

# Inductive Learning

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# Is Sketch all we need?

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## Pros

- Very generic

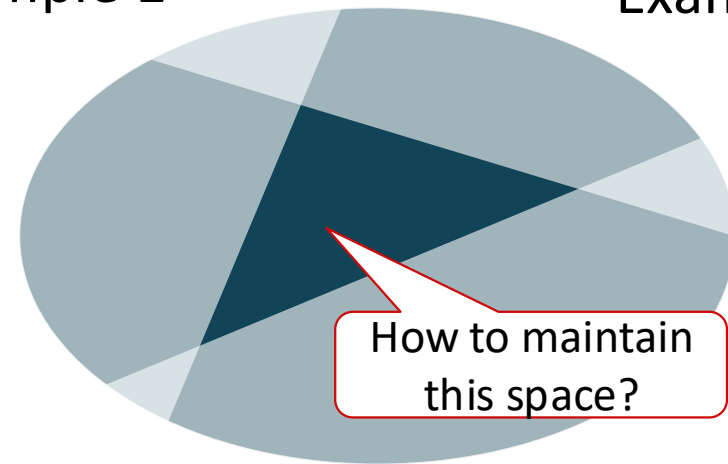
## Cons

- Very generic!
- E.g., not specialized for PBE/PBD
- The user may incrementally add more examples

## Search Space

Example 1

Example 3



Example 2

# PBE/PBD vs. inductive learning

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1, 2, 4, 8, ??

1, 2, 4, 7, ??

PBE/PBD are examples of inductive learning

Most machine learning falls into this category as well

# A little bit of history: who was the first?

## Learning Structural Descriptions from Examples

Patrick Winston [1970]

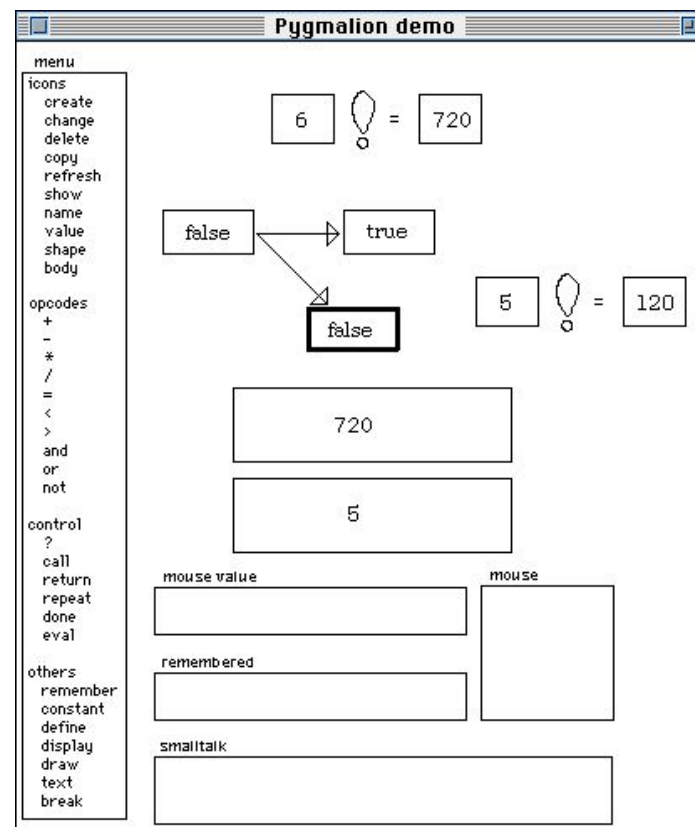
Explored the question of generalizing from a set of observations

Similar to the Zendo game:



## Pygmalion [Smith 75]

- Real programming by demonstration
- <http://acypher.com/wwid/Chapters/01Pygmalion.html>



# A little bit of history: inductive learning

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Ad-hoc approaches → General inductive learning techniques

- Version-space generalization
- Inductive logic programming

## Programming by Demonstration: An Inductive Learning Formulation\*

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### ABSTRACT

Although Programming by Demonstration (PBD) has the potential to improve the productivity of human

- Applications that support macros allow users to record a fixed sequence of actions and later replay this sequence using a shortcut such as a mouse click on a



Tessa Lau

# Version Space Generalization

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Goto message #1, whose sender is "Dan"  
Copy its subject to the clipboard  
Paste from the clipboard into "File1"

---

Goto message #2, whose sender is "Tessa"  
Copy its subject to the clipboard  
Paste from the clipboard into "File1"



Act1	Arg1	Sender	Act2	Arg2	Act3	Arg3
Goto	1	Dan	Copy	Subj	Paste	File1
Goto	2	Tessa	Copy	Subj	Paste	File1



Act1	Arg1	Sender	Act2	Arg2	Act3	Arg3
Goto	?	?	Copy	Subj	Paste	File1

# Inductive Logic Programming

Goto message #1, whose sender is “Dan”  
Copy its subject to the clipboard  
Paste from the clipboard into “File1”

Goto message #2, whose sender is “Tessa”  
Copy its subject to the clipboard  
Paste from the clipboard into “File1”



Action	Command	Arg	Message	Text	File	Sender	CurrentMesg	PrevCommand
a1	goto	arg1	mesg1			dan	null	null
a2	copy	arg2		subject			mesg1	goto
a3	paste	arg3			file1		mesg1	copy
a4	goto	arg4	mesg2			tessa	mesg1	paste
a5	copy	arg2		subject			mesg2	goto
a6	paste	arg3			file1		mesg2	copy
a7	goto	arg6	mesg3			oren	mesg2	paste
a8	copy	arg2		subject			mesg3	goto
a9	paste	arg3			file1		mesg3	copy



```
command(A, goto) :- prevcommand(A, paste).  
command(A, copy) :- prevcommand(A, goto).  
command(A, paste) :- prevcommand(A, copy).  
command(A, goto) :- prevcommand(A, null).
```

```
argument(A, R) :- prevcommand(A, goto), textofarg(R, T).  
argument(A, R) :- prevcommand(A, copy), fileofarg(R, F).  
argument(A, R) :- currentmesg(A, M), prevcommand(A,  
    paste), mesgofarg(R, N), inseq(M, N).  
argument(A, R) :- currentmesg(A, null),  
    mesgofarg(R, mesg1).
```

# Version Space Generalization

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Slides by Armando Solar-Lezama

# Version Space Formulation

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Hypothesis space  $H$

- Space of possible functions  $In \rightarrow Out$

Version Space  $VS_{H,D} \subseteq H$

- $H$  is the original hypothesis space
- $D$  is a set of examples  $i_j, o_j$
- $h \in VS_{H,D} \Leftrightarrow \forall i, o \in D \ h(i) = o$

Hypothesis space provides *restriction bias*

- Defines what functions one is allowed to consider
- *Preference bias* needs to be provided independently

# Partial Ordering of Hypotheses

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Partial order  $h_1 \sqsubseteq h_2$

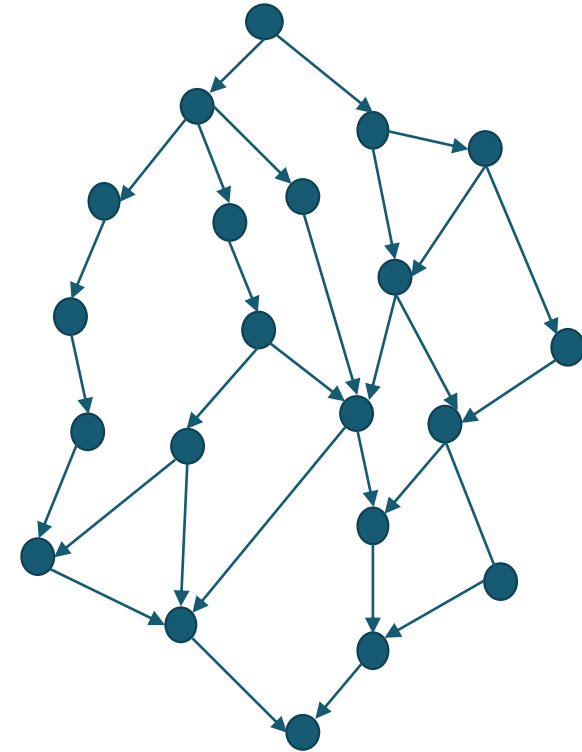
- $h_2$  is “better” than  $h_1$

Ex: For boolean hypothesis

- “better” == more general
- $h_1 \sqsubseteq h_2 \Leftrightarrow (h_1 \Rightarrow h_2)$

For booleans, VS forms a lattice

- $h_1, h_2 \in VS \Rightarrow h_1 \sqcap h_2 = h_1 \wedge h_2 \in VS$



Most specific hypothesis that satisfies the observations

# Partial Order

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Set  $P$

Partial order  $\leq$  such that  $\forall x, y, z \in P$

- $x \leq x$  (reflexive)
- $x \leq y$  and  $y \leq x$  implies  $x = y$  (asymmetric)
- $x \leq y$  and  $y \leq z$  implies  $x \leq z$  (transitive)

Can use partial order to define

- Upper and lower bounds
- Least upper bound
- Greatest lower bound

# Upper Bound

---

If  $S \subseteq P$  then

- $x \in P$  is an upper bound of  $S$  if  $\forall y \in S. y \leq x$
- $x \in P$  is the least upper bound of  $S$  if
  - $x$  is an upper bound of  $S$ , and
  - $x \leq y$  for all upper bounds  $y$  of  $S$
- $\sqcup$  - join, least upper bound, lub, supremum, sup
  - $\sqcup S$  is the least upper bound of  $S$
  - $x \sqcup y$  is the least upper bound of  $\{x, y\}$
- Often written as  $\sqcup$  as well

# Lower Bound

---

If  $S \subseteq P$  then

- $x \in P$  is a lower bound of  $S$  if  $\forall y \in S. x \leq y$
- $x \in P$  is the greatest lower bound of  $S$  if
  - $x$  is a lower bound of  $S$ , and
  - $y \leq x$  for all lower bounds  $y$  of  $S$
- $\sqcap$  - meet, greatest lower bound, glb, infimum, inf
  - $\sqcap S$  is the greatest lower bound of  $S$
  - $x \sqcap y$  is the greatest lower bound of  $\{x, y\}$
- Often written as  $\sqcap$  as well

# Lattice

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If  $x \sqcap y$  and  $x \sqcup y$  exist for all  $x, y \in P$   
then  $P$  is a **lattice**

If  $\sqcap S$  and  $\sqcup S$  exist for all  $S \subseteq P$   
then  $P$  is a **complete lattice**

All finite lattices are complete

Example of a lattice that is not complete

- Integers  $\mathbb{Z}$
- For any  $x, y \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $x \sqcup y = \max(x, y)$ ,  $x \sqcap y = \min(x, y)$
- But  $\sqcup \mathbb{Z}$  and  $\sqcap \mathbb{Z}$  do not exist
- $\mathbb{Z} \cup \{+\infty, -\infty\}$  is a complete lattice

**How to (succinctly) represent  
a version space?**

---

# Boundary set representable

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You can represent a VS by the pair  $(G,S)$  where

- $G$  is most general hypothesis (i.e.  $\top$ )
- $S$  is the most specific (i.e.  $\perp$ )

Applies in general when hypothesis space is partially ordered and version space is a lattice

# Update

---

$$U(VS, d) = \{p \in VS \mid p(i) = o \text{ where } d = (i, o)\}$$

- Subset of a version space satisfying a new example  $d$


Ex: For boolean HS

- $VS = (G, S)$
- If  $d = (i, \text{true})$   
$$U(VS, d) = (G, S \vee \lambda x. \text{if } x = i \text{ then true else false})$$
- If  $d = (i, \text{false})$   
$$U(VS, d) = (G \wedge \lambda x. \text{if } x = i \text{ then false else true}, S)$$

# Example: FindSuffix

$FS_T$ : move to the position right before the next occurrence of  $T$ .

We shall go on to the end. We | shall fight in France, we | shall fight on the seas and oceans, we shall fight with growing confidence and growing strength in the air,...



$FS_{""}$

$FS_{"s"}$

$FS_{"sha"}$

$FS_{"shall"}$

$FS_{"shall fight"}$

$FS_{"shall fight on"}$

$FS_{"shall fight on the seas and oceans,we shall fight..."}$

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# What if not boundary set representable?

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If your hypothesis space is partially ordered and your VS are boundary set representable, you can represent and search very efficiently

If they are not?

Break them down into simpler hypothesis spaces!

# Union

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**Union of BSR version spaces:**

$$VS_{H_1D} \cup VS_{H_2D} = VS_{H_1 \cup H_2D}$$

# FindSuffix U FindPrefix

---

We shall go on to the end, We | shall fight in France, we | shall fight on  
the seas and oceans, we | shall fight with growing confidence and  
growing strength in the air,...

FS("sh"- "shall fight ")

U

FP("we " - ", we")

# FindSuffix U FindPrefix

---

We shall go on to the end, We | shall fight in France, we | shall fight on  
the seas and oceans, we | shall fight with growing confidence and  
growing strength in the air,...

FS("sh"- "shall fight ")

U

∅

# Join

---

$$VS_{H_1D_1} \bowtie VS_{H_2D_2} = \{\langle h_1, h_2 \rangle \mid h_1 \in VS_{H_1D_1}, h_2 \in VS_{H_2D_2}, C(\langle h_1, h_2 \rangle, D)\}$$

- Where  $D_1 = \{d_1^i\}_{i=0..n}$  and  $D_2 = \{d_2^i\}_{i=0..n}$  and  $D = \{\langle d_1^i, d_2^i \rangle\}_{i=0..n}$
- $C(\langle h_1, h_2 \rangle, D)$  means that  $\langle h_1, h_2 \rangle$  is consistent with the input-output pairs in  $D$

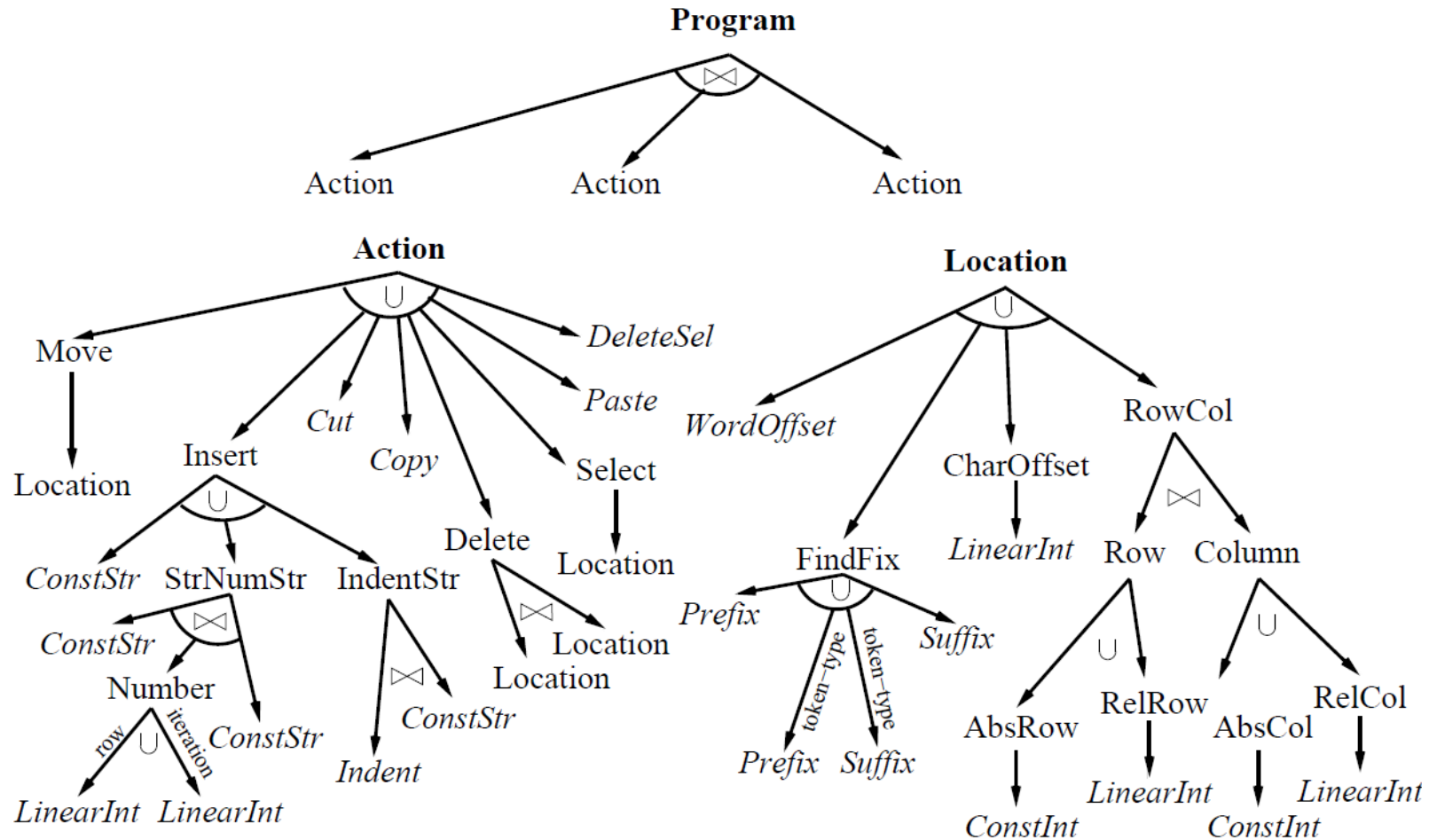
What does  $\langle h_1, h_2 \rangle$  mean? What about  $\langle d_1, d_2 \rangle$ ?

- Pair
- Composition  $\langle h_1, h_2 \rangle = h_1 \circ h_2$  and  $\langle d_1, d_2 \rangle = (d_1.in, d_2.out)$

Independent join:  $C$  is unnecessary

- It's a property of  $\langle ., . \rangle$
- True for pair, not for composition

# SMARTedit version space



# Before FlashFill

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- Detect failure and fail gracefully
- Make it easy to correct the system
- Encourage trust by presenting a model users can understand
- Enable partial automation

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## Why PBD systems fail: Lessons learned for usable AI

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**Abstract**  
Programming by demonstration systems have long attempted to make it possible for people to program computers without writing code. However, while these systems have resulted in many publications in AI venues, none of the technologies have yet achieved widespread adoption. Usability remains a critical barrier to their success. Based on lessons learned from three different programming by demonstration systems, we present a set of guidelines to consider when designing usable AI-based systems.

# FlashFill

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Slides by Gulwani, Singh, and Solar-Lezama

# Core language

---

Trace expr  $e$  := Concatenate( $f_1, \dots, f_n$ ) |  $f$   
Atomic expr  $f$  := ConstStr( $s$ ) | SubStr( $v_i, p_1, p_2$ ) | Loop( $\lambda w : e$ )  
Position  $p$  := CPos( $k$ ) | Pos( $r_1, r_2, c$ )  
Integer expr  $c$  :=  $k$  |  $k_1w + k_2$   
Regular expr  $r$  := TokenSeq( $T_1, \dots, T_n$ ) |  $T$  |  $\epsilon$

## Additional shorthand

$$\text{SubStr2}(v_i, r, k) = \text{SubStr}(v_i, \text{Pos}(\epsilon, r, k), \text{Pos}(r, \epsilon, k))$$

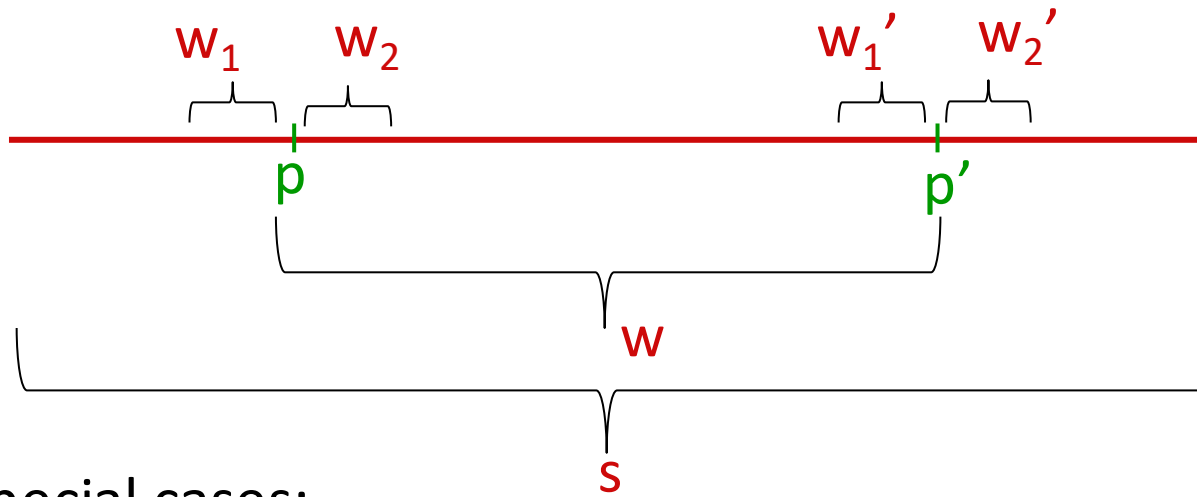
- $k^{\text{th}}$  occurrence of regular expression  $r$  in  $v_i$

# Substring Operator

---

Let  $w = \text{SubString}(s, p, p')$

where  $p = \text{Pos}(r_1, r_2, k)$  and  $p' = \text{Pos}(r_1', r_2', k')$



$r_1$  matches  $w_1$

$r_2$  matches  $w_2$

$r_1'$  matches  $w_1'$

$r_2'$  matches  $w_2'$

Two special cases:

- $r_1 = r_2' = \epsilon$  : This describes the substring
- $r_2 = r_1' = \epsilon$  : This describes boundaries around the substring

The general case allows for the combination of the two and is thus a very powerful operator!

