

# Instruction Selection

## 15-411/15-611 Compiler Design

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January 23, 2025

# Today

- Context
- Abstract Assembly
- AST  IR
- Maximal Munch
- Issues
- Simple SSA
- x86 and 2-adr Instructions

# Cartoon Compiler

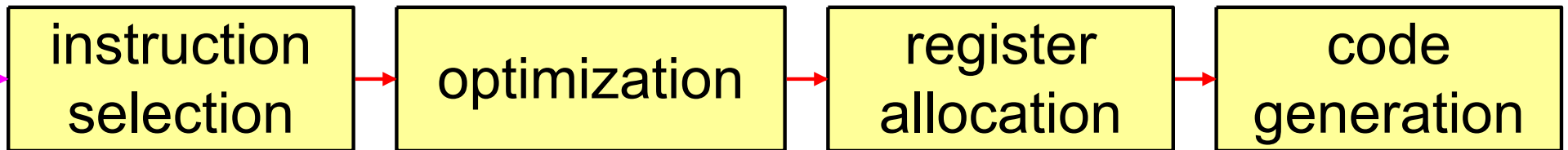
Abstract syntax tree



tokens

AST+symbol tables

Intermediate Representation (tree)



Code Triples

# Cartoon Compiler

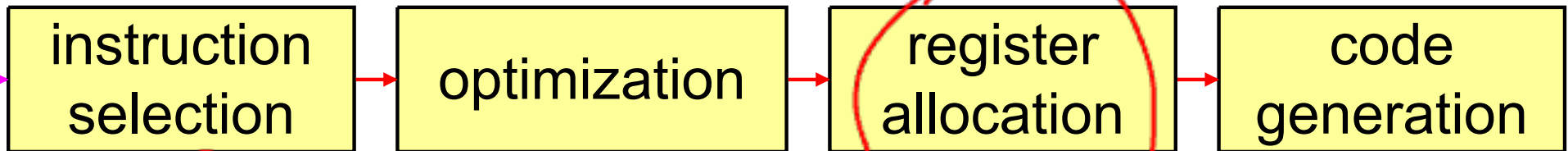
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Code Triples

# Simple Source Language

- A language of assignments, expressions, and a return statement.
- Straight-line code
- Basically lab1 subset of C0

# Simple Source Language

program :=  $S_1 ; S_2 ; \dots S_n ;$  sequence of statements

S := v = e assignment

| return e return

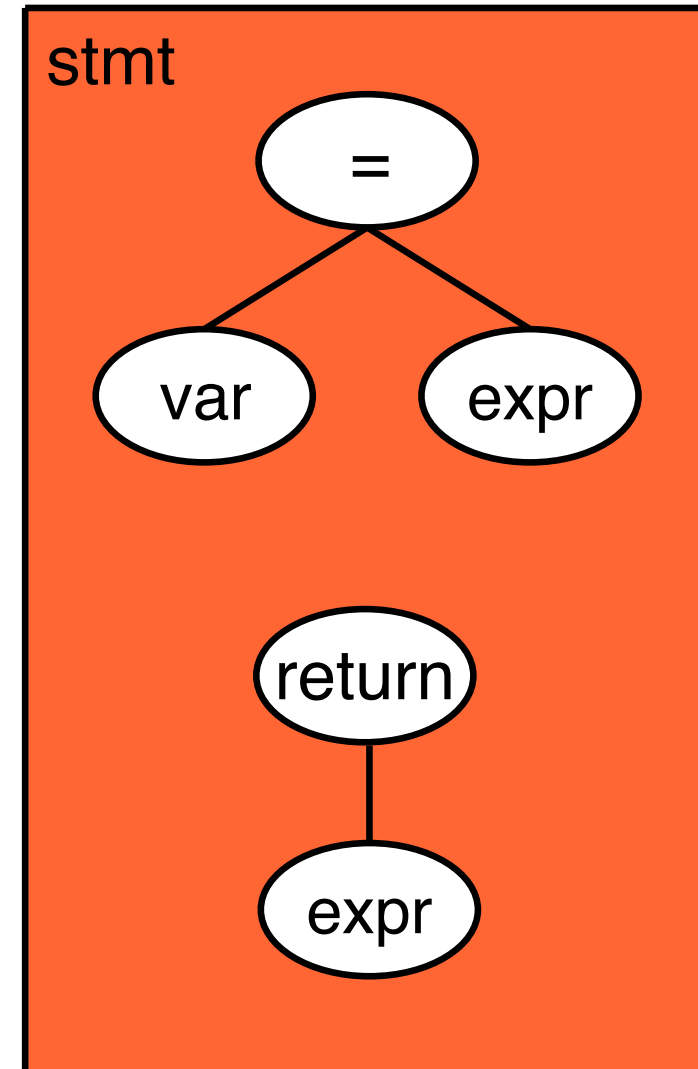
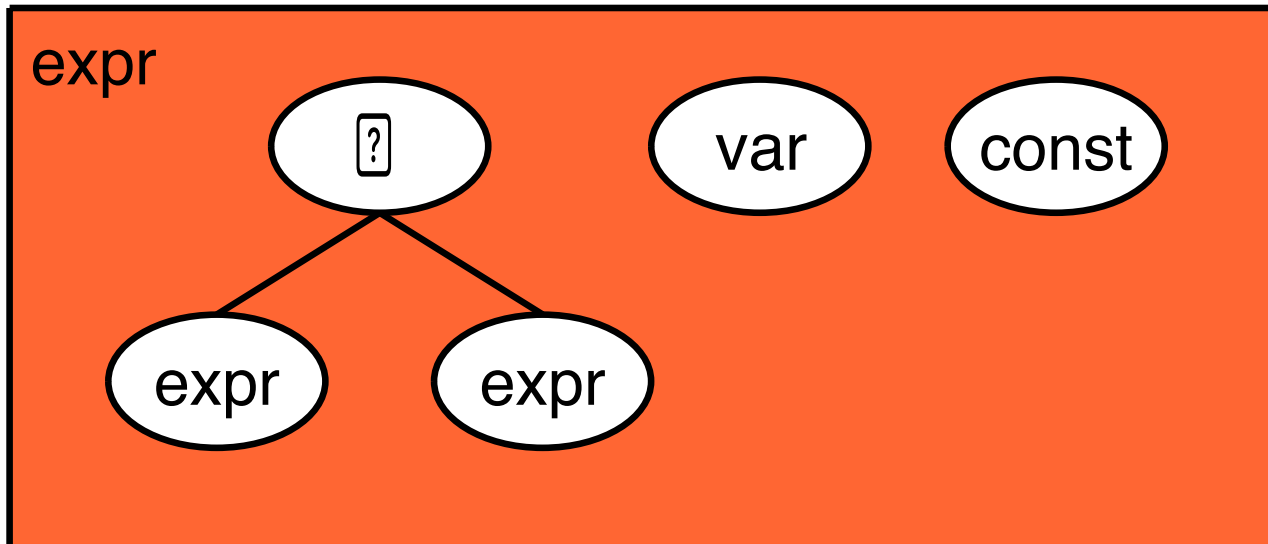
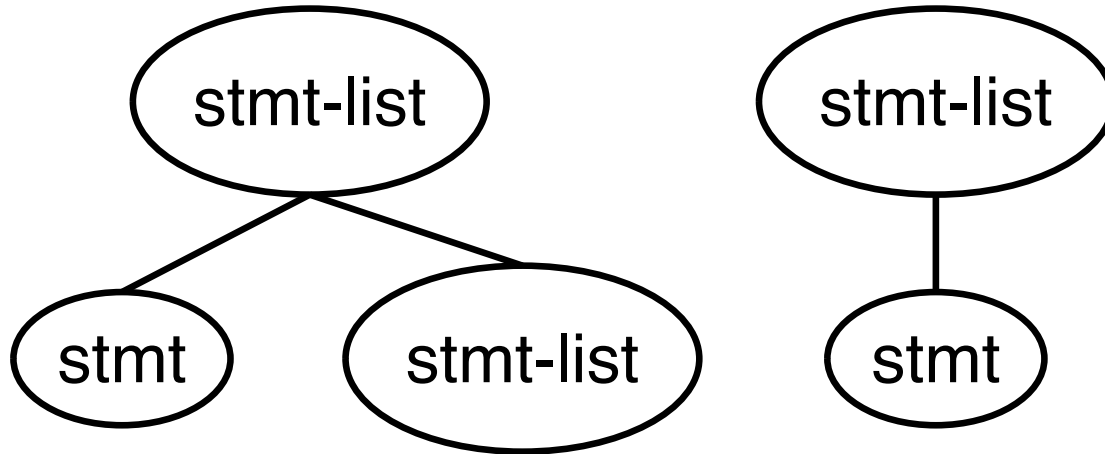
e := c constant

