

Building Natural Language System based on Theoretical Linguistics

理論言語学に基づいた自然言語処理システム

@MiCS 2019/10/23

Masashi Yoshikawa (NAIST D3)

Self Introduction

- NAIST Matsumoto-ken D3
- Like: syntactic/semantic parsing, structured prediction
- Originally from Osaka Univ. (Foreign Studies)
 - mainly worked on Turkish and Arabic languages
- Spent 2.5 years of my Ph.D period at Bekki-sensei's lab (Ochanomizu Univ.), and now back in Nara
 - Surprised to know everyone is working on IE at the lab (no more parsing)



@Kuwait 2012

(Ice Breaker?) Arabic Morphology is

Three Concept Consonant times Syntactic Template

KTb write	DRS study	QRʔ read	ʔKL eat	JDD new
ḏHB go	ḥML carry	QBL accept	QLL few	QRR decide
ṬLB seek	ḡRB sink	QʔD sit	SJD head down	...

Three consonants

representing concepts

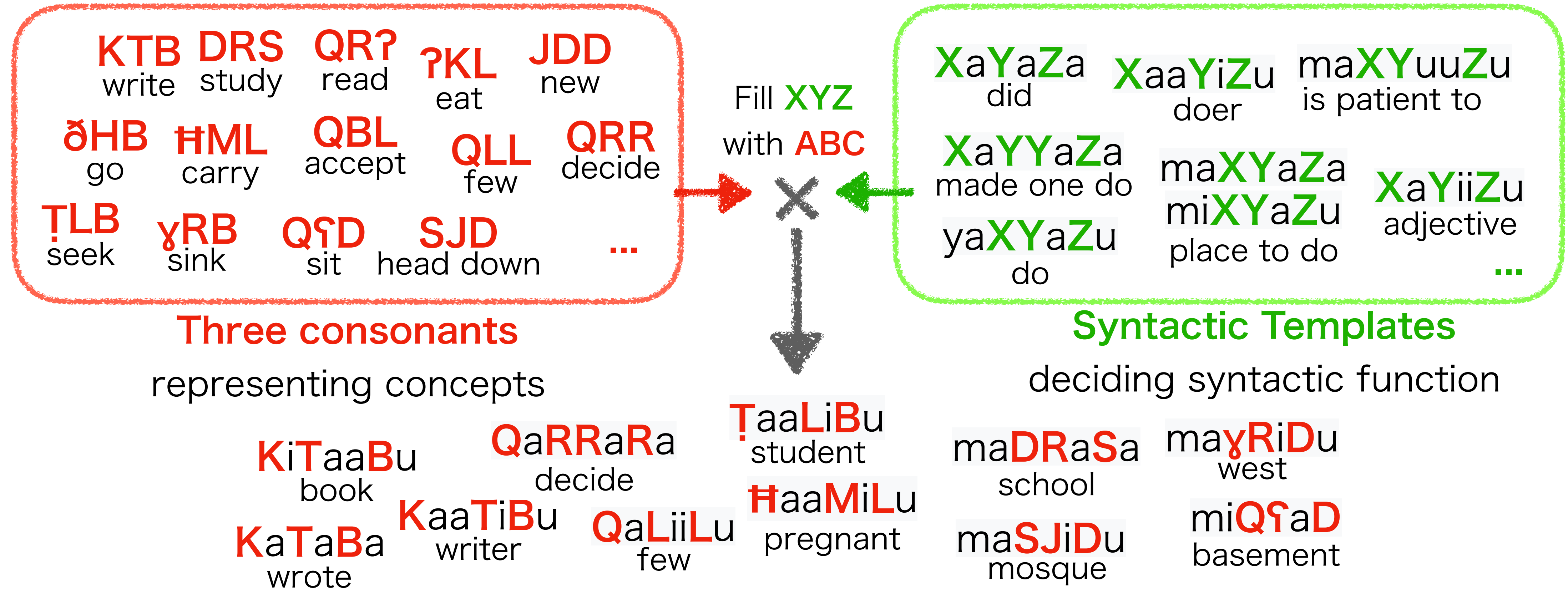
XaY a Za did	XaaY i Zu doer	ma XY uu Zu is patient to
XaYY a Za made one do	ma XY a Za mi XY a Zu place to do	XaY ii Zu adjective
yaXY a Zu do		...

Syntactic Templates

deciding syntactic function

(Ice Breaker?) Arabic Morphology is

Three Concept Consonant times Syntactic Template



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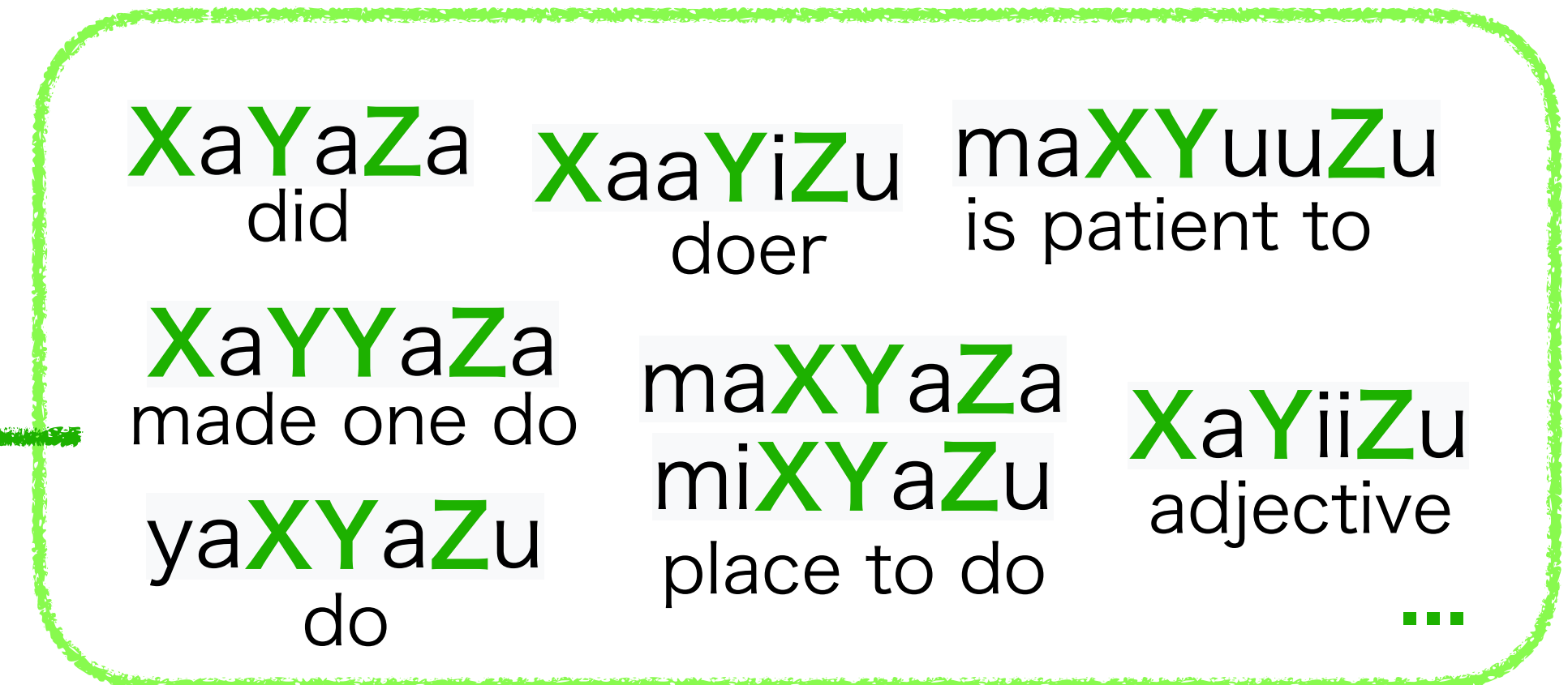
Three Concept Consonant times Syntactic Template



Three concept consonants

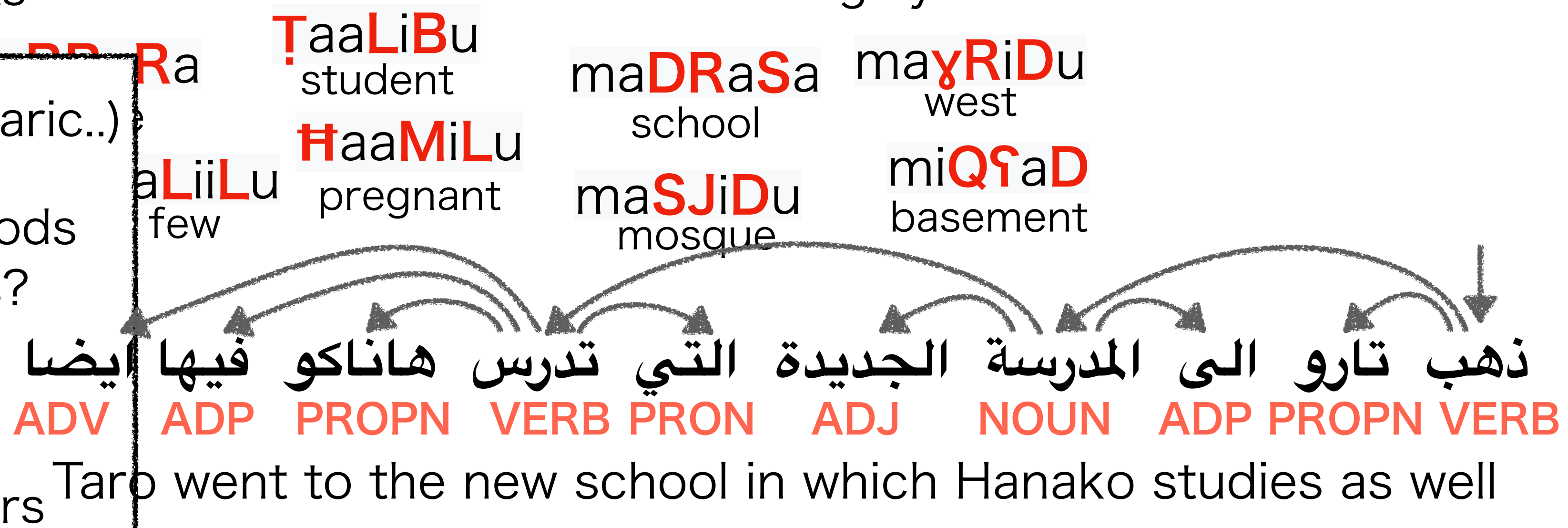
representing concepts

Fill **XYZ**
with **ABC**



Syntactic Templates

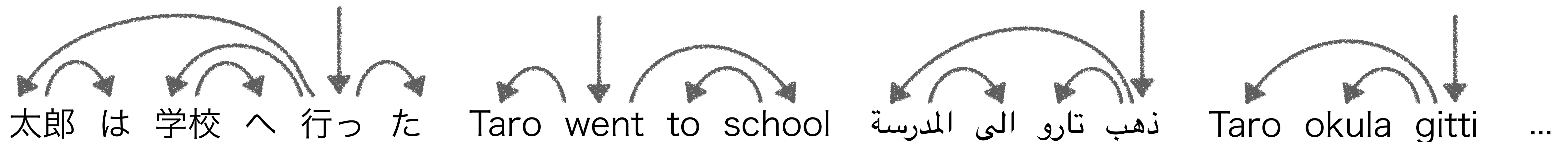
deciding syntactic function



- Sematic languages (Hebrew, Amharic..)
- Implication: recent subword methods are adequate for these languages?
- But its syntax is familiar to us
 - VSO with postpositional modifiers

What is Syntactic Theory?

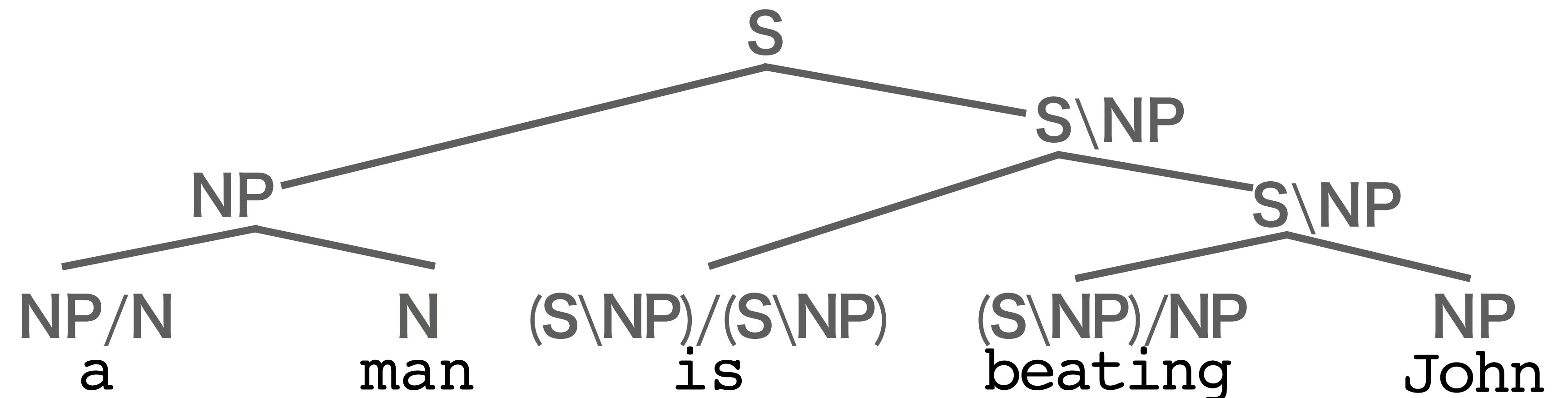
- Provide explanations for phenomena arising from the way words are concatenated
 - PP-attachment: "John (saw a girl (with a telescope))"
 - Coordination: "Wendy (ran 19 miles) and (walked 9 miles)"
 - control verb, complement, passive/active voice, scope, etc.
- Must be general to cover all languages, while describing language specificities
 - e.g. Universal Dependencies (de Marneffe et al., 2014)



Combinatory Categorical Grammar

Steedman 2000, Bekki 2010

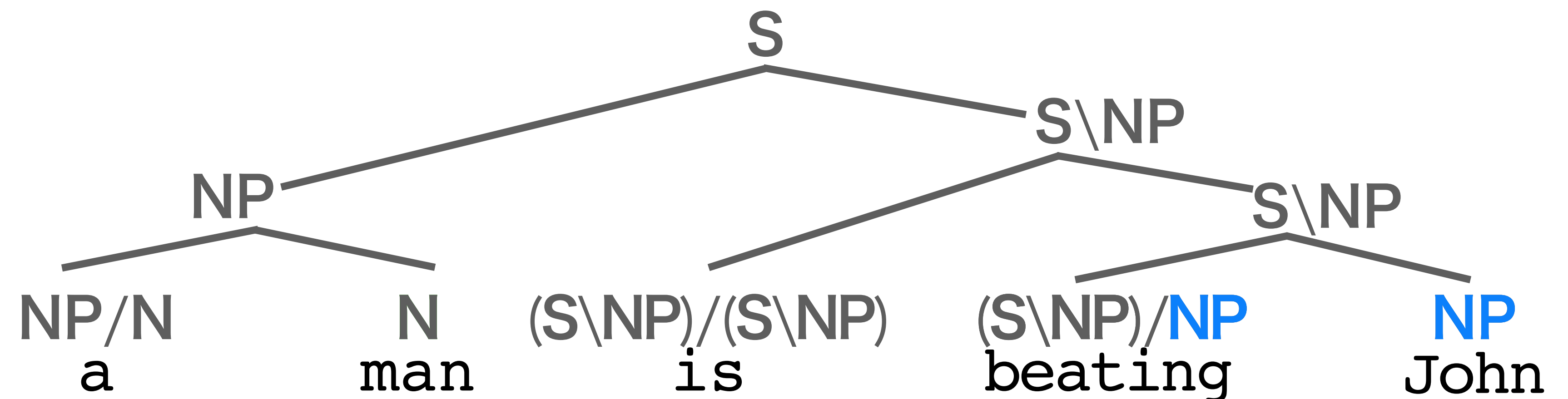
- Categories with recursive function-like structure
- A small number of derivational rules (less than 10)
 - X/Y argument
 - $X \backslash Y$ return value
- Meta rules (cf. CFG: $S \rightarrow NP VP$)
- Forward/backward application: $X \rightarrow X/Y Y$ $X \rightarrow Y X \backslash Y$
- Forward/backward composition rules: $X/Z \rightarrow X/Y Y/Z$



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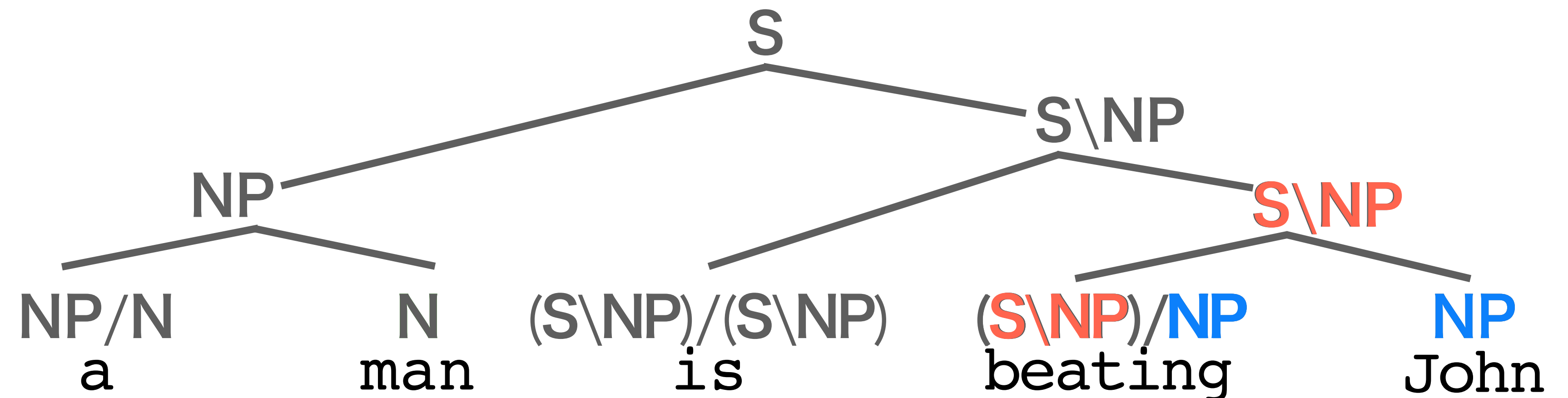
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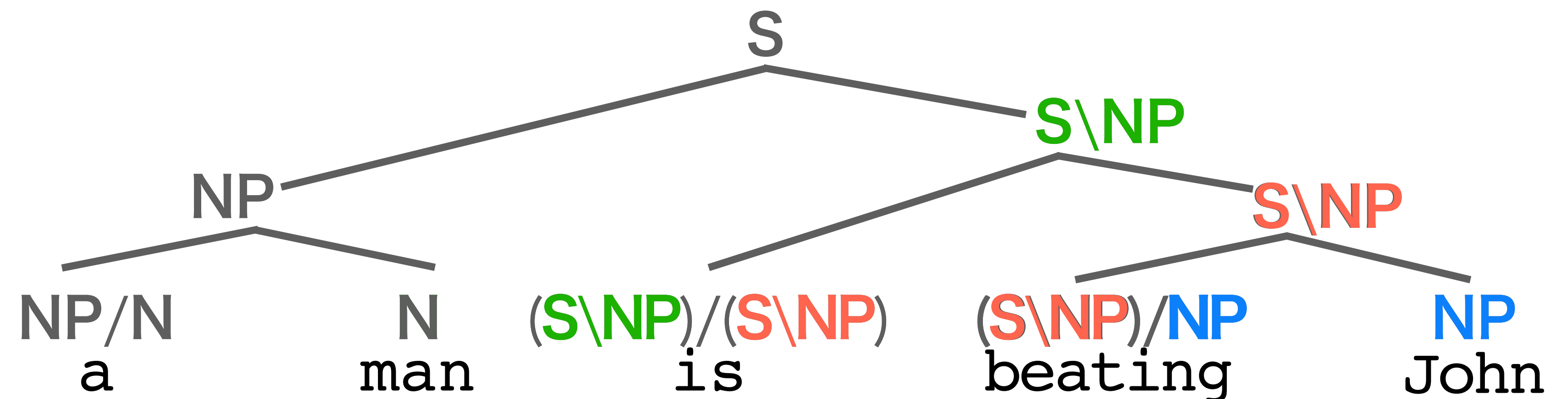
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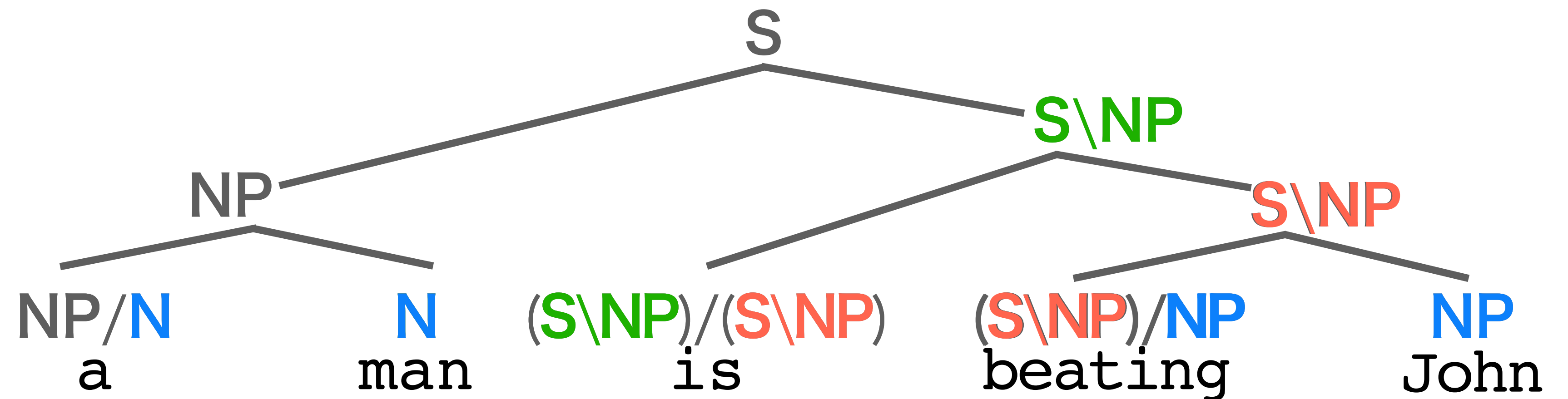


