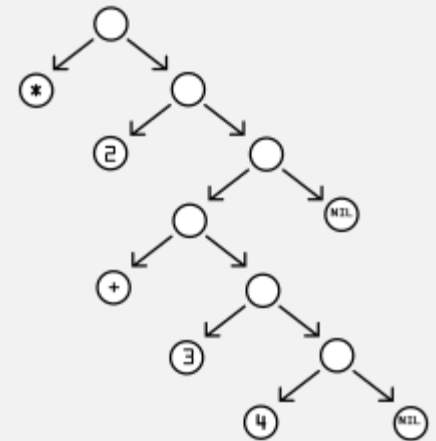


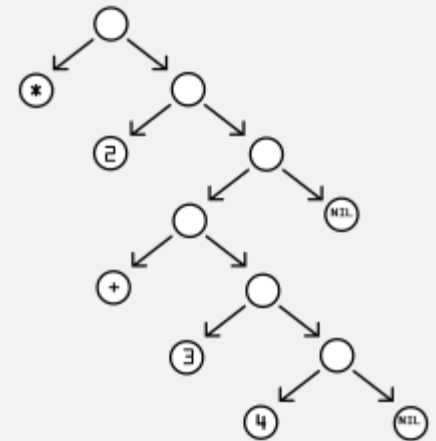
UMass Boston Computer Science  
**CS450 High Level Languages**  
**Intertwined Data**

Thursday, April 3, 2025



## *Logistics*

- HW 8 out (extra credit)
  - due: Tues 4/8 11am EST
  - NOTE: No late days allowed



S-expression (from wikipedia)

# Intertwined Data Definitions

- Come up with a **Data Definition** for ...
- ... valid Racket Programs

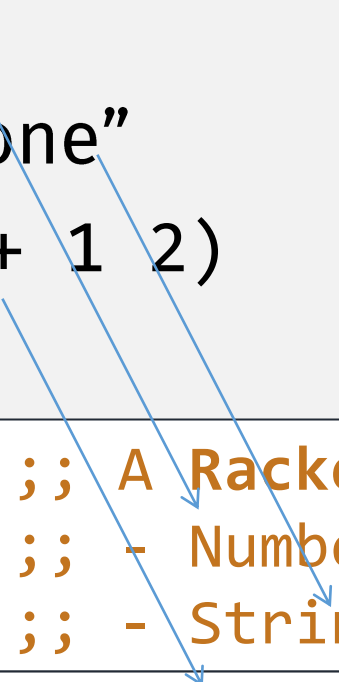
# Valid Racket Programs

Examples

- 1
- "one"
- (+ 1 2)

Data Def

```
;; A RacketProg is a:  
;; - Number  
;; - String  
;; - ???
```



# Valid Racket Programs

- 1
- "one"
- (+ 1 2)

```
;; A RacketProg is a:  
;; - Atom
```

```
;; - ???
```

```
;; An Atom is a:  
;; - Number  
;; - String
```

# Valid Racket Programs

• (+ 1 2) ← List of ... atoms?

“symbol”

```
;; A RacketProg is a:  
;; - Atom  
;; - List<Atom> ???
```

```
;; An Atom is a:  
;; - Number  
;; - String  
;; - Symbol
```

Written with a single  
quote, e.g., ‘+’

# Valid Racket Programs

- `(* (+ 1 2)  
(- 4 3))`

Tree?

- `(* (+ 1 2)  
(- 4 3)  
(/ 10 5))`

Each tree “node” is a list, of ... RacketProgs ??

But: how many values does each node have?? Unknown!

`;; A RacketProg is a:`

`;; - Atom`

`;; - List<???`

`;; - Tree<???`

`;; An Atom is a:`

`;; - Number`

`;; - String`

`;; - Symbol`

# Valid Racket Programs

- `(* (+ 1 2)  
(- 4 3))`

Tree?

- `(* (+ 1 2)  
(- 4 3)  
(/ 10 5))`

Each tree “node” is a list, of ... RacketProgs ??

But: how many values does each node have??

```
;; A RacketProg is a:  
;; - Atom  
;; - ProgTree
```

```
;; An Atom is a:  
;; - Number  
;; - String  
;; - Symbol
```

```
;; A ProgTree is one of:  
;; - empty  
;; - (cons RacketProg ProgTree)
```

Recursive Data Def!



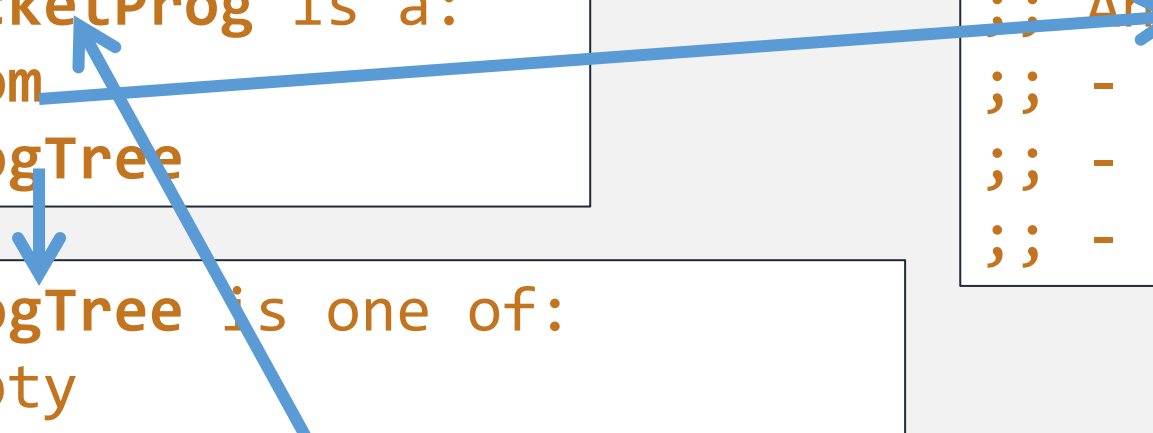
# Valid Racket Programs

Also, **Intertwined** Data Defs!

```
;; A RacketProg is a:  
;; - Atom  
;; - ProgTree
```

```
;; A ProgTree is one of:  
;; - empty  
;; - (cons RacketProg ProgTree)
```

```
;; An Atom is one of:  
;; - Number  
;; - String  
;; - Symbol
```



