

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	DRS	QR?	?KL	JDD
write	study	read	eat	new
ðHB	#ML	QBL	QLL	QRR
go	carry	accept	few	decide
TLB	yRB	QTD	SJD	...
seek	sink	sit	head down	

Three consonants

representing concepts

XaYaZa	XaaYiZu	maXYuuZu
did	doer	is patient to
XaYYaZa	maXYaZa	XaYiiZu
made one do	miXYaZu	adjective
yaXYaZu	place to do	...
do		

Syntactic Templates

deciding syntactic function

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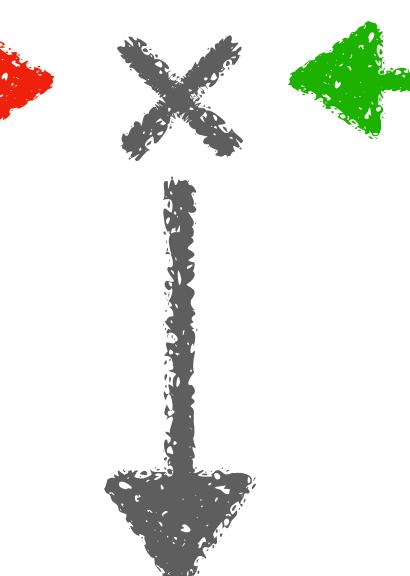
Three consonants

representing concepts

KiTaaBu	QaRRaRa
book	decide
KaTaBa	KaaTiBu
wrote	writer

QaLiiLu
few

Fill XYZ
with ABC



XaYaZa	XaaYiZu	maXYuuZu
did	doer	is patient to
XaYYaZa	maXYaZa	...
made one do	miXYaZu	
yaXYaZu	place to do	
do		

Syntactic Templates

deciding syntactic function

maDRaSa	maYRiDu
school	west
maSJiDu	miQFaD
mosque	basement

(Ice Breaker?) Arabic Morphology is

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Syntactic Templates

deciding syntactic function

TaaLiBu
student

maDRaSa
school

mayRiDu
west

HaaMiLu
pregnant

miQaD
mosque

miQaD
basement

Ra

aLiiLu

few

يضا

ADV

Taro

ذهب تارو الى المدرسة الجديدة التي تدرس هانا كو فيها

ADP

PROPN

VERB

PRON

ADJ

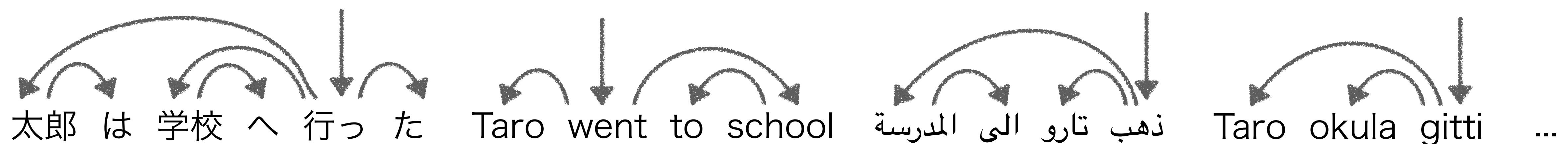
NOUN

ADP PROPN VERB

- Semantic 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 Categorial Grammar

Steedman 2000, Bekki 2010

- Categories with recursive function-like structure

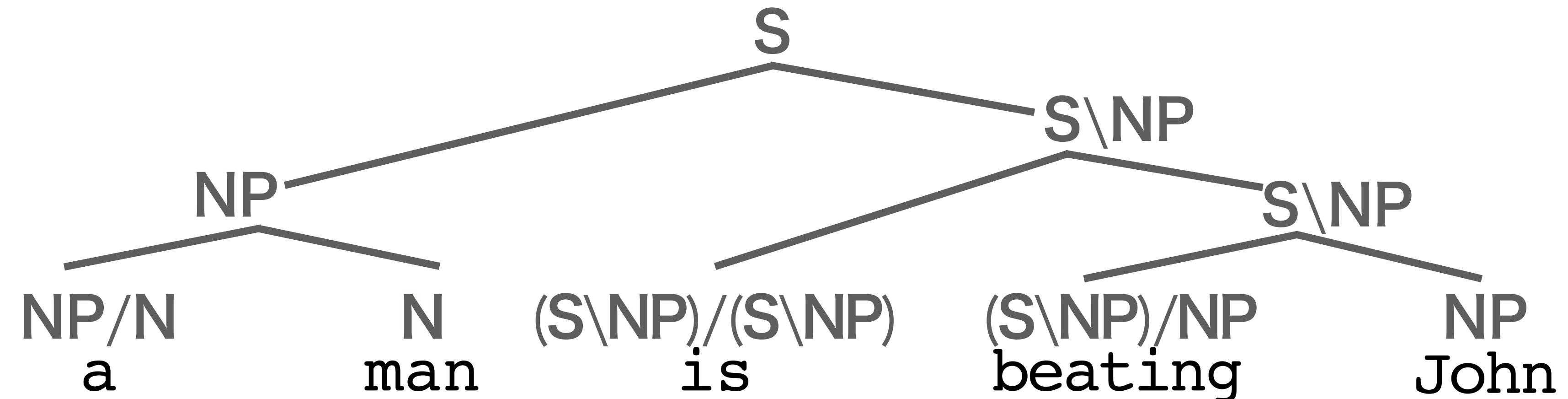
- A small number of derivational rules (less than 10)

- 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: $X/Z \rightarrow X/Y\ Y/Z$

X/Y argument
 $X\backslash Y$ return value

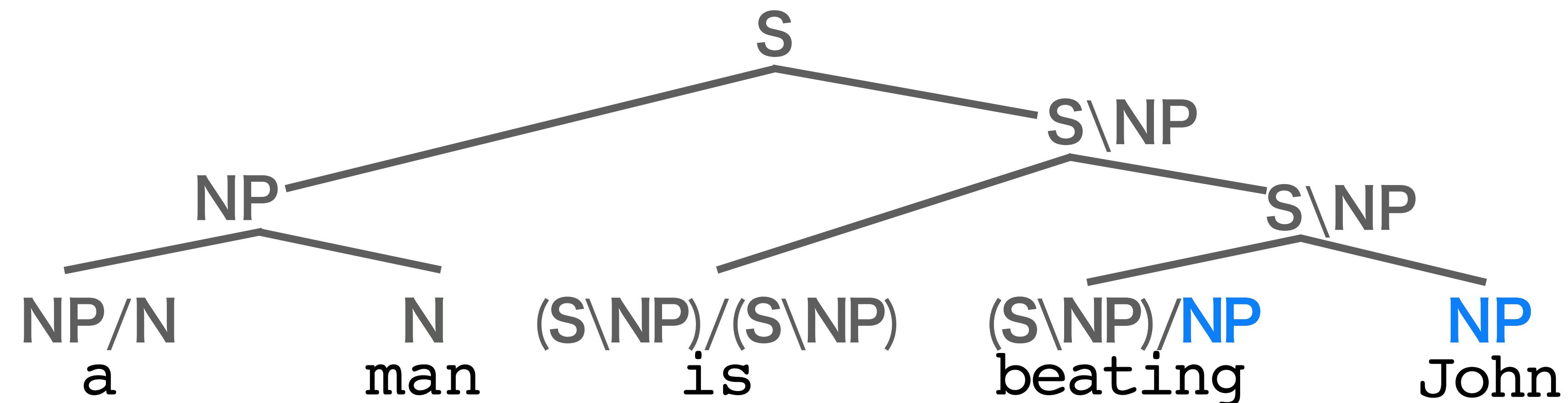


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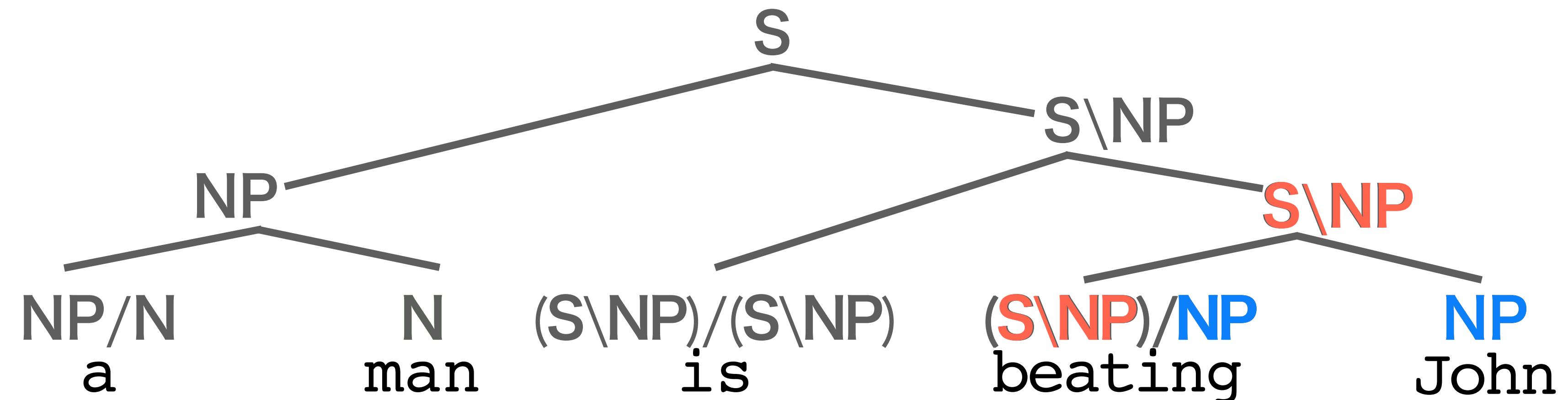
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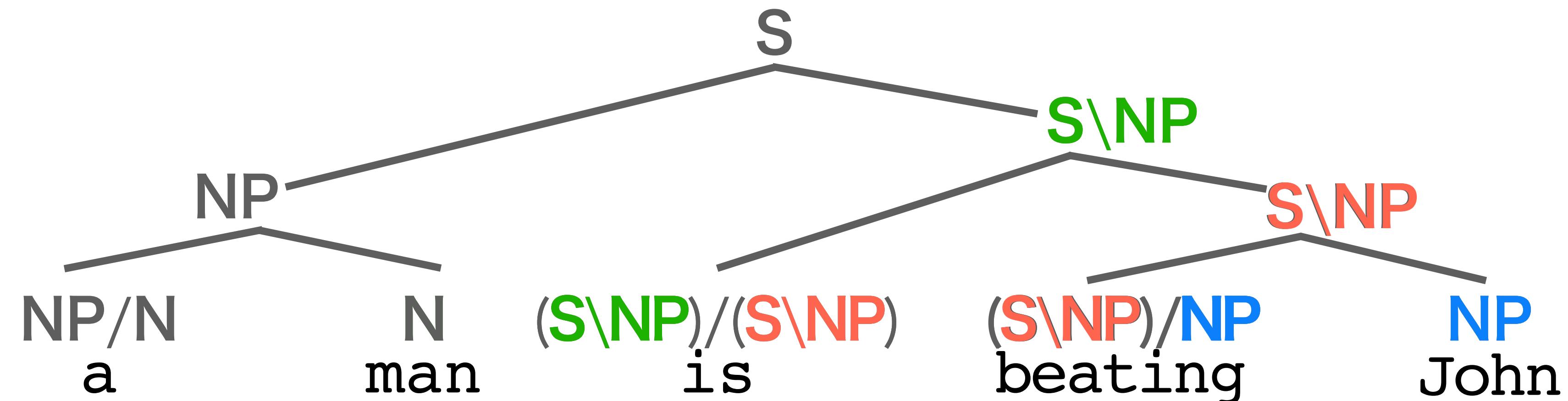
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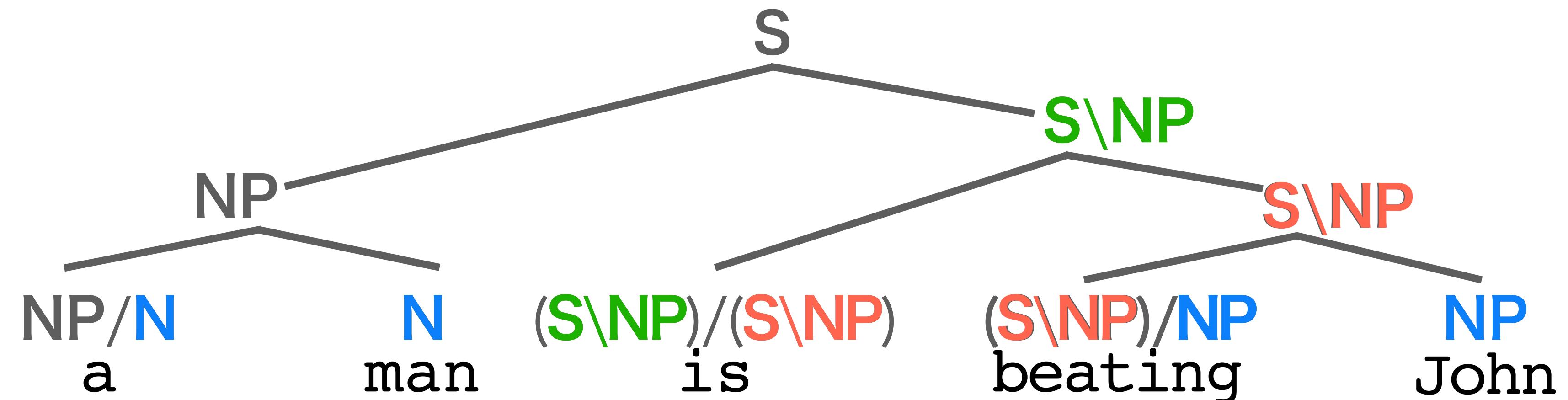
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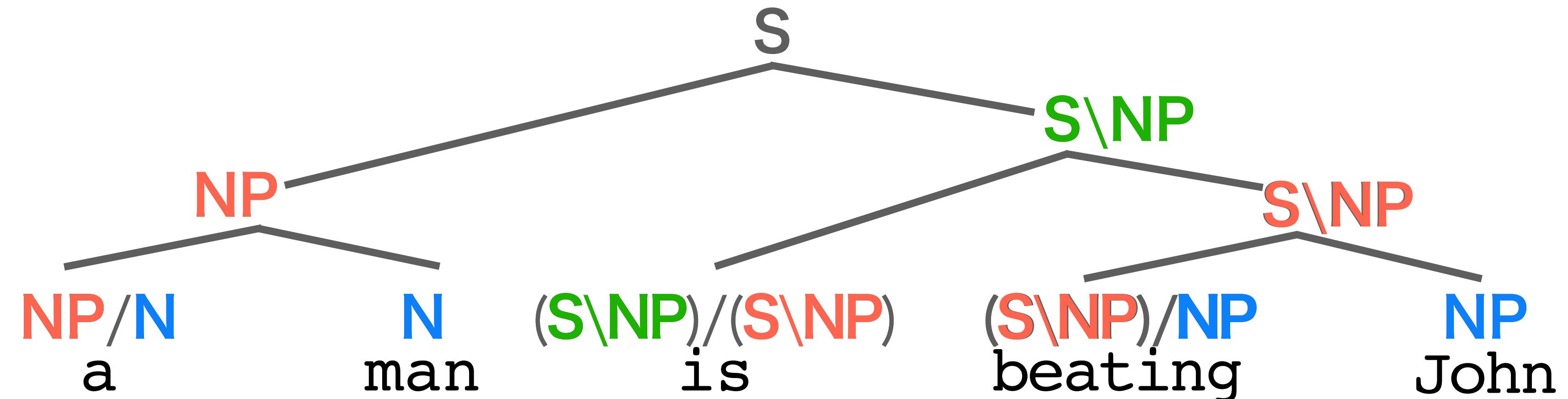
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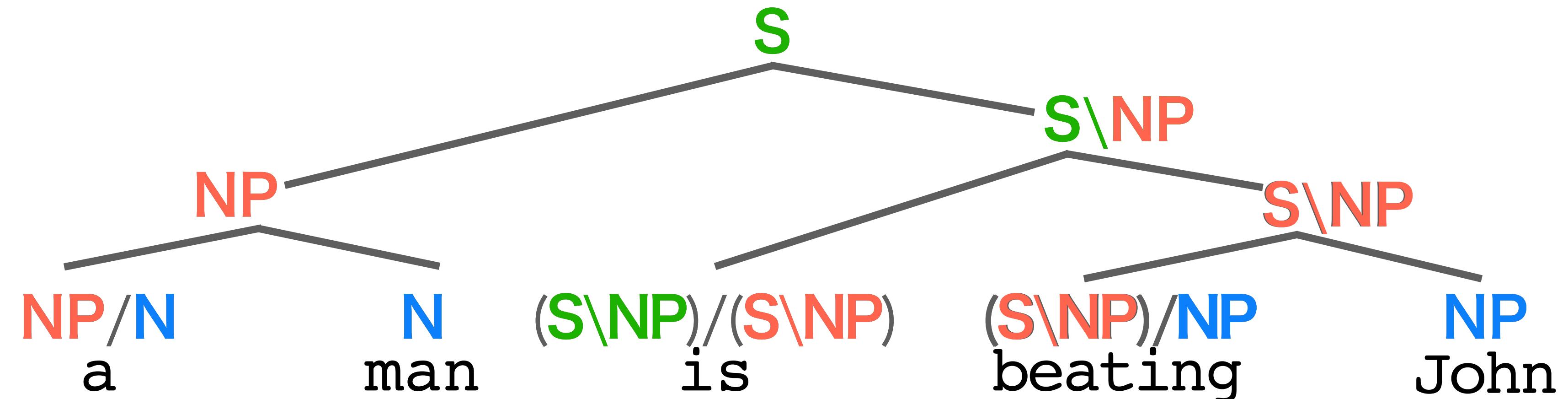
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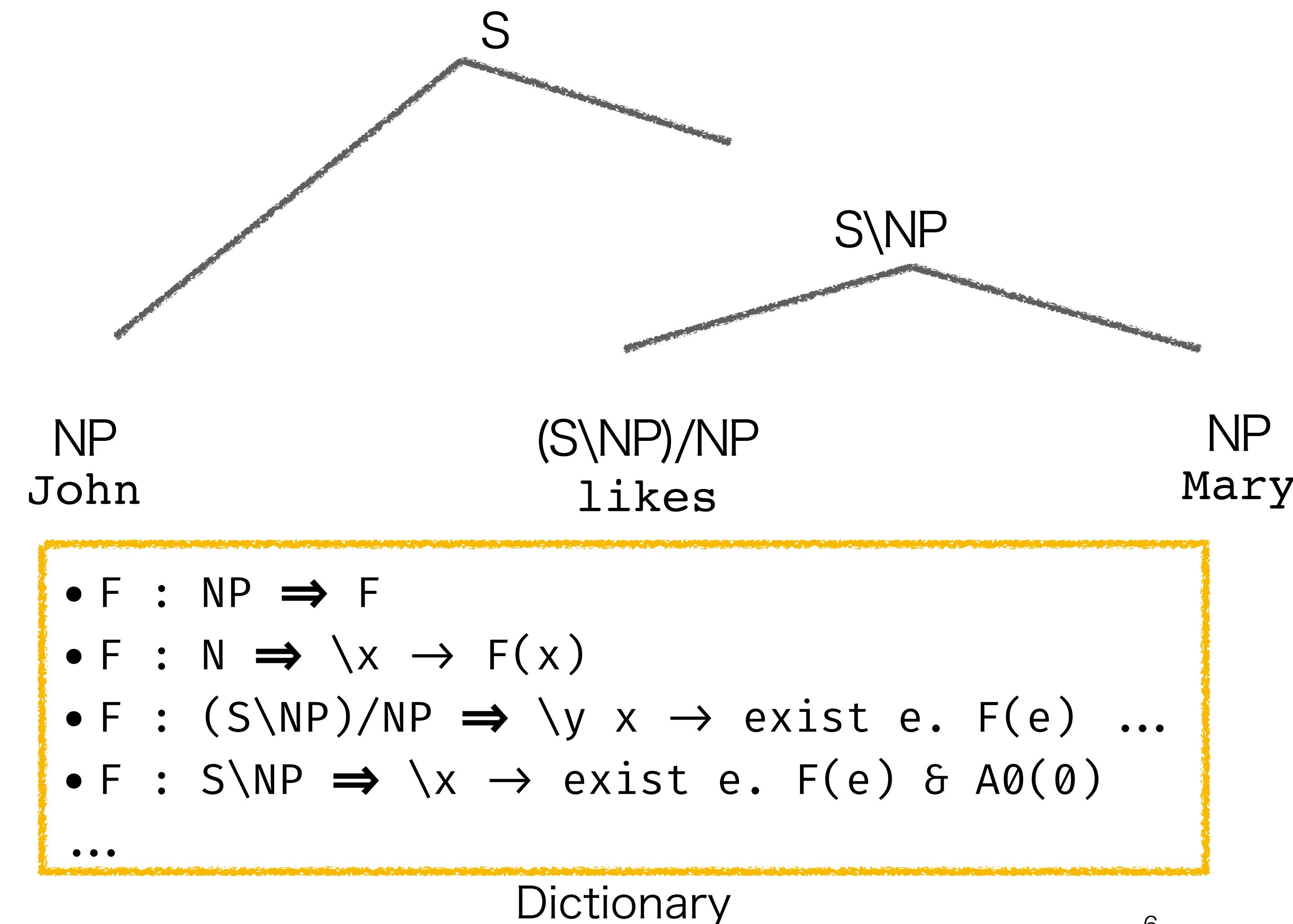
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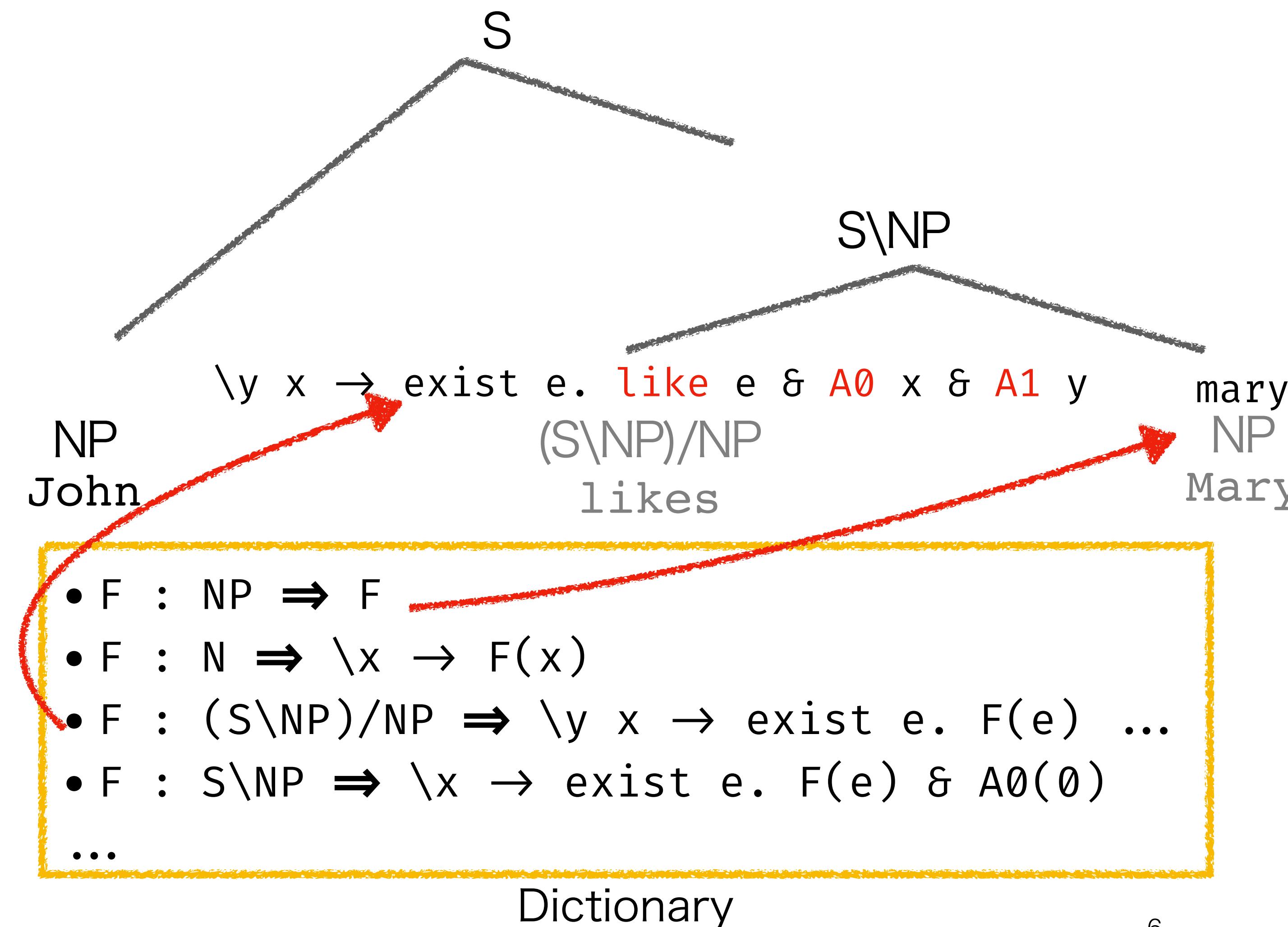