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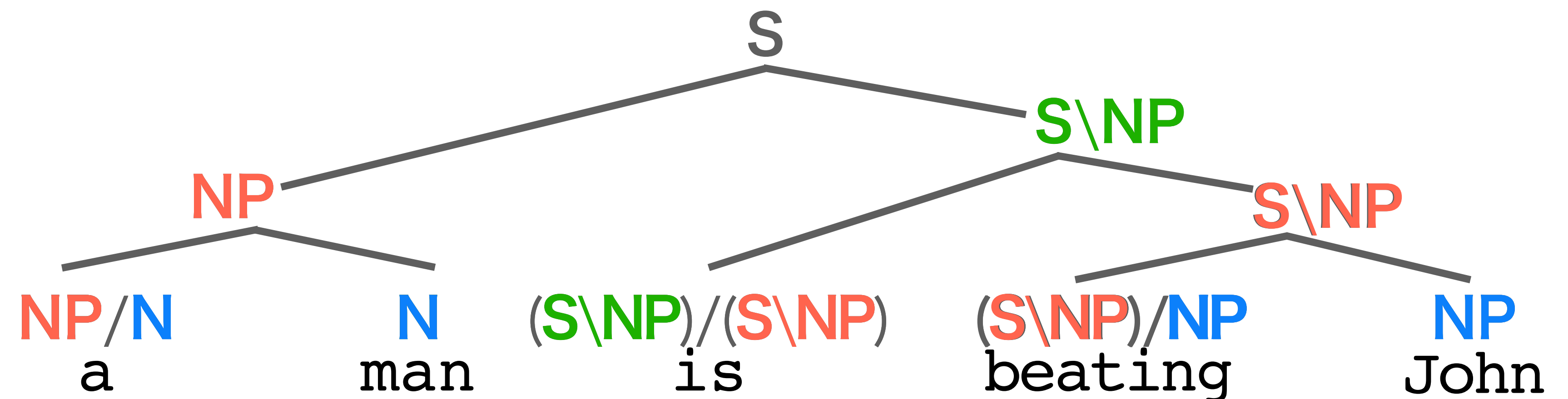
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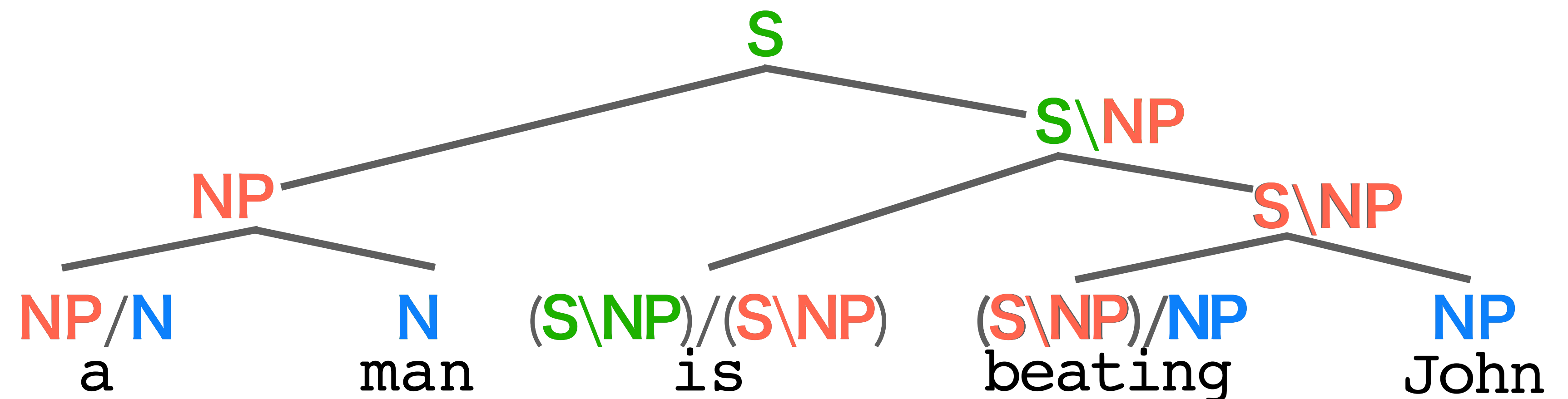
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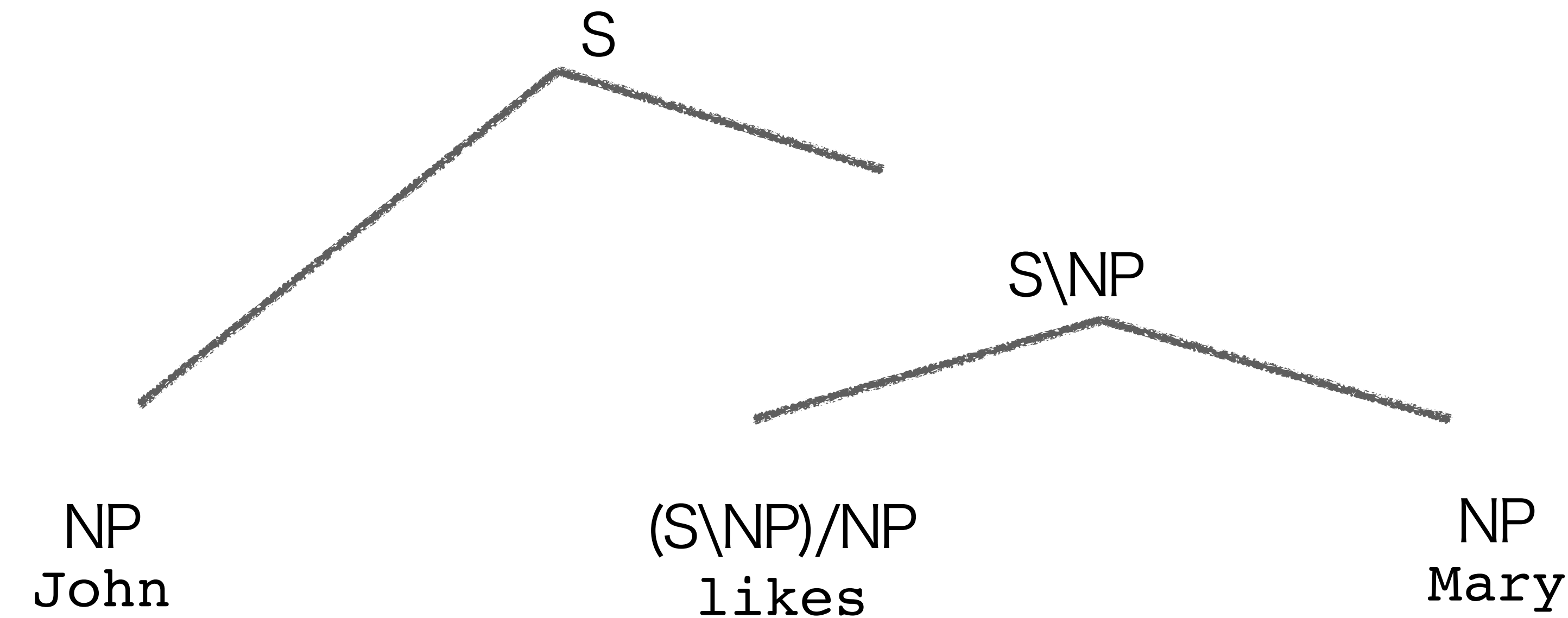
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Basic CCG-based Semantic Parsing



- $F : NP \Rightarrow F$
- $F : N \Rightarrow \lambda x \rightarrow F(x)$
- $F : (S \backslash NP) / NP \Rightarrow \lambda y x \rightarrow \text{exist } e. F(e) \dots$
- $F : S \backslash NP \Rightarrow \lambda x \rightarrow \text{exist } e. F(e) \ \& \ A0(0)$
- ...

Dictionary

- Imagine functional programming language (e.g., Haskell)

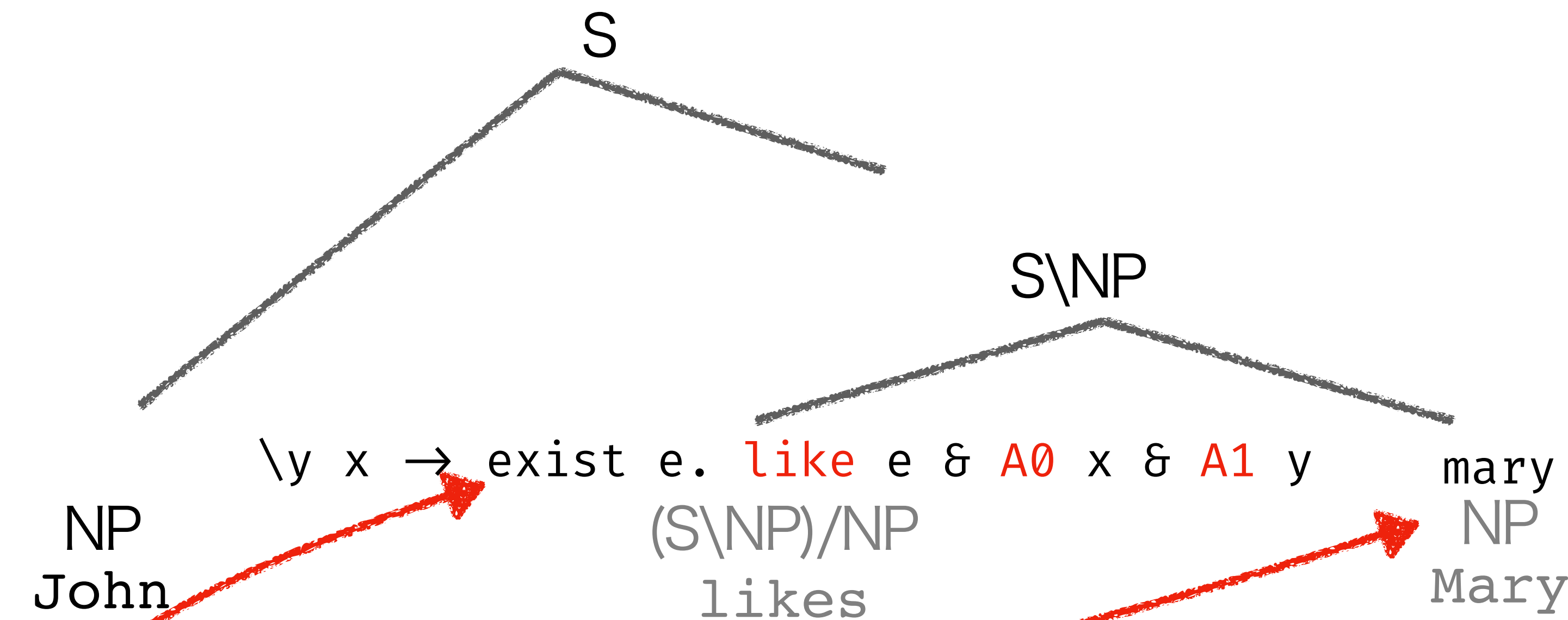
$\lambda x y \rightarrow f(x, y)$: lambda term

john, mary: **entity** term

true, false: **truth** term

- Hand-crafted dictionary maps (word, category) to a lambda term
- Here we use logical formulas based on event semantics
- There exists an event e , whose argument 0 is john and ...

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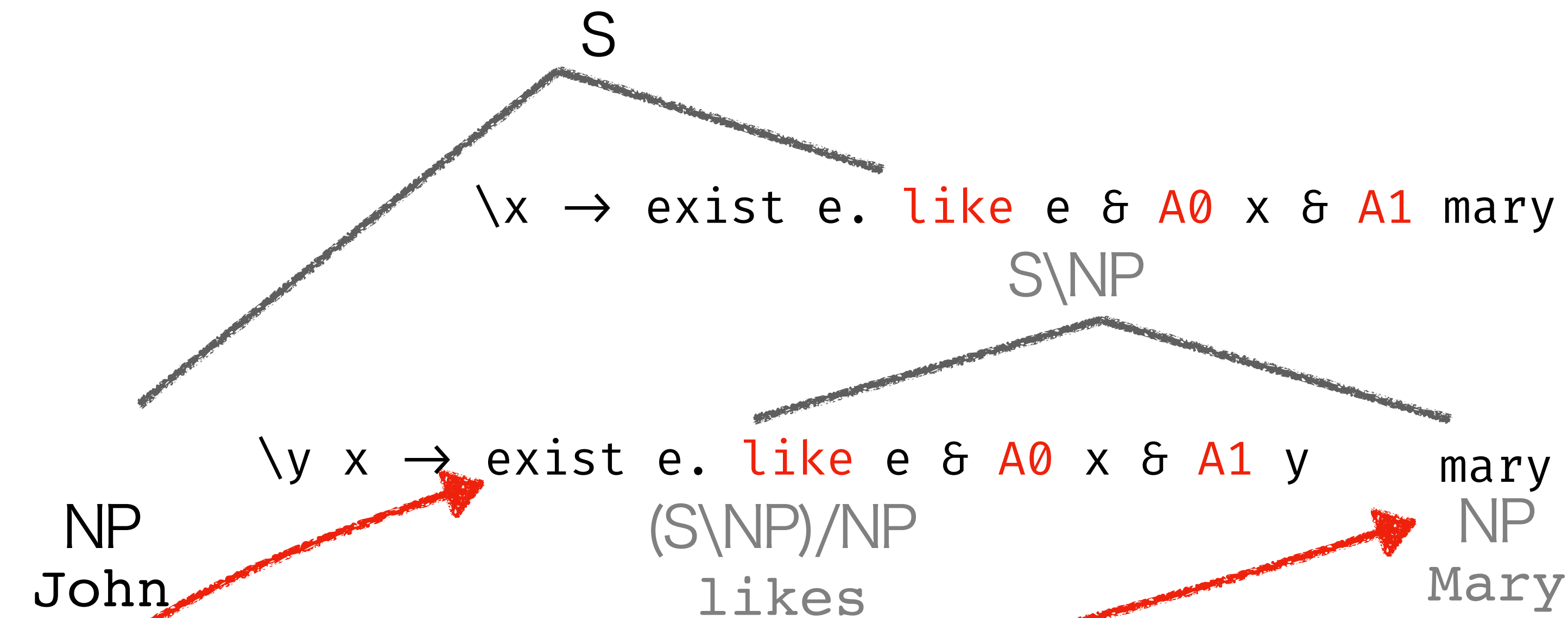
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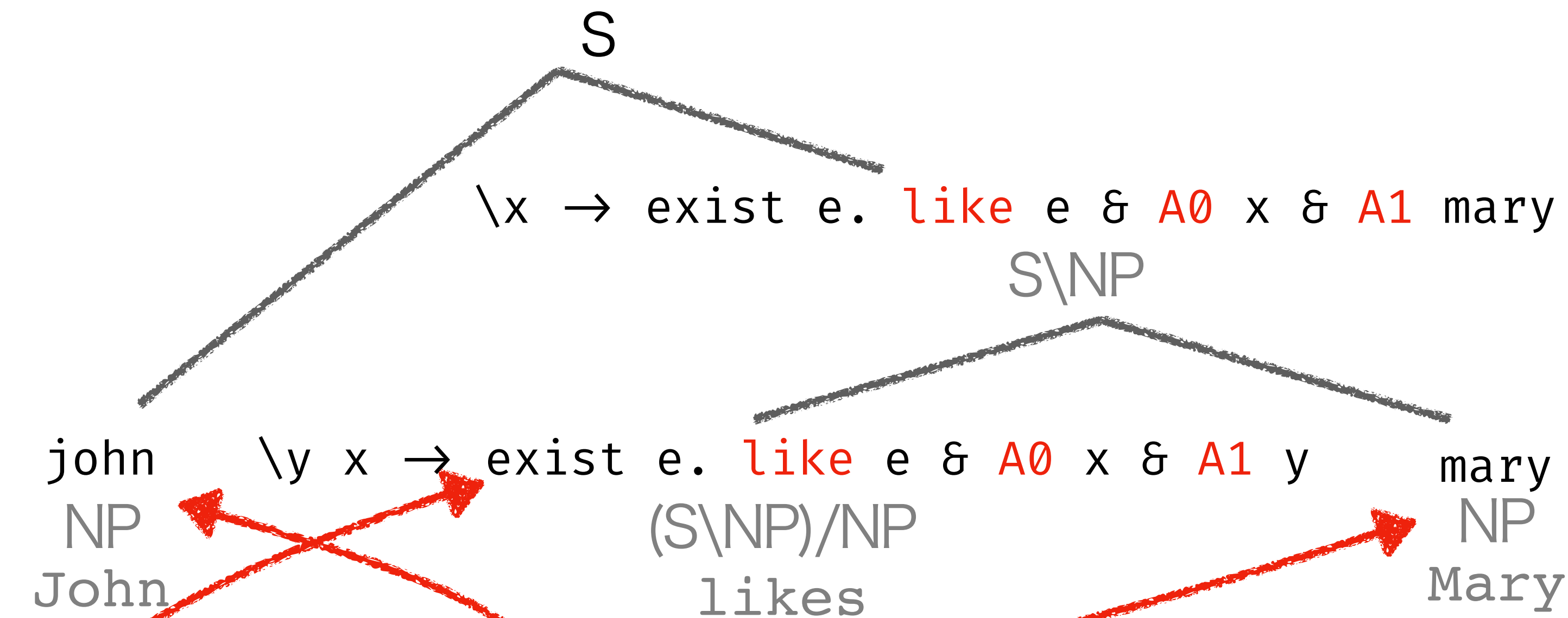
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Basic CCG-based Semantic Parsing

exist e. like e & A0 john & A1 mary

S

$\backslash x \rightarrow \text{exist } e. \text{ like } e \ \& \ A0 \ x \ \& \ A1 \ \text{mary}$

S\NP

john NP John
 $\backslash y \ x \rightarrow \text{exist } e. \text{ like } e \ \& \ A0 \ x \ \& \ A1 \ y$
 (S\NP)/NP likes
 mary NP Mary

- $F : NP \Rightarrow F$
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Semantic Parsing in Real Application

e.g. Mineshima et al., 2015, Abzianidze, 2017

exist x. **man** x & exist e. **like** e & **A0** x & **A1** mary

S

F, **G**: entity \rightarrow truth

P, **Q**: (entity \rightarrow truth) \rightarrow truth

$\backslash \mathbf{G} \rightarrow$ exist x. **man** x & **G** x

$\backslash \mathbf{P} \rightarrow \mathbf{P}(\backslash x \rightarrow$ exist e. **like** e & **A0** x) & **A1** mary

NP

S\NP

$\backslash \mathbf{F} \mathbf{G} \rightarrow$ exist. **F** x & **G** x
NP/N

a

Quantifier

$\backslash x \rightarrow$ **man** x
N

man

Common
noun

$\backslash \mathbf{Q} \rightarrow \mathbf{Q}(\backslash y \rightarrow (\backslash \mathbf{P} \rightarrow \mathbf{P}(\backslash x \rightarrow$
exist e. **like** e & **A0** x)) & **A1** y)
(S\NP)/NP
likes

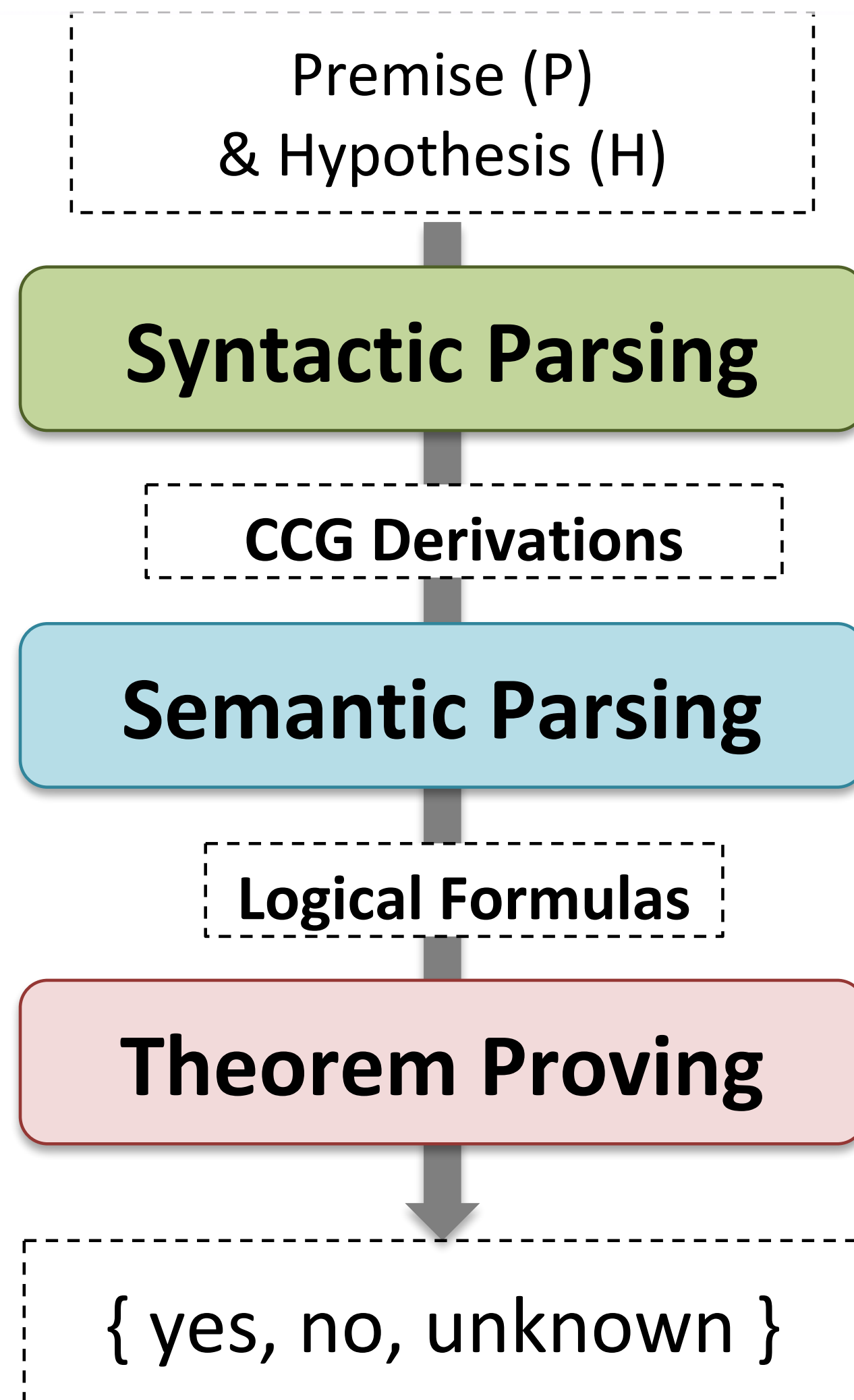
$\backslash \mathbf{F} \rightarrow$ **F** mary
NP
Mary

Categories work as "type", preventing invalid output formula. (e.g., NP is always (entity \rightarrow truth) \rightarrow truth).

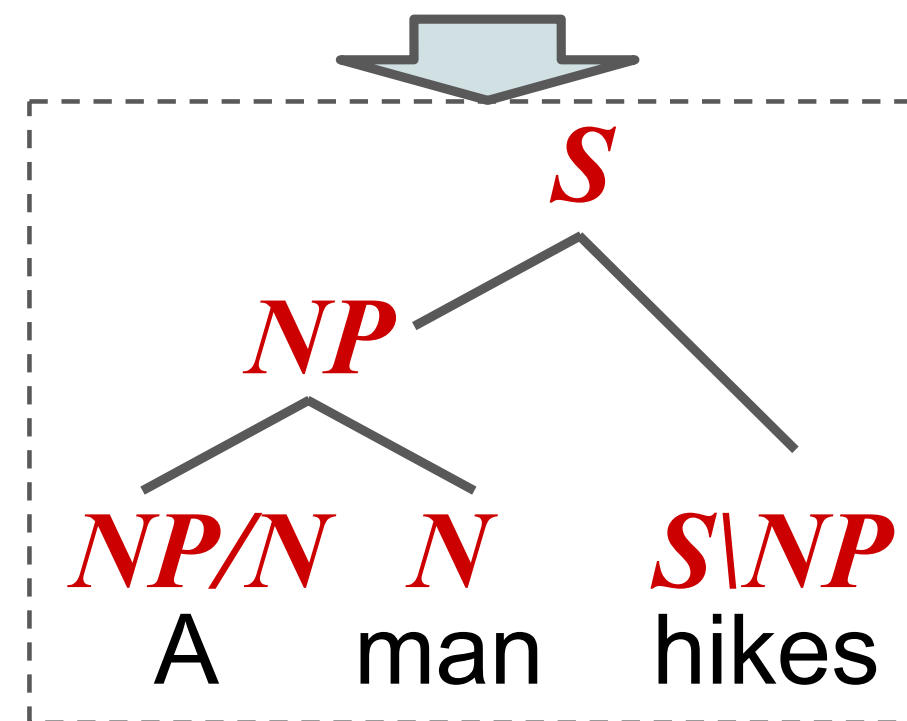
CCG-based Inference System

(latter half of the talk)

e.g. Mineshima et al., 2015, Abzianidze, 2017
H: A man walks.



P: A man hikes.

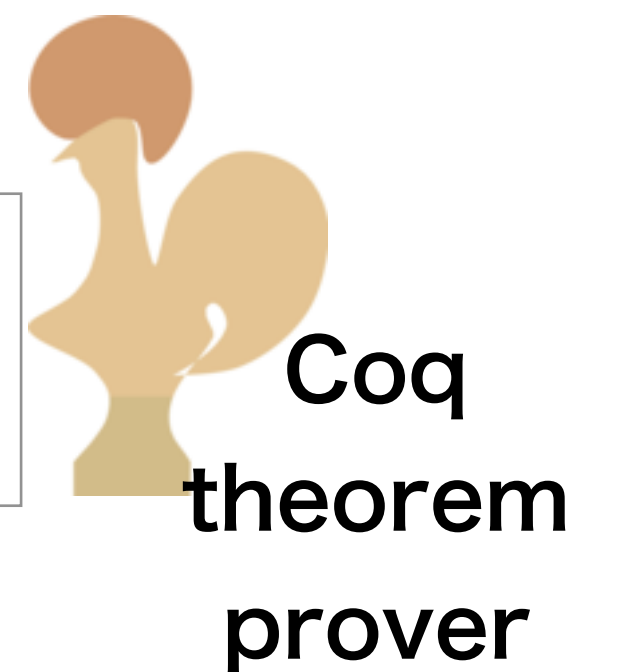


$\exists x. \text{man}(x) \wedge \exists e. \text{hike}(e) \wedge \text{subj}(e, x)$

$\exists x. \text{man}(x) \wedge \exists e. \text{walk}(e) \wedge \text{subj}(e, x)$

```
Coq < Theorem t1:
(exists x : Entity, man x /\ (exists e : Event, hike e /\ subj e x)) ->
exists x : Entity, man x /\ (exists e : Event, walk e /\ subj e x).
Coq < Proof. ccg2lambda. Qed.
```

result: unknown





Annotation Criteria for CCG

Q: How do you choose that structure/category? Is it because you like that?