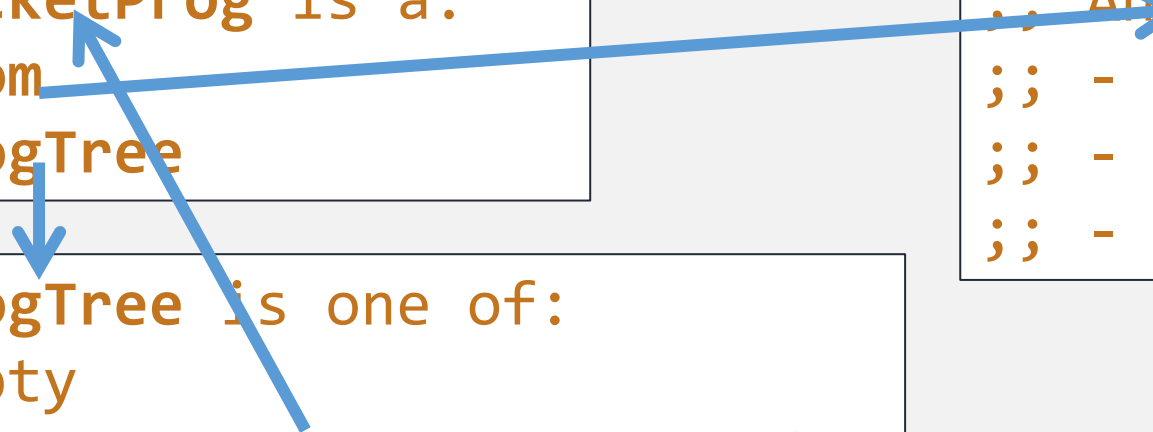
# Intertwined Data

- A set of Data Definitions that reference each other
- Templates should be defined together ...

```
;; A RacketProg is a:  
;; - Atom  
;; - ProgTree
```

```
;; A ProgTree is one of:  
;; - empty  
;; - (cons RacketProg ProgTree)
```

```
;; An Atom is one of:  
;; - Number  
;; - String  
;; - Symbol
```



# Intertwined Data

- A set of Data Definitions that reference each other
- Templates should be defined together ...
  - ... and should reference each other's templates (when needed)

```
;; A RacketProg is one of:  
;; - Atom  
;; - ProgTree
```

```
(define (prog-fn p) ...)
```

```
;; A ProgTree is one of:  
;; - empty  
;; - (cons RacketProg ProgTree)
```

```
(define (ptree-fn t) ...)
```

```
;; An Atom is one of:  
;; - Number  
;; - String  
;; - Symbol
```

```
(define (atom-fn a) ...)
```

???



# Intertwined Templates

```
;; A RacketProg is one of:  
;; - Atom  
;; - ProgTree
```

```
(define (prog-fn s)  
  (cond  
    [(atom? s) ... (atom-fn s) ...]  
    [else ... (ptree-fn s) ...]))
```

```
;; A ProgTree is one of:  
;; - empty  
;; - (cons RacketProg ProgTree)
```

```
(define (ptree-fn t)  
  (cond  
    [(empty? t) ...]  
    [else ... (prog-fn (first t)) ... (ptree-fn (rest t)) ...]))
```

**Intertwined data have  
intertwined templates!**

```
;; An Atom is one of:  
;; - Number  
;; - String  
;; - Symbol
```

```
(define (atom-fn a)  
  (cond  
    [(number? a) ...]  
    [(string? a) ...]  
    [(symbol? a) ...]))
```

# A “Racket Prog” = S-expression!

```
;; A RacketProg Sexpr is one of:  
;; - Atom  
;; - ProgTree
```

```
(define (sexpr-fn s)  
  (cond  
    [(atom? s) ... (atom-fn s) ...]  
    [else ... (ptree-fn s) ...]))
```

```
;; A ProgTree is one of:  
;; - empty  
;; - (cons RacketProg Sexpr ProgTree)
```

```
(define (ptree-fn t)  
  (cond  
    [(empty? t) ...]  
    [else ... (sexpr-fn (first t)) ... (ptree-fn (rest t)) ...]))
```

```
;; An Atom is one of:  
;; - Number  
;; - String  
;; - Symbol
```

```
(define (atom-fn a)  
  (cond  
    [(number? a) ...]  
    [(string? a) ...]  
    [(symbol? a) ...]))
```

# S-expressions

- A common real-world data definition!
  - For representing code
  - Or any tree-like data / document
- Equivalent: XML  
Uses:
  - web API queries, e.g., RSS, Atom, Google, MS
  - Documents: MS Office documents, SVG images
  - Code: JSX (React)
- Similar: JSON  
Uses:
  - web API queries: Twitter, Facebook, Github
  - Documents: config files (yaml, node.js)
  - Code: JS objects!