| v variable

| e<sub>1</sub> [?] e<sub>2</sub> binary operation

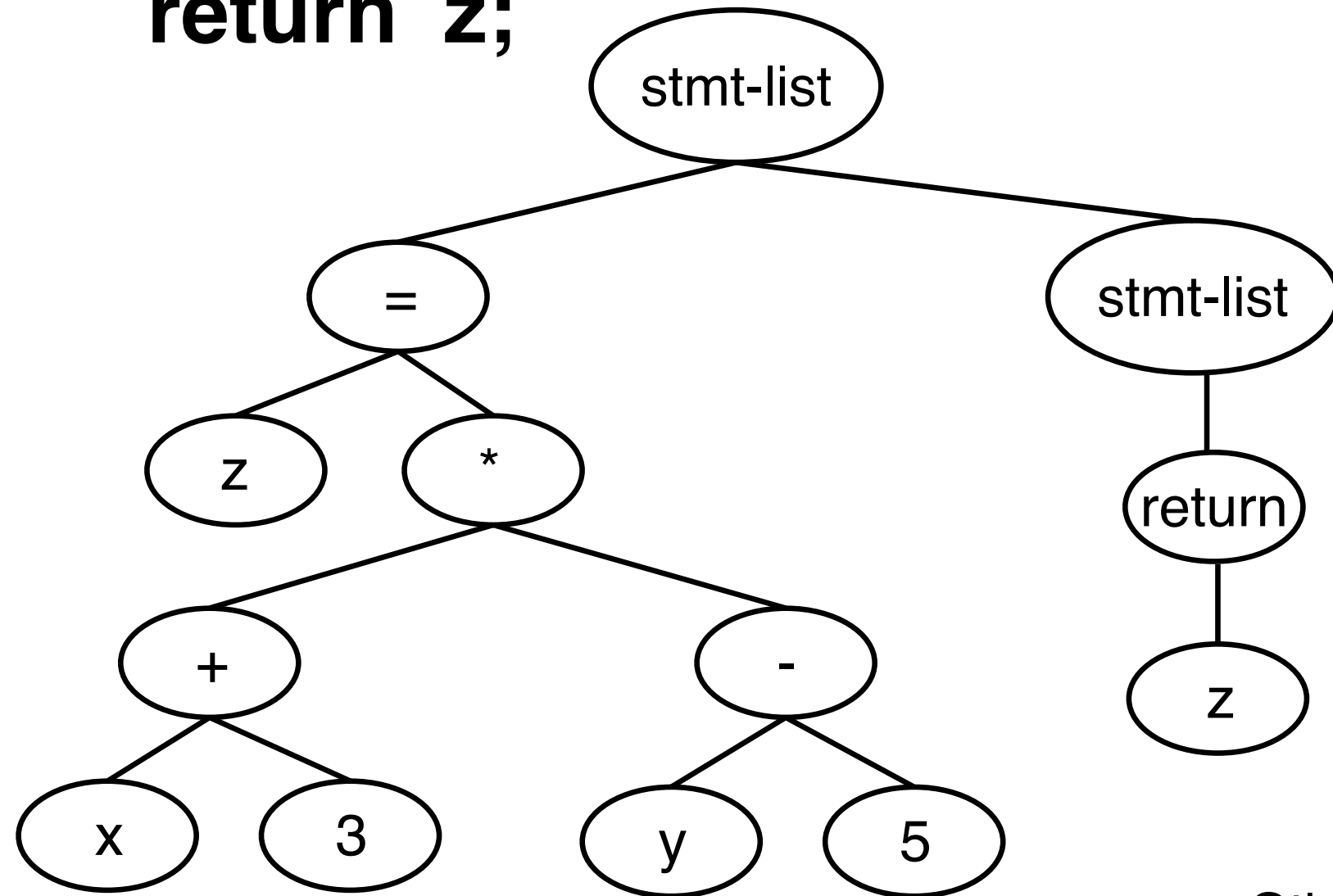
[?] + | - | \* | / | %

# Abstract Syntax Tree



# Example

**z = x + 3 \* y - 5;  
return z;**



Other possibilities?



# Today

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# Abstract Assembly as IR

- Lowering of AST
- Facilitate
  - Analysis & optimizations
  - Translation to actual assembly
- Features:
  - Unlimited number of “temporaries”
  - May not restrict how memory is used
  - Simple operations
  - May not restrict how constants are used
  - May specify certain “special registers”

# Abstract Assembly as IR

- Features:
  - Unlimited number of “registers” (aka “temps”)
  - May ( or may not) restrict how memory is used
  - Simple operations
  - May not restrict how constants are used
  - May specify certain “special registers”

- Form:

dest ? src<sub>1</sub> operator src<sub>2</sub>

dest ? operator src<sub>1</sub>

operator

src can be:

- constant
- temp
- special register
- memory

# Abstract Assembly

program :=  $i_1 i_2 \dots i_n$  seq of instructions

$i$  :=  $d \boxed{?} s$  move

$l$   $d \boxed{?} s_1 \boxed{?} s_2$  binop

$l$  **return** return what is in **rax**

$s$  :=  $c$  intermediate

$l$   $t$  temporary

$l$   $r$  register

$d$  :=  $t$

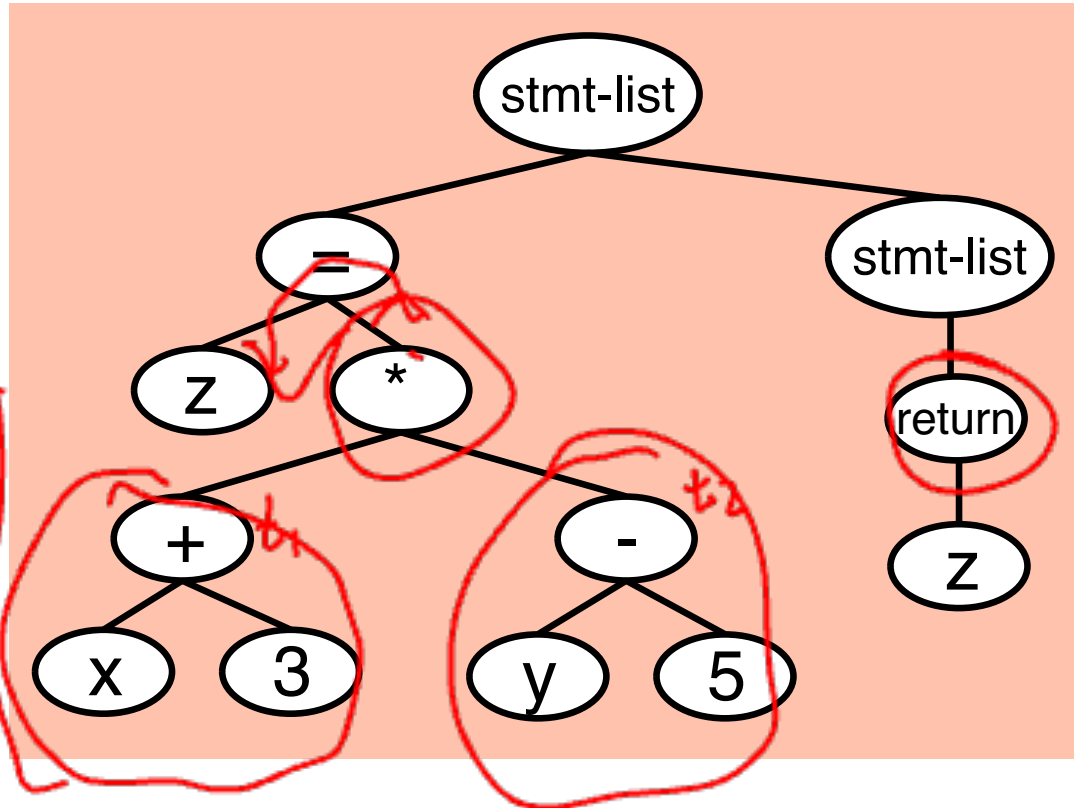
$l$   $r$

$\boxed{?}$   $+$   $-$   $*$   $/$   $\%$



# Example Goal

```
z = (x + 3) * (y - 5);  
return z;
```



rax    ?    z

t1    ?    x + 3

t2    ?    y - 5

z    ?    t1 \* t2

return

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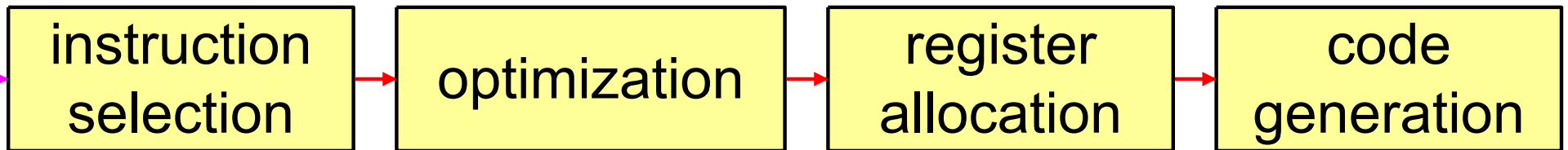
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Code Triples

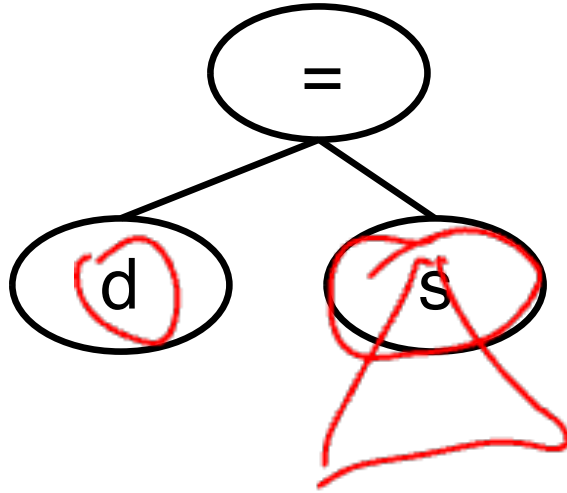
Alternatives abound

# Translating AST to IR

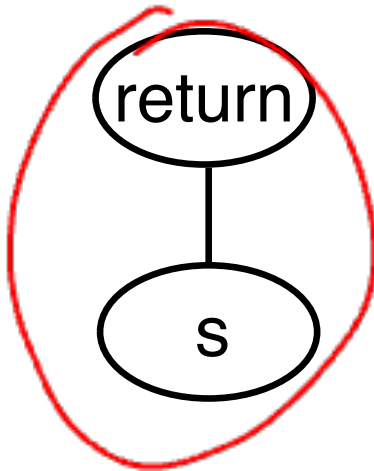
- Converting from tree structured IR to sequence of instructions
  - Create temporary locations to store values
  - choose which operations we want
    - can combine or
    - breakup original operations
- Match portions of tree and convert to triple



