

# **Compilers**

## ***CS414-2015S-04***

### ***Abstract Syntax Trees***

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## 04-0: Abstract Syntax Tree (AST)

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- Parse trees tell us exactly how a string was parsed
- Parse trees contain more information than we need
  - We only need the basic shape of the tree, not where every non-terminal is
  - Non-terminals are necessary for parsing, not for meaning
- An Abstract Syntax Tree is a simplified version of a parse tree – basically a parse tree without non-terminals

# 04-1: Parse Tree Example

---

$$E \rightarrow E + T$$

$$E \rightarrow T$$

$$T \rightarrow T * F$$

Parse tree for  $3 + 4 * 5$

$$T \rightarrow F$$

$$F \rightarrow \text{num}$$

## 04-2: Parse Tree Example

$$E \rightarrow E + T$$

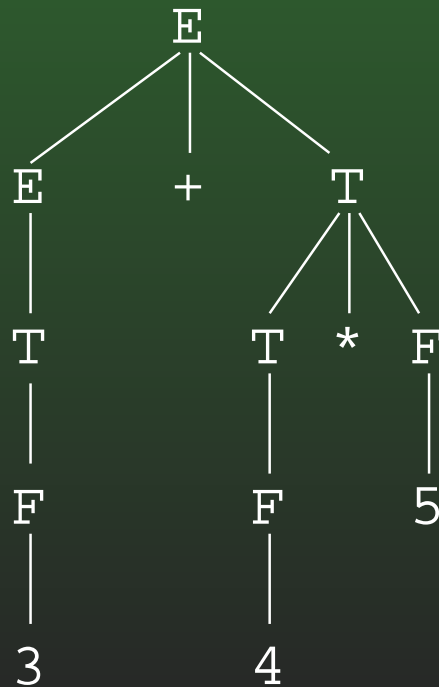
$$E \rightarrow T$$

$$T \rightarrow T * F$$

$$T \rightarrow F$$

$$F \rightarrow \text{num}$$

Parse tree for  $3 + 4 * 5$



## 04-3: Abstract Syntax Tree Example

$$E \rightarrow E + T$$

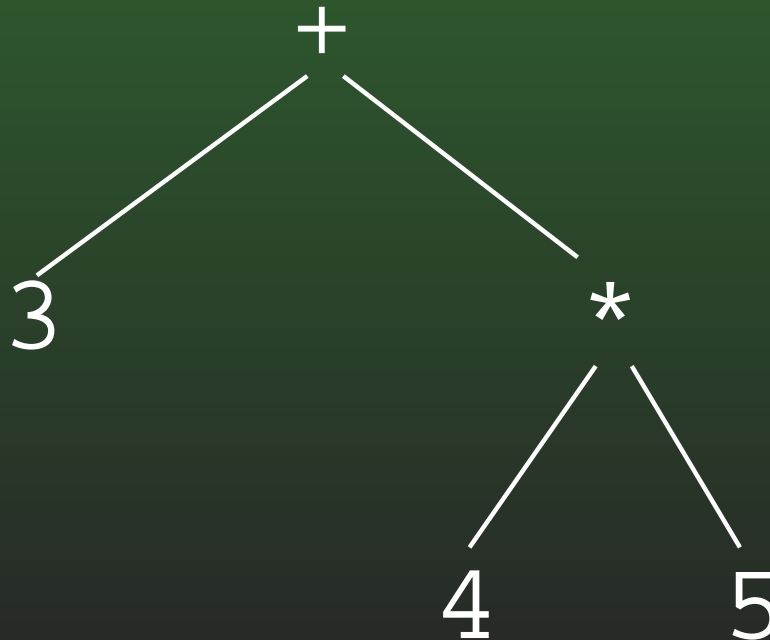
$$E \rightarrow T$$

$$T \rightarrow T * F$$

$$T \rightarrow F$$

$$F \rightarrow \text{num}$$

Abstract Syntax Tree for  $3 + 4 * 5$



## 04-4: AST – Expressions

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- Simple expressions (such as integer literals) are a single node
- Binary expressions (+, \*, /, etc.) are represented as a root (which stores the operation), and a left and right subtree
  - $5 + 6 * 7 + 8$  (on whiteboard)

## 04-5: AST – Expressions

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- What about parentheses? Do we need to store them?

## 04-6: AST – Expressions

---

- What about parentheses? Do we need to store them?
  - Parenthesis information is store in the shape of the tree
  - No extra information is necessary

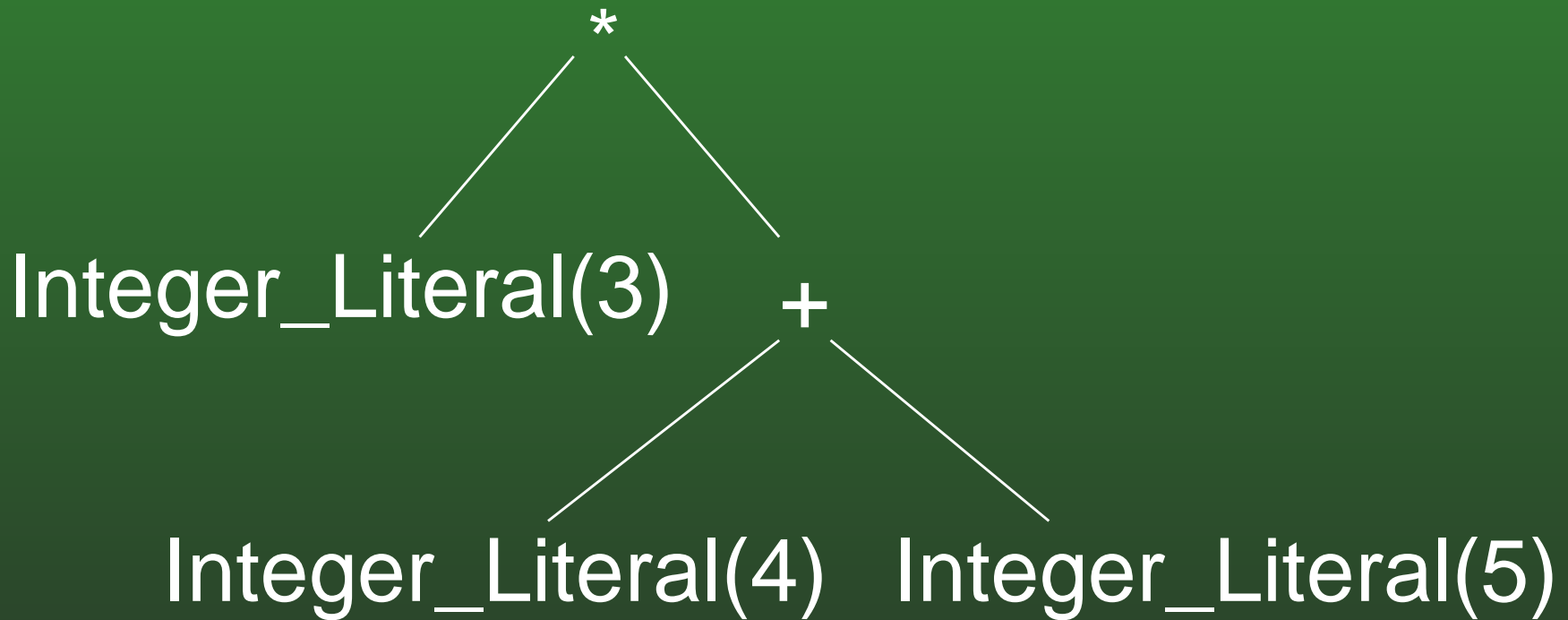
$3 * (4 + 5)$



## 04-7: AST – Expressions

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3 \* (4 + 5)