A: No, it is designed to optimize the performance of inference systems built upon it

- e.g. Why are there N and NP?

	syntax	semantics
NP (John)	proper noun	entity (john)
N (dog)	common noun	set of entities (\x → dog x)



Annotation Criteria for CCG

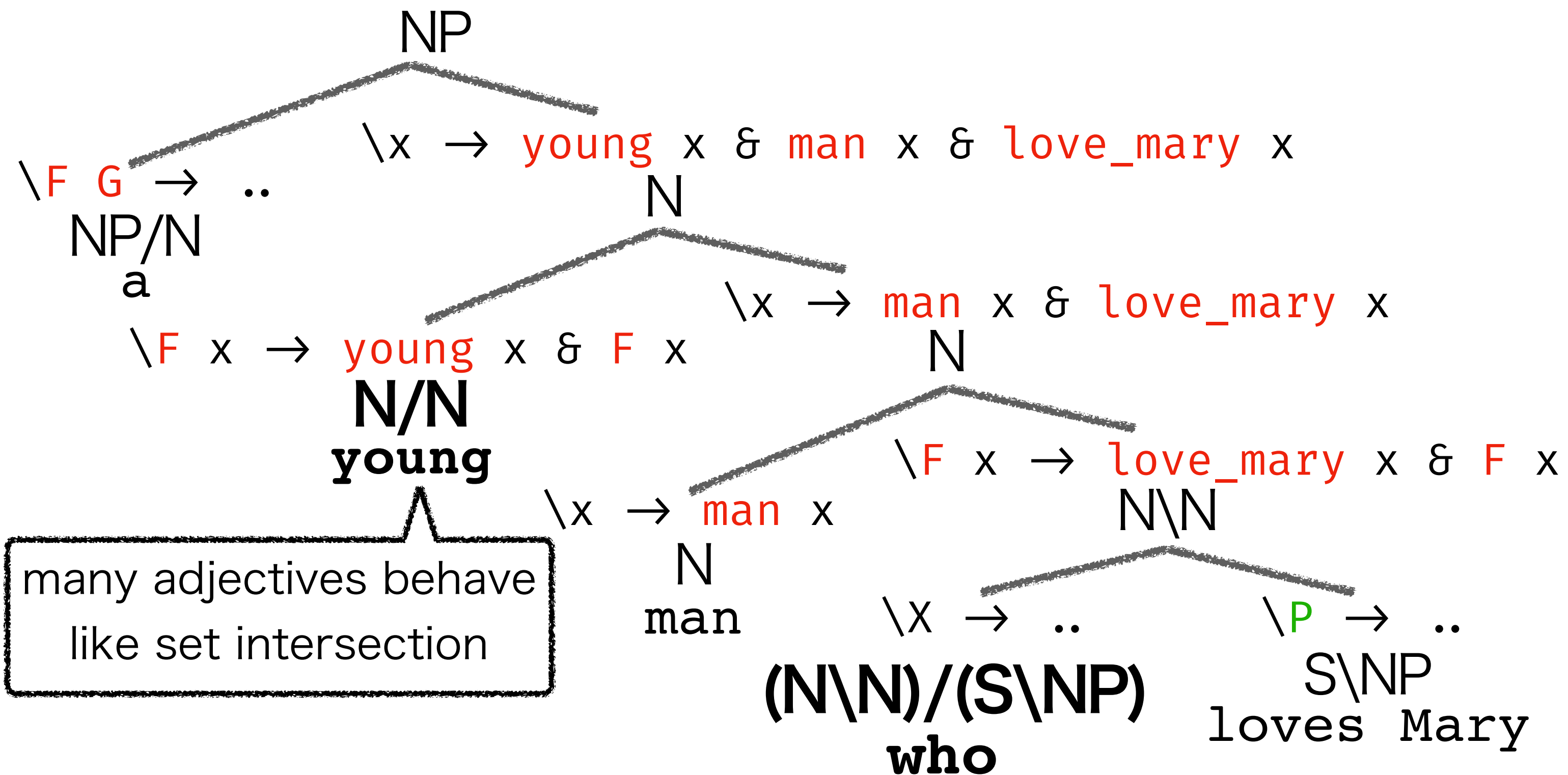
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$\backslash G \rightarrow \text{exist } x. \text{ young } x \ \& \ \text{man } x \ \& \ \text{love_mary } x \ \& \ G \ x$



many adjectives behave like set intersection

a relative clause is semantically like adjectives (intersective)



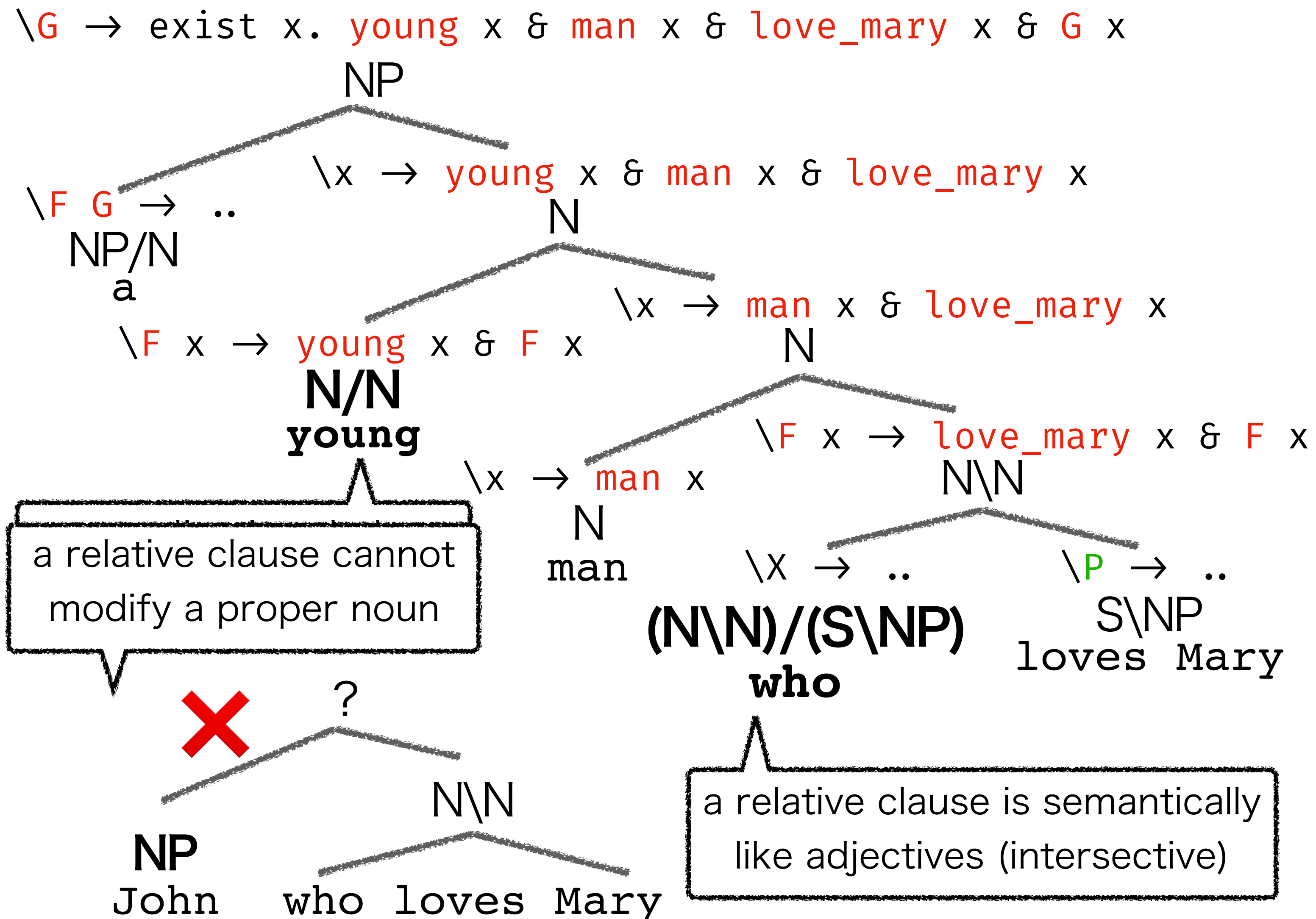
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Why CCG? and not dependencies?

- 😊 Gives elegant explanations for complex phenomena
- leads to better meaning representation
- cf. semantic parsing based on UD (Reddy et al., 2017)
 - suffers from control verbs, coordination, etc.

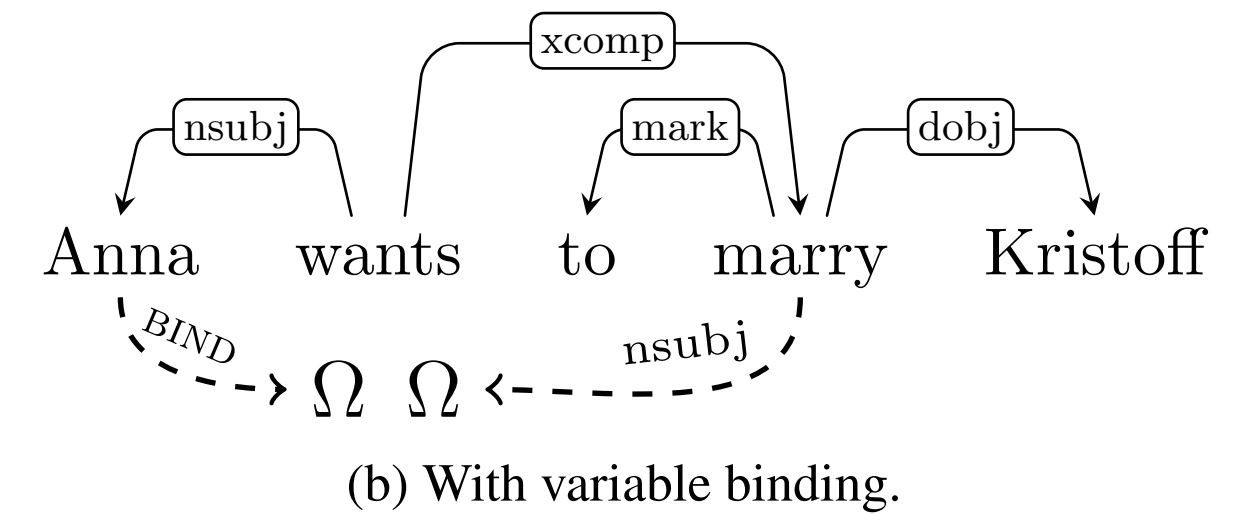
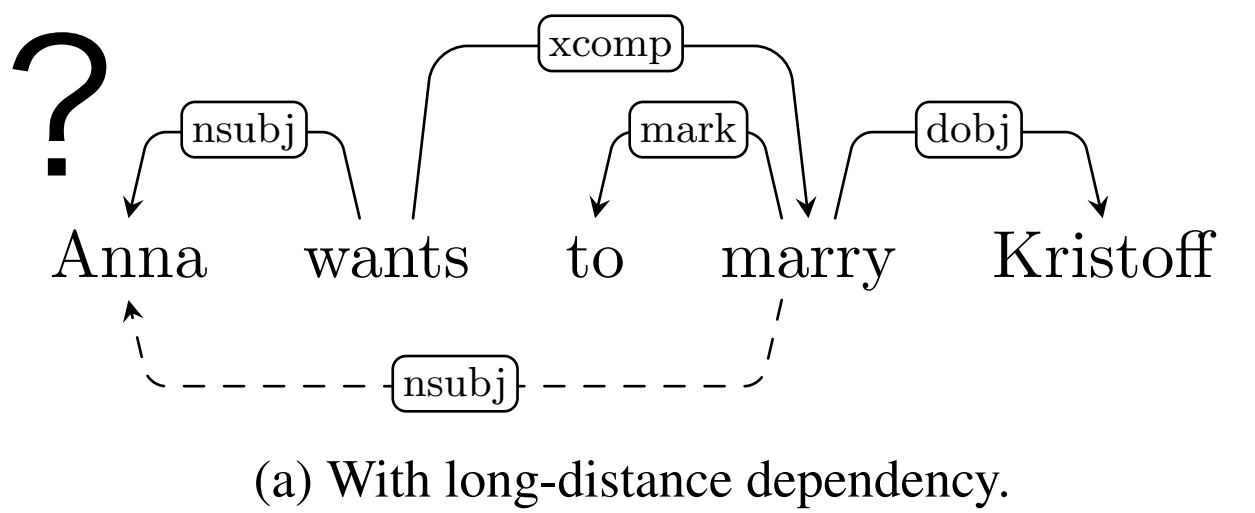


Figure 2: The original and enhanced dependency trees for *Anna wants to marry Kristoff*.

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 - e.g., comparatives (Haruta et al., 2019)

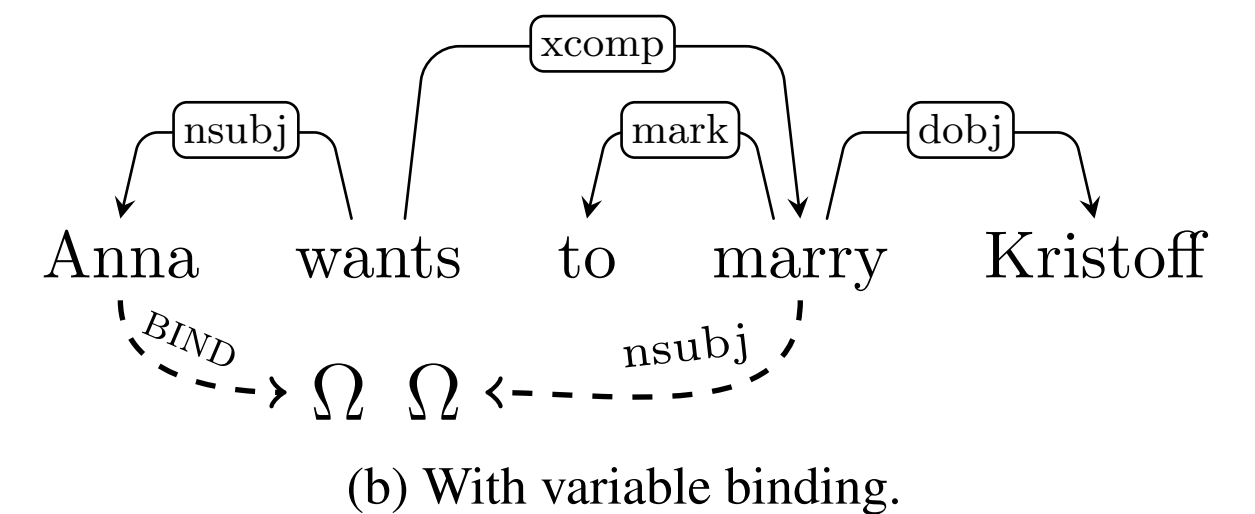
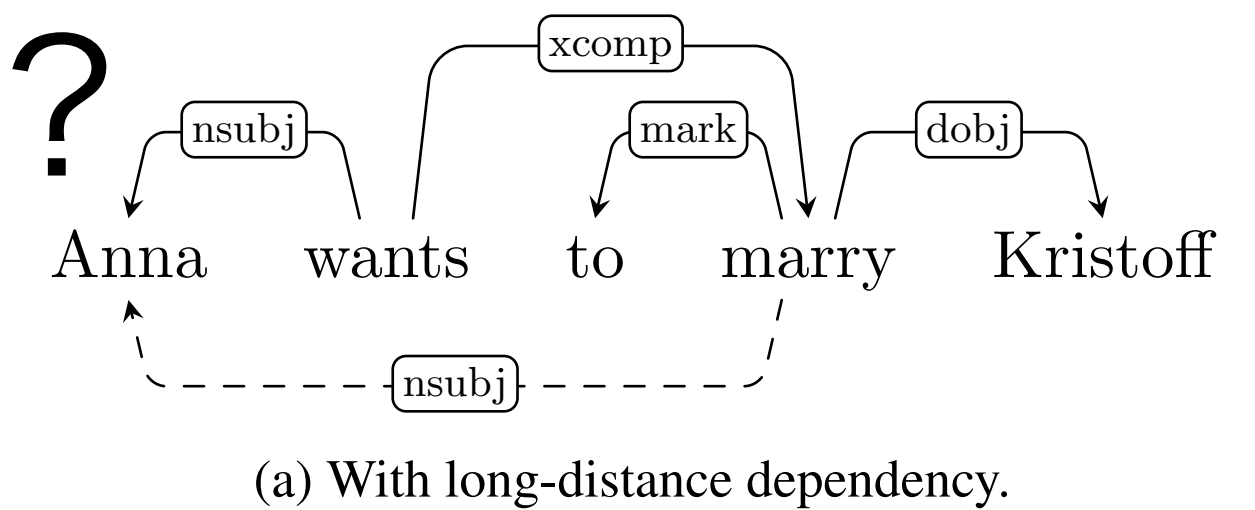


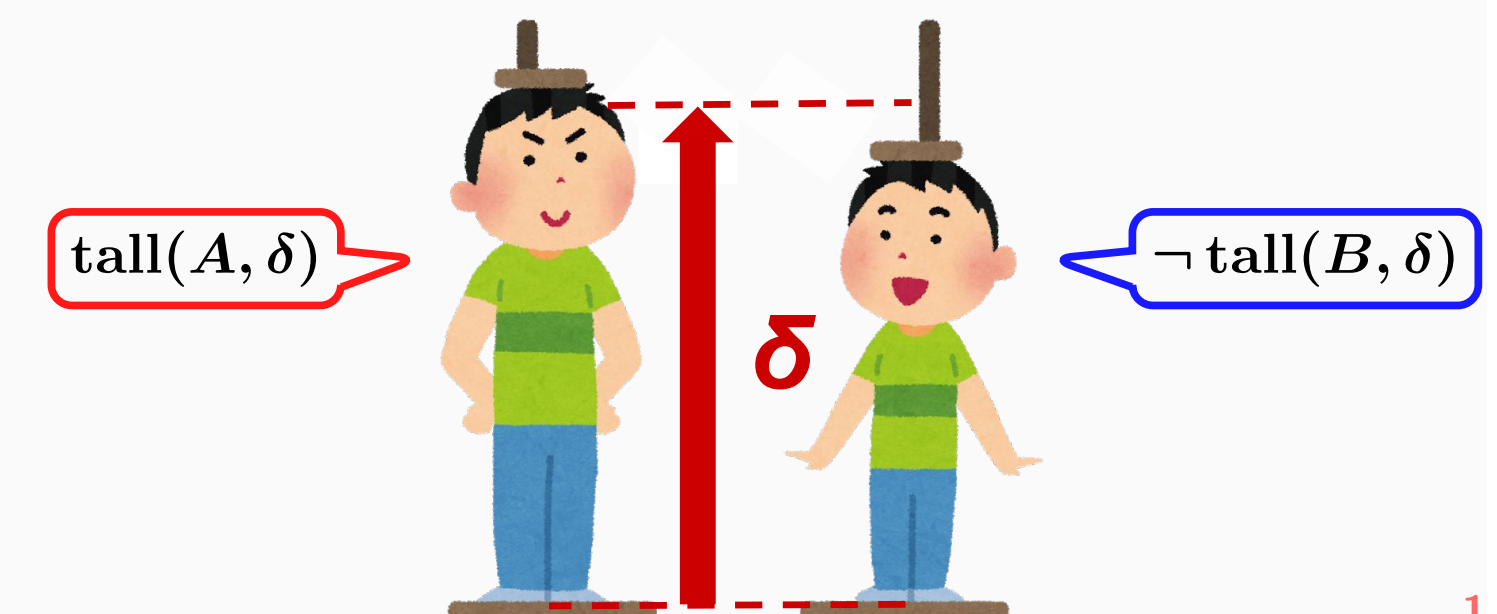
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Positive adjectives

A is taller than B is.

$$\exists \delta (\text{tall}(A, \delta) \wedge \neg \text{tall}(B, \delta))$$

- There exists a degree δ of tallness that A satisfies but B does not.



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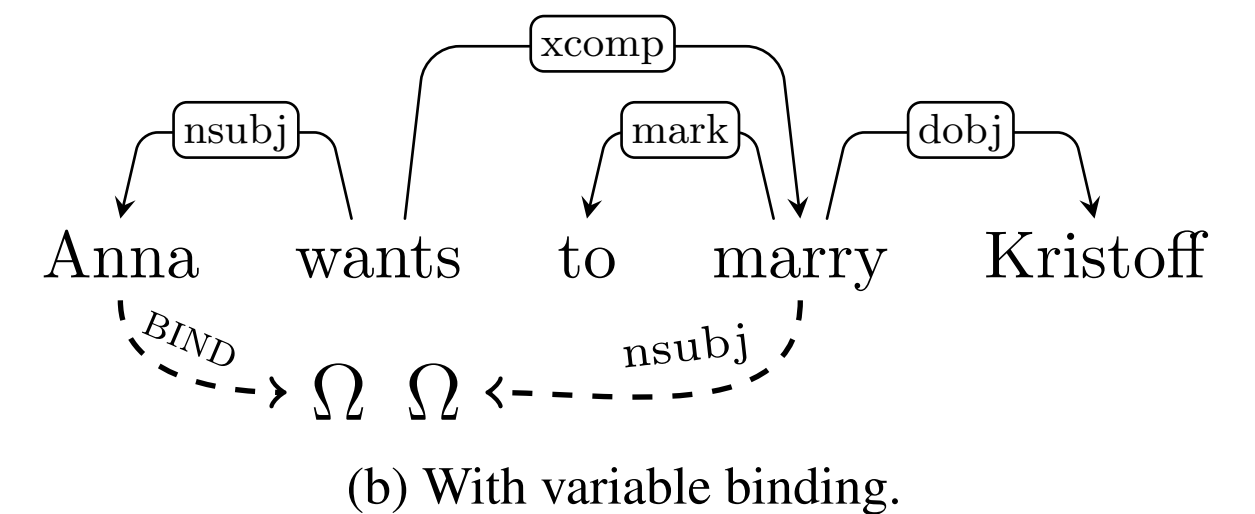
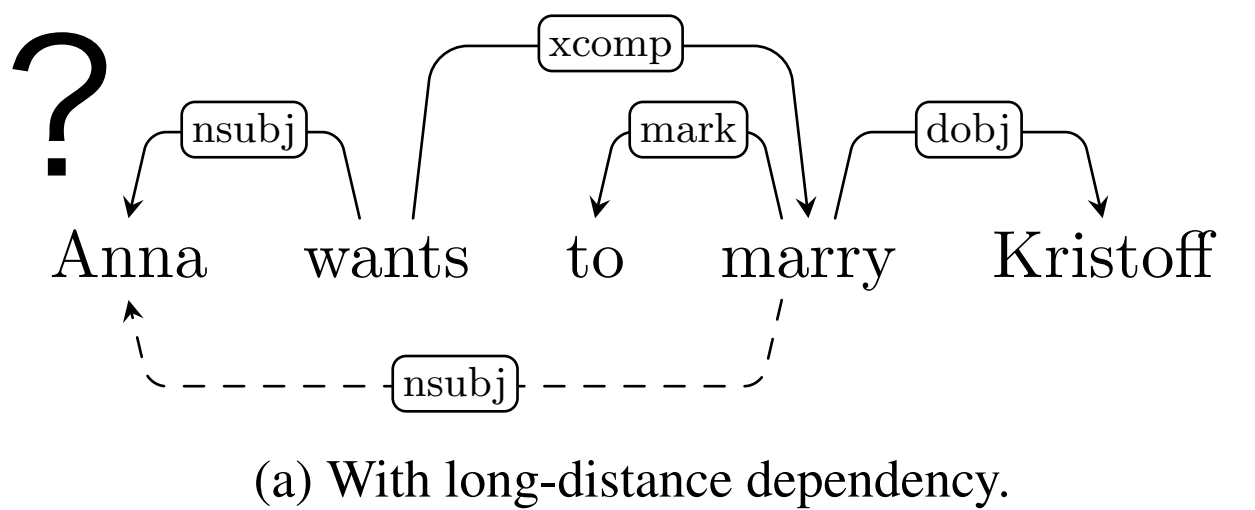


