

Chapter 3

Context-free Grammars & Parsing

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2014년 2학기



Introduction



<http://usecurity.hanyang.ac.kr>

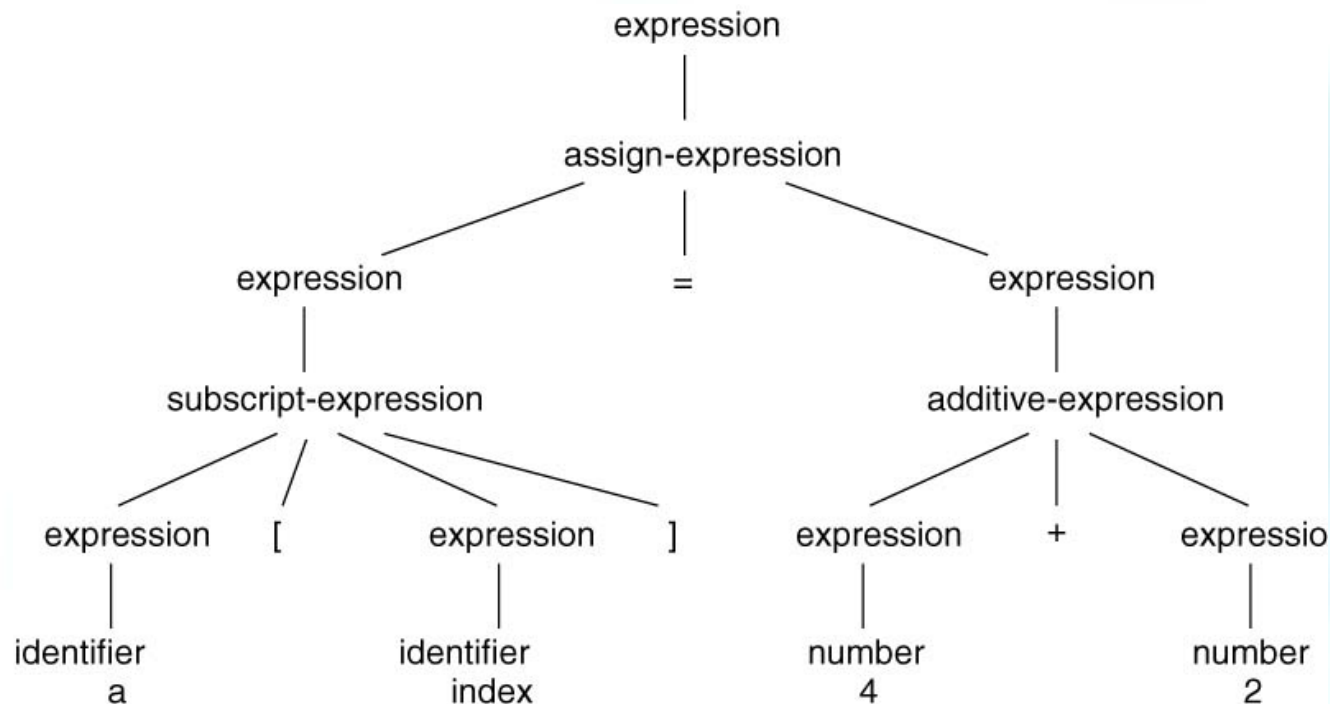
- Parsing
 - task of determining the syntax, or structure, of a program
 - also called **syntax analysis**
- Syntax of a programming language
 - usually given by the **grammar rules** of a **context-free grammar**
- major difference between regular expressions and the rules of a context-free grammar
 - recursion



The parsing process

- sequences of tokens \rightarrow parse tree or syntax tree

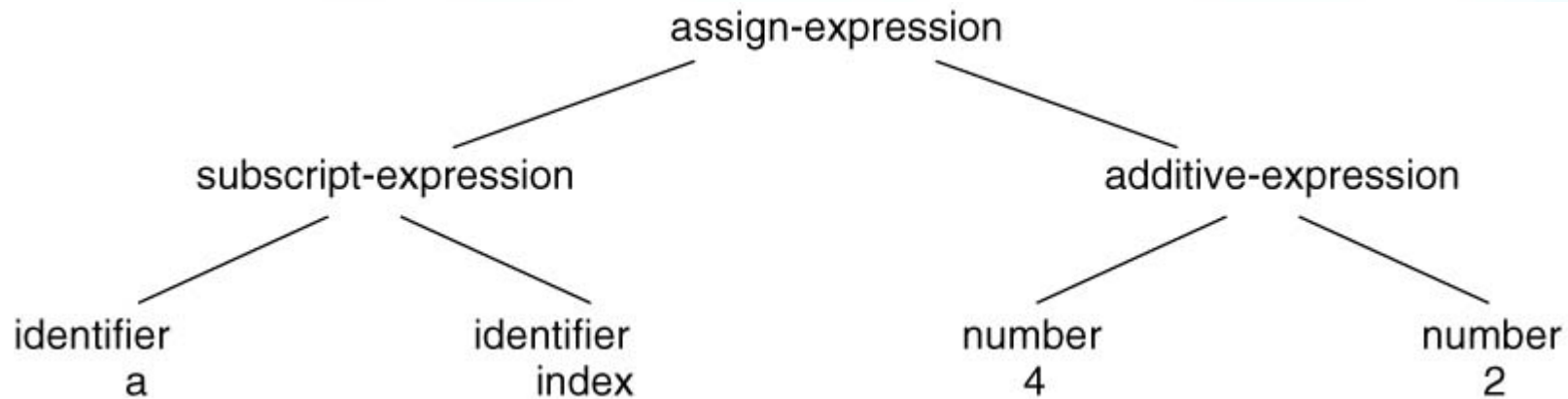
a / [/ index /] / = / 4 / + / 2



The parsing process

- sequences of tokens \rightarrow parse tree or syntax tree

a / [/ index /] / = / 4 / + / 2



Context-free grammars



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- Representing **lexical** structures
 - Regular expressions
- Representing **syntactic** structures
 - Context-free grammars
- A **context-free grammar** is a set of **grammar rules**.



Context-free grammars

- A context-free **grammar rule in BNF (Backus Naur form)** consists of a string of symbols.
 - **<grammar rule>**
 $exp \rightarrow exp\ op\ exp \mid (exp) \mid number$
 - The first symbol is a **name** for a structure.
 - The second symbol is “**→**”
 - which is followed by a string of symbols, each of which is either a **token**, a **name**, or **|**.



Context-free grammars

- Other form of grammar rules

- $exp \rightarrow exp\ op\ exp \mid (exp) \mid \textit{number}$
- $\langle exp \rangle ::= \langle exp \rangle \langle op \rangle \langle exp \rangle \mid (\langle exp \rangle) \mid \text{NUMBER}$

- Equivalence of grammar rules

- $exp \rightarrow exp\ op\ exp \mid (exp) \mid \textit{number}$
- $exp \rightarrow exp\ op\ exp$
- $exp \rightarrow (exp)$
- $exp \rightarrow \textit{number}$

Grammar and derivations

- **Grammar**: set of grammar rules

start symbol $\bullet \exp \rightarrow \exp \text{ op } \exp \mid (\exp) \mid \textit{number}$
 $\bullet \text{ op } \rightarrow + \mid - \mid *$

- A **derivation** is a sequence of replacements of structure names by choices on the right-hand sides of grammar rules.

- $(34 - 3) * 42$

- $\exp \Rightarrow \exp \text{ op } \exp$

- $\Rightarrow \exp \text{ op } \textit{number}$

- $\Rightarrow \exp * \textit{number}$

- $\Rightarrow (\exp) * \textit{number}$

- $\Rightarrow (\exp \text{ op } \exp) * \textit{number}$

- $\Rightarrow (\exp \text{ op } \textit{number}) * \textit{number}$

- $\Rightarrow (\exp - \textit{number}) * \textit{number}$

- $\Rightarrow (\textit{number} - \textit{number}) * \textit{number}$

sentential forms

← sentence

The language defined by a grammar

- The language defined by a grammar is the set of all strings of token symbols obtained by derivation.
 - ◉ $L(G) = \{ s \mid exp \Rightarrow^* s \}$ G - expression grammar s - arbitrary string $*$ - derivation
- Nonterminals and terminals
 - ◉ $exp \rightarrow exp \ op \ exp \mid (\ exp \) \mid \textit{number}$
 - ◉ $op \rightarrow + \mid - \mid *$

nonterminals - structure name - must be replaced further in a derivation
terminals - symbol in alphabet (token)

Grammar examples

- **Example 3.1**

- $E \rightarrow (E) \mid a$

$L(G) = \{ a, (a), ((a)), \dots \}$

- **Example 3.2**

- $E \rightarrow (E)$

string

- **Example 3.3**

- $E \rightarrow E + a \mid a$

$L(G) = \{ a, a+a, a+a+a, \dots \}$



Grammar examples

● Example 3.4

- $statement \rightarrow if\text{-}stmt \mid \mathbf{other}$
- $if\text{-}stmt \rightarrow \mathbf{if} (exp) statement \mid \mathbf{if} (exp) statement \mathbf{else} statement$
- $exp \rightarrow 0 \mid 1$

other

if (0) other

if (1) other else other

if (0) if (0) other

if (0) if (1) other else other

if (1) other else if (0) other else other

Grammar examples

- Repetition

- a^+

- $A \rightarrow Aa \mid a$

- $A \Rightarrow Aa \Rightarrow Aaa \Rightarrow Aaaa \Rightarrow aaaa$ (left recursive)

- $A \rightarrow aA \mid a$

- $A \Rightarrow aA \Rightarrow aaA \Rightarrow aaaA \Rightarrow aaaa$ (right recursive)

- $A \rightarrow A\alpha \mid \beta$

- $\beta\alpha^*$ left recursive

- $A \rightarrow \alpha A \mid \beta$

- $\alpha^*\beta$ right recursive



Grammar examples

- Repetition

- a^*

- $A \rightarrow Aa \mid \varepsilon$

- $A \rightarrow aA \mid \varepsilon$

- Example 3.5

- $A \rightarrow (A)A \mid \varepsilon$

$\varepsilon, (), (()), ()()$



Grammar examples

- **Example 3.4**

- $statement \rightarrow if-stmt \mid \mathbf{other}$
- $if-stmt \rightarrow \mathbf{if} (exp) statement \mid \mathbf{if} (exp) statement \mathbf{else} statement$
- $exp \rightarrow 0 \mid 1$