# Additional Control Structure

---

String program  $P$      $:=$     `Switch`  $((b_1, e_1), \dots, (b_n, e_n))$  | `e`  
Boolean condition  $b$      $:=$     `d`<sub>1</sub> `∨` ... `∨` `d` <sub>$n$</sub>   
Conjunction  $d$      $:=$     `π`<sub>1</sub> `∧` ... `∧` `π` <sub>$n$</sub>   
Predicate  $π$      $:=$     `Match`( $v_i, r, k$ ) | `¬Match`( $v_i, r, k$ )

# Syntactic String Transformations: Example

Input $v_1$	Output
(425)-706-7709	425-706-7709
510.220.5586	510-220-5586
235 7654	425-235-7654
745-8139	425-745-8139

*Switch*(( $b_1, e_1$ ), ( $b_2, e_2$ )), where

$$b_1 \equiv \text{Match}(v_1, \text{NumTok}, 3),$$

$$b_2 \equiv \neg \text{Match}(v_1, \text{NumTok}, 3),$$

$$e_1 \equiv \text{Concatenate} \begin{pmatrix} \text{SubStr2}(v_1, \text{NumTok}, 1), \\ \text{ConstStr}("-"), \\ \text{SubStr2}(v_1, \text{NumTok}, 2), \\ \text{ConstStr}("-"), \\ \text{SubStr2}(v_1, \text{NumTok}, 3) \end{pmatrix} \quad e_2 \equiv \text{Concatenate} \begin{pmatrix} \text{ConstStr}("425-"), \\ \text{ConstStr}("-"), \\ \text{SubStr2}(v_1, \text{NumTok}, 1), \\ \text{ConstStr}("-"), \\ \text{SubStr2}(v_1, \text{NumTok}, 2) \end{pmatrix}$$

# How does it work

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Reuse ideas from version space algebra

- Start with simple version spaces
- Define combinators to construct complex version spaces from simple ones

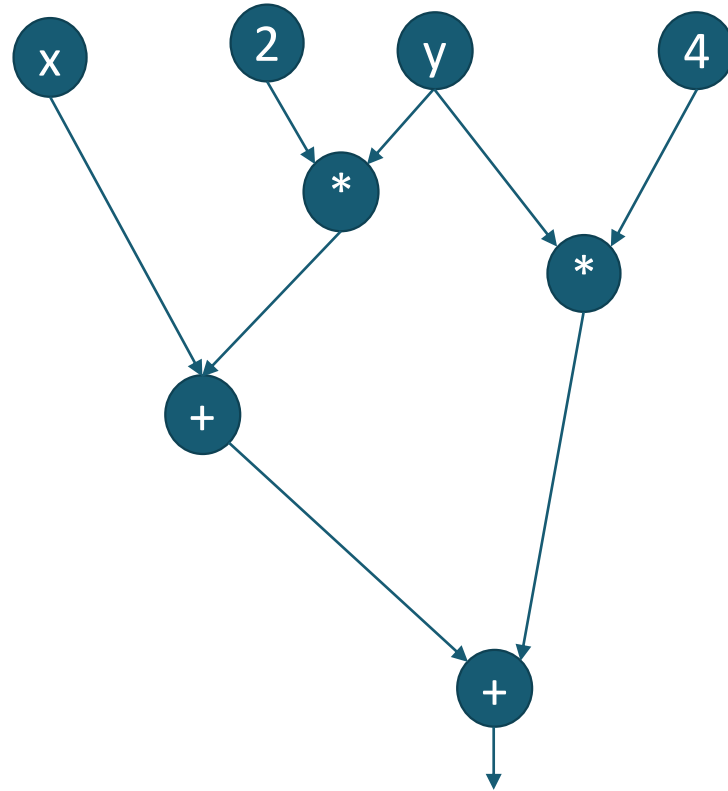
New twist:

- Move beyond simple lattice representations

# E-Graph

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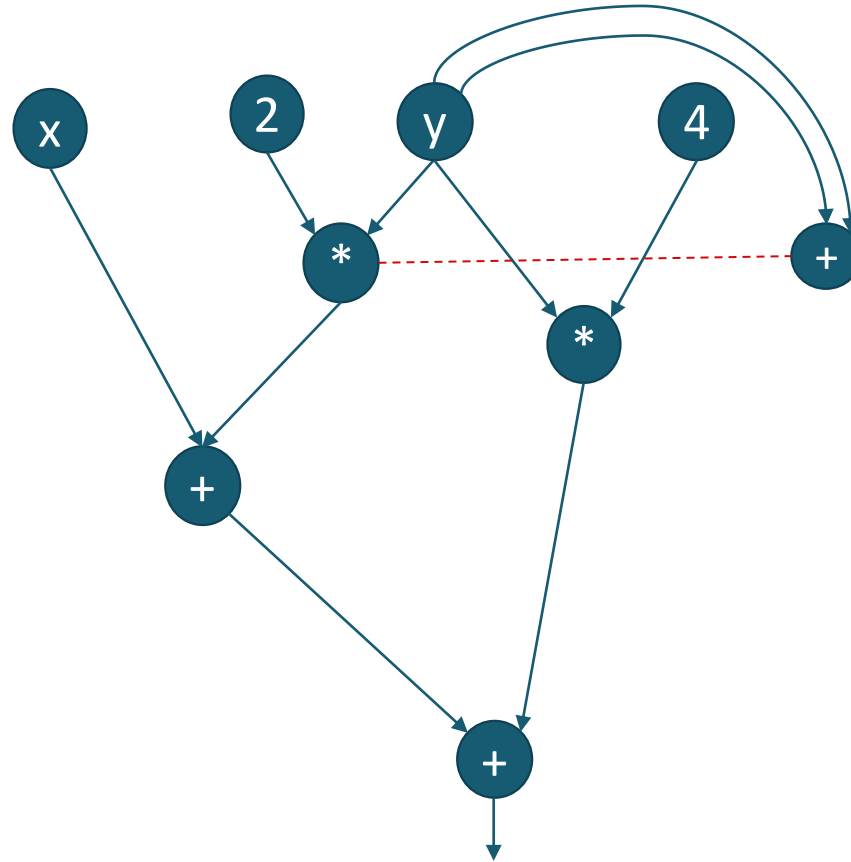
$$(x+2*y)+4*y$$



# E-Graph

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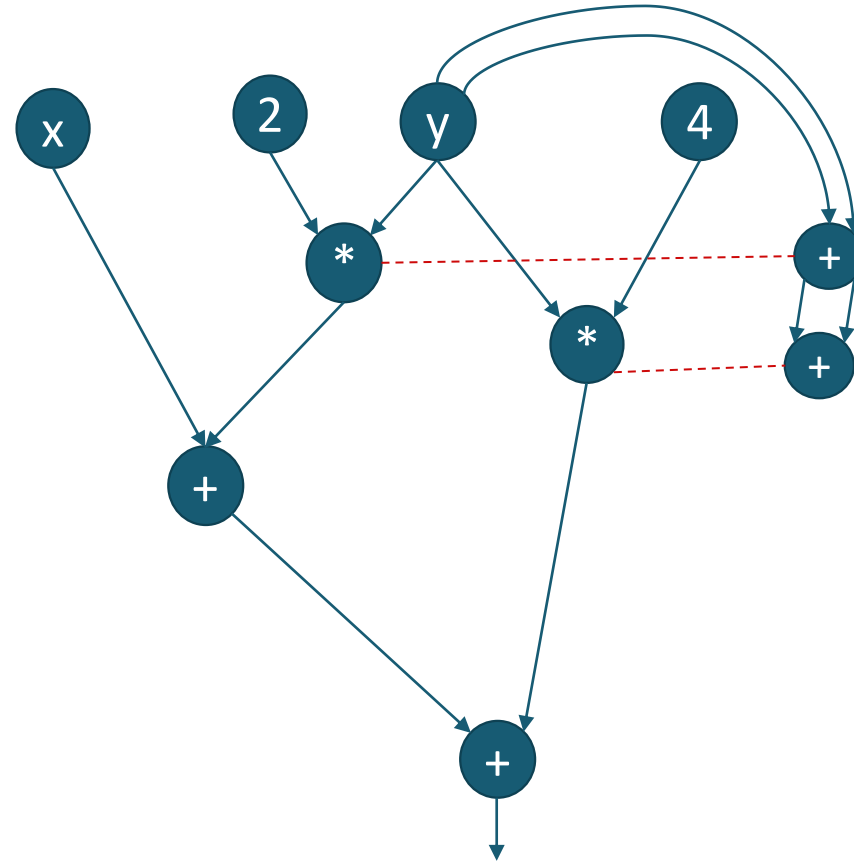
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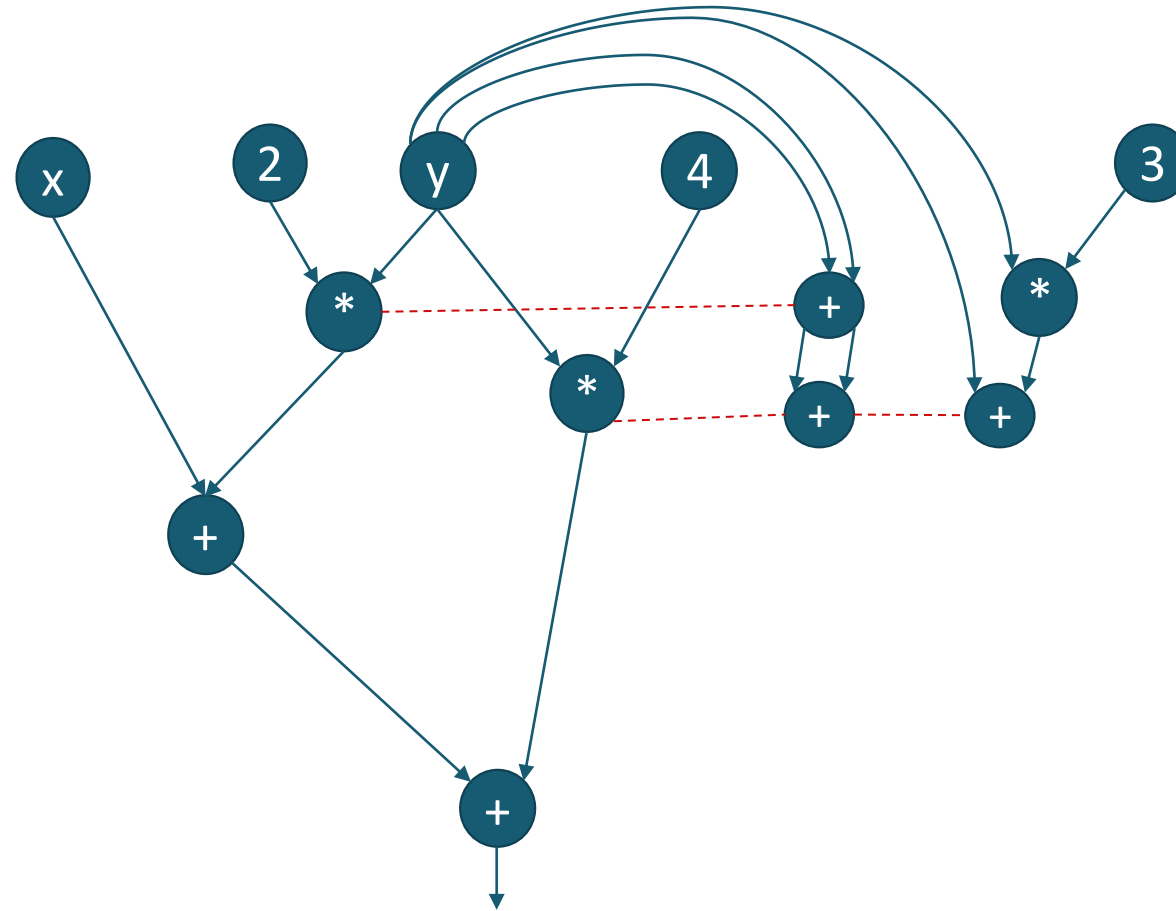
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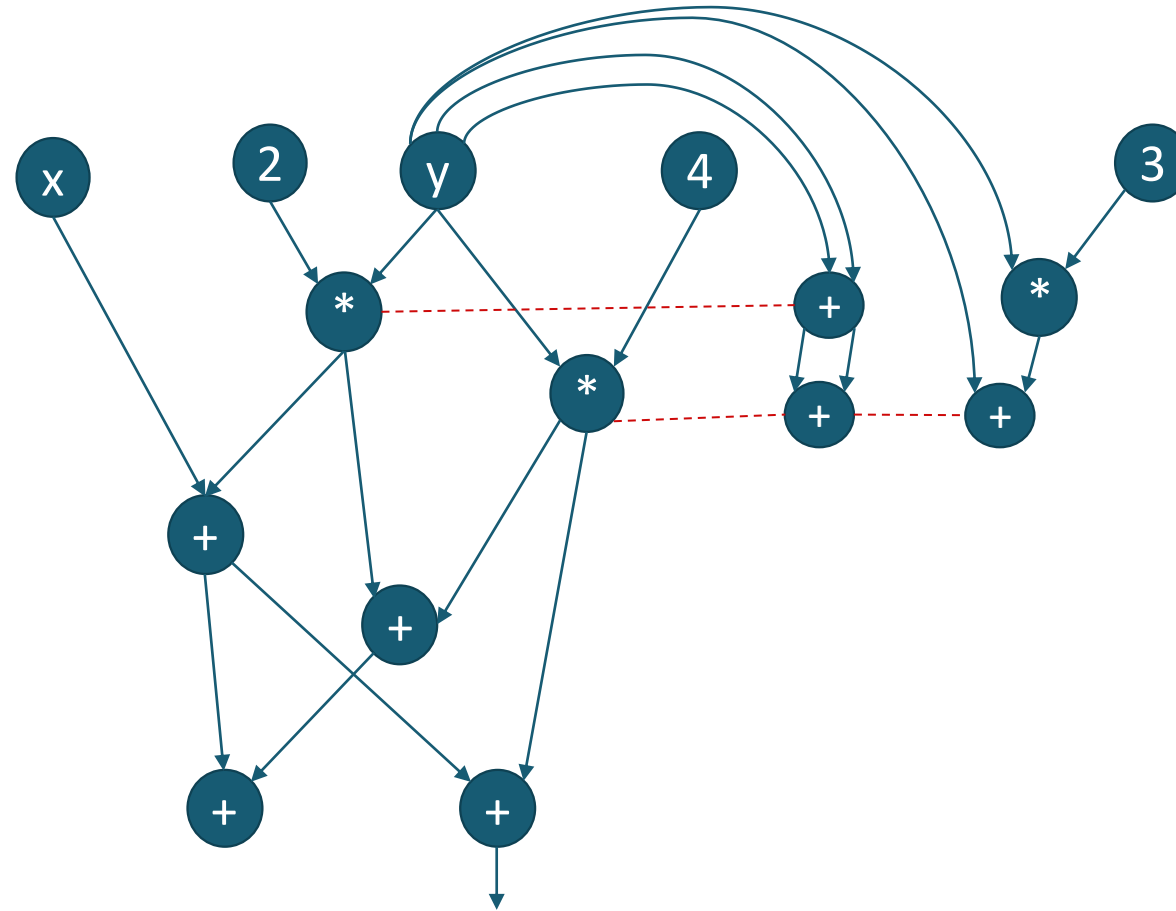
$$(x+2*y)+4*y$$



# E-Graph

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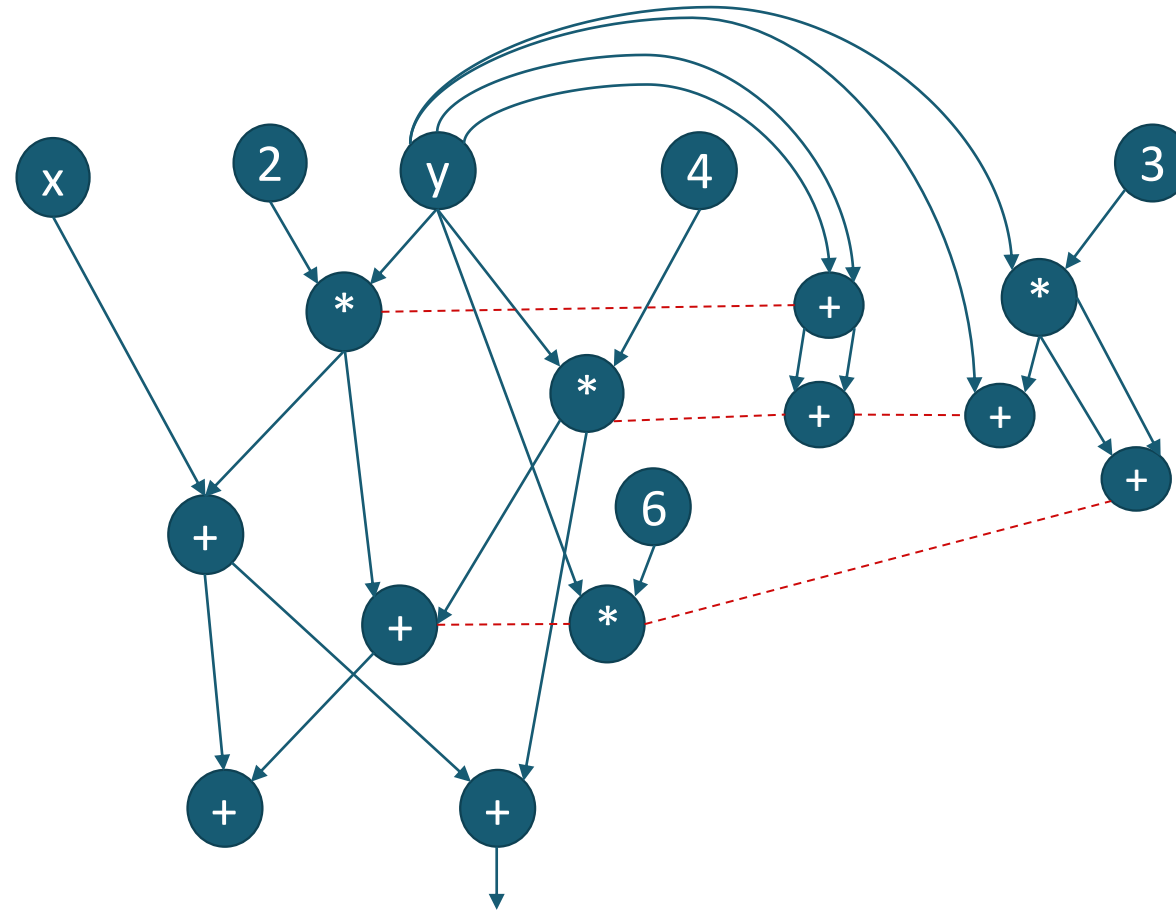




# E-Graph

---

$$(x+2*y)+4*y$$



# Guarded Expressions

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$D$  is a set of examples  $i_j, o_j$   $H$  corresponds to trace expressions

Compute  $S_j = VS_{(i_j o_j)H}$  and  $S = VS_{DH} = \prod S_j$

Solution =  $S \cup \text{Switch} \left( (p_i, VS_{D_i H}) \right)$

- Either you can find a solution to  $D$  in  $H$ , or you can split  $D$  and find solutions for subsets  $D_i \subset D$
- Partition into subsets  $D_i$  must satisfy the following properties:
  - $VS_{D_i H} \neq \emptyset$
  - Partition is minimal
  - You can learn predicates  $p_i$  to create the partitions

# Learning Trace Expressions

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Full Name	Title Name
Rob Miller	Dr. Rob
Saman Amarasinghe	
Sumit Gulwani	
Armando Solar-Lezama	
Martin Rinard	

# Learning Trace Expressions

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Top level is always concatenation

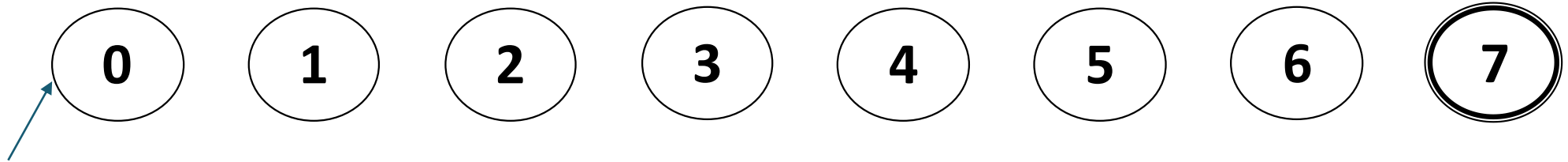
# Concat Expression (Associative)

---

Rob Miller → Dr. Rob

# Concat Expression (Associative)

---

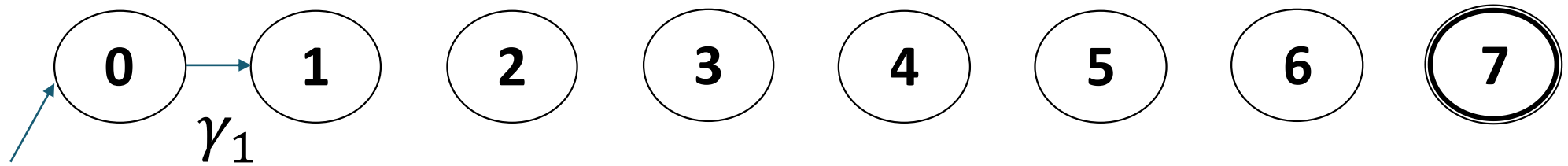


Dr. Rob

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

# Concat Expression (Associative)

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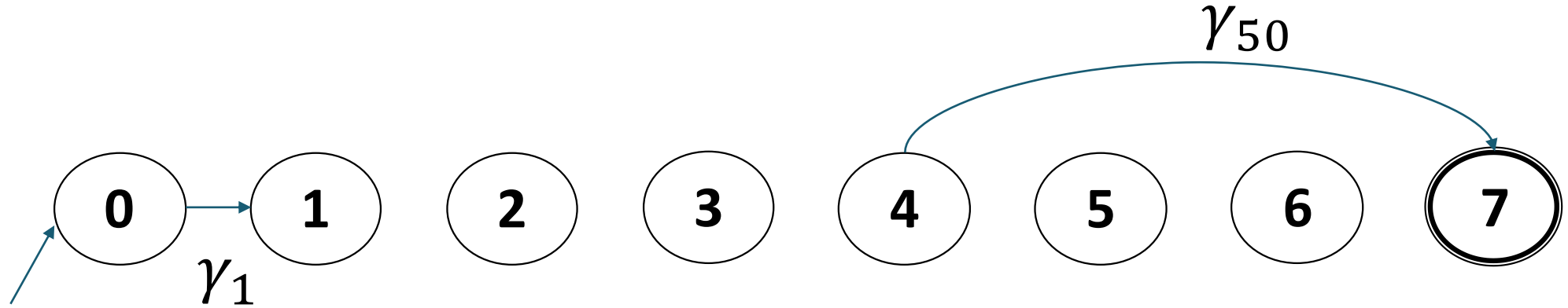


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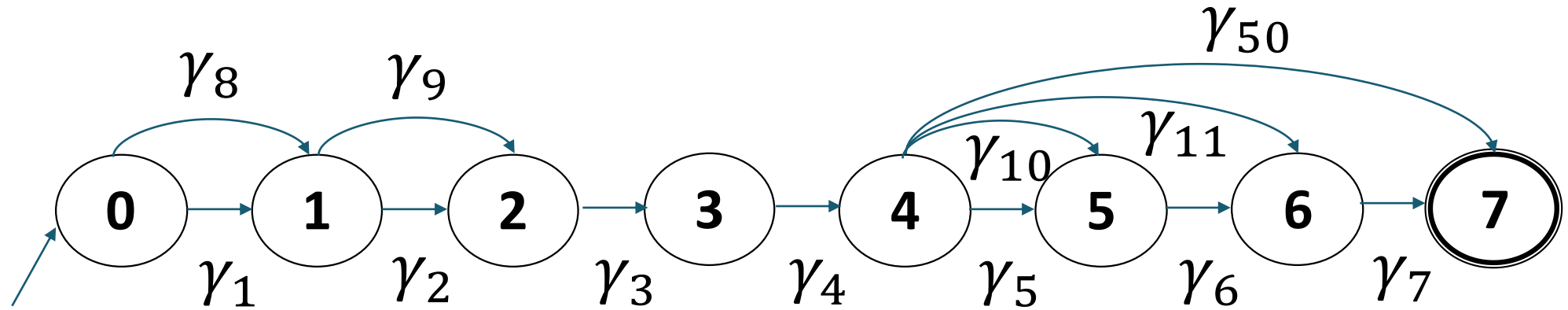


Dr. Rob

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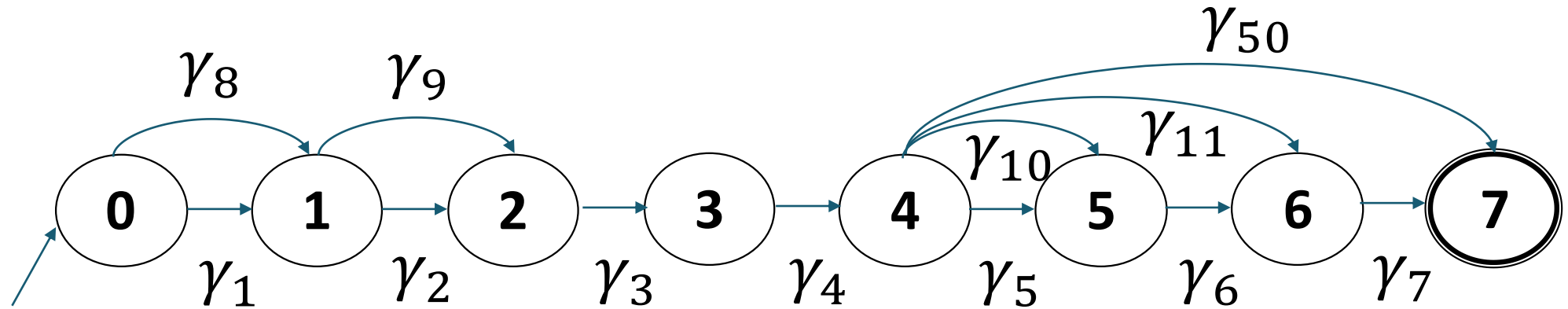


Dr. Rob

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

# DAG-based Sharing

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Any Path is a valid program

$\gamma_1 \cdot \gamma_2 \cdot \gamma_3 \cdot \gamma_4 \cdot \gamma_5 \cdot \gamma_6 \cdot \gamma_7$

$\gamma_8 \cdot \gamma_2 \cdot \gamma_3 \cdot \gamma_4 \cdot \gamma_{50}$

$\gamma_8 \cdot \gamma_2 \cdot \gamma_3 \cdot \gamma_4 \cdot \gamma_5 \cdot \gamma_6 \cdot \gamma_7$

Exponential Number of paths

# Learning atomic expressions

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Can only be constants, substring or loop expressions

Constants are trivial to learn

Substring can be factored!