## 04-8: AST – Expressions

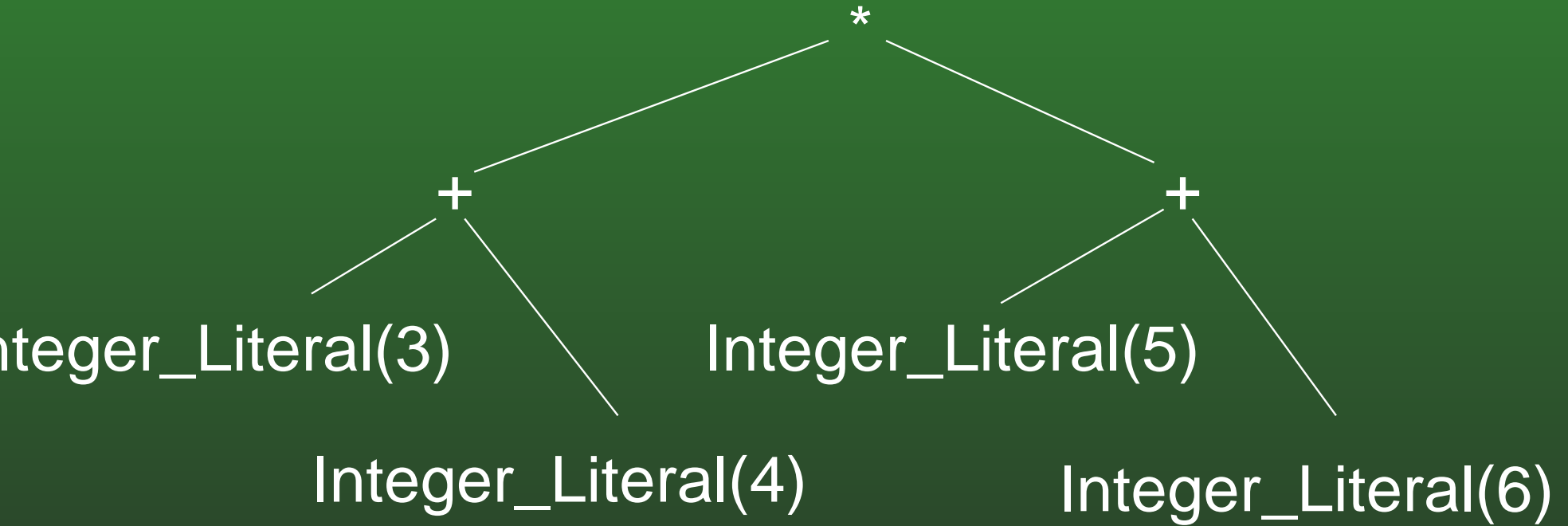
---

$(3 + 4) * (5 + 6)$

## 04-9: AST – Expressions

---

$(3 + 4) * (5 + 6)$



## 04-10: **AST – Expressions**

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`((4))`

## 04-11: AST – Expressions

---

((4))

Integer\_Literal(4)

## 04-12: AST – Variables

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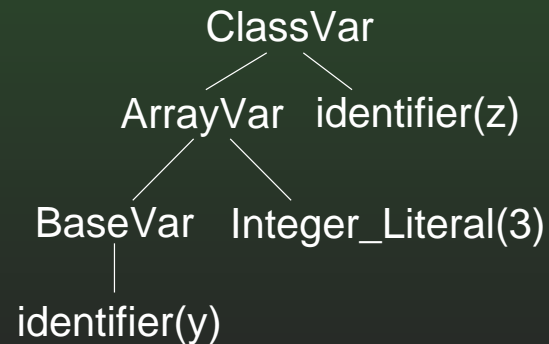
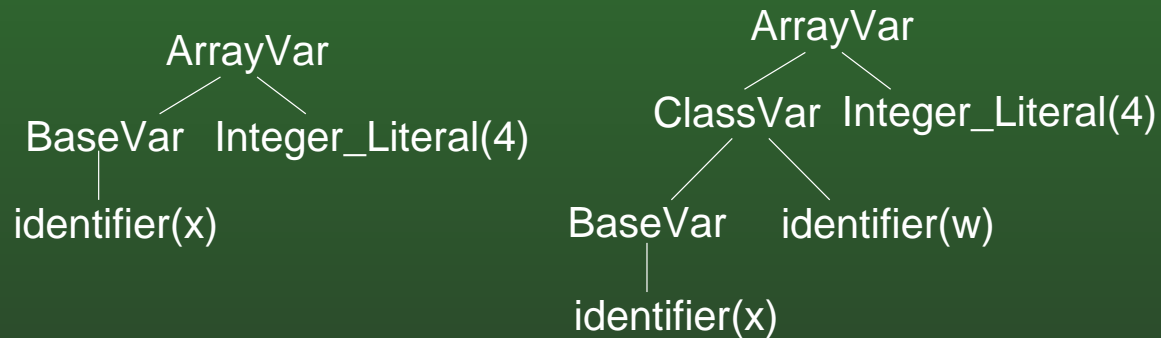
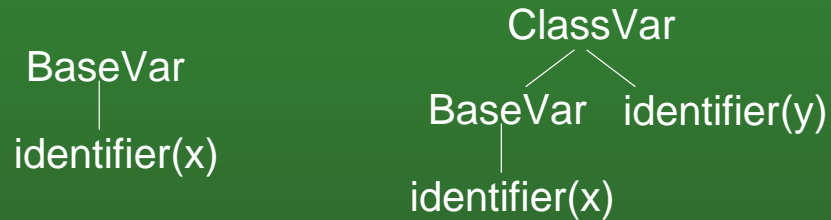
- Simple variables (which we will call *Base Variables*) can be described by a single identifier.
- Instance variable accesses ( $x.y$ ) require the name of the base variable ( $x$ ), and the name of the instance variable ( $y$ ).
- Array accesses ( $A[3]$ ) require the base variable ( $x$ ) and the array index ( $3$ ).
- Variable accesses need to be extensible
  - $x.y[3].z$

## 04-13: AST – Variables

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- Base Variables Root is “BaseVar”, single child (name of the variable)
- Class Instance Variables Root is “ClassVar”, left subtree is the “base” of the variable, right subtree is the instance variable name
- Array Variables Root is “ArrayVar”, left subtree is the “base” of the variable, right subtree is the index

## 04-14: AST – Variables





# 04-15: AST – Instance Variables

---

```
class simpleClass {
    int a;
    int b;
}

class complexClass {
    int u;
    simpleClass v;
}

void main() {
    complexClass x;
    x = new complexClass();
    x.v = new simpleClass();

    x.v.a = 3;
}
```

