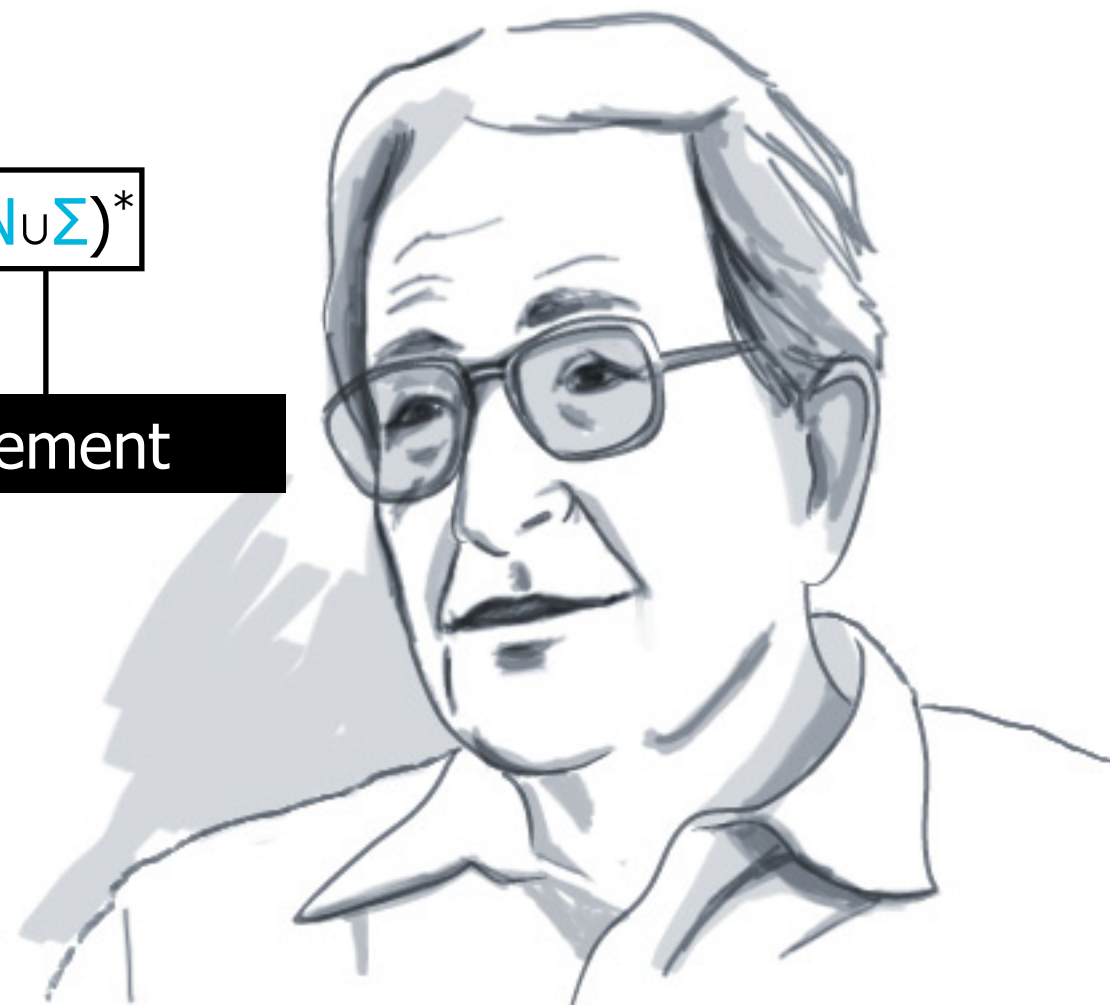
nonterminal symbols N

terminal symbols Σ

production rules $P \subseteq (N \cup \Sigma)^* N (N \cup \Sigma)^* \times (N \cup \Sigma)^*$

start symbol $S \in N$

replacement



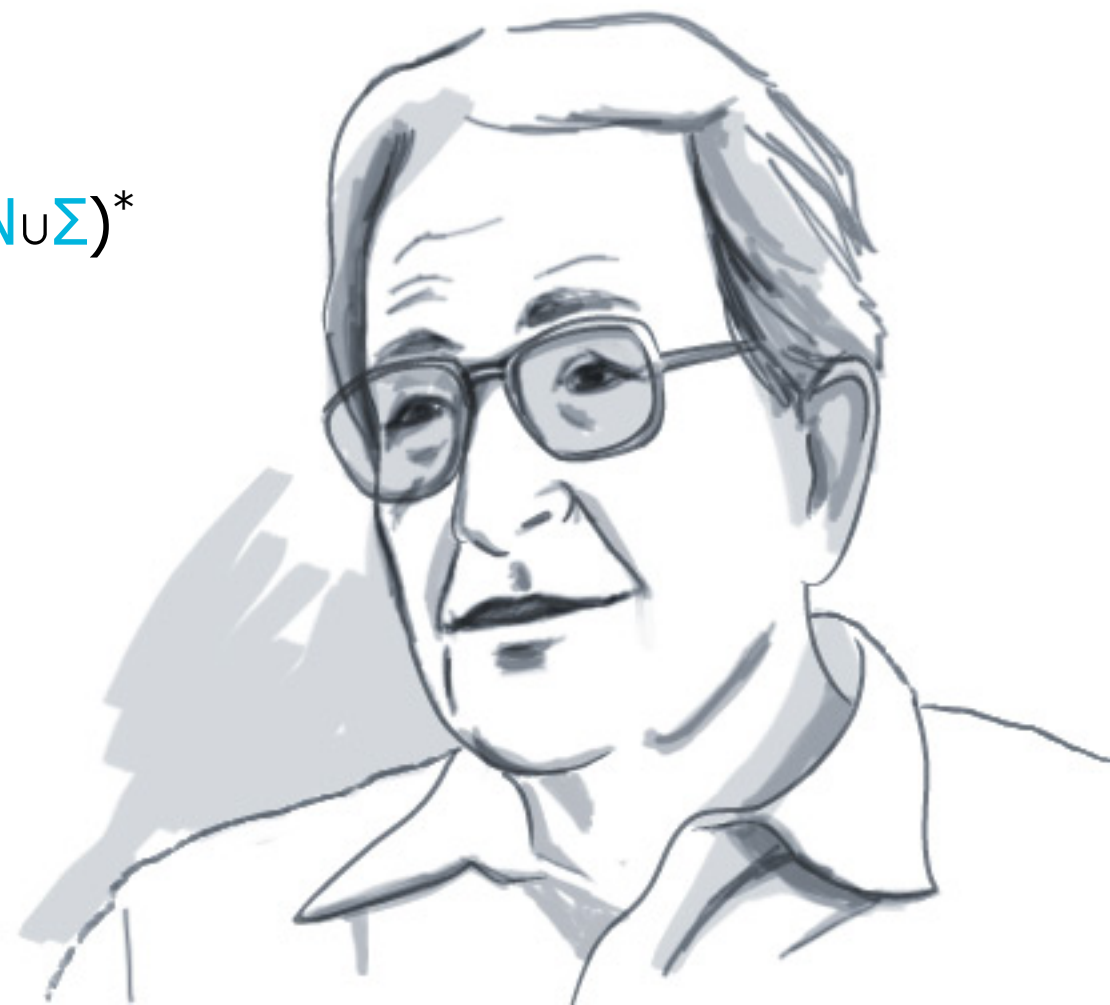
formal grammar $G = (N, \Sigma, P, S)$

nonterminal symbols N

terminal symbols Σ

production rules $P \subseteq (N \cup \Sigma)^* N (N \cup \Sigma)^* \times (N \cup \Sigma)^*$

