

Models of eye-movements in reading explain:

What drives and controls eye-movements?

- ▷ **Where** to fixate next?
- ▷ **When** to move the eyes?

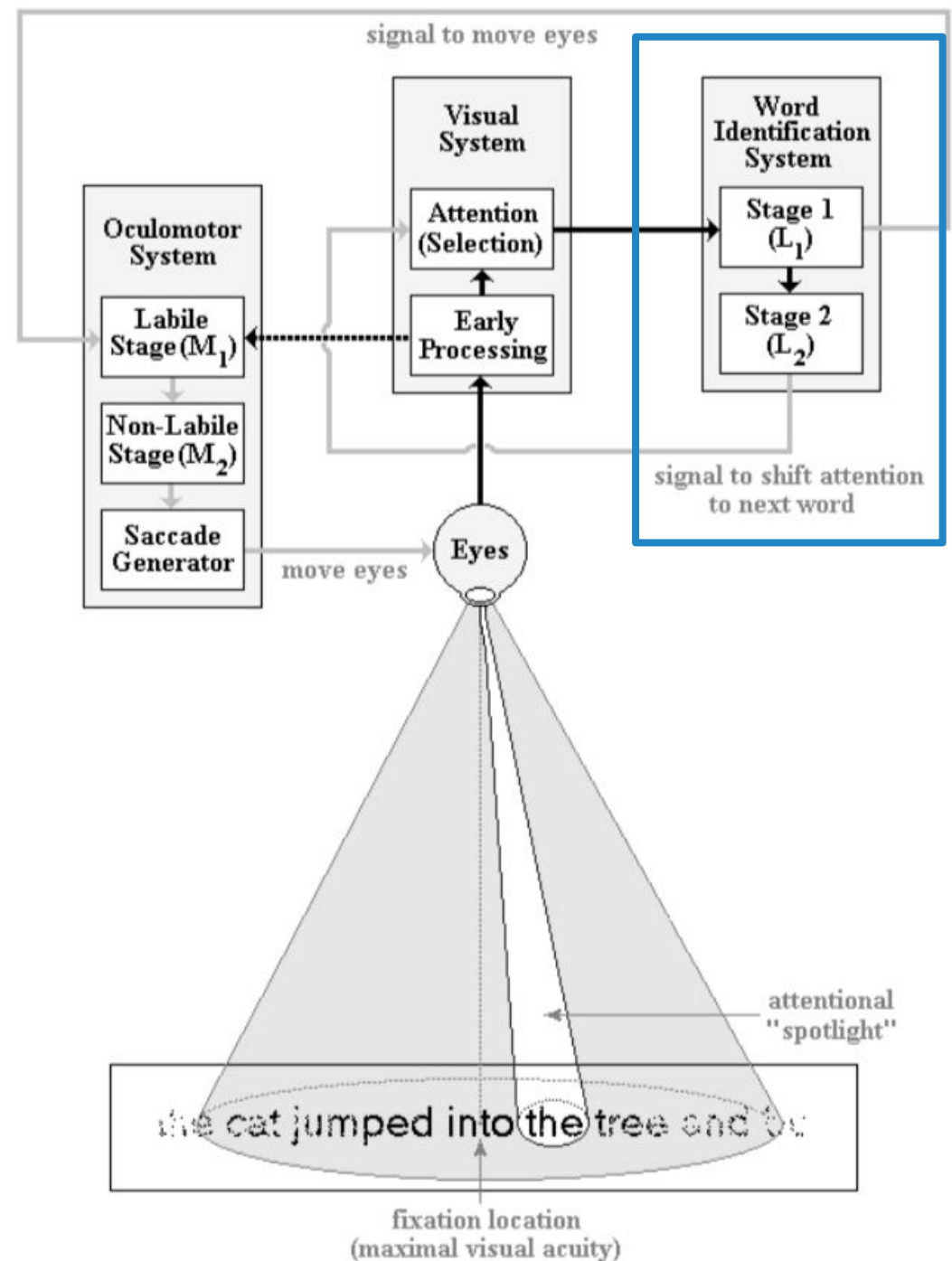
We shall see how different models explain differently