Basic CCG-based Semantic Parsing



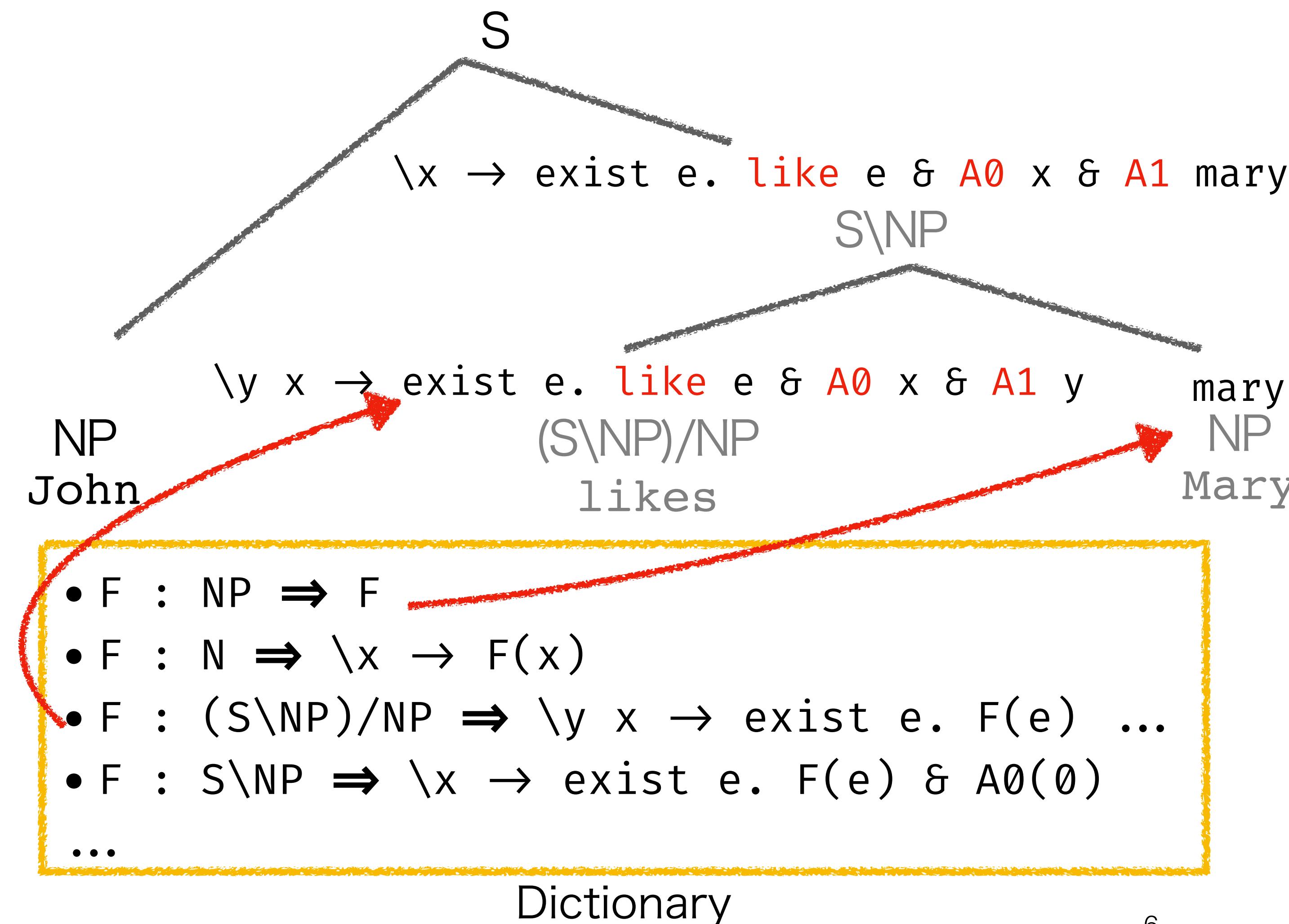
- Imagine functional programming language (e.g., Haskell)
 - $\lambda x y \rightarrow f(x, y)$: lambda term
 - john, mary: entity term
 - true, false: truth term
- Hand-crafted dictionary maps (word, category) to a lambda term
- Here we use logical formulas based on event semantics
 - There exists an event e , whose argument 0 is john and ...

Basic CCG-based Semantic Parsing



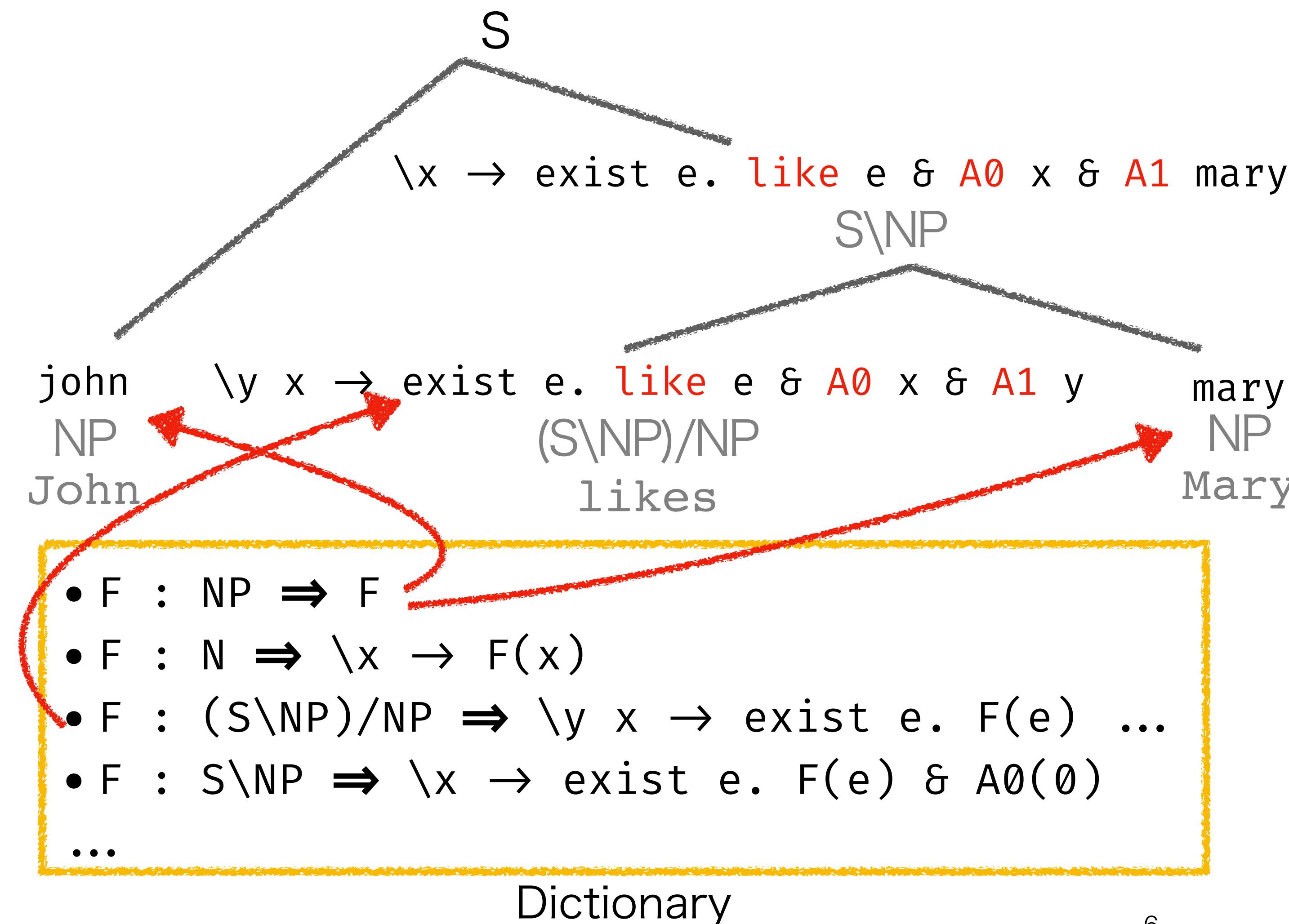
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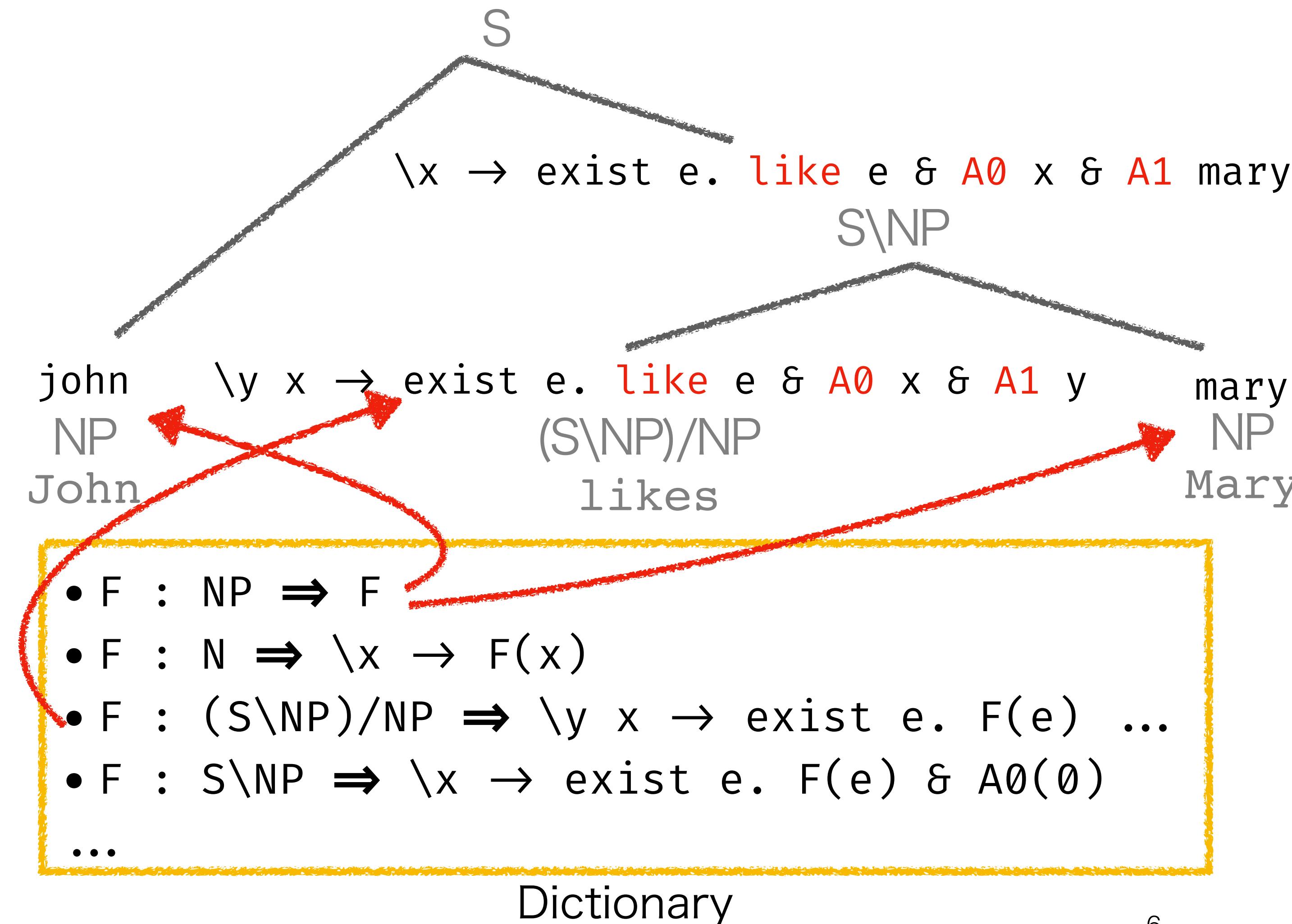
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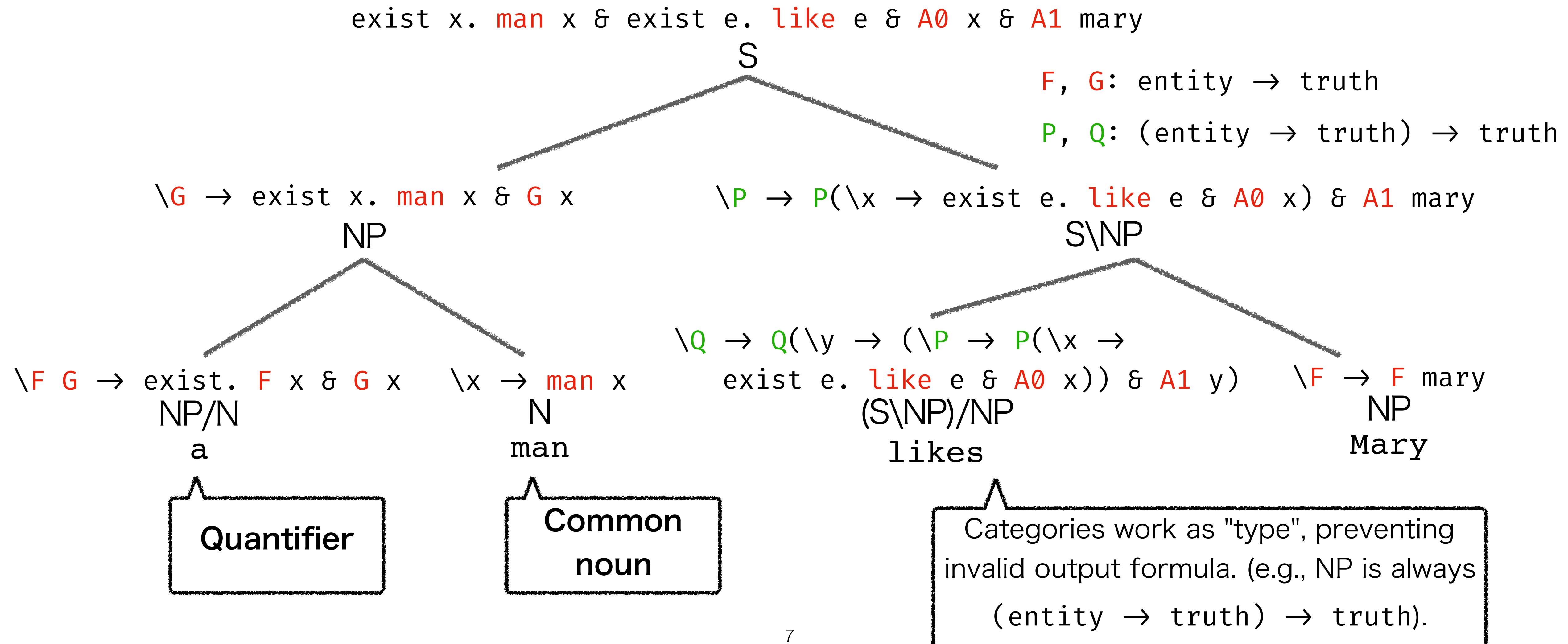
exist e. like e & A₀ john & A₁ mary



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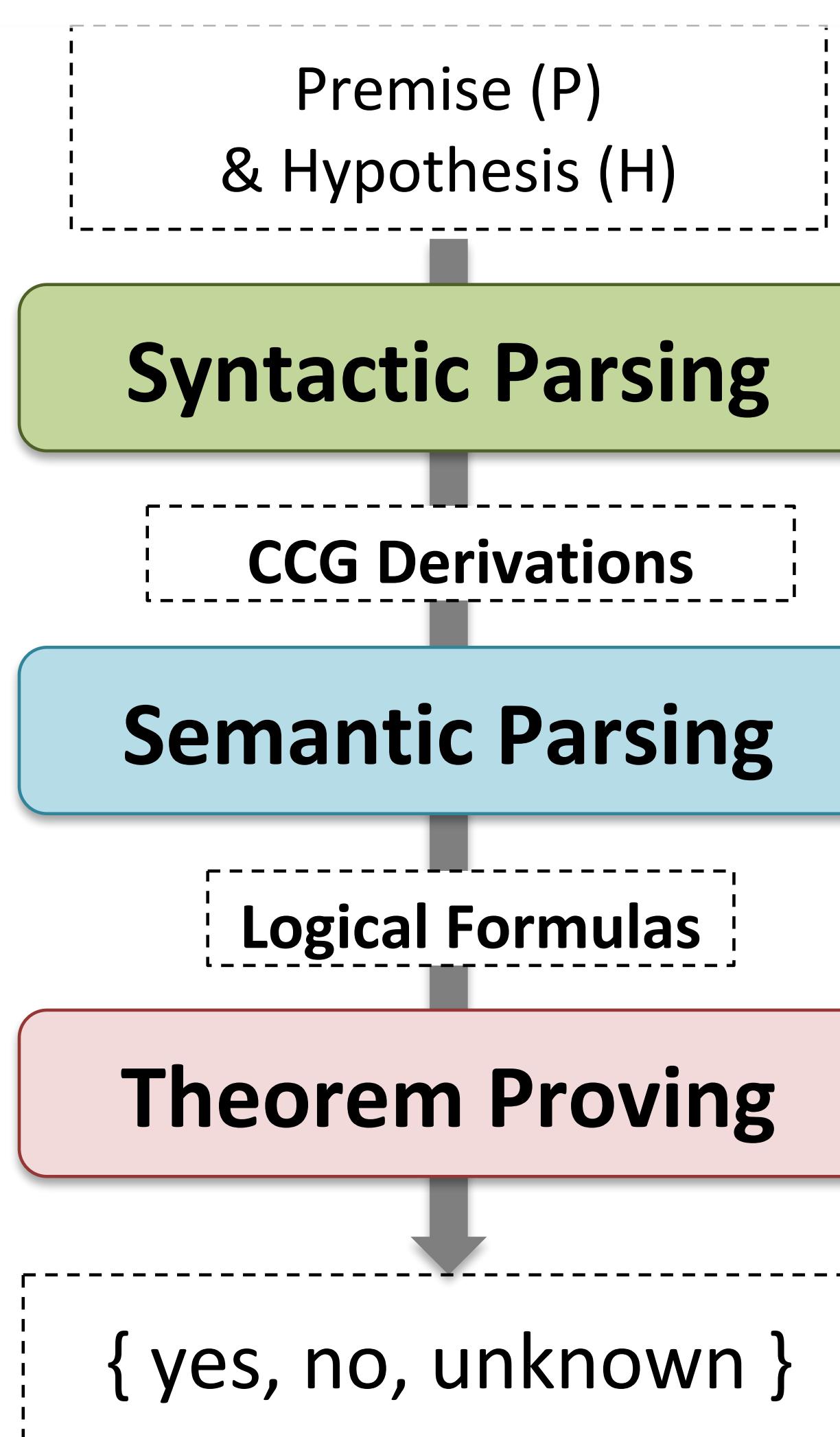
Semantic Parsing in Real Application

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

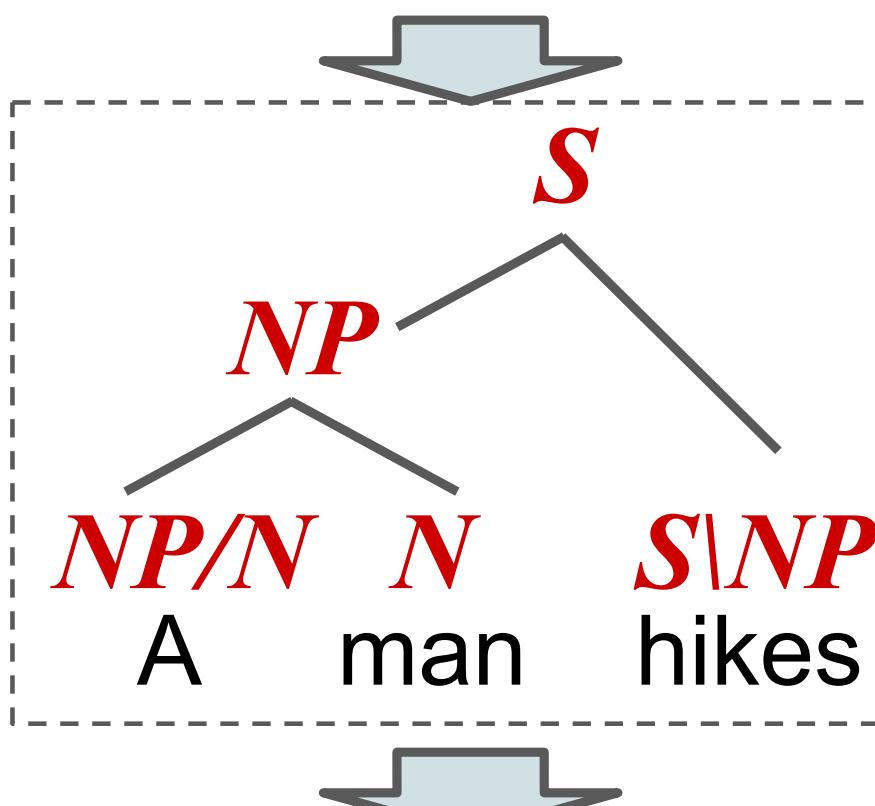


CCG-based Inference System

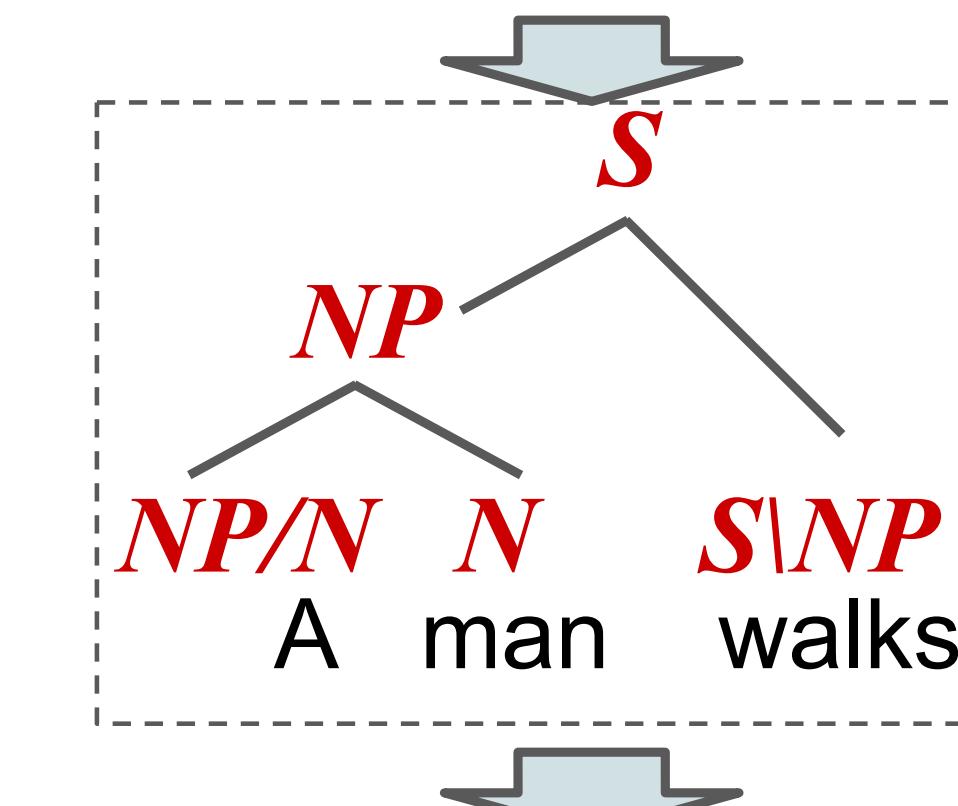
(latter half of the talk)



P: A man hikes.