start symbol $S \in N$



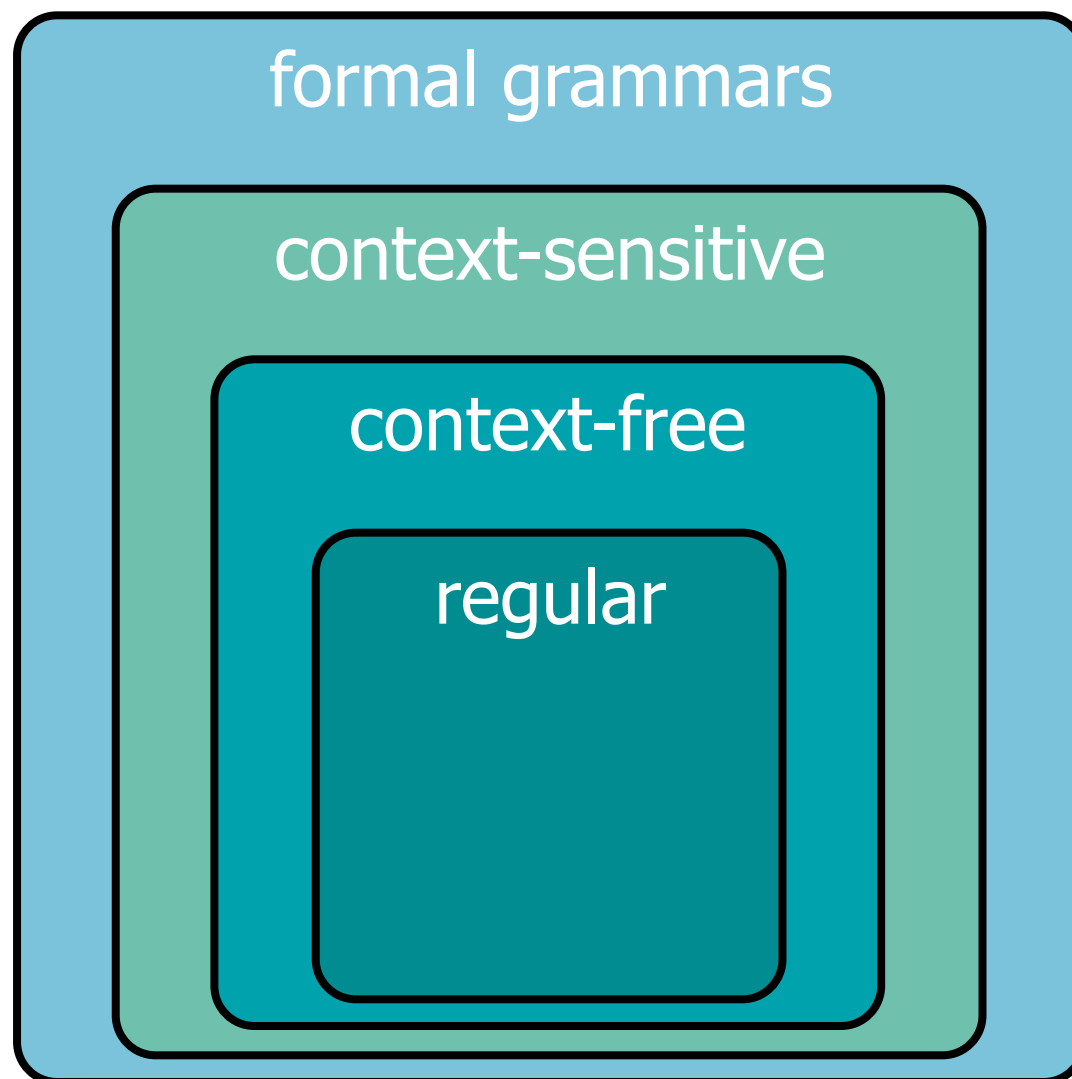
type-0, unrestricted: $P \subseteq (N \cup \Sigma)^* N (N \cup \Sigma)^* \times (N \cup \Sigma)^*$

type-1, context-sensitive: $(a A c, a b c)$

type-2, context-free: $P \subseteq N \times (N \cup \Sigma)^*$

type-3, regular: (A, x) or (A, xB)





formal grammar G

derivation relation \Rightarrow_G

formal language $L(G) \subseteq \Sigma^*$

$$L(G) = \{w \in \Sigma^* \mid S \Rightarrow_G^* w\}$$



formal grammar $G = (N, \Sigma, P, S)$

derivation relation $\Rightarrow_G \subseteq (N \cup \Sigma)^* \times (N \cup \Sigma)^*$