## 04-16: **AST – Instance Variables**

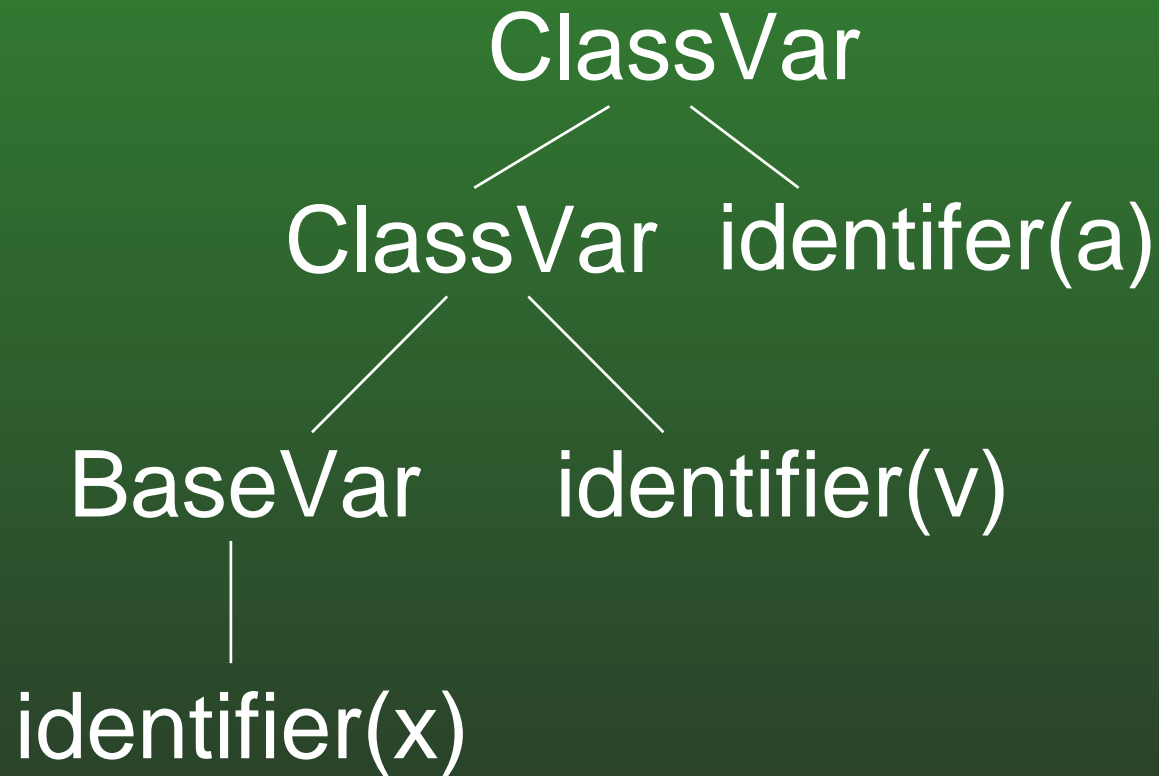
---

x.v.a

## 04-17: AST – Instance Variables

---

x.v.a



# 04-18: **AST – Instance Variables**

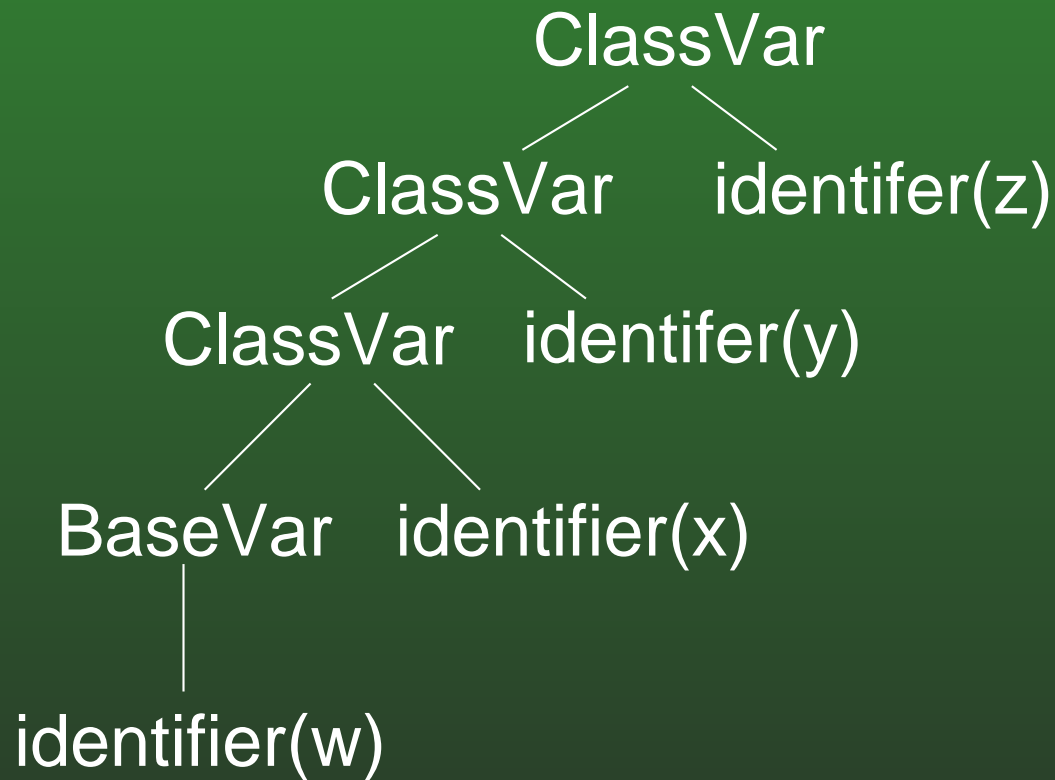
---

w.x.y.z

# 04-19: AST – Instance Variables

---

w.x.y.z



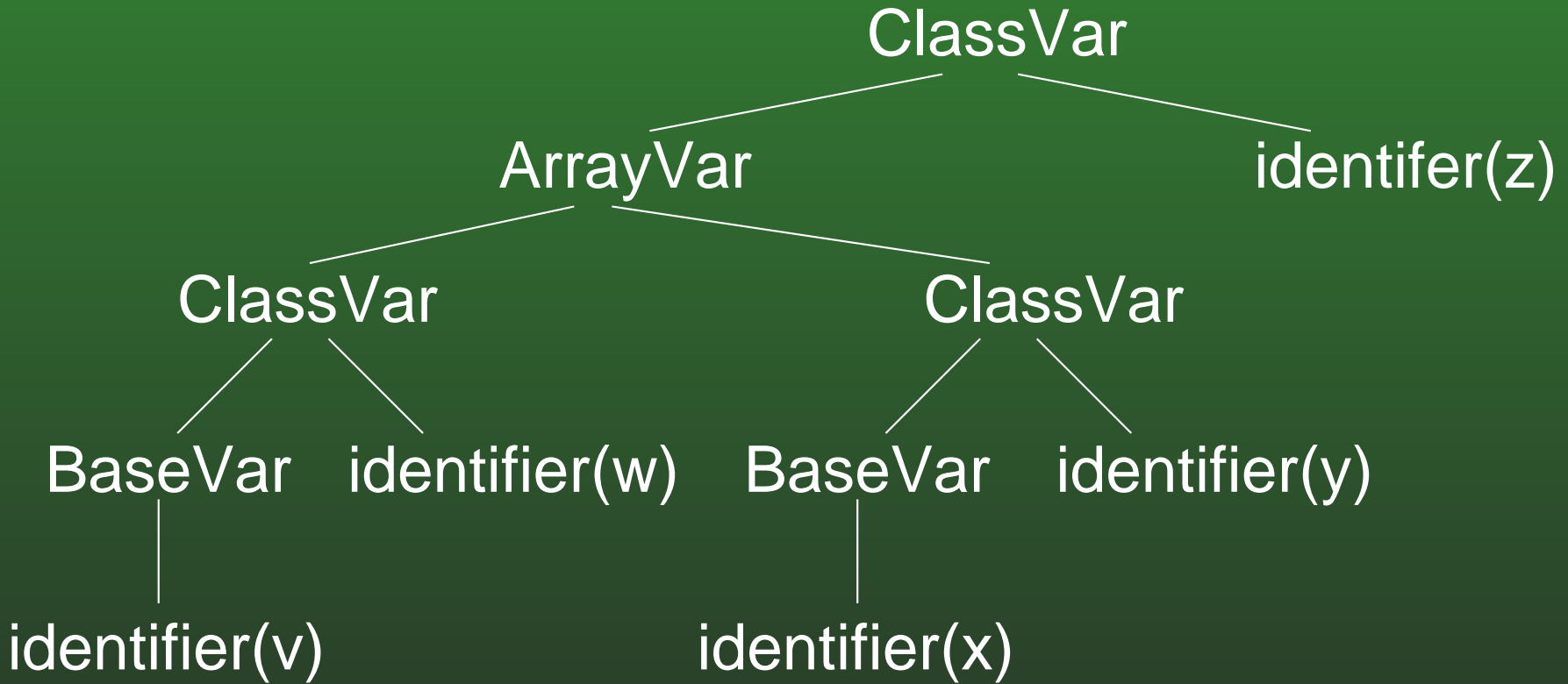
## 04-20: **AST – Instance Variables**

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v.w[x.y].z

## 04-21: AST – Instance Variables

v.w[x.y].z



## 04-22: AST – Statements

- Assignment Statement Root is “Assign”, children for left-hand side of assignment statement, and right-hand side of assignment statement

assign



```
graph TD; assign[assign] --- LHS[Variable tree for the Left-Hand Side of the assignment statement (destination)]; assign --- RHS[Variable tree for the Right-Hand Side of the assignment statement (value to assign)];
```

The diagram illustrates the structure of an Assignment Statement in an Abstract Syntax Tree (AST). The root node is labeled "assign". It has two children, each enclosed in a cloud-shaped box. The left child is described as the "Variable tree for the Left-Hand Side of the assignment statement (destination)". The right child is described as the "Variable tree for the Right-Hand Side of the assignment statement (value to assign)".