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

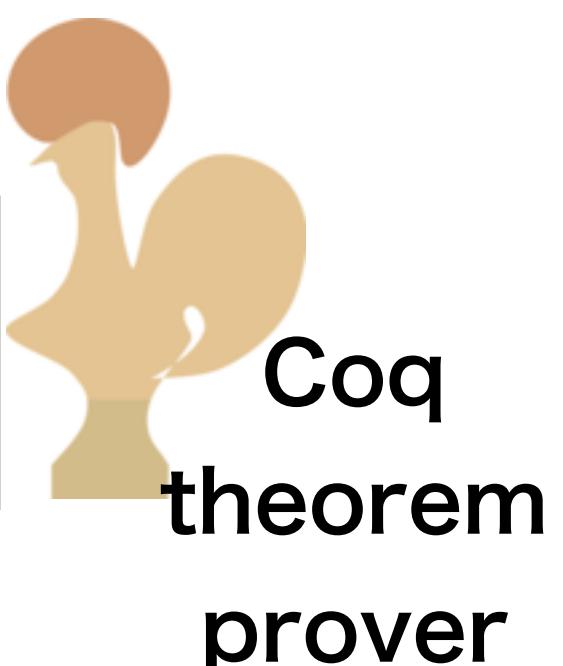


$\exists x. \text{man}(x) \wedge \exists e. \text{hike}(e) \wedge \text{subj}(e, x)$