# Substring Expression

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\$145.67 → 145.67  
1 7

Substr(left, right)

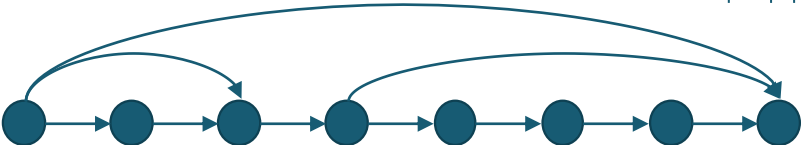
1 7

{	dollar, $\epsilon$ , 1	}	{	$\epsilon$ , End of line, 1	}
	dollar, $\epsilon$ , -1			alphanumeric, $\epsilon$ , -1	
	$\epsilon$ , decimal, -1			alphanumeric, $\epsilon$ , 2	
	$\epsilon$ , number, 1			decimal, $\epsilon$ , -1	
	.....			.....	
	constant 1			constant 7	

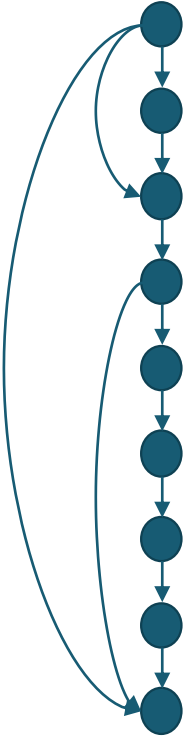
# Intersection

Armando Solar

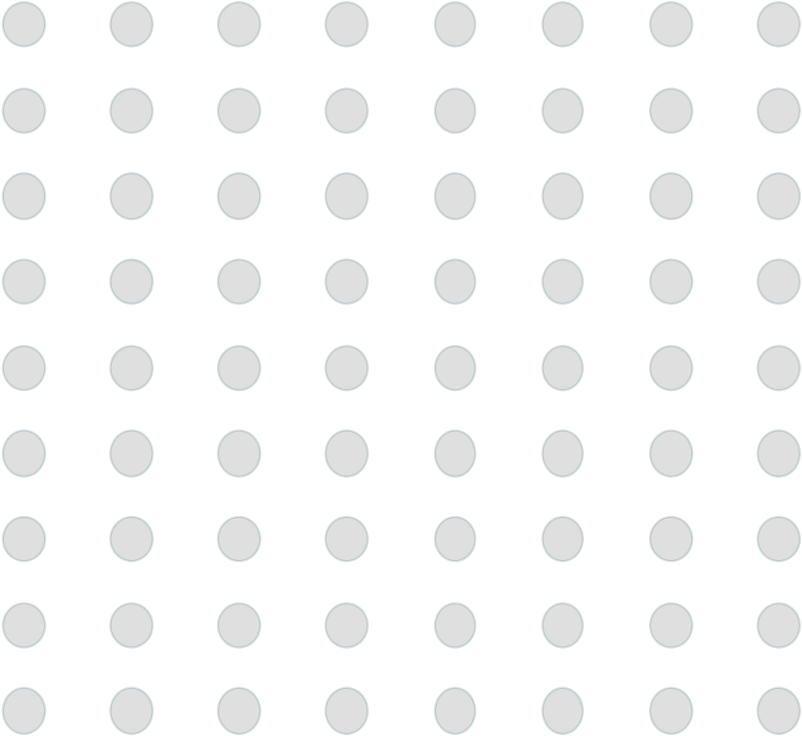
A. Solar



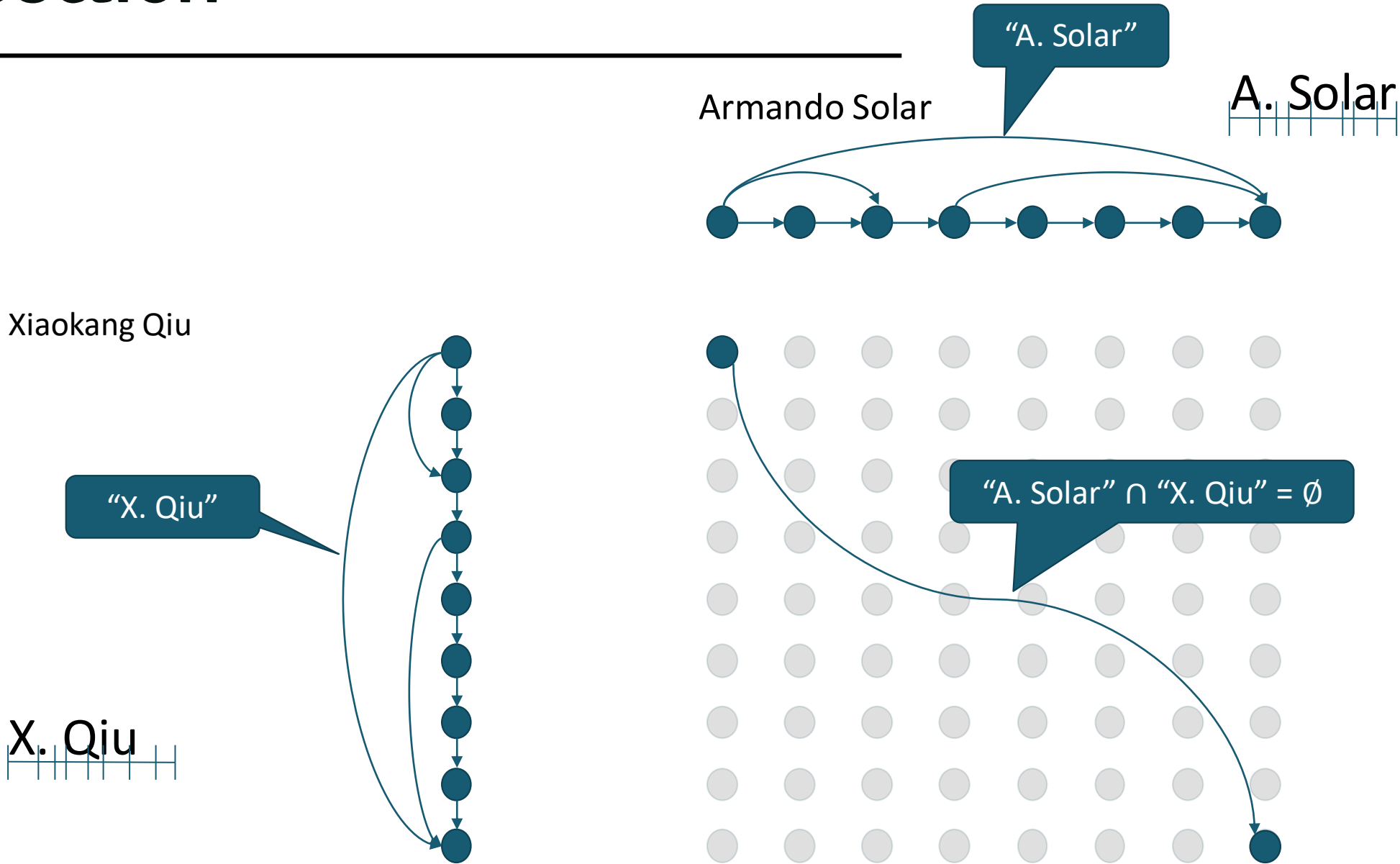
Xiaokang Qiu



X. Qiu



# Intersection



# Intersection

$\text{SubStr}(\text{Pos}("", \text{Word}), \text{Pos}(\text{Char}, "")) \cup \text{"A"}$

Armando Solar

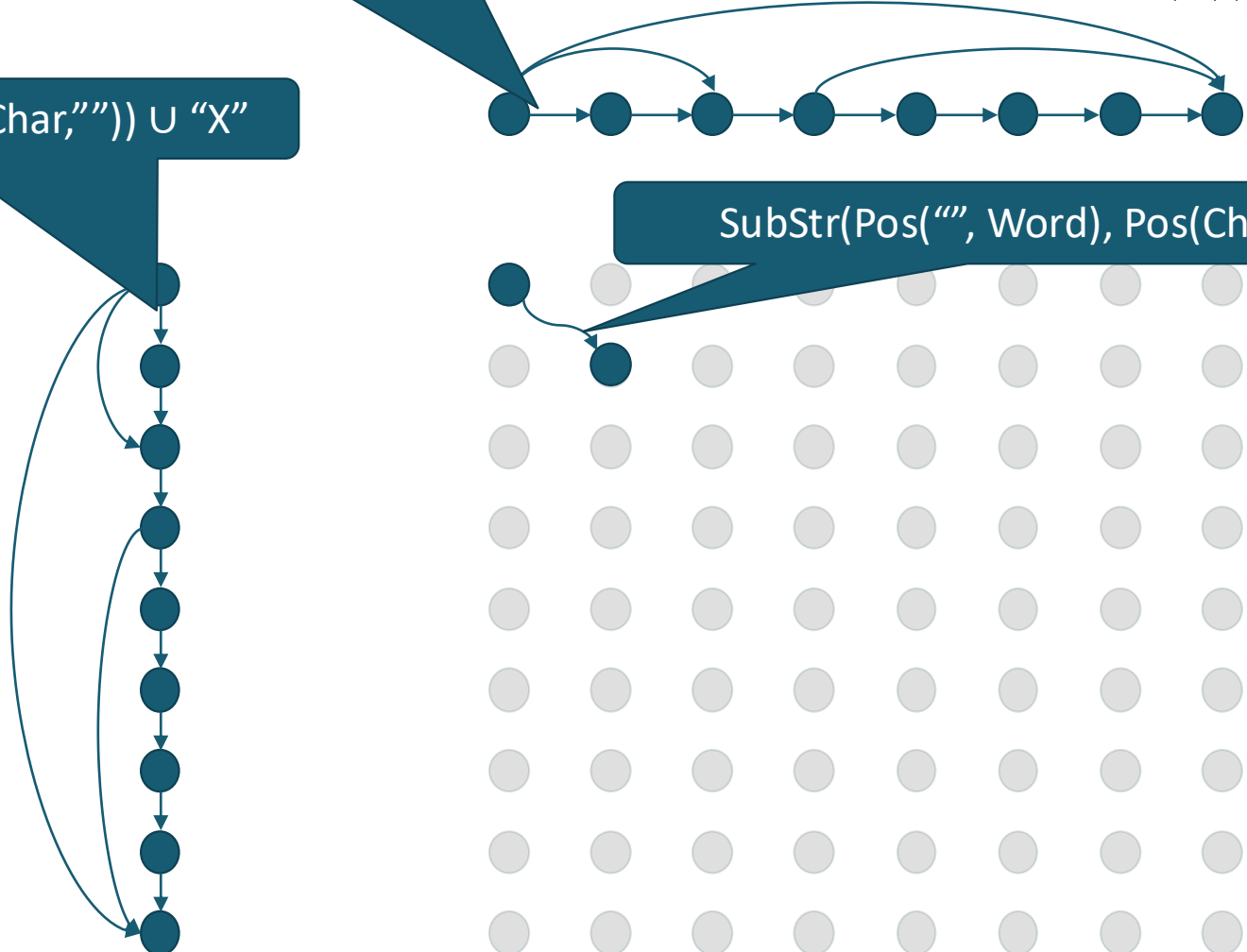
A. Solar

$\text{SubStr}(\text{Pos}("", \text{Word}), \text{Pos}(\text{Char}, "")) \cup \text{"X"}$

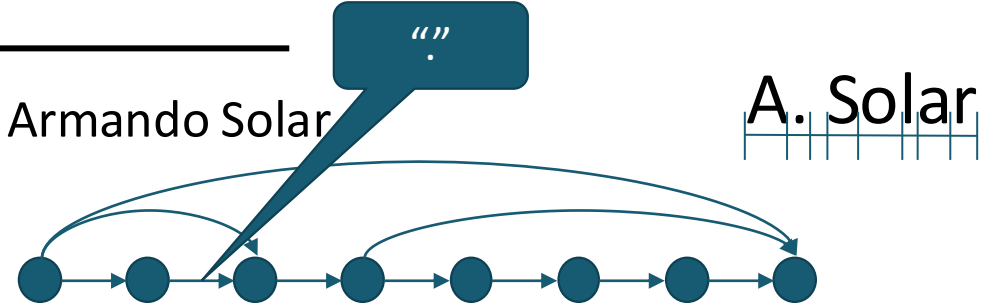
Xiaokang Qiu

$\text{SubStr}(\text{Pos}("", \text{Word}), \text{Pos}(\text{Char}, ""))$

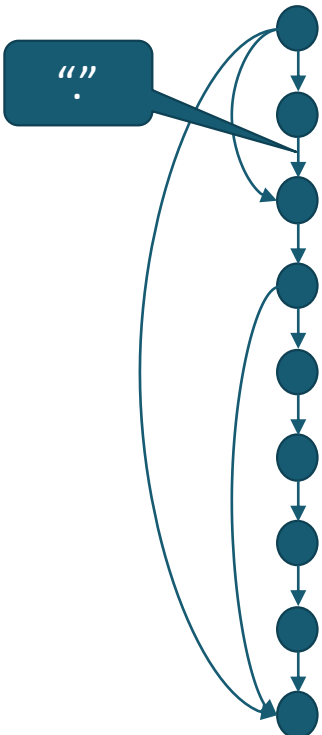
X. Qiu



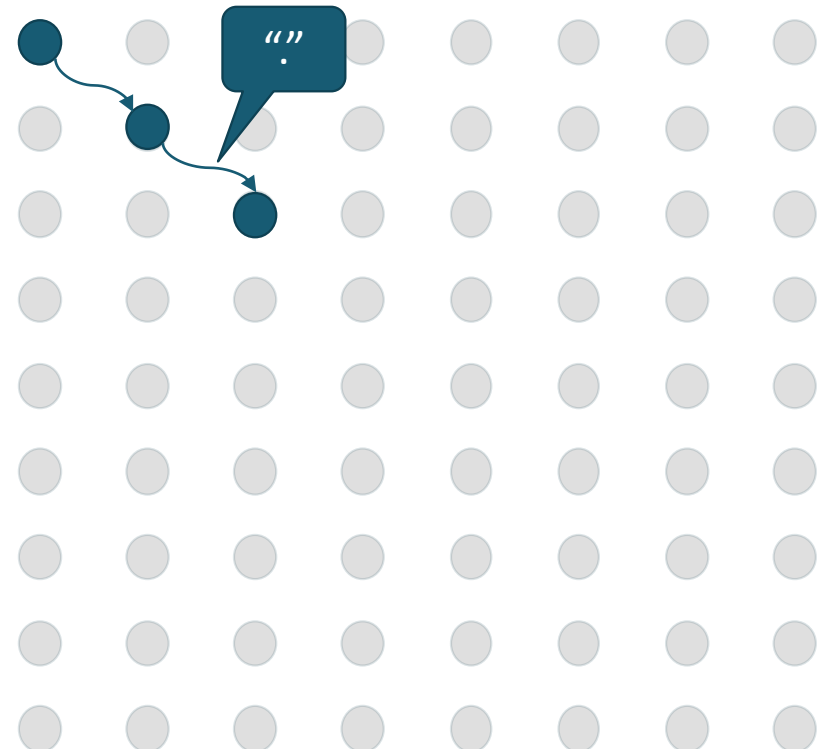
# Intersection



X. Qiu



X. Qiu



# Ranking

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Prefer shorter programs.

- Fewer number of conditionals.
- Shorter string expression, regular expressions.

Prefer programs with fewer constants.

## Strategies

**Baseline:** Pick any minimal sized program using minimal number of constants.

**Manual:** Break conflicts using a weighted score of program features.

**Machine Learning:** Weights are learned from training data.

# Automata-theoretic inductive learning

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Slides by Paul Krogmeier

# Version spaces beyond lattices?

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Automata are a natural choice

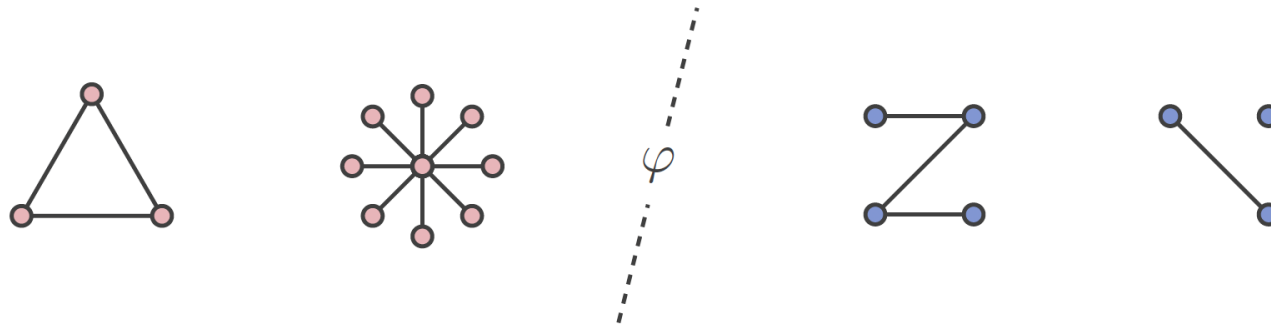
- A classical formalism for languages (sets of strings/trees)
- A lot of nice properties
  - Unique minimized representation
  - Closed under union, intersection, and complementation

# Logic learning

PAUL KROGMEIER, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, USA

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**What:** learning logical formulas and terms from **structures**



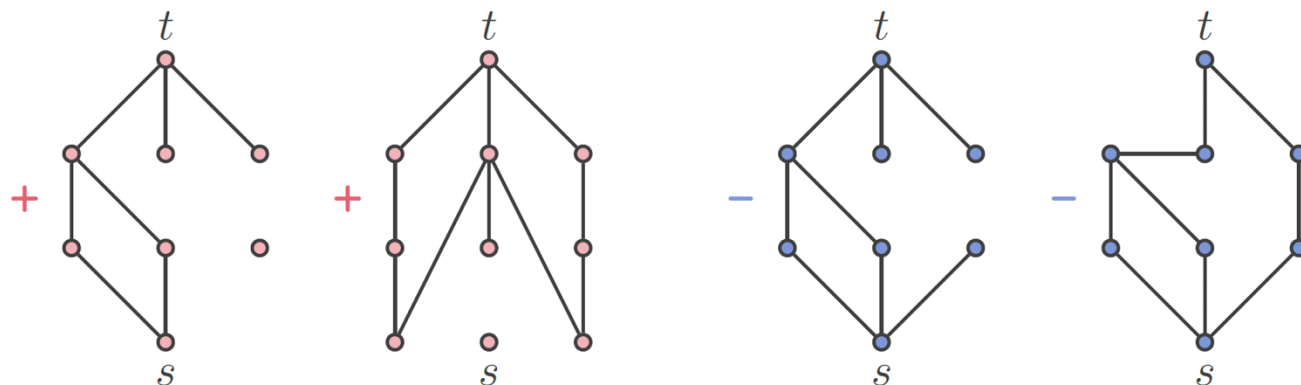
**Why:**

1. Want machine learning artifacts that we can interpret
2. First-order structure is common

program states  
algebraic datatypes  
relational databases  
visual scenes

# Examples: first-order logic (FO)

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$\varphi ::= E(\text{term}, \text{term}) \mid \varphi \wedge \varphi \mid \varphi \rightarrow \varphi \mid \exists x.\varphi \mid \forall x.\varphi$   
 $\text{term} ::= s \mid t \mid x \in V$

“Nodes adjacent to  $s$  can get to  $t$  in two edges”

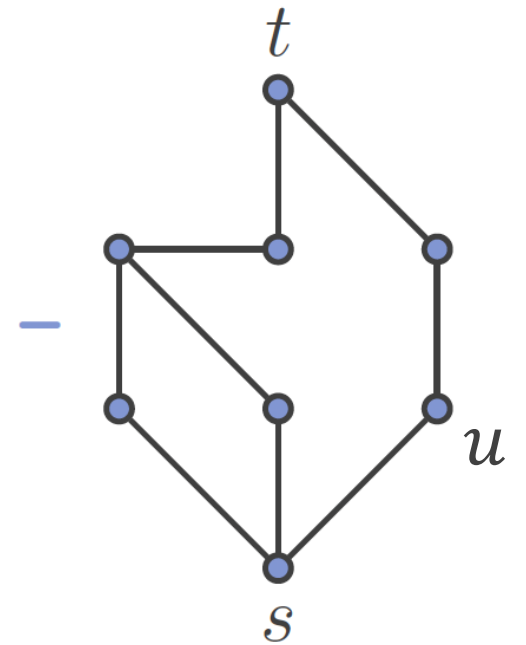
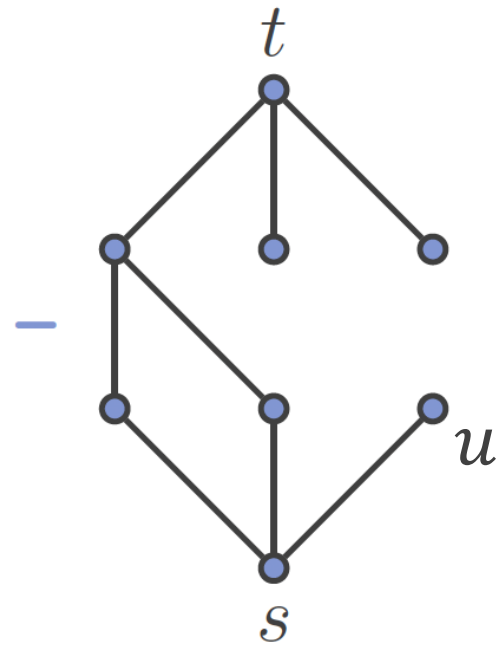
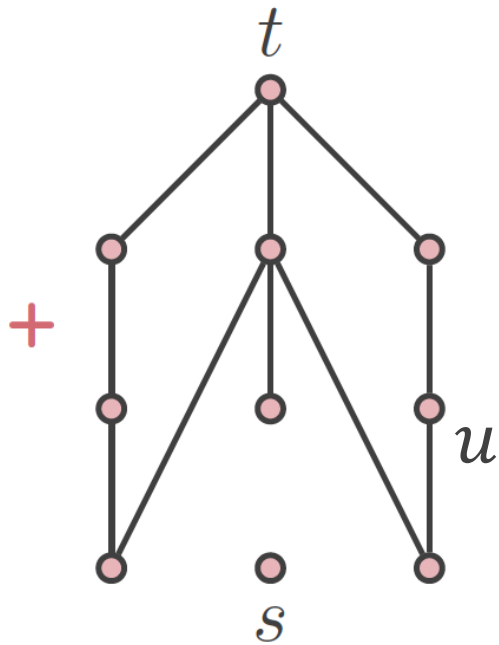
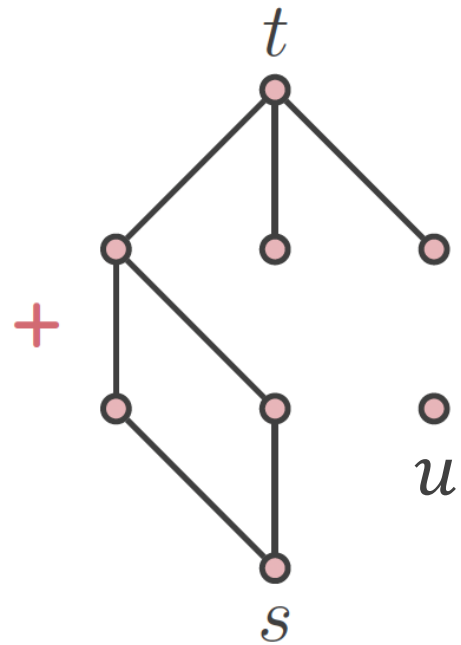
**Solution:**  $\forall x. (E(s, x) \rightarrow \exists y. (E(x, y) \wedge E(y, t)))$

