

# Languages & Compilers

From source code to executable code

# The compiler

- It is a software program that
  - Translates a program written in a high level programming language into an **equivalent** object code
  - ..or.. reports the **errors** present in the source code
- In the '50: development of the first techniques to translate mathematical formulas into machine language
- The first Fortran compiler required 18 man-years of development (1957)
- Systematic techniques for the development of compilers have been devised

# Source and object languages

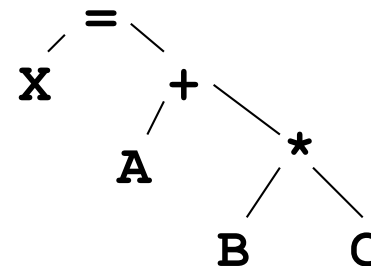
- There are... hundreds of programming languages
  - General purpose programming languages
    - C, C++, Pascal, Fortran, Java, Basic, Lisp, Prolog, perl....
  - Special purpose languages
    - Text formatting (Tex, Latex...)
    - Database management and querying (SQL)
- The compiler translates the source language into
  - Another high-level programming language
    - e.g. pascal -> C
  - The machine code for a given processor/architecture

# Parsing and generation

- **Parsing**

- The source code is split into its components
- An intermediate representation of the program structure is built in memory (**Syntactic tree**)