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

```
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 $(\lambda x \rightarrow \text{dog } x)$

Annotation Criteria for CCG

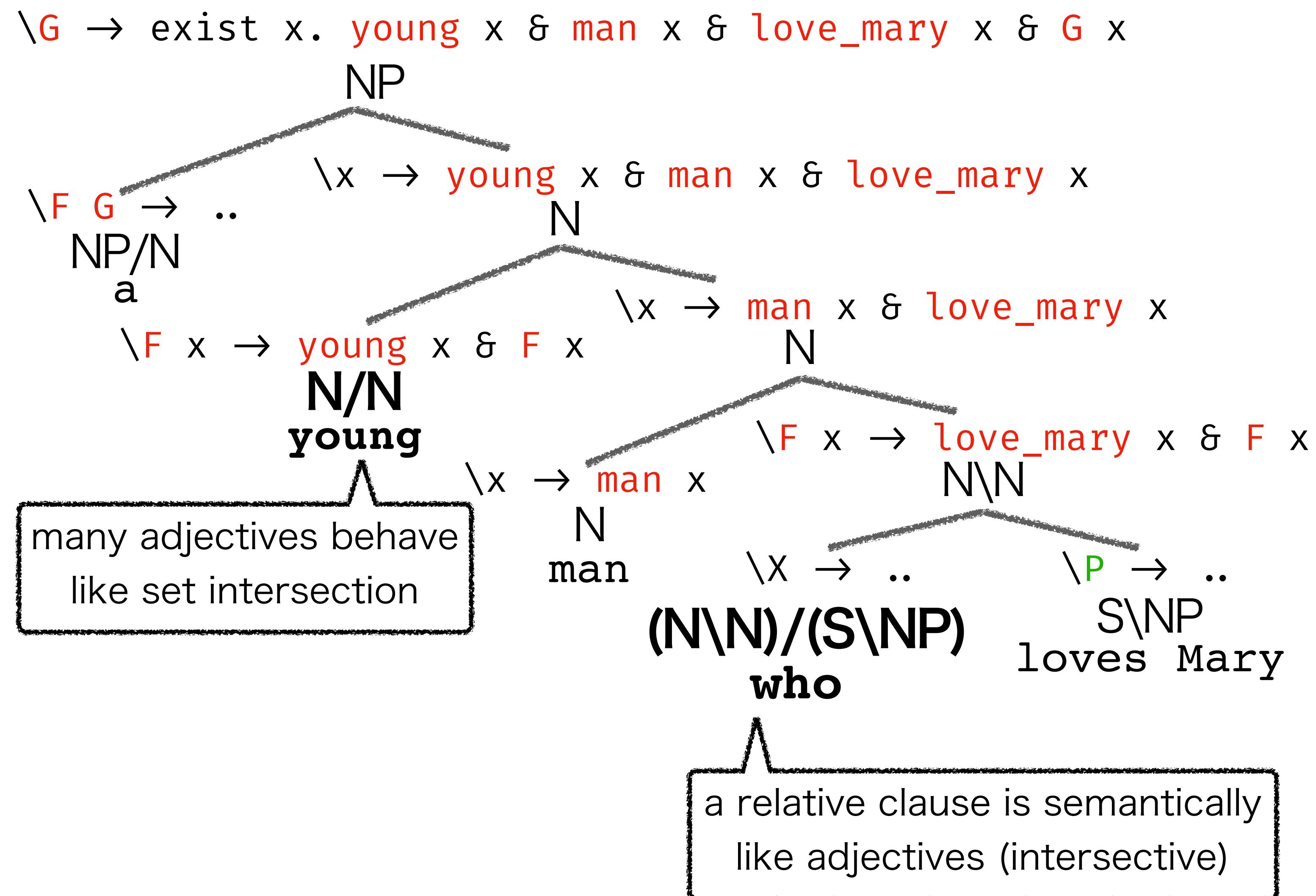


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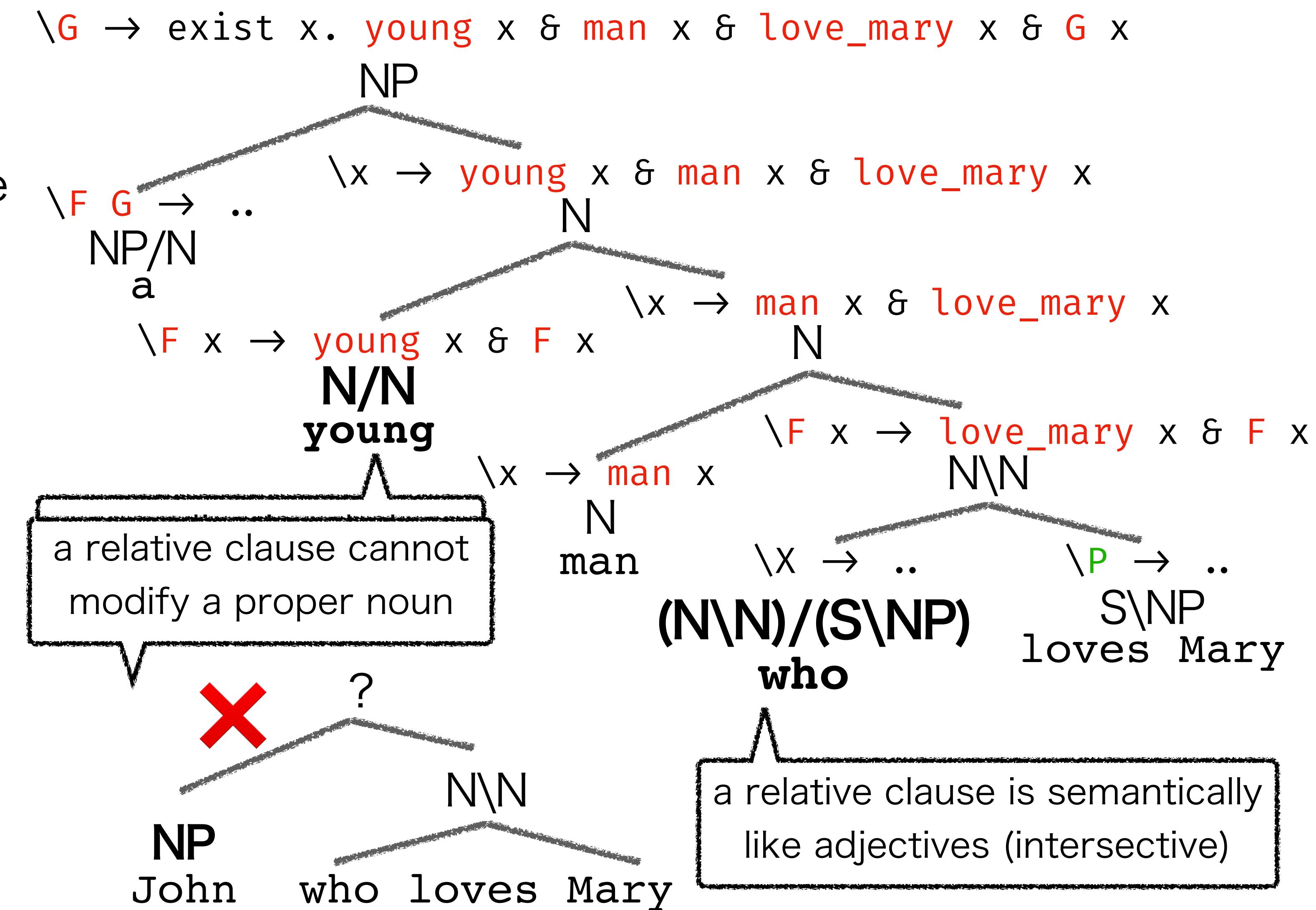


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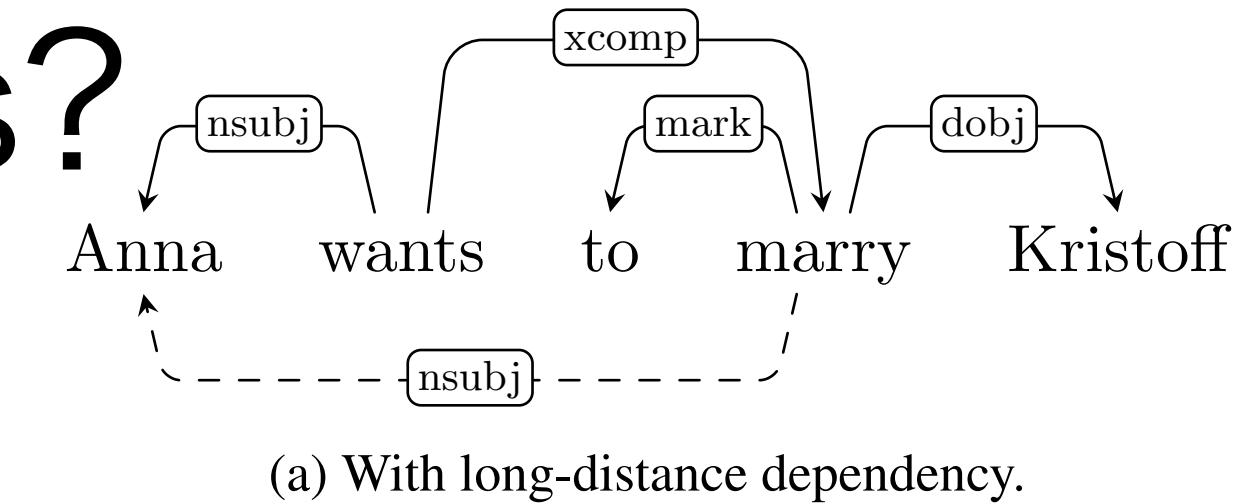
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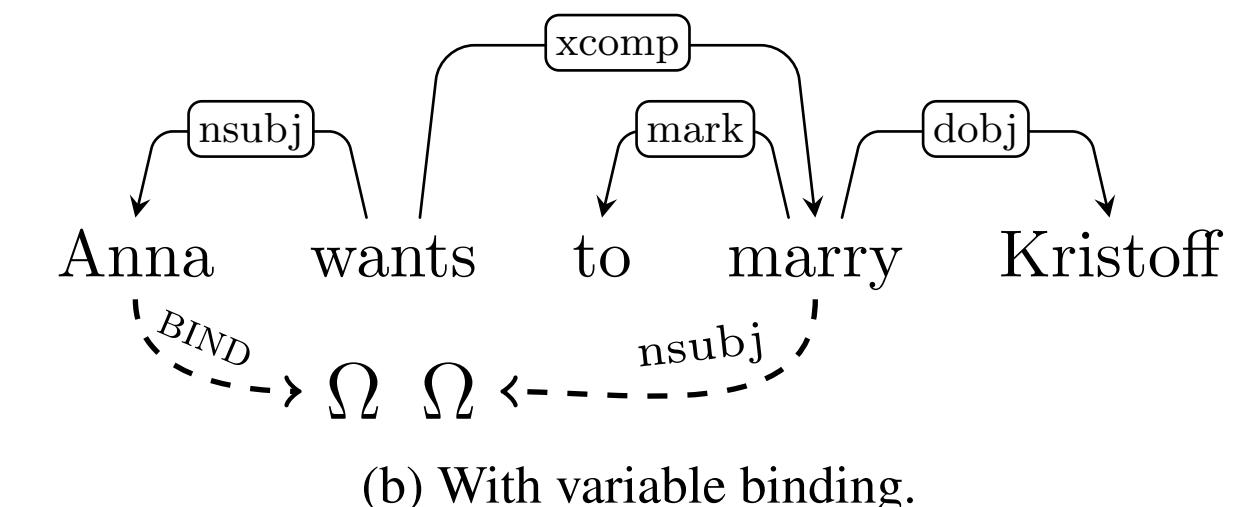


Why CCG? and not dependencies?

- 😊 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.



(a) With long-distance dependency.



(b) With variable binding.

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)

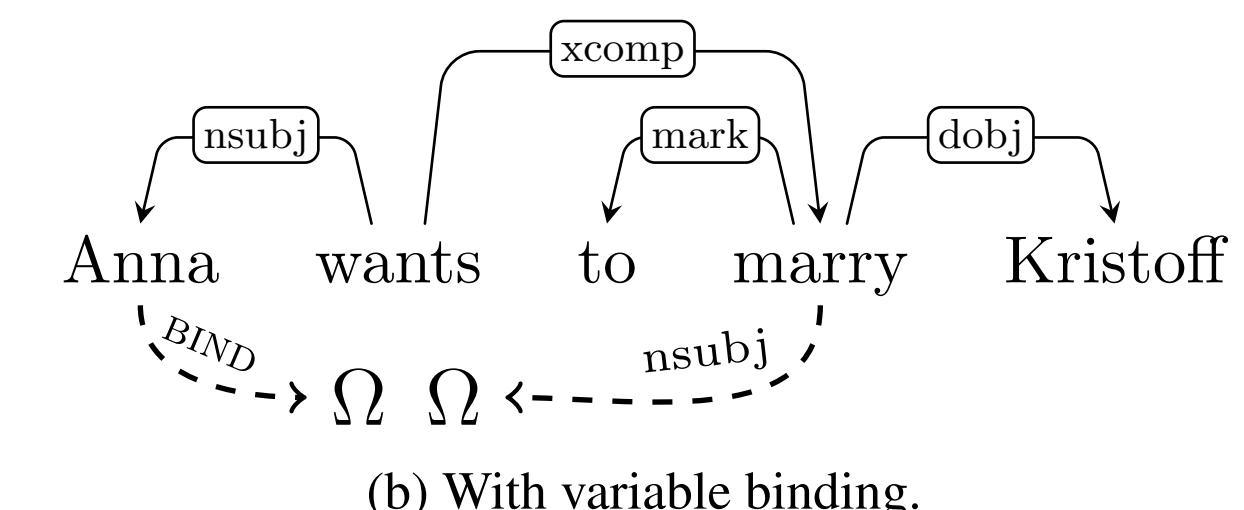
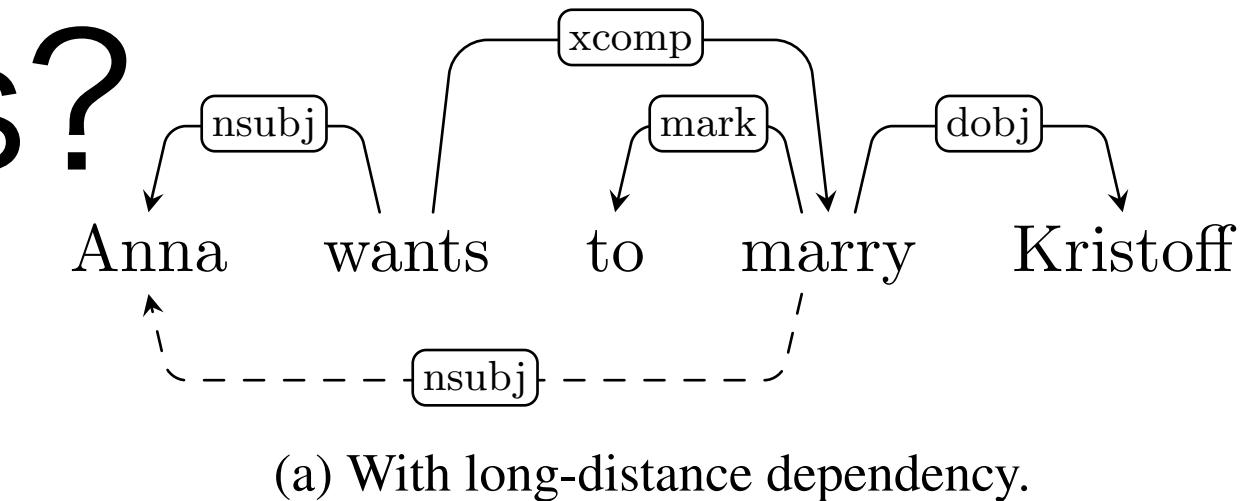


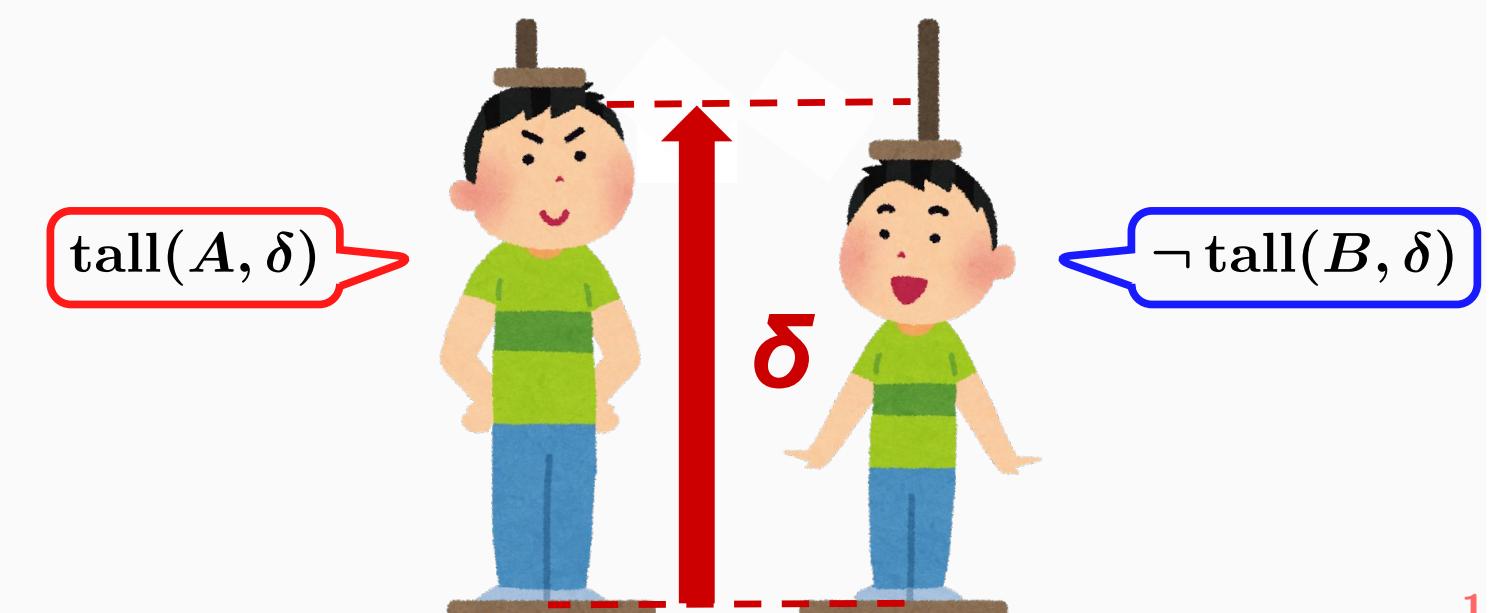
Figure 2: The original and enhanced dependency trees for *Anna wants to marry Kristoff*.

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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 - 😊 General to cover many languages, giving detailed description of language specificities

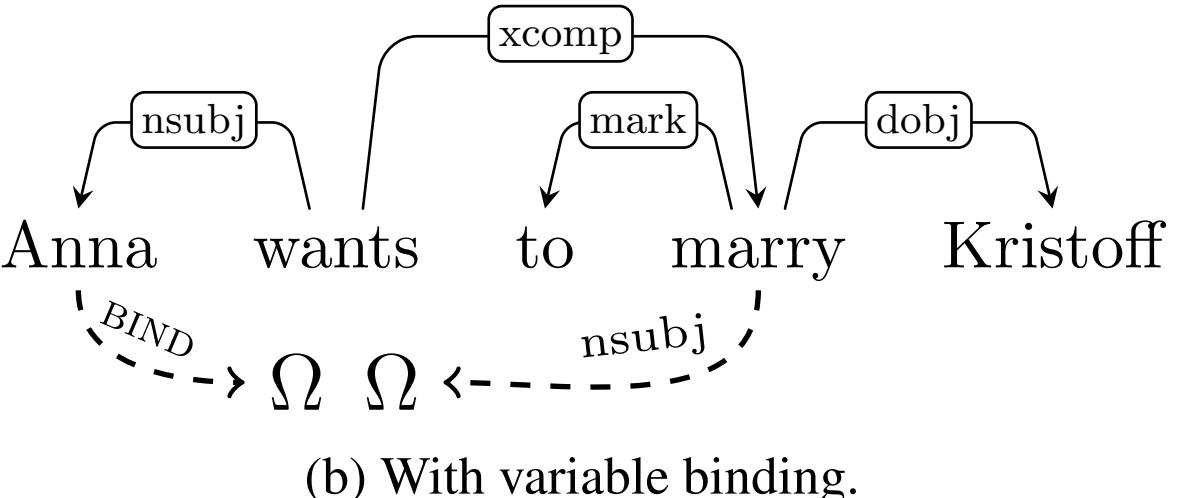
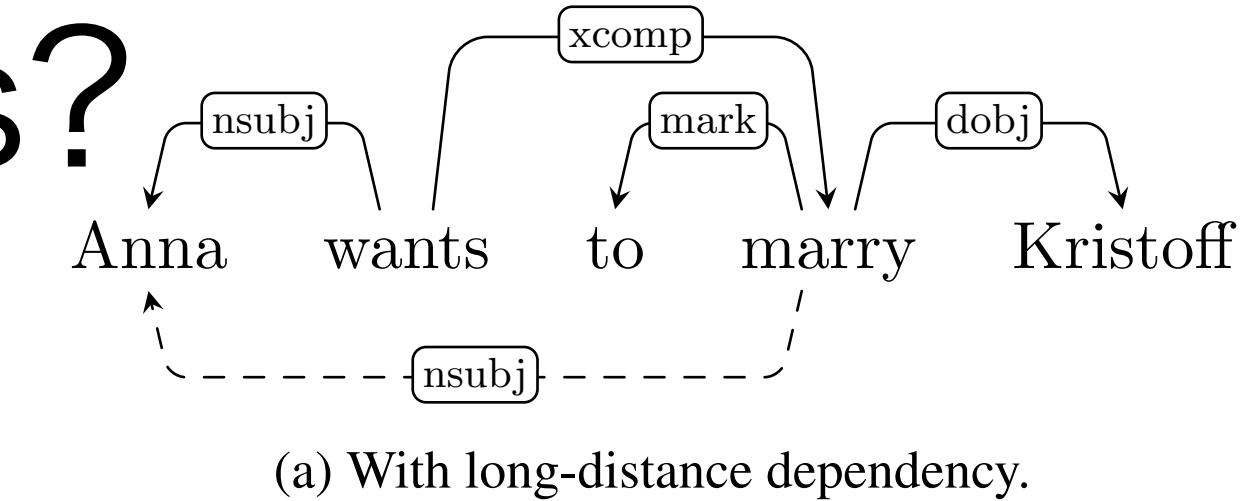


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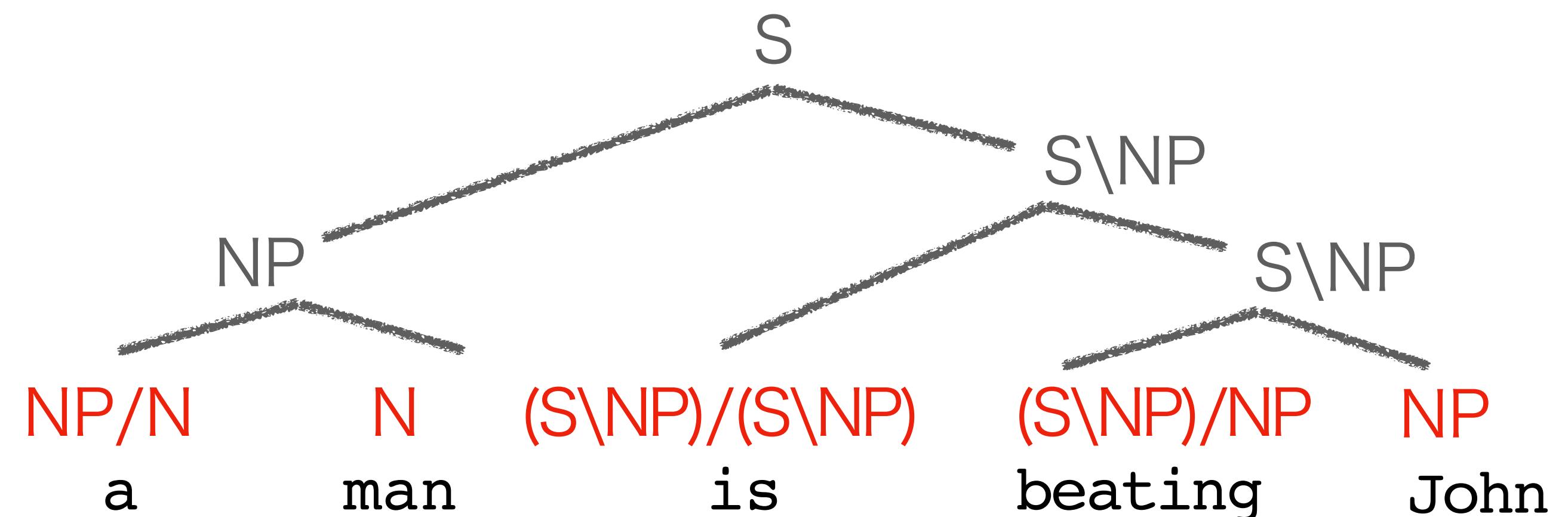
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1

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

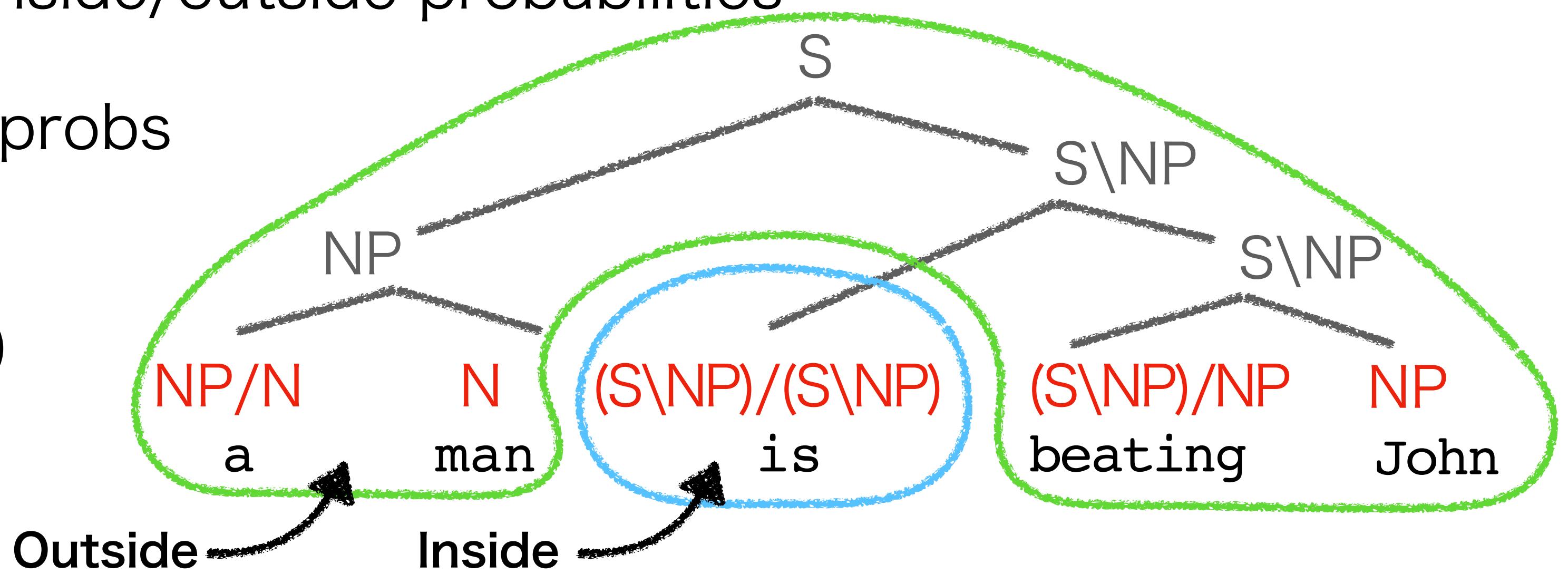
$$p(y | x) = \prod p_{tag}(c_i | x)$$



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 - Exactly same form as POS tagging, but models the entire tree!
 - Note: computing $\arg \max_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} p(y | x)$ is not trivial (CKY parsing is needed)
- (Advantage) Easy to compute inside/outside probabilities
- Even upper bounds on these probs

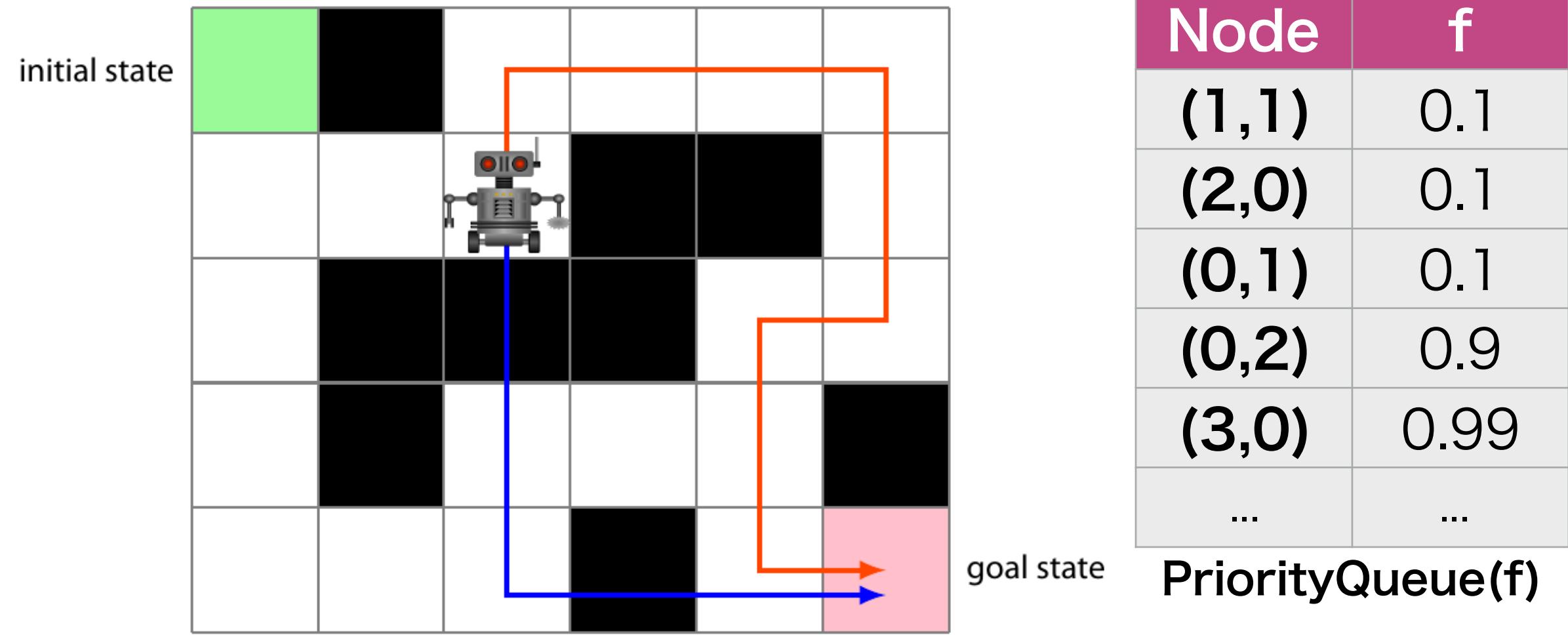
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Efficient A* Parsing

Klein & Manning, 2003

Shortest Path Problem

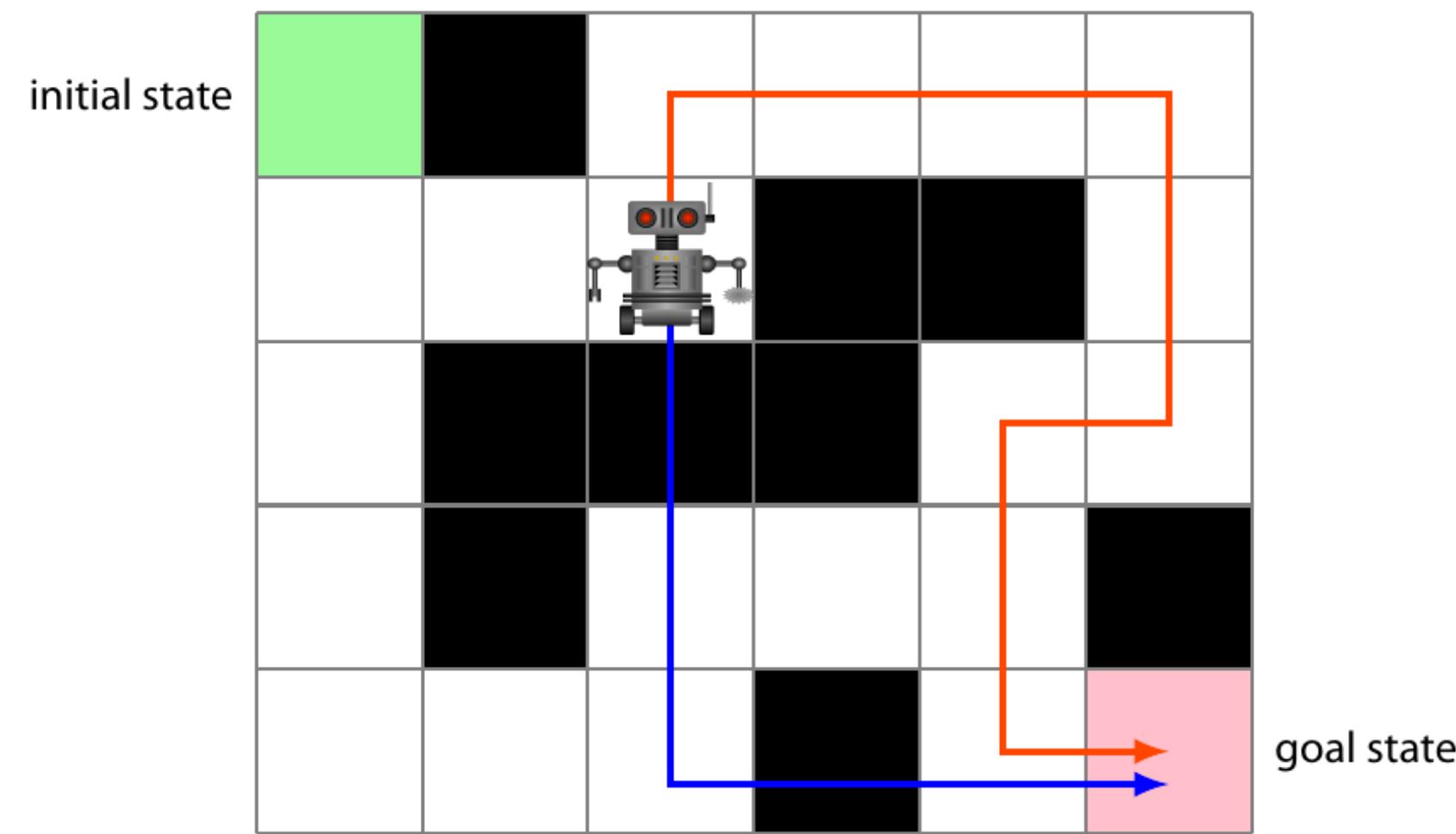


- Searches based on $f = g + h$
- g : Sum of the cost to the node
- h : Estimate on the cost to the goal
 - e.g. Manhattan distance

Efficient A* Parsing.

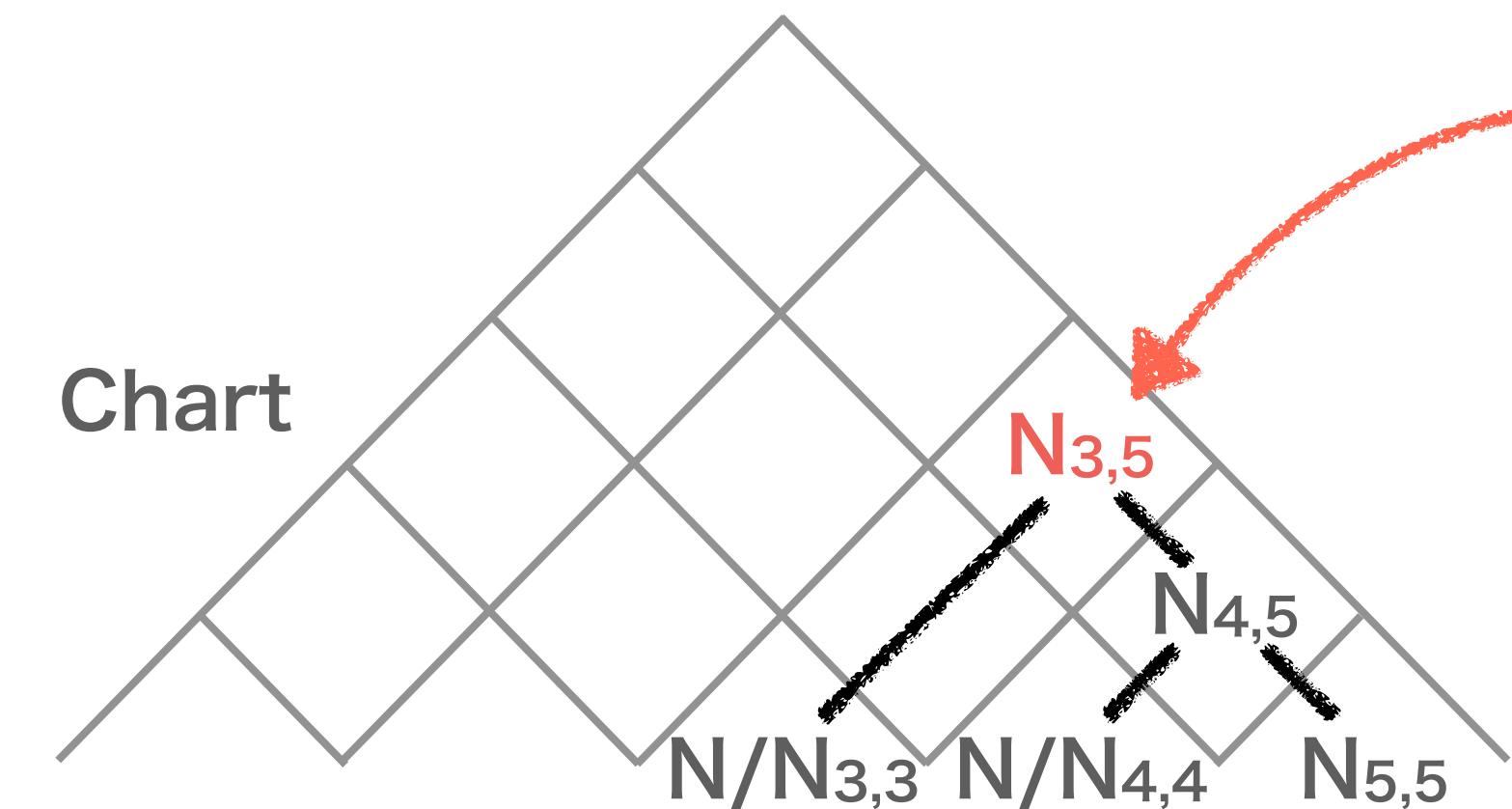
Klein & Manning, 2003

Shortest Path Problem



Node	f
(1,1)	0.1
(2,0)	0.1
(0,1)	0.1
(0,2)	0.9
(3,0)	0.99
...	...

A*-based Chart Parsing