# In-class Coding 4/3: Counting Symbols

```
;; A Sexpr is one of:  
;; - Atom  
;; - ProgTree
```

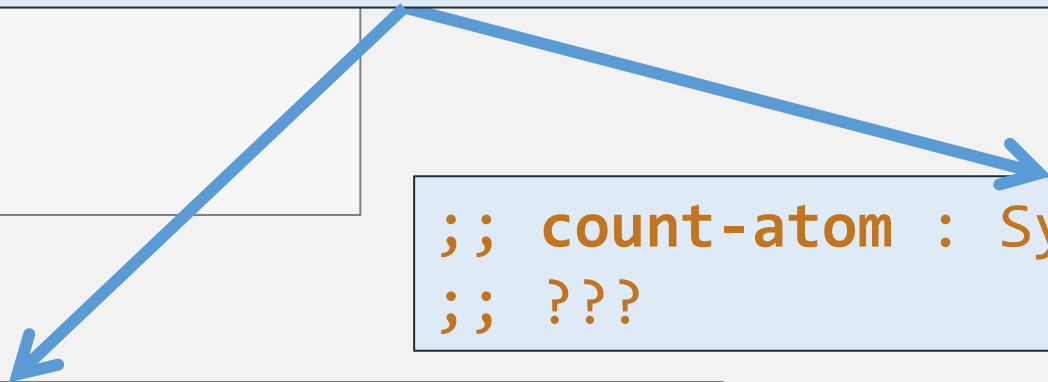
```
;; An Atom is one of:  
;; - Number  
;; - String  
;; - Symbol
```

```
;; count : Symbol Sexpr -> Nat  
;; Computes the number of times the given  
;; symbol appears in the given s-expression
```

```
;; A ProgTree is one of:  
;; - empty  
;; - (cons Sexpr ProgTree)
```

```
;; count-atom : Symbol Atom -> Nat  
;; ???
```

```
;; count-ptree : Symbol ProgTree -> Nat  
;; ???
```



# Counting Symbols

```
;; count : Symbol Sexpr -> Nat  
;; Computes the number of times the given  
;; symbol appears in the given s-expression
```

```
(define (count sym se)  
  (cond  
    [(atom? s) ... (atom-fn s) ...]  
    [else ... (ptree-fn s) ...]))
```

```
;; count-ptree : Symbol ProgTree -> Nat
```

```
(define (count-ptree sym pt)  
  (cond  
    [(empty? pt) ...]  
    [else ... (sexpr-fn (first pt)) ... (ptree-fn (rest pt)) ...]))
```

```
;; count-atom : Symbol Atom -> Nat
```

```
(define (count-atom sym a)  
  (cond  
    [(number? a) ...]  
    [(string? a) ...]  
    [(symbol? a) ...]))
```



# Counting Symbols

```
;; count : Symbol Sexpr -> Nat  
;; Computes the number of times the given  
;; symbol appears in the given s-expression
```

```
(define (count sym se)  
  (cond  
    [(atom? s) (count-atom sym se)]  
    [else (count-ptree sym se)]))
```

```
;; count-ptree : Symbol ProgTree -> Nat
```

```
(define (count-ptree sym pt)  
  (cond  
    [(empty? pt) ...]  
    [else ... (sexpr-fn (first pt)) ... (ptree-fn (rest pt)) ...]))
```

```
;; count-atom : Symbol Atom -> Nat
```

```
(define (count-atom sym a)  
  (cond  
    [(number? a) ...]  
    [(string? a) ...]  
    [(symbol? a) ...]))
```

# Counting Symbols

```
;; count : Symbol Sexpr -> Nat
;; Computes the number of times the given
;; symbol appears in the given s-expression
```

```
(define (count sym se)
  (cond
    [(atom? s) (count-atom sym se)]
    [else (count-ptree sym se)]))
```

```
;; count-ptree : Symbol ProgTree -> Nat
```

```
(define (count-ptree sym pt)
  (cond
    [(empty? pt) ...]
    [else ... (sexpr-fn (first pt)) ... (ptree-fn (rest pt)) ...]))
```

```
;; count-atom : Symbol Atom -> Nat
```

```
(define (count-atom sym a)
  (cond
    [(symbol? a)
     (if (symbol=? sym a) 1 0)]
    [else 0]))
```

# Counting Symbols

```
;; count : Symbol Sexpr -> Nat
;; Computes the number of times the given
;; symbol appears in the given s-expression
```

```
(define (count sym se)
  (cond
    [(atom? s) (count-atom sym se)]
    [else (count-ptree sym se)]))
```

```
;; count-ptree : Symbol ProgTree -> Nat
```

```
(define (count-ptree sym pt)
  (cond
    [(empty? pt) 0]
    [else ... (sexpr-fn (first pt)) ... (ptree-fn (rest pt)) ...]))
```

```
;; count-atom : Symbol Atom -> Nat
```

```
(define (count-atom sym a)
  (cond
    [(symbol? a)
     (if (symbol=? sym a) 1 0)]
    [else 0]))
```

# Counting Symbols

```
;; count : Symbol Sexpr -> Nat
;; Computes the number of times the given
;; symbol appears in the given s-expression
```

```
(define (count sym se)
  (cond
    [(atom? s) (count-atom sym se)]
    [else (count-ptree sym se)]))
```

```
;; count-ptree : Symbol ProgTree -> Nat
```

```
(define (count-ptree sym pt)
  (cond
    [(empty? pt) 0]
    [else (+ (count sym (first pt))
              (count-ptree sym (rest pt)))]))
```

```
;; count-atom : Symbol Atom -> Nat
```

```
(define (count-atom sym a)
  (cond
    [(symbol? a)
     (if (symbol=? sym a) 1 0)]
    [else 0]))
```

# Counting Symbols

```
;; count : Symbol Sexpr -> Nat
;; Computes the number of times the given
;; symbol appears in the given s-expression
```

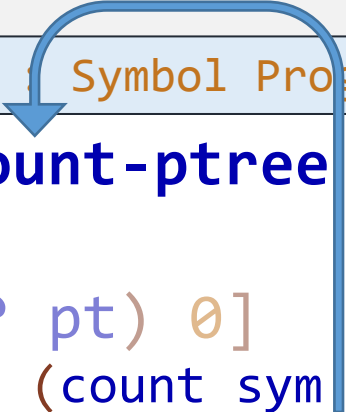
```
(define (count sym se)
  (cond
    [(atom? s) (count-atom sym se)]
    [else (count-ptree sym se)]))
```

```
;; count-atom : Symbol Atom -> Nat
```

```
(define (count-atom sym a)
  (cond
    [(symbol? a)
     (if (symbol=? sym a) 1 0)]
    [else 0]))
```

```
;; count-ptree : Symbol ProgTree -> Nat
```

```
(define (count-ptree sym pt)
  (cond
    [(empty? pt) 0]
    [else (+ (count sym (first pt))
              (count-ptree sym (rest pt)))]))
```