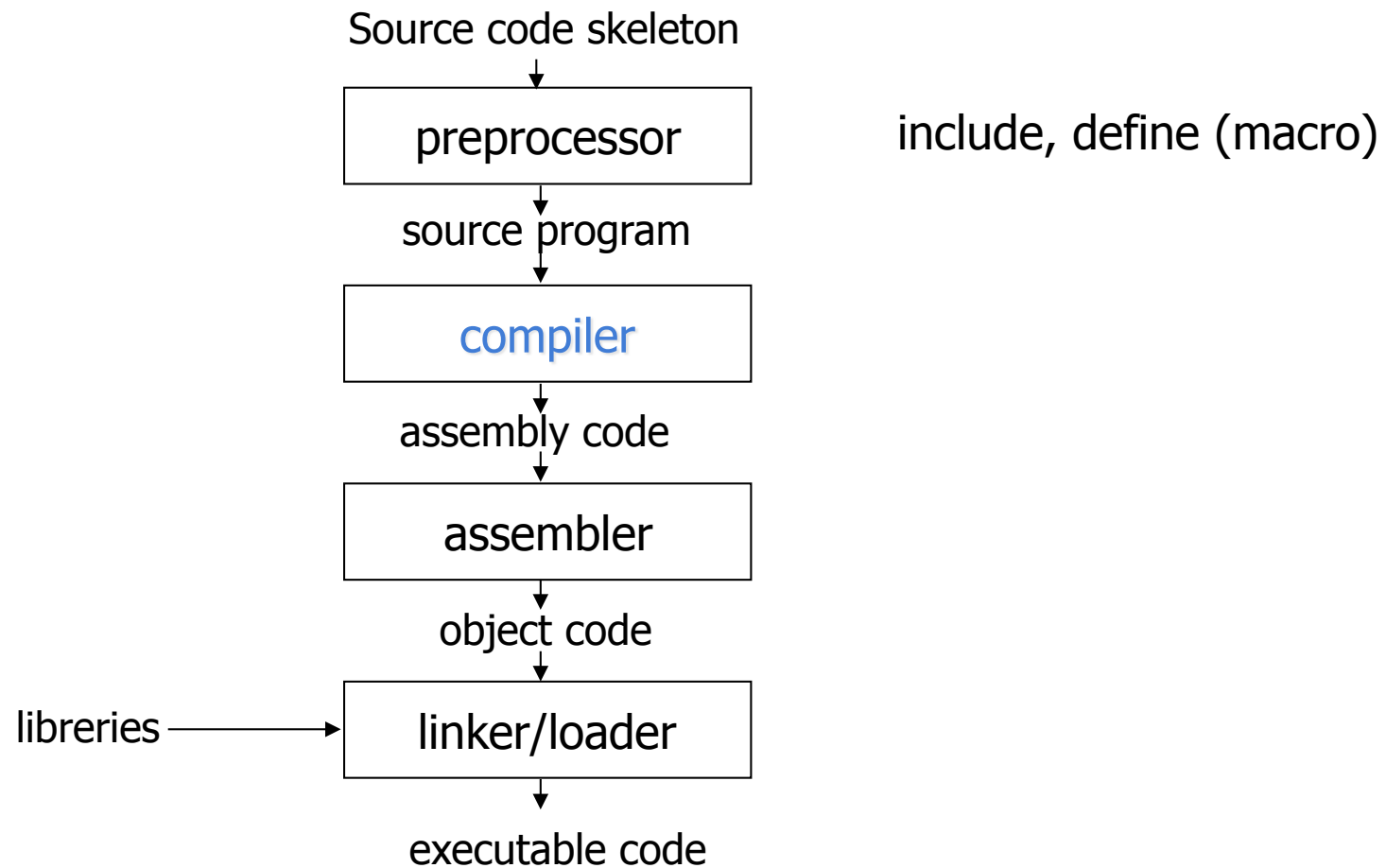
**X = A+B\*C**



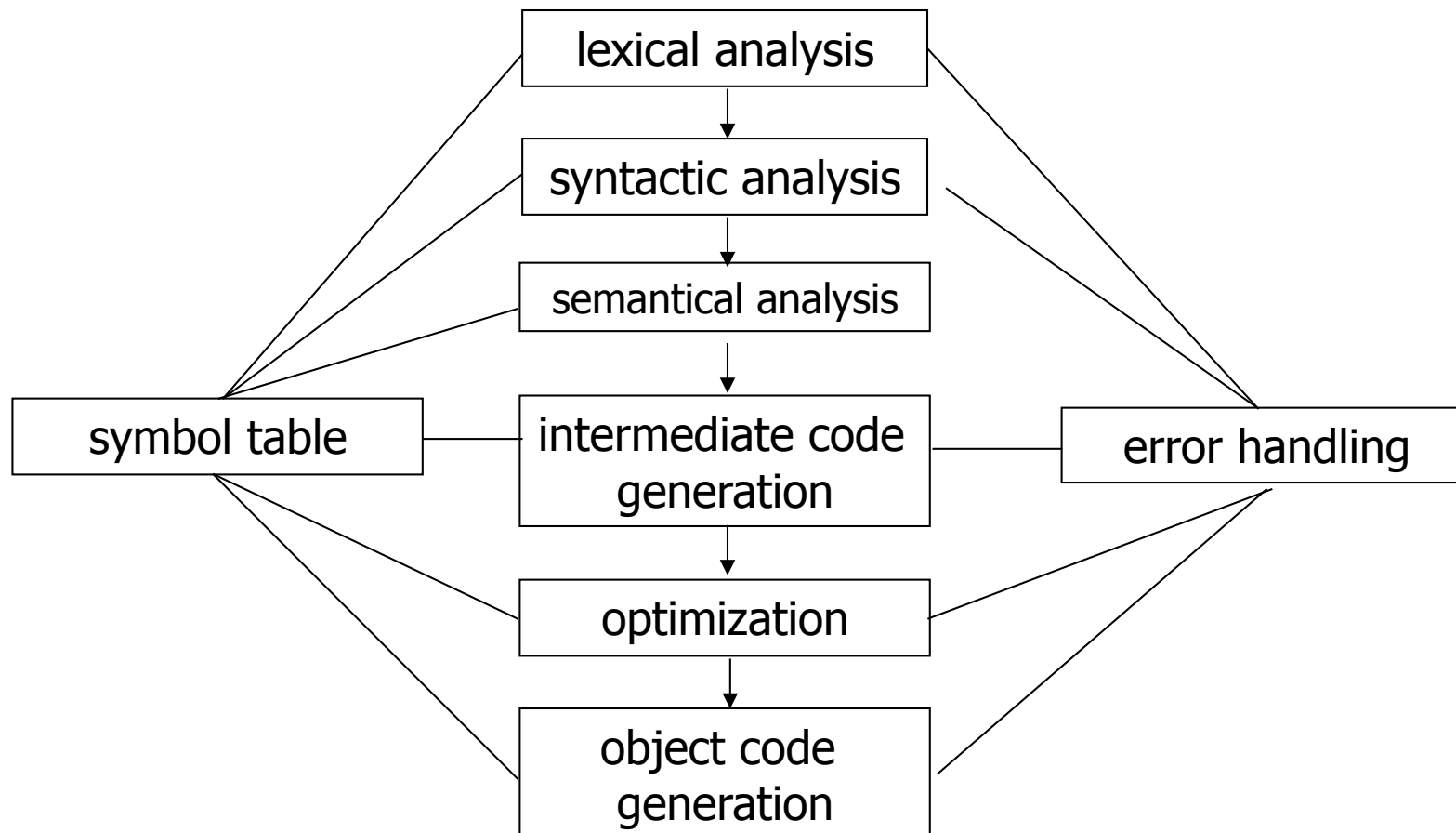
- **Generation**

- The object code is obtained from the intermediate representation

# The compiler “context”



# Compiler structure



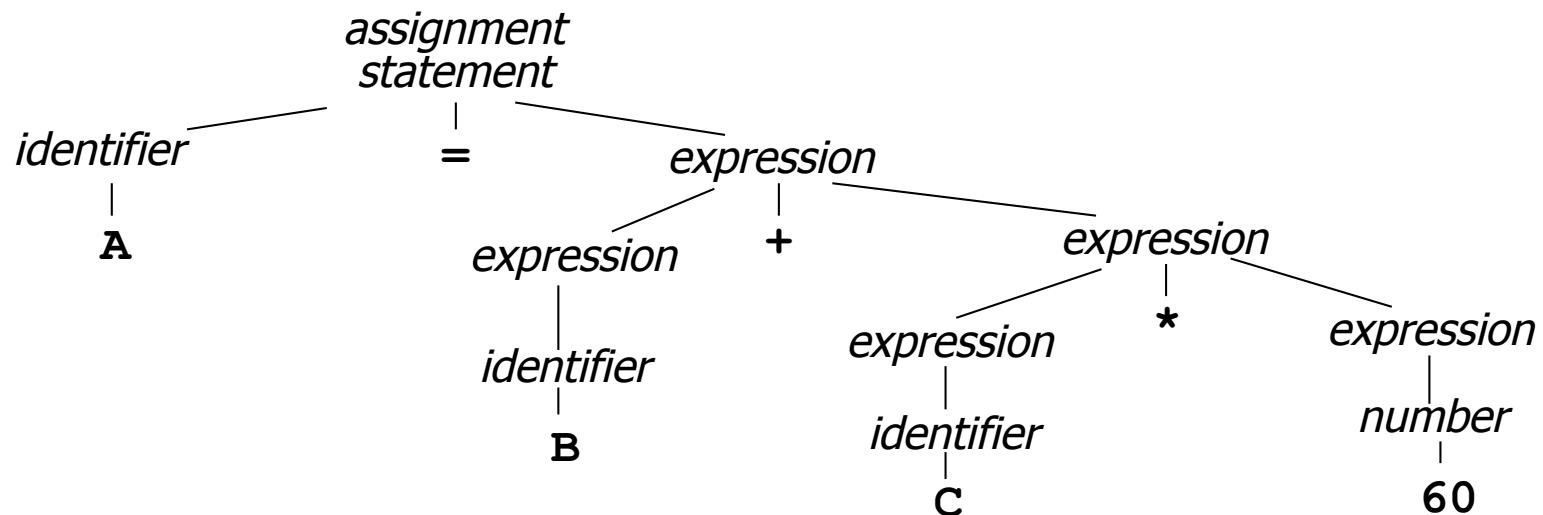
# Lexical analysi (scanning)

- Groups character into words, numbers or symbols
  - The source text is mappend into a sequence of lexical elements (token)
- language reserved words (keywords) [if - for - while - class ....]
- user defined identifiers [variable, procedure, function names ...]
- costants [numbers, strings, ... ]
- Logic an arithmetic operators [+ \* ...]
- statement separator characters [; , ....]

```
int somma, diff = 0.3;
```