# Examples: first-order logic (FO)

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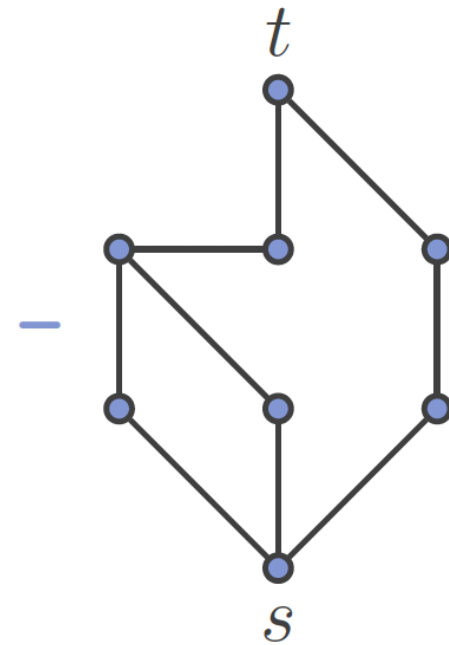
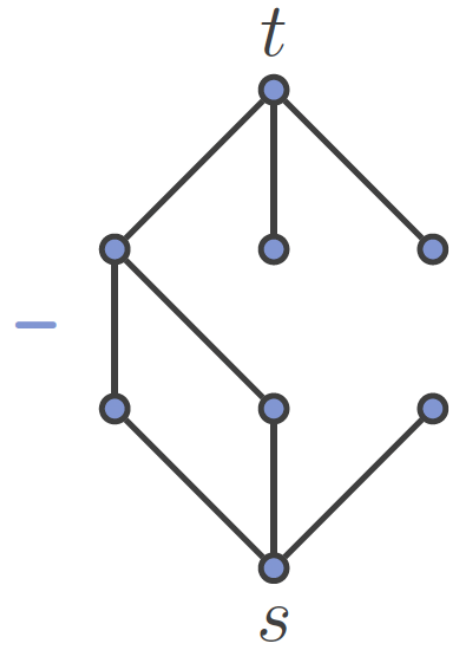
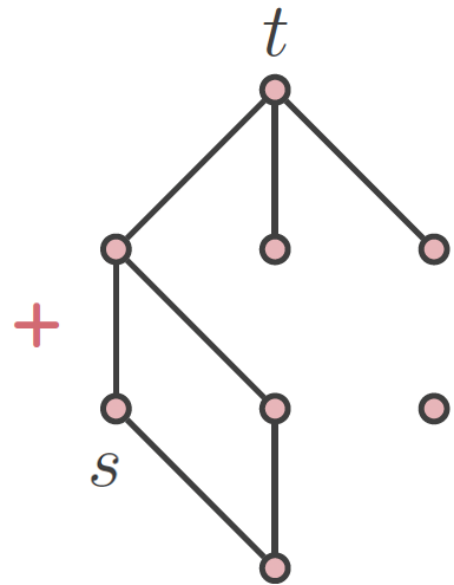


# Examples: first-order logic (FO)

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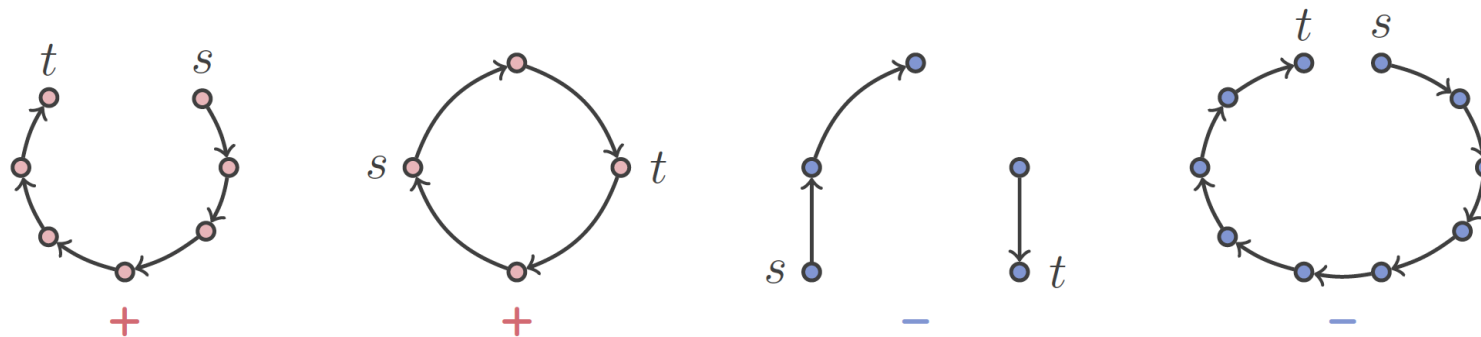
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# Examples: first-order logic (FO)

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“Node  $s$  reaches node  $t$  with a small number of edges”

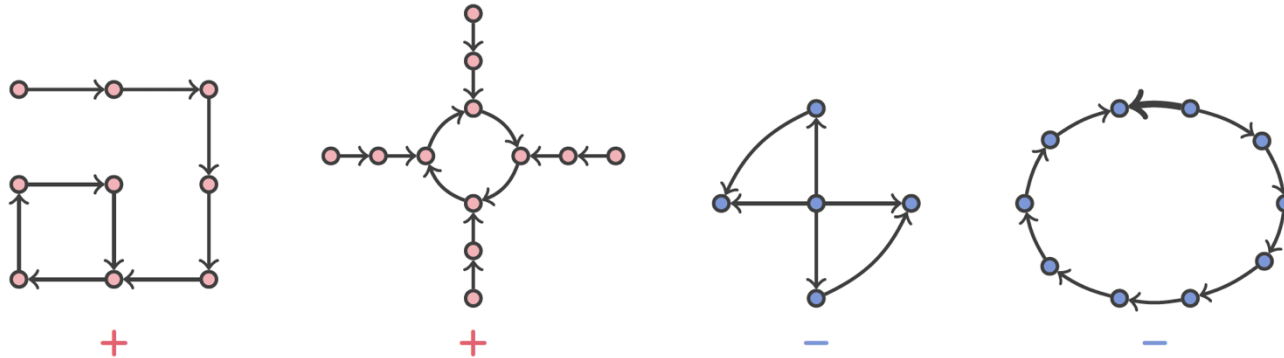
**Solution:**  $\bigvee_{i=1}^7 path_i(s, t)$

$$path_1(x, y) \leftrightarrow E(x, y)$$

$$path_{i+1}(x, y) \leftrightarrow \exists z. (E(x, z) \wedge \exists x. (x = z \wedge path_i(x, y))) \quad i > 0$$

# Examples: FO with Recursive Definitions

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“All nodes can reach a cycle”

**Solution:**

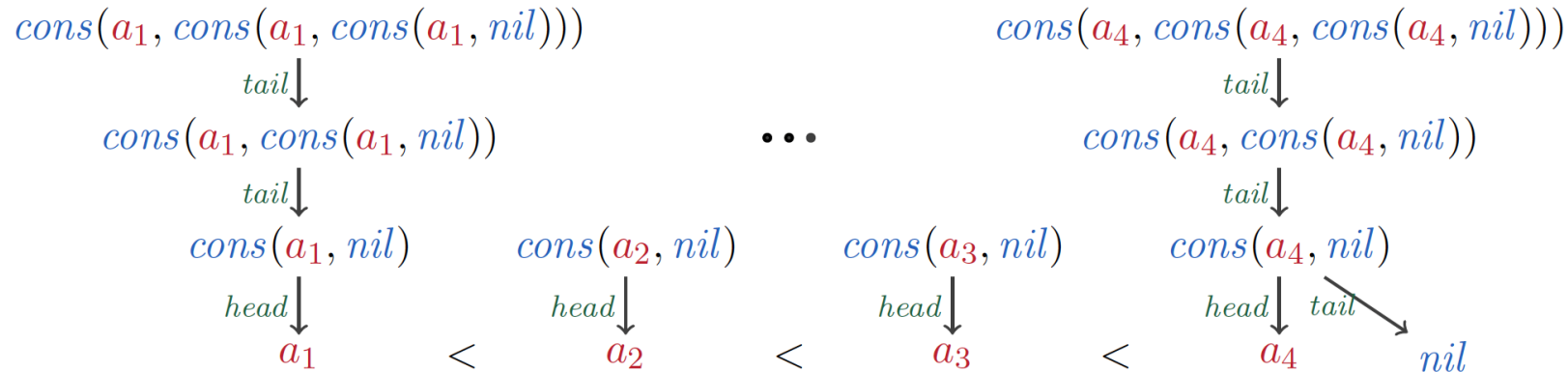
let  $reach(x, y) =_{\text{lfp}} E(x, y) \vee \exists z. (E(x, z) \wedge reach(z, y))$   
in  $\forall x. \exists y. (reach(x, y) \wedge reach(y, y))$

# Examples: Term Synthesis

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Lists of length  $\leq 3$  over an ordered domain  $\{a_i\}$

Signature:  $\{ \text{cons}, \text{nil}, \text{head}, \text{tail} \}$



Given constants  $in_1$ ,  $in_2$ , and  $out$  interpreted as:

$$\llbracket in_1 \rrbracket = \text{cons}(a_4, \text{nil})$$

$$\llbracket in_2 \rrbracket = \text{cons}(a_2, \text{cons}(a_3, \text{nil}))$$

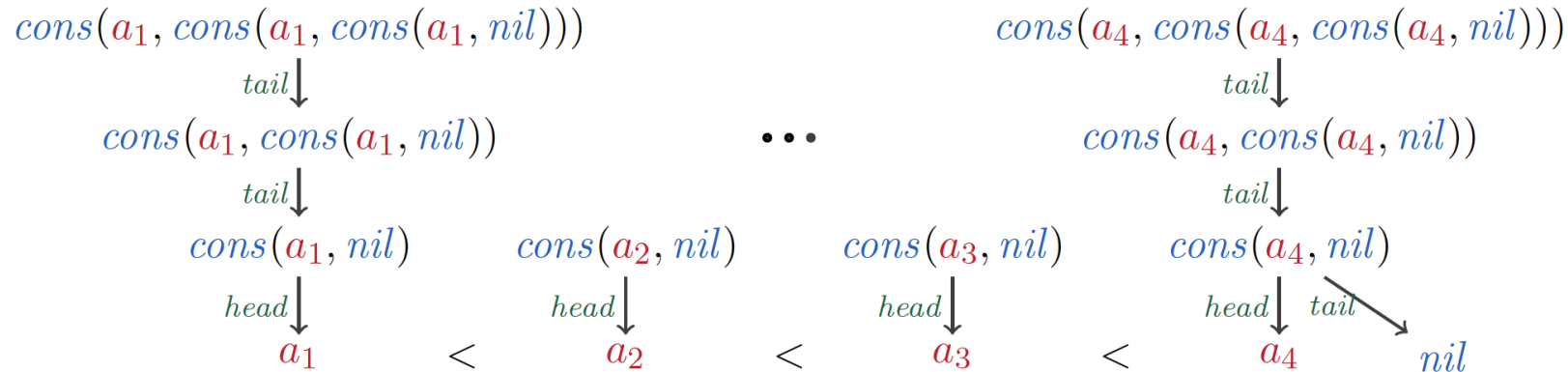
$$\llbracket out \rrbracket = \text{cons}(a_2, \text{cons}(a_3, \text{cons}(a_4, \text{nil})))$$

Synthesize a term  $t$  such that  $\llbracket t \rrbracket = \llbracket out \rrbracket$

# Examples: Term Synthesis

Lists of length  $\leq 3$  over an ordered domain  $\{a_i\}$

Signature:  $\{ \text{cons}, \text{nil}, \text{head}, \text{tail} \}$



**Solution:** let  $\text{merge}(x, y) =_{\text{lfp}}$  ite( $x = \text{nil}$ ,  $y$ , ite( $y = \text{nil}$ ,  $x$ ,  
ite( $\text{head}(y) > \text{head}(x)$ ,  
 $\text{cons}(\text{head}(x), \text{merge}(\text{tail}(x), y))$ ,  
 $\text{cons}(\text{head}(y), \text{merge}(x, \text{tail}(y))))$ ))  
in  $\text{merge}(in_1, in_2)$

# Separation Problem

---

## Given:

- logic  $\mathcal{L}$
- positive and negative structures  $\{P_i\}$  and  $\{N_j\}$
- grammar  $G$  for  $\mathcal{L}$

## Synthesize:

$\varphi \in L(G)$  such that each  $P_i \models \varphi$  and each  $N_j \not\models \varphi$   
or say unrealizable

# Query Problem

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## Given:

- logic  $\mathcal{L}$
- pairs  $\{\langle A_i, Ans_i \rangle\}$ , with  $Ans_i \subseteq A_i^r$
- grammar  $G$  for  $\mathcal{L}$

## Synthesize:

$\varphi(x_1, \dots, x_r) \in L(G)$ , each  $Ans_i = \{\bar{a} \in A_i^r : A_i \models \varphi(\bar{a})\}$

or say unrealizable

# Term Synthesis Problem

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## Given:

- logic  $\mathcal{L}$
- structures  $\{A_j\}$  interpreting constants  $\{in_r\}$  and  $out$
- grammar  $G$  for  $\mathcal{L}$

## Synthesize:

$t \in L(G)$  such that each  $A_j \models t = out$

or say unrealizable

# Main Results

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Each problem is **decidable** for

- First-order logic with  $k$  variables ( $\text{FO}^k$ )
- $\text{FO}^k$  with **nested definitions**
- $\text{FO}^k$  with **recursive relations** and **functions**
- Finite-variable **higher-order** logics

EXPTIME-complete for first-order logics

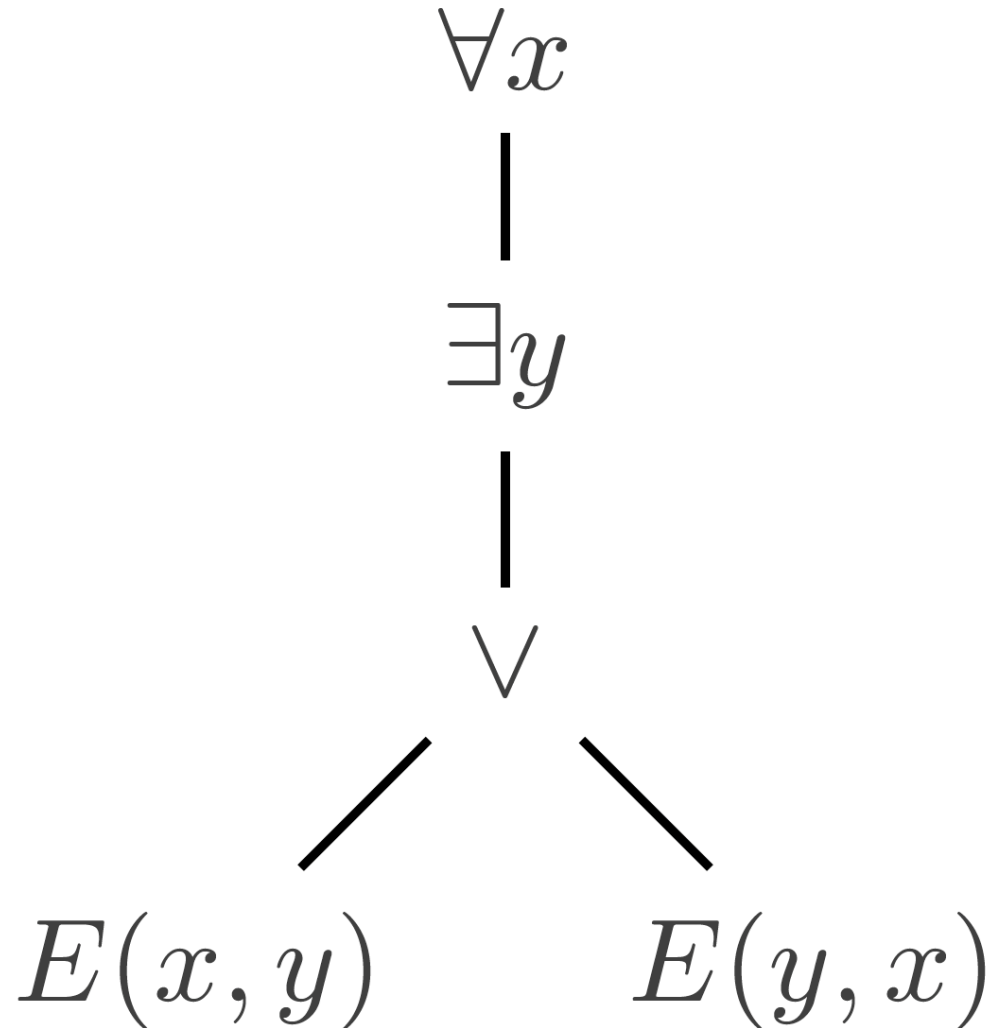
$$\exp(m) \quad \exp(n) \quad 2^{\exp(k)}$$

Can handle **mutual recursion** and **background knowledge**  
(e.g. Datalog) (e.g. ILP)

Uniform decision procedures using **tree automata**

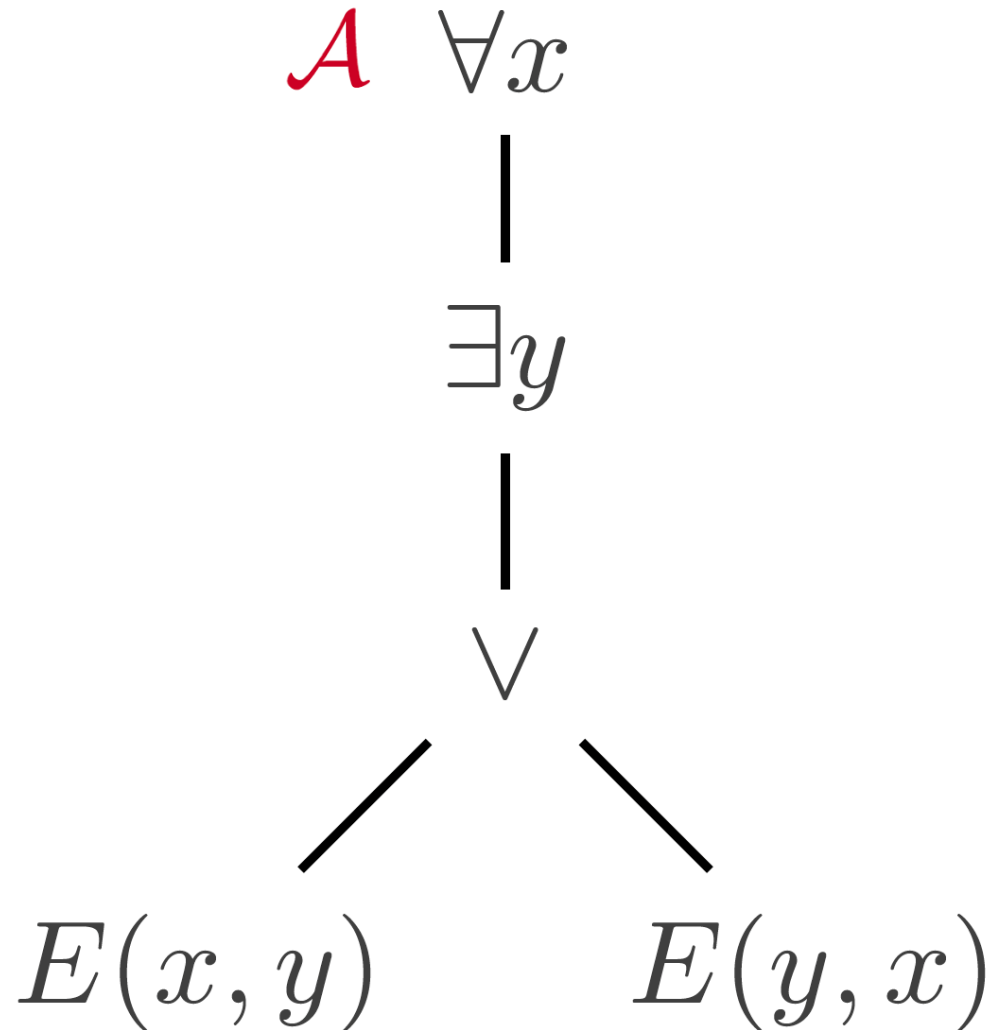
# Evaluating Syntax Trees

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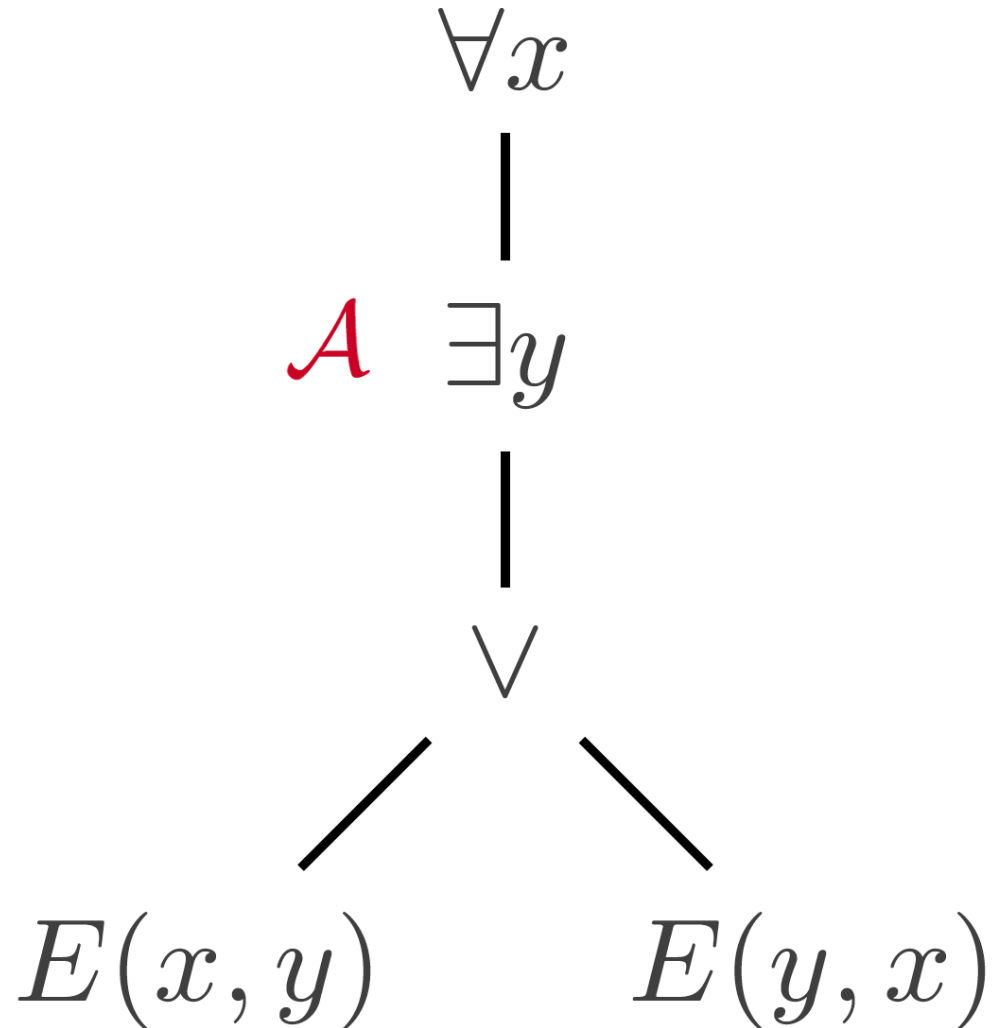
# Evaluating Syntax Trees