- ▷ **E-Z Reader**
(Reichle et al., 2003)
- ▷ **SWIFT Reader**
(Engbert, Nuthmann, Richter, & Kliegl, Psych. Rev., 2005)

E-Z Reader model

The fixated word is processed in two stages:

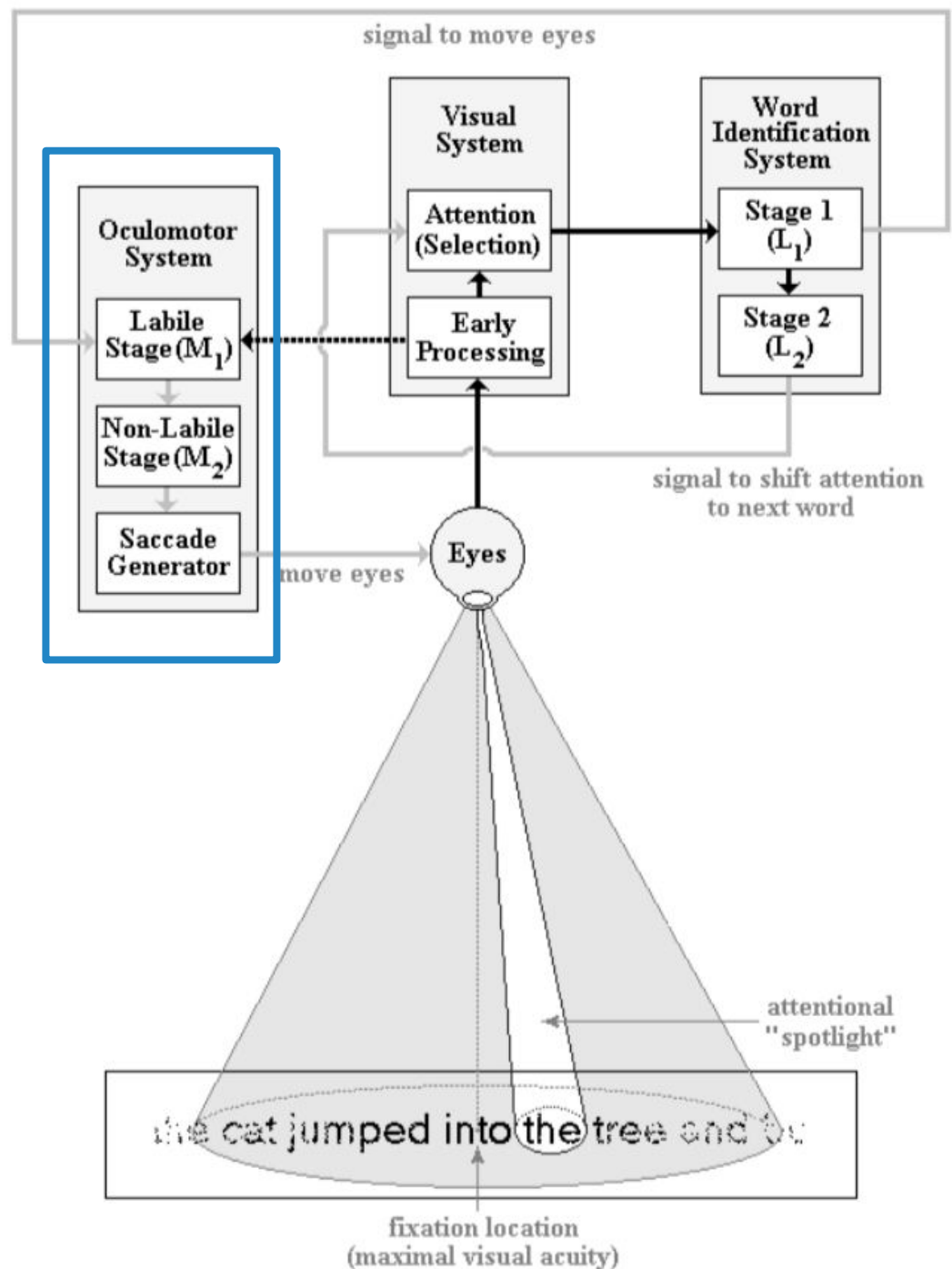
- ▷ First, it is checked for familiarity.
- ▷ Then, an eye-movement is programmed to the next word.
- ▷ Meanwhile, the current word is identified.