# Tree Patterns (aka Tiles)

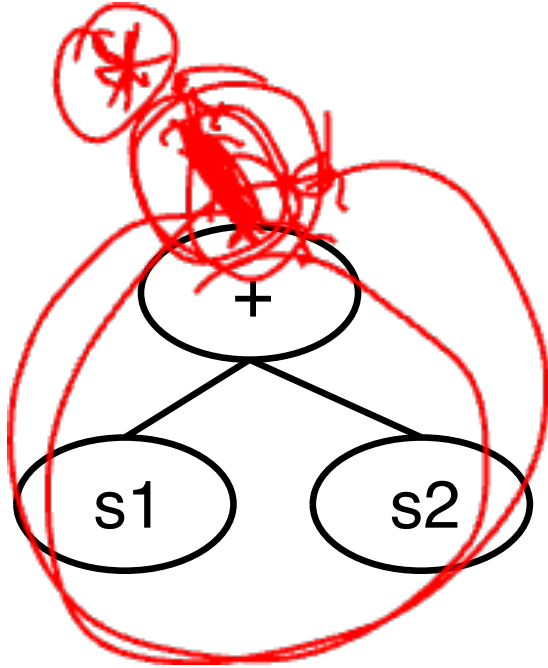


d [?] s



rax [?] s  
ret

# Tree Patterns

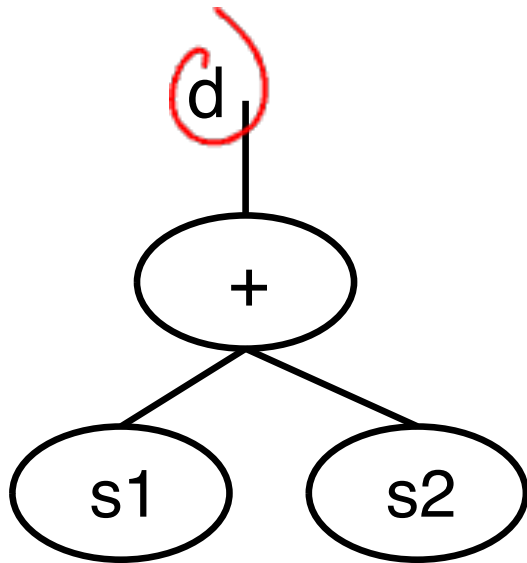


fresh t

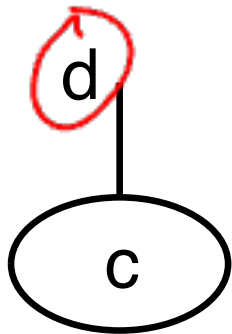
$$t \leftarrow \underline{s_1 + s_2}$$

$$d \leftarrow s_1 + s_2$$

# Tree Patterns



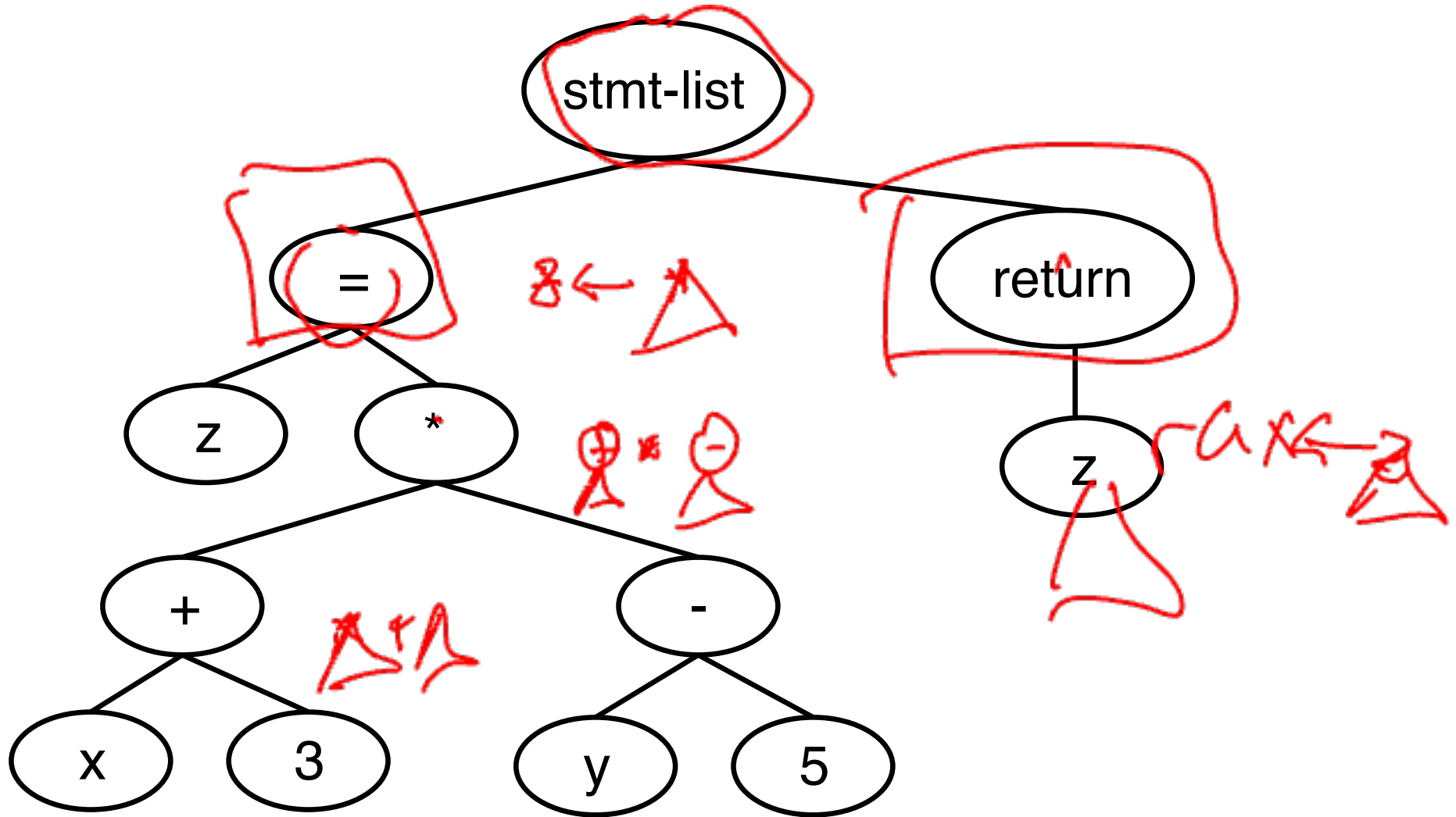
$d \boxed{?} s_1 + s_2$



$d \boxed{?} c$

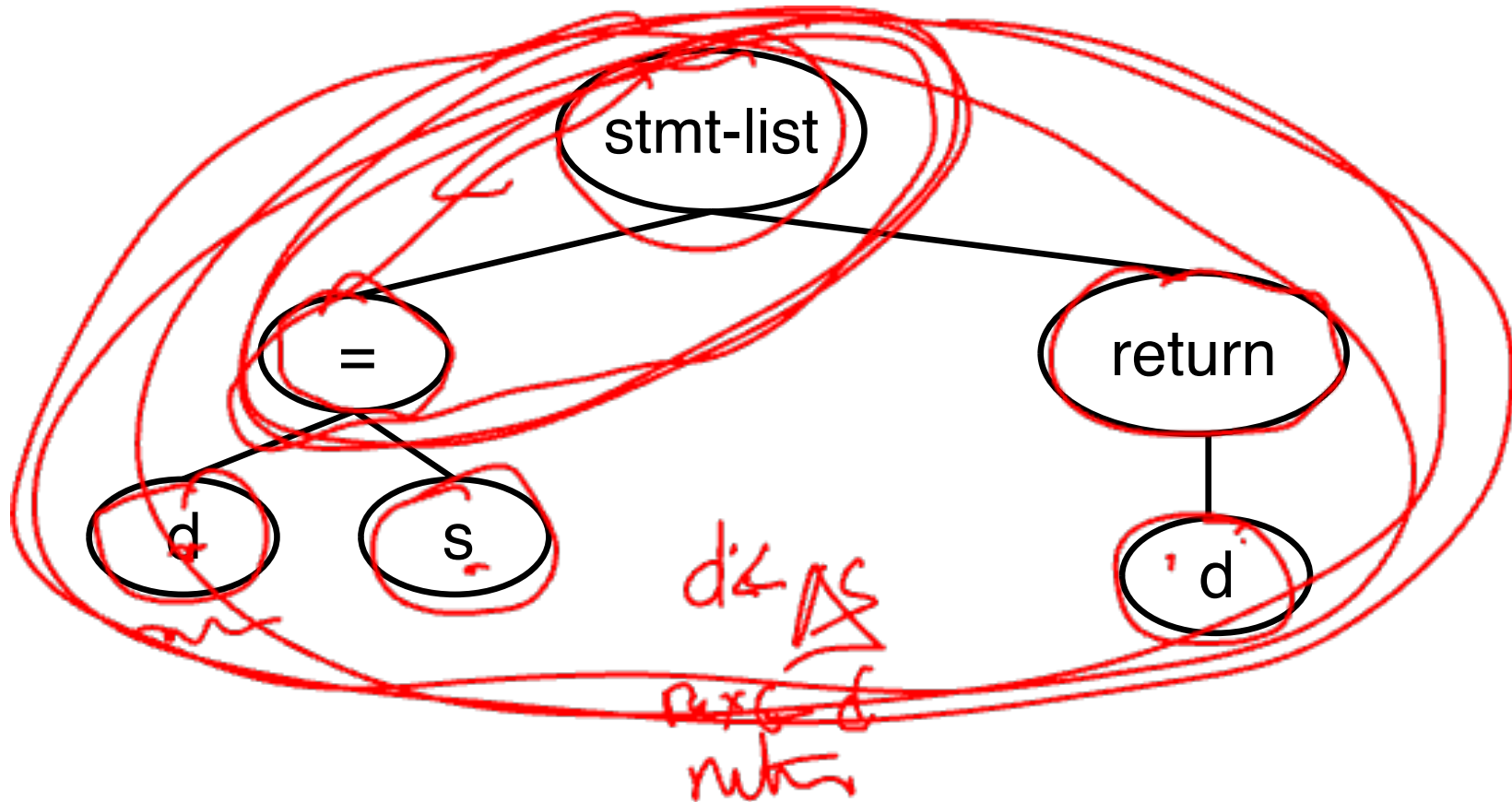


# Tiling a Tree



$t_1 \leftarrow x; t_2 \leftarrow 3; t_3 \leftarrow t_1 + t_2; t_4 \leftarrow y; t_5 \leftarrow 5; t_6 \leftarrow t_3 - t_4 - t_5$   
 $t_7 \leftarrow t_2 * t_6; z \leftarrow t_7; \text{return } z$

# Better Tiles




rax  s  
return

Correct?