- **Example 3.6**

- $statement \rightarrow if-stmt \mid \mathbf{other}$
- $if-stmt \rightarrow \mathbf{if} (exp) statement \mathbf{else-part}$
- $\mathbf{else-part} \rightarrow \mathbf{else} statement \mid \epsilon$
- $exp \rightarrow 0 \mid 1$



Grammar examples

● Example 3.7

- ◉ $stmt\text{-}sequence \rightarrow stmt ; stmt\text{-}sequence \mid stmt$
- ◉ $stmt \rightarrow s$ $\{s, s;s, s;s;s, \dots\}$

(add ϵ)

- ◉ $stmt\text{-}sequence \rightarrow stmt ; stmt\text{-}sequence \mid \epsilon$
- ◉ $stmt \rightarrow s$ $\{\epsilon, s, s;s, s;s;s, \dots\}$

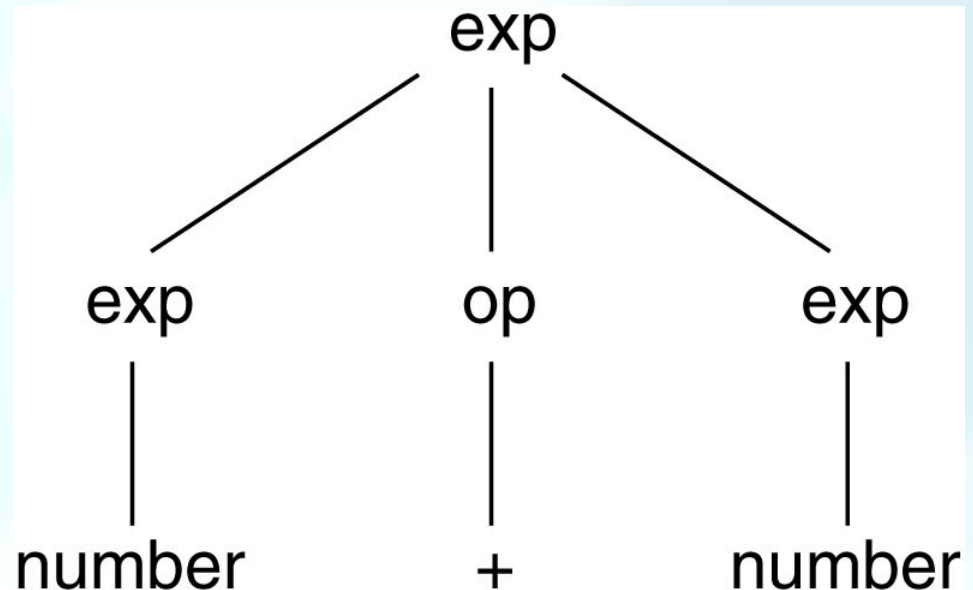
(no ; in the end)

- ◉ $stmt\text{-}sequence \rightarrow nonempty\text{-}stmt\text{-}sequence \mid \epsilon$
- ◉ $nonempty\text{-}stmt\text{-}sequence \rightarrow stmt ; nonempty\text{-}stmt\text{-}sequence \mid stmt$
- ◉ $stmt \rightarrow s$ $\{\epsilon, s, s;s, s;s;s, \dots\}$



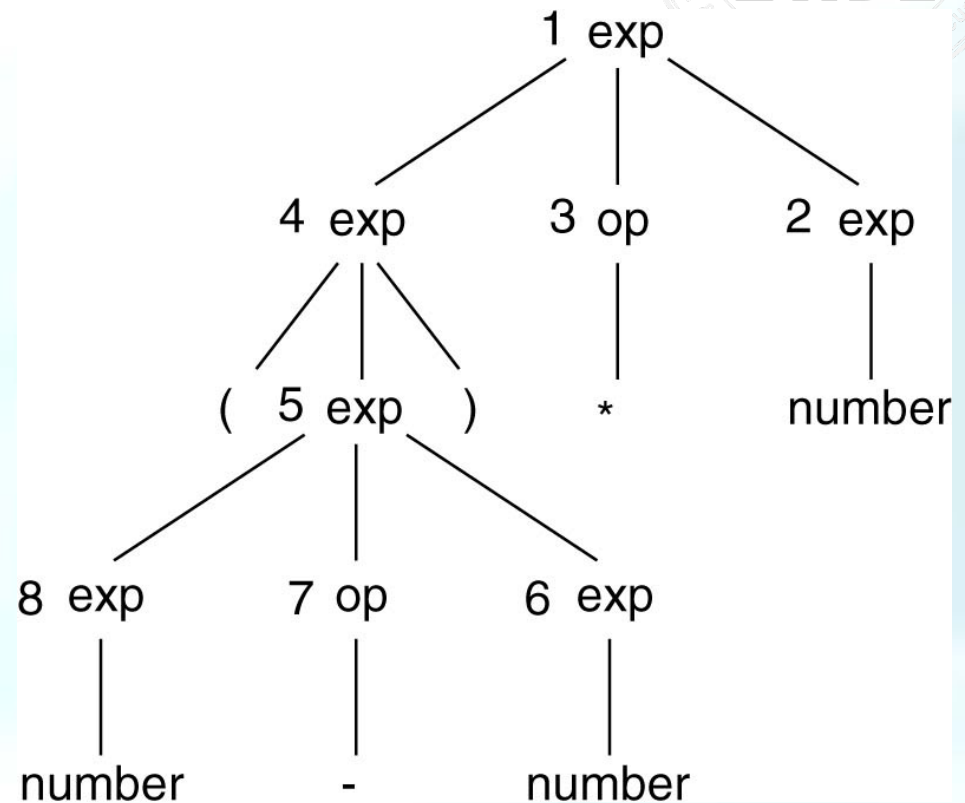
Parse trees

- Grammar
 - $exp \rightarrow exp\ op\ exp \mid (exp) \mid number$
 - $op \rightarrow + \mid - \mid *$
- A derivation for ***number + number***
 - $exp \Rightarrow exp\ op\ exp$
 - $\Rightarrow number\ op\ exp$
 - $\Rightarrow number + exp$
 - $\Rightarrow number + number$



Parse trees

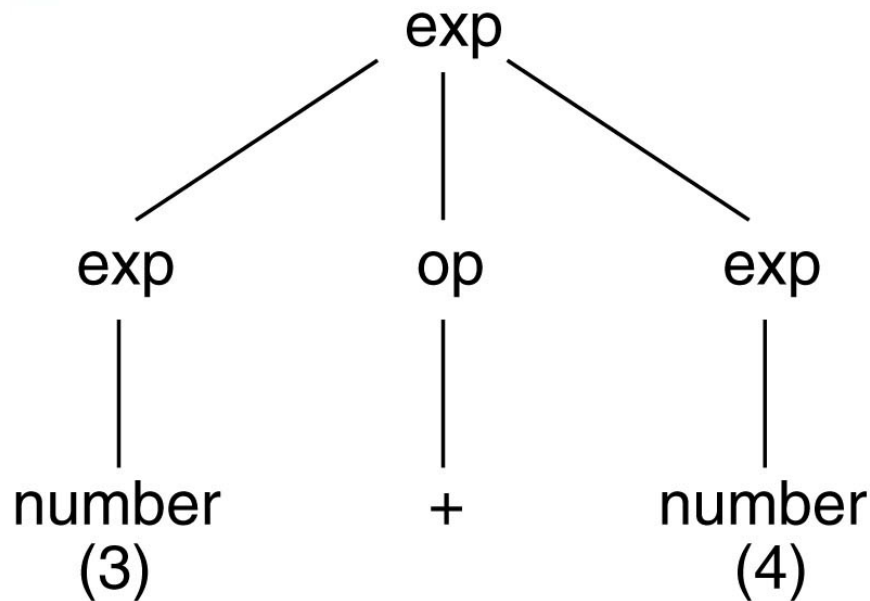
- Grammar
 - $exp \rightarrow exp\ op\ exp \mid (exp) \mid \textit{number}$
 - $op \rightarrow + \mid - \mid *$
- A parse tree for $(34-3)*42$