E-Z Reader model

The programmed saccade goes through two stages:

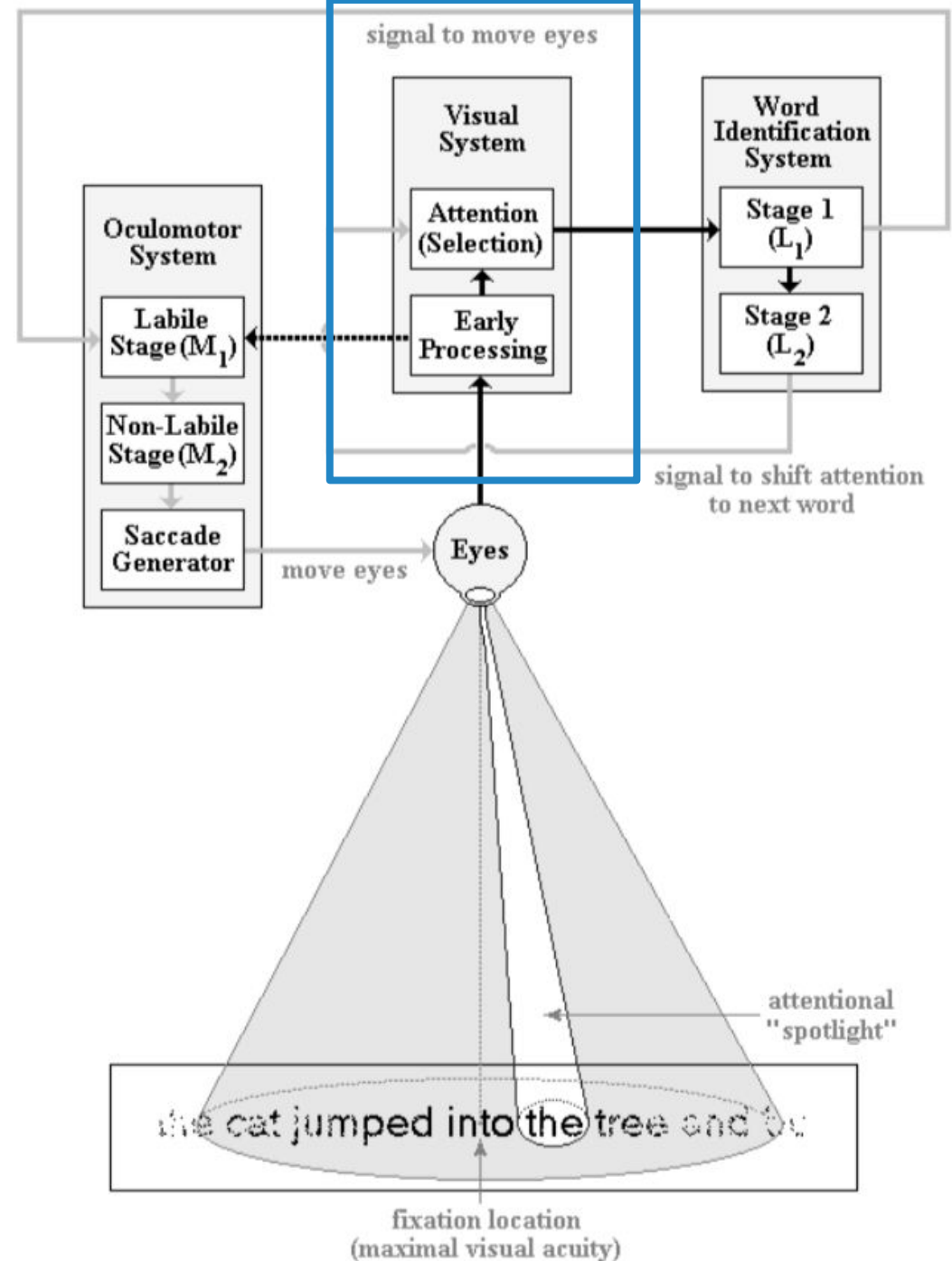
- In the labile stage, the planned saccade can be cancelled.
- In the non-labile stage, the saccade cannot be stopped.
- Then a saccade is triggered to the next word..