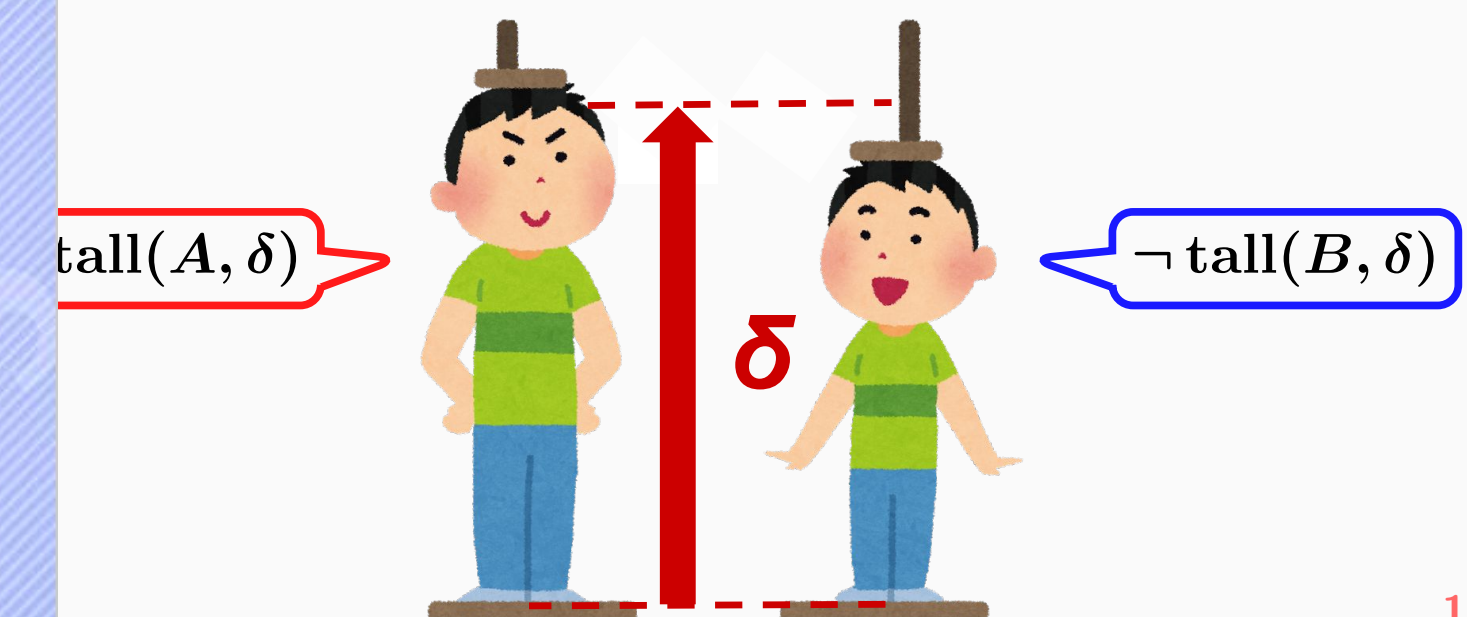
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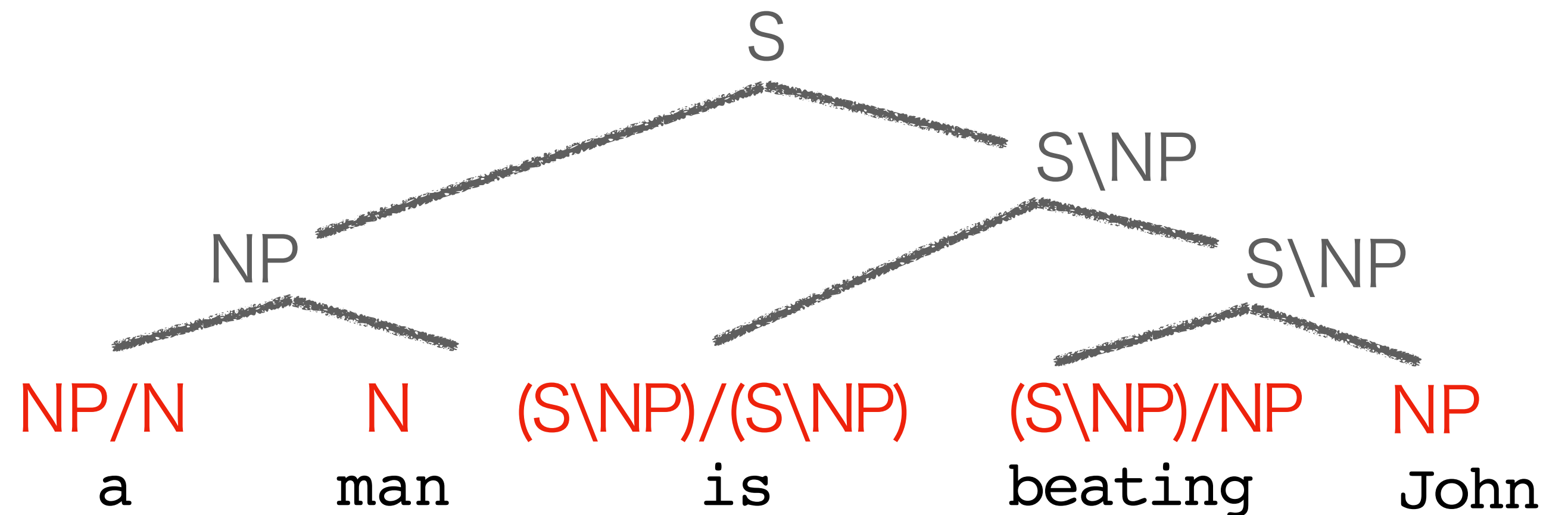
Interesting Model for CCG Parsing

- Category-factored Model (Lewis and Steedman, 2014)
- Complex categories almost uniquely determine higher-level structure
- Exactly same form as POS tagging, but models the entire tree!

• Note: computing $\arg \max_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} p(\mathbf{y} | \mathbf{x})$ is not trivial (CKY parsing is needed)

← set of valid CCG trees

$$p(\mathbf{y} | \mathbf{x}) = \prod p_{tag}(c_i | \mathbf{x})$$



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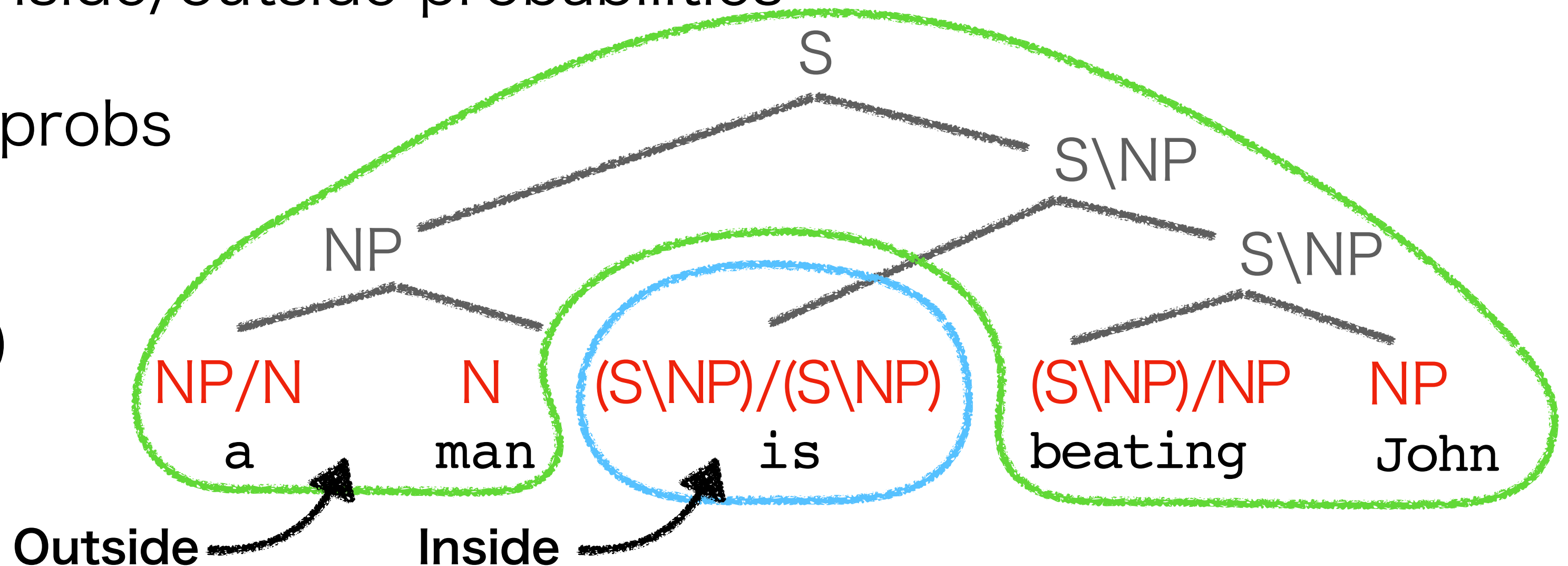
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← **set of valid CCG trees**

- (Advantage) Easy to compute inside/outside probabilities
- Even upper bounds on these probs

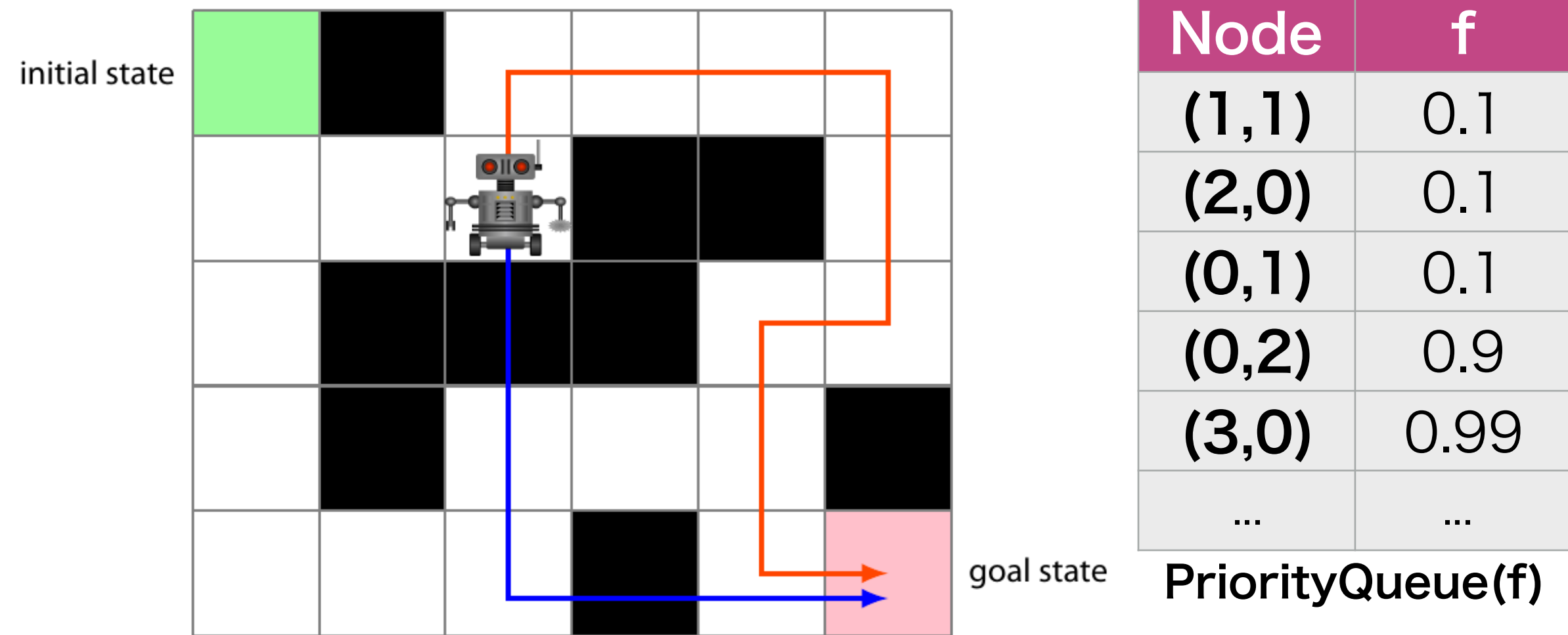
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Efficient A^* Parsing

Klein & Manning, 2003

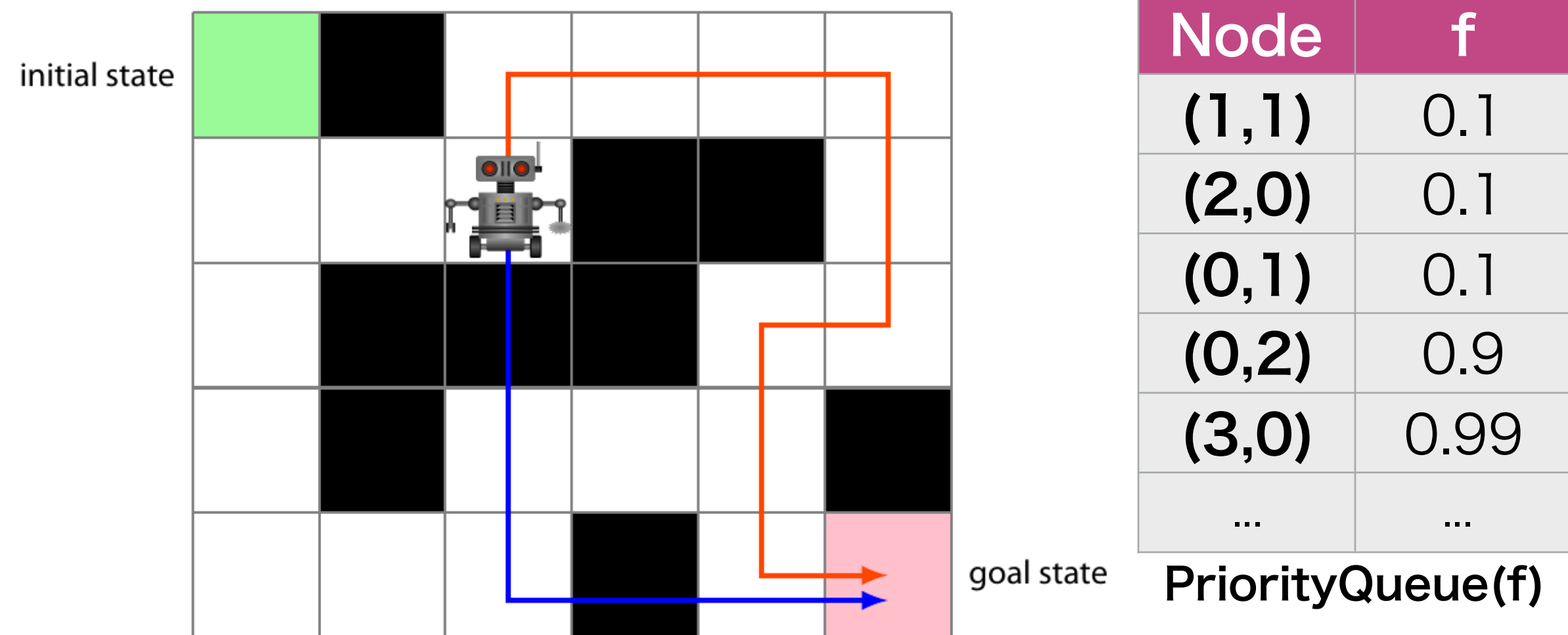
Shortest Path Problem



- Searches based on $f = g + h$
- g : Sum of the cost to the node
- h : Estimate on the cost to the goal
 - e.g. Manhattan distance

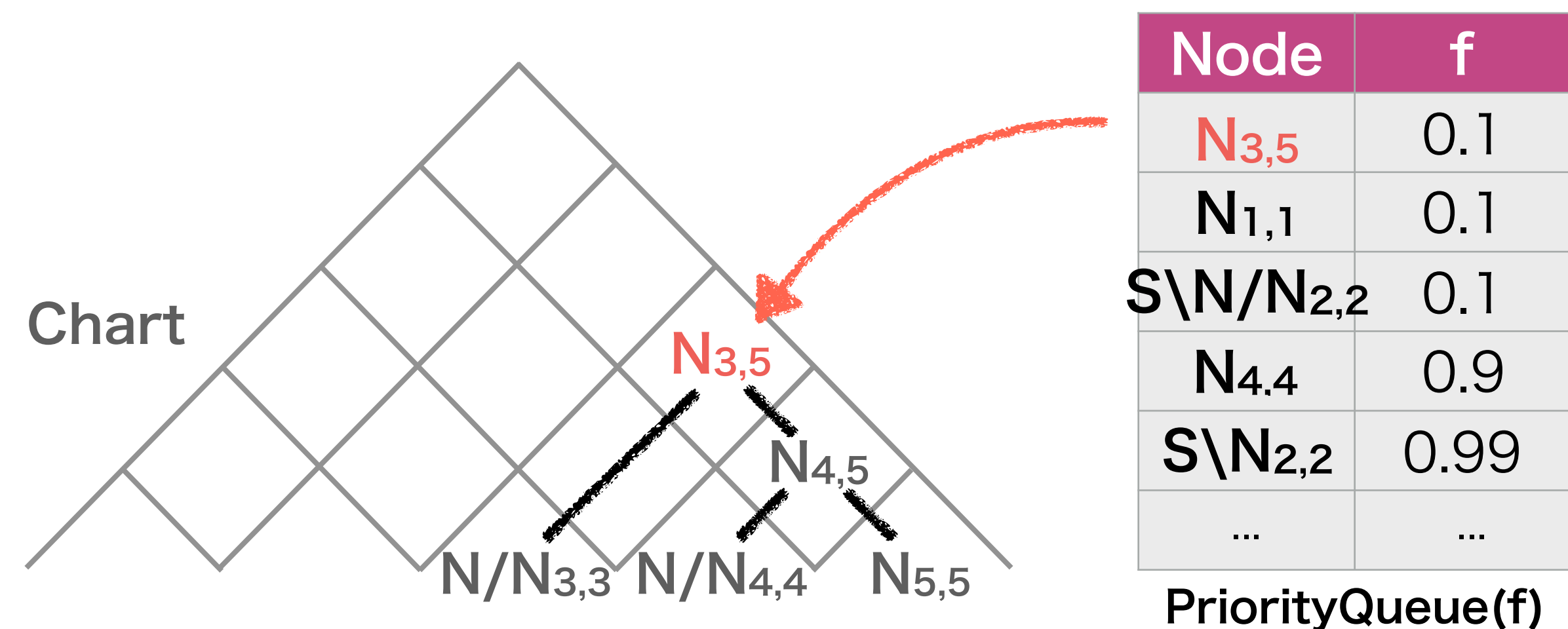
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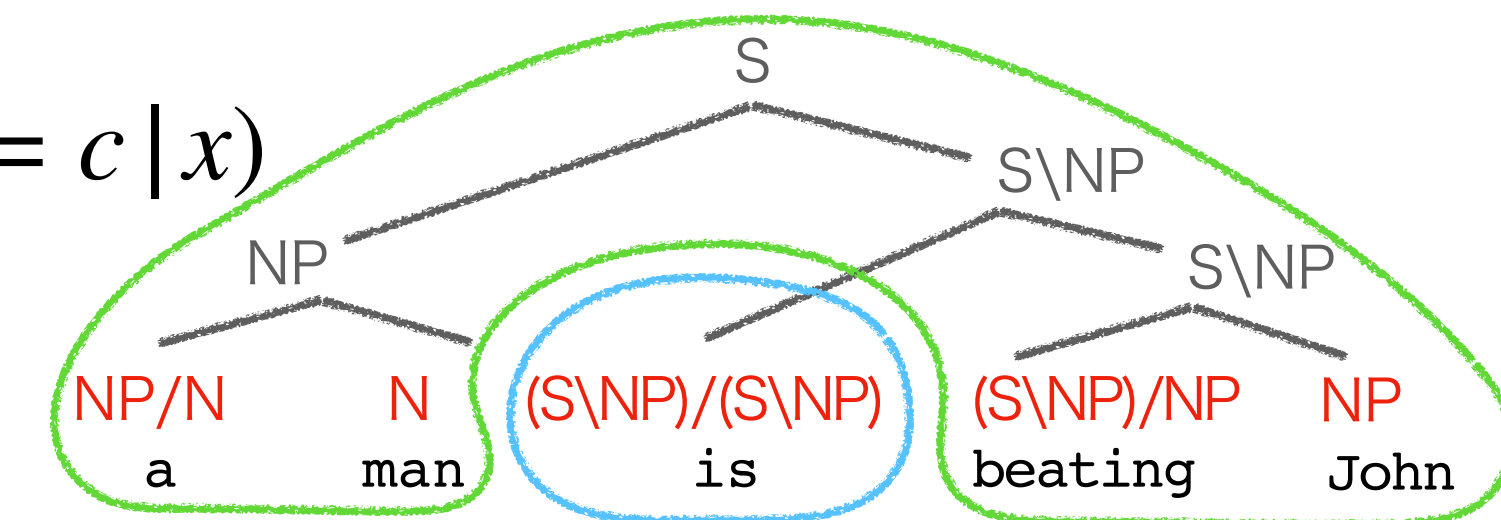
A*-based Chart Parsing



- Searches based on $f = g + h$
- g : Inside probability
- h : Upper bound on outside probability

$$\sum_i \max_c p_{tag}(c_i = c | x)$$

Very efficient while guaranteeing the optimality of the solution!