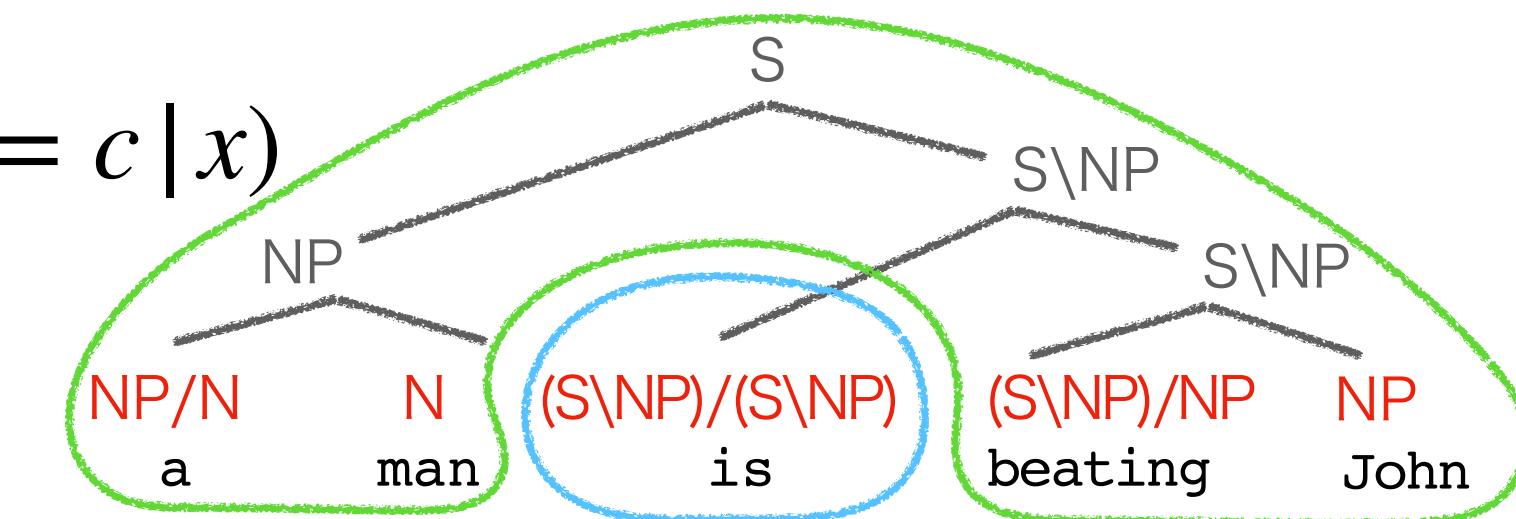
Node	f
N _{3,5}	0.1
N _{1,1}	0.1
S\N/N _{2,2}	0.1
N _{4,4}	0.9
S\N _{2,2}	0.99
...	...

PriorityQueue(f)

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

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

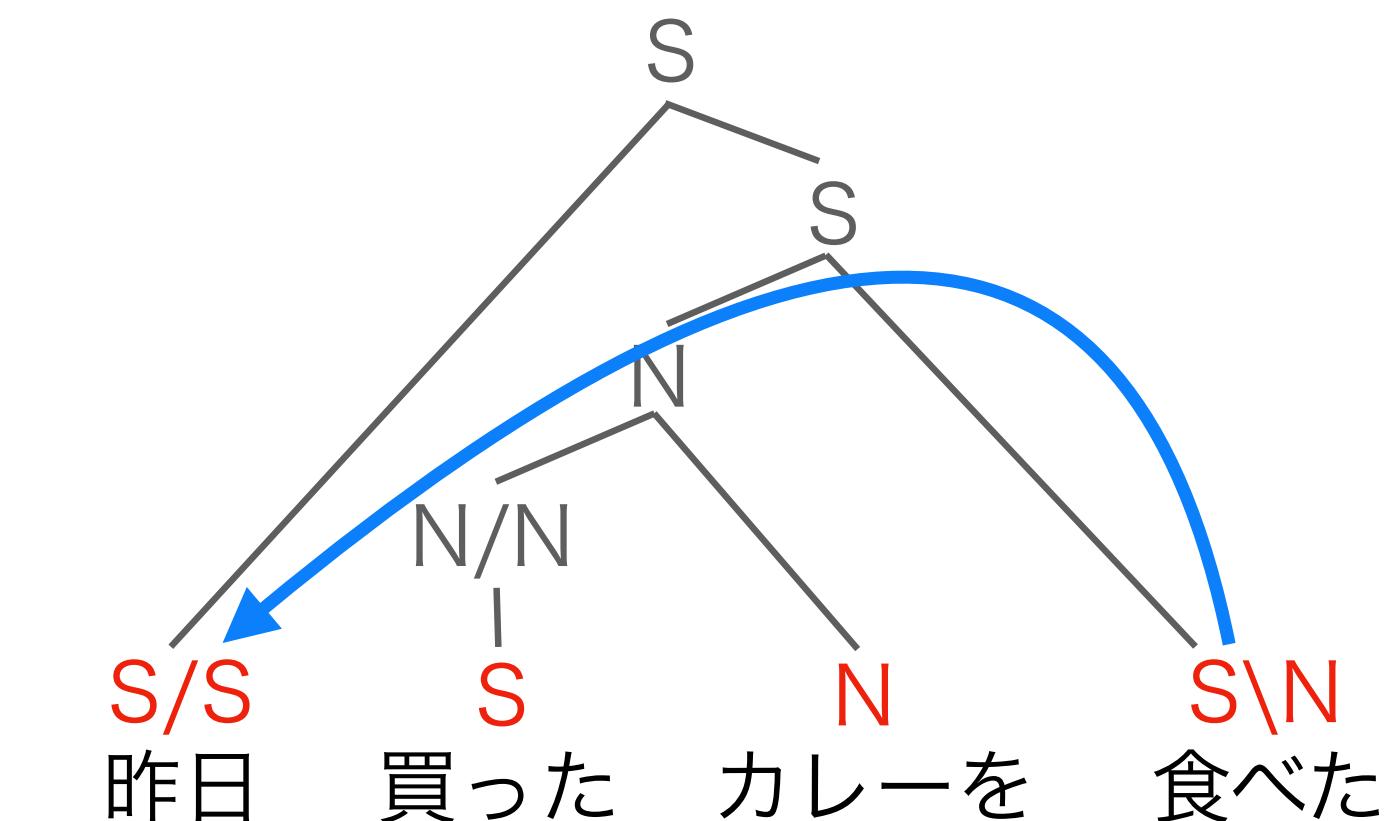
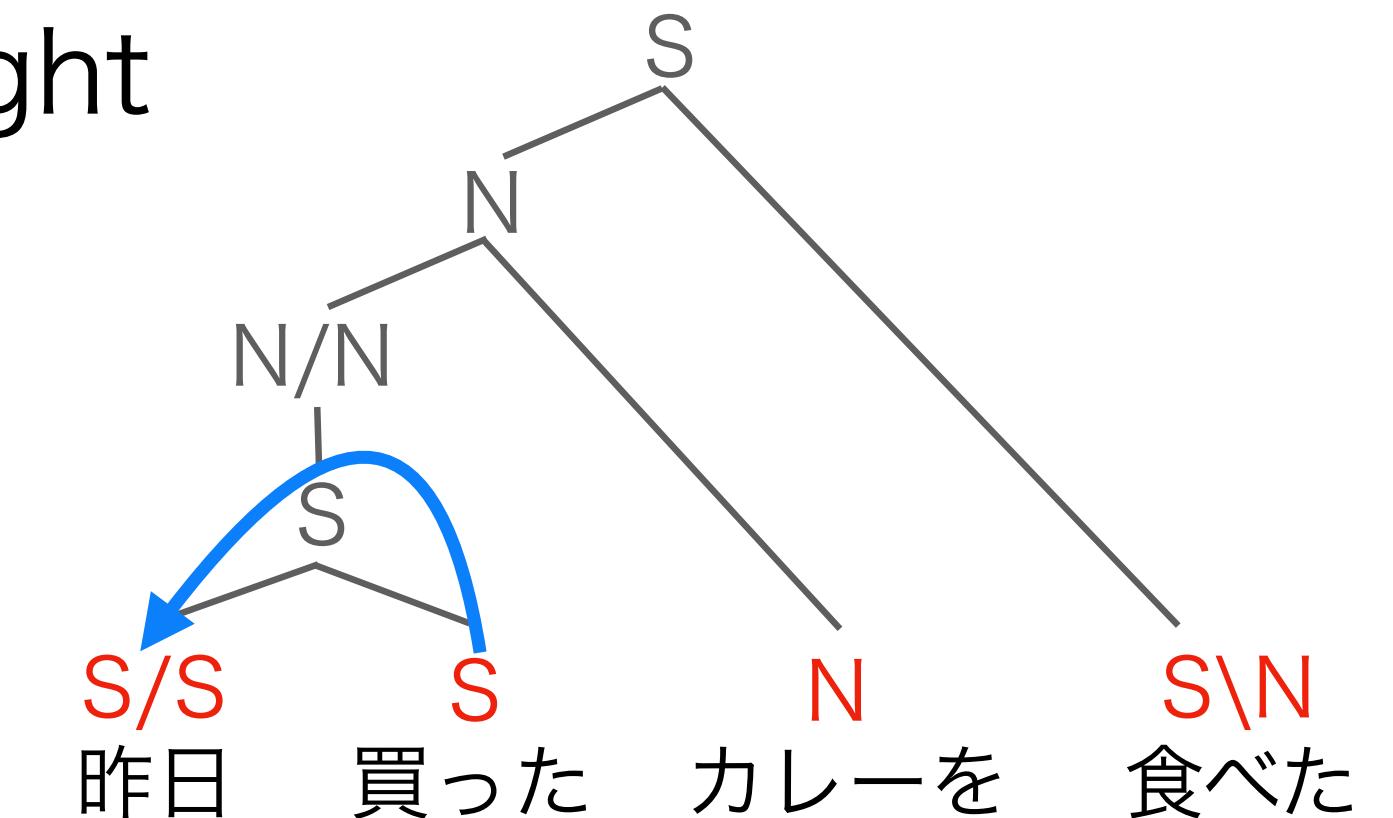
$$\sum_j \max_c p_{tag}(c_i = c | x)$$



Very efficient while guaranteeing the optimality of the solution!

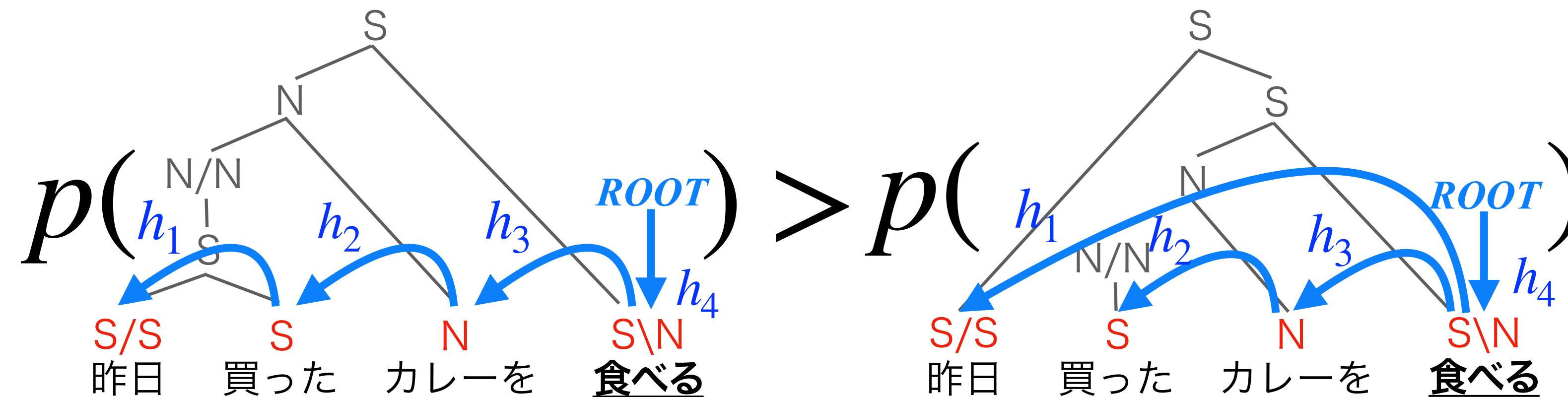
However..

- 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

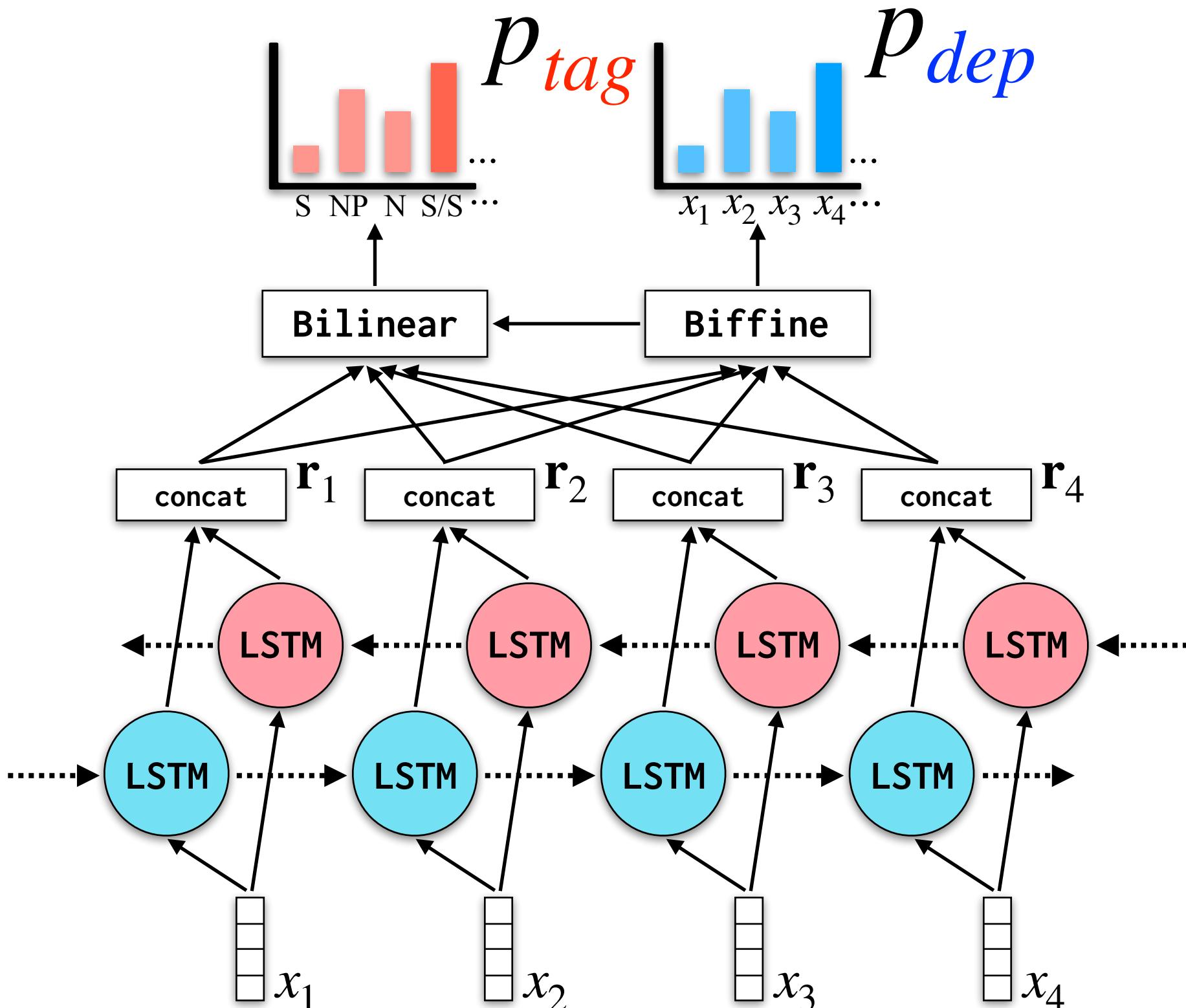


My Previous Contribution

- Category and Dependency-factored Model (Yoshikawa et al., 2017)
 - Model the higher-level structure through dependency edges
- The probability is decomposable: A* parsing is available!
 - All quantities required in A* search can be pre-computed
 - Efficiency and optimality guarantee

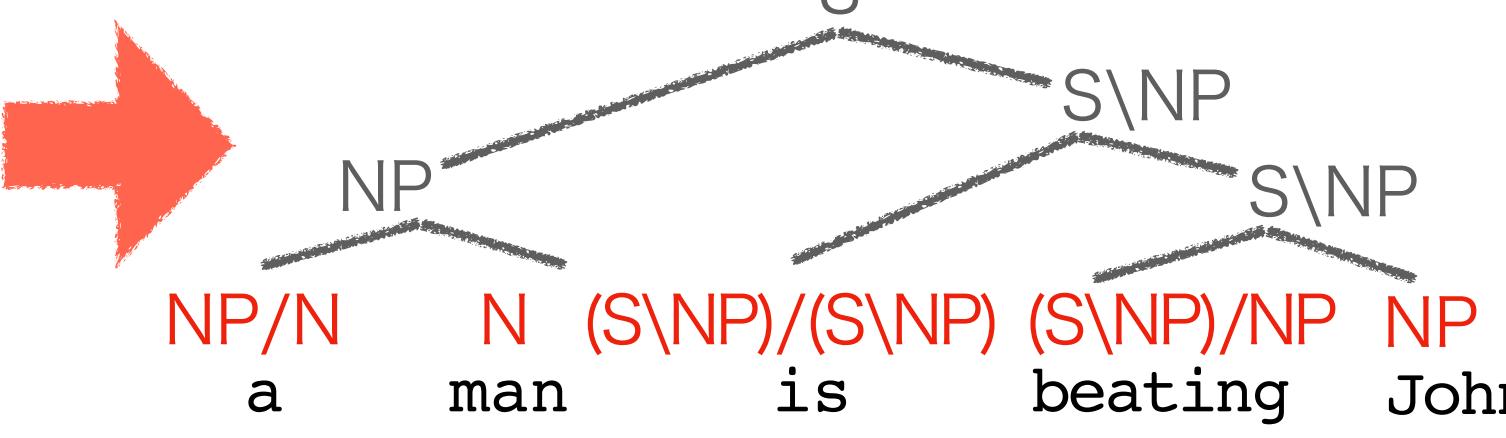


Calculating p_{tag} and p_{dep}



Used as costs in A* search

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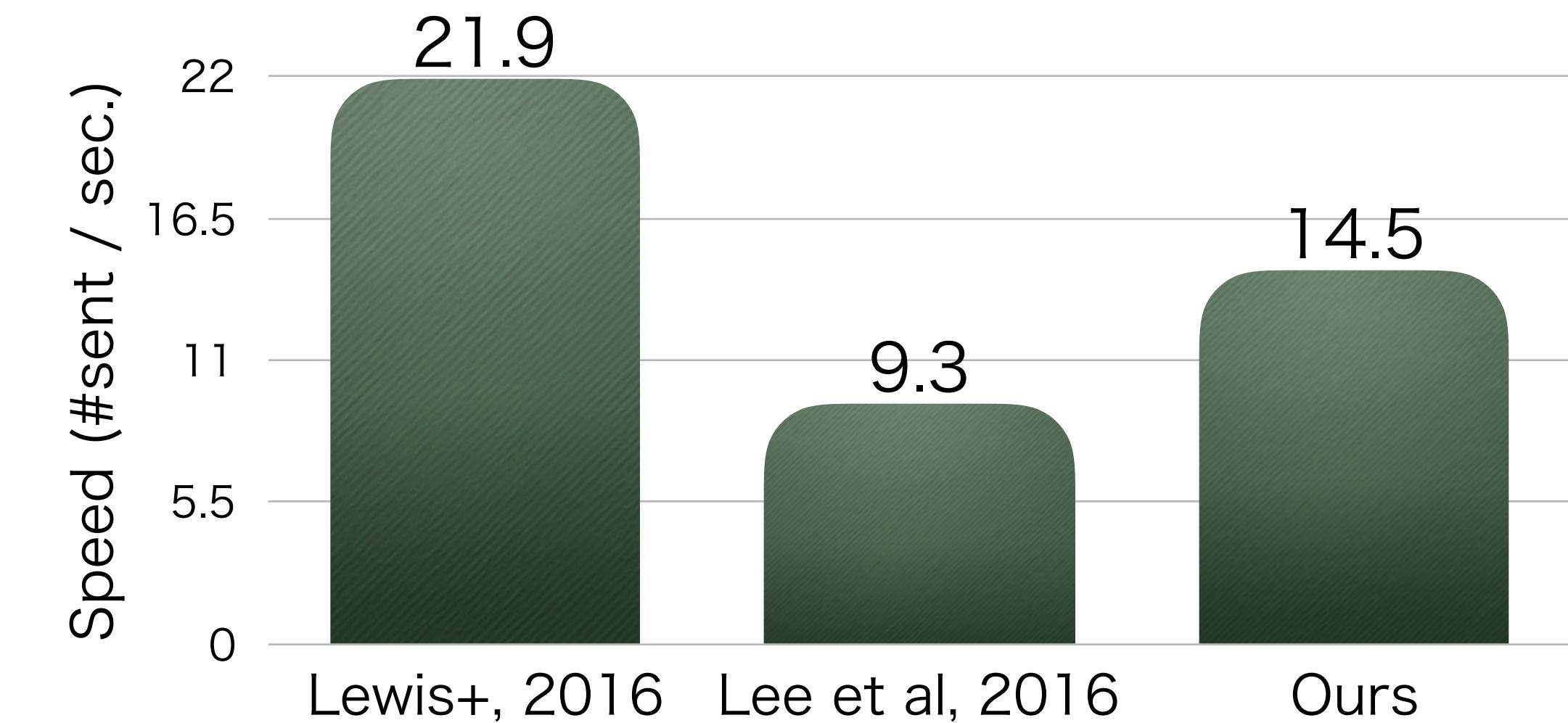
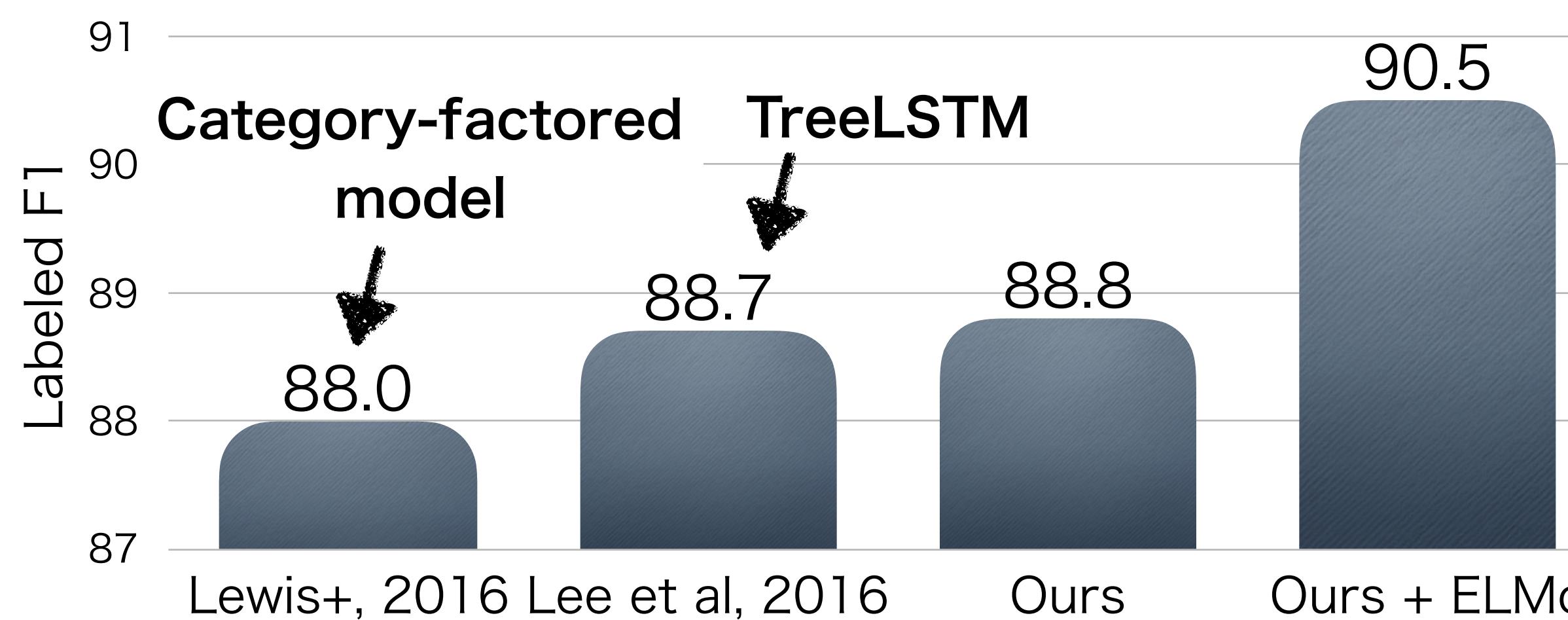


- biLSTM-based vectors: \mathbf{r}_i
 - Best-performing dependency parsing method (Dozat et al., 2017) is utilized:
 - Biaffine layer to model dependencies
$$p_{dep}(x_j \leftarrow x_i) \propto \mathbf{r}_i^T W \mathbf{r}_j + \mathbf{r}_i^T \mathbf{u}$$
 - Bilinear layer to model categories

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

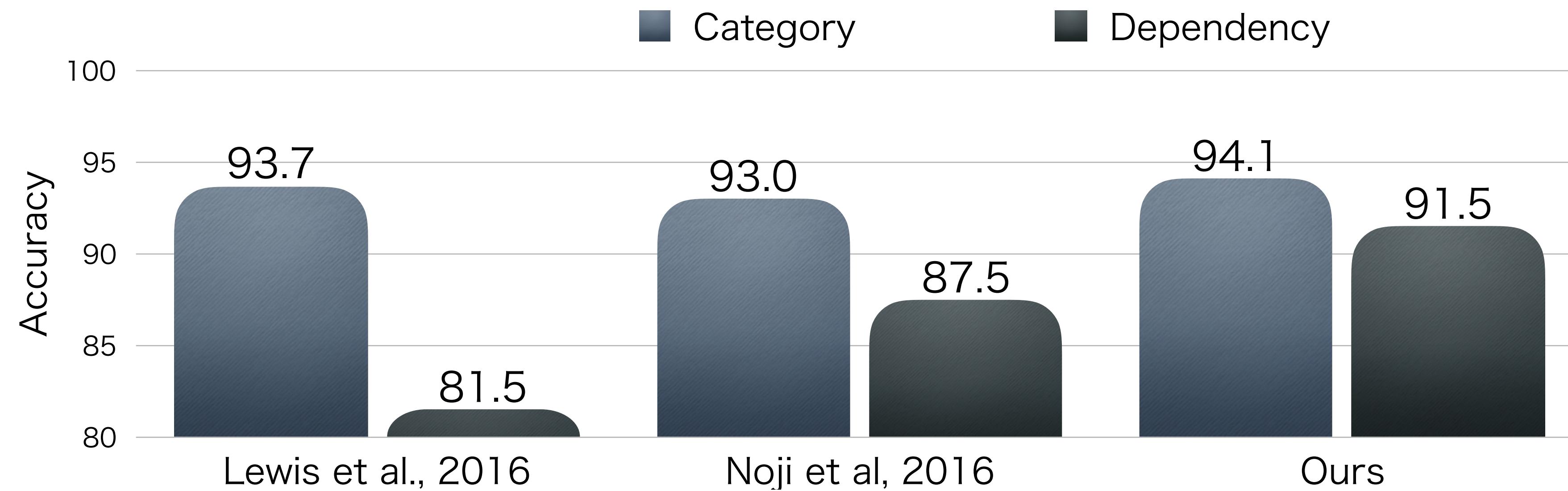
$$p_{tag}(c_i = c) \propto \mathbf{r}_i^T W_c \mathbf{r}_{i_head}$$

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[dcl]\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



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.

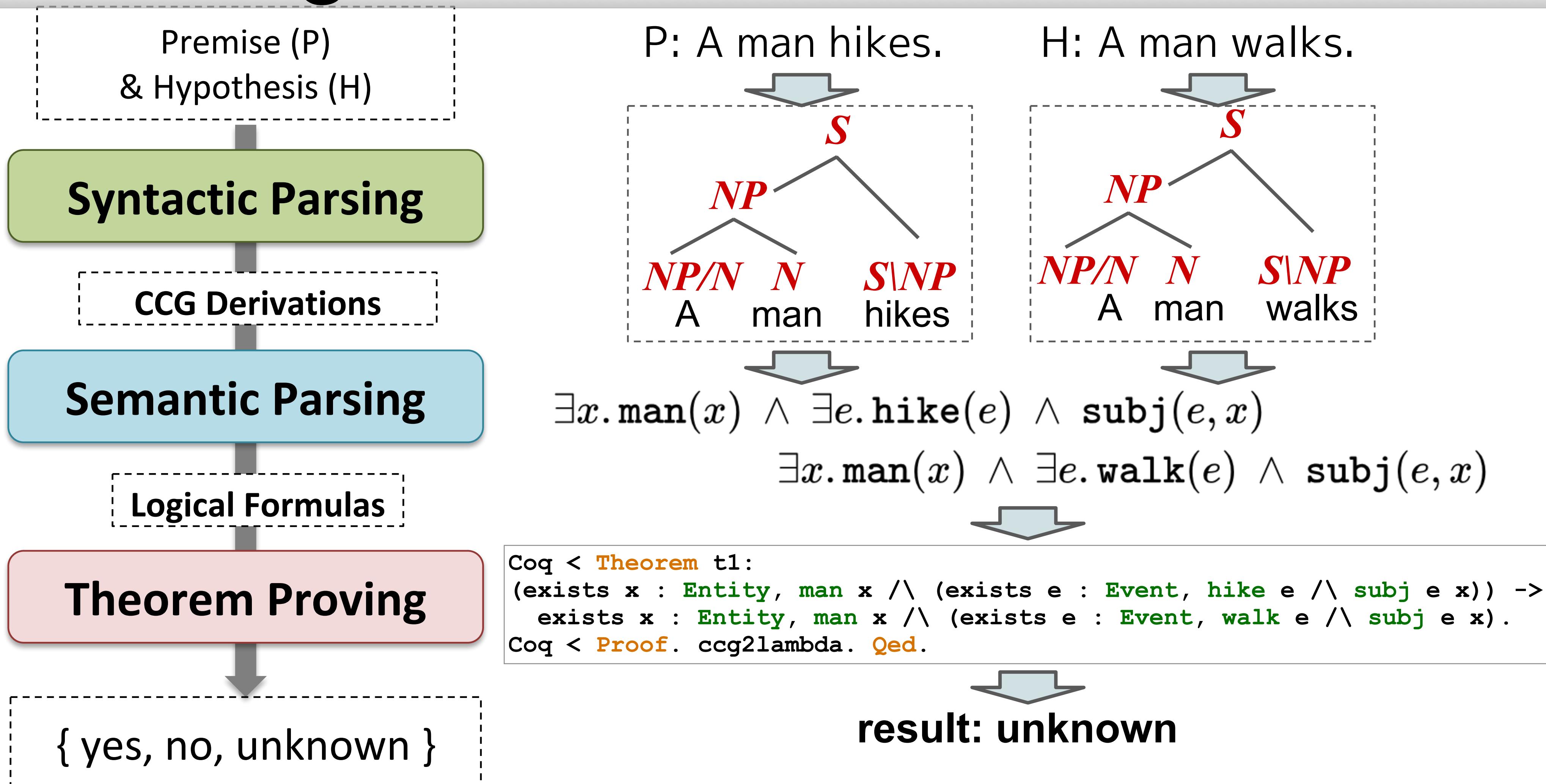
Hypothesis

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)



ccg2lambda (Mineshima et al., 2015)

Premise (P)
& Hypothesis (H)

Syntactic Parsing

CCG Derivations

Semantic Parsing

Logical Formulas

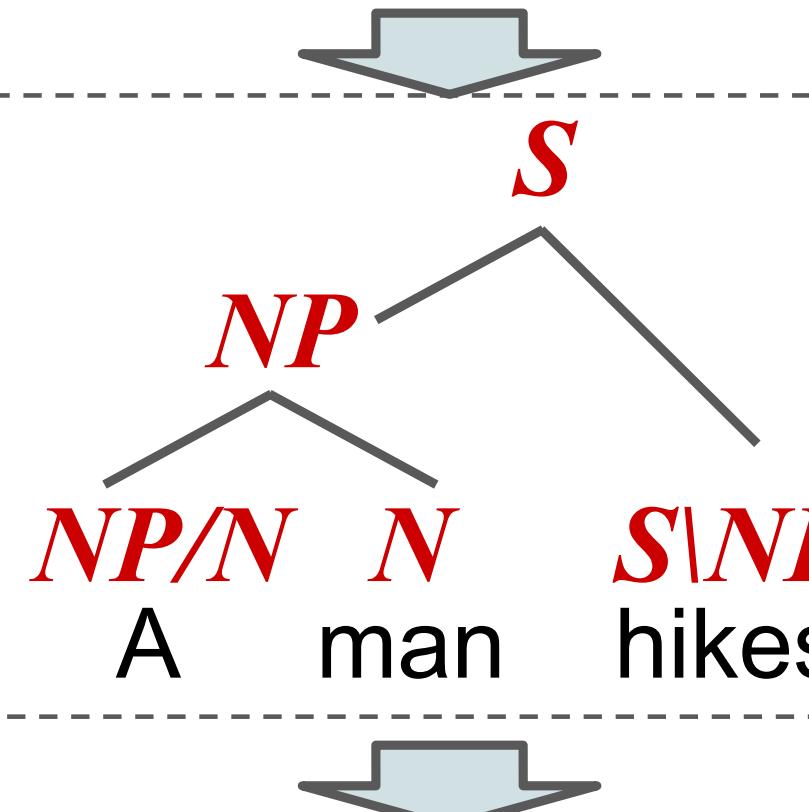
Theorem Proving

{ yes, no, unknown }

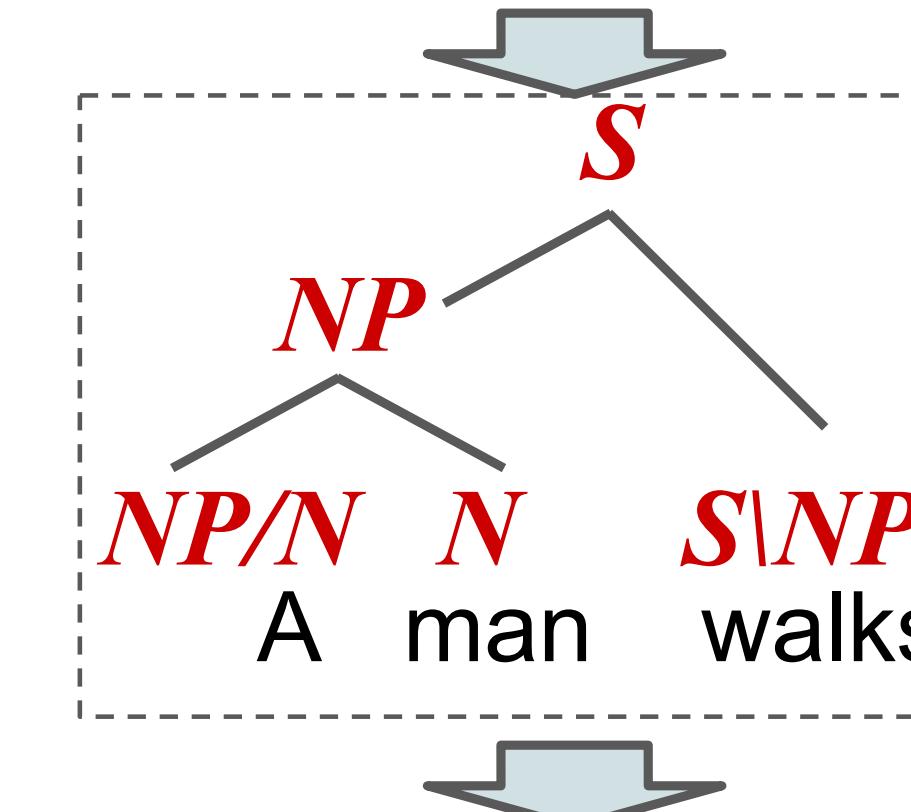
👍 Unsupervised

👍 Captures linguistic phenomena
- 83.6 % accuracy in SICK

P: A man hikes.



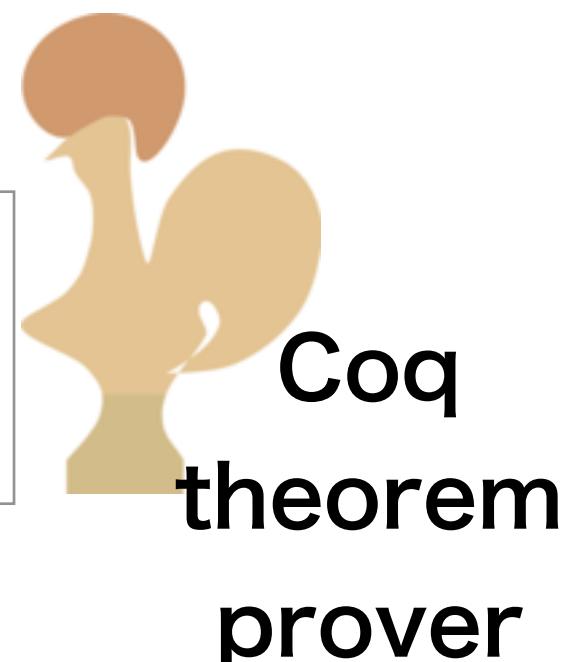
H: A man walks.



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

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