E-Z Reader model

After the saccade has landed on the new word, it is processed by the visual system in two stages:

- All physical features of the word are extracted at an early stage.
- Attention shifts to the new word.



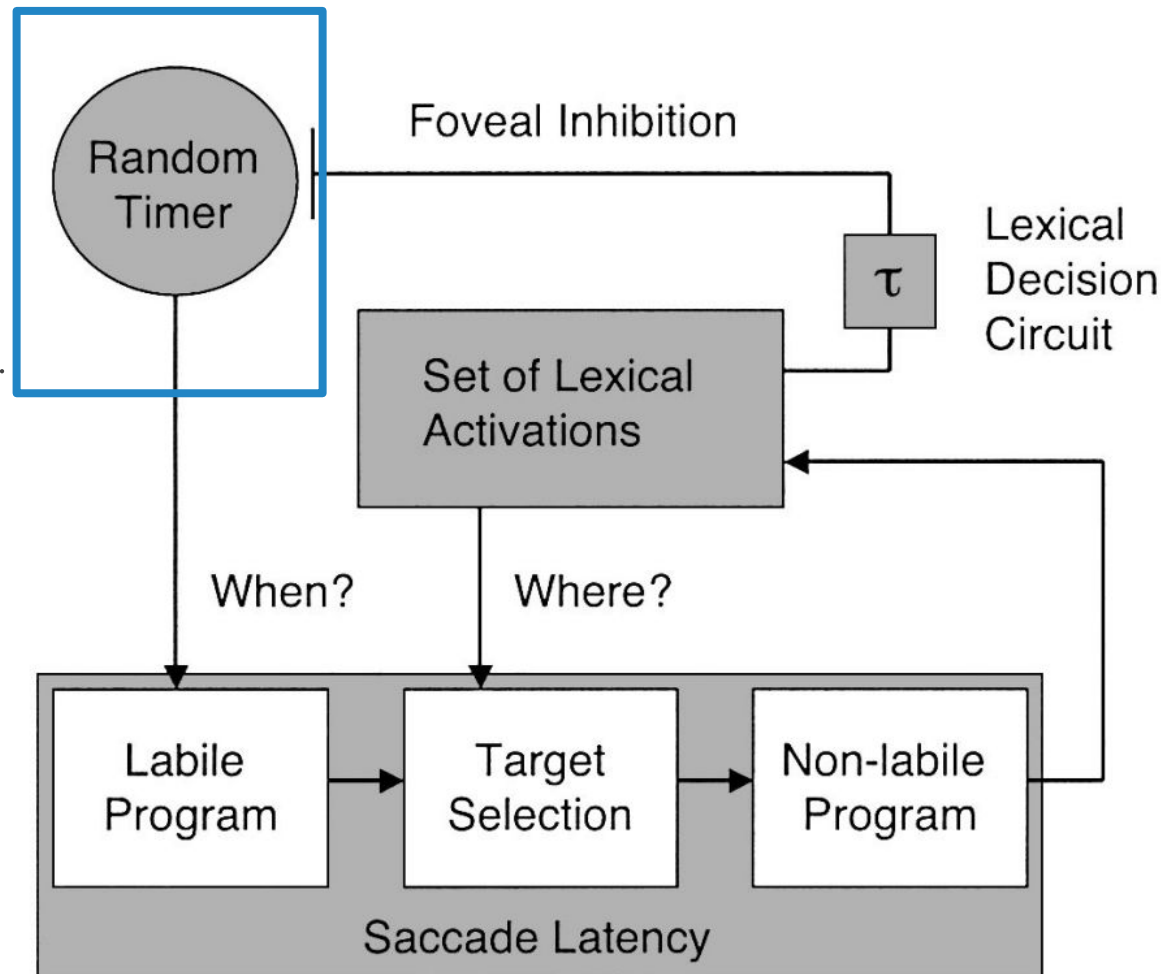
E-Z Reader model

Assumptions:

- ▷ Attention is like a **spotlight**. It's size is fixed.
- ▷ Words are processed **serially**.
- ▷ Covert attention **independent** of overt eye-movements. Eye-movements can be planned to next word while attention is engaged at current word.
- ▷ Language processing **directly controls** saccades.