$$W \Rightarrow_G W' \Leftrightarrow$$

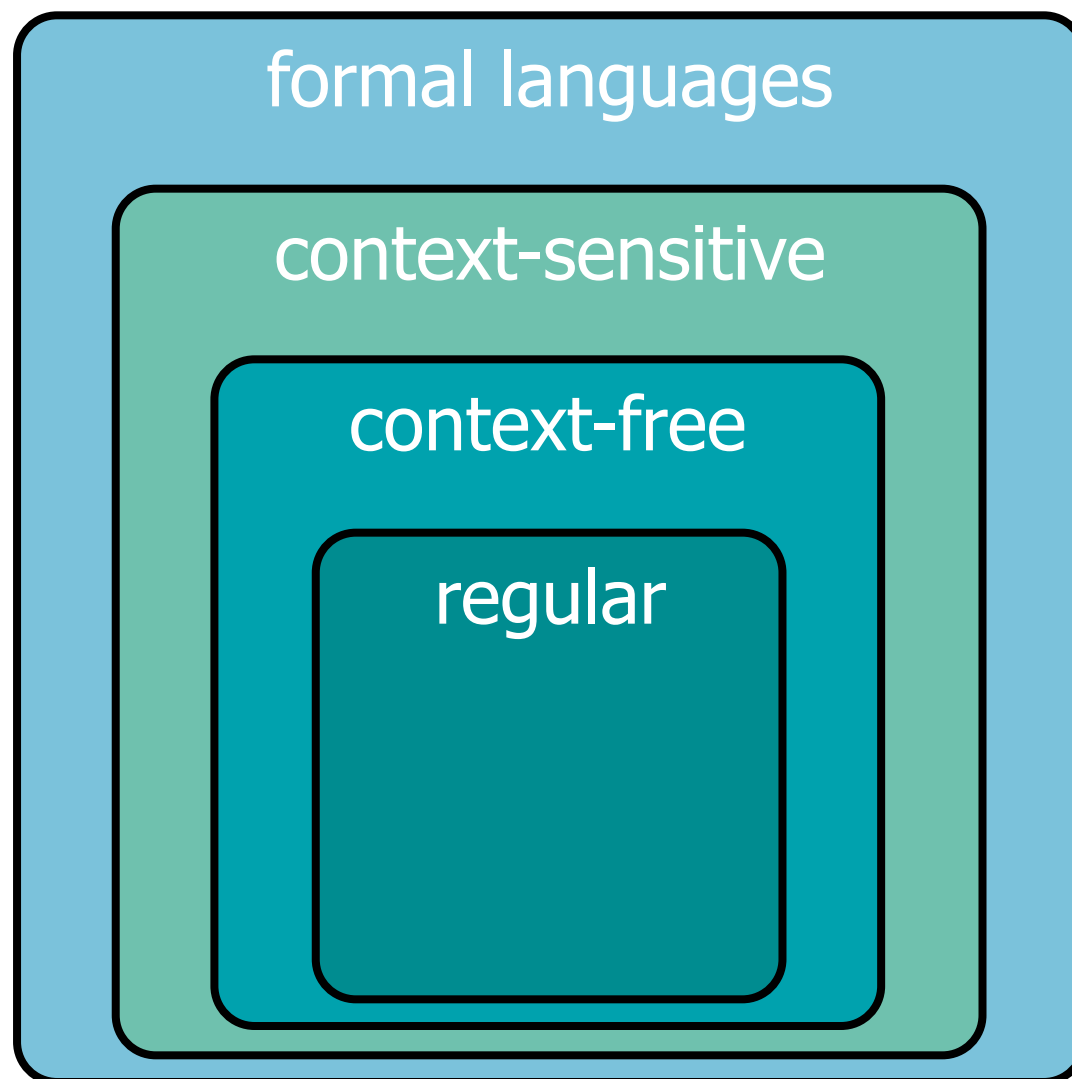
$$\exists (p, q) \in P: \exists u, v \in (N \cup \Sigma)^*:$$

$$W = u p v \wedge W' = u q v$$

formal language $L(G) \subseteq \Sigma^*$

$$L(G) = \{W \in \Sigma^* \mid S \Rightarrow_G^* W\}$$

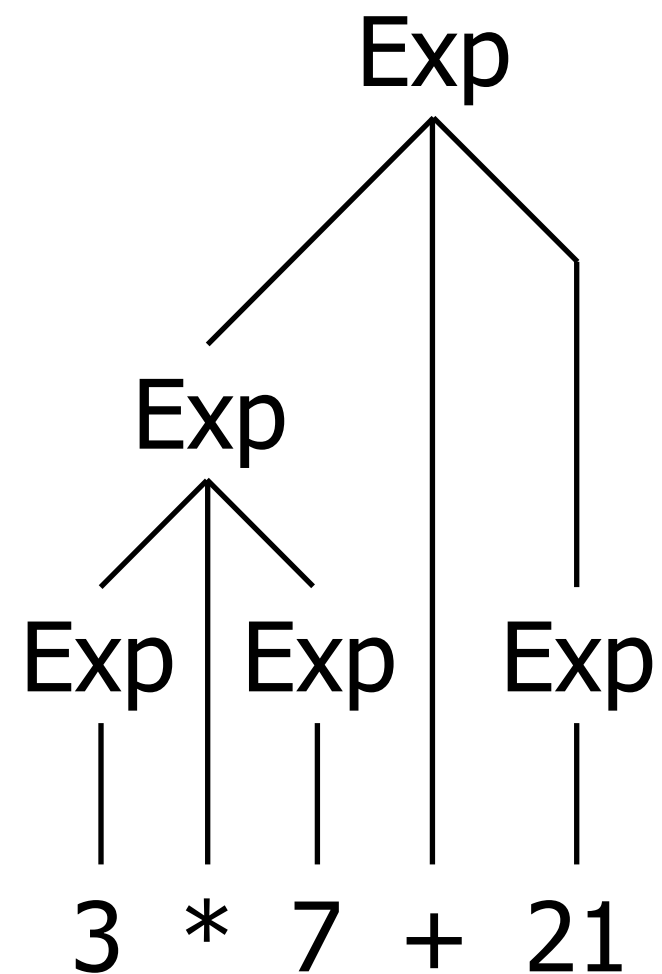
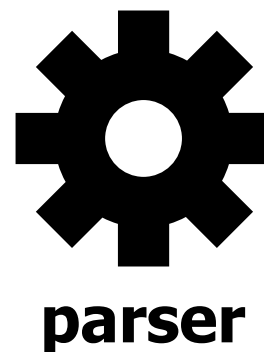




Derivation is about productivity.

But what about parsing?