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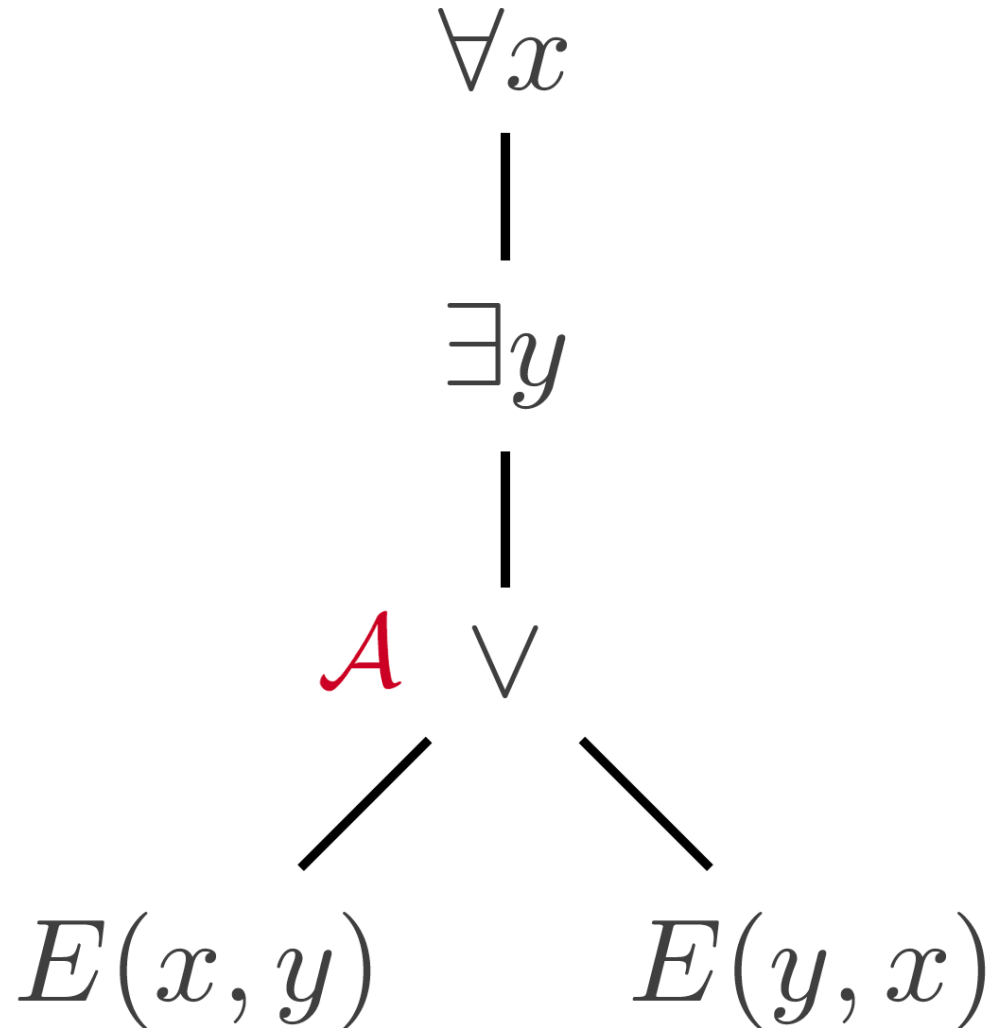
# Evaluating Syntax Trees

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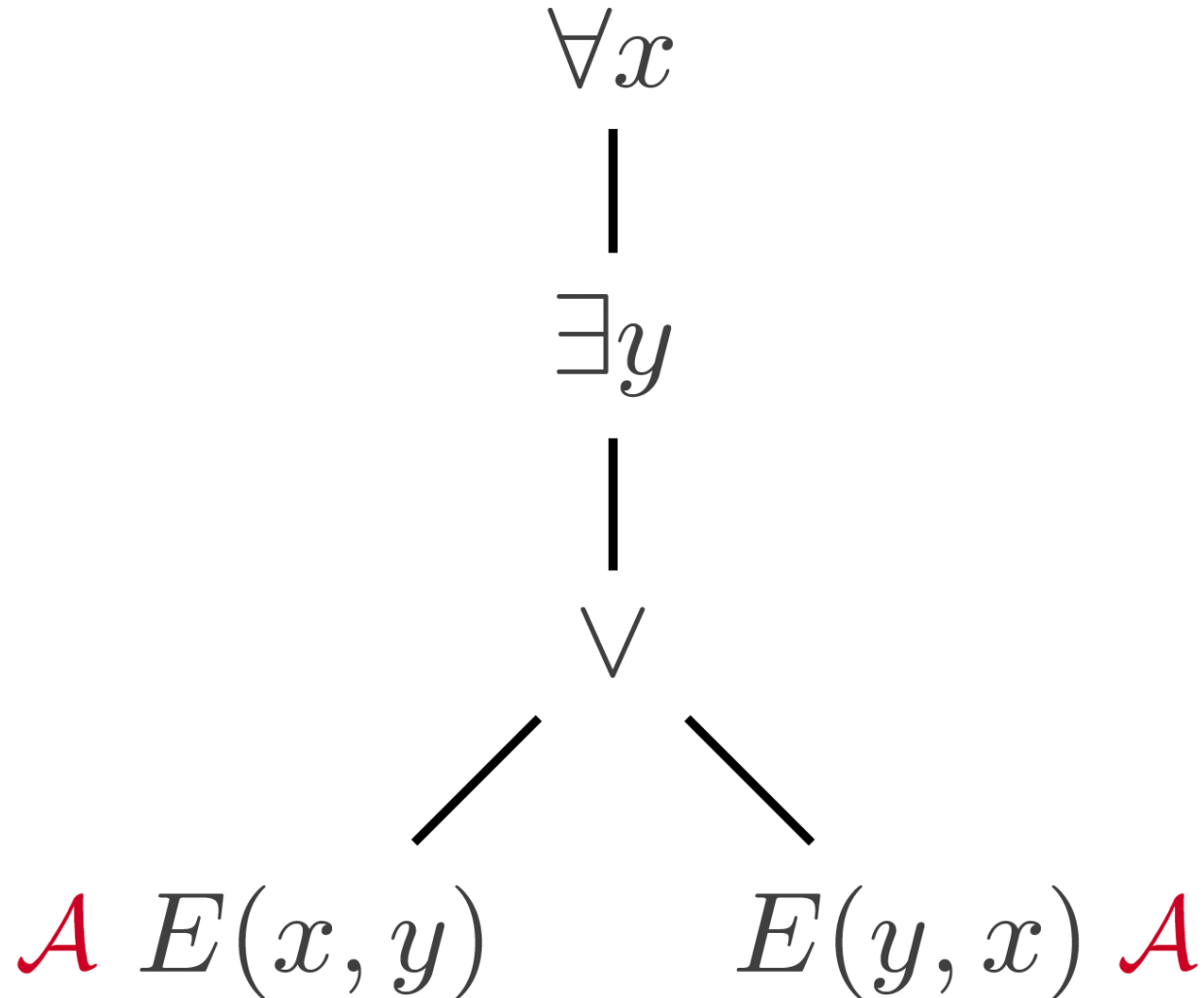
# Evaluating Syntax Trees

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# Evaluating Syntax Trees

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# Tree Automata as Version Space Algebra

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1. For each positive  $P$  define **automaton**  $\mathcal{A}(P)$  so that

$$P \models \varphi \Leftrightarrow \varphi \in L(\mathcal{A}(P))$$

2. For each negative  $N$  define  $\mathcal{A}(N)$  so that

$$N \not\models \varphi \Leftrightarrow \varphi \in L(\mathcal{A}(N))$$

3. Define  $\mathcal{A}(G)$  so that ( $G$  must be a tree grammar)

$$\varphi \in G \Leftrightarrow \varphi \in L(\mathcal{A}(G))$$

4. Define product  $\mathcal{A} :=$

$$\mathcal{A}(P_1) \times \cdots \times \mathcal{A}(P_p) \times \mathcal{A}(N_1) \times \cdots \times \mathcal{A}(N_n) \times \mathcal{A}(G)$$

5. Check whether  $L(\mathcal{A})$  is empty

# Evaluating Trees on **Fixed** Structures

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Consider  $\text{FO}^k$  with variables  $V = \{x_1 \dots x_k\}$

Fix a structure  $M$

Define automaton  $\mathcal{A}$  that accepts  $\varphi \in \text{FO}^k$  precisely when  $M \models \varphi$

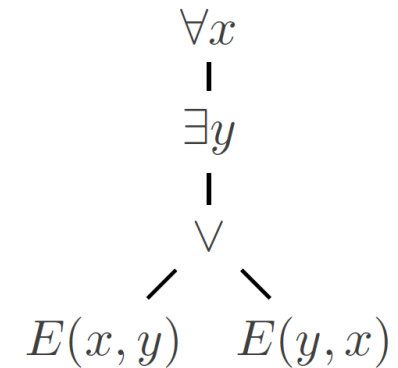
States of  $\mathcal{A}$  are the **finitely-many variable assignments**  $\gamma : V \rightarrow M$

More specifically:  $L(\mathcal{A}, \gamma) = \{\varphi \in \text{FO}^k : M, \gamma \models \varphi\}$

# Alternating Tree Automata

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Automaton reads a labeled tree (a syntax tree)  
Sends “copies” of itself to subtrees  
Each copy must accept its subtree  
Choices constrained by transition function



Transitions are propositional formulas, like

“( $q$ , leftChild)  $\vee$  ( $q'$ , leftChild)  $\wedge$  ( $q'$ , rightChild)”

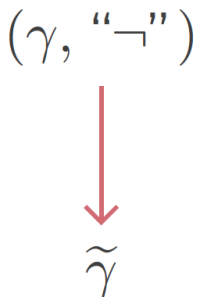
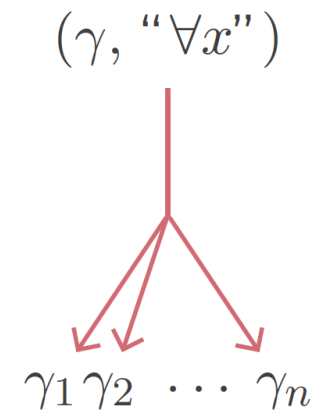
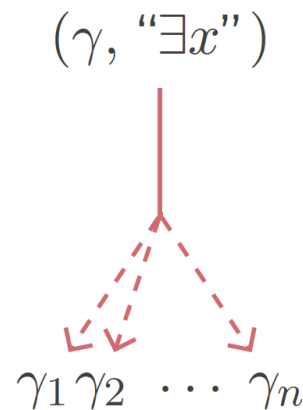
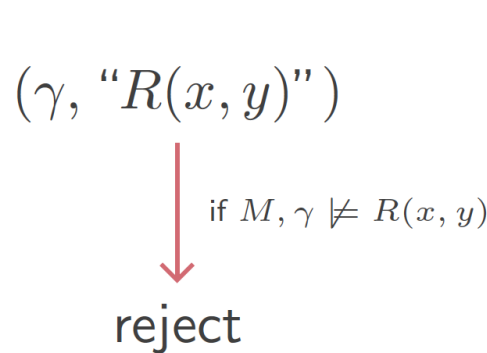
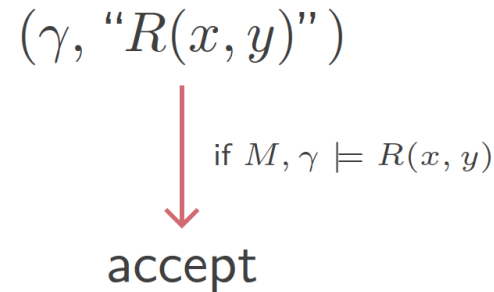
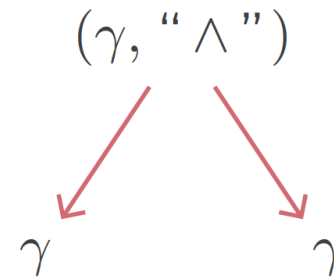
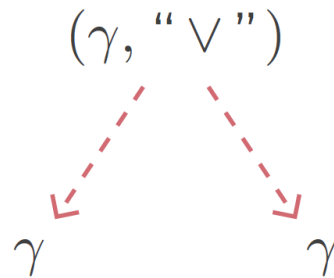
**Key idea:** alternation neatly expresses FO semantics

# Evaluating Formulas

$M$  is a fixed structure

$\gamma$  is a variable assignment

Goal: define  $\mathcal{A}$  so  $L(\mathcal{A}, \gamma) = \{\varphi \in \text{FO}^k : M, \gamma \models \varphi\}$



# Evaluating Terms

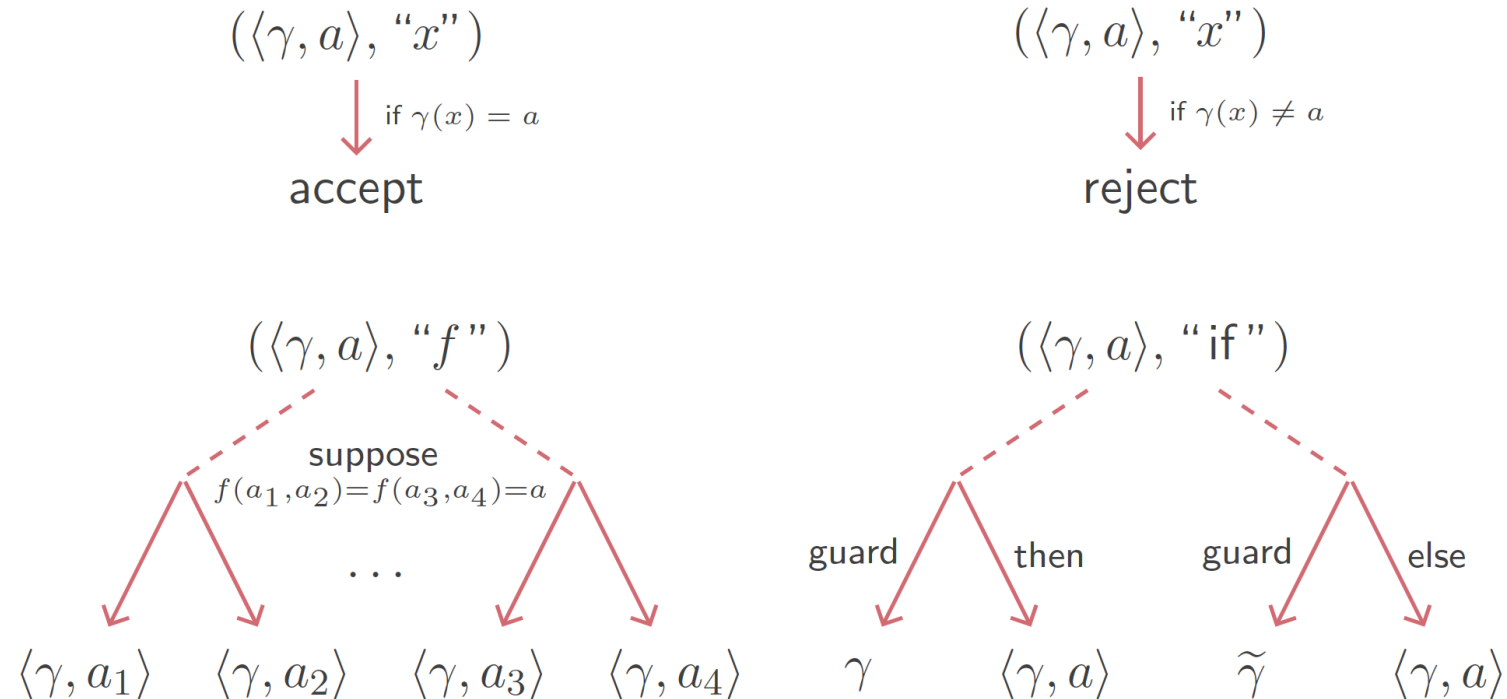
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$M$  is a fixed structure

$\gamma$  is a variable assignment

$a$  is a target domain element

Goal:  $L(\mathcal{A}, \langle \gamma, a \rangle) = \{t \in \text{terms}(\text{FO}^k) : M, \gamma \models t = a\}$



# Evaluating Recursive Definitions

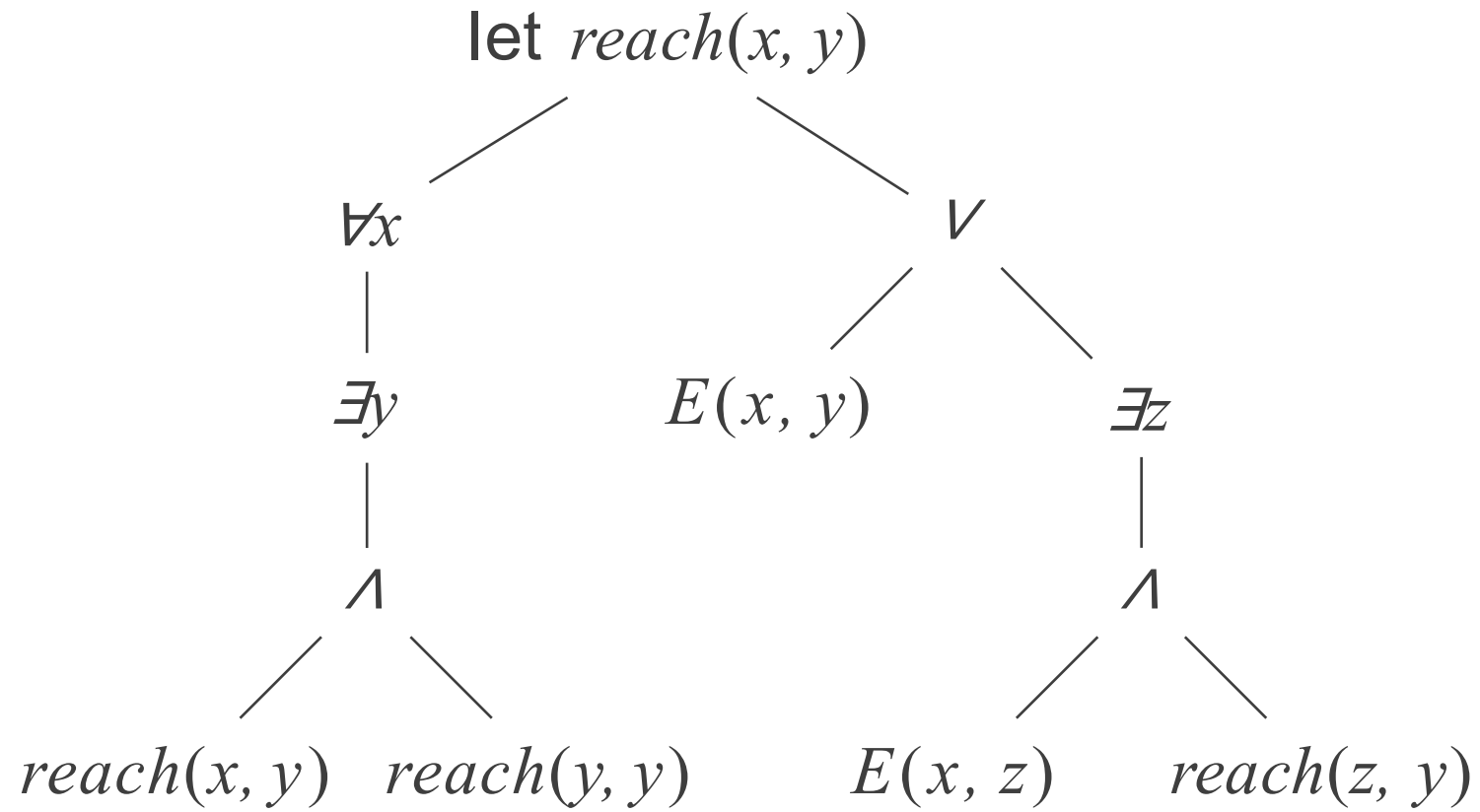
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let  $reach(x, y) =_{\text{lfp}} E(x, y) \vee \exists z. (E(x, z) \wedge reach(z, y))$   
in  $\forall x. \exists y. (reach(x, y) \wedge reach(y, y))$