```
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

ccg2lambda (Mineshima et al., 2015)

Premise (P)
& Hypothesis (H)

Syntactic Parsing

CCG Derivations

Semantic Parsing

Logical Formulas

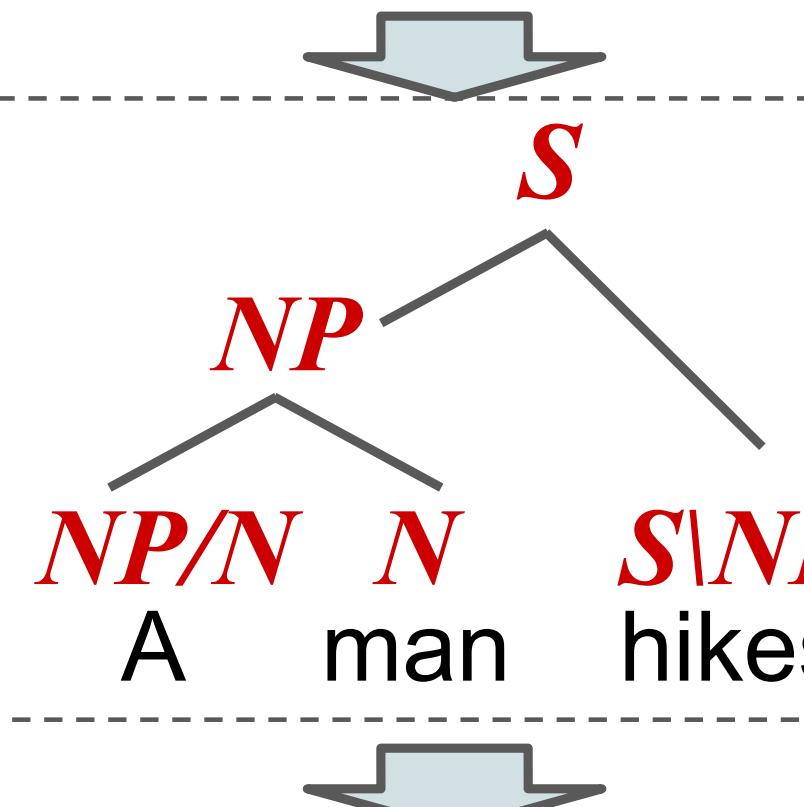
Theorem Proving

{ yes, no, unknown }

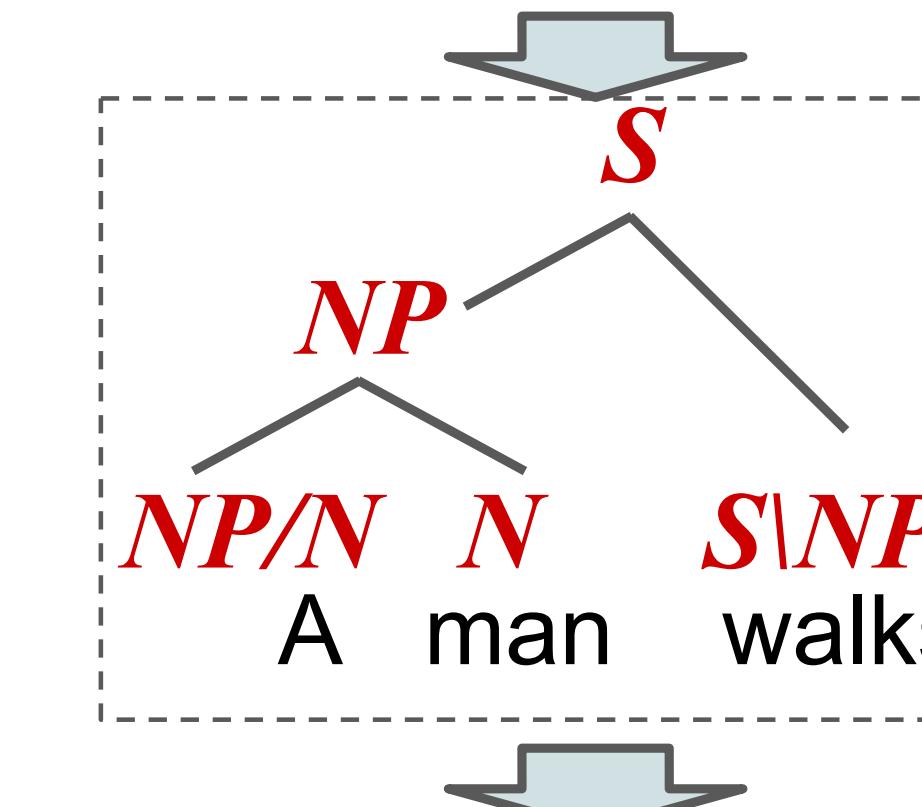
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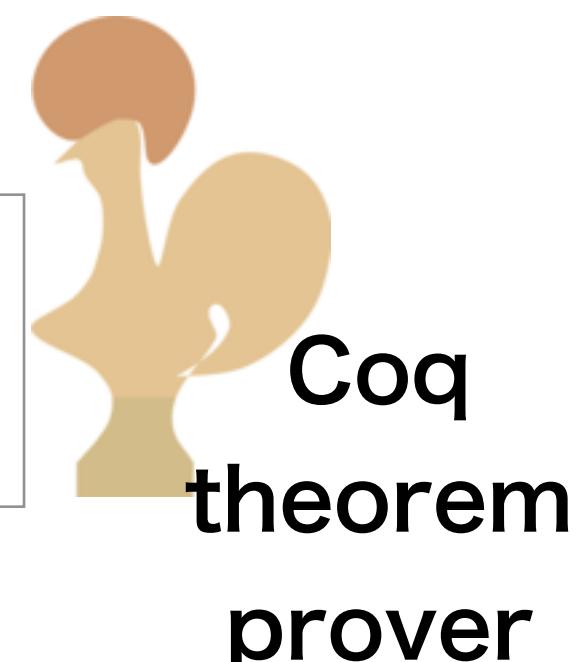
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```



result: unknown

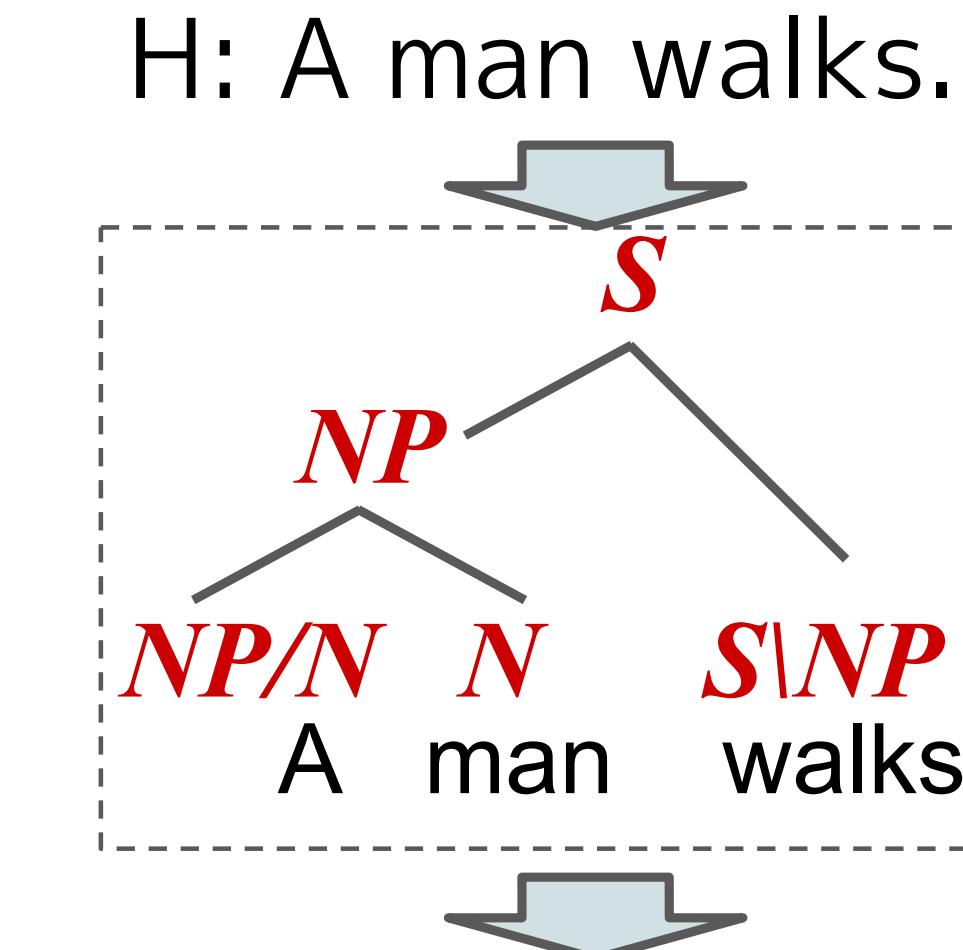
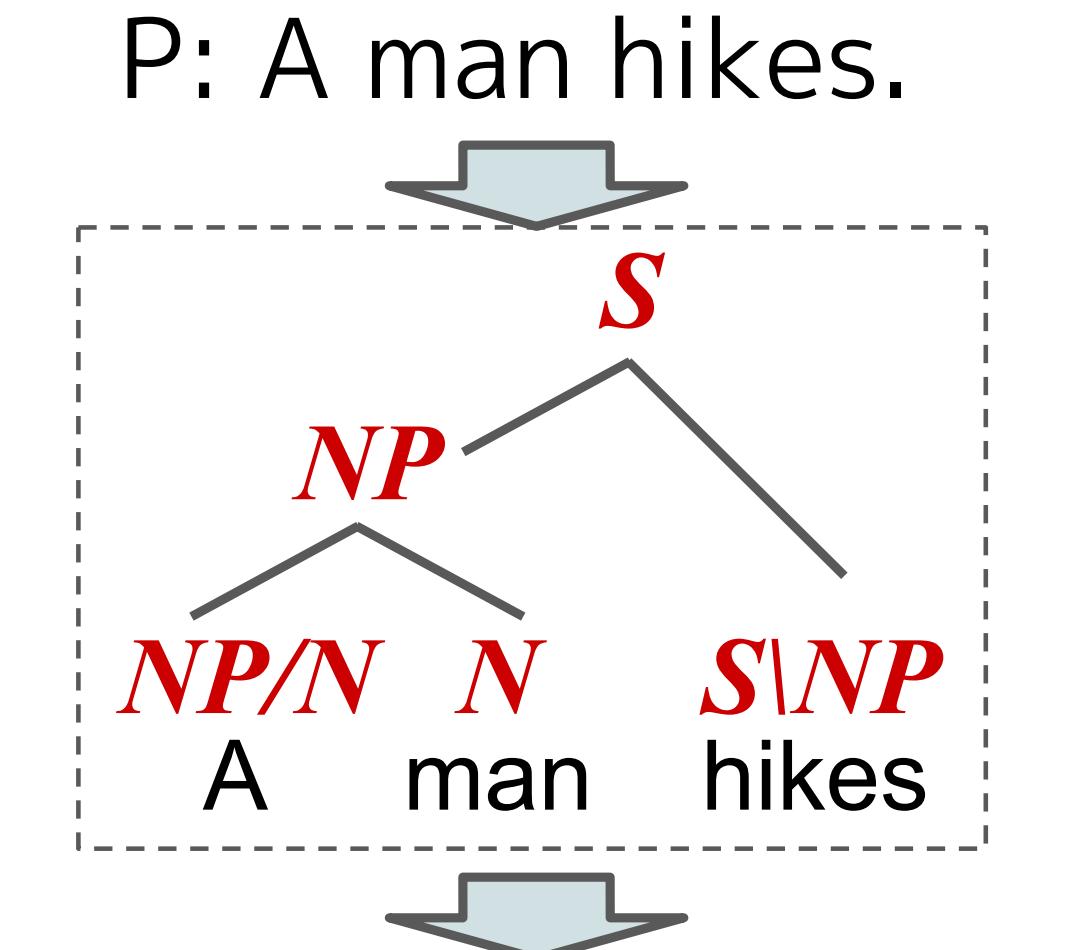
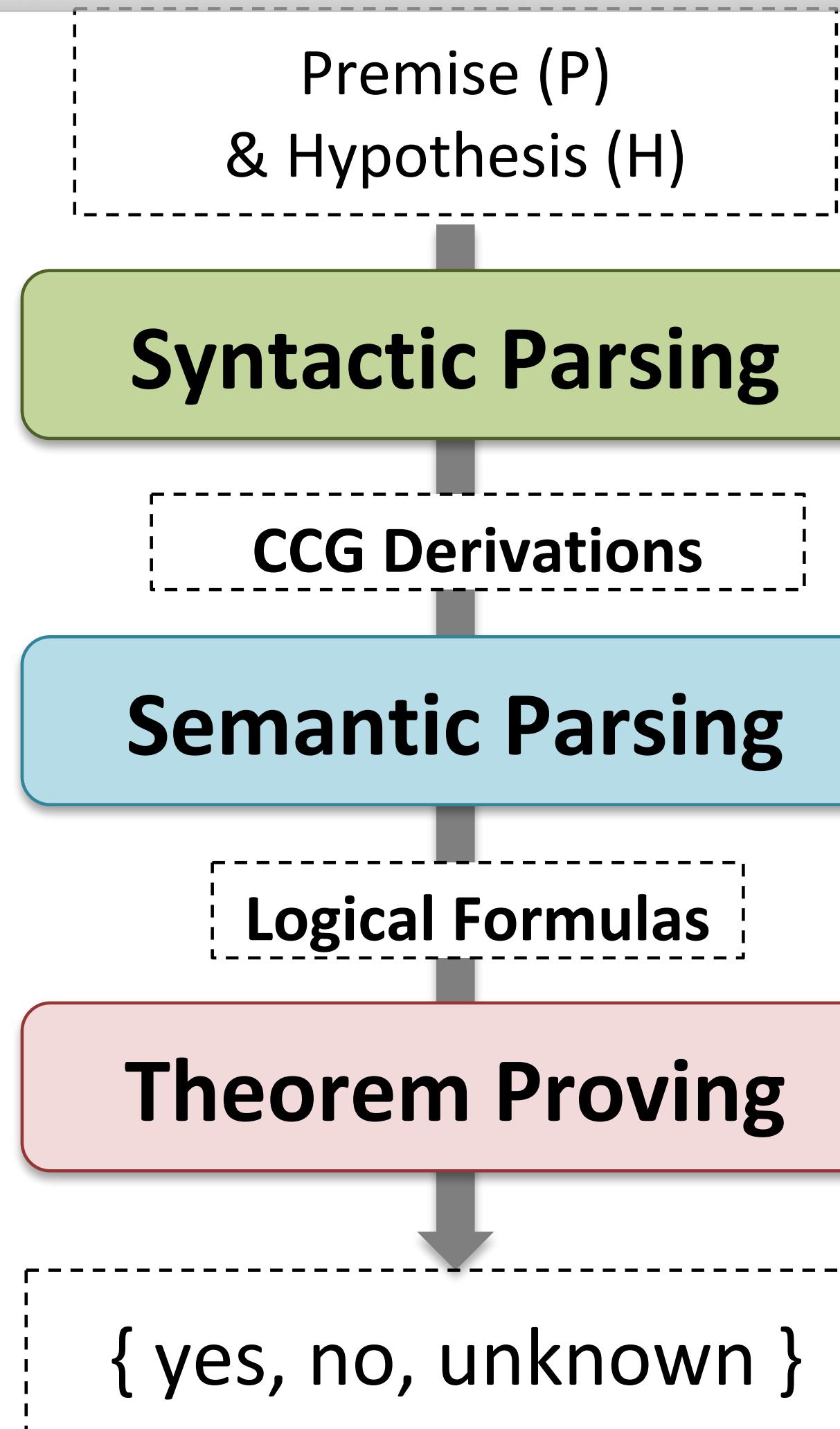


How to handle external knowledge?