# A “Racket Prog” = S-expression!

```
;; A RacketProg Sexpr is one of:  
;; - Atom  
;; - ProgTree
```

```
(define (sexpr-fn s)  
  (cond  
    [(atom? s) ... (atom-fn s) ...]  
    [else ...
```

```
;; A ProgTree :  
;; - empty  
;; - (cons RacketProg Sexpr ProgTree)
```

```
(define (ptree-fn t)  
  (cond  
    [(empty? t) ...]  
    [else ... (sexpr-fn (first t)) ... (ptree-fn (rest t)) ...]))
```

```
;; An Atom is one of:  
;; - Number  
;; - String  
;; - Symbol
```

```
(define (atom-fn a)  
  (cond  
    [(number? a) ...]  
    [(string? a) ...]  
    [(symbol? a) ...]))
```

An S-expression is the  
**syntax** of a Racket program

# Syntax vs Semantics (Spoken Language)

## Syntax

- Specifies: **valid language constructs**
  - E.g., **sentence** = (subject) **noun** + **verb** + (object) **noun**

“the ball threw the child”

- Syntactically: **valid!** 
- Semantically: ???

## Semantics

- Specifies: “meaning” of language (constructs)

# Syntax vs Semantics (Programming Language)

## Syntax

- Specifies: valid language constructs
  - E.g., sentence = A valid program!

## Semantics

- Specifies: “meaning” of language (constructs)



# Syntax vs Semantics (Programming Language)

## Syntax

- Specifies: valid language constructs
  - E.g., valid **Racket** program: s-expressions
  - Valid **python** program: follows python grammar (including whitespace!)

## Semantics

- Specifies: “meaning” of language (constructs)

# Syntax vs Semantics (Programming Language)

## Syntax

- Specifies: valid language constructs
  - E.g., valid **Racket** program: s-expressions
  - Valid **python** program: follows python grammar (including whitespace!)

## Semantics

- Specifies: “meaning” of language (constructs)



**Q:** What is the “meaning” of a program?

**A:** The result of “running” it!

... but how does a program “run”?

# Running Programs: `eval`

```
;; eval : Sexpr -> Result  
;; “runs” a given Racket program, producing a “result”
```

An “eval” function turns a “program” into a “result”

An “eval” function is more generally called an **interpreter**

(Not all programs are directly interpreted)

More commonly, a high-level program is first **compiled** to a lower-level language (and then interpreted)

**Q:** What is the “meaning” of a program?

**A:** The result of “running” it!

... but how does a program “run”?

From  
Lecture 1

“high” level  
(easier for humans  
to understand)

“declarative”

“imperative”

NOTE: This hierarchy is approximate

English	
Specification langs	Types? pre/post cond?
Markup (html, markdown)	tags
Database (SQL)	queries
Logic Program (Prolog)	relations
Lazy lang (Haskell, R)	Delayed computation
Functional lang (Racket)	Expressions (no stmts)
JavaScript, Python	“eval”
C# / Java	GC (no alloc, ptrs)
C++	Classes, objects
C	Scoped vars, fns
Assembly Language	Named instructions
Machine code	Binary

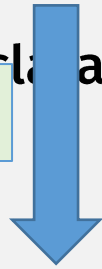
More commonly, a  
high-level program  
is first **compiled** to  
a lower-level  
language (and then  
intepreted)

“low” level  
(runs on cpu)

“high” level  
(easier for humans  
to understand)

**surface language**

“declarative”  
**compiler**



**target language**

“imperative”

“low” level  
(runs on cpu)

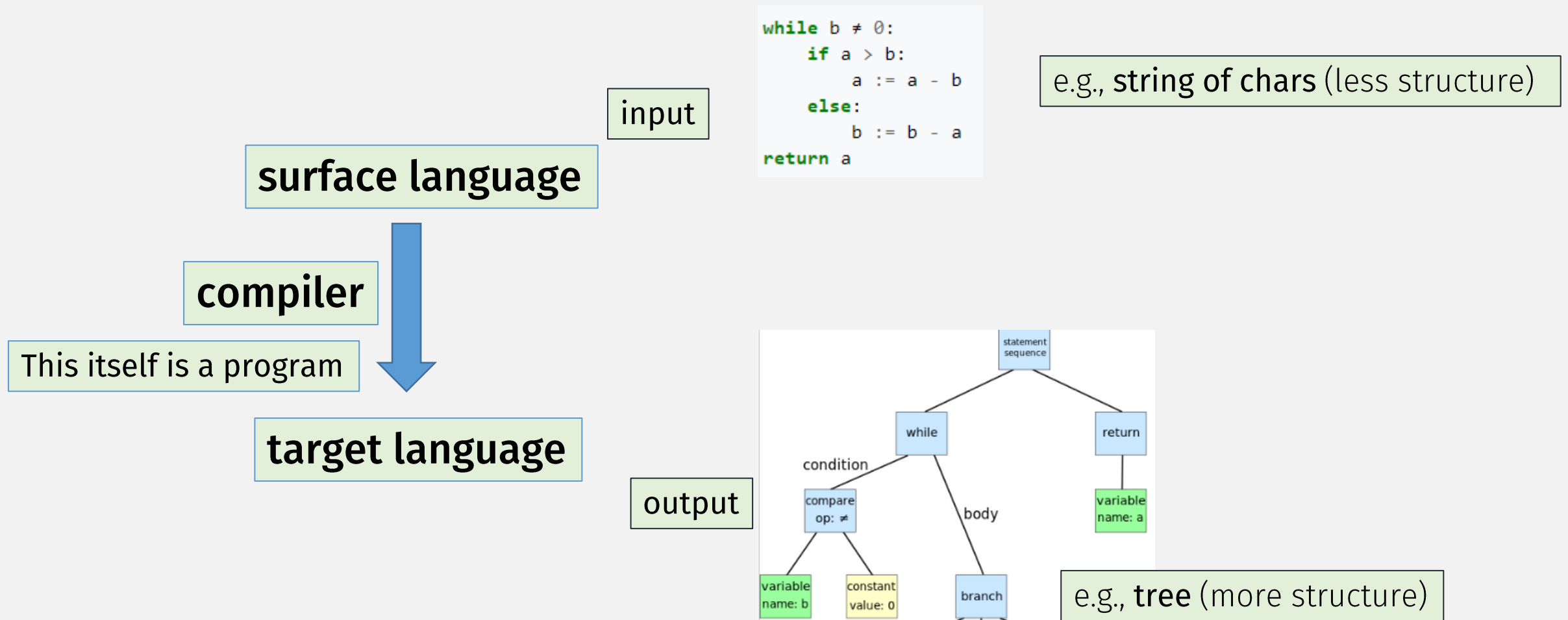
Specification langs
Markup (html, markdown)
Database (SQL)
Logic Program (Prolog)
Lazy lang (Haskell, R)
Functional lang (Racket)
JavaScript, Python
C# / Java
C++
C
Assembly Language
Machine code