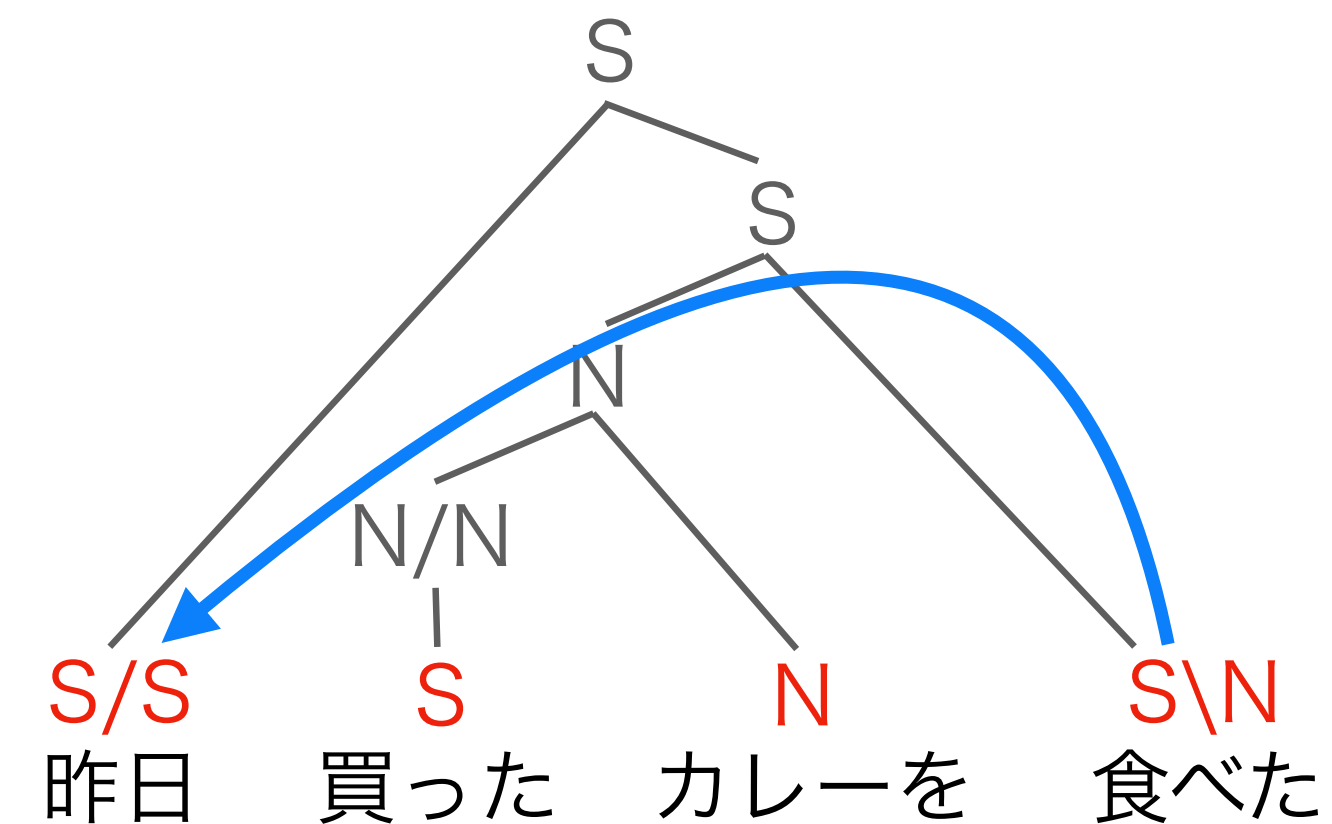
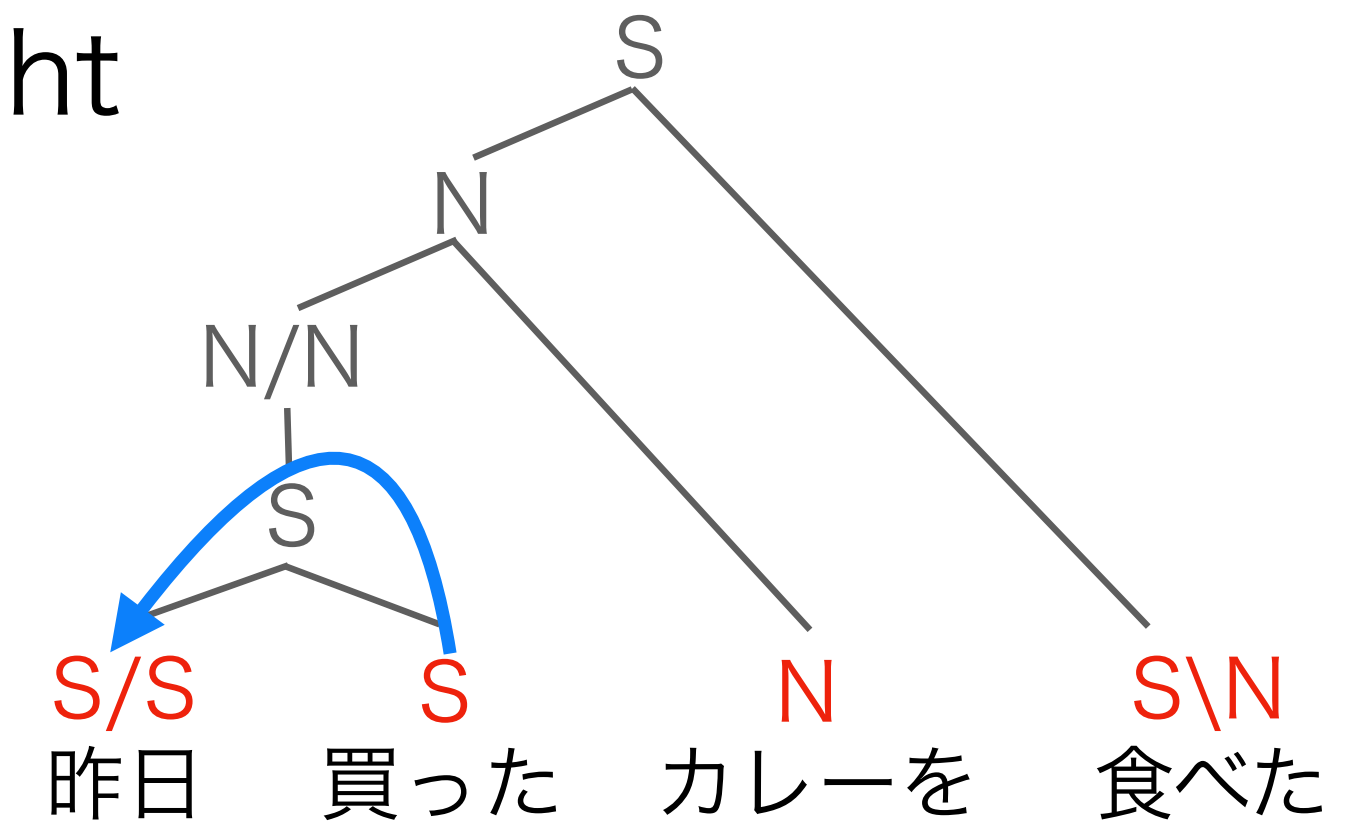


However..

- Modeling Japanese sentence structures with this model is not so reliable
- It assigns the exactly same probabilities to the structures right
- The kind of ambiguities that must be addressed in parsing!

- 🤔 **Dilemma:**

- **Want** to extend the model to achieve higher expressivity
 - Extension with TreeLSTMs (Lee et al., 2016)
- **Do not want** to lose the original merits
 - Efficiency and optimality guarantee

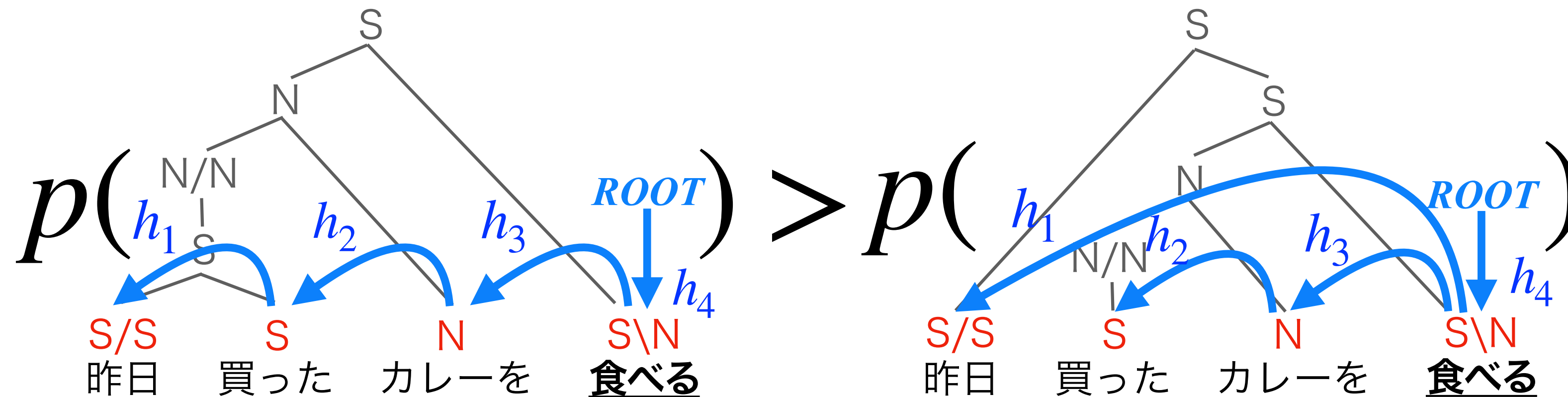


My Previous Contribution

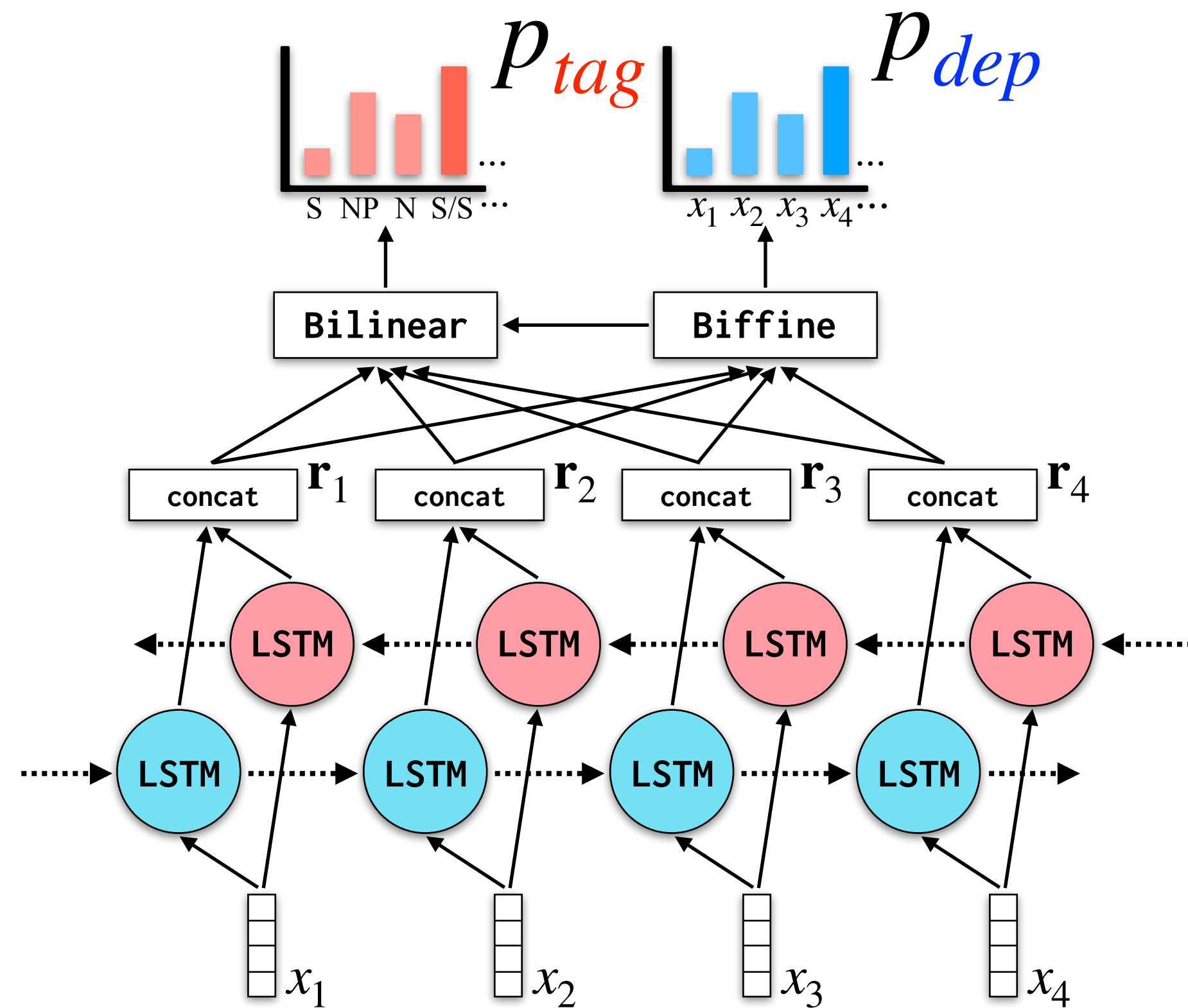
- Category and Dependency-factored Model (Yoshikawa et al., 2017)
- Model the higher-level structure through dependency edges

$$p(\mathbf{y} | \mathbf{x}) = \prod p_{tag}(\mathbf{c}_i | \mathbf{x}) \times \underline{\prod p_{dep}(\mathbf{h}_i | \mathbf{x})}$$

- The probability is decomposable: A* parsing is available!
- The all quantities required in A* search can be pre-computed
- Efficiency and optimality guarantee



Calculating p_{tag} and p_{dep}



- biLSTM-based vectors: \mathbf{r}_i
- Best-performing dependency parsing method (Dozat et al., 2017) is utilized:

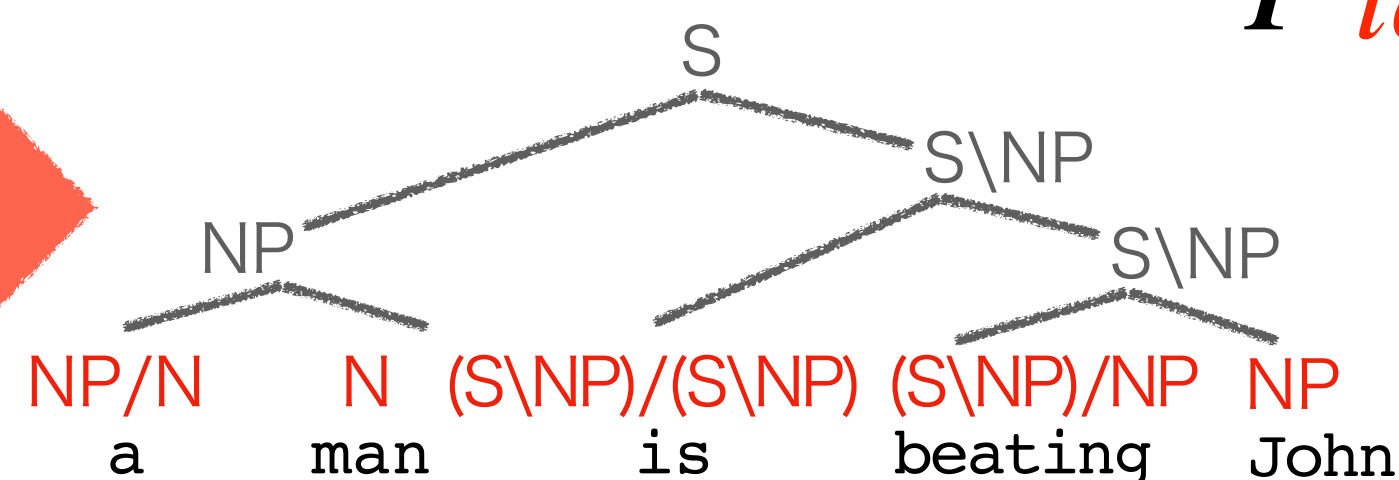
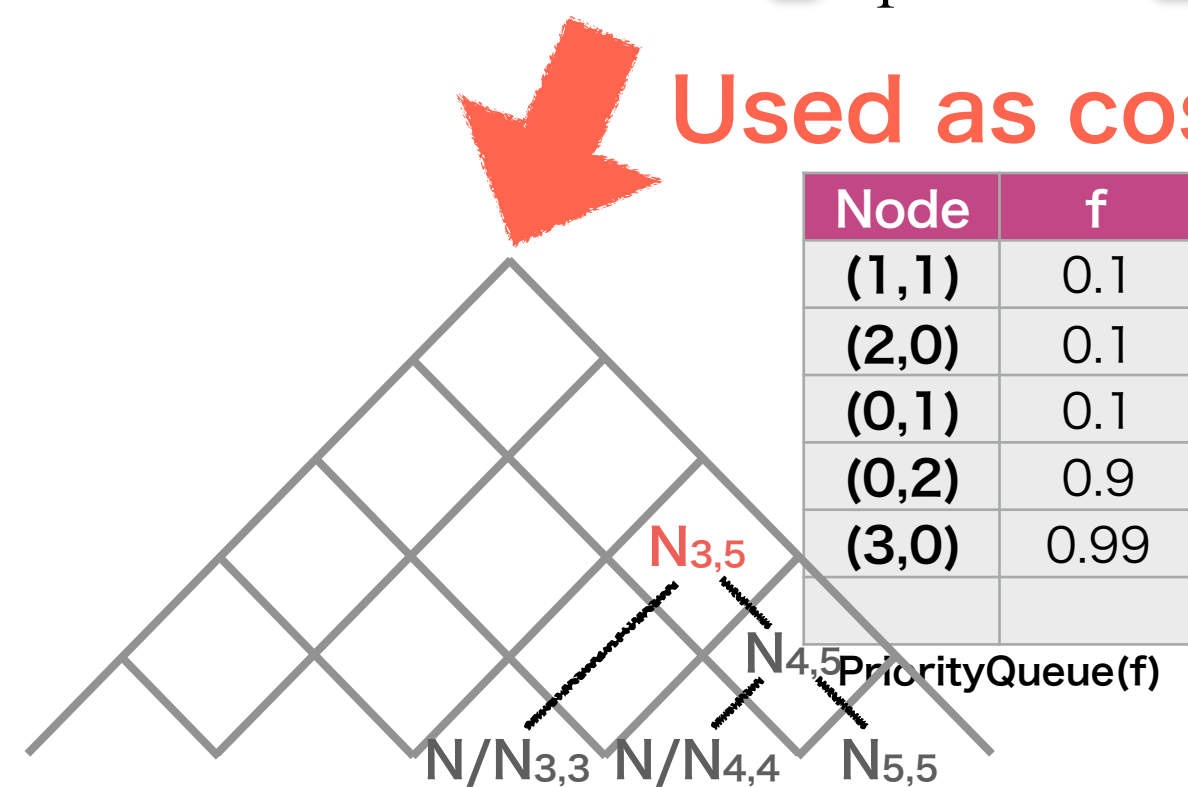
- Biaffine layer to model dependencies

$$p_{dep}(x_j \rightarrow x_i) \propto \mathbf{r}_i^T W \mathbf{r}_j + \mathbf{r}_i^T \mathbf{u}$$

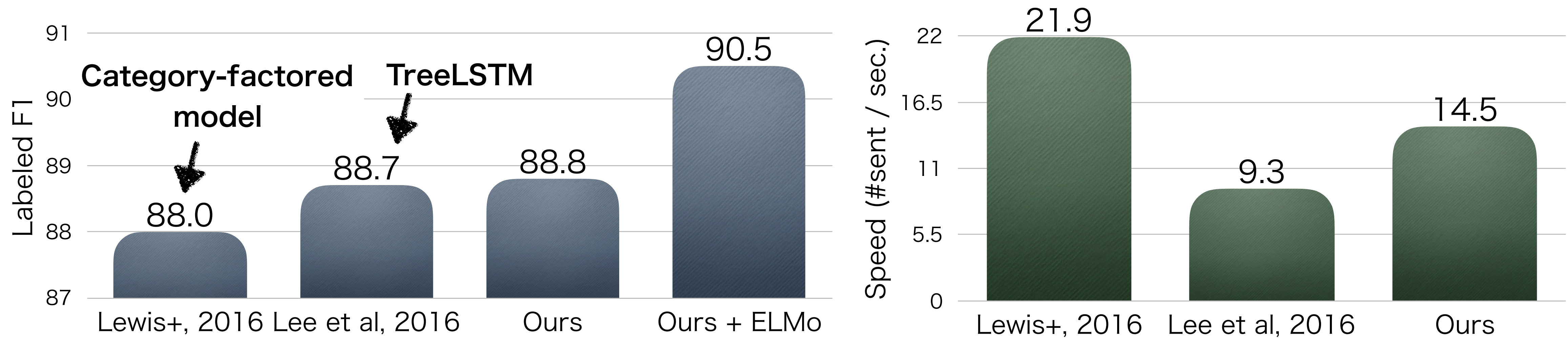
- Bilinear layer to model categories

$$p_{tag}(c_i = c) \propto \mathbf{r}_i^T W_c \mathbf{r}_{i_head}$$

Used as costs in A* search

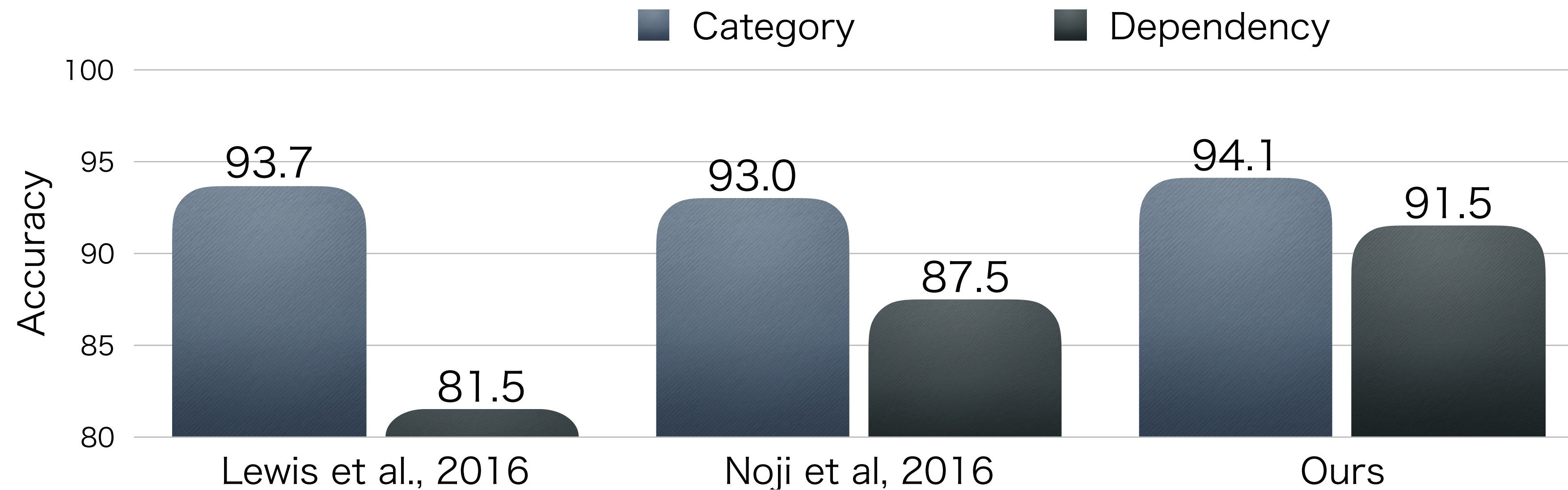


Experiments on English CCGbank



- English CCGbank (Hockenmeier and Steedman, 2007)
 - the same set of sentences as WSJ
- Accuracy: the proposed method achieved the best score
- Speed: it is more efficient than the powerful TreeLSTM-based method

Experiments on Japanese CCGbank



- Japanese CCGbank (Uematsu et al., 2013)
 - the same set as Kyoto University Text Corpus (Mainichi newspaper)
- (Noji et al., 2016): Shift-reduce CCG parser with a linear model
- For Japanese language, modeling the level higher than per-terminal is crucial

Summary so far

- I introduced CCG and my previous work on its parsing algorithm
- CCG provides elegant explanations for linguistic phenomena for various languages
- I proposed an efficient CCG parsing model, utilizing dependencies within a CCG tree
 - The proposed method is especially effective for the Japanese language
- Next, I'd like to talk about an inference system based on CCG, for solving Recognizing Textual Inference task

```
→ ~ pip install allennlp depccg
→ ~ allennlp train --include-package depccg.models.my_allennlp -s results supertagger.jsonnet
→ ~ echo "CCG parsing is fun" | depccg_en --model results/model.tar.gz --format deriv --silent
1..
ID=1, log probability=-0.2000395804643631
CCG parsing is fun
N/N N (S[dc1]\NP)/NP N
----->
N
-----<un>
NP
```

```
$ pip install depccg
$ depccg_en download
```

Part Two:

Combining Axiom Injection and Knowledge Base Completion for Efficient Natural Language Inference

Masashi Yoshikawa[◆], Koji Mineshima[★], Hiroshi Noji[♥], Daisuke Bekki[★]

◆ Nara Institute of Science and Technology

★ Ochanomizu University

♥ Artificial Intelligence Research Center, AIST

*presented at AAAI-33

NAIST[®]



Recognizing Textual Entailment

a.k.a. Natural Language Inference

Premise(s)

P1: Clients at the demonstration were all impressed by the system's performance.

P2: Smith was a client at the demonstration.

Hypothesis

H: Smith was impressed by the system's performance.