3 * 7 + 21



word problem

theoretical computer science

decidability & complexity

word problem $\chi_L: \Sigma^* \rightarrow \{0,1\}$

$w \rightarrow 1$, if $w \in L$

$w \rightarrow 0$, else

theoretical computer science

decidability & complexity

word problem $\chi_L: \Sigma^* \rightarrow \{0,1\}$

$w \rightarrow 1$, if $w \in L$

$w \rightarrow 0$, else

decidability

type-0: semi-decidable

type-1, type-2, type-3: decidable

theoretical computer science

decidability & complexity

word problem $\chi_L: \Sigma^* \rightarrow \{0,1\}$

$w \rightarrow 1$, if $w \in L$

$w \rightarrow 0$, else

decidability

type-0: semi-decidable

type-1, type-2, type-3: decidable

complexity

type-1: PSPACE-complete

type-2, type-3: P

theoretical computer science

decidability & complexity

word problem $\chi_L: \Sigma^* \rightarrow \{0,1\}$

$w \rightarrow 1$, if $w \in L$

$w \rightarrow 0$, else

decidability

type-0: semi-decidable

type-1, type-2, type-3: decidable

complexity

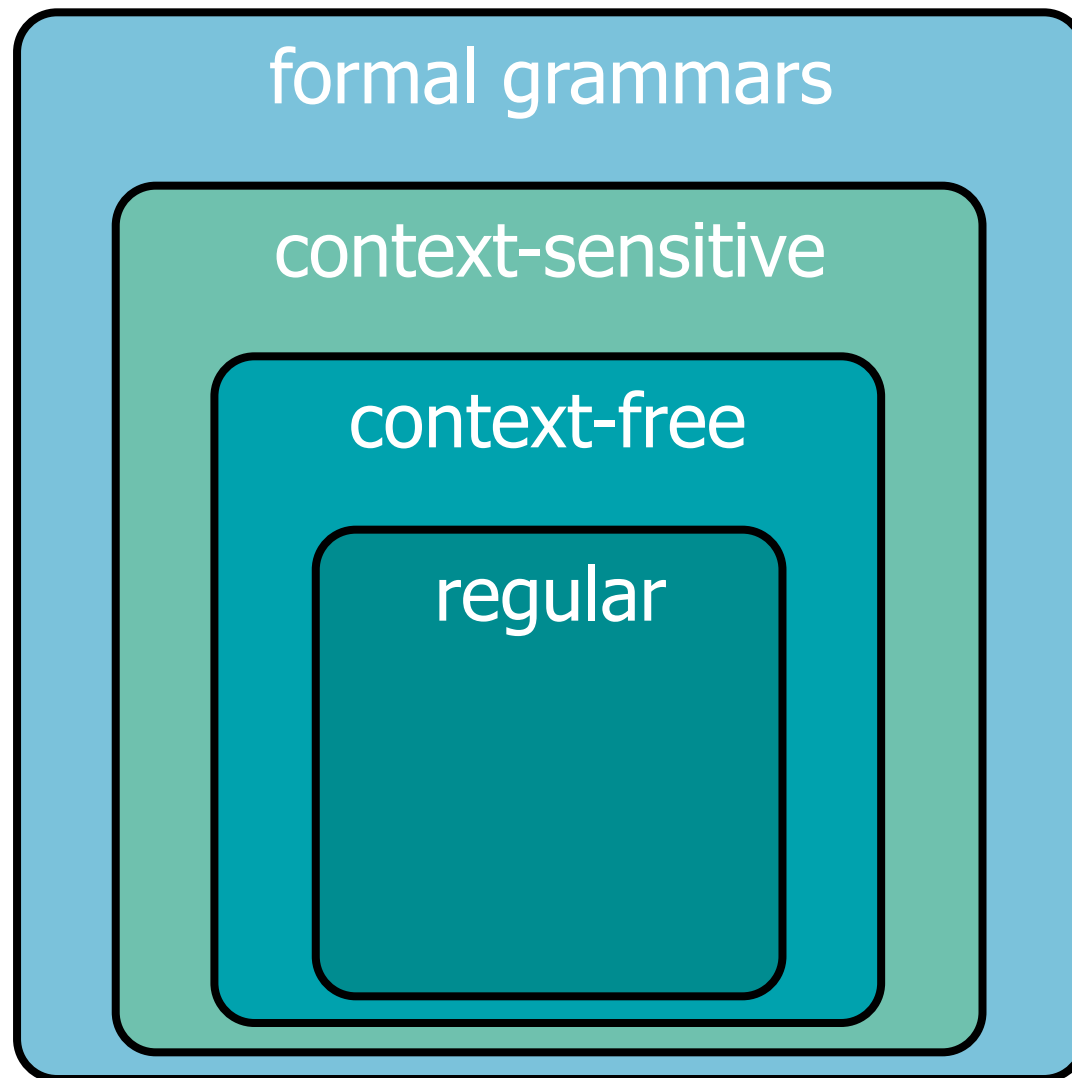
type-1: PSPACE-complete

type-2, type-3: P

$\text{PSPACE} \supseteq \text{NP} \supseteq \text{P}$

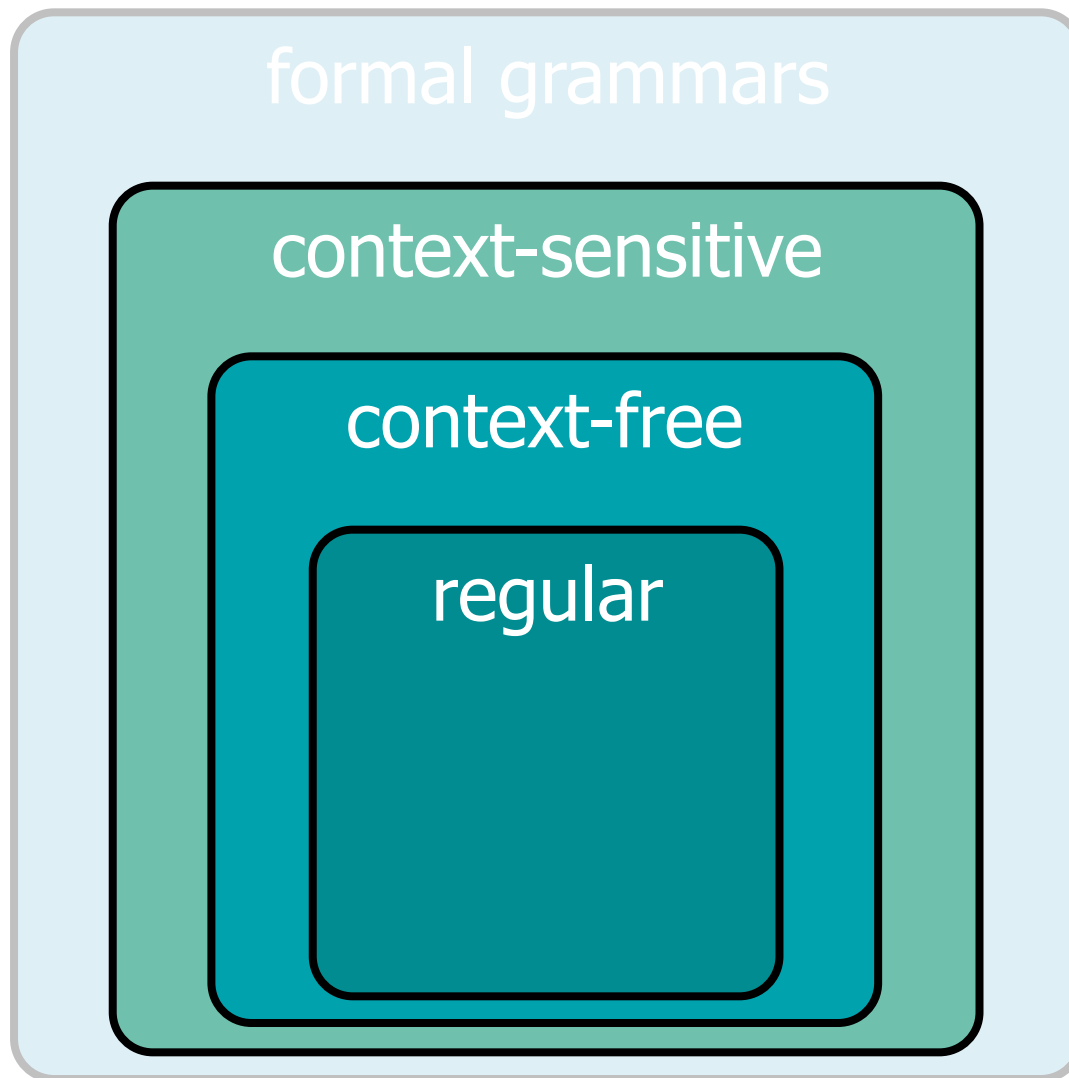
theoretical computer science

decidability & complexity



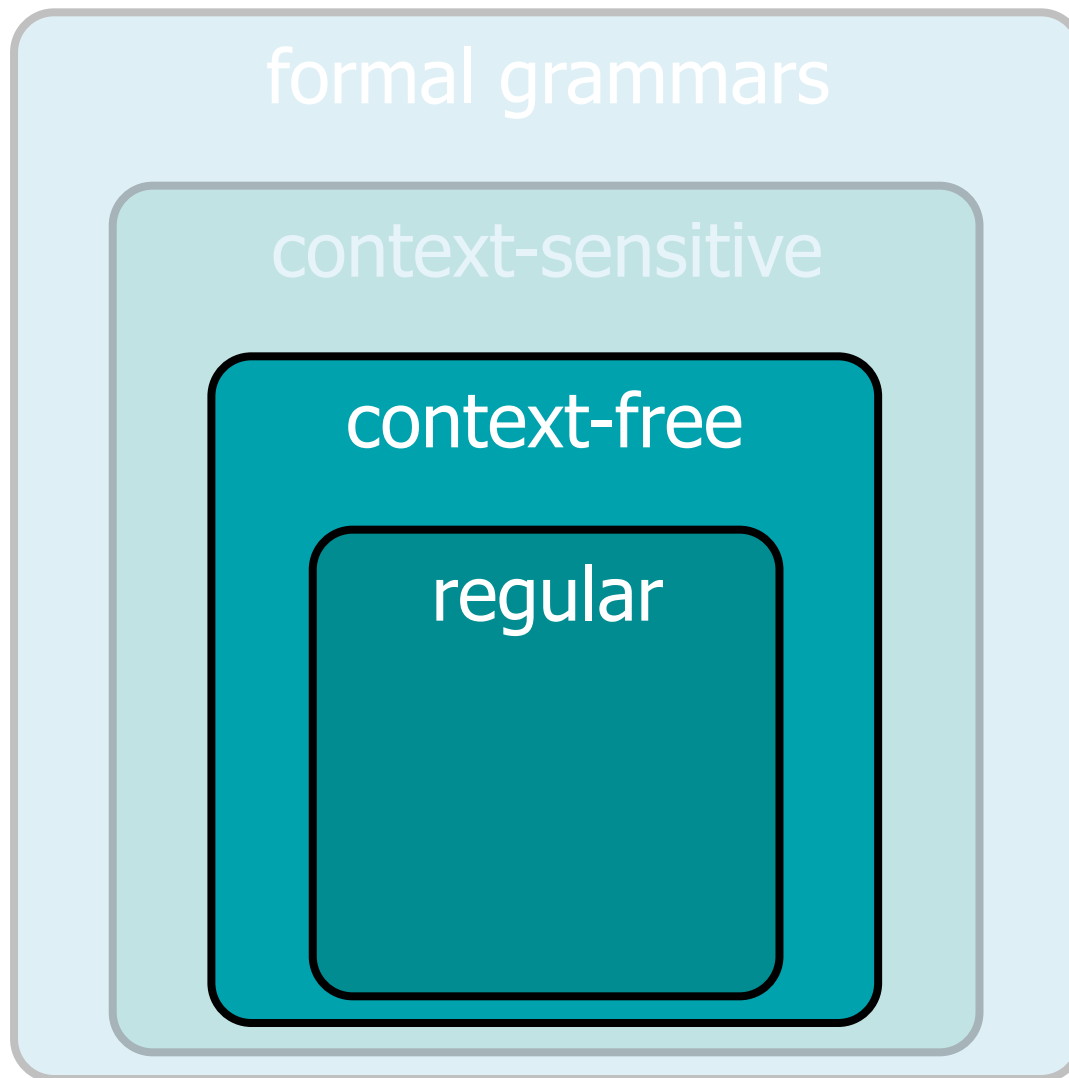
theoretical computer science

decidability & complexity



theoretical computer science

decidability & complexity



context-free grammars

production vs. reduction rules

$\text{Exp} \rightarrow \text{Num}$

$\text{Exp} \rightarrow \text{Exp} \text{ "+" } \text{Exp}$

$\text{Exp} \rightarrow \text{Exp} \text{ "-" } \text{Exp}$

$\text{Exp} \rightarrow \text{Exp} \text{ "*" } \text{Exp}$

$\text{Exp} \rightarrow \text{Exp} \text{ "/" } \text{Exp}$