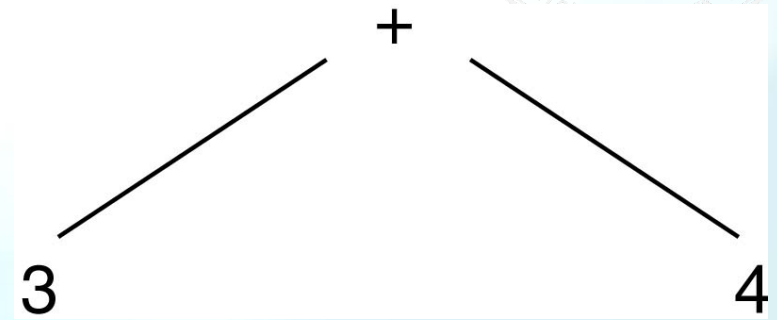
Abstract syntax trees

- 3+4

Parse tree



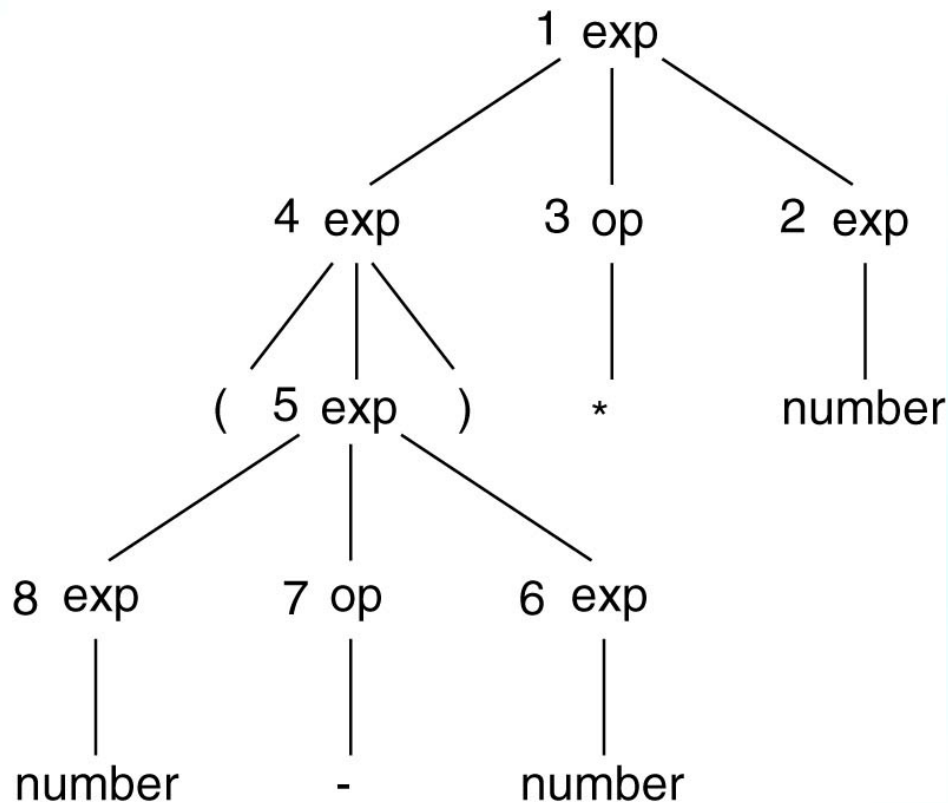
Abstract syntax tree



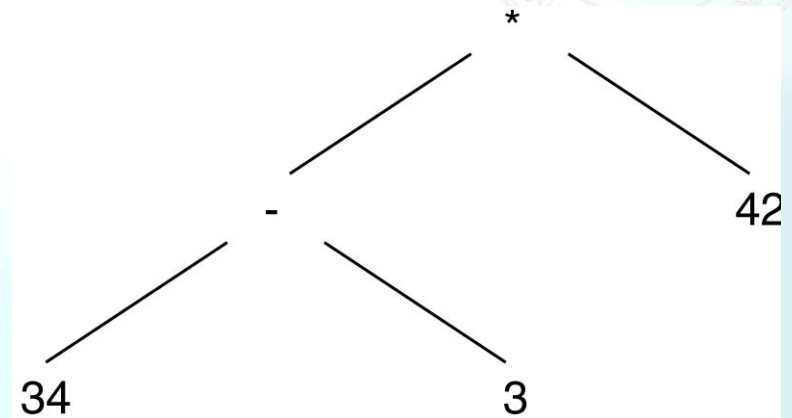
Abstract syntax trees

- $(34-3)*42$

Parse tree

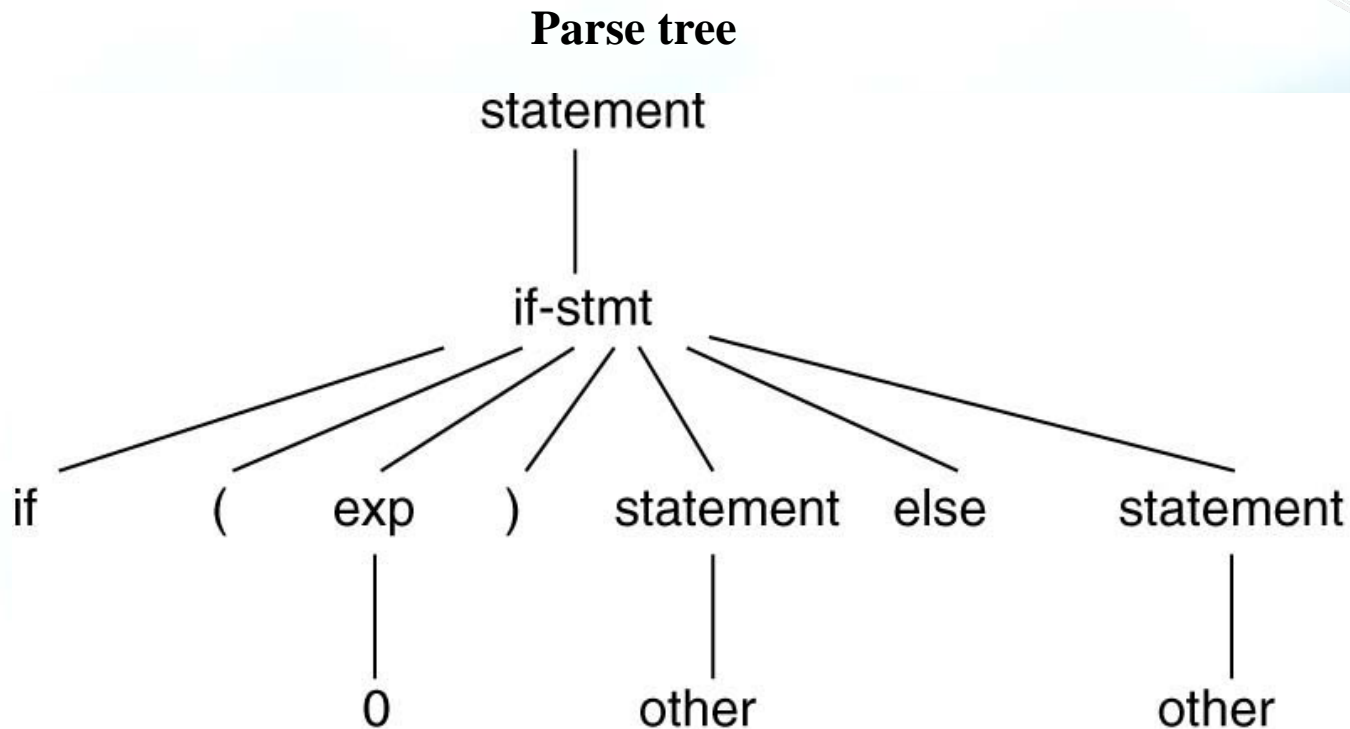


Abstract syntax tree



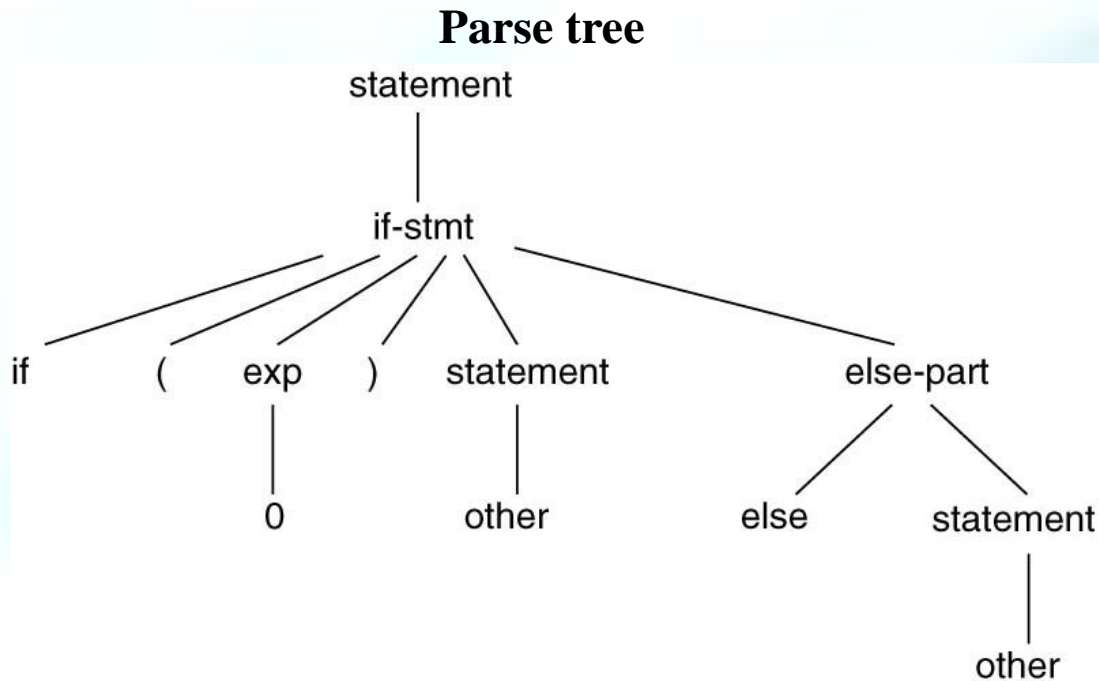
Abstract syntax trees

- **if (0) other else other**
 - *statement* \rightarrow *if-stmt* / **other**
 - *if-stmt* \rightarrow **if** (*exp*) *statement* / **if** (*exp*) *statement* **else** *statement*
 - *exp* \rightarrow 0 | 1



Abstract syntax trees

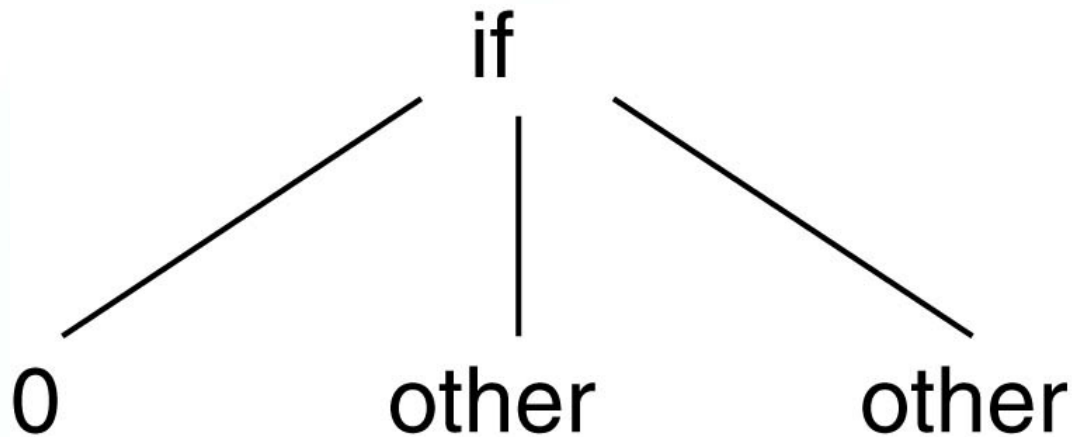
- **if (0) other else other**
 - $statement \rightarrow if\text{-}stmt \mid \text{other}$
 - $if\text{-}stmt \rightarrow \text{if} (exp) statement \text{ else-part}$
 - $\text{else-part} \rightarrow \text{else} statement \mid \epsilon$
 - $exp \rightarrow 0 \mid 1$