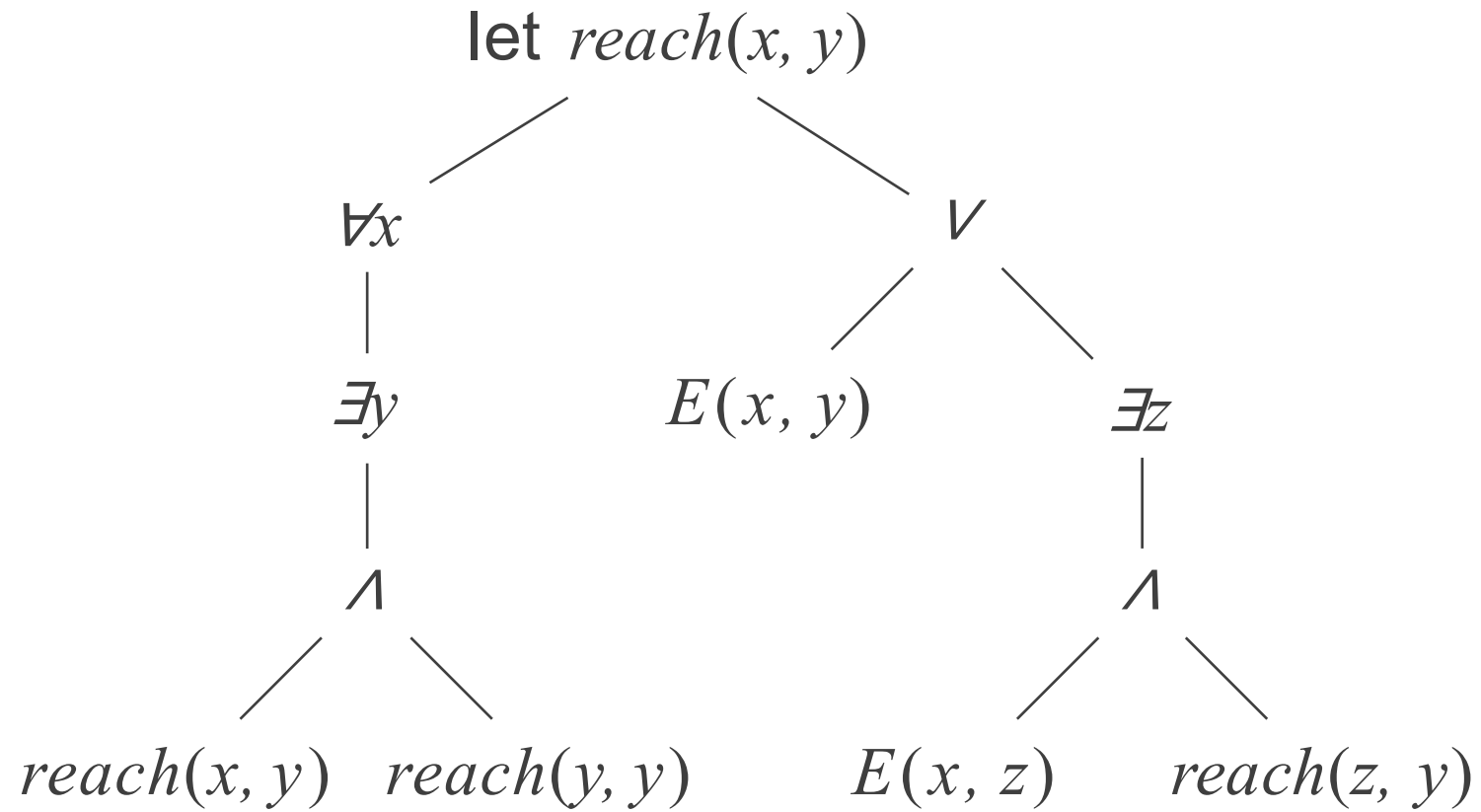
The relation  $reach$  has least fixed point semantics