$\text{Exp} \rightarrow \text{"(" Exp "}"$

context-free grammars

production vs. reduction rules

$\text{Exp} \rightarrow \text{Num}$

$\text{Exp} \rightarrow \text{Exp} \text{ "+" } \text{Exp}$

$\text{Exp} \rightarrow \text{Exp} \text{ "-" } \text{Exp}$

$\text{Exp} \rightarrow \text{Exp} \text{ "*" } \text{Exp}$

$\text{Exp} \rightarrow \text{Exp} \text{ "/" } \text{Exp}$

$\text{Exp} \rightarrow \text{"(" Exp "}"$

productive form

context-free grammars

production vs. reduction rules

$\text{Exp} \rightarrow \text{Num}$

$\text{Exp} \rightarrow \text{Exp} \text{ "+" } \text{Exp}$

$\text{Exp} \rightarrow \text{Exp} \text{ "-" } \text{Exp}$

$\text{Exp} \rightarrow \text{Exp} \text{ "*" } \text{Exp}$

$\text{Exp} \rightarrow \text{Exp} \text{ "/" } \text{Exp}$

$\text{Exp} \rightarrow \text{"(" Exp "}"$

$\text{Num} \rightarrow \text{Exp}$

$\text{Exp "+" Exp} \rightarrow \text{Exp}$

$\text{Exp "-" Exp} \rightarrow \text{Exp}$

$\text{Exp "*" Exp} \rightarrow \text{Exp}$

$\text{Exp "/" Exp} \rightarrow \text{Exp}$

$\text{"(" Exp "}" \rightarrow \text{Exp}$

productive form

context-free grammars

production vs. reduction rules

$\text{Exp} \rightarrow \text{Num}$
 $\text{Exp} \rightarrow \text{Exp} \text{ "+" } \text{Exp}$
 $\text{Exp} \rightarrow \text{Exp} \text{ "-" } \text{Exp}$
 $\text{Exp} \rightarrow \text{Exp} \text{ "*" } \text{Exp}$
 $\text{Exp} \rightarrow \text{Exp} \text{ "/" } \text{Exp}$
 $\text{Exp} \rightarrow \text{"(" Exp ")"}$

productive form

$\text{Num} \rightarrow \text{Exp}$
 $\text{Exp "+" Exp} \rightarrow \text{Exp}$
 $\text{Exp "-" Exp} \rightarrow \text{Exp}$
 $\text{Exp "*" Exp} \rightarrow \text{Exp}$
 $\text{Exp "/" Exp} \rightarrow \text{Exp}$
 $\text{"(" Exp ")"} \rightarrow \text{Exp}$