Abstract syntax trees

- **if (0) other else other**

Abstract syntax tree



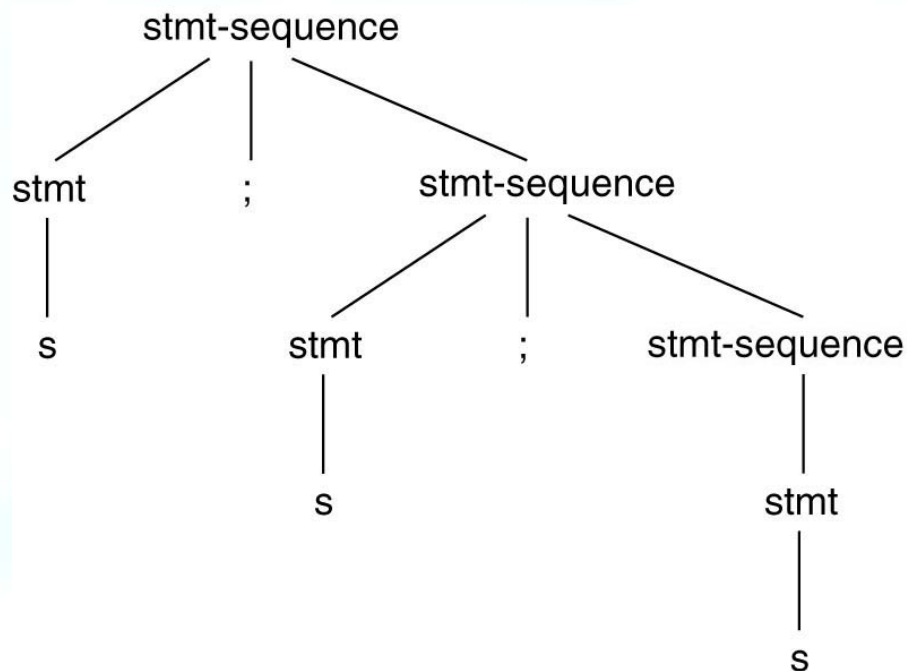
Abstract syntax trees

- **S; S; S**

- $stmt\text{-}sequence \rightarrow stmt ; stmt\text{-}sequence / stmt$

- $stmt \rightarrow s$

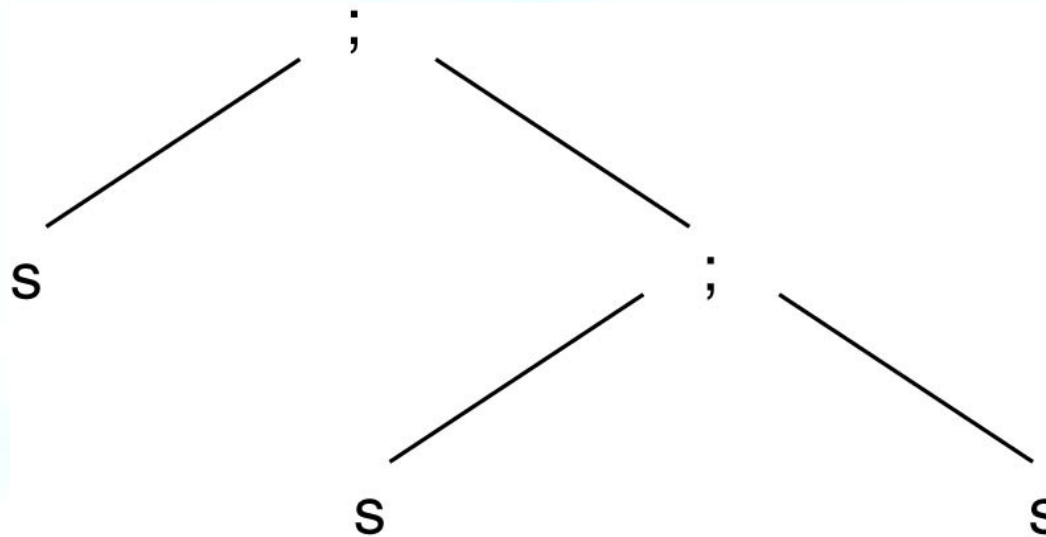
Parse tree



Abstract syntax trees

- **S; S; S**
 - *stmt-sequence* \rightarrow *stmt* ; *stmt-sequence* / *stmt*
 - *stmt* \rightarrow *s*

Abstract syntax tree

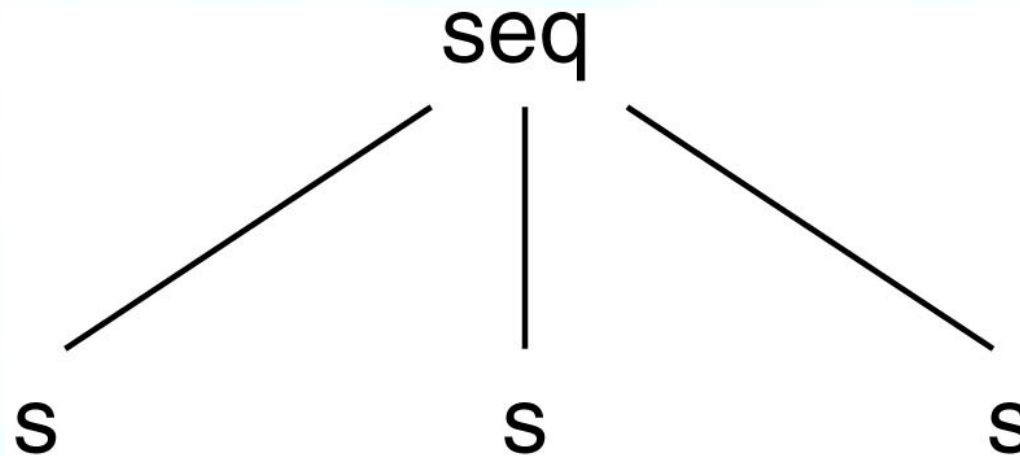


tree 가 가 .

Abstract syntax trees

- **S; S; S**
 - *stmt-sequence* \rightarrow *stmt* ; *stmt-sequence* / *stmt*
 - *stmt* \rightarrow *s*

Abstract syntax tree

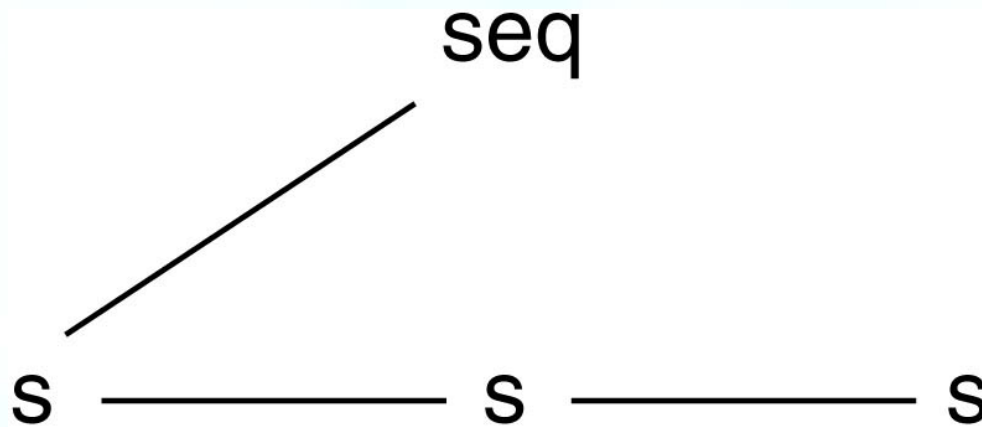


가 .

Abstract syntax trees

- **S; S; S**
 - *stmt-sequence* \rightarrow *stmt* ; *stmt-sequence* / *stmt*
 - *stmt* \rightarrow *s*

Abstract syntax tree



sibling

Abstract syntax trees

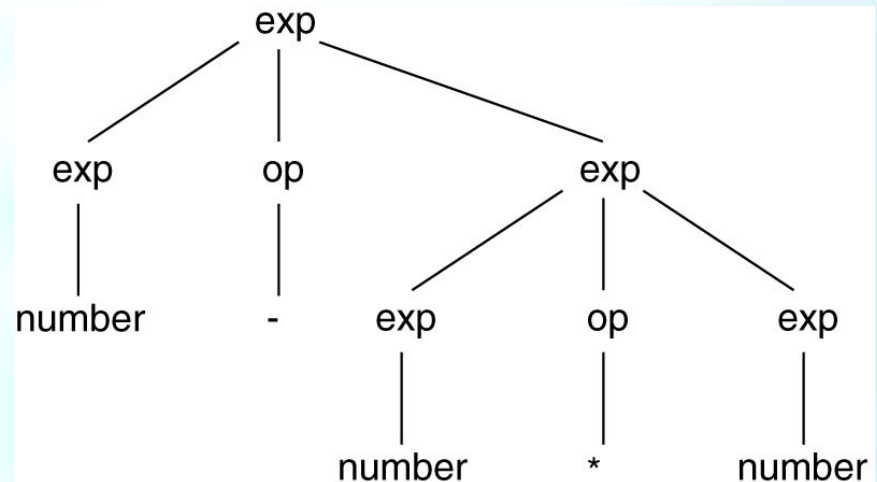
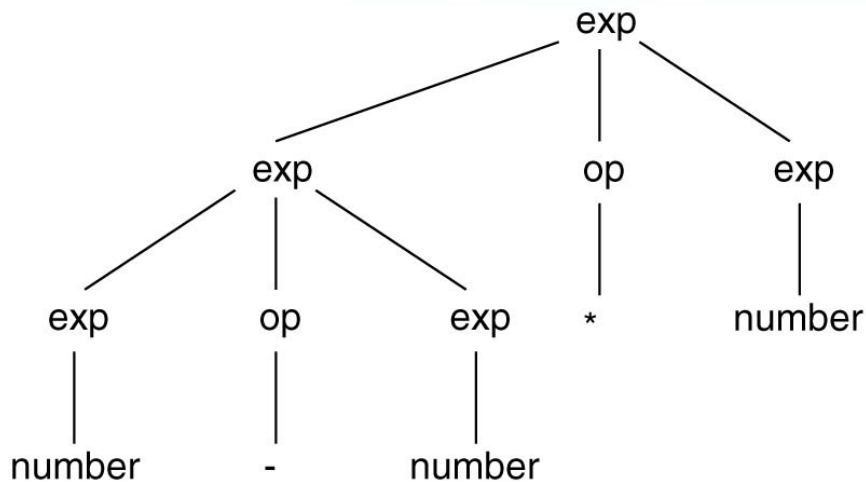
- **S; S; S**
 - *stmt-sequence* \rightarrow *stmt* ; *stmt-sequence* / *stmt*
 - *stmt* \rightarrow *s*