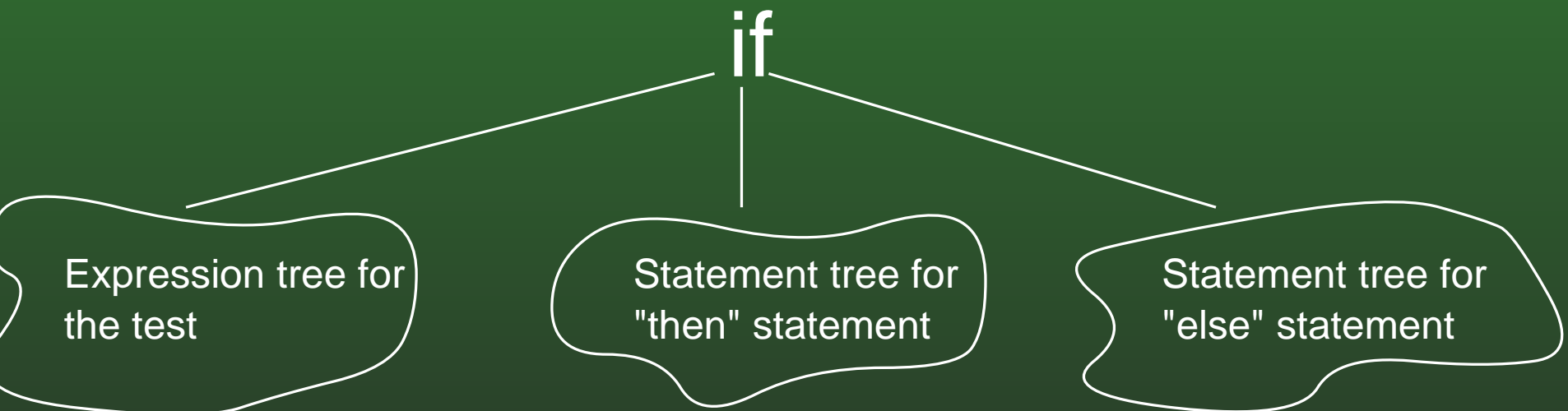
Variable tree for  
the Left-Hand Side  
of the assignment  
statement (destination)

Variable tree for  
the Right-Hand Side  
of the assignment  
statement (value to assign)



## 04-23: AST – Statements

- If Statement Root is “If”, children for test, “then” clause, and “else” clause of the statement. The “else” tree may be empty, if the statement has no else.



## 04-24: AST – Statements

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- While Statement Root is “While”, children for test and body of the while loop.

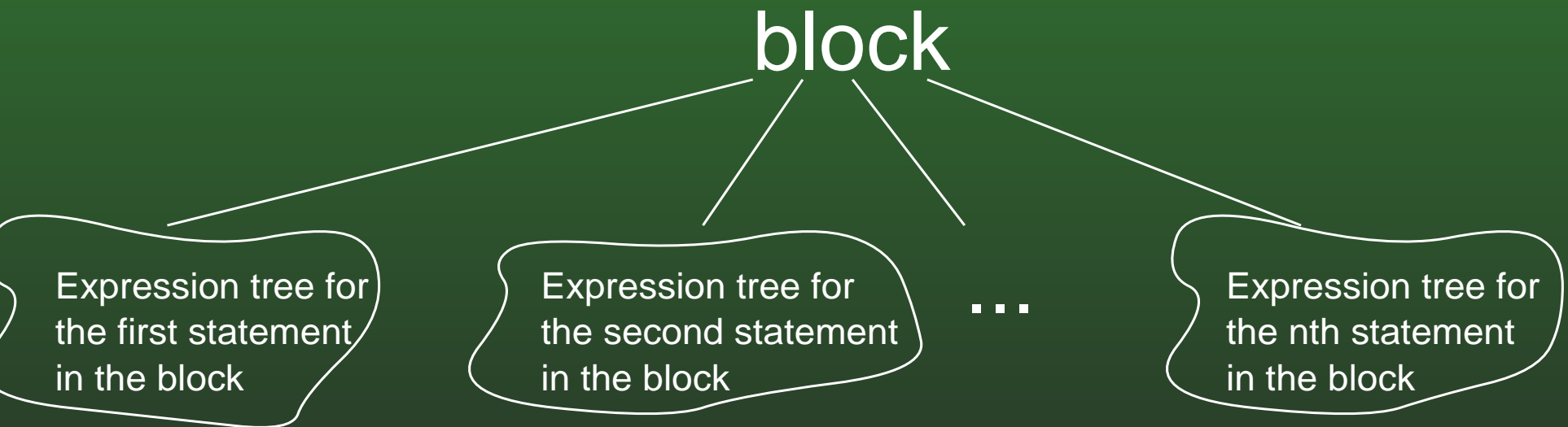
while

Expression tree for  
the test

Statement tree for  
the body of the loop

## 04-25: AST – Statements

- **Block Statement** That is,  $\{ \langle \text{statement1} \rangle; \langle \text{statement2} \rangle; \dots \langle \text{statementn} \rangle \}$ . Block statements have a variable number of children, represented as a Vector of children.



## 04-26: **AST – Statements**

---

- Variable Declarations
  - Non-array variable declaration  
`<TYPE> <NAME>;`
  - One-Dimensional array declaration  
`<TYPE> <NAME>[];`
  - Two-Dimensional array declaration  
`<TYPE> <NAME>[] [];`

## 04-27: **AST – Statements**

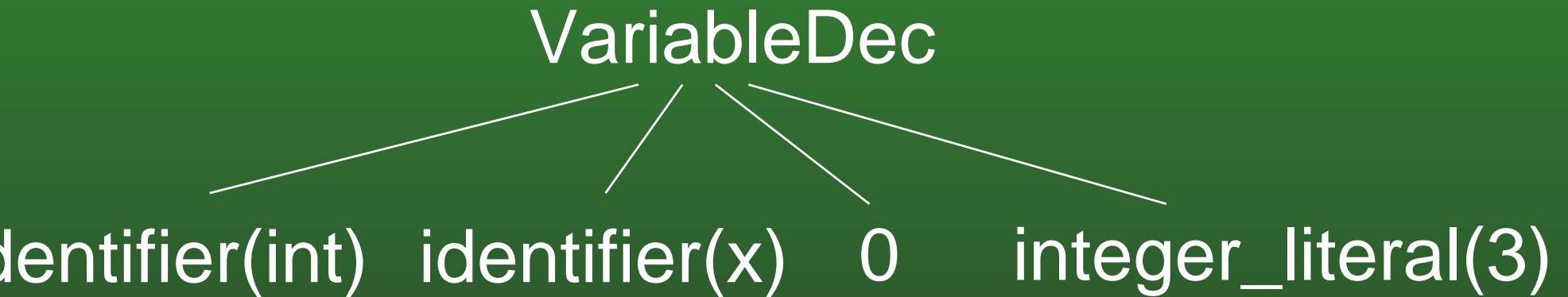
---

- Variable Declarations ASTs for variable declarations have 4 children:
  - An identifier, for the type of the declared variable
  - An identifier, for the name of the declared variable
  - An integer, for the dimensionality of the array (non-array variables have dimension 0)
  - An expression tree, which represents the initial value (if any)

## 04-28: Variable Declarations

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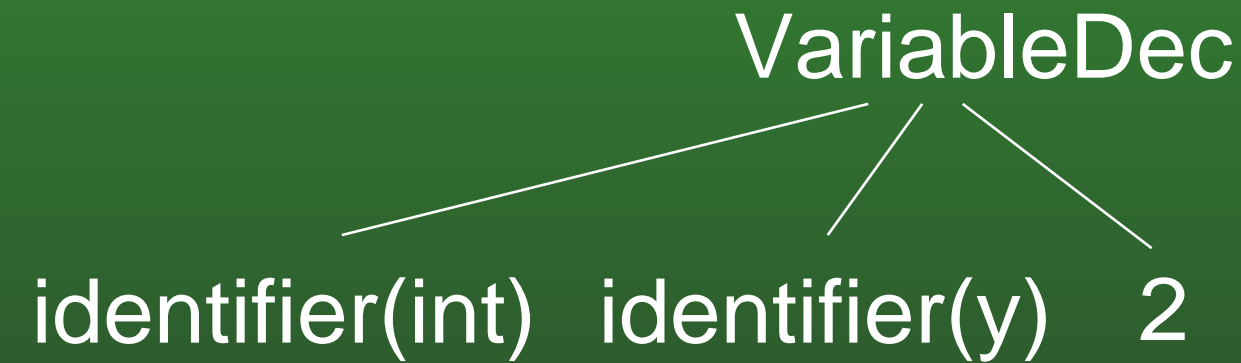
```
int x = 3;
```