Common **target** languages:

- bytecode (e.g., JS, Java)
- assembly
- machine code

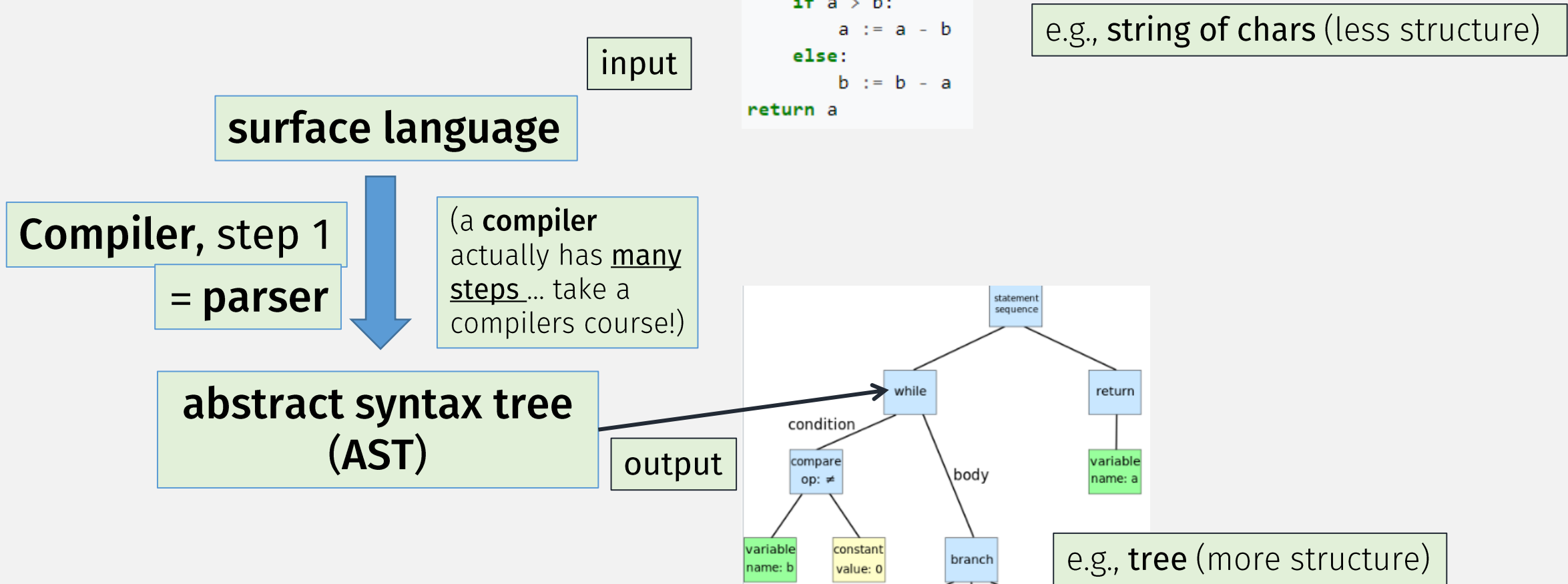
A **virtual machine** is just a  
**bytecode interpreter**