Abstract syntax tree

S ————— S ————— S

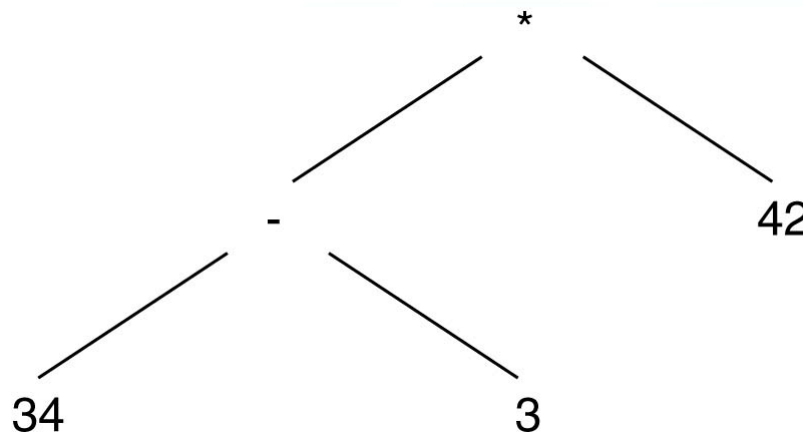
Ambiguity

- ***number - number * number***
 - $exp \rightarrow exp\ op\ exp \mid (exp) \mid number$
 - $op \rightarrow + \mid - \mid *$

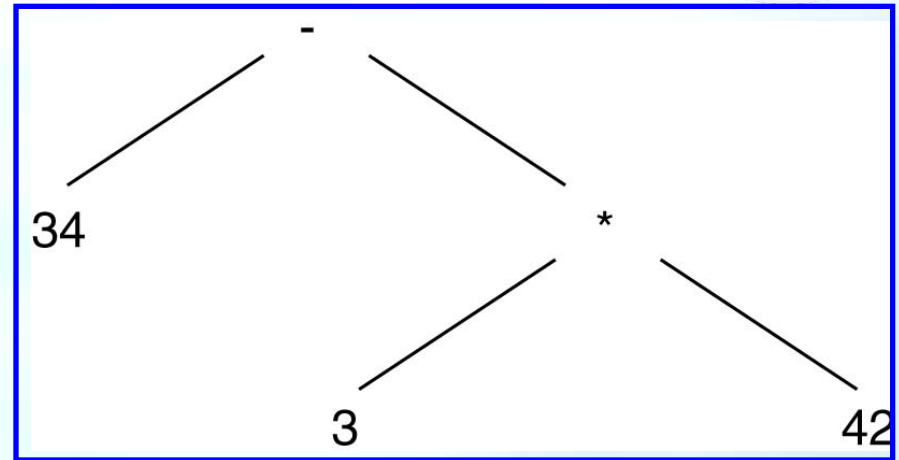


Ambiguity

- **34 - 3 * 42 (precedence)**
 - $exp \rightarrow exp\ op\ exp \mid (exp) \mid number$
 - $op \rightarrow + \mid - \mid *$



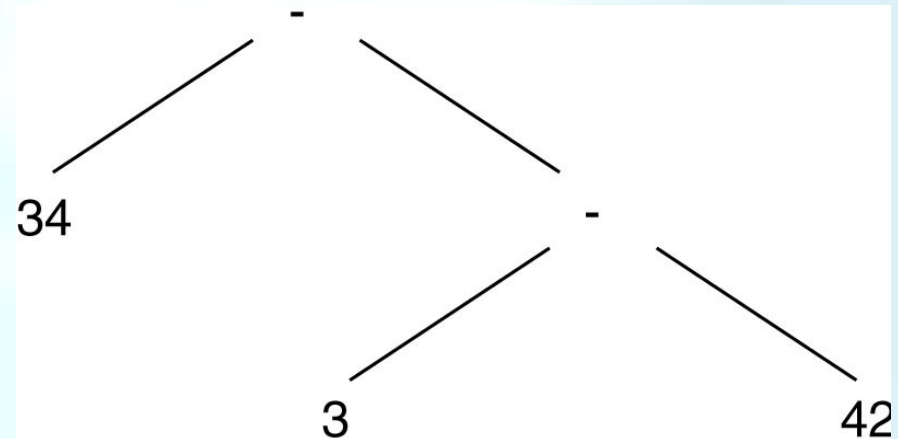
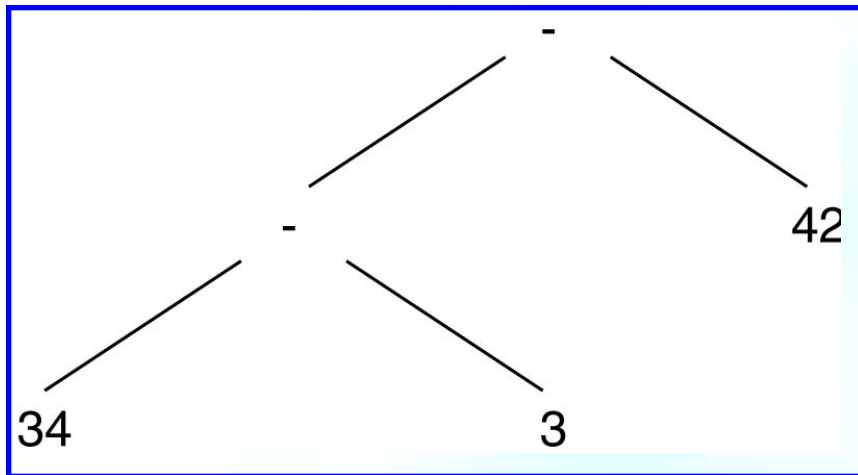
tree



tree

Ambiguity

- **34 - 3 - 42 (Associativity)**
 - $exp \rightarrow exp\ op\ exp \mid (exp) \mid number$
 - $op \rightarrow + \mid - \mid *$



Ambiguity



- **Precedence cascade**

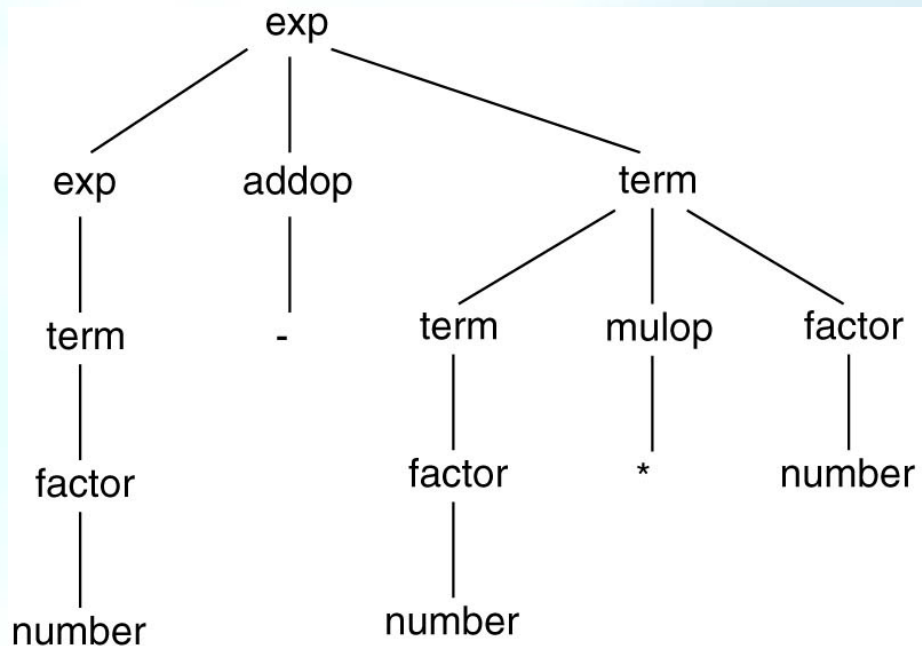
- $exp \rightarrow exp \text{ addop } exp \mid term$
- $addop \rightarrow + \mid -$
- $term \rightarrow term \text{ mulop } term \mid factor$
- $mulop \rightarrow *$
- $factor \rightarrow (exp) \mid \textbf{number}$

- **Associativity (left)**

- $exp \rightarrow exp \text{ addop } term \mid term$
- $addop \rightarrow + \mid -$
- $term \rightarrow term \text{ mulop } factor \mid factor$
- $mulop \rightarrow *$
- $factor \rightarrow (exp) \mid \textbf{number}$