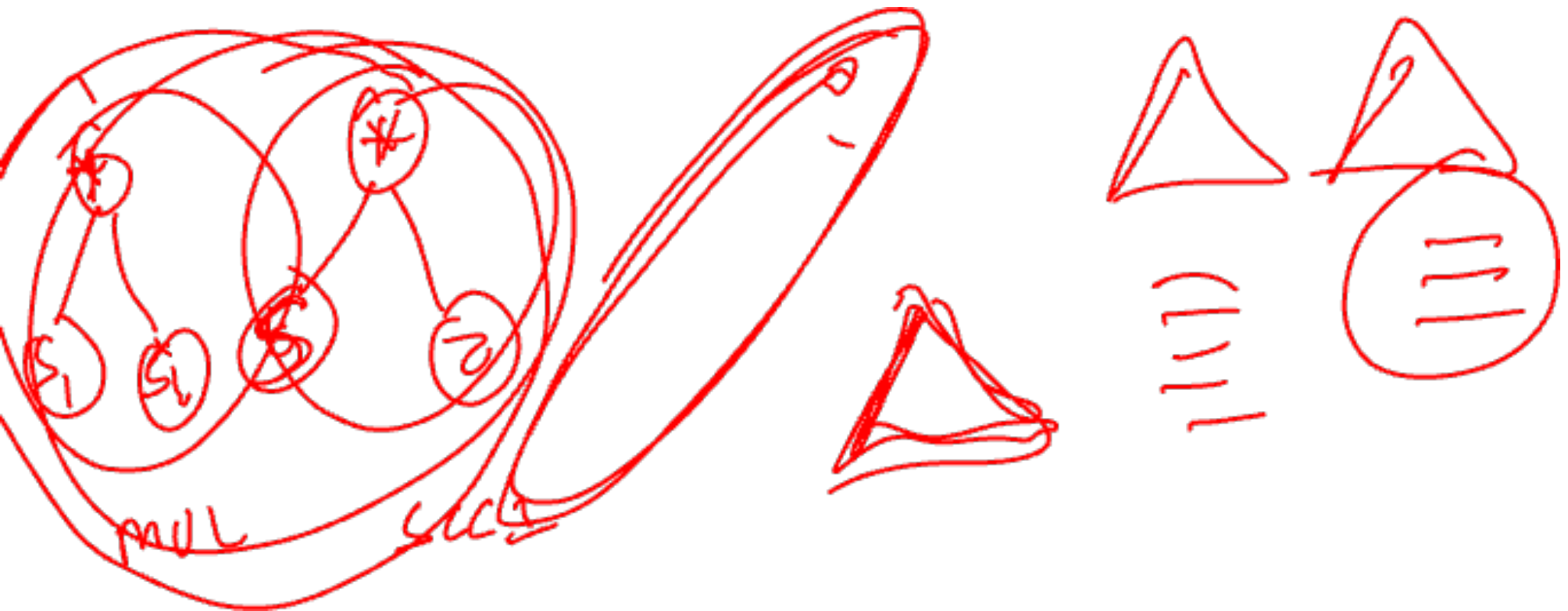
If correct: better or worse?

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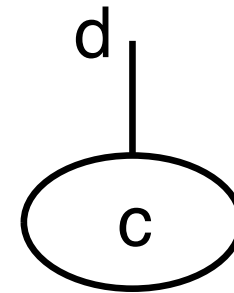
# Maximal Munch

- recursively match tree
- At each step, pick “best” tile

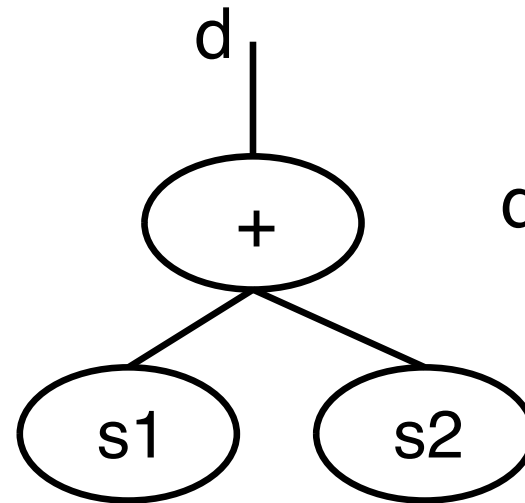
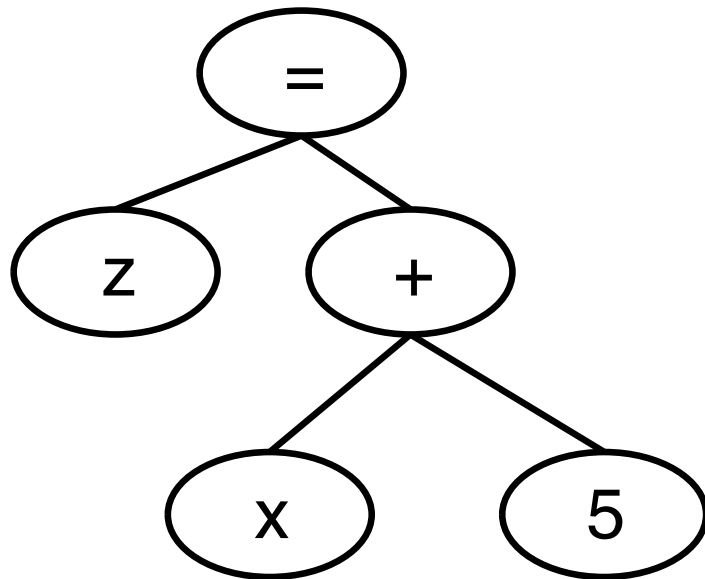


# Maximal Munch

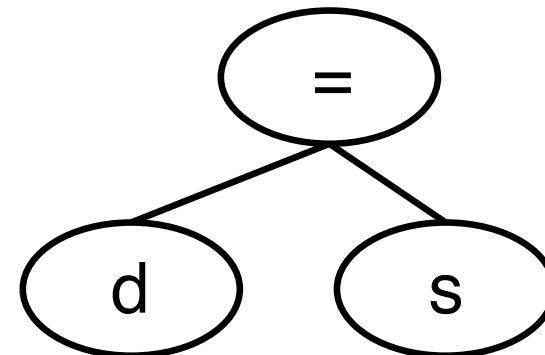
- recursively match tree
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$d \stackrel{?}{\rightarrow} c$



$d \stackrel{?}{\rightarrow} s_1 + s_2$

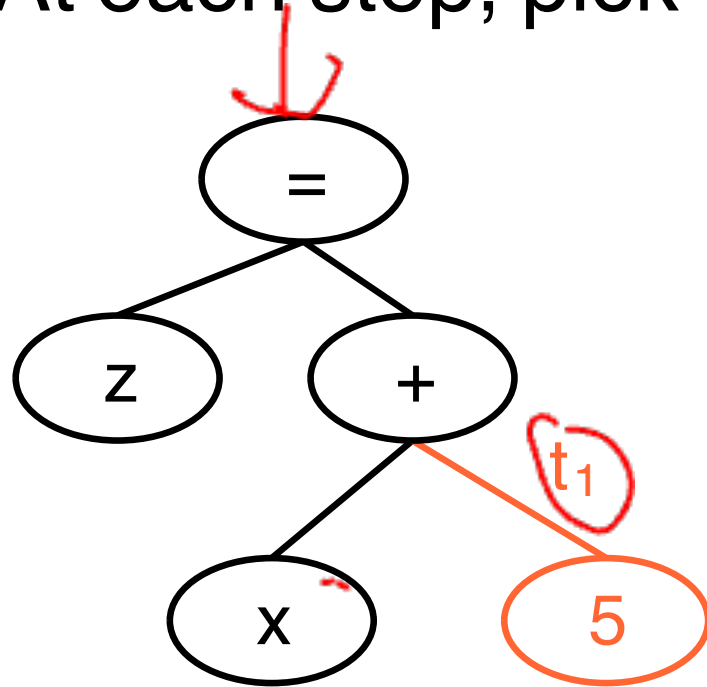


$d \stackrel{?}{\rightarrow} s$

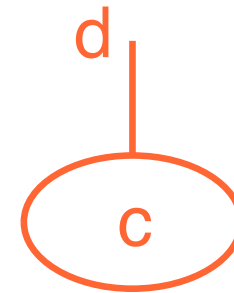


# Maximal Munch

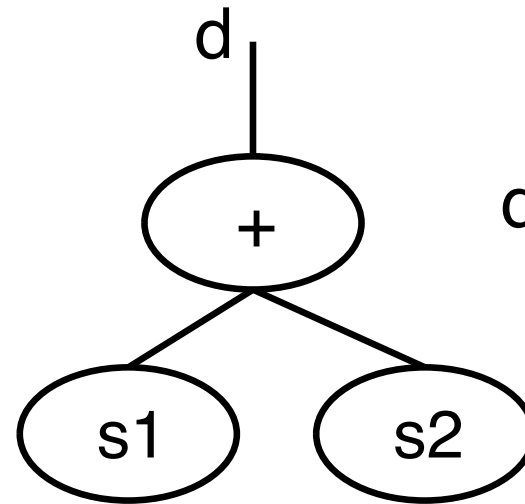
- recursively match tree
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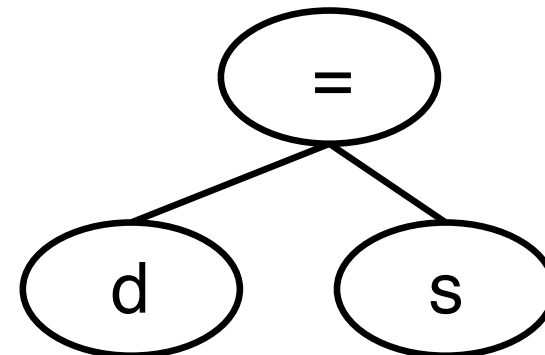
$t_1 \boxed{?} 5$