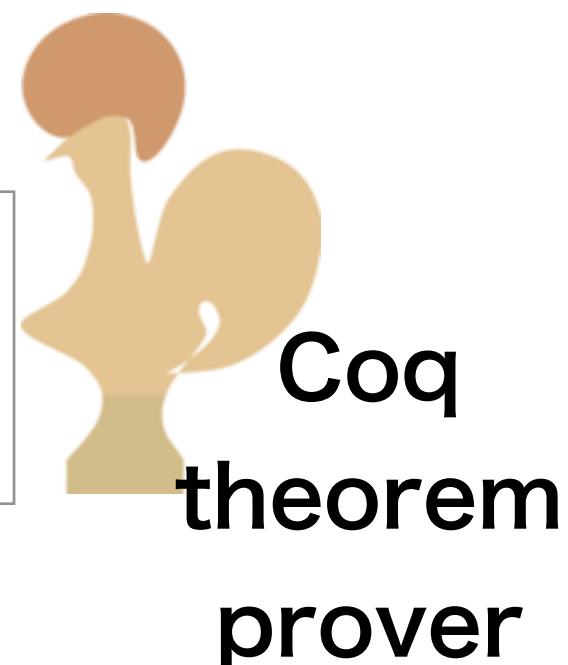
e.g. $\forall x. \text{hike}(x) \rightarrow \text{walk}(x)$

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

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

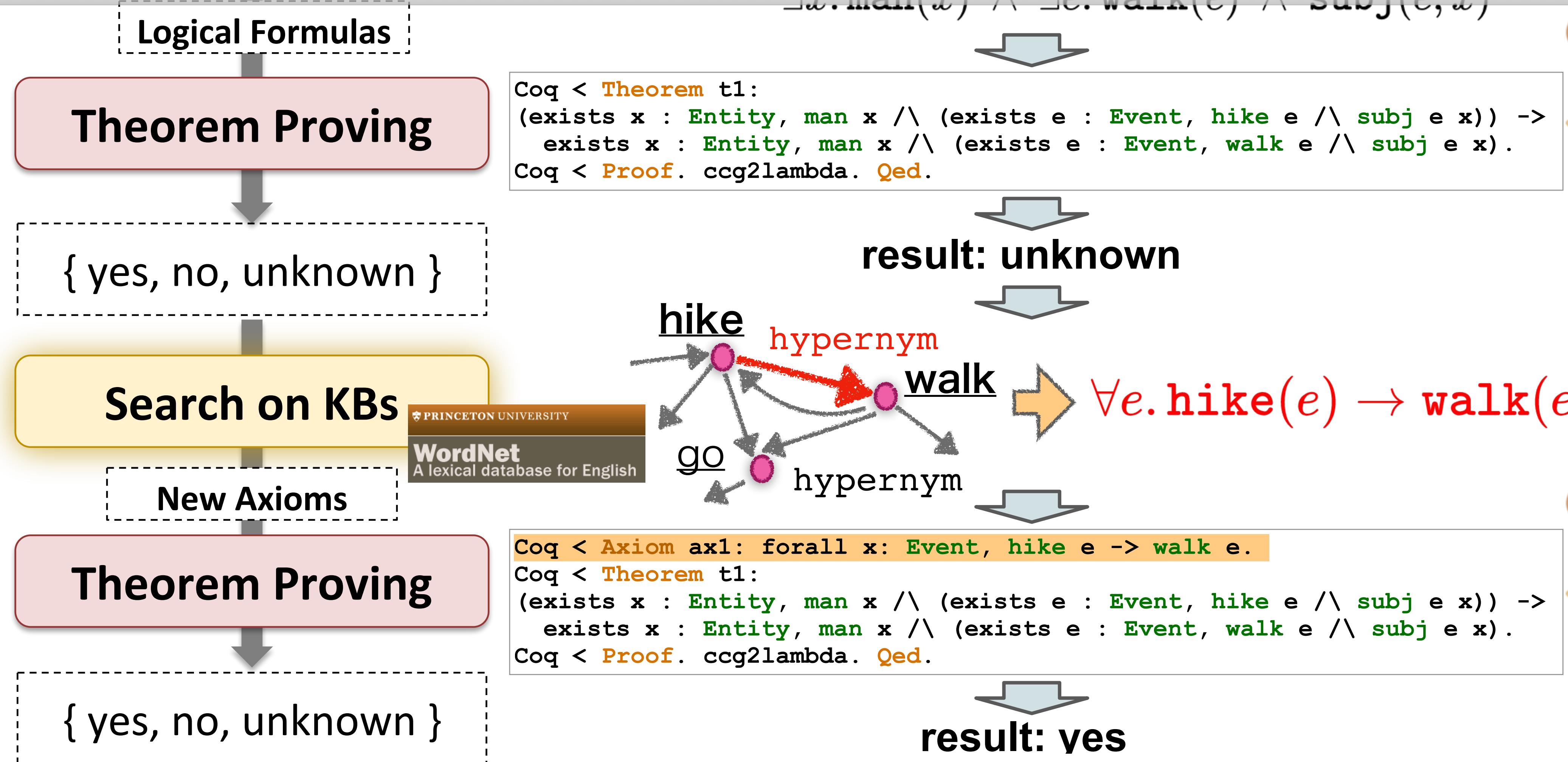


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Coq < Theorem t1:  
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Coq < Proof. ccg2lambda. Qed.
```



result: unknown

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



Coq
theorem
prover

Coq
theorem
prover

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

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- 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



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- (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 want to **add more knowledge** to increase the coverage of reasoning
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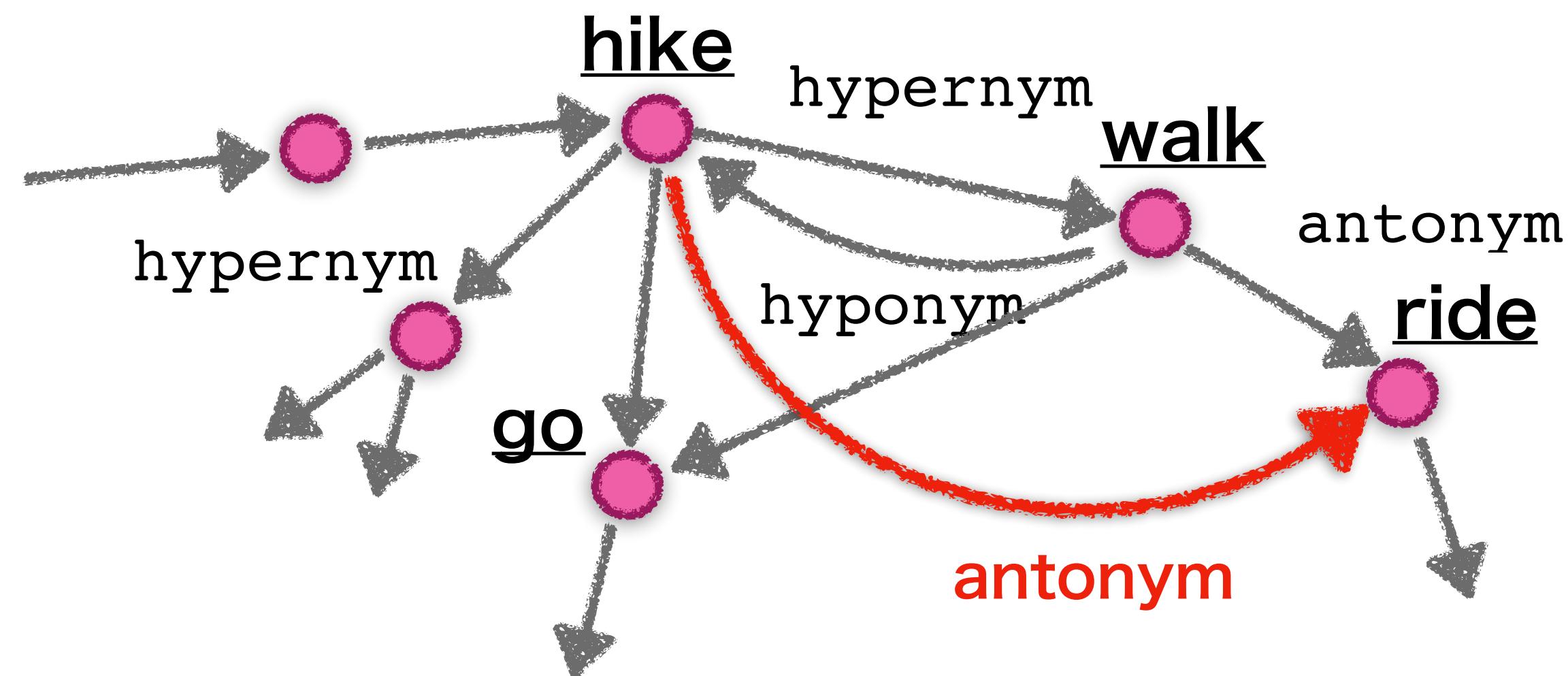
👉 We solve these issues by:

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:

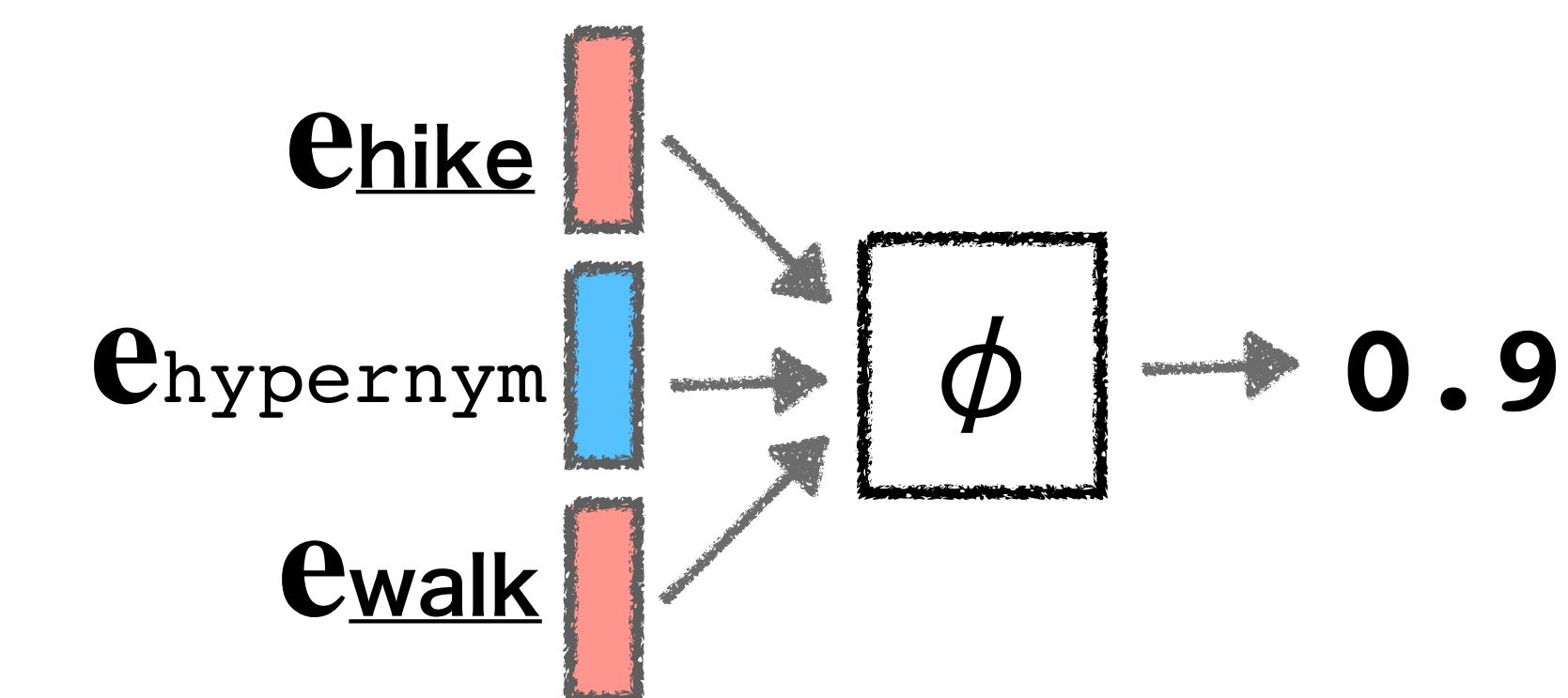
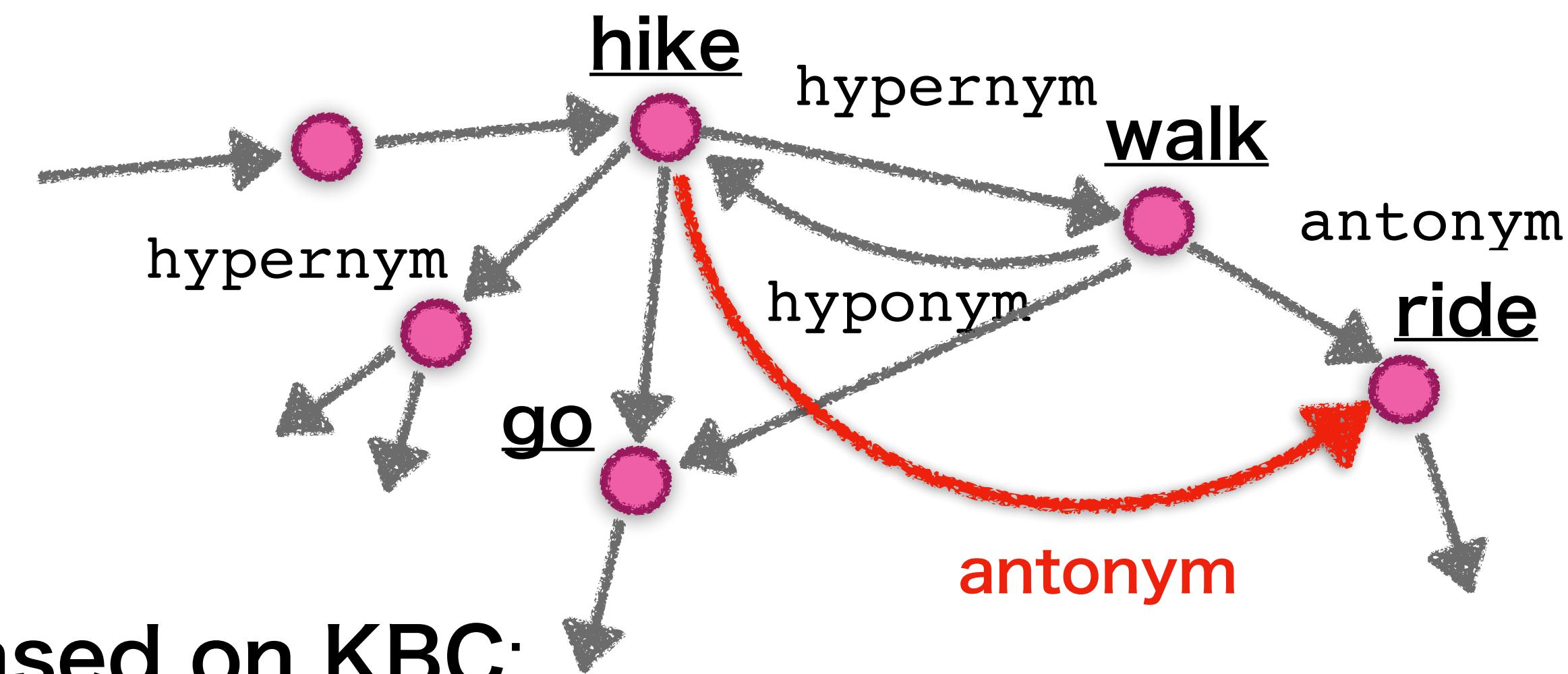
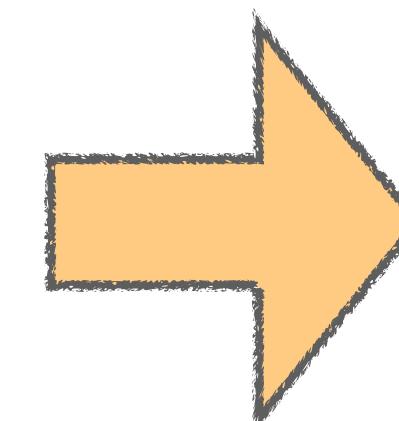
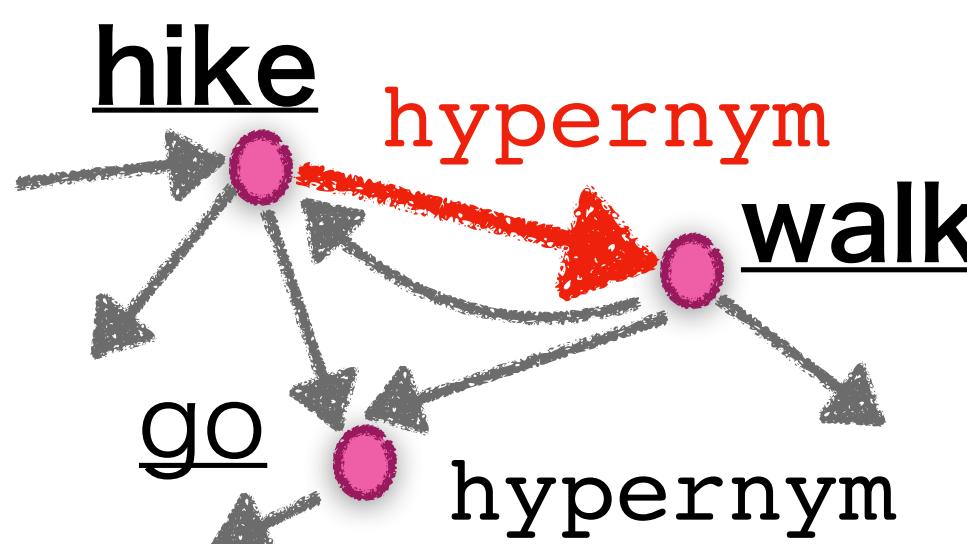
- A task to complement missing relations

- recent huge advancement

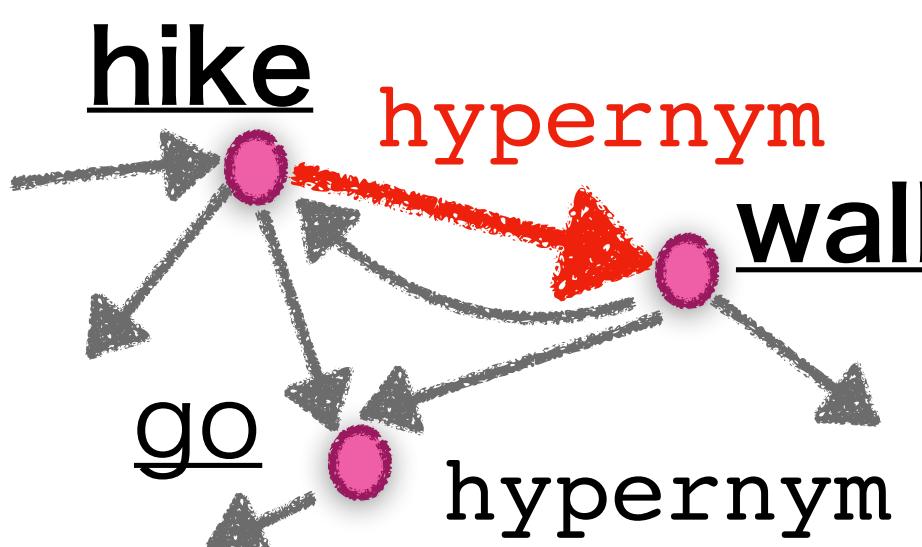
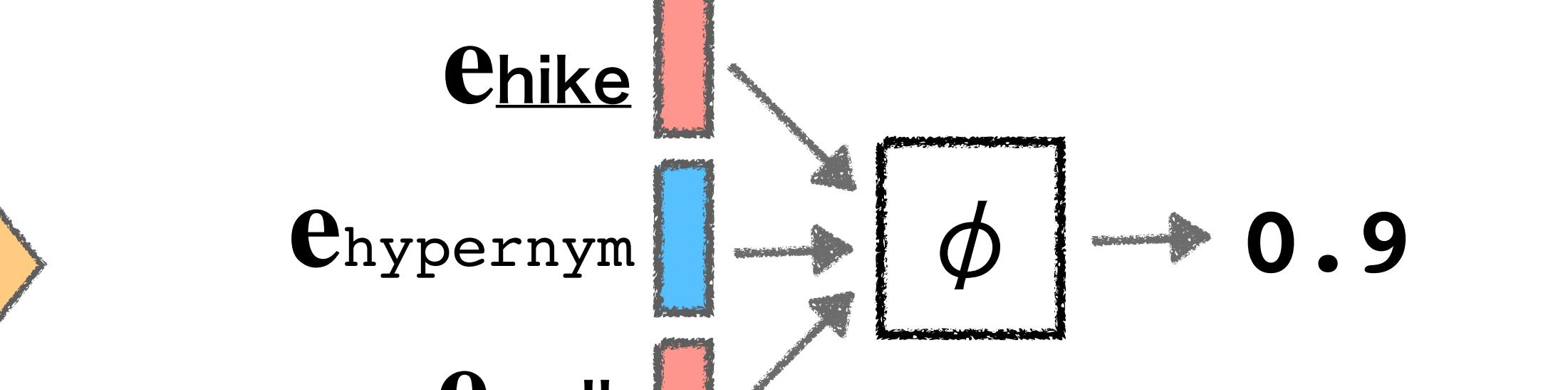
- We propose an **abduction mechanism based on KBC**:

- If (s, r, o) is missing, use it as axiom if $\phi(s, r, o) \geq \delta$ (threshold)

- ComplEx (Trouillon et al., 2016): $\phi(s, r, o) = \sigma(Re(\langle \mathbf{e}_s, \mathbf{e}_r, \mathbf{e}_o \rangle))$, $\forall \mathbf{e}_v \in \mathbb{C}^n$



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
 A diagram showing a knowledge graph with four nodes: hike , walk , go , and hypernym . The hike and walk nodes are pink circles, while go and hypernym are grey and red respectively. There are three directed edges: one from go to hike , one from go to walk , and two from hypernym to both hike and walk . The word "hypernym" is written twice in red above the graph, once next to each of the two edges from hypernym to hike and walk .		 A diagram illustrating the KBC mechanism. It shows three vectors: e_{hike} (red), e_{hypernym} (blue), and e_{walk} (red). These vectors are combined via a dot product operation (indicated by a square with a ϕ symbol) to produce a score of 0.9.



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

1 subgoal

Lexical gap!