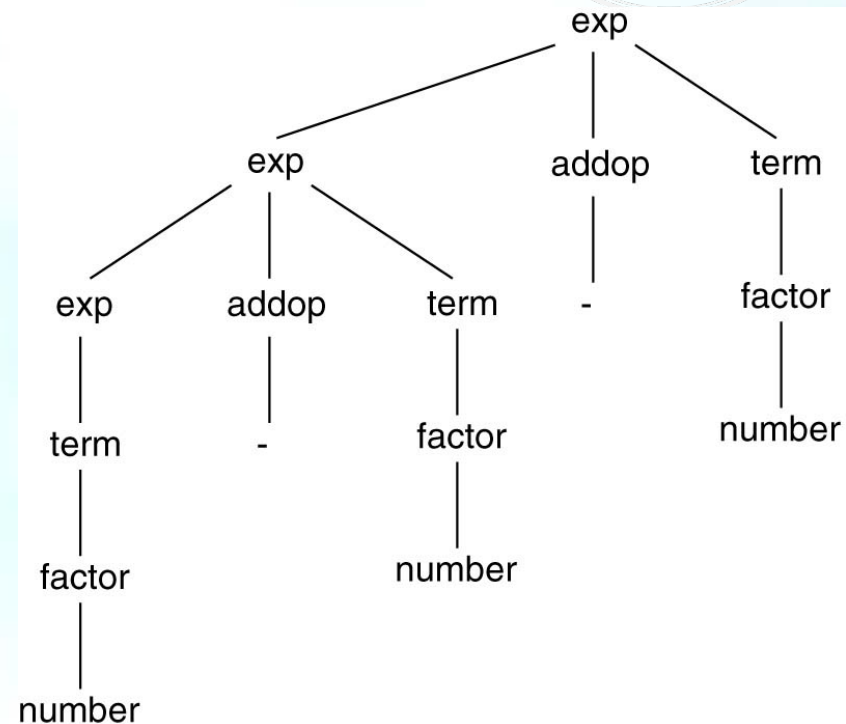
Ambiguity

- $34 - 3 * 42$
 - $exp \rightarrow exp \text{ addop } term \mid term$
 - $addop \rightarrow + \mid -$
 - $term \rightarrow term \text{ mulop } factor \mid factor$
 - $mulop \rightarrow *$
 - $factor \rightarrow (exp) \mid \textbf{number}$



Ambiguity

- 34 - 3 - 42
 - $exp \rightarrow exp \text{ addop } term \mid term$
 - $addop \rightarrow + \mid -$
 - $term \rightarrow term \text{ mulop } factor \mid factor$
 - $mulop \rightarrow *$
 - $factor \rightarrow (exp) \mid \textbf{number}$

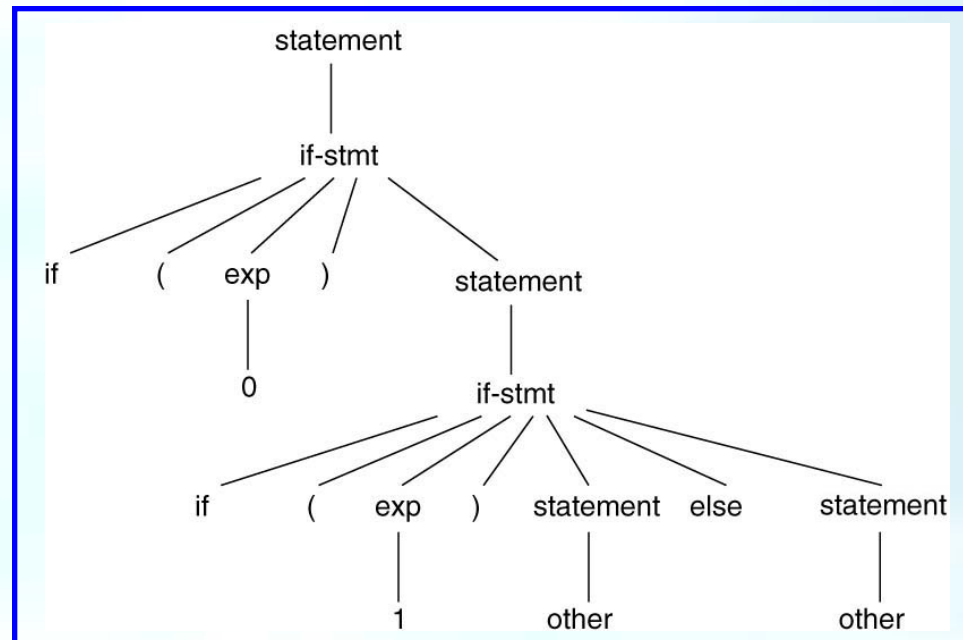
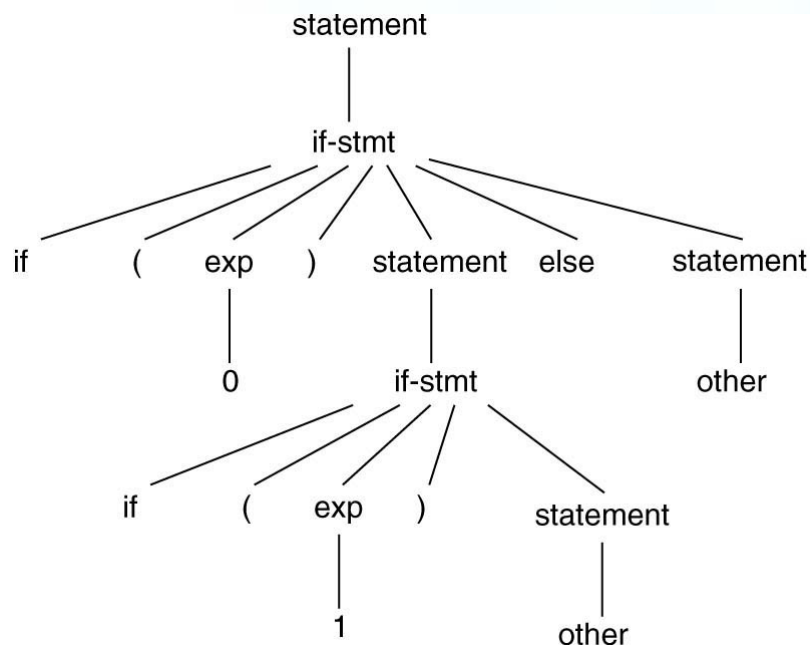


Ambiguity

- if (0) if (1) other else other (Dangling else)

- statement \rightarrow if-stmt / other
- if-stmt \rightarrow if (exp) statement / if (exp) statement else statement
- exp \rightarrow 0 | 1

가 ambiguity

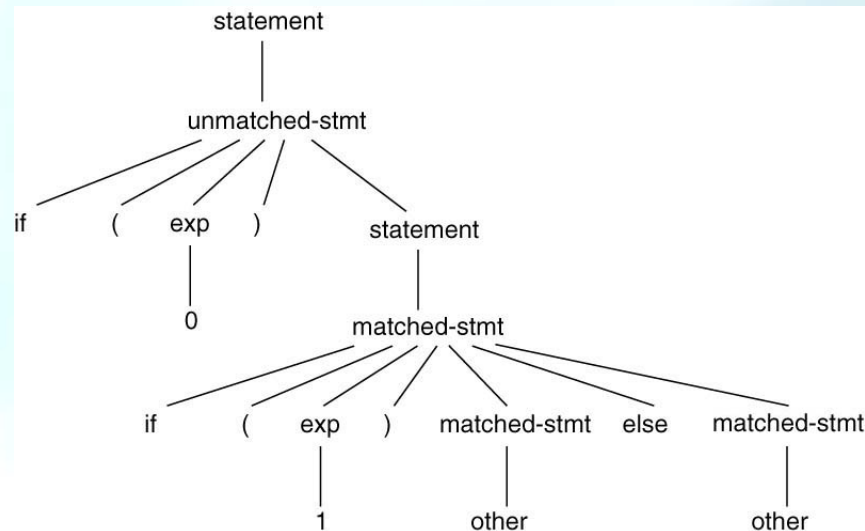


most closely nested rule

- 35

Ambiguity

- **if (0) if (1) other else other**
 - $statement \rightarrow matched-stmt \mid unmatched-stmt$
 - $matched-stmt \rightarrow \text{if} (exp) matched-stmt \textbf{else} matched-stmt \mid \textbf{other}$
 - $unmatched-stmt \rightarrow \text{if} (exp) statement$
 $\mid \text{if} (exp) matched-stmt \textbf{else} unmatched-stmt$
 - $exp \rightarrow 0 \mid 1$



Ambiguity

- Other methods to solving dangling else problem

- Disambiguating rules

- Bracketing keywords (p. 122)

- $if\text{-}stmt \rightarrow \text{if condition then statement-sequence end if}$
| $\text{if condition then statement-sequence else statement-sequence end if}$

- Inessential ambiguity (p. 122)

- Example

- $stmt\text{-}sequence \rightarrow stmt\text{-}sequence ; stmt\text{-}sequence \mid stmt$

- $stmt \rightarrow s$

- But still obtain unique syntax trees



- $\{ \}$
 - ◉ Repetition
 - ◉ $A \rightarrow A\alpha \mid \beta$ (left recursive) : $A \rightarrow \beta\{\alpha\}$
 - ◉ $A \rightarrow \alpha A \mid \beta$ (right recursive) : $A \rightarrow \{\alpha\}\beta$
 - ◉ p. 124
- $[]$
 - ◉ Optional
 - ◉ $if\text{-}stmt \rightarrow \text{if} (exp) statement [\text{else} statement]$
- $()$
 - ◉ Choice
 - ◉ $exp \rightarrow exp ("+" \mid "-" \mid "*") exp \mid "(" exp ")" \mid \textit{number}$

Syntax Diagrams



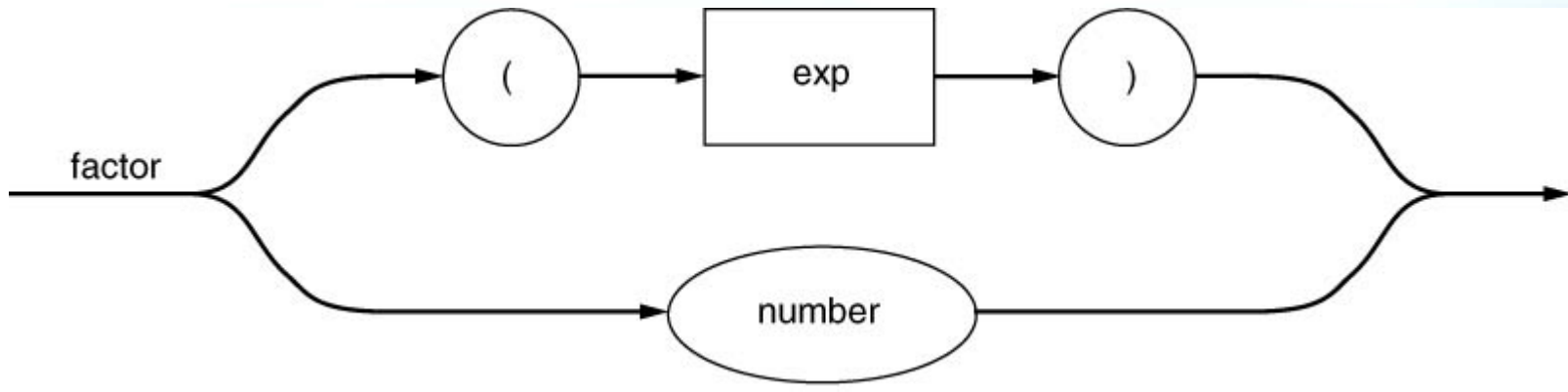
<http://usecurity.hanyang.ac.kr>

- Representing EBNF
 - Nonterminals
 - Square or rectangle boxes
 - Terminals
 - round or oval boxes