$d \boxed{?} c$



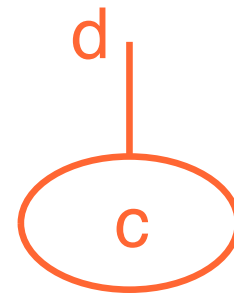
$d \boxed{?} s_1 + s_2$



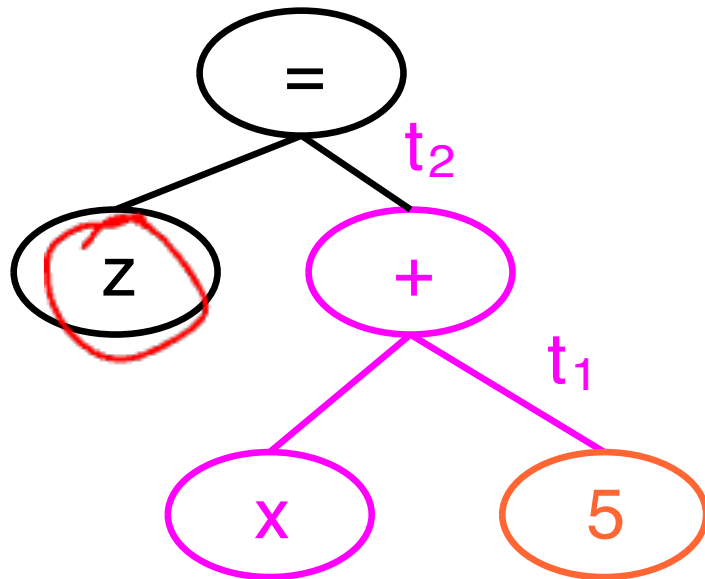
$d \boxed{?} s$

# Maximal Munch

- recursively match tree
- At each step, pick "best" tile

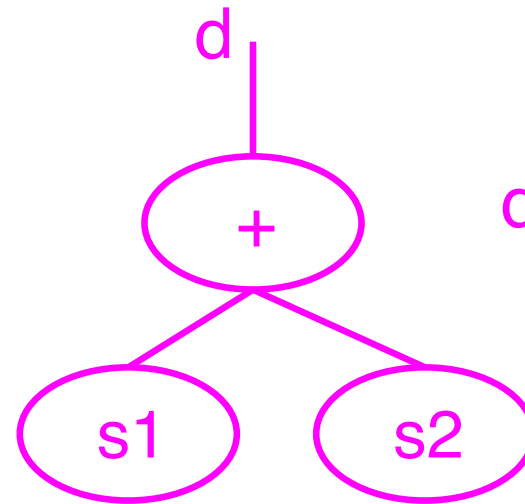


$d \boxed{?} c$

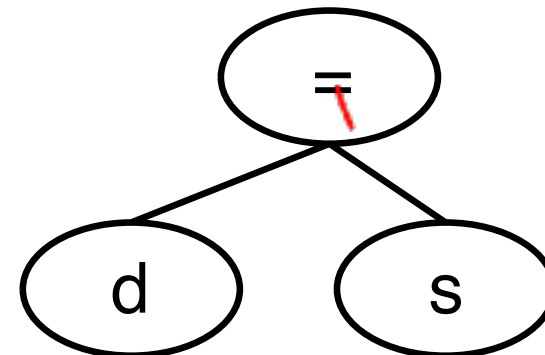


$t_1 \boxed{?} 5$

$t_2 \boxed{?} x + t_1$



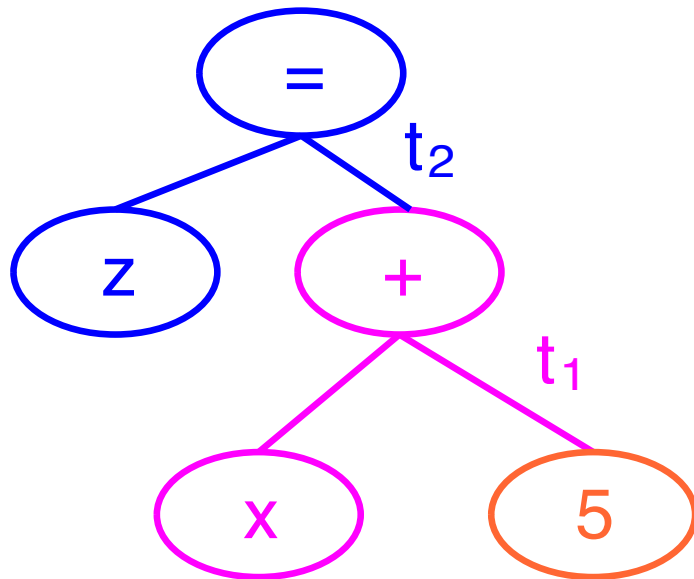
$d \boxed{?} s_1 + s_2$



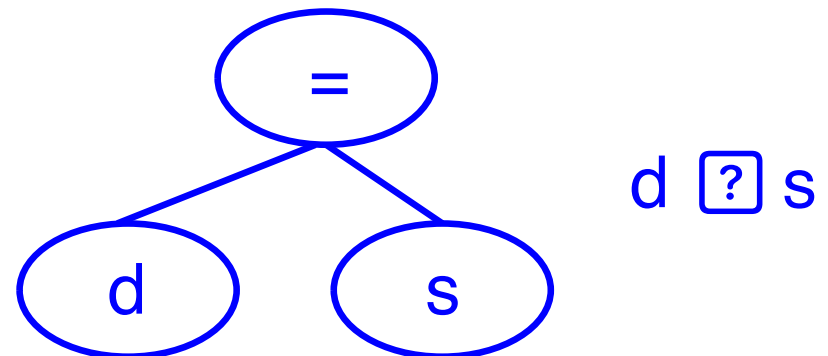
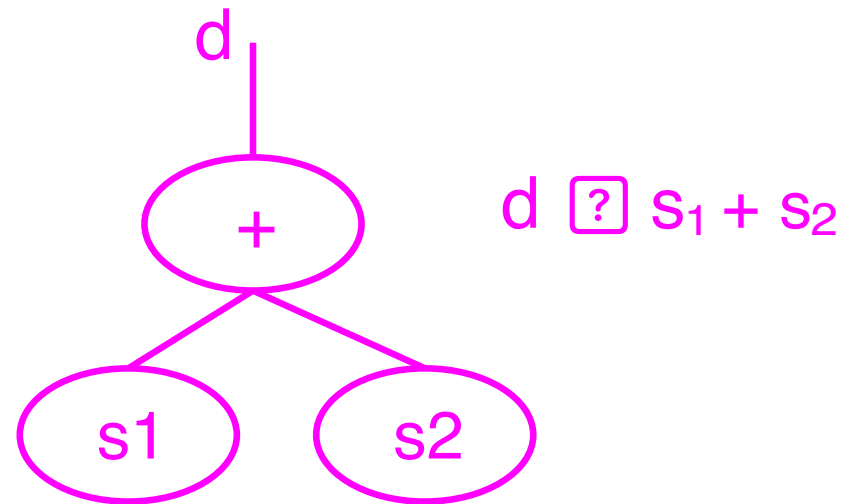
$d \boxed{?} s$

# Maximal Munch

- recursively match tree
- At each step, pick “best” tile

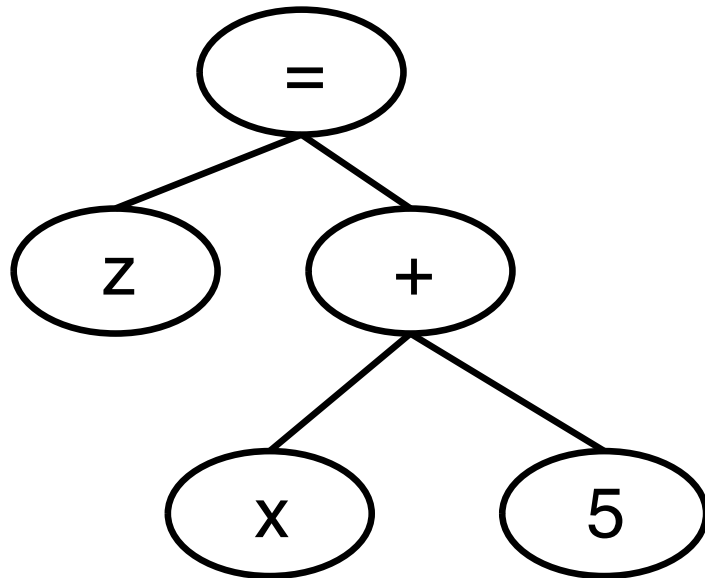


t<sub>1</sub> [?] 5  
 t<sub>2</sub> [?] x + t<sub>1</sub>  
 z [?] t<sub>2</sub>



# Maximal Munch

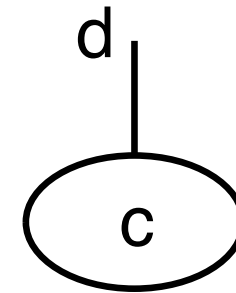
- recursively match tree
- At each step, pick “best” tile



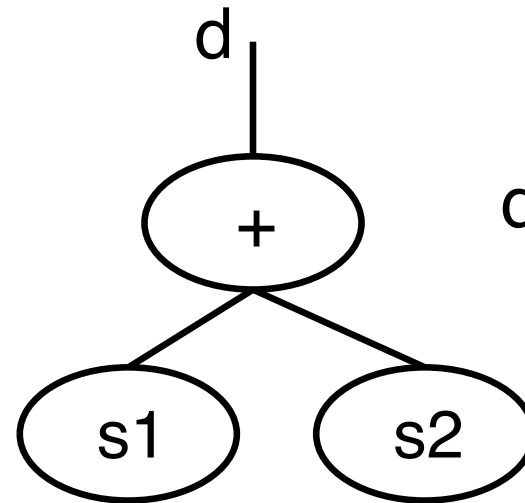
$t_1 \quad \boxed{?} \quad 5$

$t_2 \quad \boxed{?} \quad x + t_1$

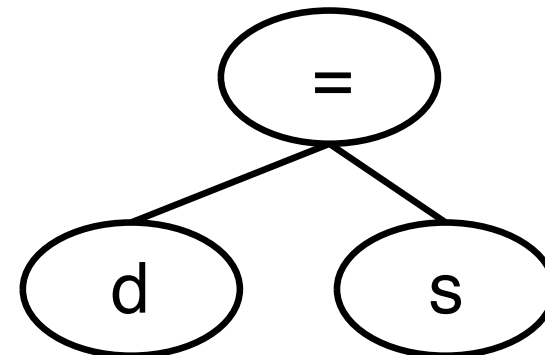
$z \quad \boxed{?} \quad t_2$



$d \quad \boxed{?} \quad c$



$d \quad \boxed{?} \quad s_1 + s_2$



$d \quad \boxed{?} \quad s$

# Maximal Munch

- recursively match tree
- At each step, pick “best” tile
- need to indicate what destinations are
  - choose either to supply destination
  - or generate a destination