`{entailment, contradiction, unknown}`

- A testbed to evaluate if a machine can reason as we do
 - lexical, logical, syntactic phenomena, etc.
- Elemental technology for improving other NLP tasks
 - Question answering, reading comprehension, etc.

ccg2lambda (Mineshima et al., 2015)

Premise (P)
& Hypothesis (H)

Syntactic Parsing

CCG Derivations

Semantic Parsing

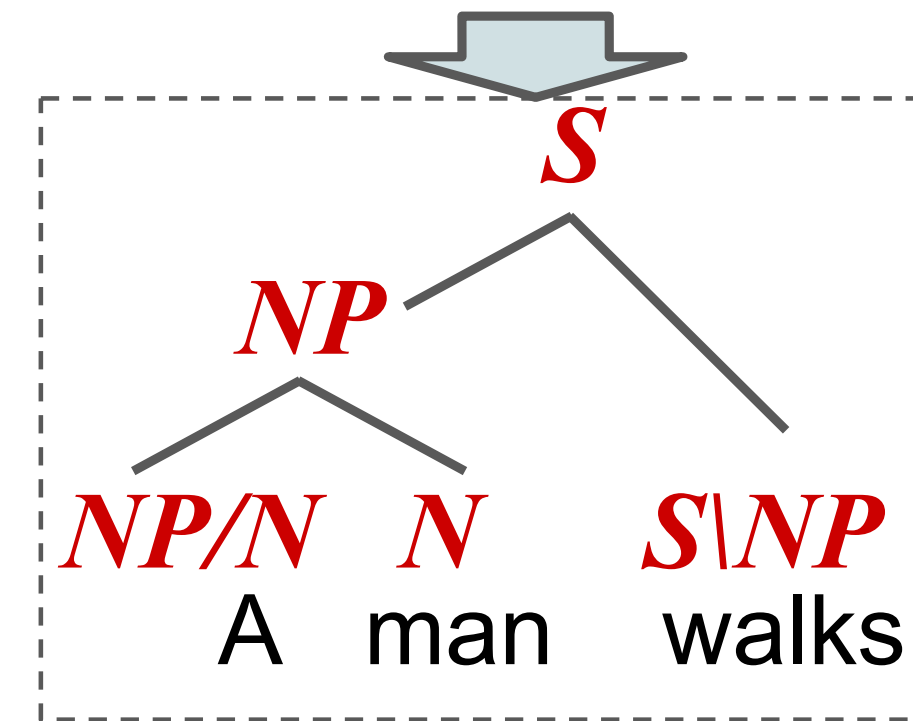
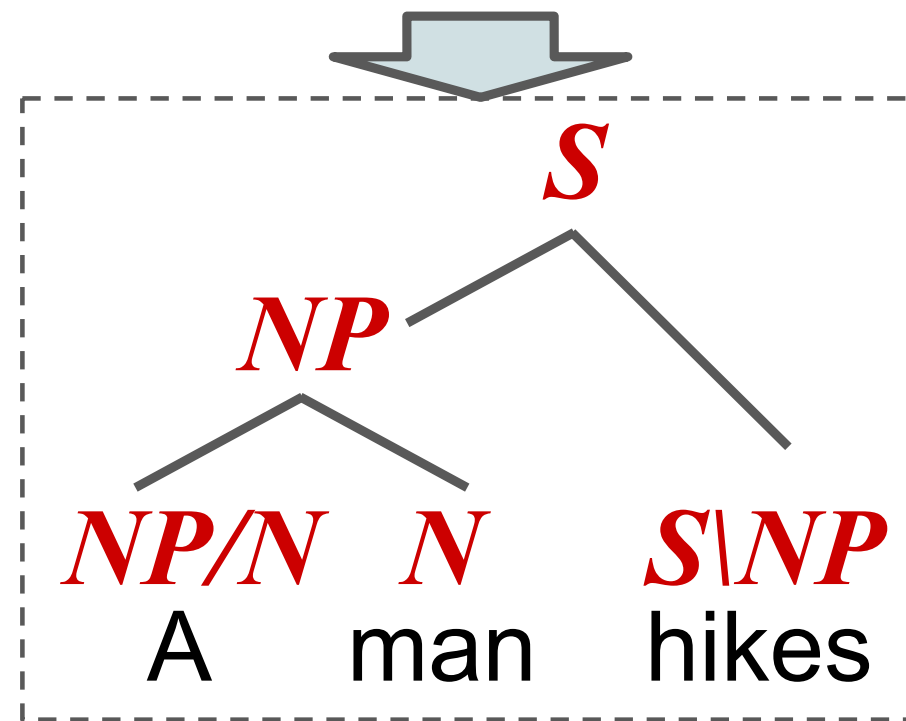
Logical Formulas

Theorem Proving

{ yes, no, unknown }

P: A man hikes.

H: A man walks.

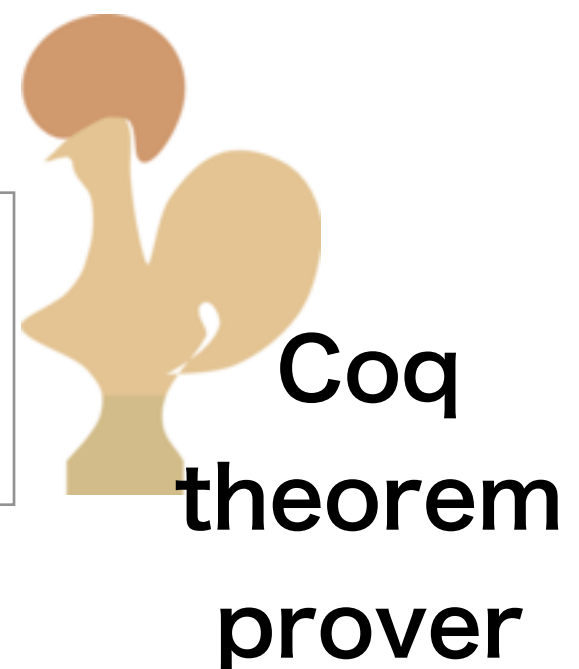


$\exists x. \text{man}(x) \wedge \exists e. \text{hike}(e) \wedge \text{subj}(e, x)$

$\exists x. \text{man}(x) \wedge \exists e. \text{walk}(e) \wedge \text{subj}(e, x)$