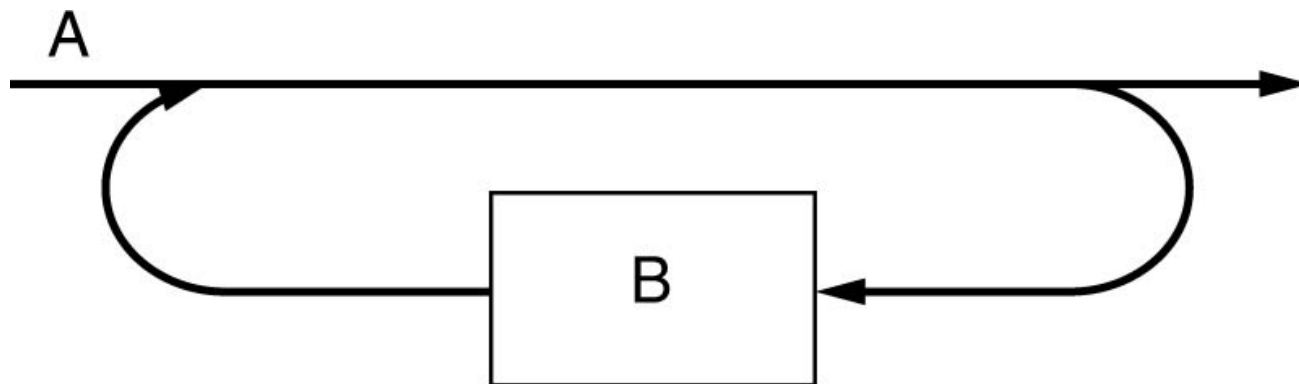
Syntax Diagrams

- $factor \rightarrow (exp) \mid number$



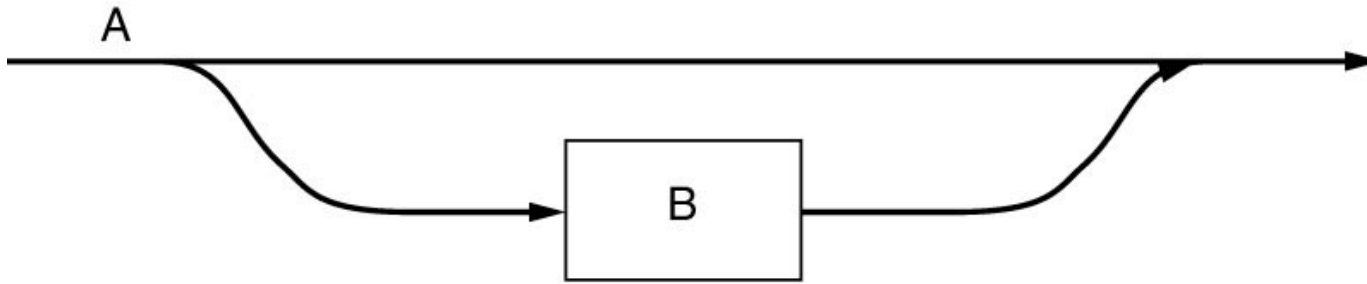
Syntax Diagrams

- $A \rightarrow \{ B \}$



Syntax Diagrams

- $A \rightarrow [B]$



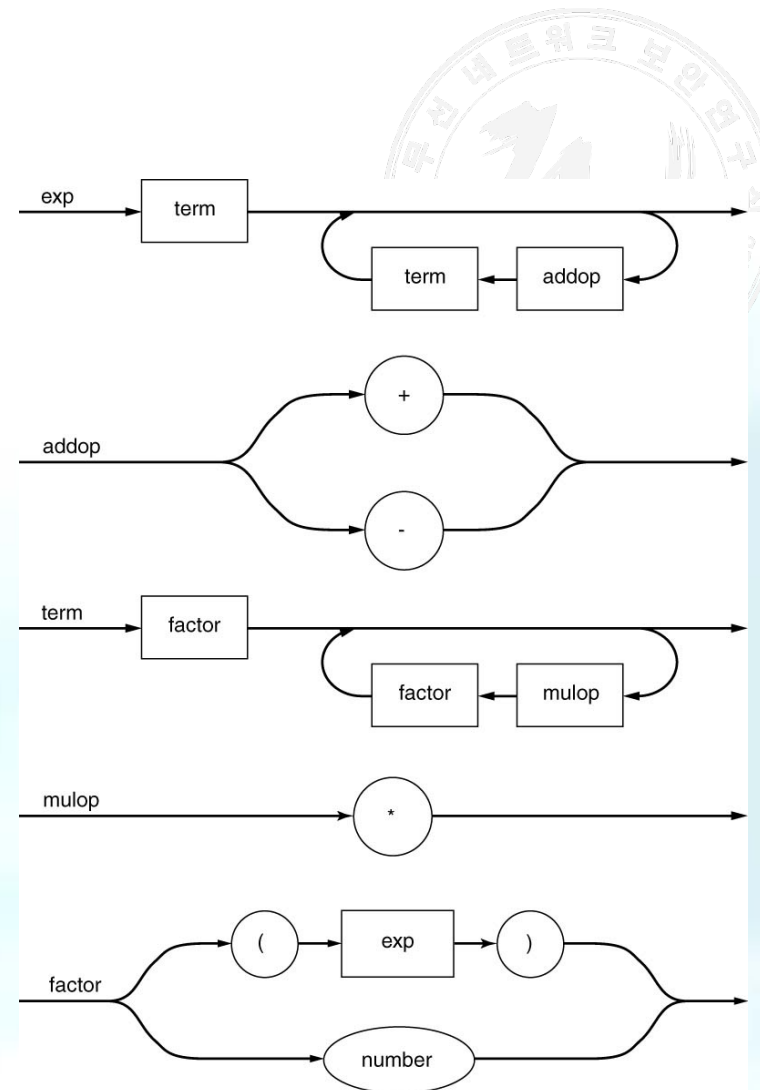
Syntax Diagrams

• BNF

- $exp \rightarrow exp \text{ addop } term \mid term$
- $addop \rightarrow + \mid -$
- $term \rightarrow term \text{ mulop } factor \mid factor$
- $mulop \rightarrow *$
- $factor \rightarrow (exp) \mid \textit{number}$

• EBNF

- $exp \rightarrow term \{addop \ term\}$
- $addop \rightarrow + \mid -$
- $term \rightarrow factor \{mulop \ factor\}$
- $mulop \rightarrow *$
- $factor \rightarrow (exp) \mid \textit{number}$



Syntax Diagrams

- **BNF**

- $statement \rightarrow if\text{-}stmt / \textbf{other}$
- $if\text{-}stmt \rightarrow \textbf{if} (exp) statement$
 $\quad \quad \quad / \textbf{if} (exp) statement \textbf{else} statement$
- $exp \rightarrow 0 \mid 1$

- **EBNF**

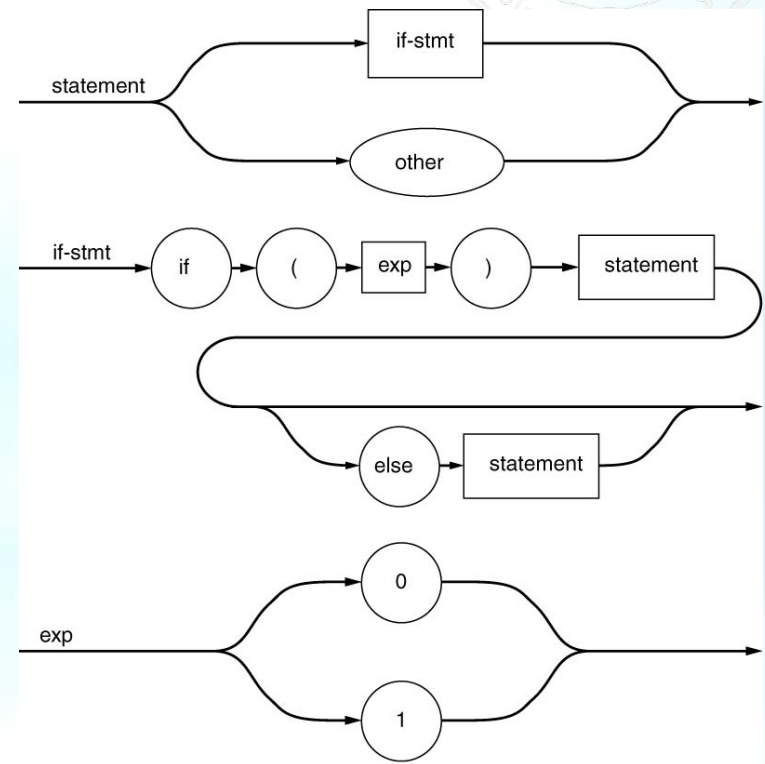
- $statement \rightarrow if\text{-}stmt / \textbf{other}$
- $if\text{-}stmt \rightarrow \textbf{if} (exp) statement [\textbf{else} statement]$
- $exp \rightarrow 0 \mid 1$



Syntax Diagrams

- EBNF

- $statement \rightarrow if\text{-}stmt \mid \text{other}$
- $if\text{-}stmt \rightarrow \text{if} (exp) statement [\text{else } statement]$
- $exp \rightarrow 0 \mid 1$