**Key idea:** **Two-way automata** can check membership  
in recursively-defined relations

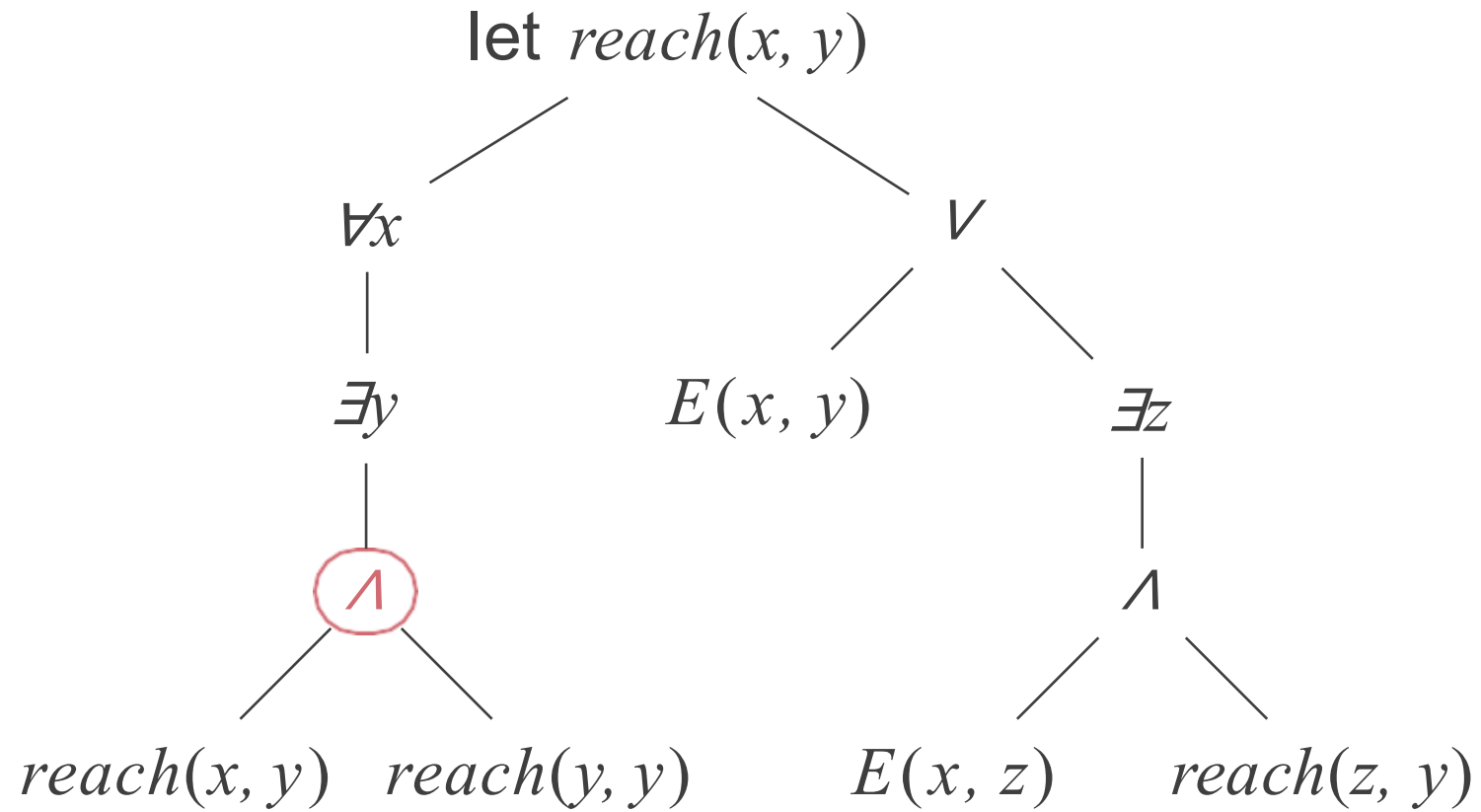
# Evaluating Recursive Definitions



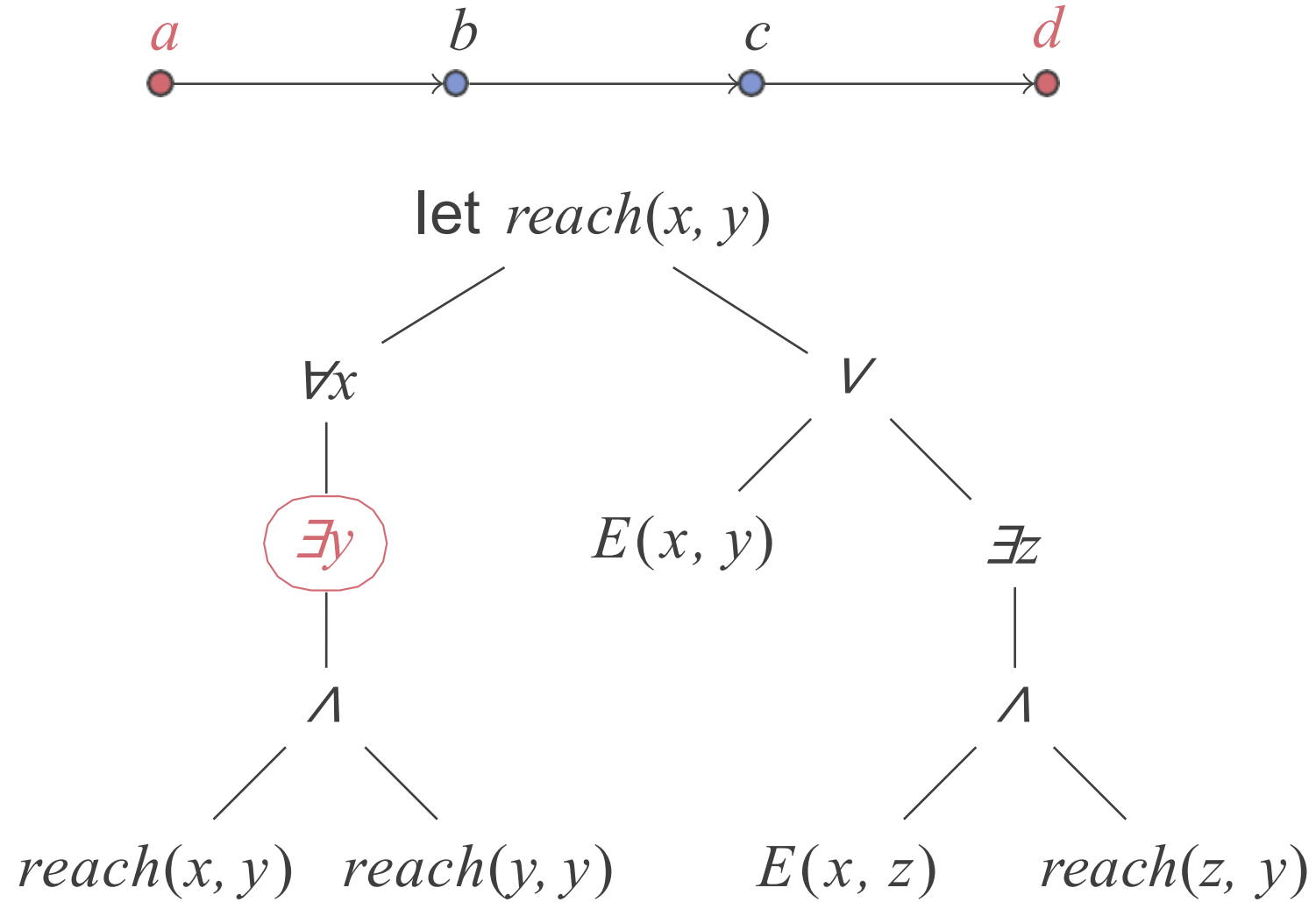
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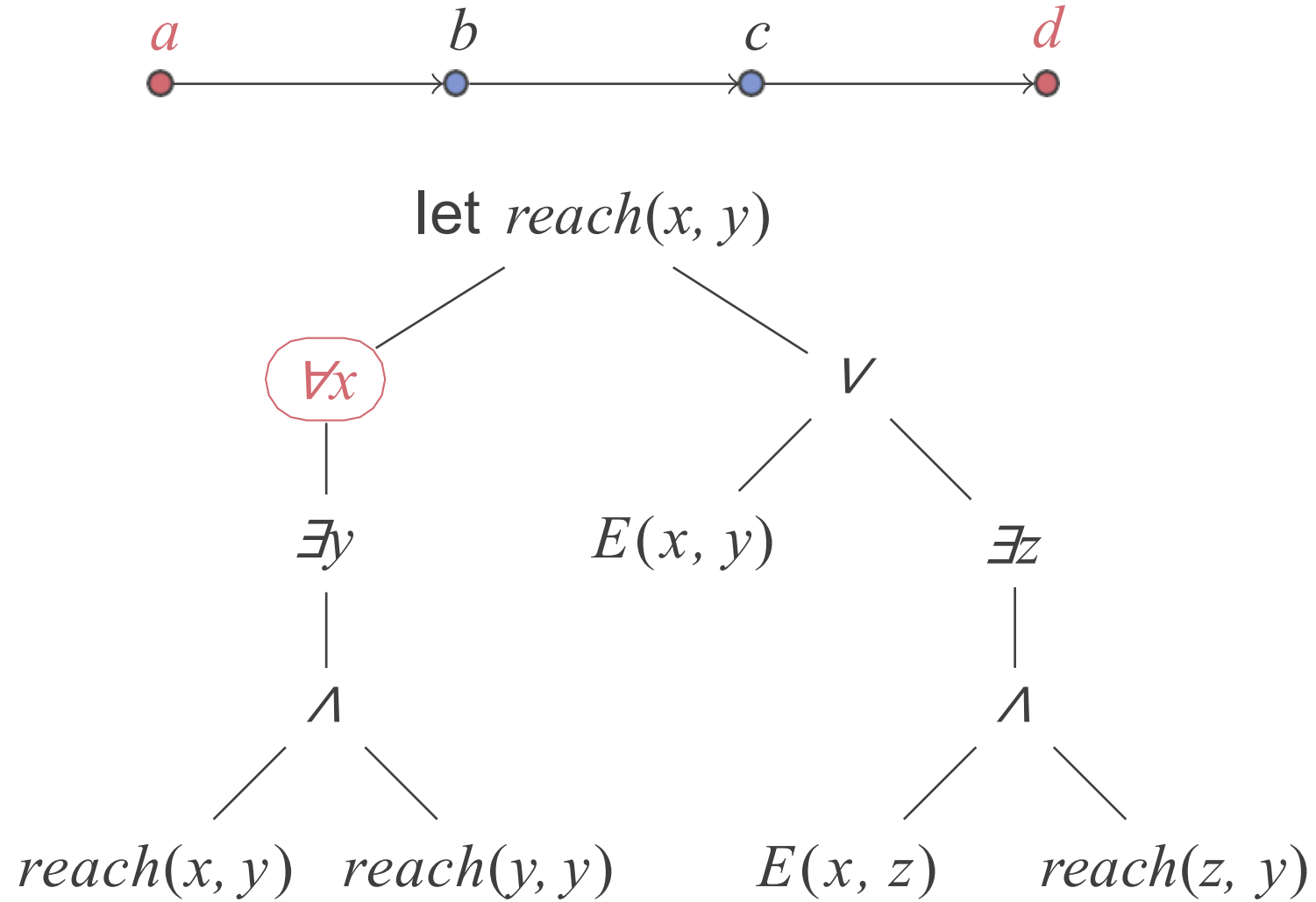
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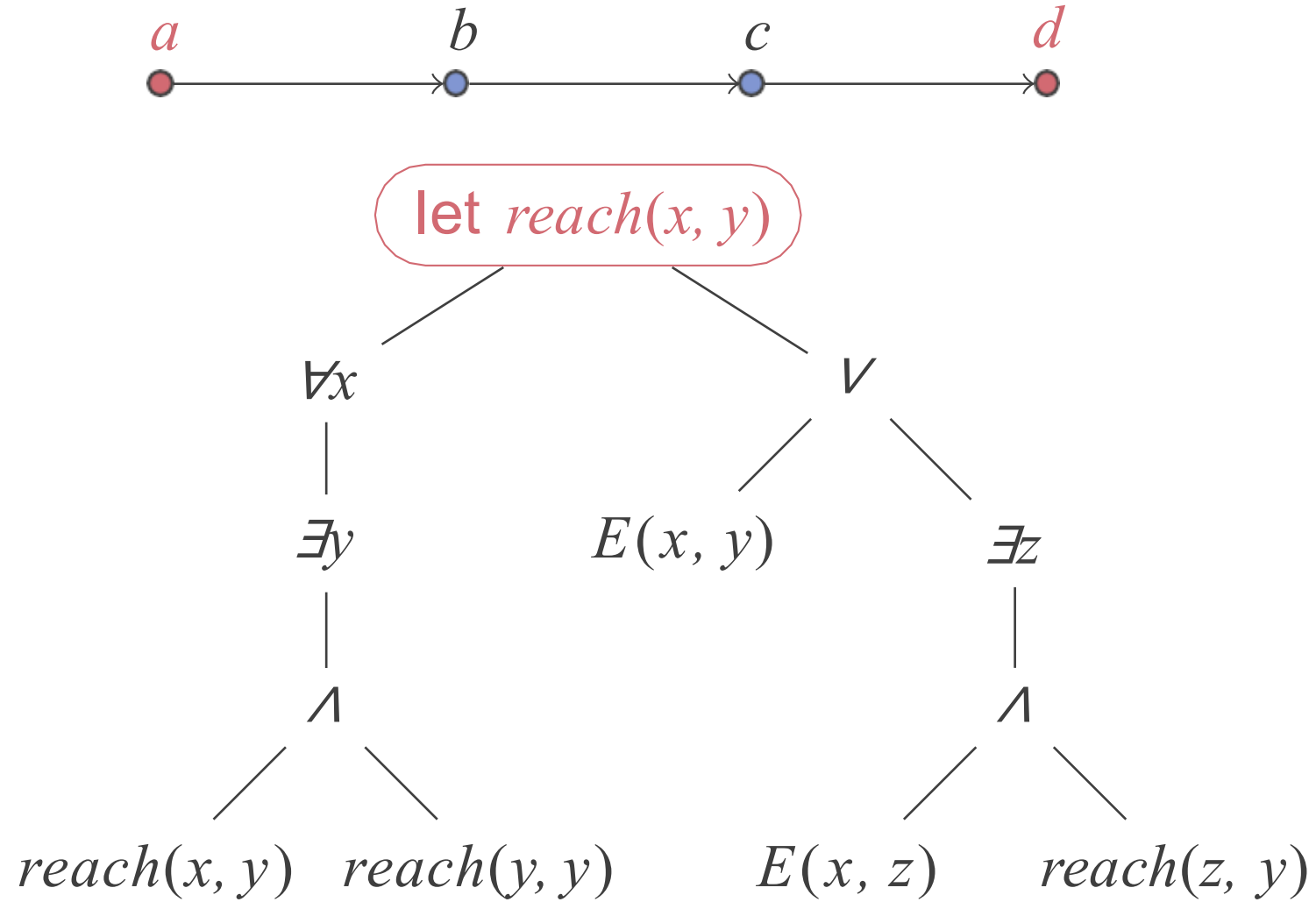
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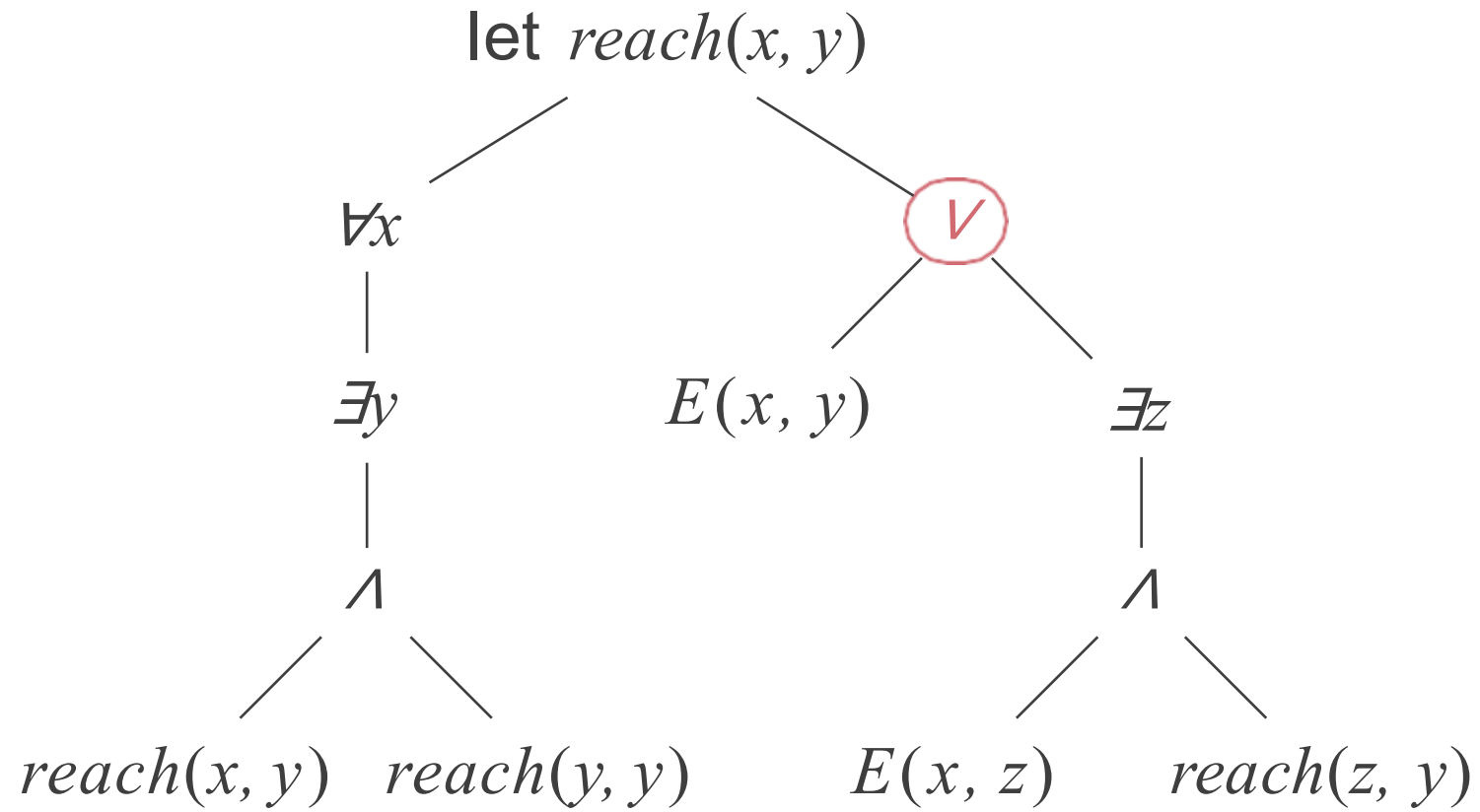
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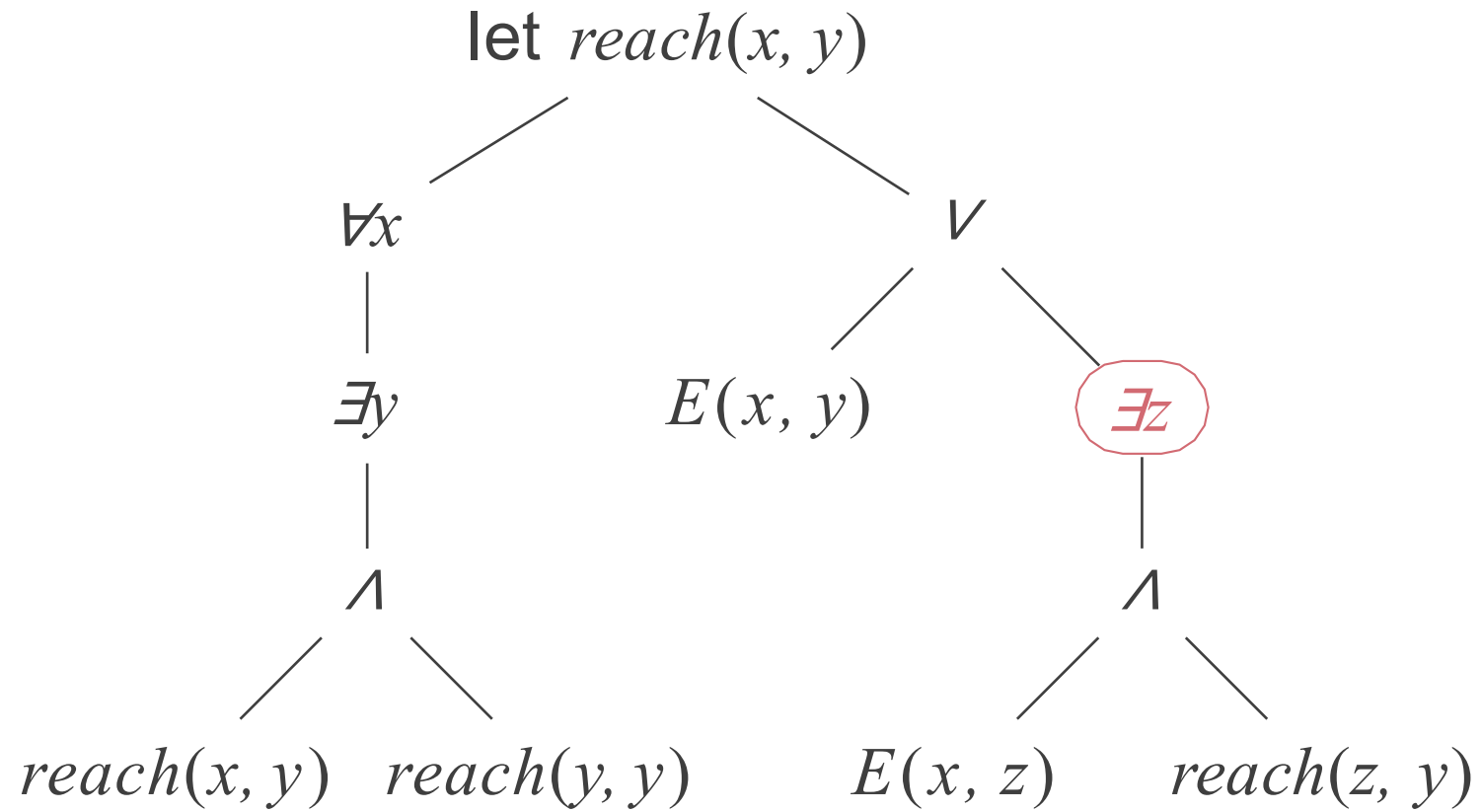
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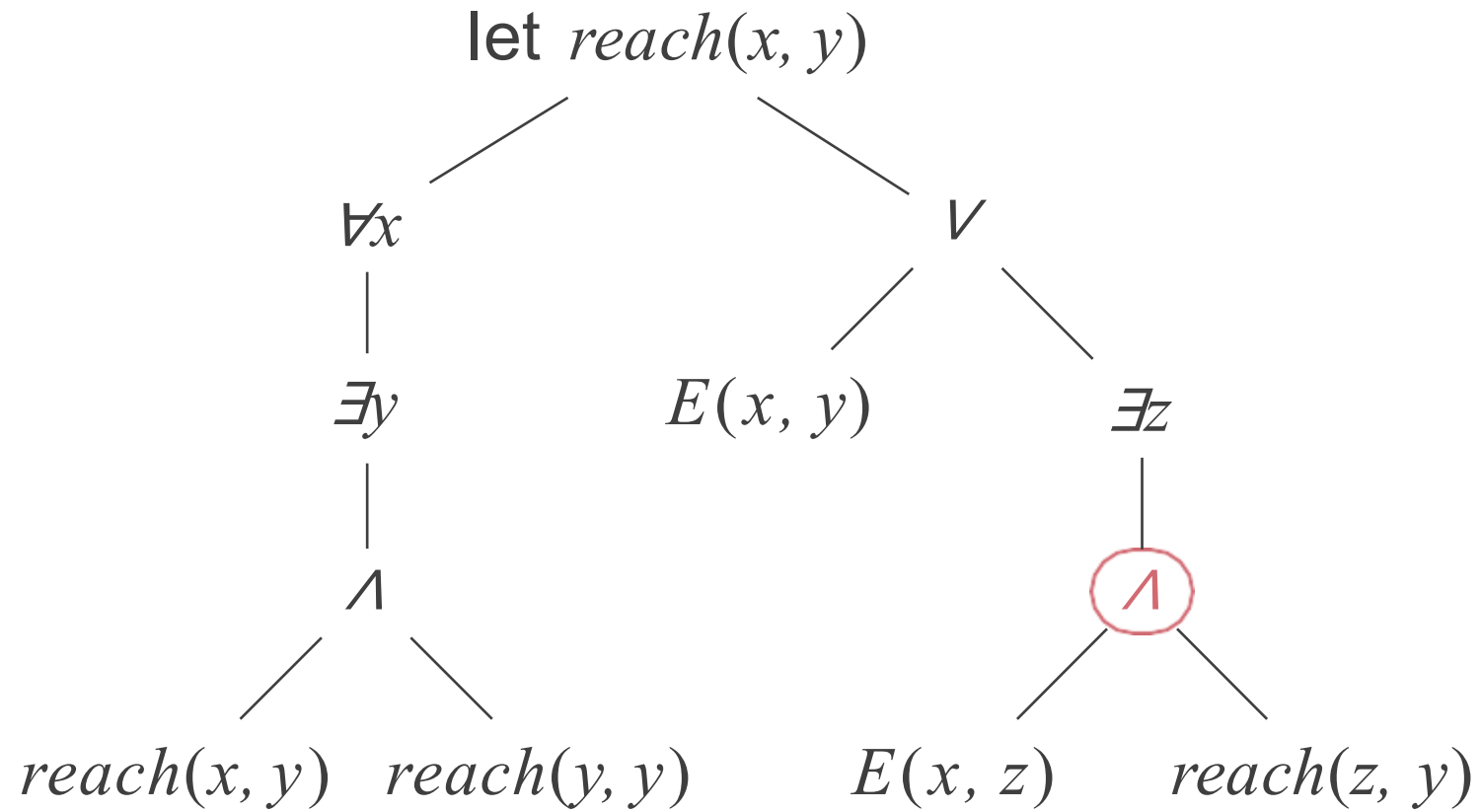
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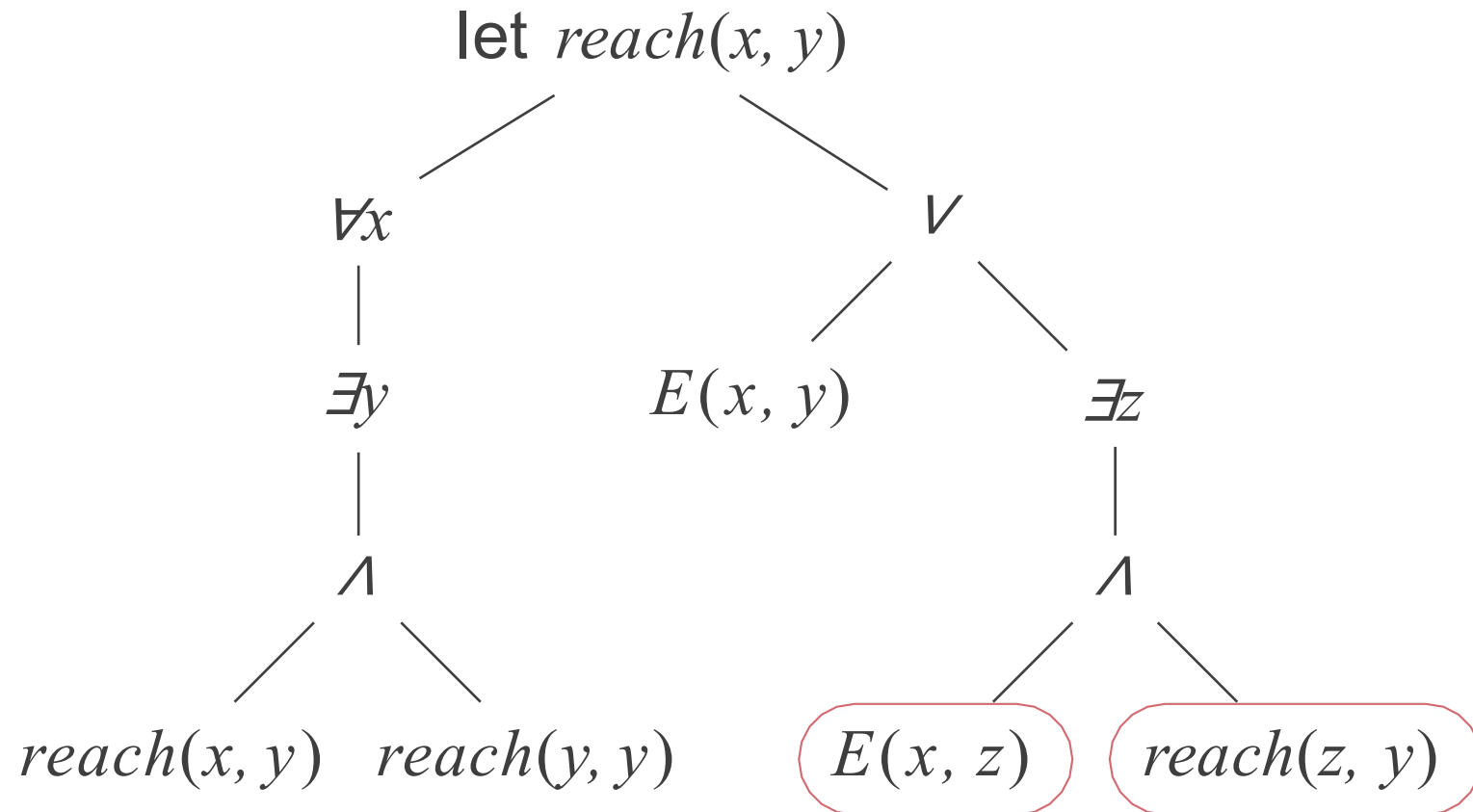
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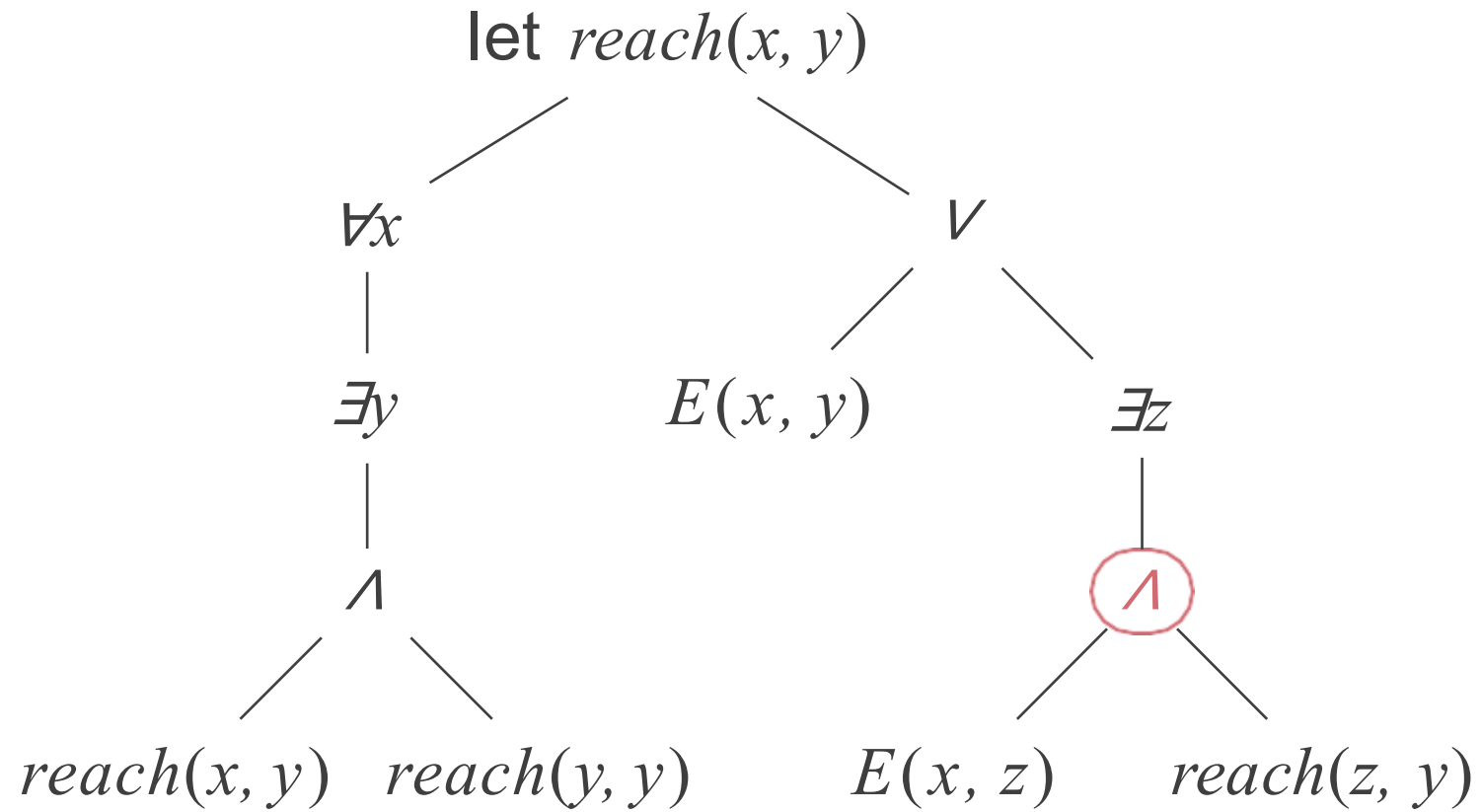