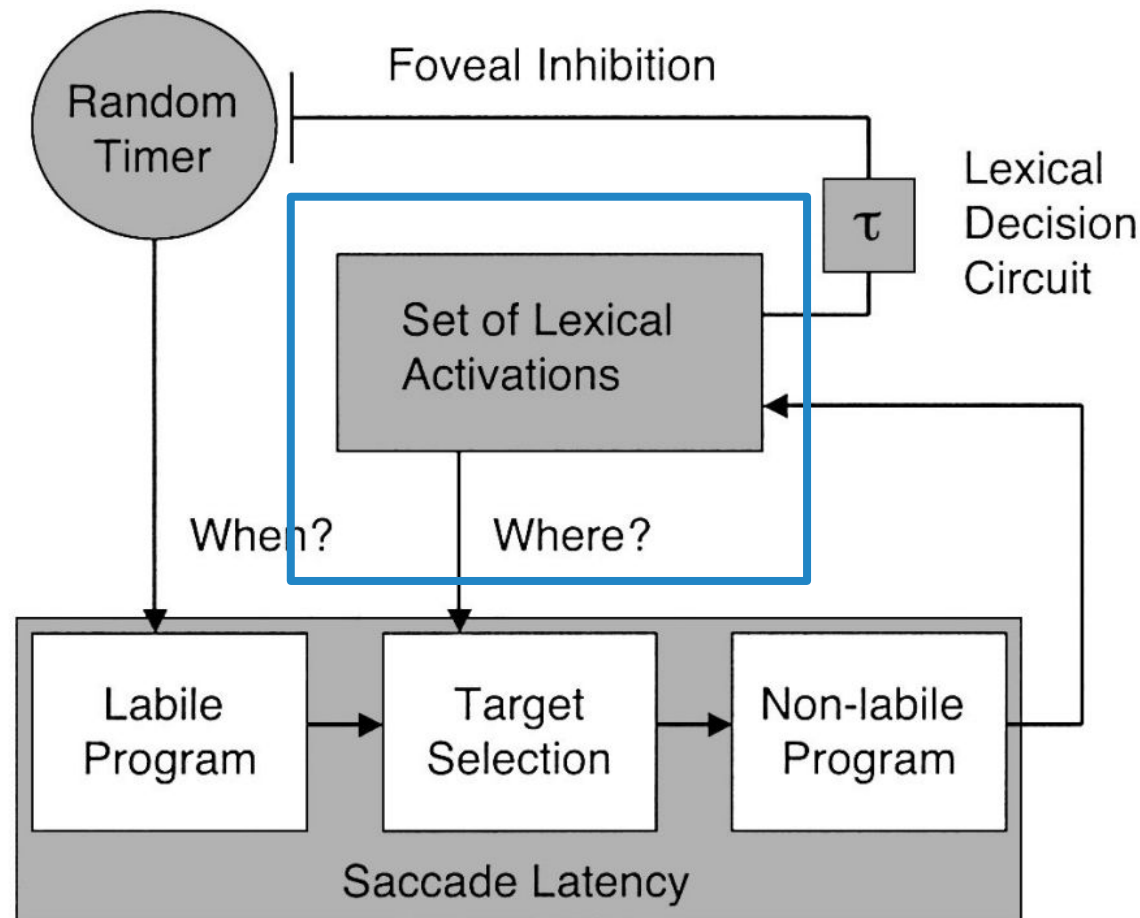
SWIFT model

- ▶ Unlike in E-Z Reader model, SWIFT model proposes that **saccadic system and lexical system are independent**.
- ▶ Saccades are generated autonomously at **random intervals** and not by lexical processes.