Syntax of the TINY language

program \rightarrow *stmt-sequence*
stmt-sequence \rightarrow *stmt-sequence* ; *statement* / *statement*
statement \rightarrow *if-stmt* / *repeat-stmt* / *assign-stmt* / *read-stmt* / *write-stmt*
if-stmt \rightarrow **if** *exp* **then** *stmt-sequence* **end**
 / **if** *exp* **then** *stmt-sequence* **else** *stmt-sequence* **end**
repeat-stmt \rightarrow **repeat** *stmt-sequence* **until** *exp*
assign-stmt \rightarrow **identifier** := *exp*
read-stmt \rightarrow **read** **identifier**
write-stmt \rightarrow **write** *exp*
exp \rightarrow *simple-exp* *comparison-op* *simple-exp* / *simple-exp*
comparison-op \rightarrow < | =
simple-exp \rightarrow *simple-exp* *addop* *term* / *term*
addop \rightarrow + | -
term \rightarrow *term* *mulop* *factor* / *factor*
mulop \rightarrow * | /
factor \rightarrow (*exp*) / **number** / **identifier**

Syntax of the TINY language

- **A context-free grammar for TINY (Fig. 3.6)**

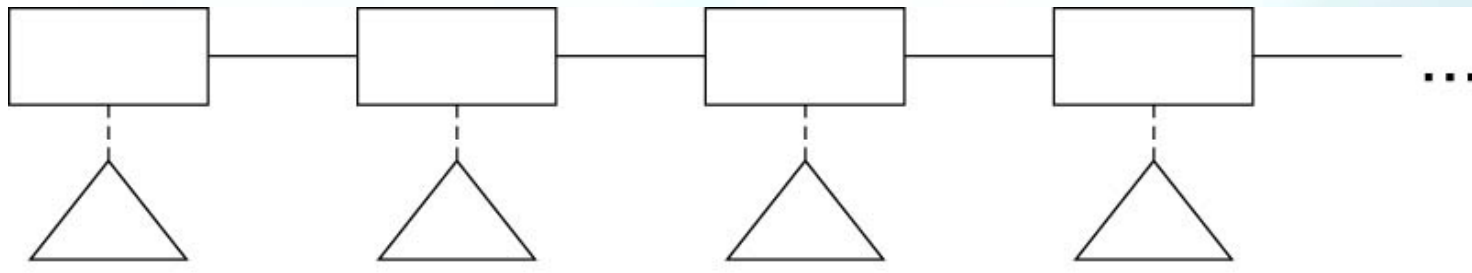
- 1: program is a statement sequence.
- 2: A statement sequence is a list of statement separated by ;.
- 3: There are five kinds of statements.
- 4-8: if, repeat, assign, read, and write statements.
- 9-15: expressions
- Precedence: *, / > +, - > <, =



Syntax tree for the TINY

- **statement sequence**

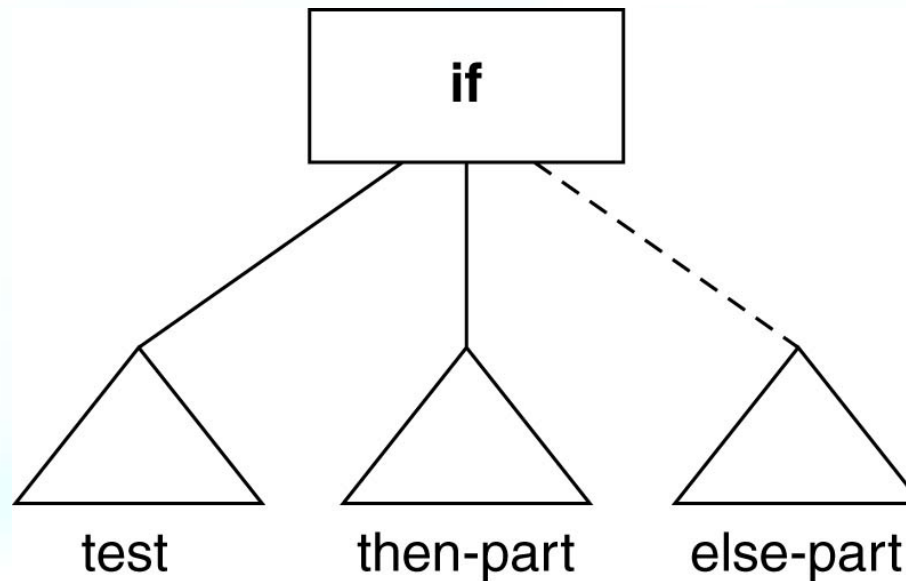
- *stmt-sequence* \rightarrow *stmt-sequence* ; *statement* / *statement*



Syntax tree for the TINY

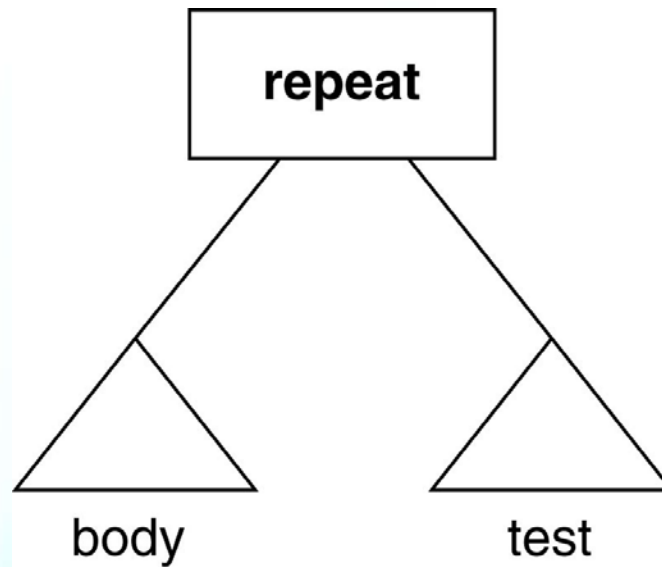
- **if statement**

- *if-stmt* → **if** *exp* **then** *stmt-sequence* **end**
| **if** *exp* **then** *stmt-sequence* **else** *stmt-sequence* **end**



Syntax tree for the TINY

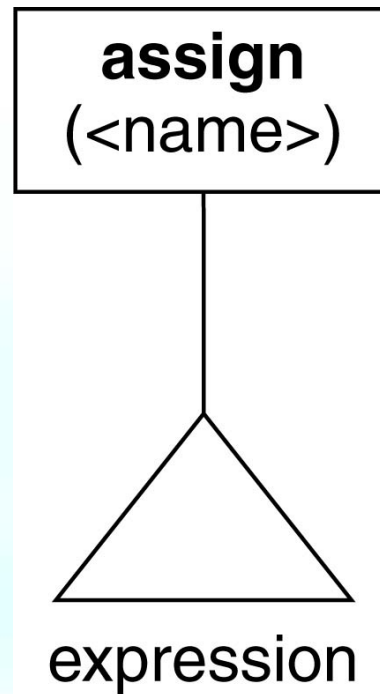
- **repeat statement**
 - *repeat-stmt* → **repeat** *stmt-sequence* **until** *exp*



Syntax tree for the TINY

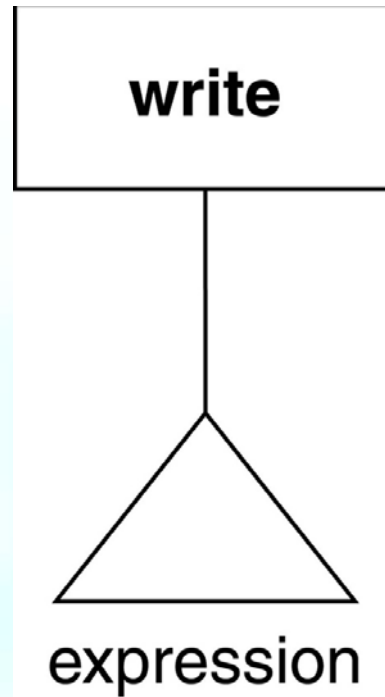
- **assign statement**

- *assign-stmt* \rightarrow *identifier* := *exp*



Syntax tree for the TINY

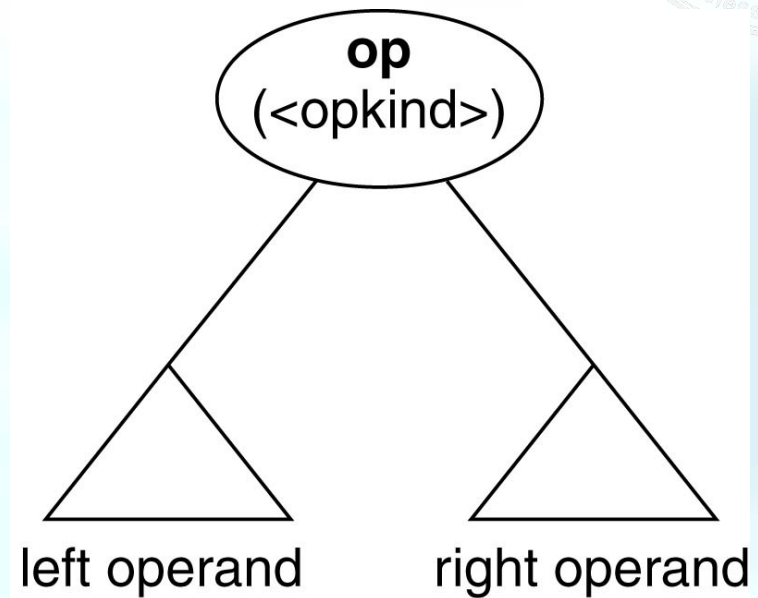
- **write statement**
 - *write-stmt* → **write** *exp*



Syntax tree for the TINY

- **operation**

- *comparison-op* $\rightarrow < | =$
- *addop* $\rightarrow + | -$
- *mulop* $\rightarrow * | /$



Syntax tree for the TINY



<http://usecurity.hanyang.ac.kr>

- **other statements?**

- *read-stmt* \rightarrow read *identifier*
- *addop* $\rightarrow + \mid -$
- *mulop* $\rightarrow * \mid /$
- No syntax trees for grammar rules with only nonterminals on the right hand.



Syntax tree for the TINY

- Sample program in TINY language

```
{ Sample program
  in TINY language -
  computes factorial
}
read x; { input an integer }
if 0 < x then { don't compute if x <= 0 }
  fact := 1;
  repeat
    fact := fact * x;
    x := x - 1
  until x = 0;
  write fact { output factorial of x }
end
```



Syntax tree for the TINY