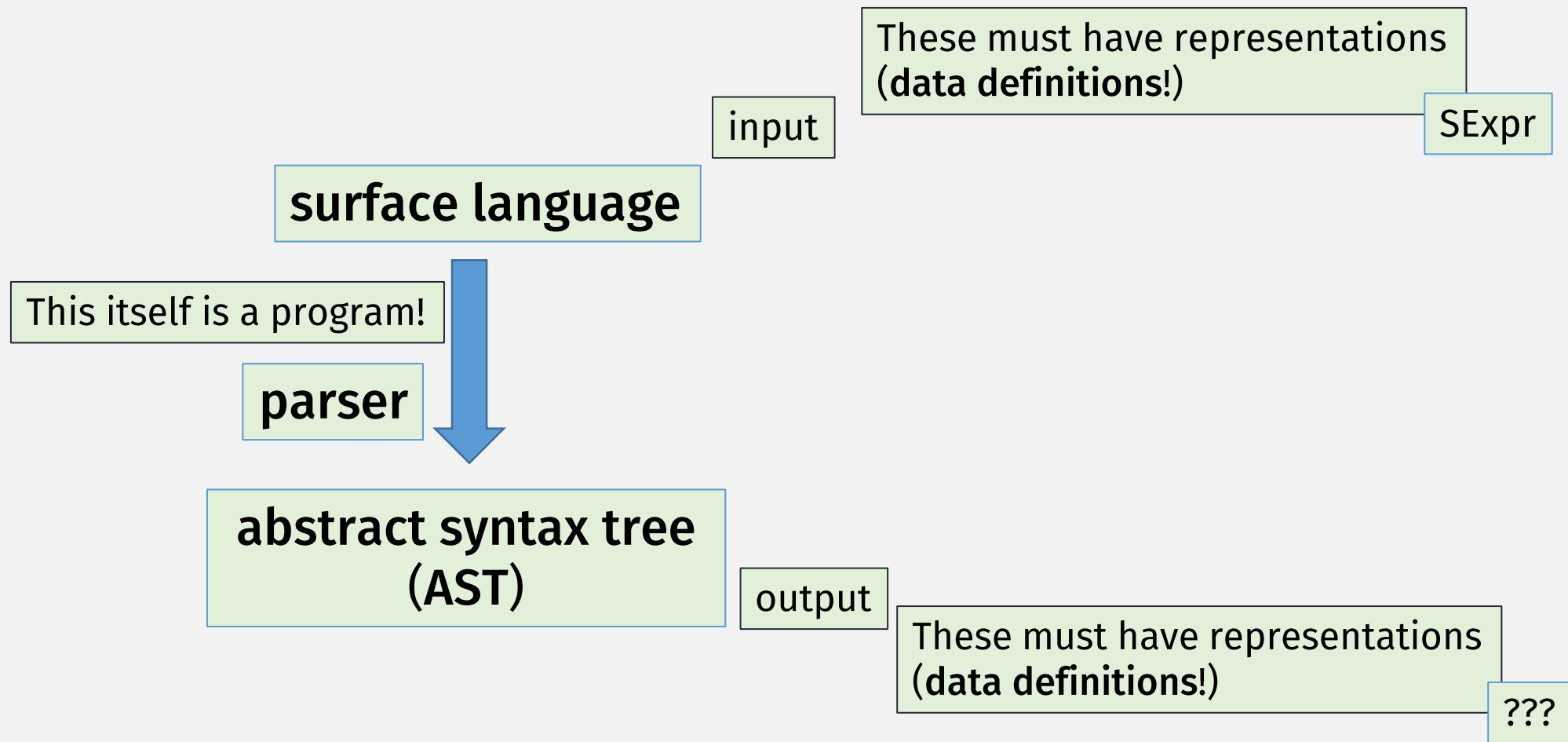
A (hardware) **CPU** is just a  
**machine code interpreter!**



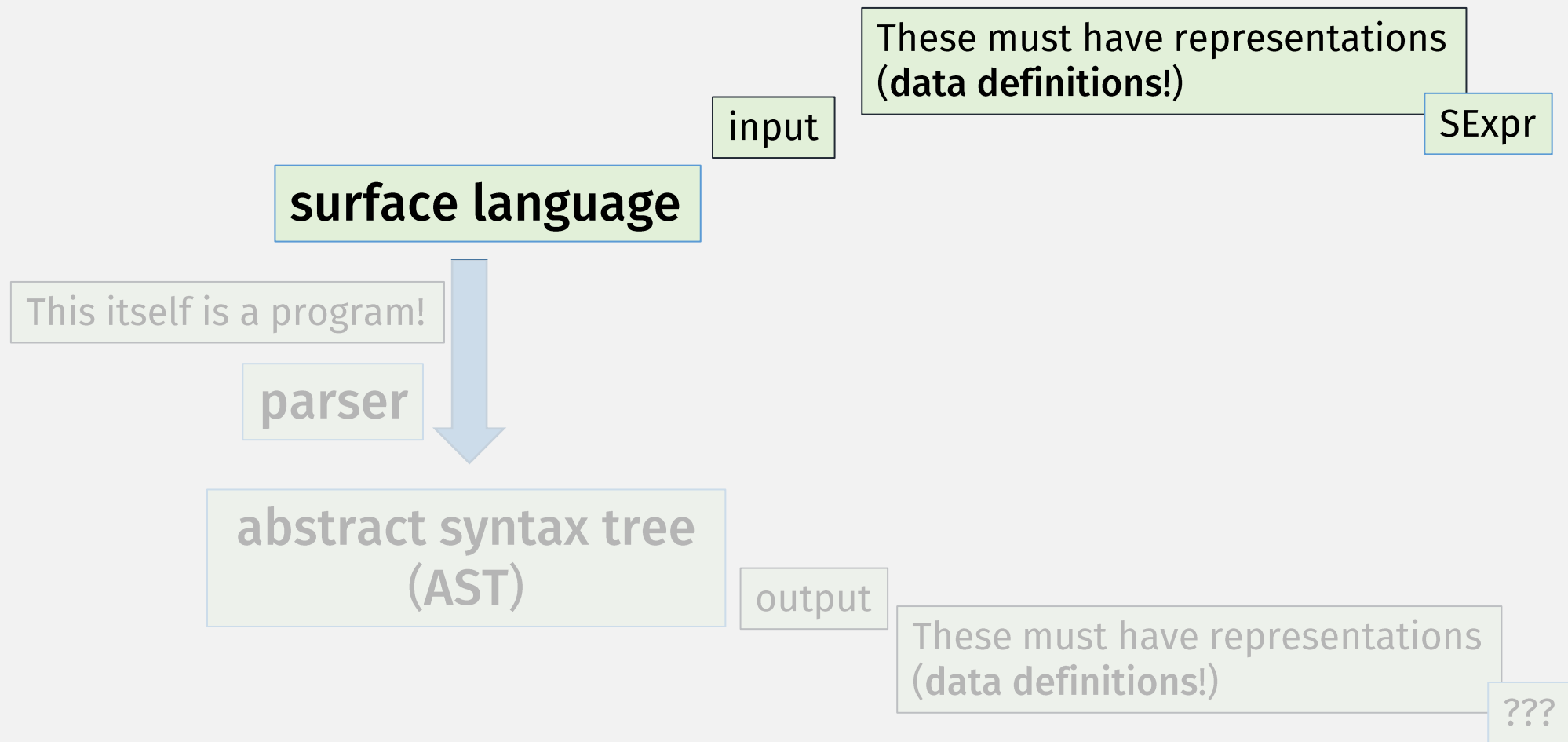
## Semantics

- Specifies: meaning of language structures
- So: to “run” a program, need to see the structure first









surface language

input

These must have representations  
(data definitions!)