## 04-29: Variable Declarations

---

```
int y[] [] ;
```



## 04-30: New Array Expressions

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- New Array expressions are similar to variable expressions:
  - Single dimensional array  
`new int[3];`
  - Two dimensional array  
`new int[3][];`
  - Three dimensional array  
`new int[4][][];`



## 04-31: New Array Expressions

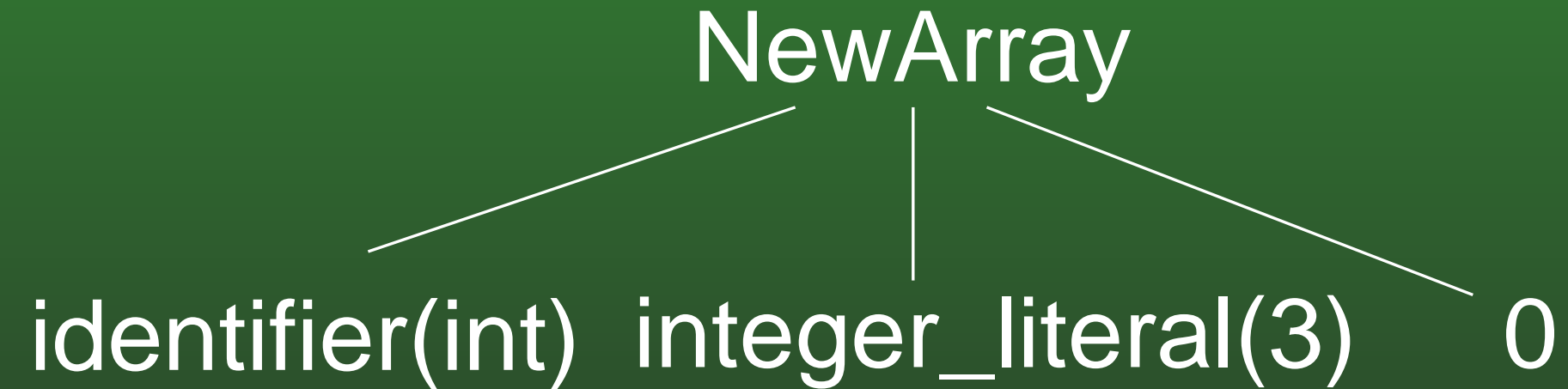
---

- New Array expressions have 3 children
  - Type of array to allocate
  - Number of elements in the new array
  - Dimensionality of each array element

## 04-32: New Array Expressions

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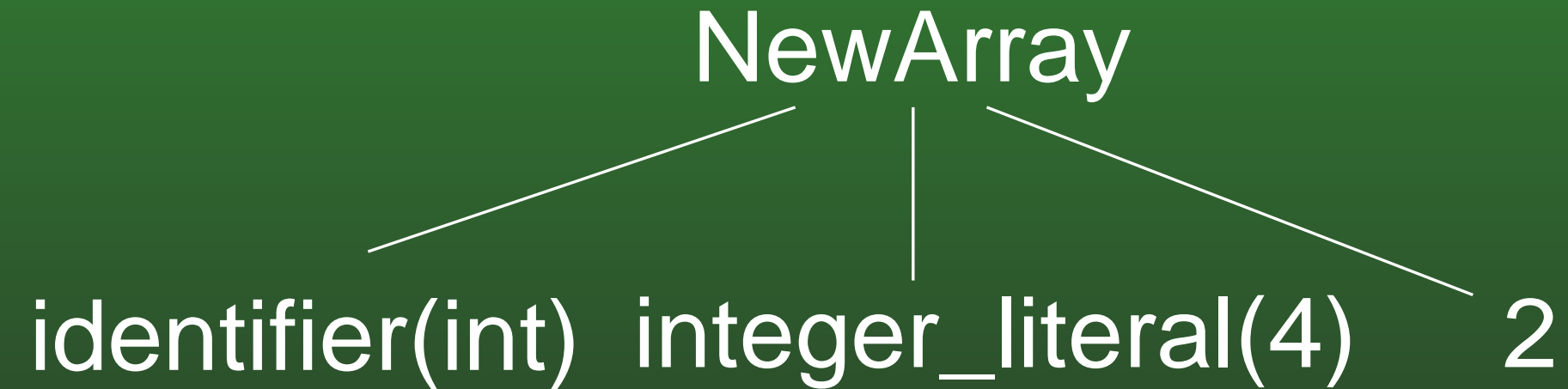
```
new int[3];
```



## 04-33: New Array Expressions

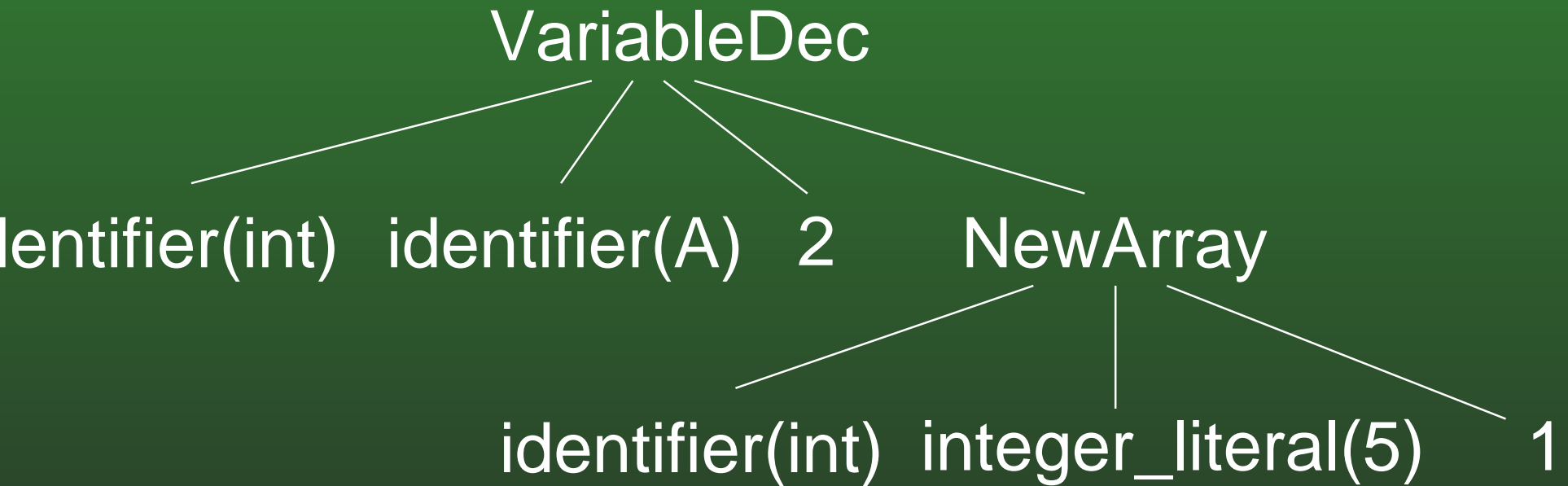
---

```
new int[4][][];
```



# 04-34: New Array Expressions

```
int A[] [] = new int[5] [];
```



## 04-35: Representing Trees in Java

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- Each “Subtree” is an instance variable
- For trees with variable numbers of children (function calls, etc.), use arrays or Vectors
- Access instance variables using accessor methods