# codegen

①

②

e	codegen(d, e)
c	$d \leftarrow c$
v	$d \leftarrow v$
$e_1 \boxed{?} e_2$	

*in w/m*

*codegen(b, e1) bis es heißt  
 codegen(b2, e2) bis ich  
 $d \leftarrow e_1 \oplus e_2$*



s	codegen(s)
$v = e$	<u><math>v \leftarrow e</math></u>
<u>return e</u>	<i>return e</i>

*return e*

# codegen

e	codegen(d, e)
c	d [?] c
v	d [?] v
e <sub>1</sub> [?] e <sub>2</sub>	codegen(t <sub>1</sub> , e <sub>1</sub> ) codegen(t <sub>2</sub> , e <sub>2</sub> ) d [?] t <sub>1</sub> [?] t <sub>2</sub>

s	codegen(s)
v = e	codegen(v, e)
return e	codegen(rax, e) return

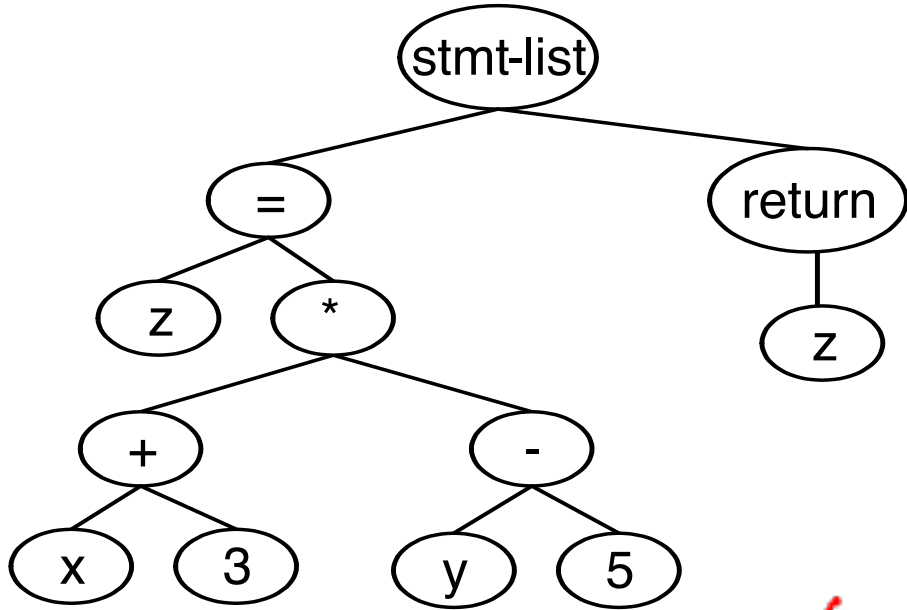




e	codege( $\tau$ , e)
c	d $\leftarrow$ c
v	d $\leftarrow$ x
$e_1 \ \& \ e_2$	codeger( $t_1$ , $e_1$ ) codeger( $t_2$ , $e_2$ ) d $\leftarrow$ $t_1 \ \& \ t_2$

s	codege( $\tau$ s)
v = e	codeger( $v$ , e)
return e	codeger( $\tau$ ax, e) return

# Example



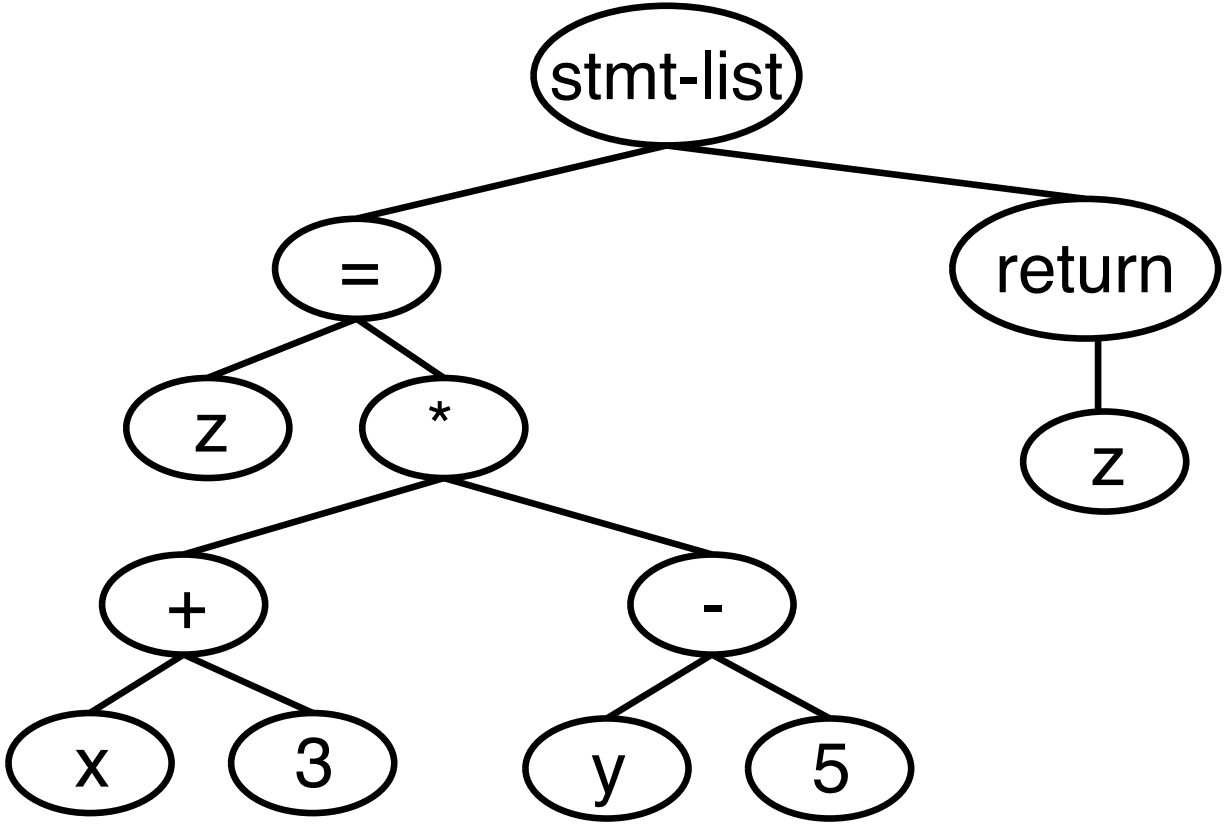
e	codegen(td, e)
c	d ← c
v	d ← x
e <sub>1</sub> ^ e <sub>2</sub>	codegen(t <sub>1</sub> , e <sub>1</sub> ) codegen(t <sub>2</sub> , e <sub>2</sub> ) d ← t <sub>1</sub> ^ t <sub>2</sub>

s	codegen(s)
v = e	codegen(t <sub>v</sub> , e)
return e	codegen(rax, e) return

Handwritten notes in red ink illustrating the code generation process:

- $codegen(\oplus)$  (with a circled  $\oplus$ )
- $codegen(\ominus)$  (with a circled  $\ominus$ )
- $codegen(z)$  (with a circled  $z$ )
- $codegen(x)$  (with a circled  $x$ )
- $codegen(3)$  (with a circled  $3$ )
- $z \leftarrow b_1 * b_2$
- $t_3 \leftarrow t_3 * t_4$
- $t_3 \leftarrow x \quad t_4 \leftarrow 3 \quad b_1 \leftarrow t_3 * t_4$
- $...$
- $codegen(y)$  (with a circled  $y$ )
- $codegen(5)$  (with a circled  $5$ )
- $t_2 \leftarrow b_1 * b_2$
- $rax \leftarrow z$
- return

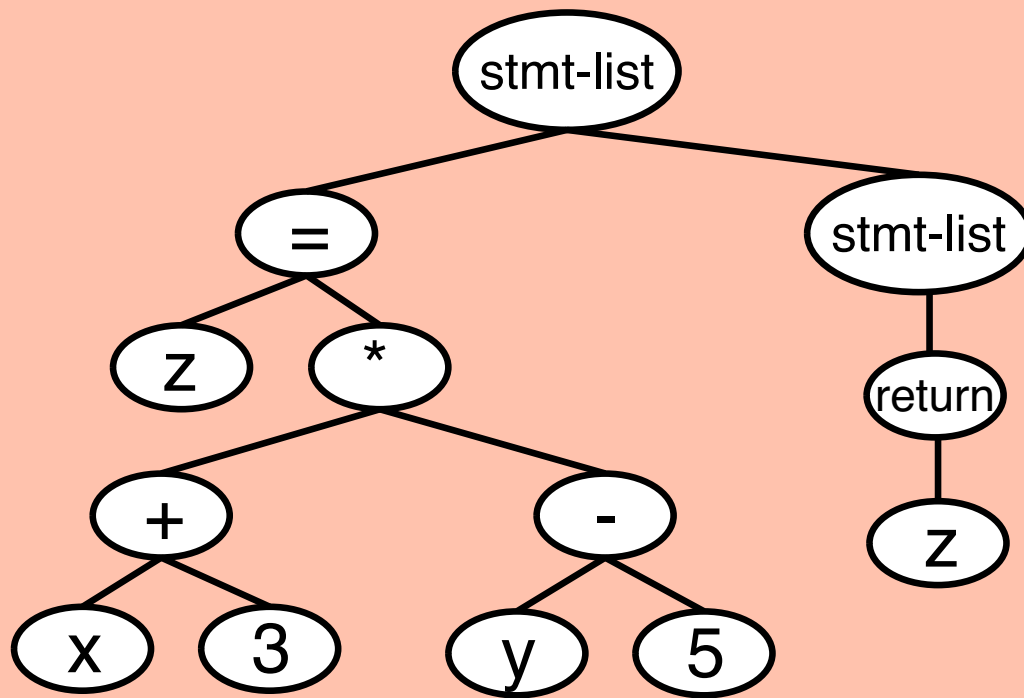
# Result



t<sub>3</sub> [?] x  
t<sub>4</sub> [?] 3  
t<sub>1</sub> [?] t<sub>3</sub> + t<sub>4</sub>  
t<sub>5</sub> [?] y  
t<sub>6</sub> [?] 5  
t<sub>2</sub> [?] t<sub>5</sub> \* t<sub>6</sub>  
z [?] t<sub>1</sub> \* t<sub>2</sub>  
rax [?] z  
ret