reductive form

binary expressions

reduction

3 + 4 * 5 \Rightarrow

Num \rightarrow Exp

Exp + 4 * 5 \Rightarrow

Num \rightarrow Exp

Exp + Exp * 5 \Rightarrow

Num \rightarrow Exp

Exp + Exp * Exp \Rightarrow

Exp "*" Exp \rightarrow Exp

Exp + Exp \Rightarrow

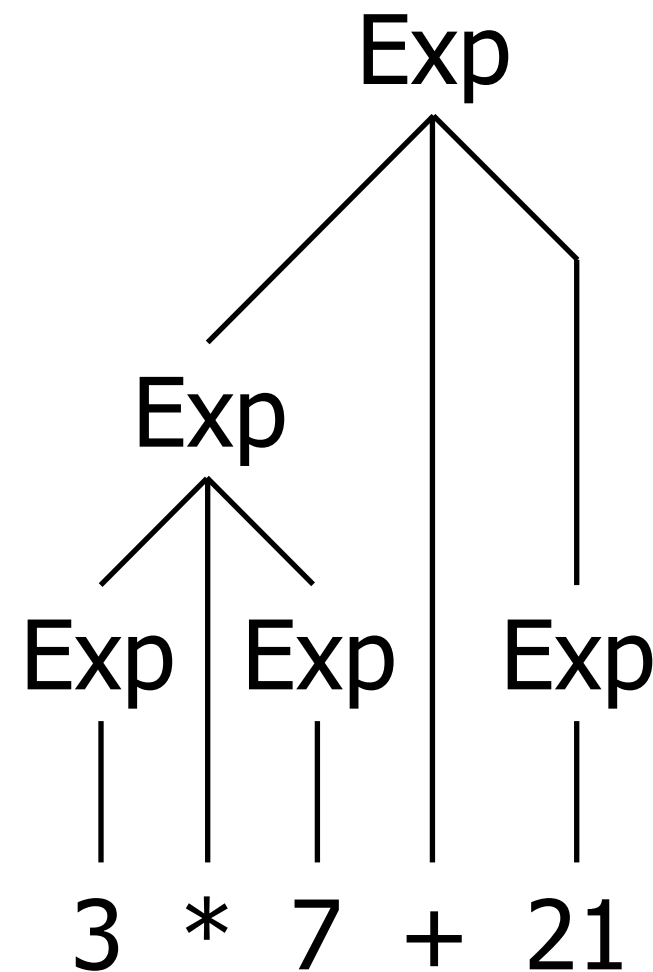
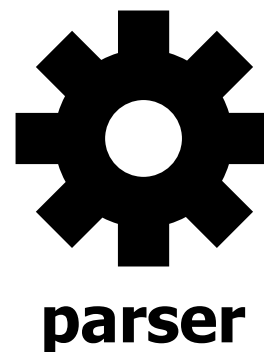
Exp "+" Exp \rightarrow Exp

Exp

The word problem is about membership.

But what about structure?

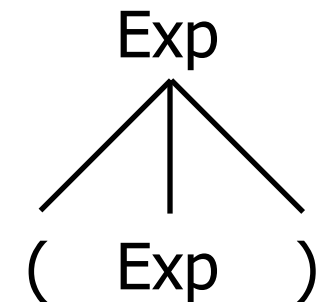
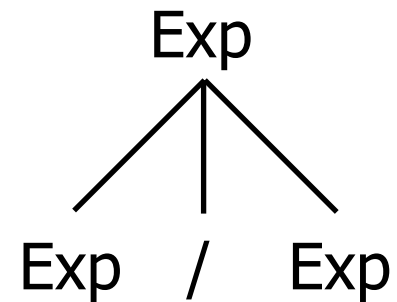
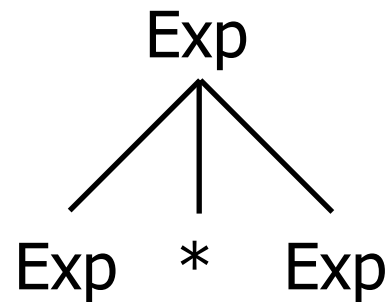
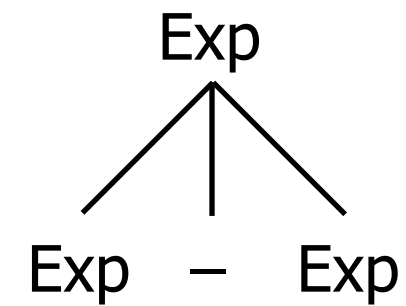
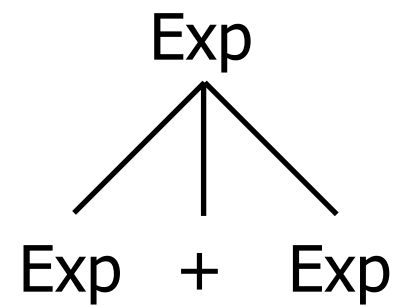
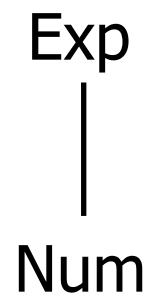
3 * 7 + 21