## 04-36: Representing Trees in Java

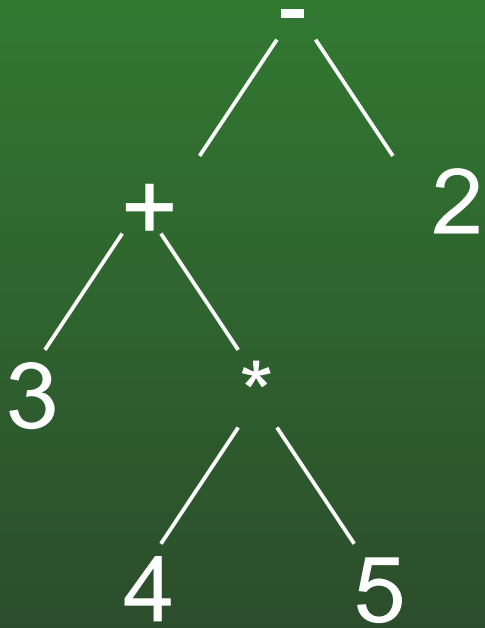
---

- Expression Trees
  - Abstract ASTExpression superclass
  - Integer Literal Expression
  - Operator Expression

Go over code for ASTExpression, ASTIntegerLiteralExpression, ASTOperatorExpression

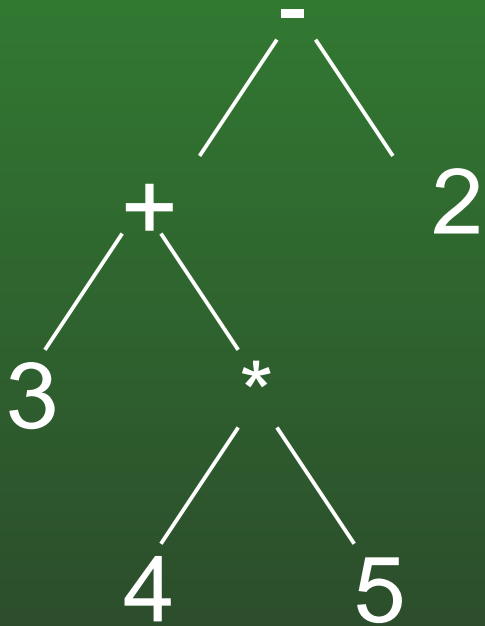
## 04-37: Representing Trees in Java

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- How could we build this tree?

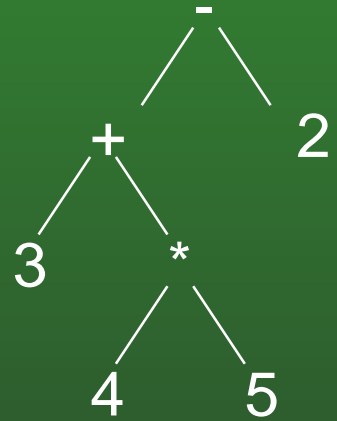
## 04-38: Representing Trees in Java

[illegible]



## 04-39: Representing Trees in Java

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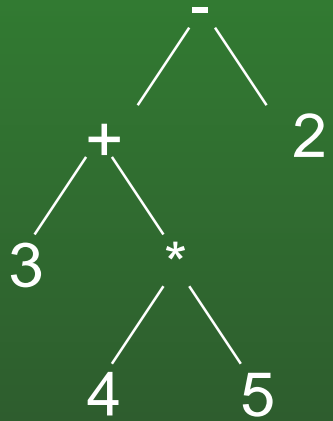


- We can extract the integer value 2:

```
int value = ((ASTIntegerLiteral)
              ((ASTOperatorExpression) tree).right()
              ).value();
```

## 04-40: Representing Trees in Java

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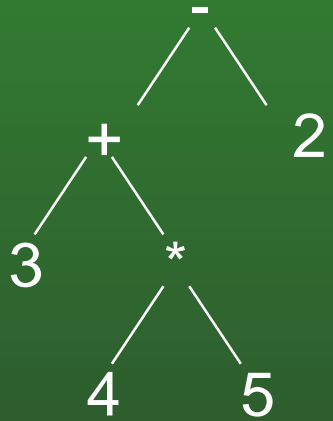


- We can extract the integer value 3:

```
int value = ((ASTIntegerLiteral)
            ((ASTOperatorExpression)
             ((ASTOperatorExpression) tree).left()
             ).left()
            ).value();
```

# 04-41: Representing Trees in Java

---



- We can extract the integer value 5:

```
int value = ((ASTIntegerLiteral)
            ((ASTOperatorExpresion)
             ((ASTOperatorExpresion)
              ((ASTOperatorExpresion) tree).left()
             ).right()
            ).right()
           ).value();
```

## 04-42: Representing Trees in Java

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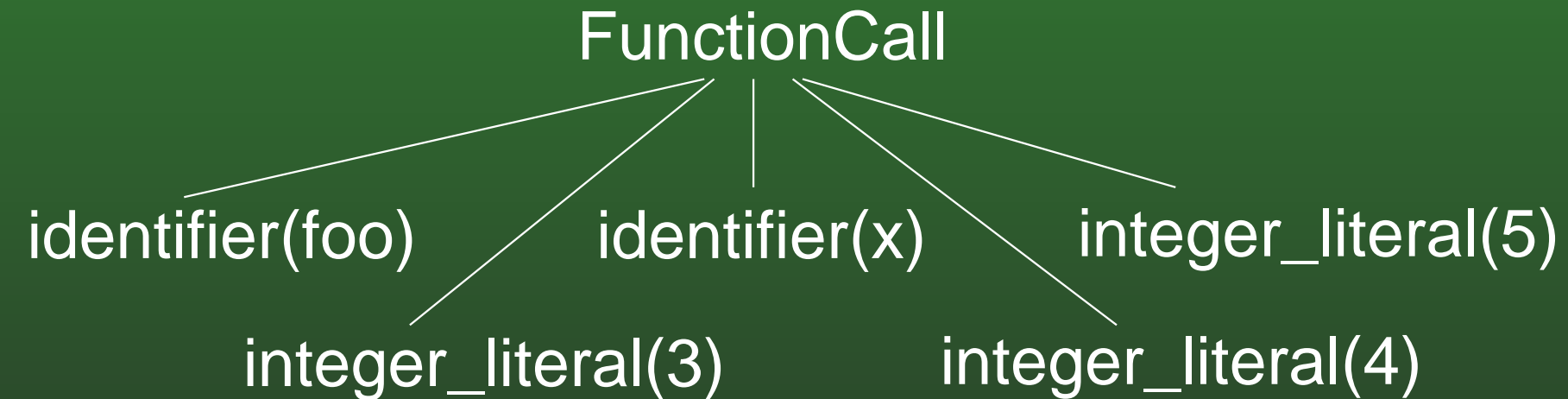
- A few extra details ...
  - All AST nodes will contain a “line” instance variable
    - Accessed through the `line()` and `setline()` methods
    - Notes which line on the input file the node appeared on
  - All AST nodes will contain an “accept” method (explained in the next few slides)

## 04-43: Representing Trees in Java

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- Trees with variable numbers of children

`foo(3,x,4,5);`



## 04-44: Variable # of Children

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- Constructor which creates no children
  - Also a constructor that contains a single child
- Add children with `addElement` method
- Find children with `elementAt` method
- Find # of children with `size` method

Put up `ASTFunctionCallStatement.java`

## 04-45: Traversing Trees in Java

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- Want to write a function that calculates the value of an expression tree
  - Function that takes as input an expression
  - Returns the value of the expression

## 04-46: Traversing Trees in Java

---

```
int Calculate(ASTExpression tree) {  
    ...  
}
```

- How do we determine what kind of expression we are traversing
- (Integer Literal, or Operator)?