# Example Goal

```
z = x + 3 * y - 5;  
return z;
```



t1 [?] x + 3  
t2 [?] y - 5  
z [?] t1 \* t2  
rax [?] z  
return

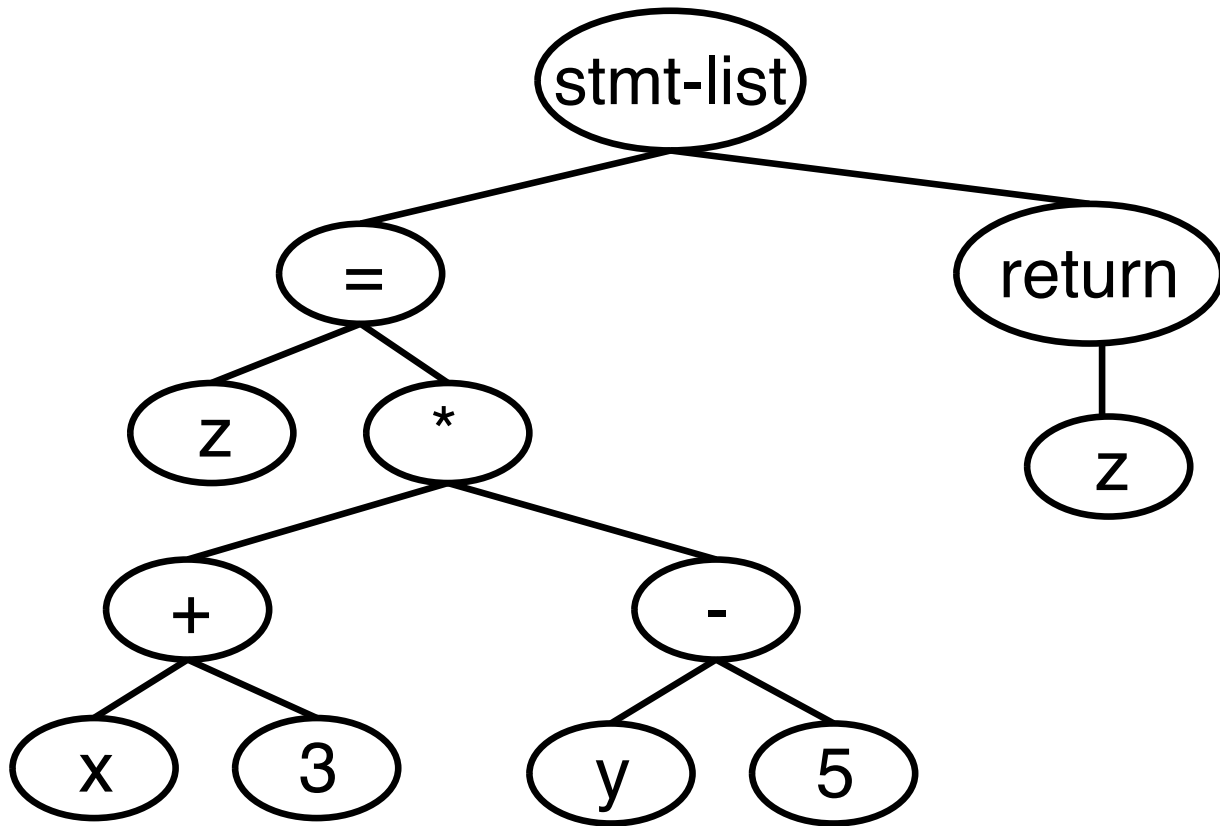
## Goal

```
t1 [?] x + 3
t2 [?] y - 5
z [?] t1 * t2
rax [?] z
return
```

## What we got

```
t3 [?] x
t4 [?] 3
t1 [?] t3 + t4
t5 [?] y
t6 [?] 5
t2 [?] t5 * t6
z [?] t1 * t2
rax [?] z
ret
```

# How Can we Improve this?



t<sub>3</sub> [?] x

t<sub>4</sub> [?] ~~3~~

t<sub>1</sub> [?] t<sub>3</sub> + t<sub>4</sub>

t<sub>5</sub> [?] y

t<sub>6</sub> [?] 5

t<sub>2</sub> [?] t<sub>5</sub> \* t<sub>6</sub>

z [?] t<sub>1</sub> \* t<sub>2</sub>

rax [?] z

ret

# How Can we Improve this?

- Investigate generating a source operand
- Special cases
- Don't bother?

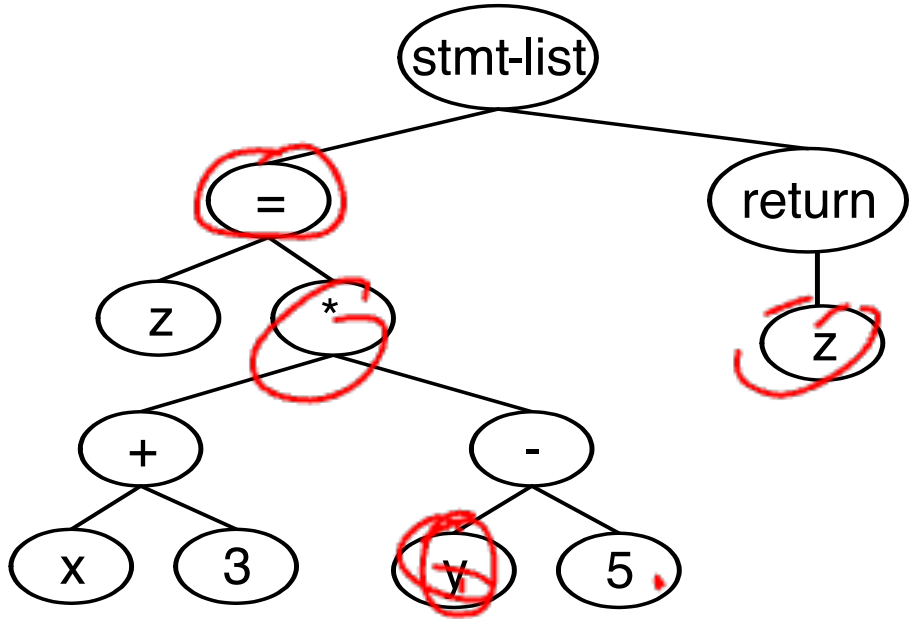
# Generating Destinations

e	codegen(e)	up
c		c
v		v
e <sub>1</sub> [?] e <sub>2</sub>	t <sub>1</sub> - <u>codegen(e<sub>1</sub>)</u> [?] <u>codegen(e<sub>2</sub>)</u>	t <sub>1</sub>

s	codegen(s)
v = e	v [?] codegen(e)
return e	rax [?] codegen(e) return



# Example



e	codegen(e)	up
c		f
v		v
$e_1 \oplus e_2$	$t_1 = \text{codegen}(e_1) \oplus \text{codegen}(e_2)$	$t_1$

s	codegen(s)
v = e	$v \leftarrow \text{codegen}(e)$
return e	$\text{rax} \leftarrow \text{codegen}(e)$ return

$\text{codegen}(=) \Rightarrow$   
 $\text{codegen}(z) \leftarrow \text{codegen}(*)$   
 $\text{rax} \leftarrow z$   
 return

$\text{codegen}(*) \Rightarrow t_1 \leftarrow \text{codegen}(+) * \text{codegen}(-)$   $t_3 \leftarrow y$   
 $t_2 \leftarrow \text{codegen}(x) + \text{codegen}(3)$   
 $t_2 \leftarrow x + 3$   
 $z \leftarrow t_2 * t_3$

# Special Cases

e	codegen(d, e)
c	d [?] c
v	d [?] x
c [?] e <sub>2</sub>	codegen(t <sub>2</sub> , e <sub>2</sub> ) d [?] c [?] t <sub>2</sub>
e <sub>1</sub> [?] c	codegen(t <sub>1</sub> , e <sub>1</sub> ) d [?] t <sub>1</sub> [?] c
v [?] e <sub>2</sub>	codegen(t <sub>2</sub> , e <sub>2</sub> ) d [?] v [?] t <sub>2</sub>
e <sub>1</sub> [?] v	codegen(t <sub>1</sub> , e <sub>1</sub> ) d [?] t <sub>1</sub> [?] v
e <sub>1</sub> [?] e <sub>2</sub>	codegen(t <sub>1</sub> , e <sub>1</sub> ) codegen(t <sub>2</sub> , e <sub>2</sub> ) d [?] t <sub>1</sub> [?] t <sub>2</sub>

Generally not recommended

# The “don’t bother” case

- What should we really do?

*Separation of Concerns  
KISS*

t<sub>3</sub>  x

t<sub>4</sub>  3

t<sub>1</sub>  t<sub>3</sub> + t<sub>4</sub>

t<sub>5</sub>  y

t<sub>6</sub>  5

t<sub>2</sub>  t<sub>5</sub> \* t<sub>6</sub>

z  t<sub>1</sub> \* t<sub>2</sub>

rax  z

ret

Constant  
Propagation

Copy  
Propagation

$e$	$\text{codegen}(d, e)$
$c$	$d \boxed{?} c$
$v$	$d \boxed{?} x$
$c \boxed{?} e_2$	$\text{codegen}(t_2, e_2)$ $d \boxed{?} c \boxed{?} t_2$
$e_1 \boxed{?} c$	$\text{codegen}(t_1, e_1)$ $d \boxed{?} t_1 \boxed{?} c$
$v \boxed{?} e_2$	$\text{codegen}(t_2, e_2)$ $d \boxed{?} v \boxed{?} t_2$
$e_1 \boxed{?} v$	$\text{codegen}(t_1, e_1)$ $d \boxed{?} t_1 \boxed{?} v$
$e_1 \boxed{?} e_2$	$\text{codegen}(t_1, e_1)$ $\text{codegen}(t_2, e_2)$ $d \boxed{?} t_1 \boxed{?} t_2$