syntax trees

context-free grammars

tree construction rules



binary expressions

tree construction

3 + 4 * 5

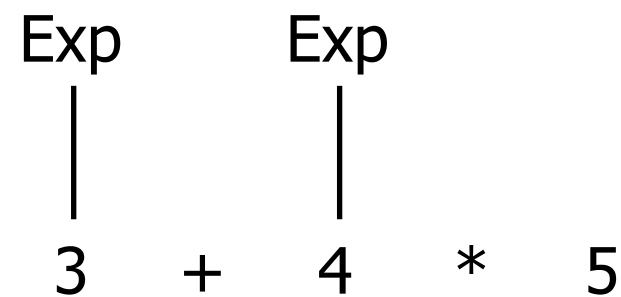
binary expressions

tree construction

Exp
|
3 + 4 * 5

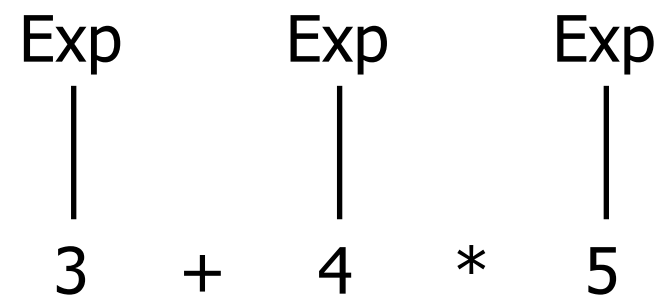
binary expressions

tree construction



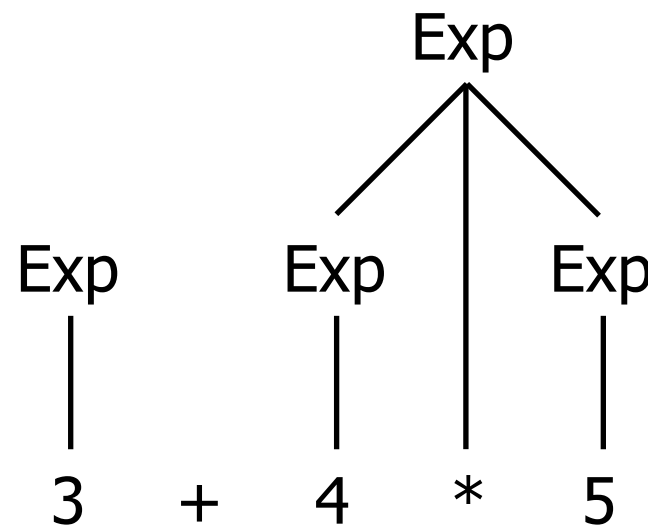
binary expressions

tree construction



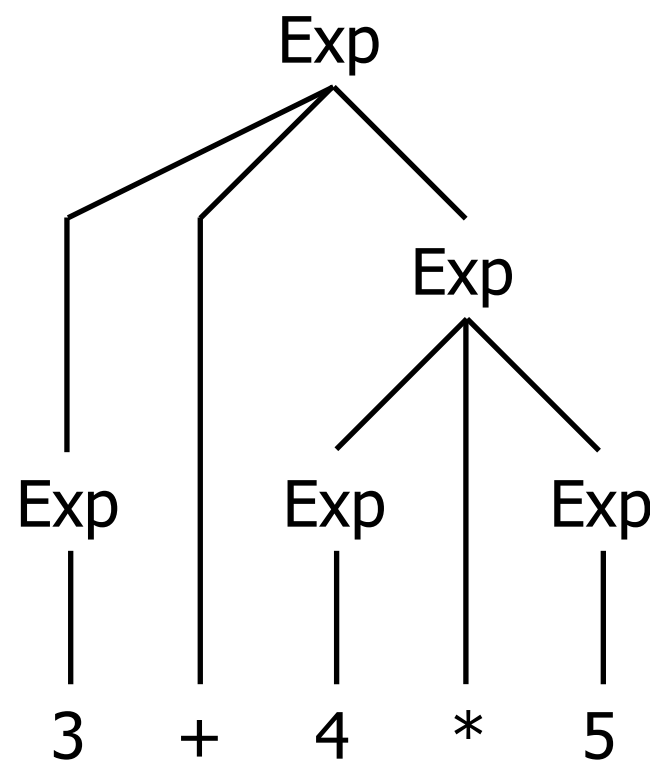
binary expressions

tree construction



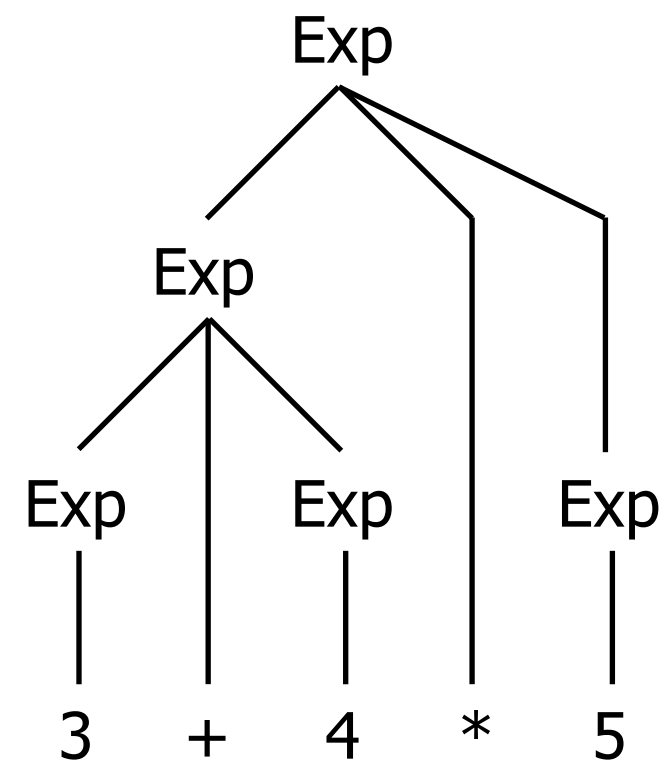
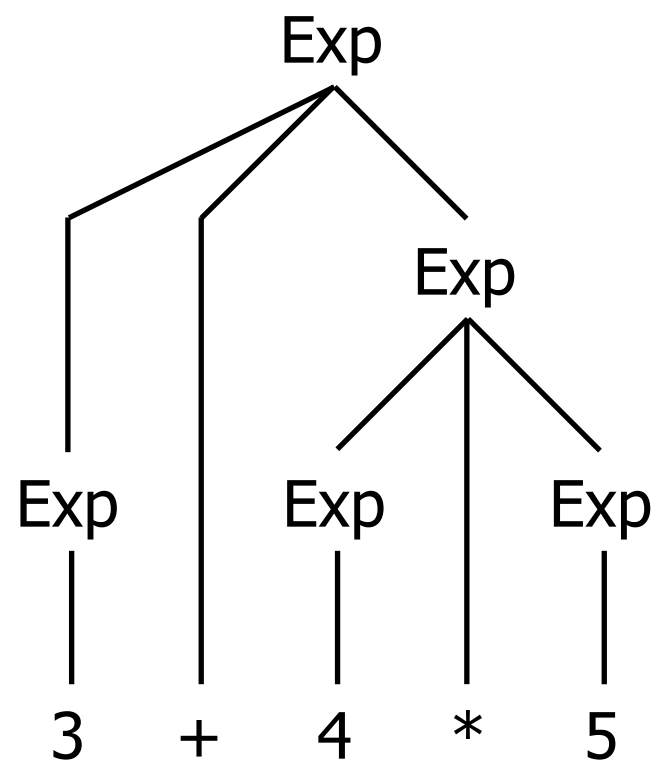
binary expressions

tree construction



binary expressions

ambiguity



context-free grammars

ambiguity

syntax trees

different trees for **same sentence**

derivations

different leftmost derivations for **same sentence**

different rightmost derivations for **same sentence**

NOT just different derivations for same sentence

syntax trees

parse trees & abstract syntax trees

parse trees

- parent node: nonterminal symbol

- child nodes: terminal symbols

abstract syntax trees (ASTs)