```
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

```
1 subgoal
  ⊥
  -----
  Lexical gap!
  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

1 subgoal

Lexical gap!

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

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

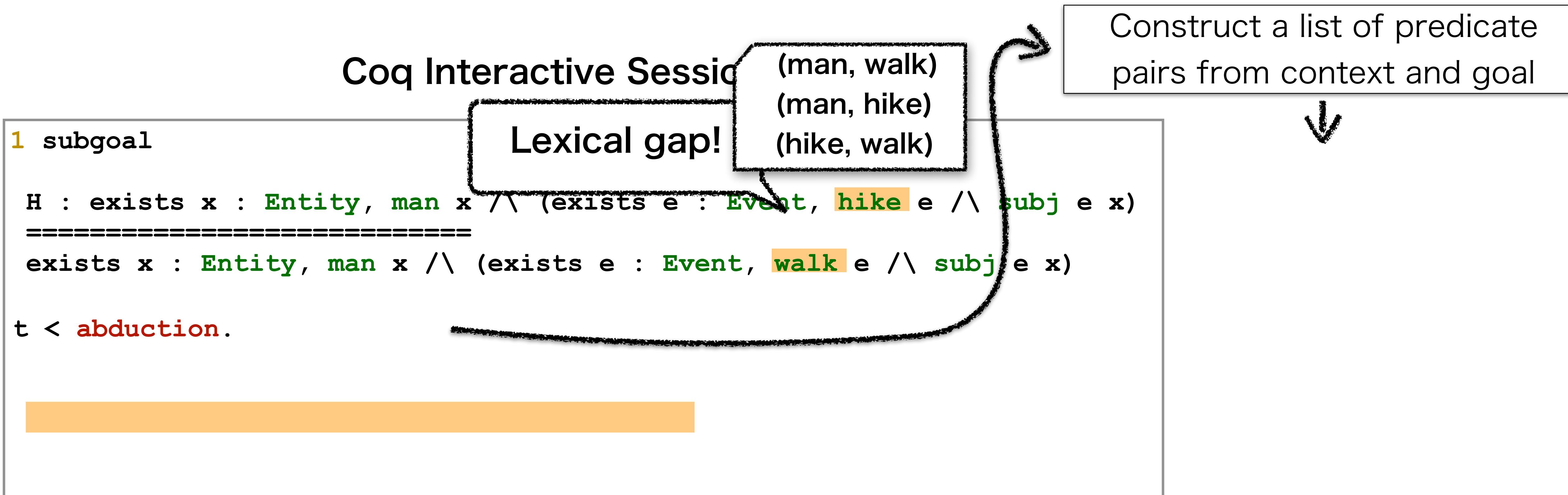
exists x : Entity, man x /\ (exists e : Event, **walk** e /\ subj e x)

t < **abduction**.

An orange bar is at the bottom.

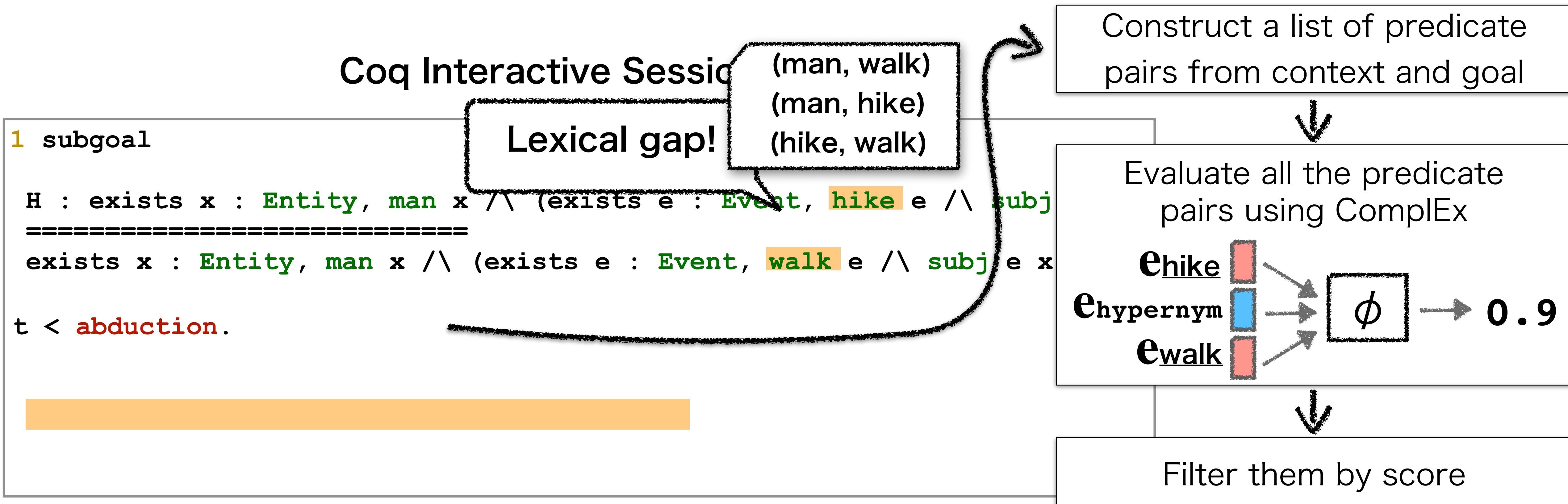


2. Faster Reasoning with "abduction" Coq plugin



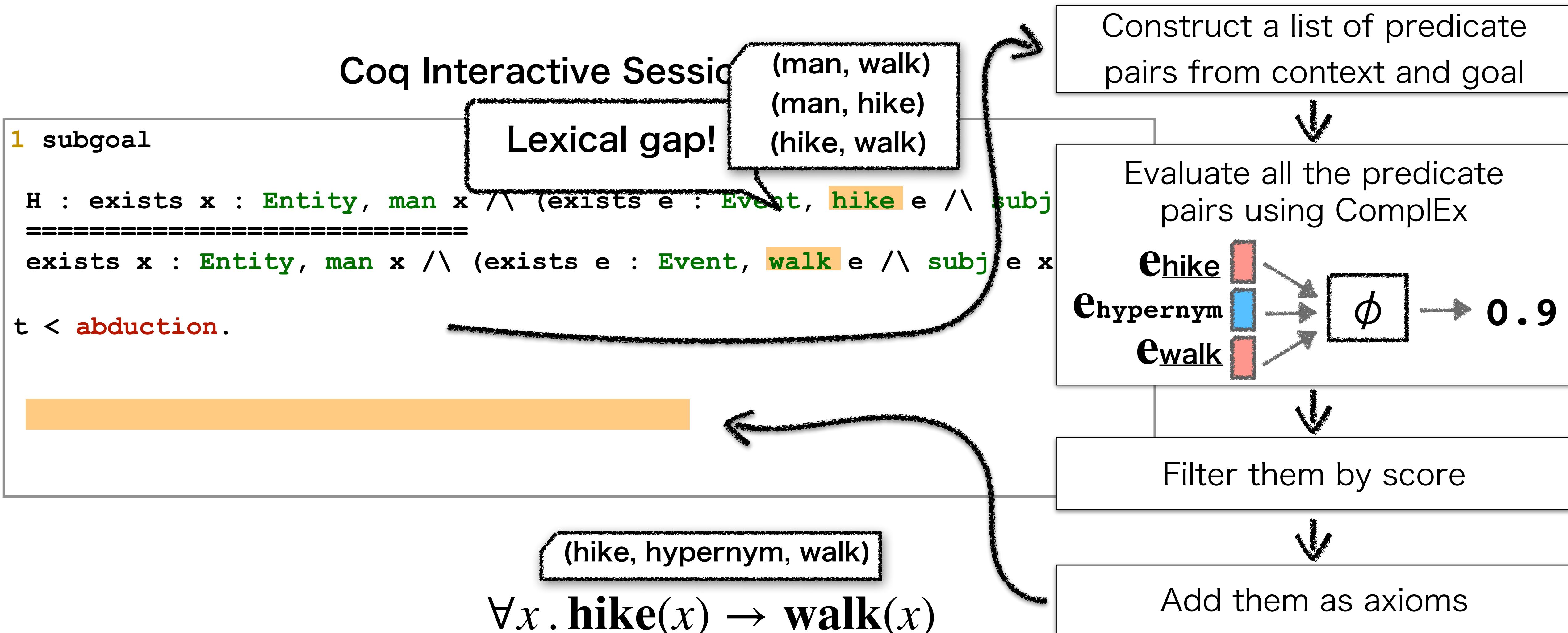


2. Faster Reasoning with "abduction" Coq plugin



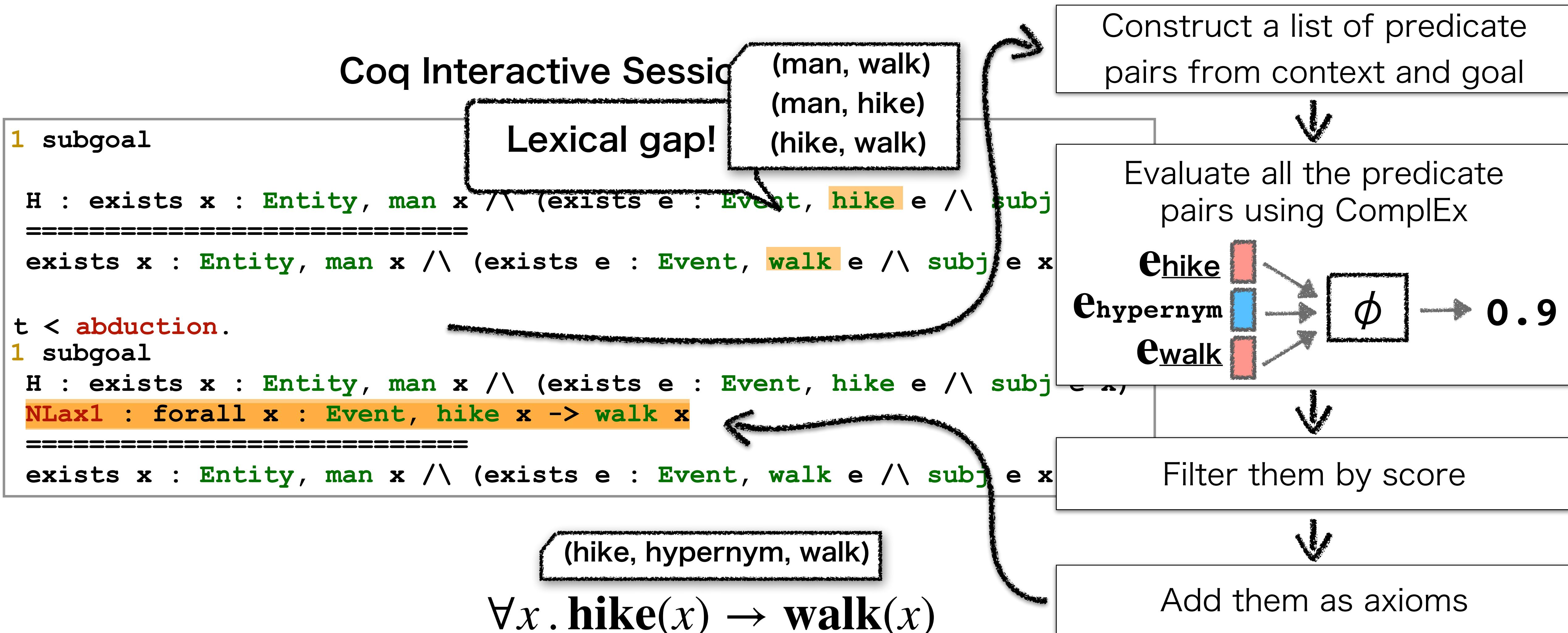


2. Faster Reasoning with "abduction" Coq plugin





2. Faster Reasoning with "abduction" Coq plugin



Summary so far...

CCG Derivations

Semantic Parsing

Logical Formulas

Theorem Proving

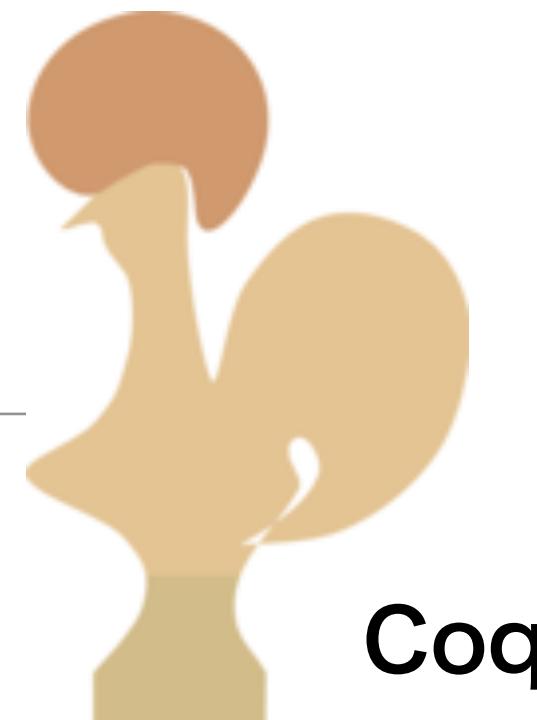
{ yes, no, unknown }

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

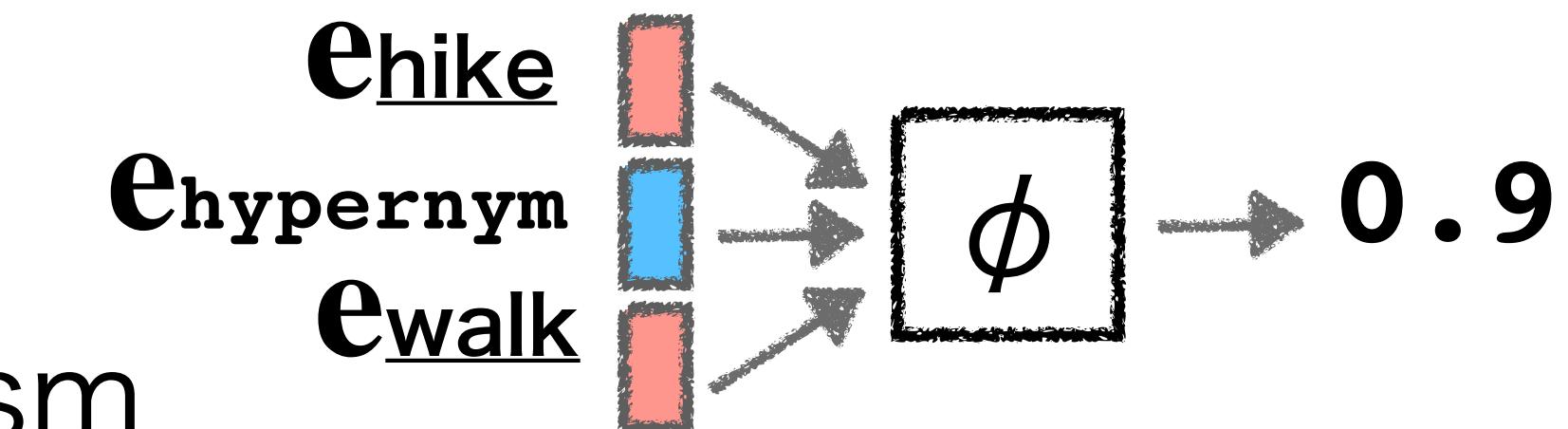
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exists x : Entity, man x /\ (exists e : Event, walk e /\ subj e x).
Coq < Proof. ccg2lambda. Qed.
```

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.

syntactic

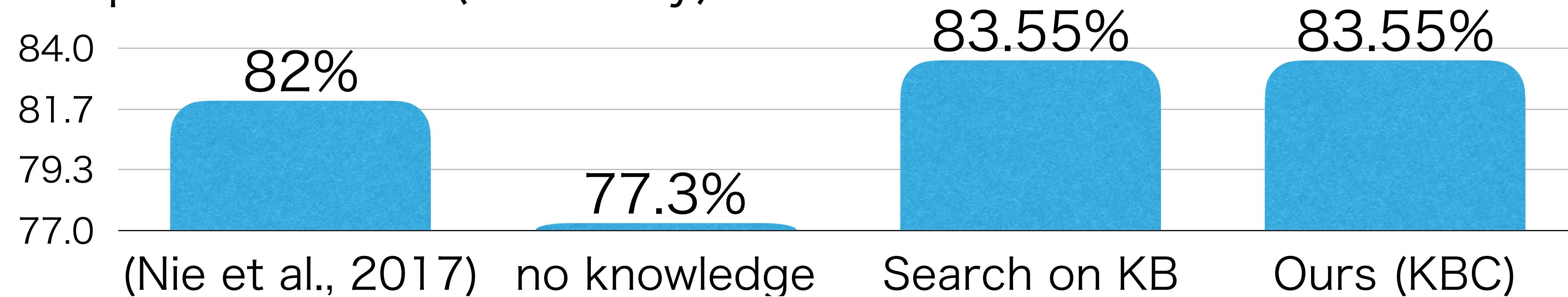
logical

lexical
phenomena

entailment

Experimental Results on SICK

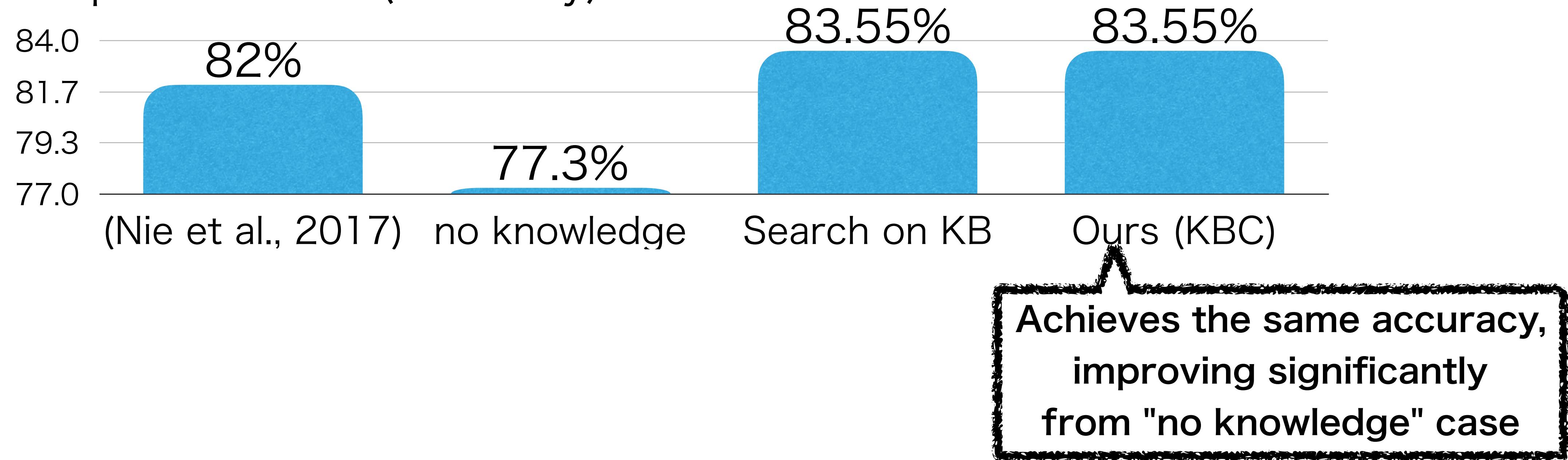
- RTE performance (accuracy)



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

Experimental Results on SICK

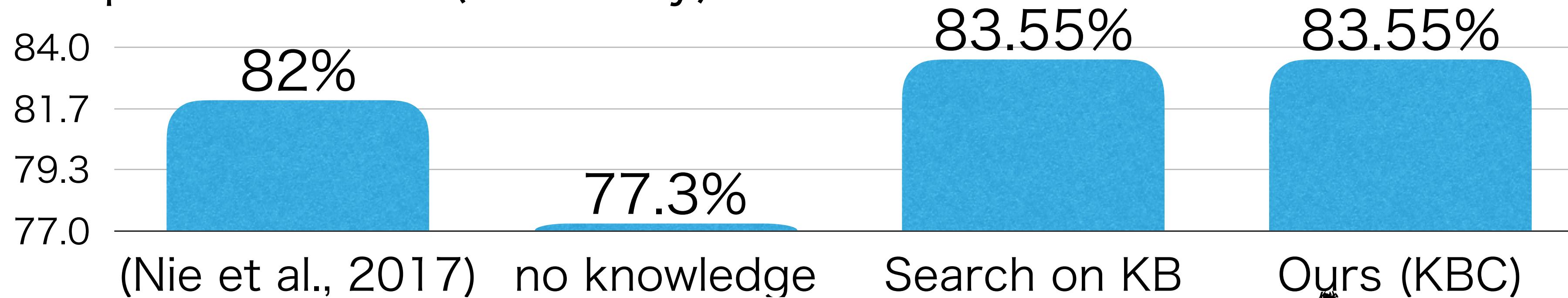
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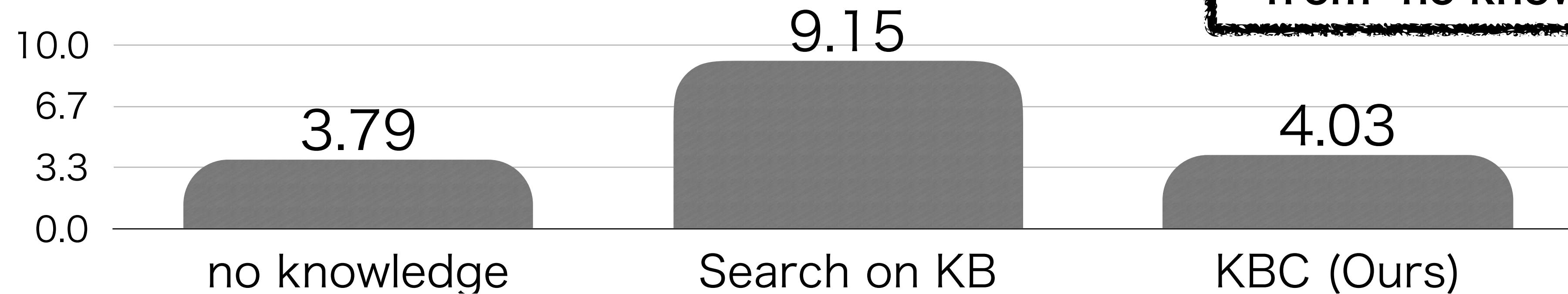
Experimental Results on SICK

- RTE performance (accuracy)



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

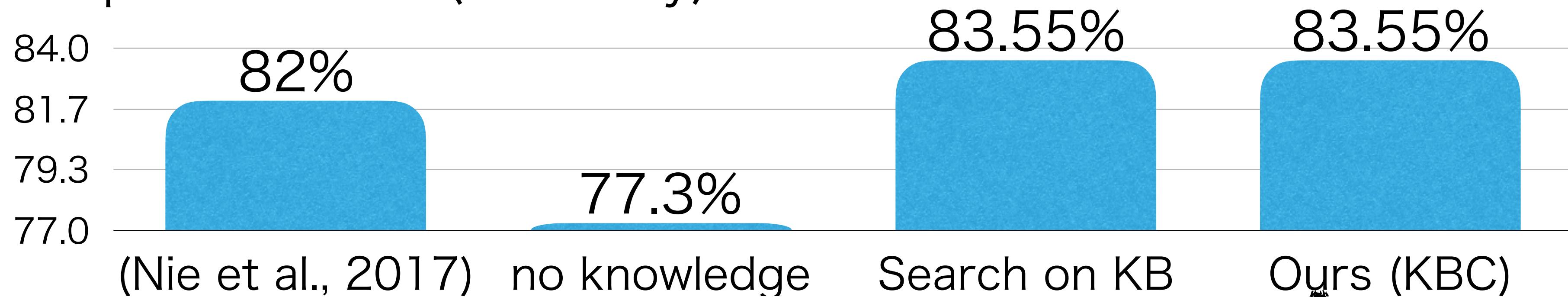
- Processing speed (second per a problem)



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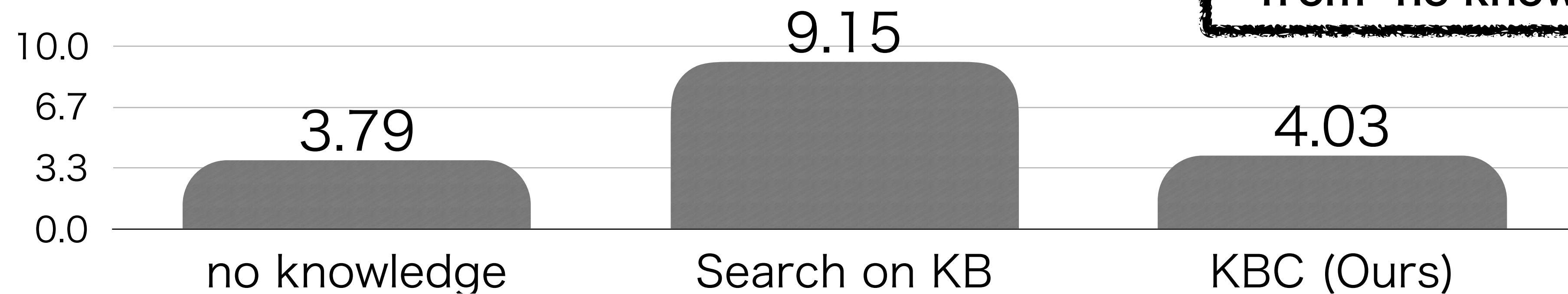
Experimental Results on SICK

- RTE performance (accuracy)



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

- Processing speed (second per a problem)



- 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%

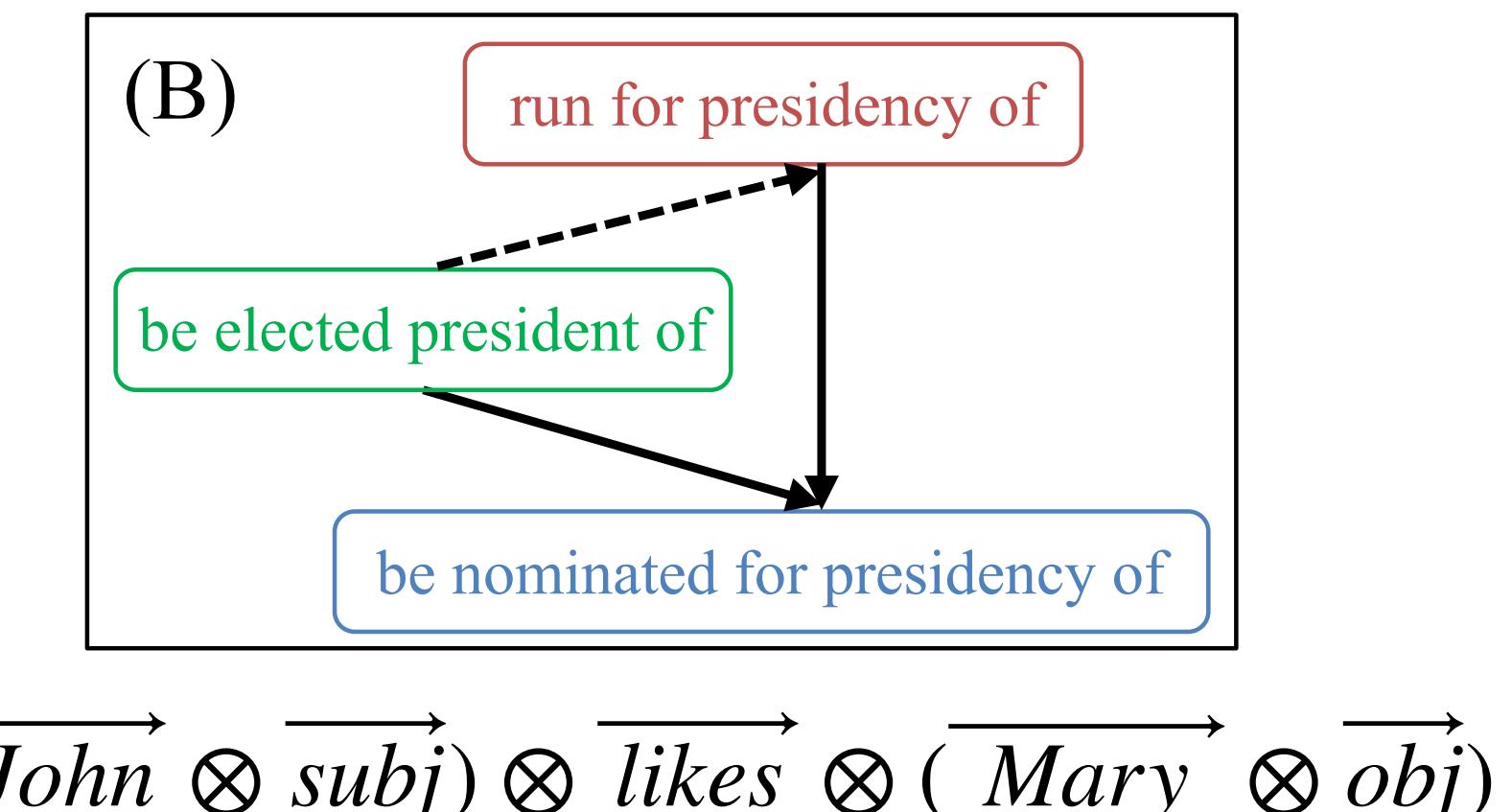
- SNLI (Bowman et al., 2015): No result

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