## 04-47: Traversing Trees in Java

---

```
int Calculate(ASTExpression tree) {  
  
    if (tree instanceof ASTIntegerLiteral)  
        return ((ASTIntegerLiteral)tree).value();  
  
    else {  
        int left = Calculate(((ASTOperatorExpression) tree).left());  
        int right = Calculate(((ASTOperatorExpression) tree).right());  
        switch ((ASTOperatorExpression) tree.operator()) {  
            case ASTOperatorExpression.PLUS:  
                return left + right;  
            case ASTOperatorExpression.MINUS:  
                return left - right;  
            case ASTOperatorExpression.TIMES:  
                return left * right;  
            case ASTOperatorExpression.DIVIDE:  
                return left / right;  
        }  
    }  
}
```

## 04-48: Traversing Trees in Java

---

- Using “instance of”, and all of the typecasting, is not very elegant
- There is a better way – Visitor Design Pattern

## 04-49: Traversing Trees in Java

---

```
int Calculate(ASTExpression tree) {  
  
    if (tree instanceof ASTIntegerLiteral)  
        return CalculateIntegerLiteral((ASTIntegerLiteral)tree);  
    else if (tree instanceof ASTOperatorExpression)  
        return CalculateOperatorExpression((ASTOperatorExpression) tree);  
    else  
        return -1; /* error! */  
}
```

## 04-50: Traversing Trees in Java

---

```
int CalculateOperatorExpression(ASTOperatorExpression tree) {
    int left = Calculate(tree.left());
    int right = Calculate(tree.right());
    switch (tree.operator()) {
        case ASTOperatorExpression.PLUS:
            return left + right;
        case ASTOperatorExpression.MINUS:
            return left - right;
        case ASTOperatorExpression.TIMES:
            return left * right;
        case ASTOperatorExpression.DIVIDE:
            return left / right;
    }
}

int CalculateIntegerLiteral(ASTIntegerLiteral tree) {
    return tree.value();
}
```

## 04-51: Virtual Function Review

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- Quick Review of virtual functions
- See files `Shape.java`, `Circle.java`, `Square.java` on other screen

```
Shape Shapes[];  
...  
for (i=0; i<Shapes.size; i++)  
    Shapes[i].draw();
```

## 04-52: Traversing Trees in Java

---

- Using “instance of”, and all of the typecasting, is not very elegant
- There is a better way – Visitor Design Pattern
  - A Visitor is used to traverse the tree
  - Visitor contains a Visit method for each kind of node in the tree
  - The visit method determines how to process that node
  - Each node in the AST has an “accept” method, which calls the appropriate visitor method, passing in a pointer to itself

## 04-53: Traversing Trees in Java

---

- Each node in the AST contains an “accept” method
  - Takes as input a visitor
  - Calls the appropriate method of the visitor to handle the node, passing in a pointer to itself
  - Returns whatever the visitor tells it to return

Put up examples of Expression AST w/ “accept” methods

# 04-54: Traversing Trees in Java

ASTExpression.java

```
Object Accept(ASTVisitor v);
```

ASTOperatorExpression

```
Object Accept(ASTVisitor v)  
    return V.VisitOperatorExpression(this)
```

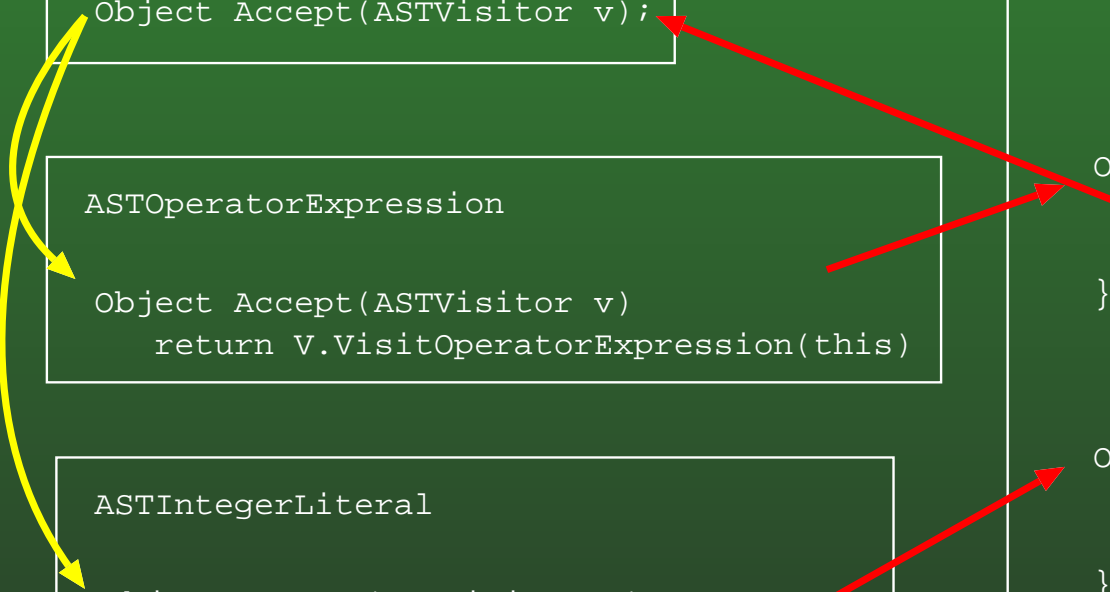
ASTIntegerLiteral

```
Object Accept(ASTVisitor v)  
    return V.VisitIntegerLiteral(this)
```

Calculate (implements ASTVisitor)

```
Object VisitOperatorExpression (...) {  
  
}
```

```
Object VisitIntegerLiteral (...) {  
  
}
```





## 04-55: Visitor Interface

---

- Visitor Interface for Expression Trees

```
public interface ASTVisitor {  
    public Object VisitIntegerLiteral(ASTIntegerLiteral literal);  
    public Object VisitOperatorExpression(ASTOperatorExpression opexpr);  
}
```

## 04-56: Visitor Implementation

---

- Write a Visitor to calculate the value of an expression tree
  - Implement `VisitIntegerLiteral` and `VisitOperatorExpression` methods

```
public Object VisitIntegerLiteral(ASTIntegerLiteral literal) {  
  
    ...  
  
}
```

## 04-57: Visitor Implementation

---

- Write a Visitor to calculate the value of an expression tree
  - Implement `VisitIntegerLiteral` and `VisitOperatorExpression` methods

```
public Object VisitIntegerLiteral(ASTIntegerLiteral literal) {  
    return new Integer(literal.value());  
}
```

## 04-58: Visitor Implementation

---

```
public Object VisitOperatorExpression(ASTOperatorExpression opexpr) {  
    ...  
}
```

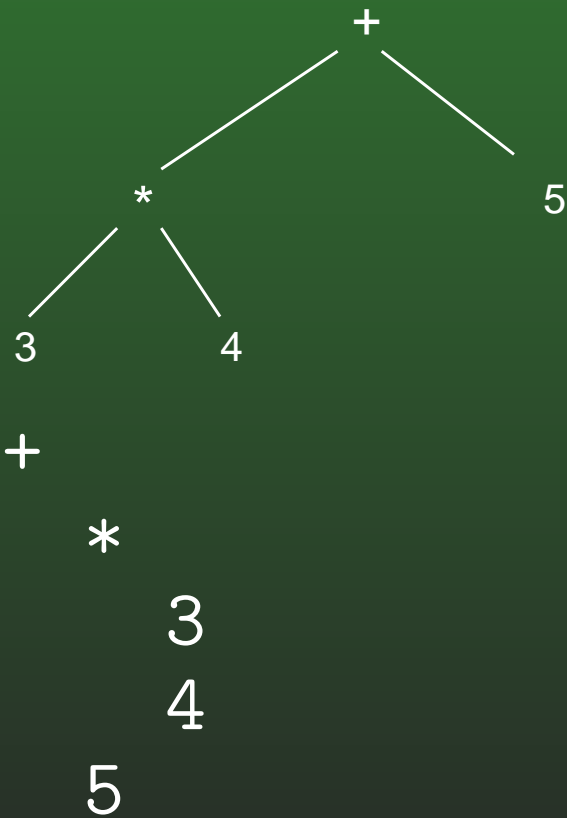
# 04-59: Visitor Implementation

---

```
public Object VisitOperatorExpression(ASTOperatorExpression opexpr) {  
  
    Object left = opexpr.left().Accept(this);  
    Object right = opexpr.right().Accept(this);  
  
    int leftValue = ((Integer) left).intValue();  
    int rightValue = ((Integer) right).intValue();  
    switch (opexpr.operator()) {  
    case ASTOperatorExpression.PLUS:  
        return new Integer(leftValue + rightValue);  
    case ASTOperatorExpression.MINUS:  
        return new Integer(leftValue - rightValue);  
    case ASTOperatorExpression.MULTIPLY:  
        return new Integer(leftValue * rightValue);  
    case ASTOperatorExpression.DIVIDE:  
        return new Integer(leftValue / rightValue);  
    default:  
        System.out.println("ERROR -- Illegal Operator");  
        return new Integer(-1);  
    }  
}
```