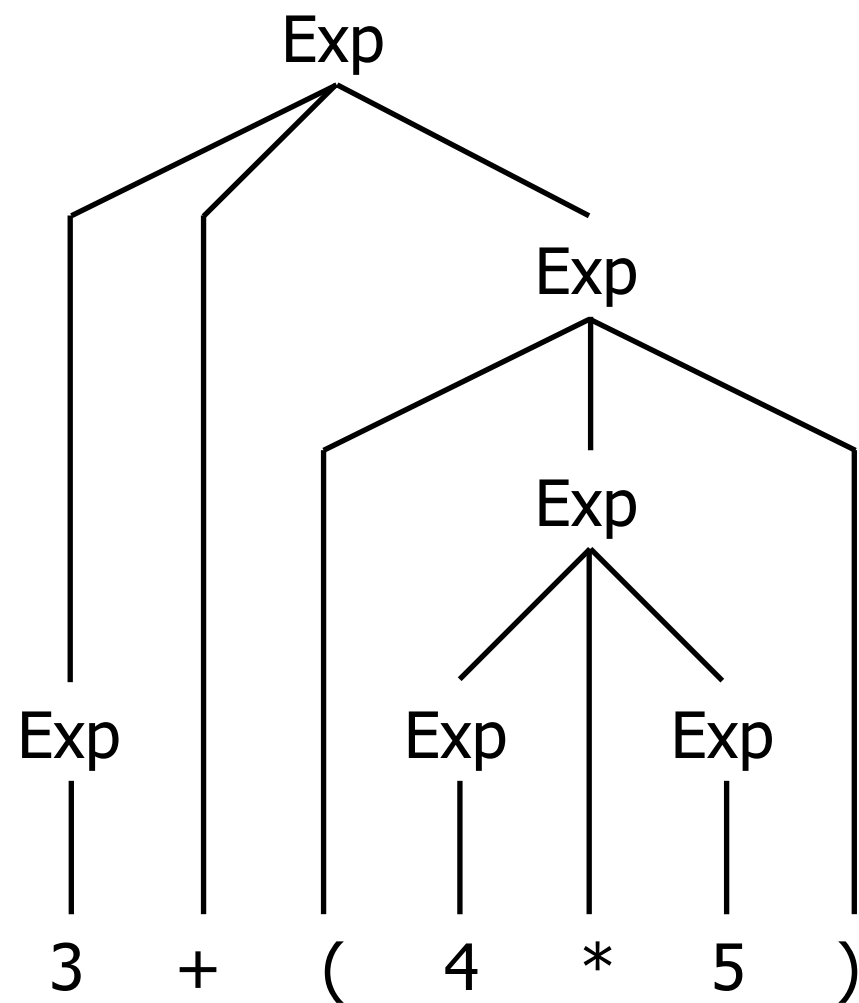
- abstract over terminal symbols

- convey information at parent nodes

- abstract over injective production rules

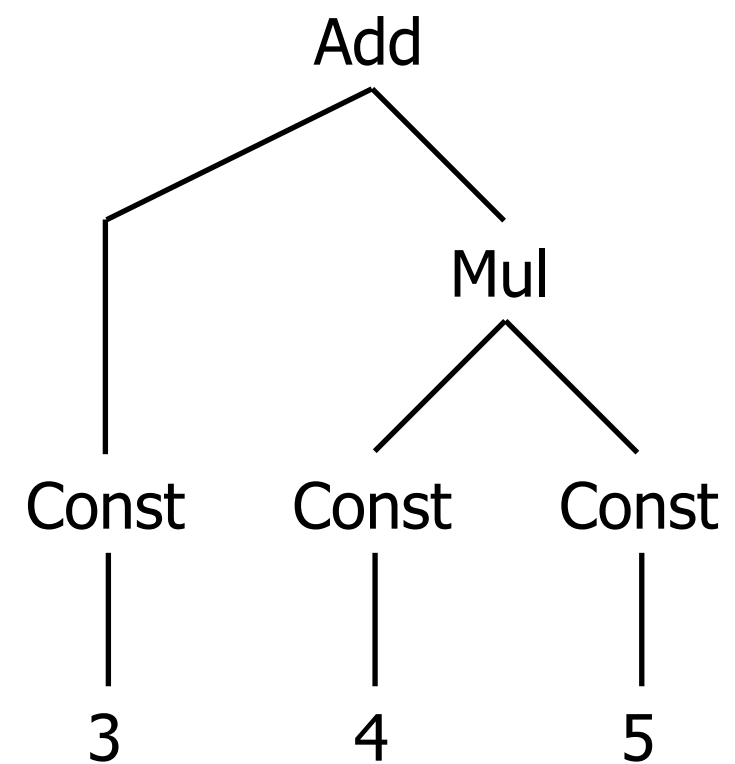
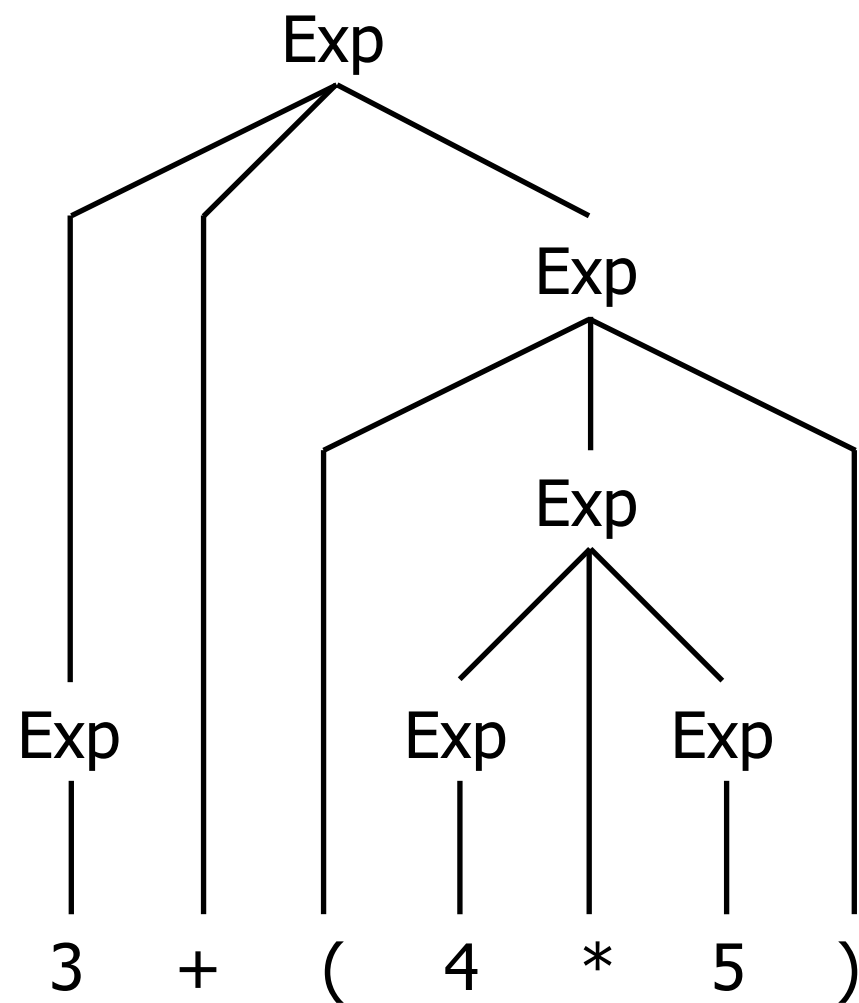
binary expressions

parse tree & abstract syntax tree



binary expressions

parse tree & abstract syntax tree



Except where otherwise noted, this work is licensed under



attribution

slide	title	author	license
1	<u>The Pine, Saint Tropez</u>	Paul Signac	public domain
2, 3, 35, 41	<u>PICOL icons</u>	Melih Bilgil	<u>CC BY 3.0</u>
9	<u>Writing</u>	<u>Caitlin Regan</u>	<u>CC BY 2.0</u>
10	<u>Latin Grammar</u>	<u>Anthony Nelzin</u>	
13, 15, 29-34, 38	<u>Noam Chomsky</u>	<u>Fellowsisters</u>	<u>CC BY-NC-SA 2.0</u>