# Constant Propogation

$t_3$   $\boxed{?}$   $x$

~~$t_4$   $\boxed{?}$   $3$~~

$t_1$   $\boxed{?}$   $t_3 + t_4$   ~~$3$~~

$t_5$   $\boxed{?}$   $y$

~~$t_6$   $\boxed{?}$   $5$~~

$t_2$   $\boxed{?}$   $t_5 * t_6$   ~~$5$~~

$z$   $\boxed{?}$   $t_1 * t_2$

$rax$   $\boxed{?}$   $z$

$ret$

# Copy Propagation

~~t3 [?] x~~

t1 [?] ~~t3~~x + 3

~~t5 [?] y~~

t2 [?] ~~t5~~y \* 5

~~z [?] t1 \* t2~~

rax [?] z

ret

—

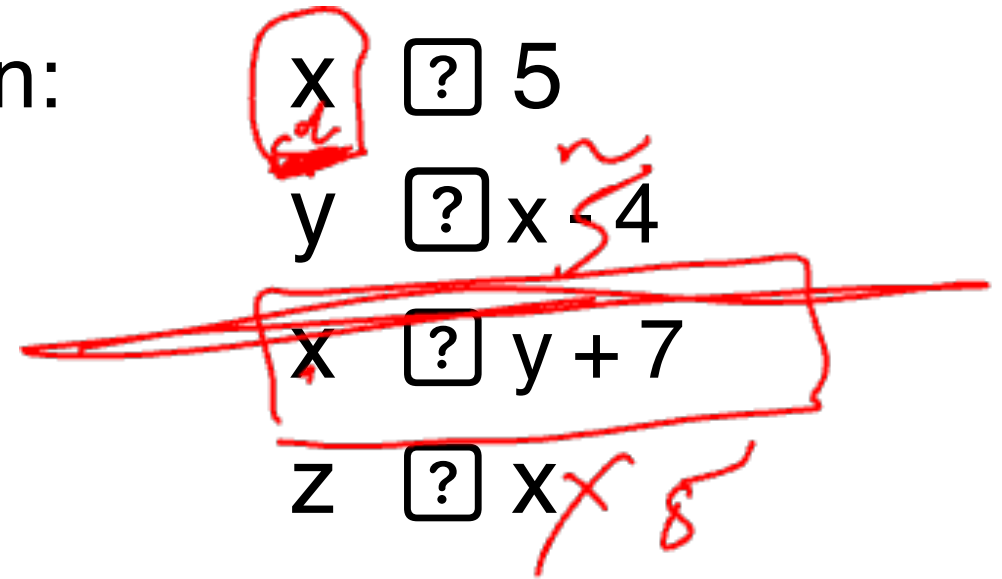
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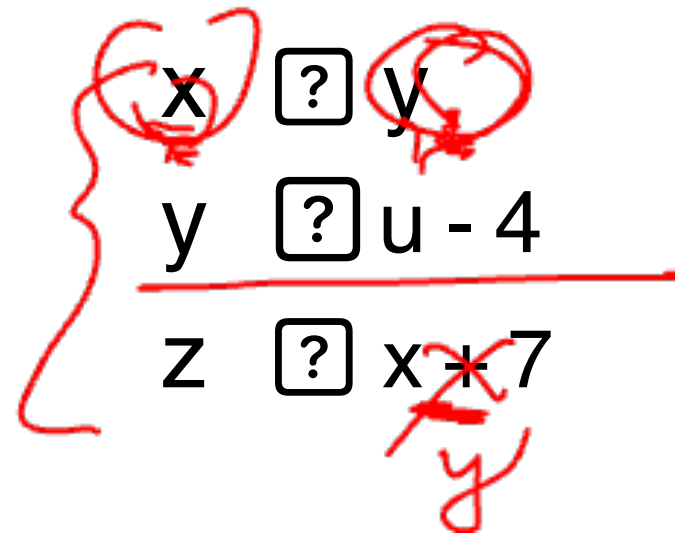
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# Have to be careful

- Constant propagation:



- Copy Propagation:



# Have to be careful

- Constant propagation:

- Can't just replace all x's with 5
- Stop if x is redefined

x  $\boxed{?}$  5

y  $\boxed{?}$  x - 4

x  $\boxed{?}$  y + 7

z  $\boxed{?}$  x

- Copy Propagation:

x  $\boxed{?}$  y

y  $\boxed{?}$  u - 4

z  $\boxed{?}$  x + 7



# Have to be careful

- Constant propagation:

- Can't just replace all x's with 5
- Stop if x is redefined

x  $\boxed{?}$  5

y  $\boxed{?}$  x - 4

x  $\boxed{?}$  y + 7

z  $\boxed{?}$  x

- Copy Propagation:

- Can't just replace all x's with y's
- Stop if x or y is redefined

x  $\boxed{?}$  y

y  $\boxed{?}$  u - 4

z  $\boxed{?}$  x + 7



# Today

- Context
- Abstract Assembly
- AST  IR
- Maximal Munch
- Issues
- Simple SSA
- x86 and 2-adr Instructions

# Static Single Assignment

- Must keep track of what definition each use refers to in order to properly do constant/copy propagation.
- Much simpler if only one definition for each name.
- SSA: Each name is assigned in only one location.

# Static Single Assignment

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- SSA: Each name is **assigned** in only one location.
- Easy for fresh temporaries

e	codegen(d, e)
$e_1 \boxed{?} e_2$	$\text{codegen}(t_1, e_1)$ $\text{codegen}(t_2, e_2)$ $d \boxed{?} t_1 \boxed{?} t_2$

# Static Single Assignment

- Must keep track of what definition each use refers to in order to properly do constant/copy propagation.
- Much simpler if only one definition for each name.
- SSA: Each name is **assigned** in only one location.
- Easy for fresh temporaries
- What about variables?

# SSA for Straight-line code

- Give each variable a version number.
- Scan code in program order
- Whenever we encounter a definition, increment the version number
- Whenever we encounter a use, use the most recently assigned version number.

x [?] 5

y [?] x - 4

x [?] y + 7

z [?] x

x<sub>0</sub> [?] 5

y [?] x - 4

x [?] y + 7

z [?] x

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z [?] x



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- Give each variable a version number.
- Scan code in program order
- Whenever we encounter a definition, increment the version number
- Whenever we encounter a use, use the most recently assigned version number.

x [?] 5

y [?] x - 4

x [?] y + 7

z [?] x

x<sub>0</sub> [?] 5

y<sub>0</sub> [?] x<sub>0</sub> - 4

x<sub>1</sub> [?] y<sub>0</sub> + 7

z [?] x

$x_0 \leftarrow 5$   
 $y_0 \leftarrow x_0 + \emptyset$

# SSA for Straight-line code



- Give each variable a version number.
- Scan code in program order
- Whenever we encounter a definition, increment the version number
- Whenever we encounter a use, use the most recently assigned version number.

$x \rightarrow \emptyset$

$x \quad \boxed{?} \quad 5$   
 $y \quad \boxed{?} \quad x - 4$   
 $x \quad \boxed{?} \quad y + 7$   
 $z \quad \boxed{?} \quad x$

*Handwritten notes:* A red box encloses the first two lines. The word "while" is written in red next to the first line. The word "try" is written in red next to the second line. There are red scribbles and a red arrow pointing to the second line.

$x_0 \quad \boxed{?} \quad 5$   
 $y_0 \quad \boxed{?} \quad x_0 - 4$   
 ~~$x_1 \quad \boxed{?} \quad y_0 + 7$~~   
 $z_0 \quad \boxed{?} \quad x_1$

*Handwritten notes:* Red circles around the first two lines. A red arrow points from the second line to the right. A red arrow points from the third line to the right. A red scribble is under the third line.

# Now easy

- Constant propagation:
  - Can replace all  $x_0$  with 5.

$$x_0 \boxed{?} 5$$

$$y_0 \boxed{?} x_0 - 4$$

$$x_1 \boxed{?} y_0 + 7$$

$$z_0 \boxed{?} x_1$$

- Copy Propagation:
  - Can replace all  $x_0$  with  $y_0$

$$x_0 \boxed{?} y_0$$

$$y_1 \boxed{?} u_0 - 4$$

$$z_0 \boxed{?} x_0 + 7$$


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- **x86 and 2-adr Instructions**

# Real Assembly on x86

- x86 doesn't have 3 address instructions!

d ? s<sub>1</sub> + s<sub>2</sub>

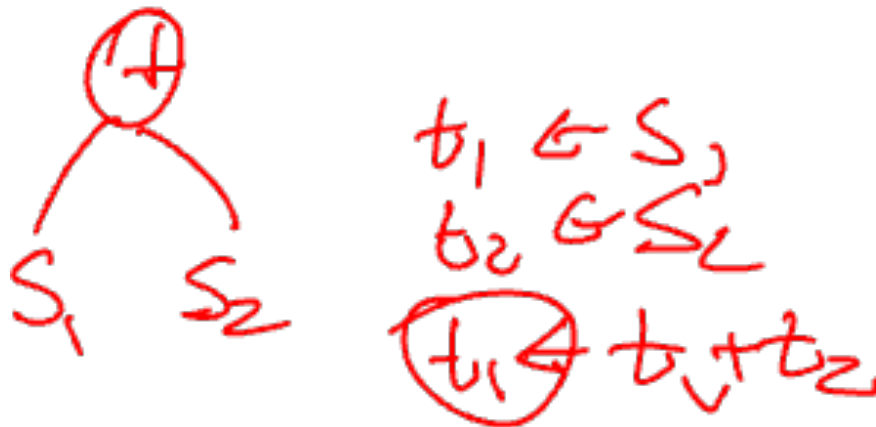


# Real Assembly on x86

- x86 doesn't have 3 address instructions!

$$d \quad \boxed{?} \quad s_1 + s_2$$

Triples	2-adr	x86
d $\boxed{?}$ $s_1 + s_2$	$d \boxed{?} s_1$ $d \boxed{?} d + s_2$	<del>MOVX <math>s_1, d</math></del> <del>ADDX <math>s_2, d</math></del>



# Real Assembly on x86

- x86 doesn't have 3 address instructions!

Triples	2-adr	x86
$d \boxed{?} s_1 + s_2$	$d \boxed{?} s_1$ $d \boxed{?} d + s_2$	MOVX $s_1, d$ ADDX $s_2, d$

- All kinds of special register requirements

$$d \boxed{?} s_1 * s_2$$

What about edx?

Triples	2-adr	x86
$d \boxed{?} s_1 * s_2$	$d \boxed{?} s_1$ $d \boxed{?} d * s_2$	MOVL $s_1, rax$ IMUL $s_2$ MOVL <u><math>rax, d</math></u>

# From AST to Machine Assembly

- Implied Approach:
  - AST [?] Triples using unlimited temporaries
  - Map temporaries to registers/memory
  - Lower Triples to real assembly
- What about Interaction between registers and instructions?
- Cost model?
- KISS:
  - Keep things simple, but
  - Prepare for other passes to fix things up.