SExpr

```
;; A SimpleSexpr (Ssexpr) is one of:  
;; - Number  
;; - (list '+ Ssexpr Ssexpr)  
;; - (list '- Ssexpr Ssexpr)
```

# Data Definition Template

When a **Data Definition** is an **itemization** of compound data ...

- **Template** =
  - cond to distinguish cases
  - “Getters” to extract pieces
  - recursive calls

```
;; A SimpleSexpr (Ssexpr) is one of:  
;; - Number  
;; - (list '+ Ssexpr Ssexpr)  
;; - (list '- Ssexpr Ssexpr)
```

```
(define (ss-fn s)  
  (cond  
    [(number? s) ...]  
    [(and (list? s) (equal? '+ (first s)))  
     ... (ss-fn (second s)) ... (ss-fn (third s)) ...]  
    [(and (list? s) (equal? '- (first s)))  
     ... (ss-fn (second s)) ... (ss-fn (third s)) ... ]))
```

Cond guards must distinguish the different cases

“getters”

Recursive call(s)

# Interlude: quoting and quasi-quoting

;; A **Ssexpr** is one of:

;; - Number

;; - (list '+ Ssexpr Ssexpr)

;; - (list '- Ssexpr Ssexpr)

equivalent



;; A **Ssexpr** is one of:

;; - Number

;; - `(+ ,Ssexpr ,Ssexpr)

;; - `(- ,Ssexpr ,Ssexpr)

Uses (quasi-quoting) to construct lists

## QUOTING

Shorthand for constructing S-exprs

(nested lists of atoms)

single quote

'(+ 1 2)



(list '+ 1 2)

'(+ 1 (+ 2 3))



(list '+ 1 (list '+ 2 3))

## QUASI-QUOTING

Like quoting but allows "escapes"

(to "splice in" computed s-exprs)

backtick

`(+ 1 2)



(list '+ 1 2)

`(+ 1 ,(+ 2 3))



(list '+ 1 5)

Comma

(only allowed inside quasiquote)

# Data Definition Template

When a **Data Definition** is an **itemization** of compound data ...

- **Template** =
  - cond to distinguish cases
  - “Getters” to extract pieces
  - recursive calls

```
;; A Ssexpr is one of:  
;; - Number  
;; - (list '+ Ssexpr Ssexpr)  
;; - (list '- Ssexpr Ssexpr)
```

```
(define (ss-fn s)  
  (cond  
    [(number? s) ...]  
    [(and (list? s) (equal? '+ (first s)))  
     ... (ss-fn (second s)) ... (ss-fn (third s)) ...]  
    [(and (list? s) (equal? '- (first s)))  
     ... (ss-fn (second s)) ... (ss-fn (third s)) ... ]))
```

Cond guards must distinguish the different cases

“getters”

Recursive call(s)

# Data Definition Template

When a **Data Definition** is an **itemization** of compound data ...

- **Template** =
  - ~~cond~~ to distinguish cases
  - ???
  - recursive calls

```
;; A Ssexpr is one of:
;; - Number
;; - `(+ ,Ssexpr ,Ssexpr)
;; - `(- ,Ssexpr ,Ssexpr)
```

Use (quasi-quoting) to construct lists

```
(define (ss-fn s)
  (cond
    [(number? s) ...]
    [(and (list? s) (equal? '+ (first s)))
     ... (ss-fn (second s)) ... (ss-fn (third s)) ... ]
    [(and (list? s) (equal? '- (first s)))
     ... (ss-fn (second s)) ... (ss-fn (third s)) ... ])))
```

# Interlude: pattern matching (again)

When a Data Definition is an itemization of compound data ...

- **Template =**

- ~~cond to distinguish cases~~
- **match** = cond + getters
- recursive calls

```
;; A Ssexpr is one of:  
;; - Number  
;; - `(+ ,Ssexpr ,Ssexpr)  
;; - `(- ,Ssexpr ,Ssexpr)
```

```
(define (ss-fn s)  
  (match s  
    [(? number?) ...]  
    [(+ ,x ,y) ... (ss-fn x) ... (ss-fn y) ...]  
    [ `(- ,x ,y) ... (ss-fn x) ... (ss-fn y) ... ]))
```

Use (quasi-quoting) to construct lists

Predicate pattern

“Quasiquote” pattern

???

Symbols match exactly

“Unquote” defines new variable name (for value at that position)

Match  
patterns

# Interlude: pattern matching (again)

- See Racket docs for the full pattern language

The grammar of *pat* is as follows, where non-italicized identifiers are recognized symbolically (i.e., not by binding).

```
pat ::= id
      | (val id)
      | _
      | literal
      | (quote datum)
      | (list lvp ...)
      | (list-rest lvp ... pat)
      | (list* lvp ... pat)
      | (list-no-order pat ...)
      | (list-no-order pat ... lvp)
      | (vector lvp ...)
      | (hash-table (pat pat) ...)
      | (hash-table (pat pat) ...+
        ooo)
      | (cons pat pat)
      | (mcons pat pat)
      | (box pat)
      | (struct-id pat ...)
      | (struct struct-id (pat ...))
      | (regexp rx-expr)
      | (regexp rx-expr pat)
      | (pregexp px-expr)
      | (pregexp px-expr pat)
      | (and pat ...)
      | (or pat ...)
      | (not pat ...)
      | (app expr pats ...)
      | (? expr pat ...)
      | (quasiquote qp)
      | derived-pattern
```

match anything, bind identifier  
match anything, bind identifier  
match anything  
match literal  
match `equal?` value  
match sequence of *lvps*  
match *lvps* consed onto a *pat*  
match *lvps* consed onto a *pat*  
match *pats* in any order  
match *pats* in any order  
match vector of *pats*  
match hash table  
match hash table  
match pair of *pats*  
match mutable pair of *pats*  
match boxed *pat*  
match *struct-id* instance  
match *struct-id* instance  
match string  
match string, result with *pat*  
match string  
match string, result with *pat*  
match when all *pats* match  
match when any *pat* match  
match when no *pat* matches  
match (*expr* value) output values to  
*pats*  
match if (*expr* value) and *pats*  
match a quasipattern  
match using extension



# *Interlude:* pattern matching (again)

When a **Data Definition** is an itemization of compound data ...