SWIFT model

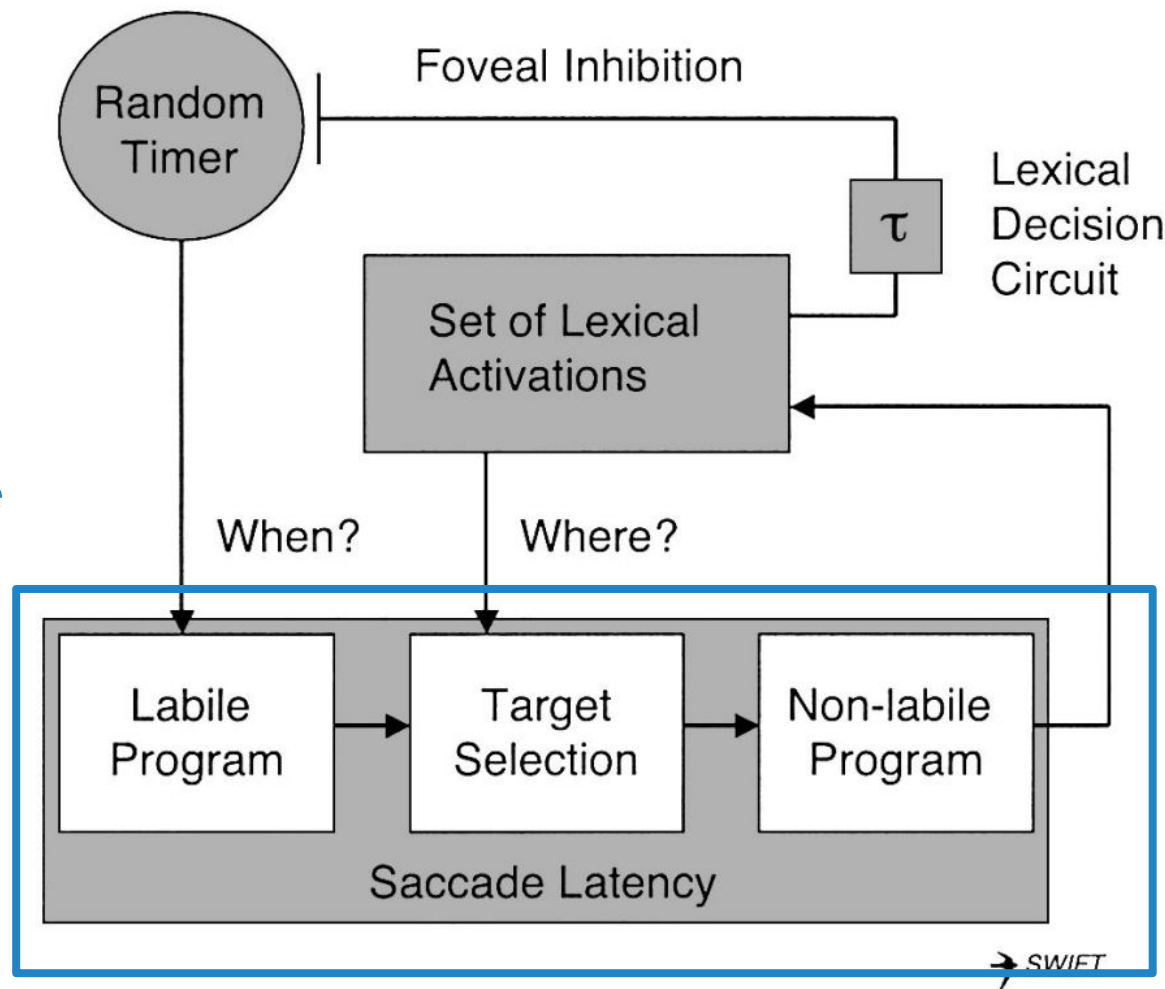
- ▶ The endpoint of the saccade is determined by **activation values** that each word carries
- ▶ Saccades land on the word with the **highest activation value** in descending order.
- ▶ The activation values are computed in **parallel**



SWIFT model

Similar to E-Z model, saccades are executed in **two stages**:

- ▷ Early and **cancellable** stage: Labile stage
- ▷ Late and **not cancellable** stage: Non-labile stage.



SWIFT model

Assumptions:

- ▷ Attention is understood as a **graded** spotlight.
- ▷ **Parallel** processing of all words.
- ▷ **No direct control** over timing of saccades.