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Coq < Proof. ccg2lambda. Qed.
```

result: unknown



ccg2lambda (Mineshima et al., 2015)

Premise (P)
& Hypothesis (H)

Syntactic Parsing

CCG Derivations

Semantic Parsing

Logical Formulas

Theorem Proving

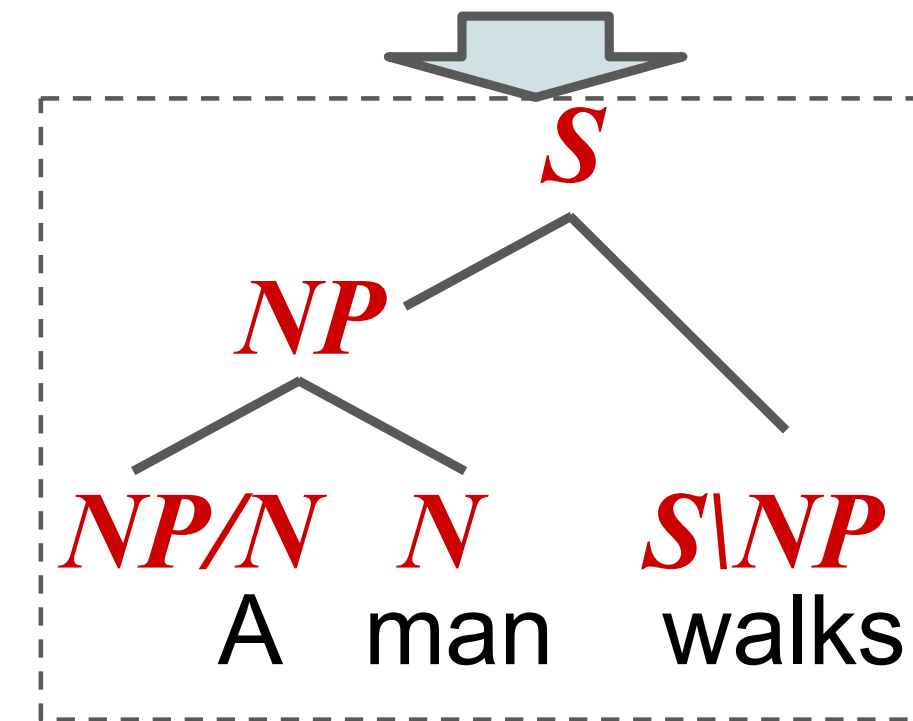
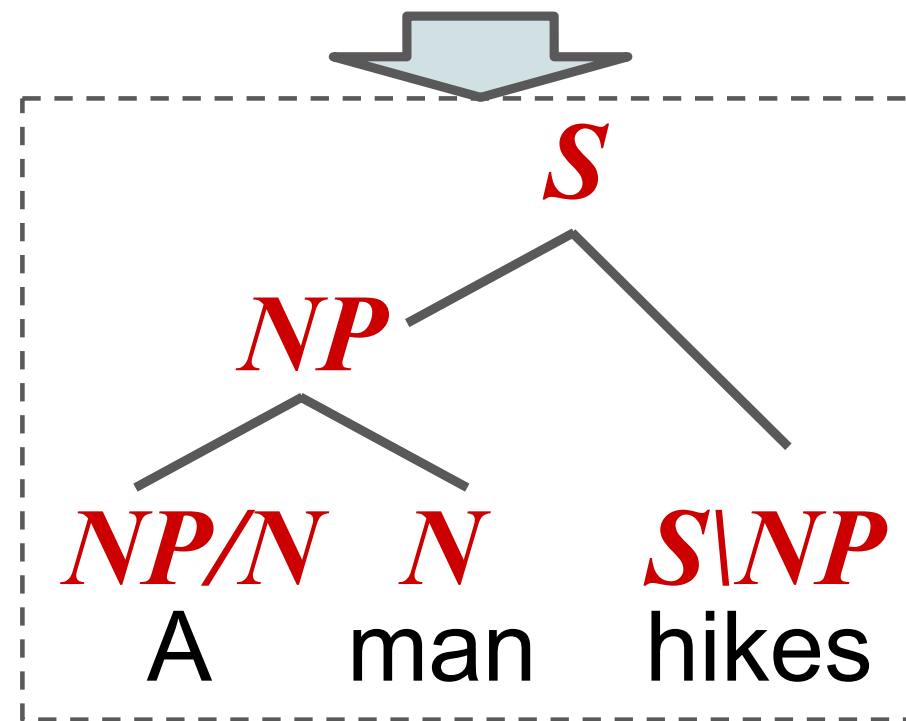
{ yes, no, unknown }

👍 Unsupervised

👍 Captures linguistic phenomena
- 83.6 % accuracy in SICK

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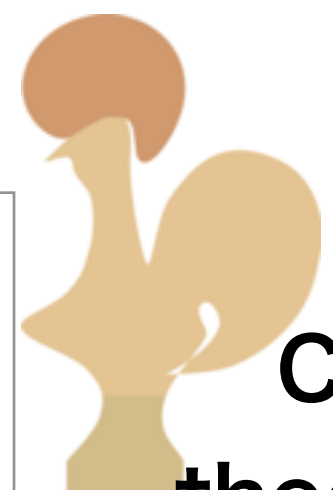


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```

result: unknown

 Coq
theorem
prover

ccg2lambda (Mineshima et al., 2015)

Premise (P)
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Syntactic Parsing

CCG Derivations

Semantic Parsing

Logical Formulas

Theorem Proving

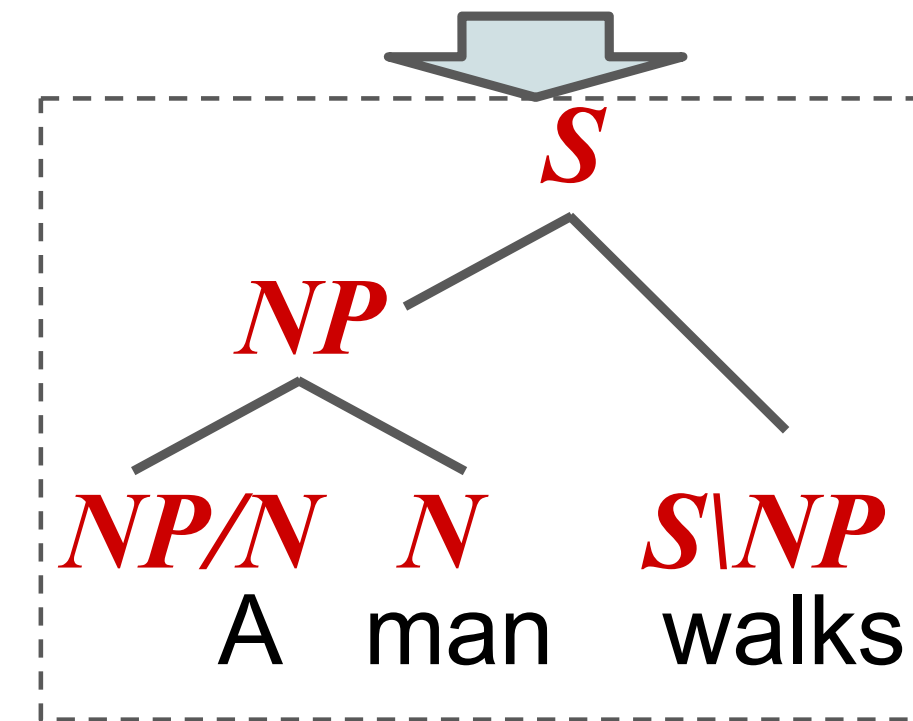
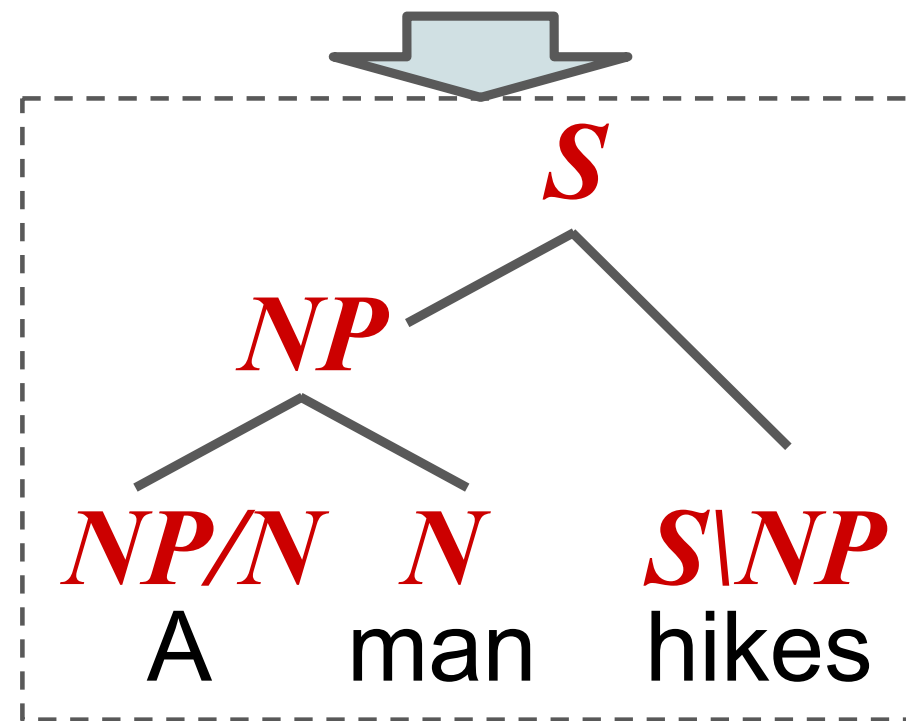
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Coq
theorem
prover

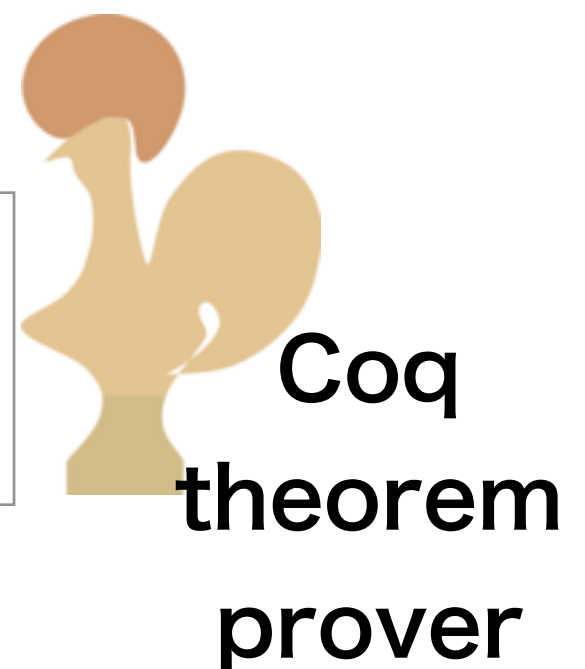
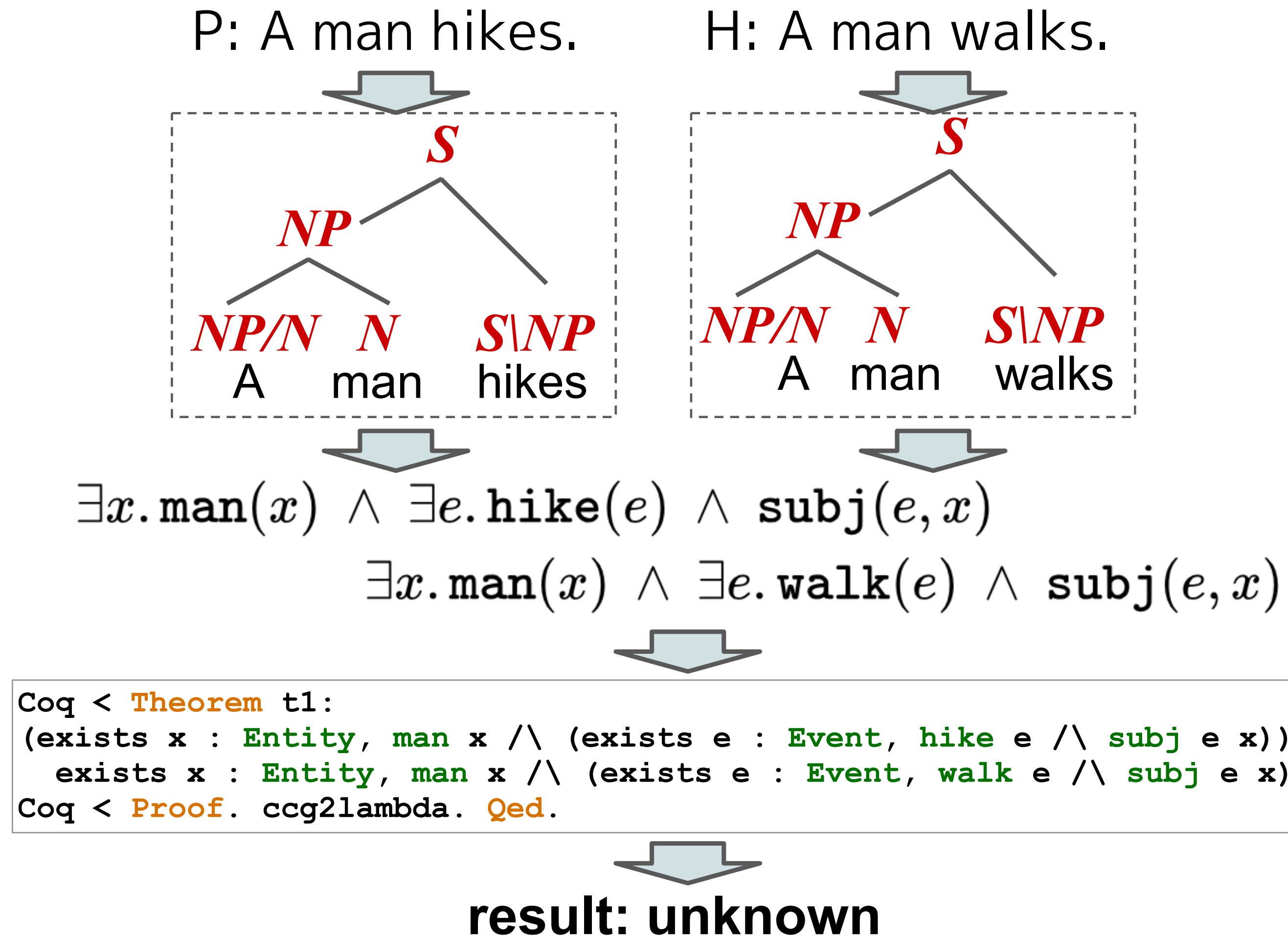
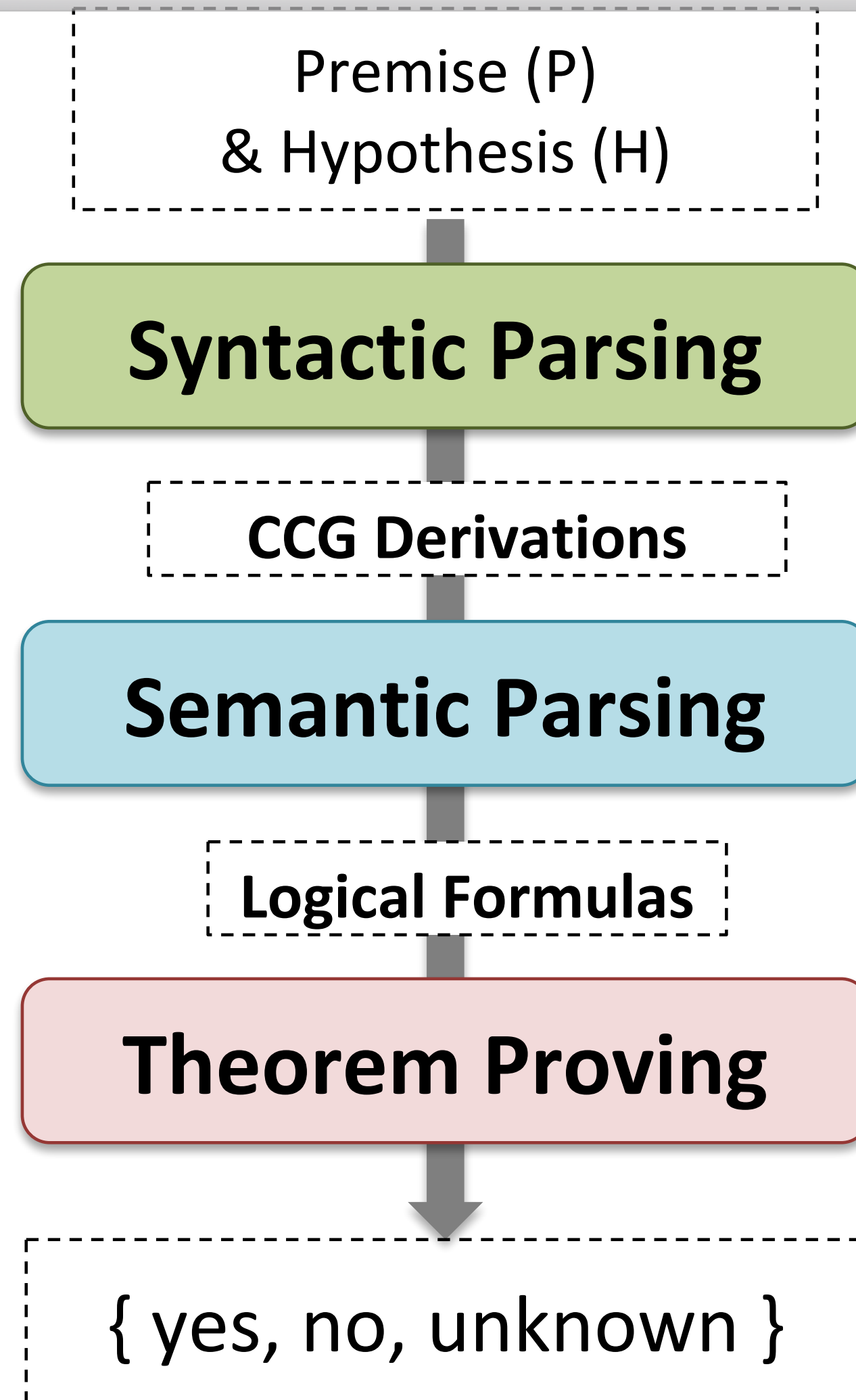
result: unknown

🤔 How to handle external knowledge?

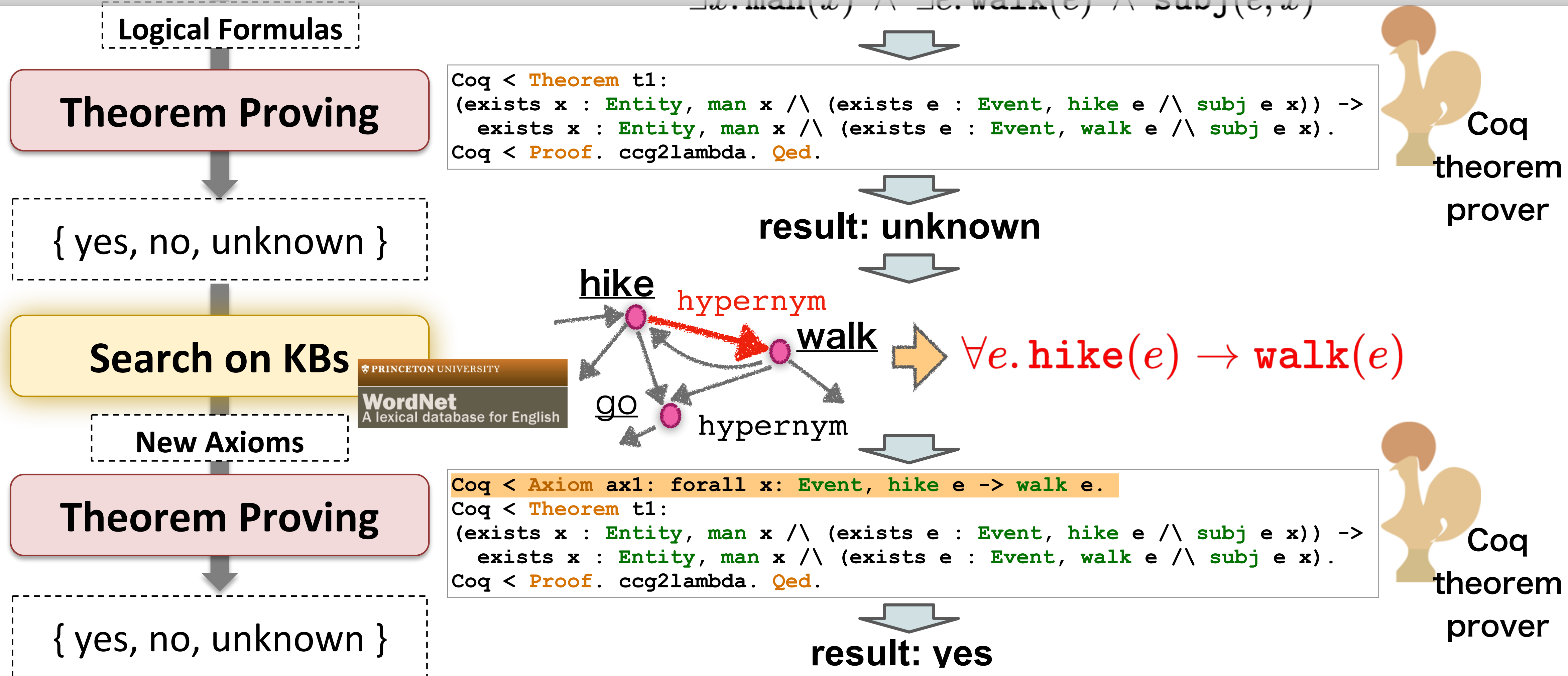
e.g. $\forall x. \text{hike}(x) \rightarrow \text{walk}(x)$

- Use WordNet as axioms blows up
the search space of theorem proving!

"Abduction" mechanism (Martínez-Gómez et al., 2017)



"Abduction" mechanism (Martínez-Gómez et al., 2017)



More steps when the 1st theorem proving is unsuccessful

1. Search KBs (e.g. WordNet) for useful lexical relations
2. Rerun Coq with additional axioms

"Abduction" mechanism (Martínez-Gómez et al., 2017)

- Promising approach to handling external knowledge within a logic-based system

"Abduction" mechanism (Martínez-Gómez et al., 2017)

- Promising approach to handling external knowledge within a logic-based system

- (However,) **Practical issues:**



- We want to **add more knowledge** to increase the coverage of reasoning
- We want the **KBs to be compact** for efficient inference & memory usage

"Abduction" mechanism (Martínez-Gómez et al., 2017)

- Promising approach to handling external knowledge within a logic-based system
- (However,) **Practical issues:**
 - We want to **add more knowledge** to increase the coverage of reasoning
 - We want the **KBs to be compact** for efficient inference & memory usage
- Do not want to run Coq again and again for real applications 😞
 - Ideally, the mechanism should be tightly integrated with the inference for efficiency



"Abduction" mechanism (Martínez-Gómez et al., 2017)

- Promising approach to handling external knowledge within a logic-based system
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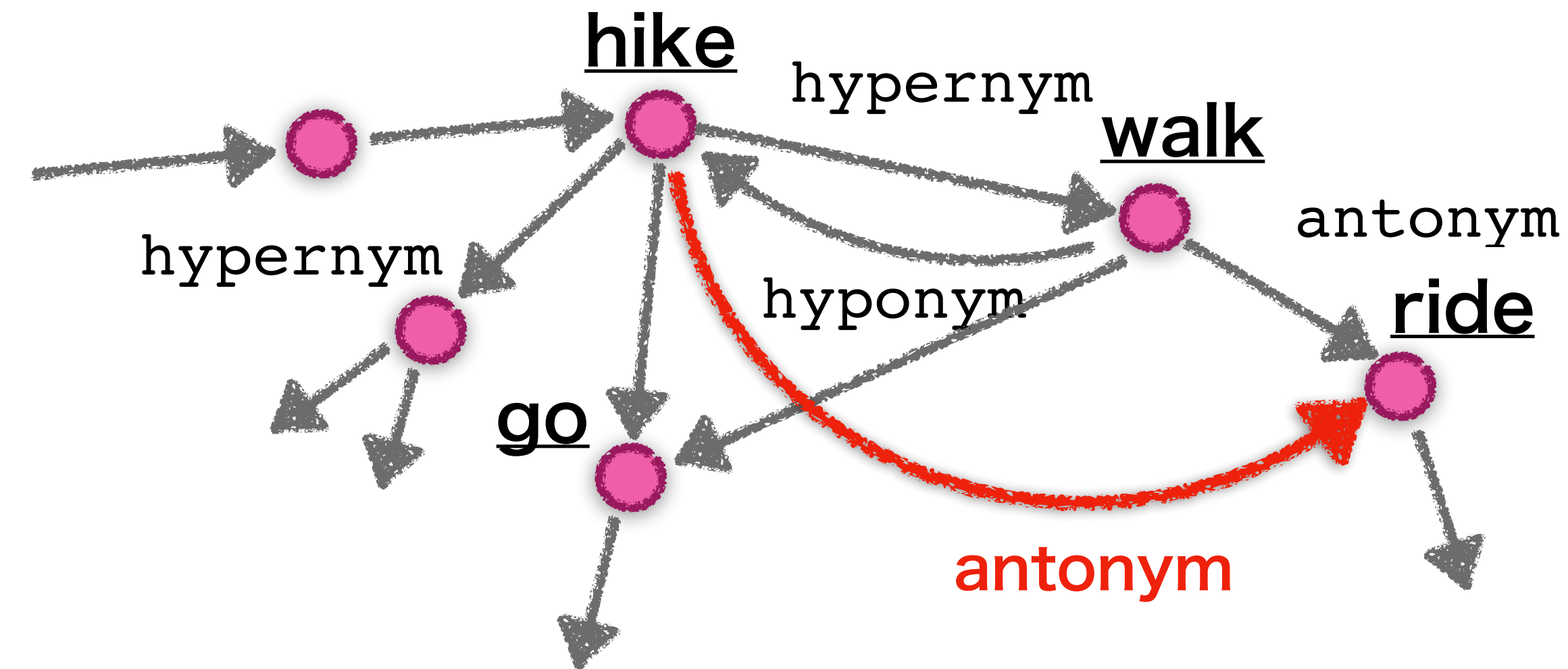
👉 We solve these issues by:

1. Replacing search on KBs by techniques of "Knowledge Base Completion"
2. Developing "**abduction**" Coq plugin



1. Extending Abduction Mechanism with KBC

- **Knowledge Base Completion:**
 - A task to complement missing relations
 - recent huge advancement



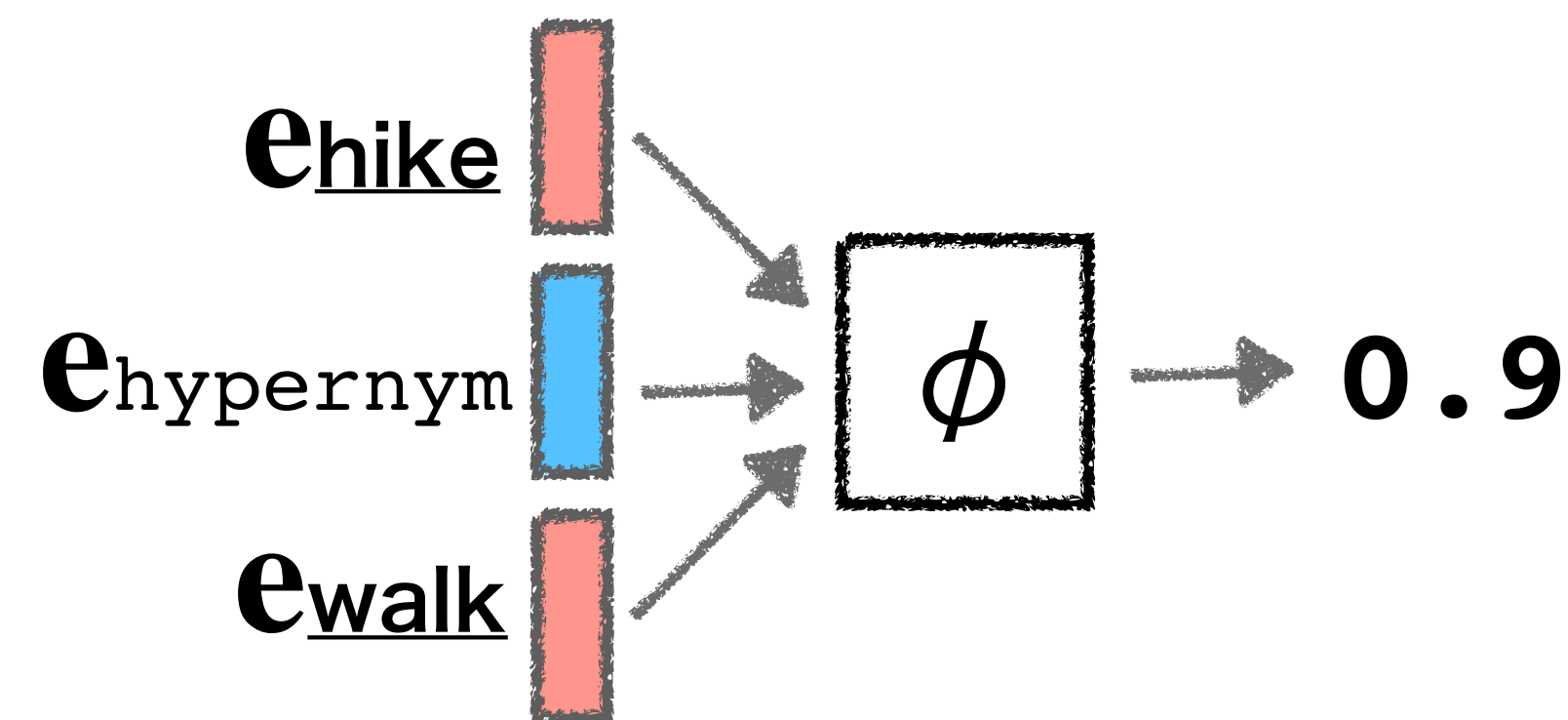
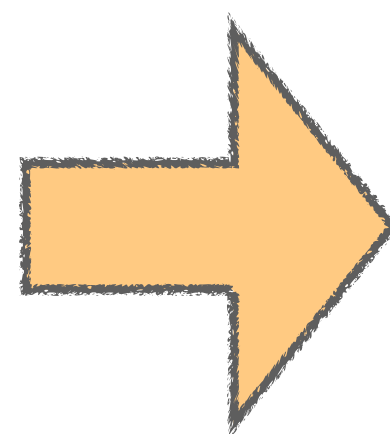
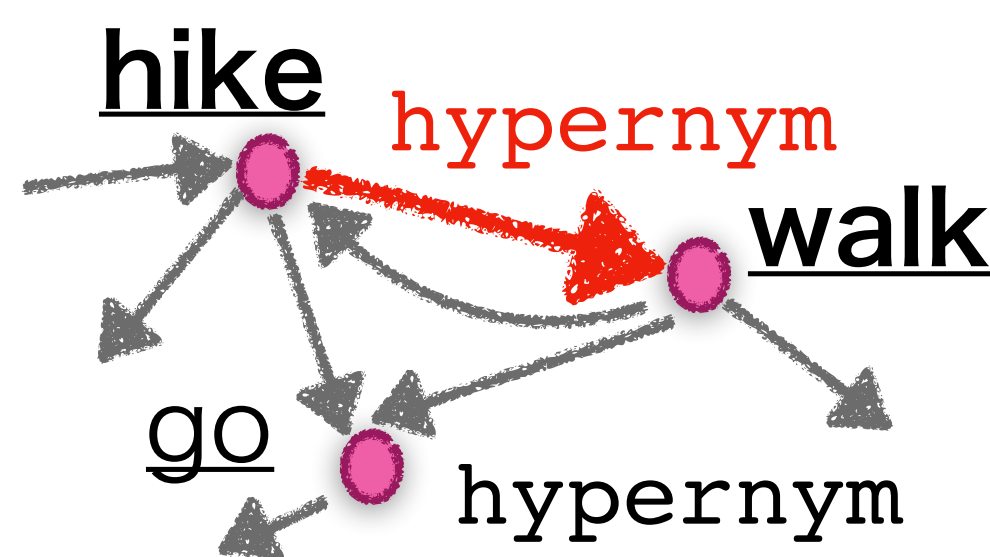
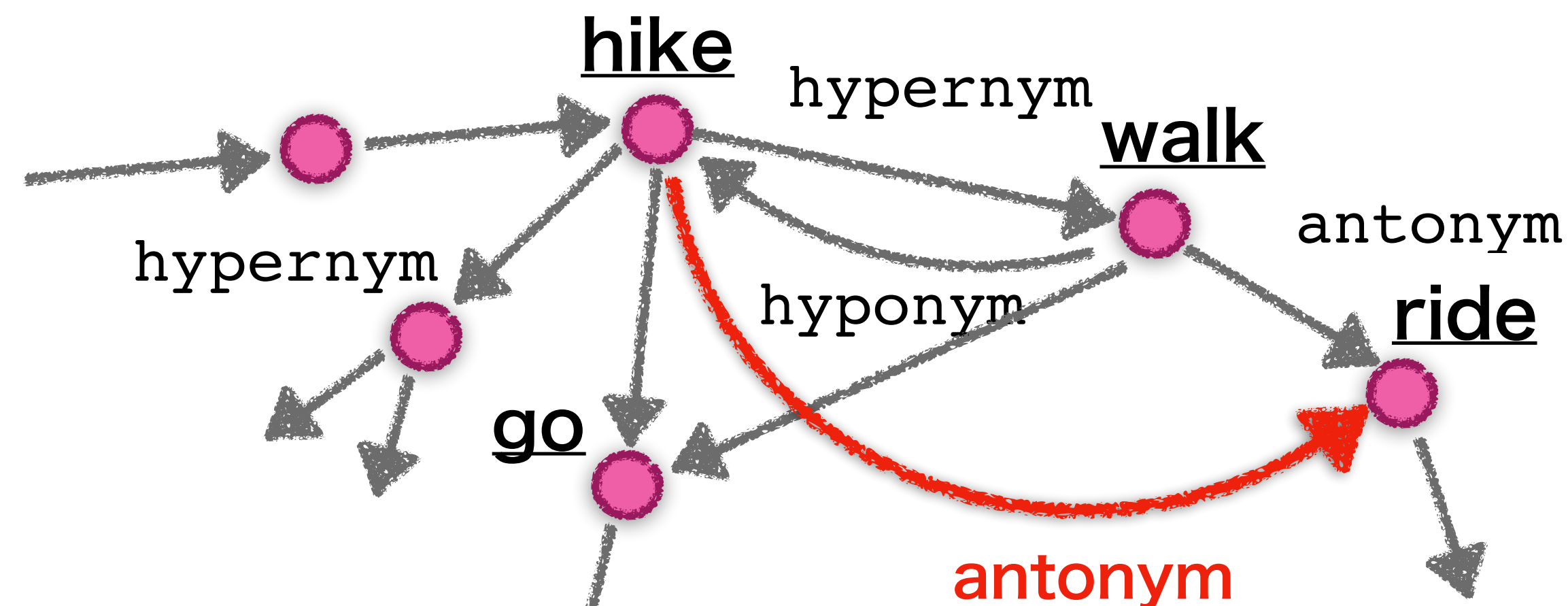
1. Extending Abduction Mechanism with KBC

- **Knowledge Base Completion:**

- A task to complement missing relations
- recent huge advancement

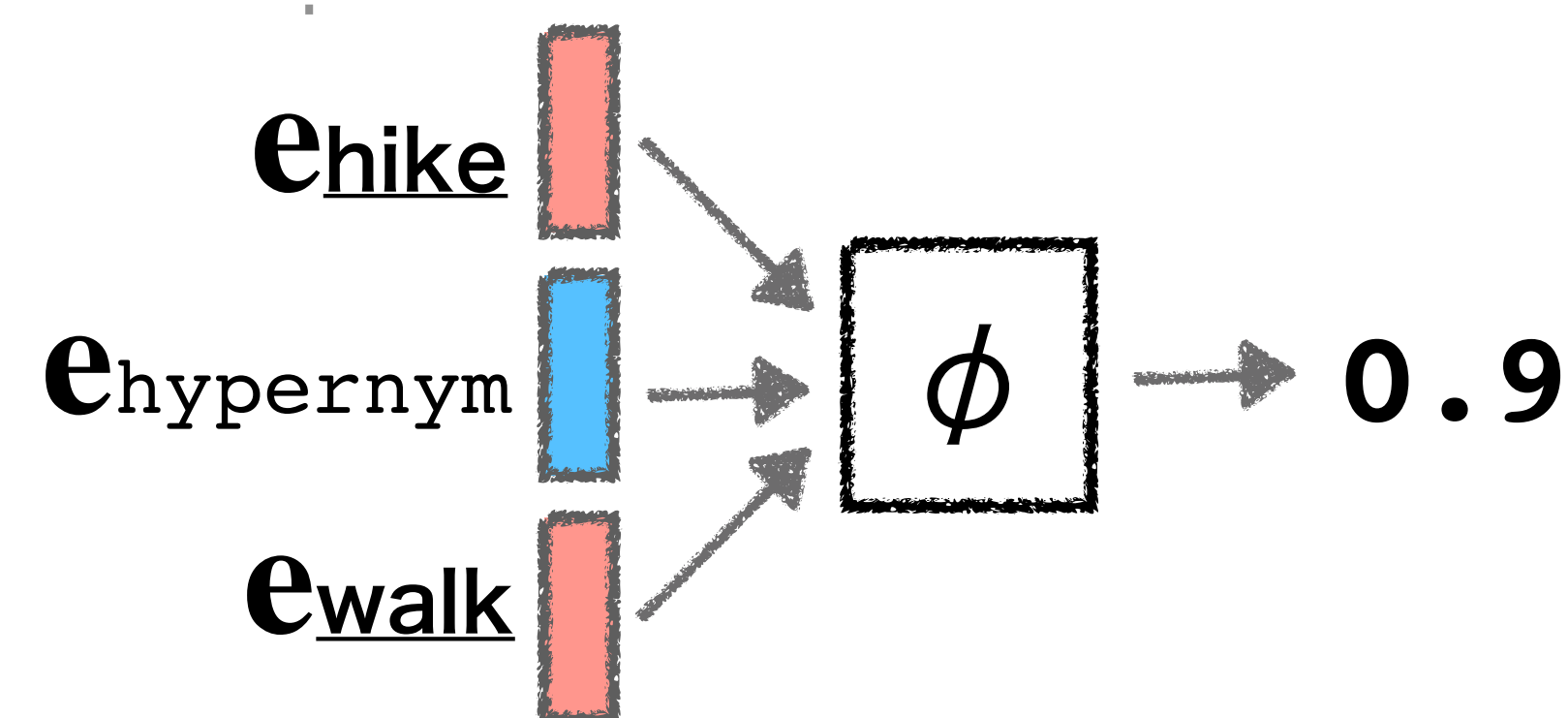
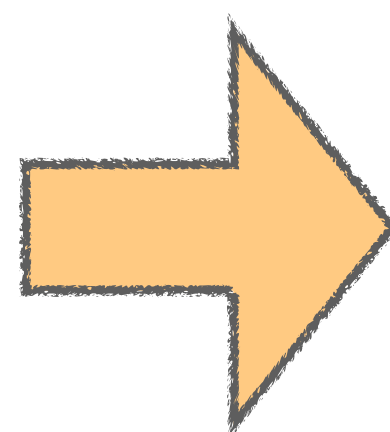
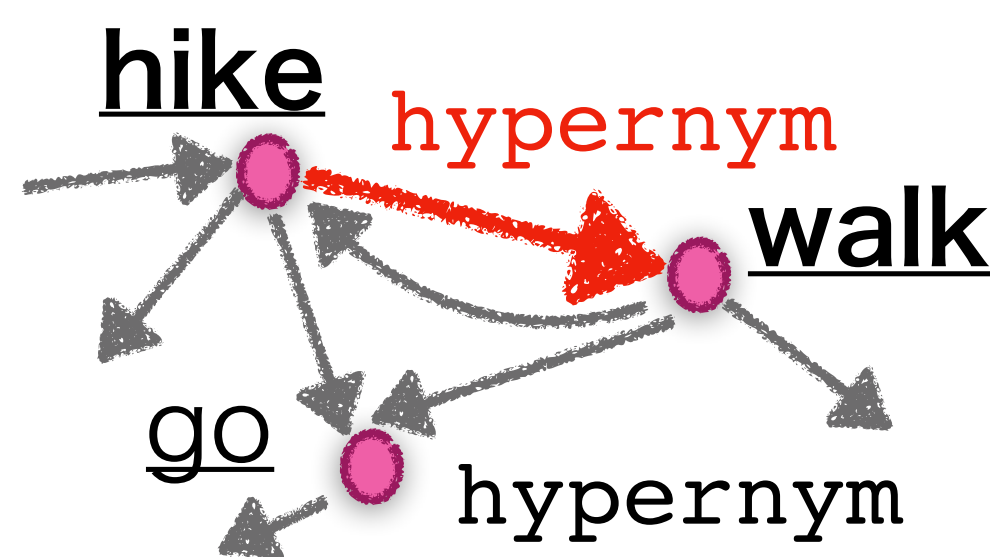
- We propose an **abduction mechanism based on KBC:**

- If (s, r, o) is missing, use it as axiom if $\phi(s, r, o) \geq \delta$ (threshold)
- ComplEx (Trouillon et al., 2016): $\phi(s, r, o) = \sigma(\text{Re}(\langle \mathbf{e}_s, \mathbf{e}_r, \mathbf{e}_o \rangle))$, $\forall \mathbf{e}_v \in \mathbb{C}^n$



1. Extending Abduction Mechanism with KBC

	Search on KB	KBC
Latent Knowledge	Hand-crafted rules (e.g. transitive closure of hypernym)	KBC models learn accurately
Efficiency	Multi-hop reasoning takes time	One dot product (ComplEx)
Scalability	Adding more knowledge harms the search time	Knowledge from VerbOcean (Chklovski et al., 2004) are added for free



2. Faster Reasoning with "**abduction**" Coq plugin

Coq Interactive Session

1 subgoal

```
H : exists x : Entity, man x /\ (exists e : Event, hike e /\ subj e x)
=====
exists x : Entity, man x /\ (exists e : Event, walk e /\ subj e x)
```


2. Faster Reasoning with "**abduction**" Coq plugin

Coq Interactive Session

Lexical gap!

1 subgoal

```
H : exists x : Entity, man x /\ (exists e : Event, hike e /\ subj e x)
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2. Faster Reasoning with "**abduction**" Coq plugin

Coq Interactive Session

Lexical gap!

```
1 subgoal
```

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H : exists x : Entity, man x /\ (exists e : Event, hike e /\ subj e x)
```

```
=====
```

```
exists x : Entity, man x /\ (exists e : Event, walk e /\ subj e x)
```

```
t < abduction.
```

2. Faster Reasoning with "abduction" Coq plugin

Coq Interactive Session

Lexical gap!

(man, walk)
(man, hike)
(hike, walk)

1 subgoal

```
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```

t < abduction.

2. Faster Reasoning with "abduction" Coq plugin

Coq Interactive Session

Lexical gap!

(man, walk)
(man, hike)
(hike, walk)

Construct a list of predicate
pairs from context and goal

1 subgoal

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```

t < abduction.



2. Faster Reasoning with "abduction" Coq plugin

Coq Interactive Session

```
1 subgoal
H : exists x : Entity, man x /\ (exists e : Event, hike e /\ subj
=====
exists x : Entity, man x /\ (exists e : Event, walk e /\ subj e x
t < abduction.
```

Lexical gap!