- **Template =**
  - ~~cond to distinguish cases~~
  - match = cond + getters
  - recursive calls

match can be more concise and readable

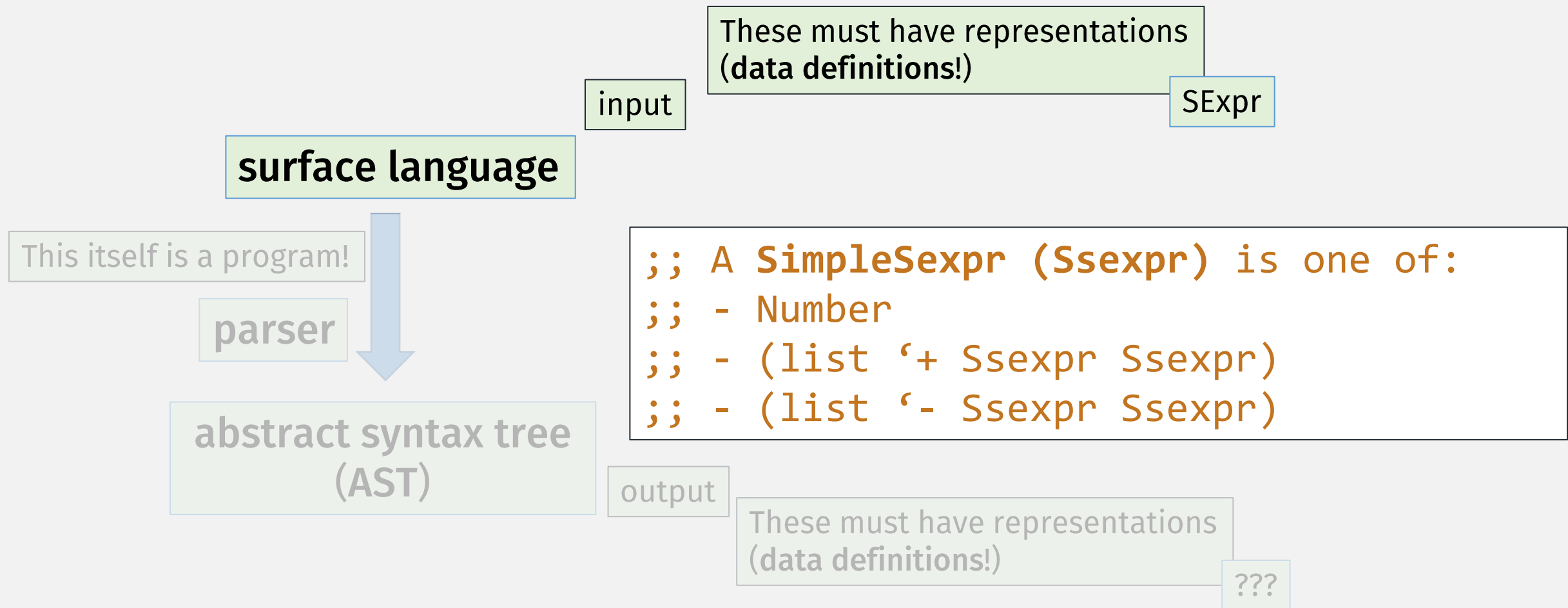
With **match**

```
(define (ss-fn s)
  (match s
    [(? number?) ... ]
    [`(+ ,x ,y)
     ... (ss-fn x) ... (ss-fn y) ... ]
    [`(- ,x ,y)
     ... (ss-fn x) ... (ss-fn y) ... ])))
```

**VS**

With accessors and predicates

```
(define (ss-fn s)
  (cond
    [(number? s) ... ]
    [(and (list? s) (equal? '+ (first s)))
     ... (ss-fn (second s)) ...
     ... (ss-fn (third s)) ... ]
    [(and (list? s) (equal? '- (first s)))
     ... (ss-fn (second s)) ...
     ... (ss-fn (third s)) ... ])))
```



surface language

This itself is a program!

parser

abstract syntax tree  
(AST)

These must have representations

;; An **AST** is one of:  
;; - (num Number)  
;; - (plus AST AST)  
;; - (minus AST AST)  
;; Interp: Tree structure for Ssexpr prog  
(struct num [val])  
(struct plus [left right])  
(struct minus [left right])

output

These must have representations  
(data definitions!)

???



- **Template** (with match) =

```
;; An AST is one of:  
;; - (num Number)  
;; - (plus AST AST)  
;; - (minus AST AST)  
;; Interp: Tree structure for Ssexpr prog  
(struct num [val])  
(struct plus [left right])  
(struct minus [left right])
```

```
(define (ast-fn p)  
  (cond match p  
    [(num n) ...]  
    [(plus x y) ... (ast-fn x) ...  
                    ... (ast-fn y) ...]  
    [(minus x y) ... (ast-fn x) ...  
                    (ast-fn y) ... ]))
```

Struct name

Struct  
patterns

Extracts and names fields

```
(define (ast-fn p)
  (cond
    [(num? p) ... ]
    [(plus? p) ... (ast-fn (plus-left p))
                  ... (ast-fn (plus-right p)) ... ]
    [(minus? p) ... (ast-fn (minus-left p))
                  ... (ast-fn (minus-right p)) ... ]))
```

With accessors and predicates

**VS**

- **Template** (with match) =

```
(define (ast-fn p)
  (match p
    [(num n) ... ]
    [(plus x y) ... (ast-fn x) ...
                  ... (ast-fn y) ... ]
    [(minus x y) ... (ast-fn x) ...
                  ... (ast-fn y) ... ]))
```

With **match**

**match** can be more concise and readable