# Syntactic Analysis (parsing)

- Groups tokens into grammatical phrases
  - The **syntactic tree** represents the program structure
    - leaves contain tokens
    - internal nodes represent syntactical categories





# Syntatic rules

- The hierarchical structure of a program is expressed by **recursive rules**

- Each *identifier* is an *expression*
- Each *number* is an *expression*
- If *expr1* and *expr2* are *expressions* then also

base rules

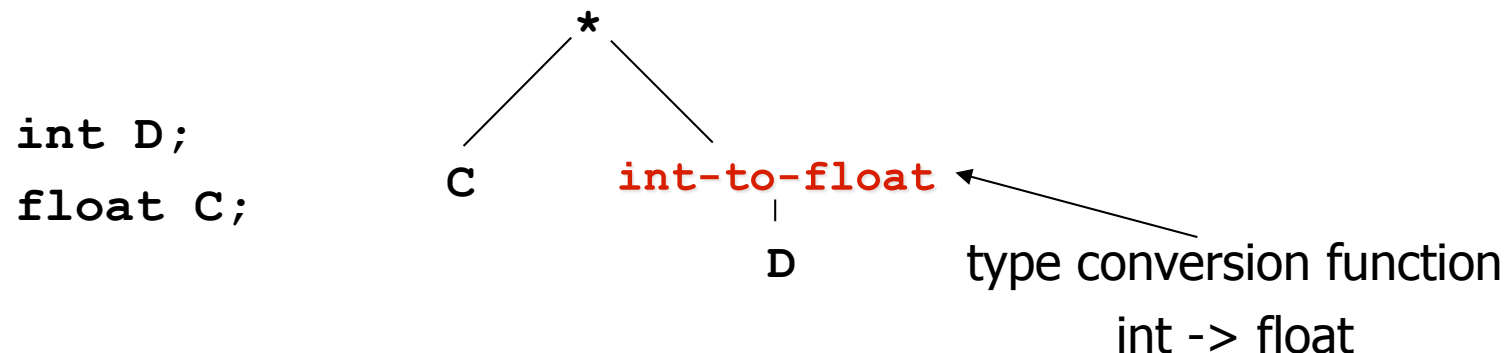
- *expr1 + expr2*
- *expr1 \* expr2*
- *( expr1 )*

recursive rules

are *expressions*

# Semematic analysis

- Yields the semantics associated to the syntactic structure
  - It verifies that the usage rules of the language are satisfied
    - identifier declarations (e.g. duplicate definitions,...)
    - type check (compatibility of types in expressions, automatic type conversion, type check for vector indexes, ecc..)



# Symbol table

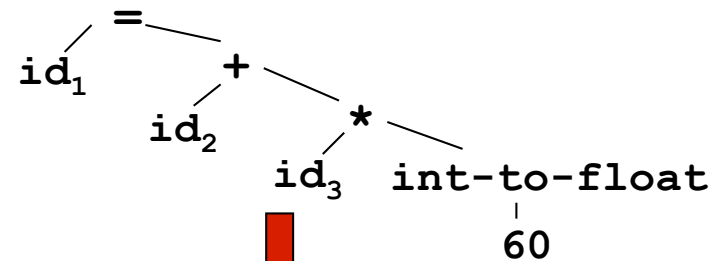
- It memorizes the identifiers and their associated attributes
  - memory allocation
  - type
  - visibility scope
  - number and type of function/procedure arguments

Name	Type	offset
A	int	0
B	float	4
C	double	8
I	int	16
J	int	20

memory allocation ←

# Object code generation

internal intermediate  
representation



intermediate code  
generation

```
t1 = int-to-float(60)
t2 = id3 * t1
t3 = id2 + t2
id1 = t3
```

code optimization

```
t1 = id3 * 60.0
id1 = id2 + t1
```

object code  
generation

```
MOVE id3, R2
MULF #60.0, R2
.....
```