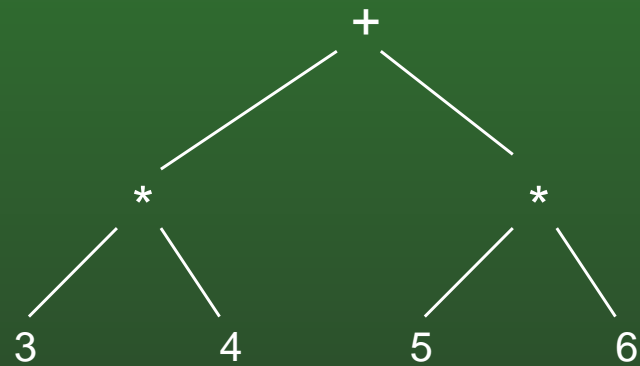
# 04-60: More Visitors – Tree Printing

- We'd like to print out expression trees
- Show the structure of the tree itself



# 04-61: More Visitors – Tree Printing

- We'd like to print out expression trees
- Show the structure of the tree itself



+

\*

3

4

\*

5

6

## 04-62: Tree Printing

---

- Maintain a “current indentation level”
- To Print out a Integer Literal
  - Print the value at the current indentation level
- To Print out an operator
  - Print the root of the tree at the current indentation level
  - Print the children at a larger indentation level

Code for Tree Printing on other screen



## 04-63: Visitor Overview

---

- Each node in the AST has an “accept” method, that takes a visitor as an input parameter, and calls the appropriate method of that visitor. The “accept” method then returns whatever the visit method returns.
- The Visitor has a visit method for each AST node, which handles visiting that node. *Typically*, visit methods call the “accept” method on the subtrees of the node, collecting data from the subtrees. This data is then combined, and returned.
- Visitors often contain instance variables that allow data to be shared among visit methods (such as the “current indentation level” for printing trees)

## 04-64: JavaCC Actions

---

- Each JavaCC rule is converted into a parsing method
  - Just like a recursive descent parser created by hand
- We can add arbitrary Java code to these methods
- We can also add instance variables and helper methods that every parser method can access

## 04-65: JavaCC Actions

---

- Adding instance variables

```
PARSER_BEGIN(parserName)
```

```
public class parserName {
```

```
    /* instance variables and helper methods */
```

```
    /* Optional 'main' method (the 'main' method  
       can also be in a separate file) */
```

```
}
```

```
PARSER_END(parserName)
```

## 04-66: JavaCC Rules

---

```
<return type> <rule name>() :  
{  
    /* local variables */  
}  
{  
    Rule  
    |   Rule2  
    |   ...  
}
```

- Each rule can contain arbitrary Java code between { and }

## 04-67: JavaCC Rules

---

- JavaCC rules can also return values
  - Works just like any other method
- Use “<variable> =” syntax to obtain values of method calls

Put up code for parens2.jj

## 04-68: JavaCC Rules

---

- Building A JavaCC Calculator
- How would we change the following .jj file so that it computed the value of the expression, as well as parsing the expression?

Put up code for calc.noact.jj

## 04-69: JavaCC Rules

---

```
int complete_expression():  
{ int result; }  
{  
    result = expression() <EOL>  
    { return result; }  
}
```

## 04-70: JavaCC Rules

---

```
int factor():
{int value; Token t;}
{
    t = <INTEGER_LITERAL>
        { return Integer.parseInt(t.image); }
| <MINUS> value = factor()
    { return 0 - value; }
| <LPAREN> value = expression() <RPAREN>
    { return value; }
}
```



# 04-71: JavaCC Rules

---

```
int term():
{Token t; int result; int rhs;}
{
    result = factor() ( (t = <MULTIPLY> | t = <DIVIDE>) rhs = factor()
        { if (t.kind == MULTIPLY)
            result = result * rhs;
          else
            result = result / rhs;
        }
        )*
    { return result; }
}
```

Swap other screen to calc.jj

## 04-72: Parsing a term()

---

- Function to parse a factor is called, result is stored in `result`
- The next token is observed, to see if it is a `*` or `/`.
- If so, function to parse a factor is called again, storing the result in `rhs`. The value of `result` is updated
- The next token is observed to see if it is a `*` or `/`.
- ...

# 04-73: Expression Examples

---

- 4
- $3 + 4$
- $1 + 2 * 3 + 4$

## 04-74: Input Parameters

---

- JavaCC rules == function calls in generated parser
- JavaCC rules can have *input parameters* as well as return values
- Syntax for rules with parameters is the same as standard method calls

# 04-75: Input Parameters

---

```
void expression():  
{ }  
  
{  
    term() expressionprime()  
}
```

```
void expressionprime():  
{ }  
  
{  
    <PLUS> term() expressionprime()  
|    <MINUS> term() expressionprime()  
|  
|    { }  
}
```

- What should  
    <PLUS> term() expressionprime() return?

## 04-76: Input Parameters

---

- What should `<PLUS> term() expressionprime() return?`
  - Get the value of the previous term
  - Add that value to `term()`
  - Combine the result with whatever `expressionprime()` returns
- How can we get the value of the previous term?
- How can we combine the result with whatever `expressionprime()` returns?

## 04-77: Input Parameters

---

- What should `<PLUS> term() expressionprime()` return?
  - Get the value of the previous term
  - Add that value to `term()`
  - Combine the result with whatever `expressionprime()` returns
- How can we get the value of the previous term?
  - Have it passed in as a parameter
- How can we combine the result with whatever `expressionprime()` returns?
  - Pass the result into `expressionprime()`, and have `expressionprime()` do the combination

# 04-78: Input Parameters

---

```
int expression():
{int firstterm; int result;}
{
    firstterm = term() result = expressionprime(firstterm)
        { return result; }
}

int expressionprime(int firstterm):
{ int nextterm; int result; }
{
    <PLUS> nextterm = term() result = expressionprime(firstterm + nextterm)
        { return result; }
|   <MINUS> nextterm = term() result = expressionprime(firstterm - nextterm)
        { return result; }
|       { return firstterm; }
}
```



## 04-79: Building ASTs with JavaCC

---

- Instead of returning values, return trees
- Call constructors to build subtrees
- Combine subtrees into larger trees

Put up code for `calc.noact.jj`

# 04-80: Building ASTs with JavaCC

---

```
ASTExpression factor():
{ASTExpression value; Token t;}
{
    ...
    |    t = <INTEGER_LITERAL>
        { return new ASTIntegerLiteral(Integer.parseInt(t.image)); }
    ...
}
```

# 04-81: Building ASTs with JavaCC

---

```
ASTExpression factor():
{ASTExpression value; Token t;}
{
    <MINUS> value = factor()
    { return new ASTOperatorExpression(new ASTIntegerLiteral(0),
                                         value,
                                         ASTOperatorExpression.MINUS);}
    ...
}
```

# 04-82: Building ASTs with JavaCC

---

```
ASTExpression term():
{Token t; ASTExpression result; ASTExpression rhs;}
{
    result = factor() ( (t = <MULTIPLY> | t = <DIVIDE>) rhs = factor()
                        { result = new ASTOperatorExpression(result, rhs, t.image);
                          }
                      )*
    { return result; }
}
```

## 04-83: **Project**

---

- Files ASTxxx.java
- Tree Printing Visitor
- Driver program

## 04-84: Project Hints

---

- The Abstract Syntax Tree (ASTxxx.java) is pretty complicated. Take some time to understand the structure of sjava ASTs
- There is nothing in the AST for “++” or unary minus, but:
  - $\langle \text{var} \rangle ++$  is the same as  $\langle \text{var} \rangle = \langle \text{var} \rangle + 1$
  - $-\langle \text{exp} \rangle$  is the same as  $0 - \langle \text{exp} \rangle$