(man, walk)
(man, hike)
(hike, walk)

Construct a list of predicate pairs from context and goal

Evaluate all the predicate pairs using ComplEx

e_{hike}

e_{hypernym}

e_{walk}

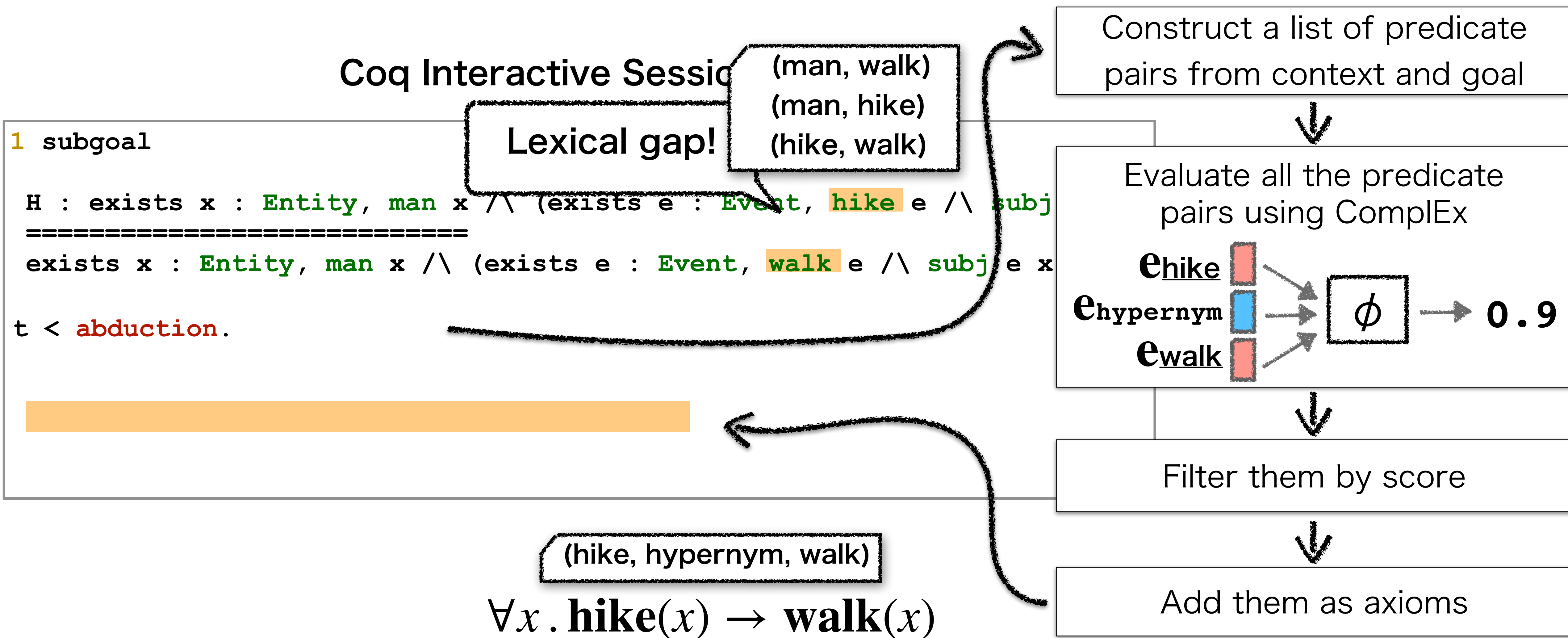
ϕ

→ 0.9

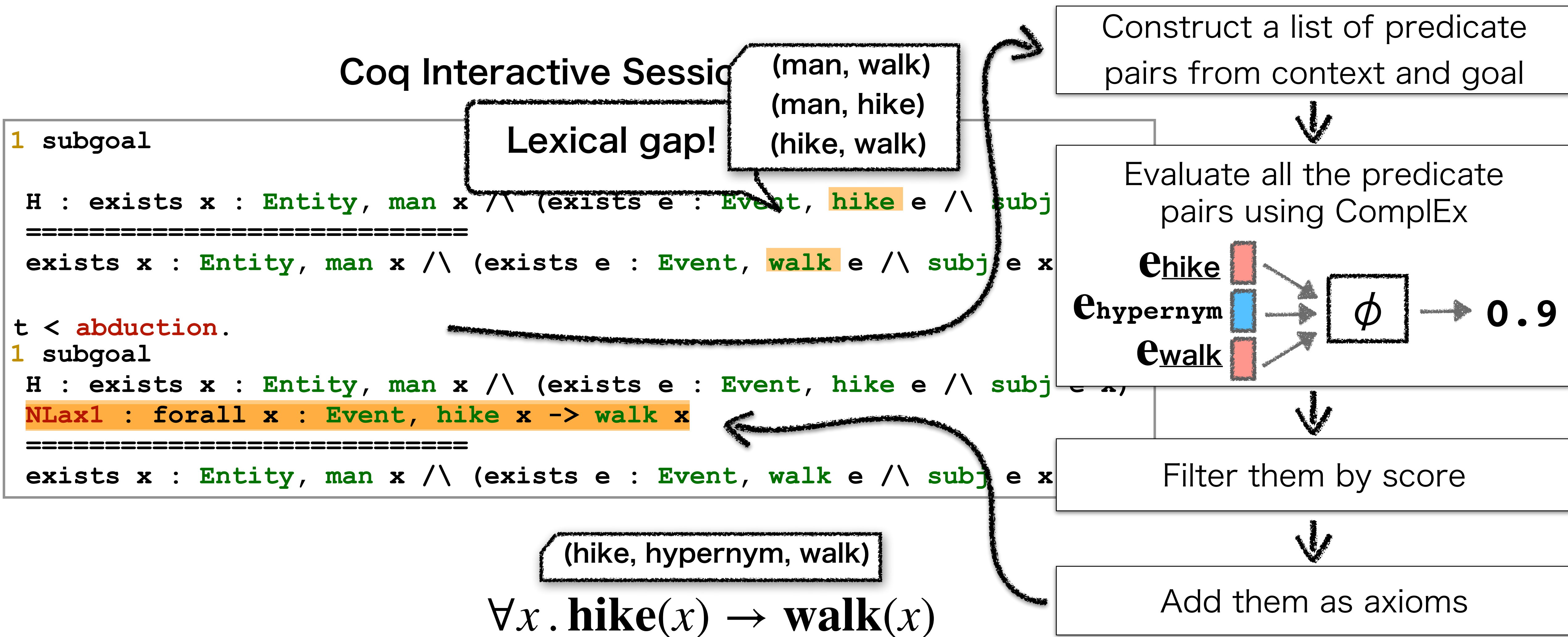
Filter them by score



2. Faster Reasoning with "abduction" Coq plugin



2. Faster Reasoning with "abduction" Coq plugin



Summary so far...

NP/N N $S \backslash NP$ NP/N N $S \backslash NP$
 A man hikes A man walks

Semantic Parsing

Logical Formulas

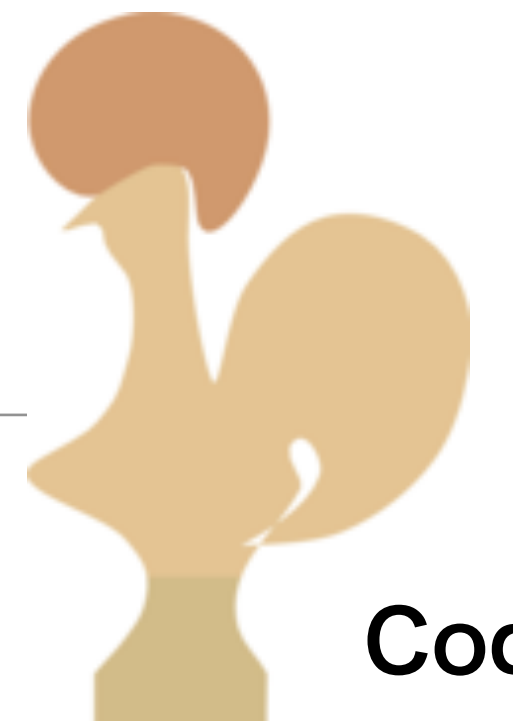
Theorem Proving

{ yes, no, unknown }

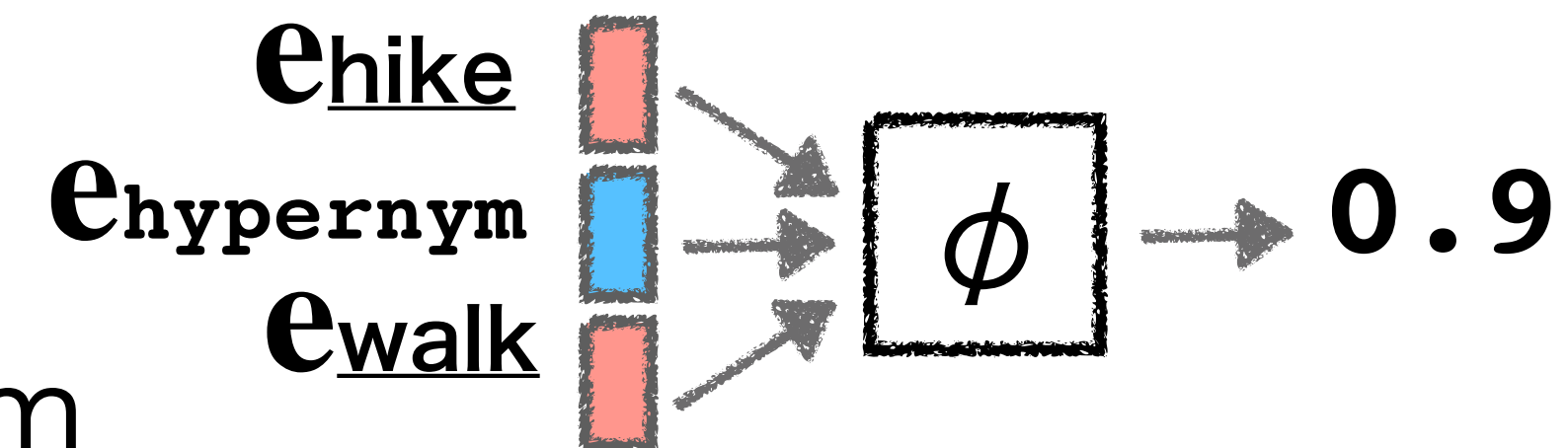
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Coq < Proof. ccg2lambda. Qed.
  
```



Coq

result: yes**+abduction**

- 👍 Efficient and scalable abduction mechanism
- 👍 No need to rerun Coq in abduction
 - Our method is applicable to other logic-based systems
 - e.g. Modern Type Theory (Bernandy and Chatzikyriakidis, 2017)

Experiments

- SICK RTE dataset (Marelli et al., 2014)
- Evaluation metrics: accuracy and processing time
- ComplEx is trained on logistic loss: $\sum_{((s,r,o),t) \in \mathcal{D}} t \log f(s,r,o) + (1-t) \log(1-f(s,r,o))$
- The training data is constructed using WordNet
 - synonym, antonym, hyponym, hypernyms, etc.
- The trained ComplEx model achieves MRR of 77.68%

P: A flute is being played in a lovely way by a girl.

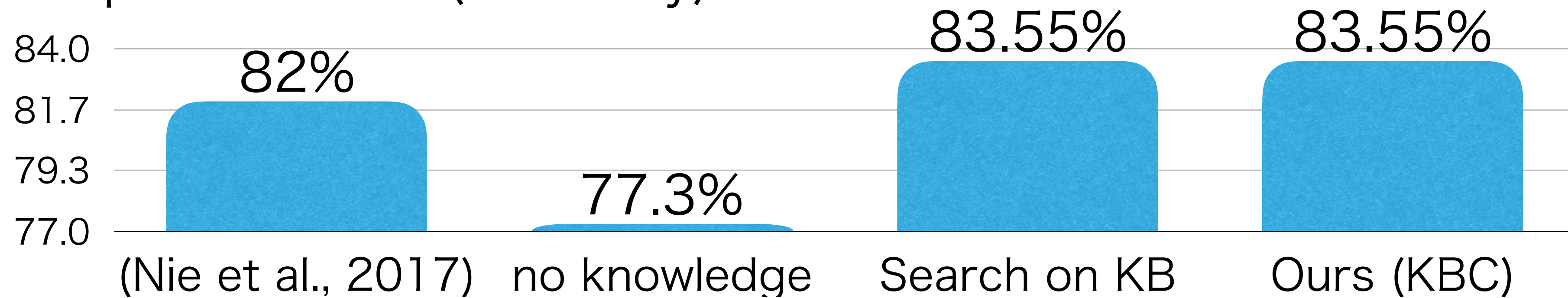
H: One woman is playing a flute.

logical lexical
syntactic phenomena

entailment

Experimental Results on SICK

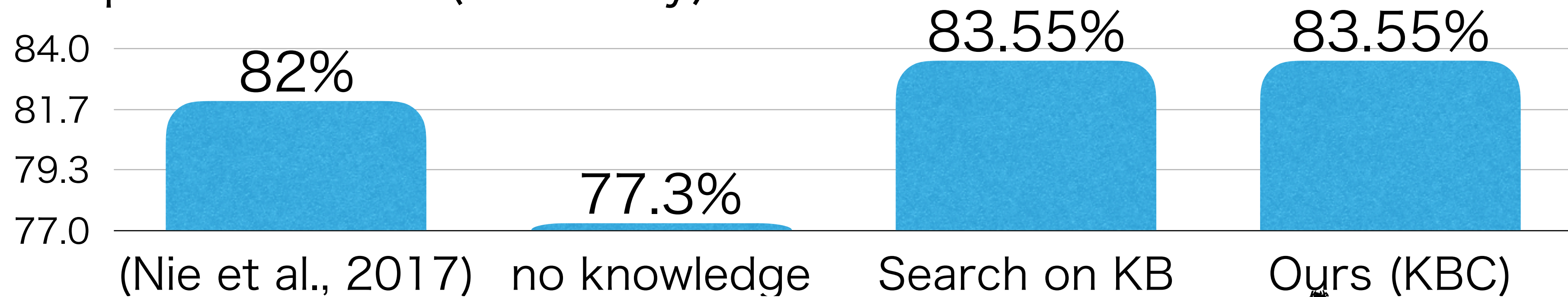
- RTE performance (accuracy)



- Baselines: Search on KB (Martínez-Gómez et al., 2017), NN-based (Nie et al., 2017)

Experimental Results on SICK

- RTE performance (accuracy)

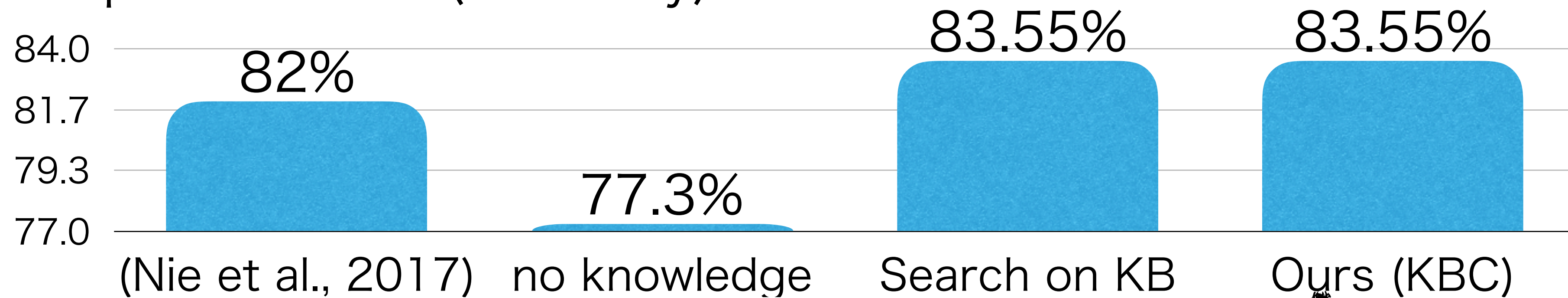


**Achieves the same accuracy,
improving significantly
from "no knowledge" case**

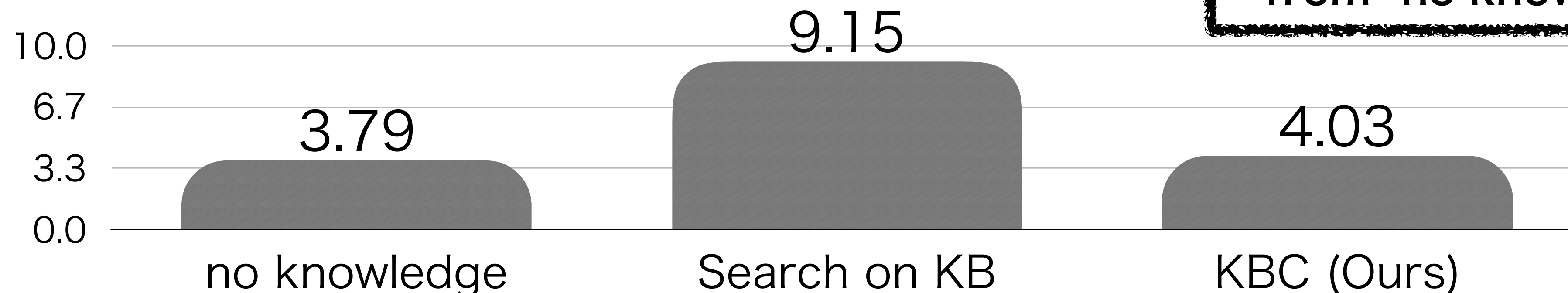
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Experimental Results on SICK

- RTE performance (accuracy)



- Processing speed (second per a problem)

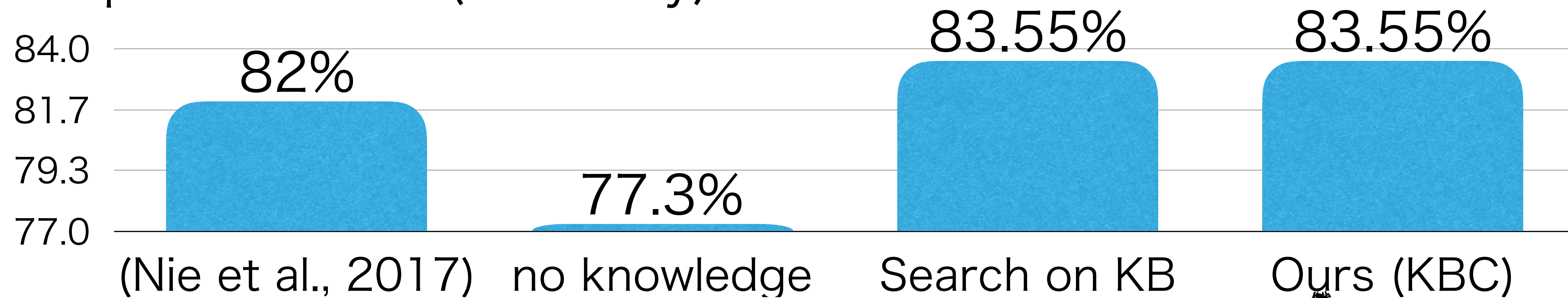


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Experimental Results on SICK

- RTE performance (accuracy)



- Processing speed (second per a problem)



**Achieves the same accuracy,
improving significantly
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- Baselines: Search on KB (Martínez-Gómez et al., 2017), NN

**Our method halves the time
to process an RTE problem!**

Summary of Part Two

- A KBC-based axiom injection for logic-based RTE systems
 - Efficient, scalable, and it provides latent knowledge
- **abduction** tactic for further faster reasoning
- **Other topics:**
 - Adding other KB (VerbOcean) without losing efficiency
 - Evaluating learned latent knowledge in terms of RTE (LexSICK dataset)
- **All the codes, dataset and slides are available:**
 - https://github.com/masashi-y/abduction_kbc

The performance of ccg2lambda on various datasets

- SICK (Marelli et al., 2014): Accuracy 82,3%

P: **A flute is being played in a lovely way by a girl.**
H: **One woman is playing a flute**

passive voice, quantifier
lexical semantics

- FraCaS (Cooper et al., 1992): Accuracy 69%

P: **Smith believed that ITEL had won the contract in 1992.**
H: **ITEL won the contract in 1992.**

Quantifier, Plurals,
Adjectives, Comparatives,
Verbs, Attitudes

P: **ITEL won more orders than APCOM did.**
H: **APCOM won some orders.**

(Haruta et al., 2019)
Adjectives (22 problems): 100%
Comparatives (31): 94%

- SNLI (Bowman et al., 2015): No result

P: **A black race car starts up in front of a crowd of people**
H: **A man is driving down a lonely road.**

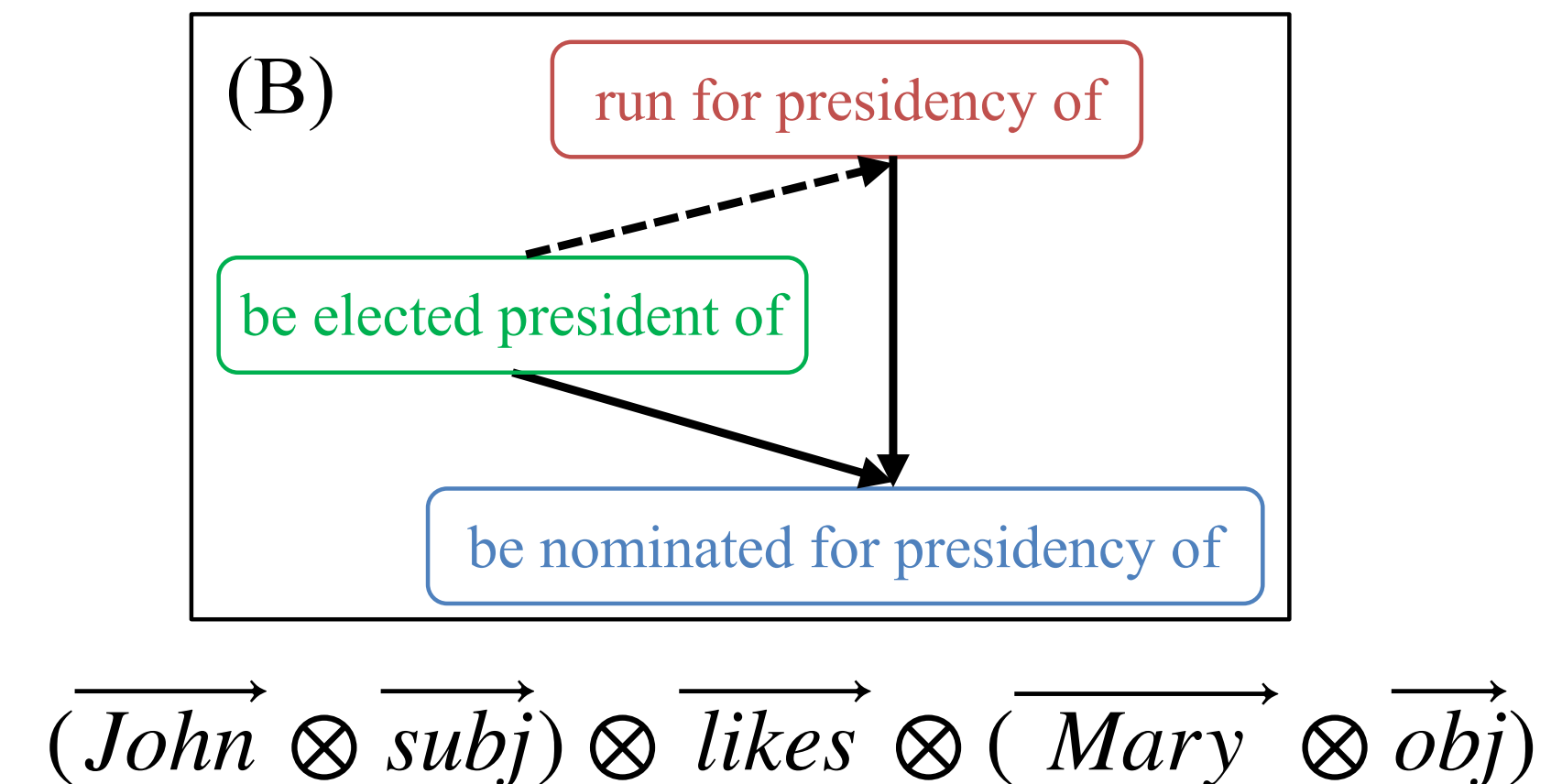
"a crowd" relates to "lonely",
"car starts up" relates to "driving",

Summary

- A CCG-based system has some advantages in handling complex linguistic phenomena
 - They reside in the long tail of distribution, and have been the focus of linguistics
 - It is unlikely that a neural method understands passive voice, though it achieves the similar accuracy on SICK using 5,000 sents ...
- Difficulties at handling similarities between phrases, which is much easier for neural methods

- Some promising approaches:

- Learning Entailment Graph (e.g., Hosseini et al., 2018, 2019)
- Vector-based Semantics (e.g., Wijnholds and Sadrzadeh, 2018)



Hosseini et al., Learning Typed Entailment Graphs with Global Soft Constraints, TACL 2018

Hosseini et al., Duality of Link Prediction and Entailment Graph Induction, ACL 2019

Wijnholds and Sadrzadeh, Evaluating Composition Models for Verb Elliptic Sentence Embeddings, NAACL 2019