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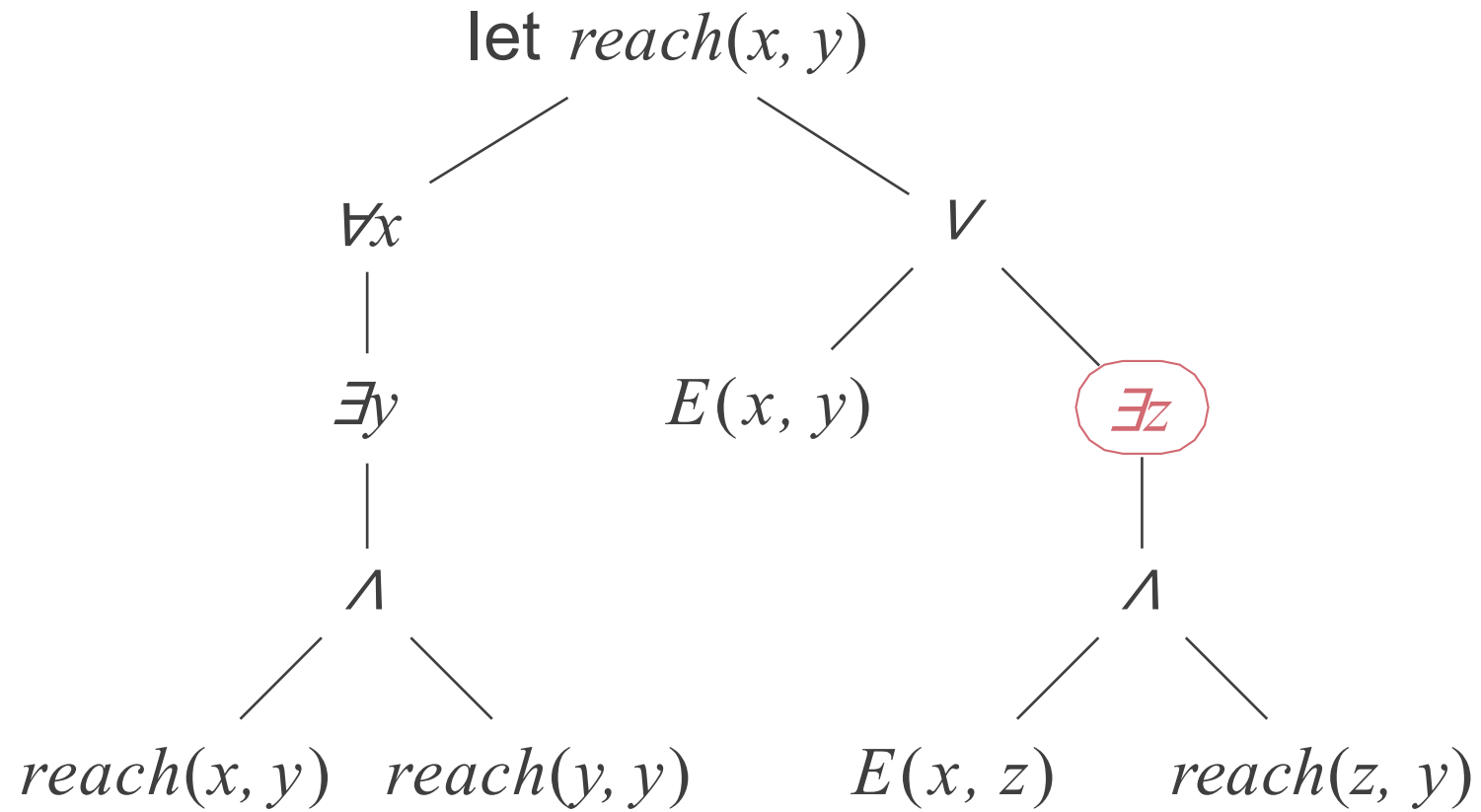
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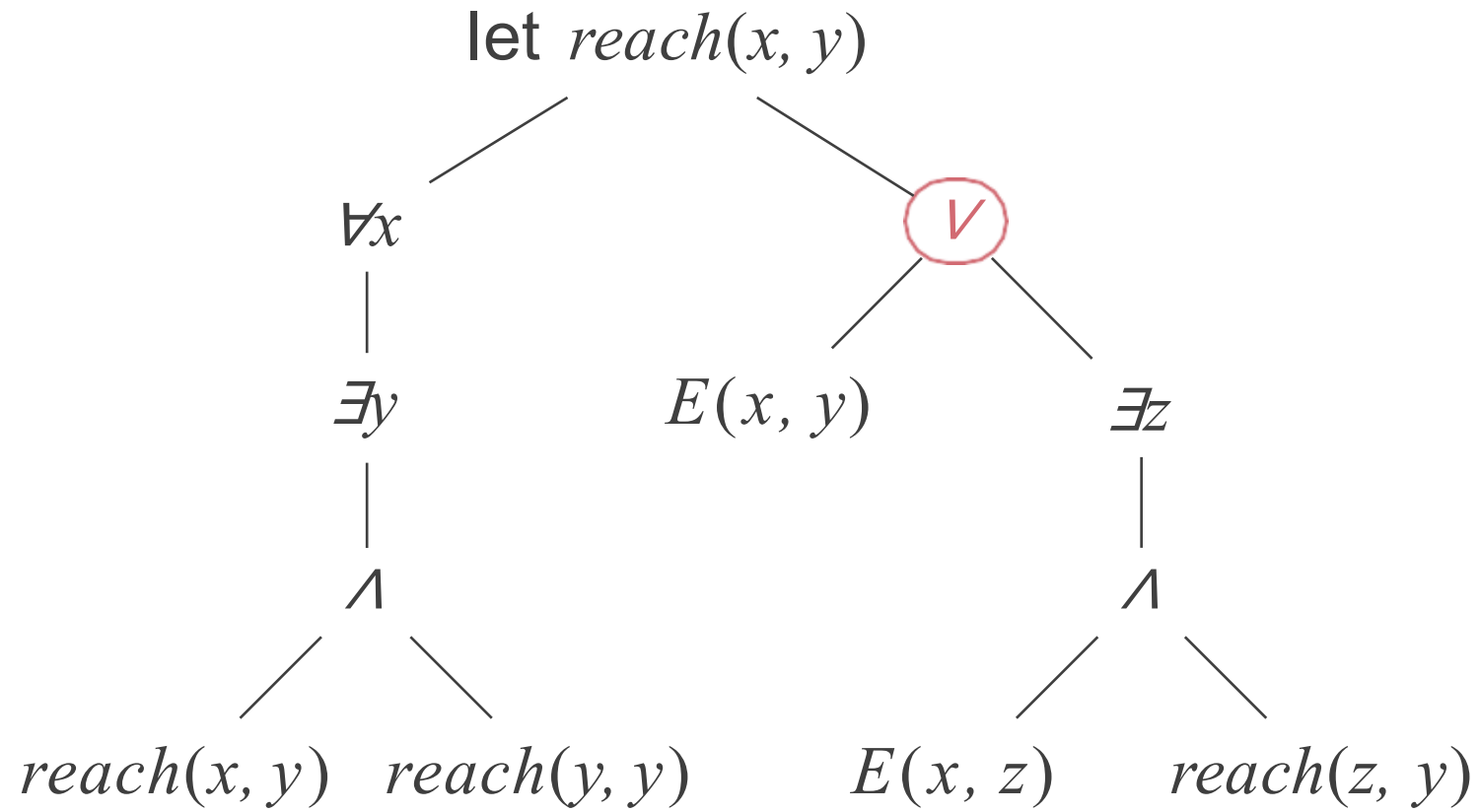
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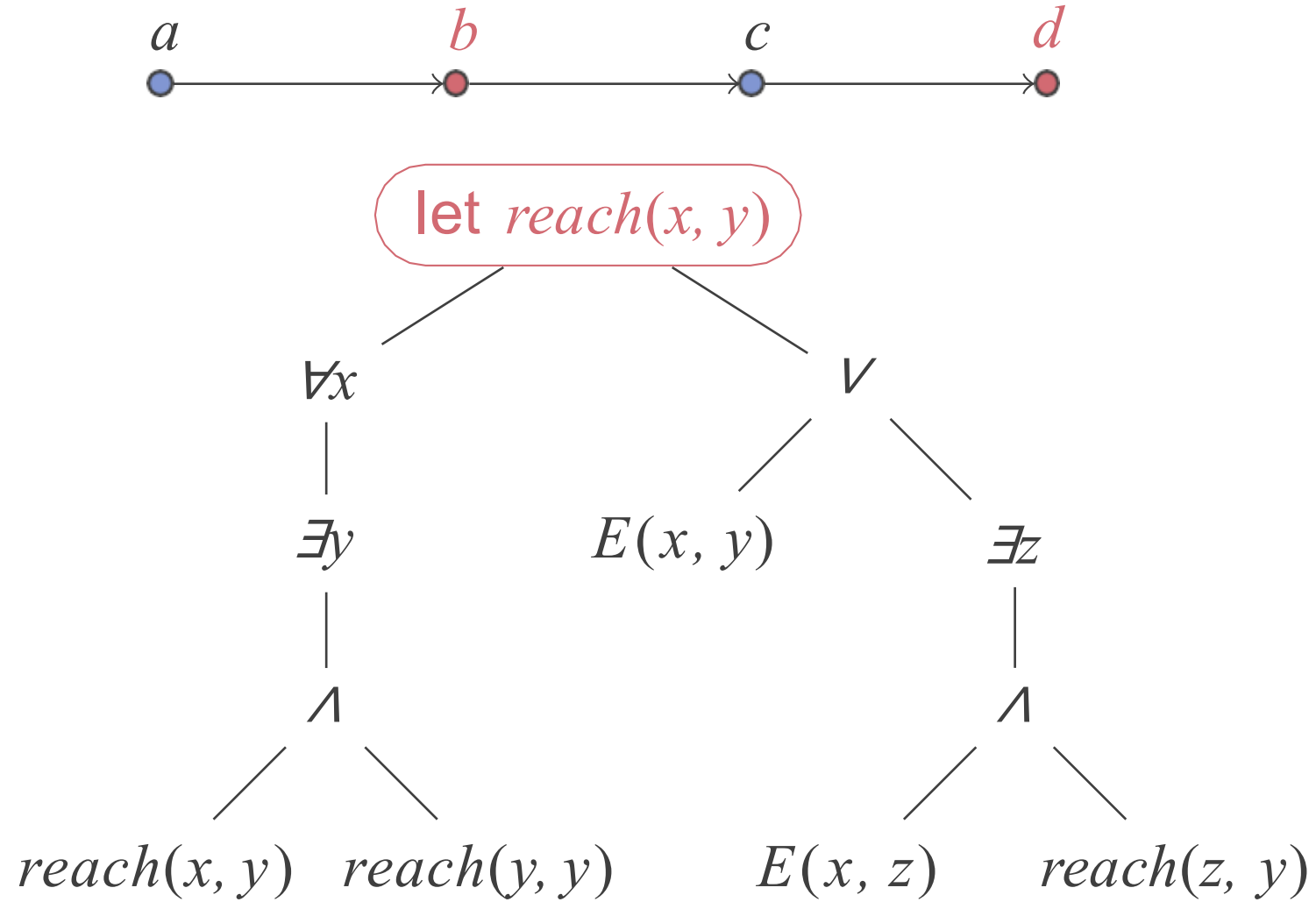
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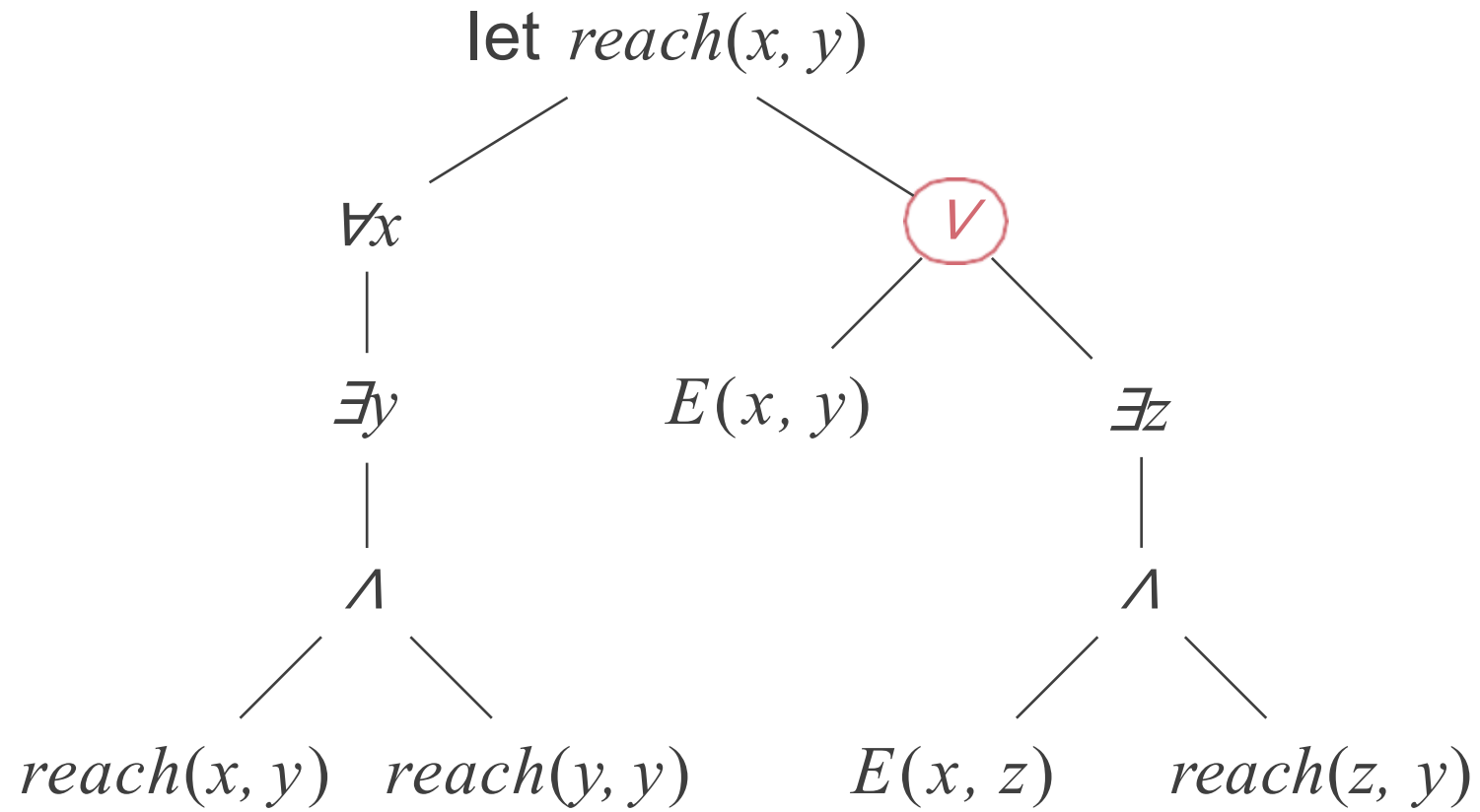
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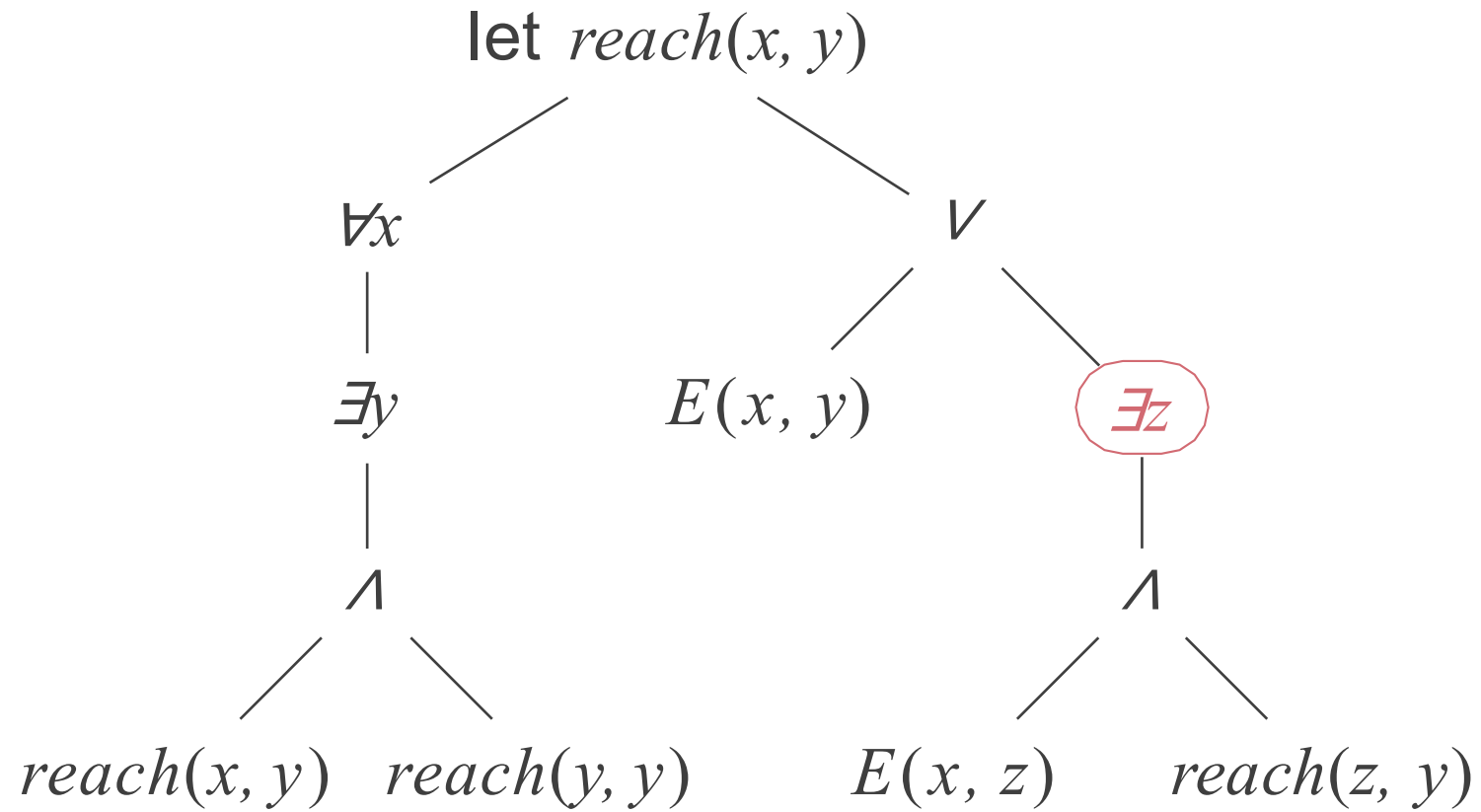
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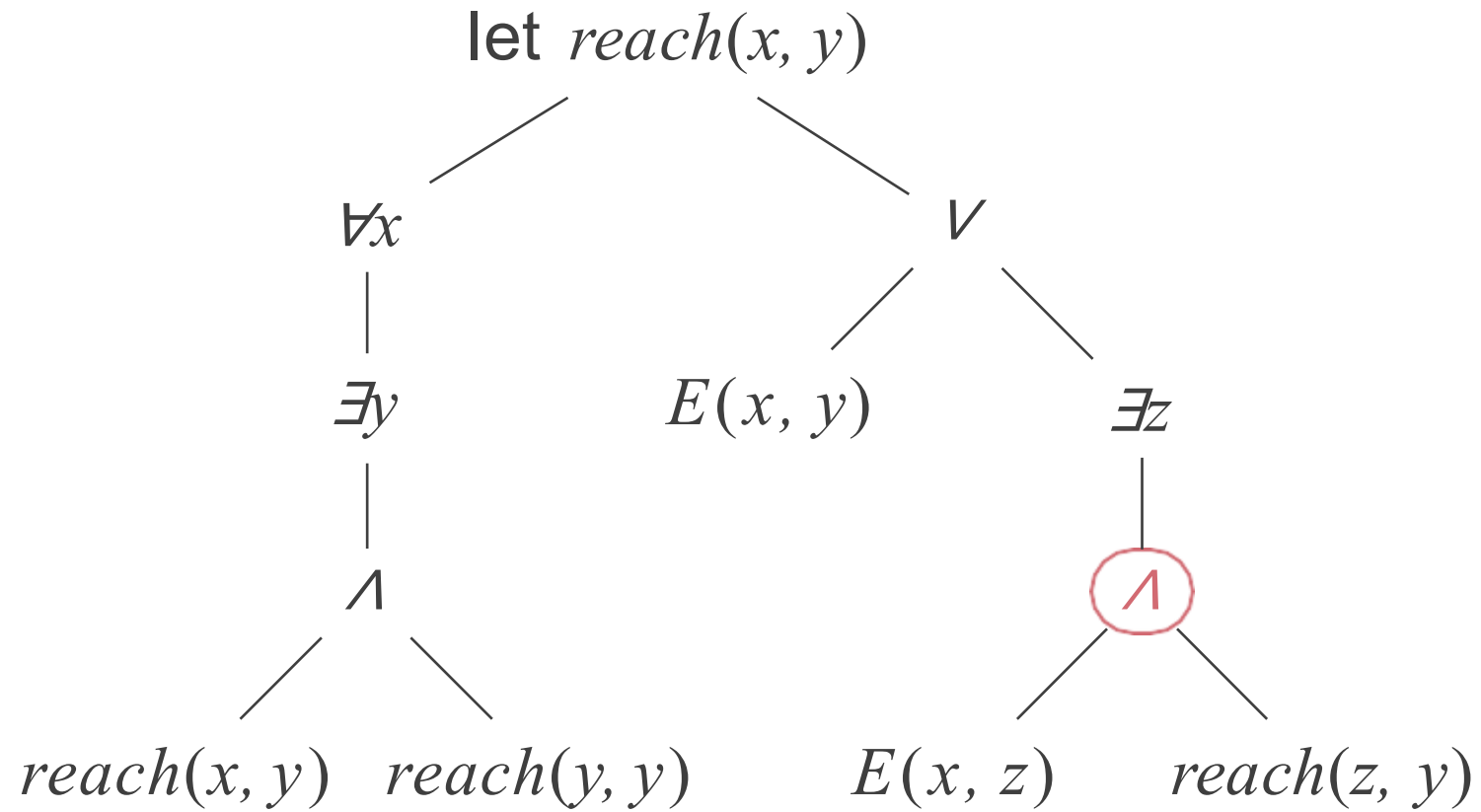
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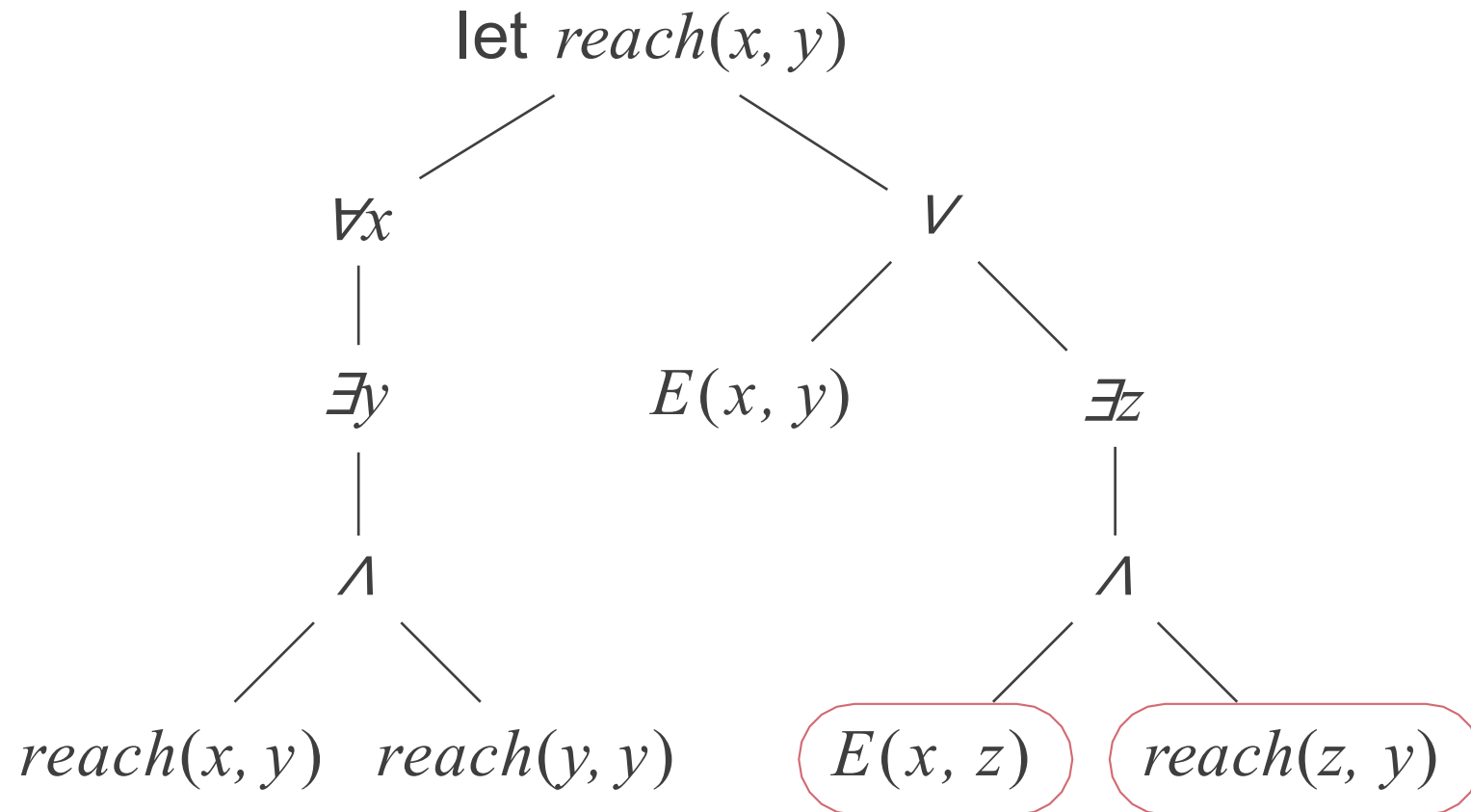
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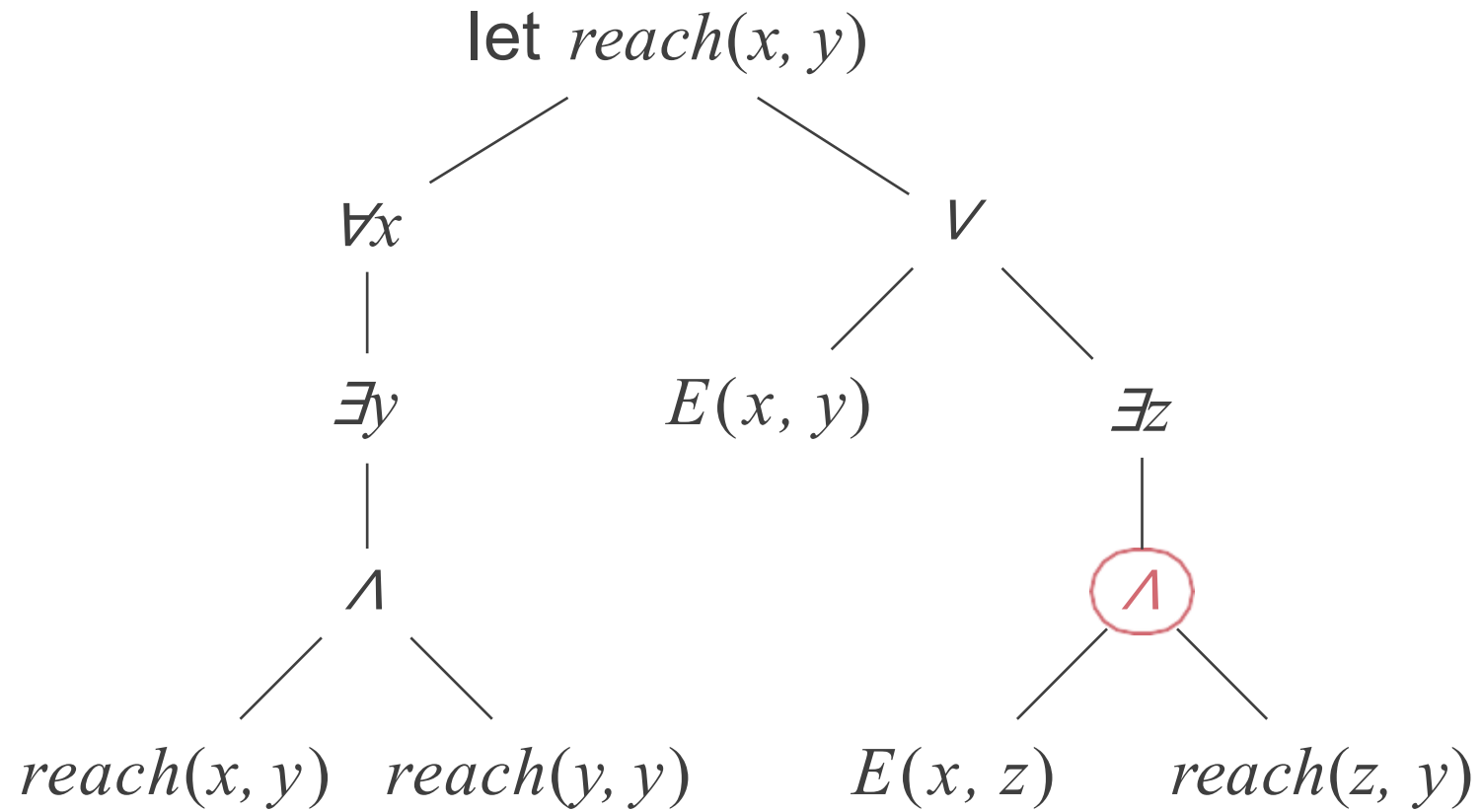
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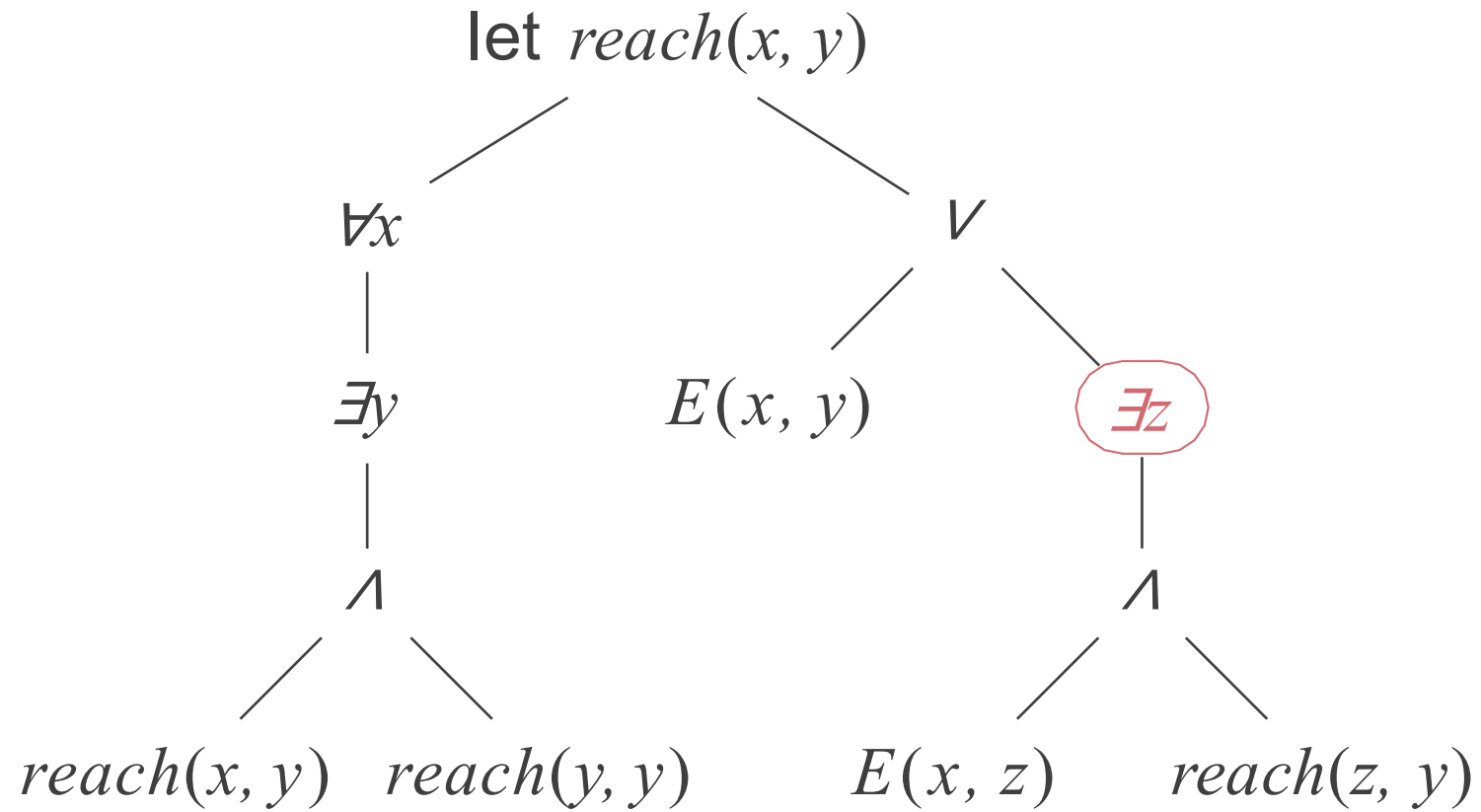
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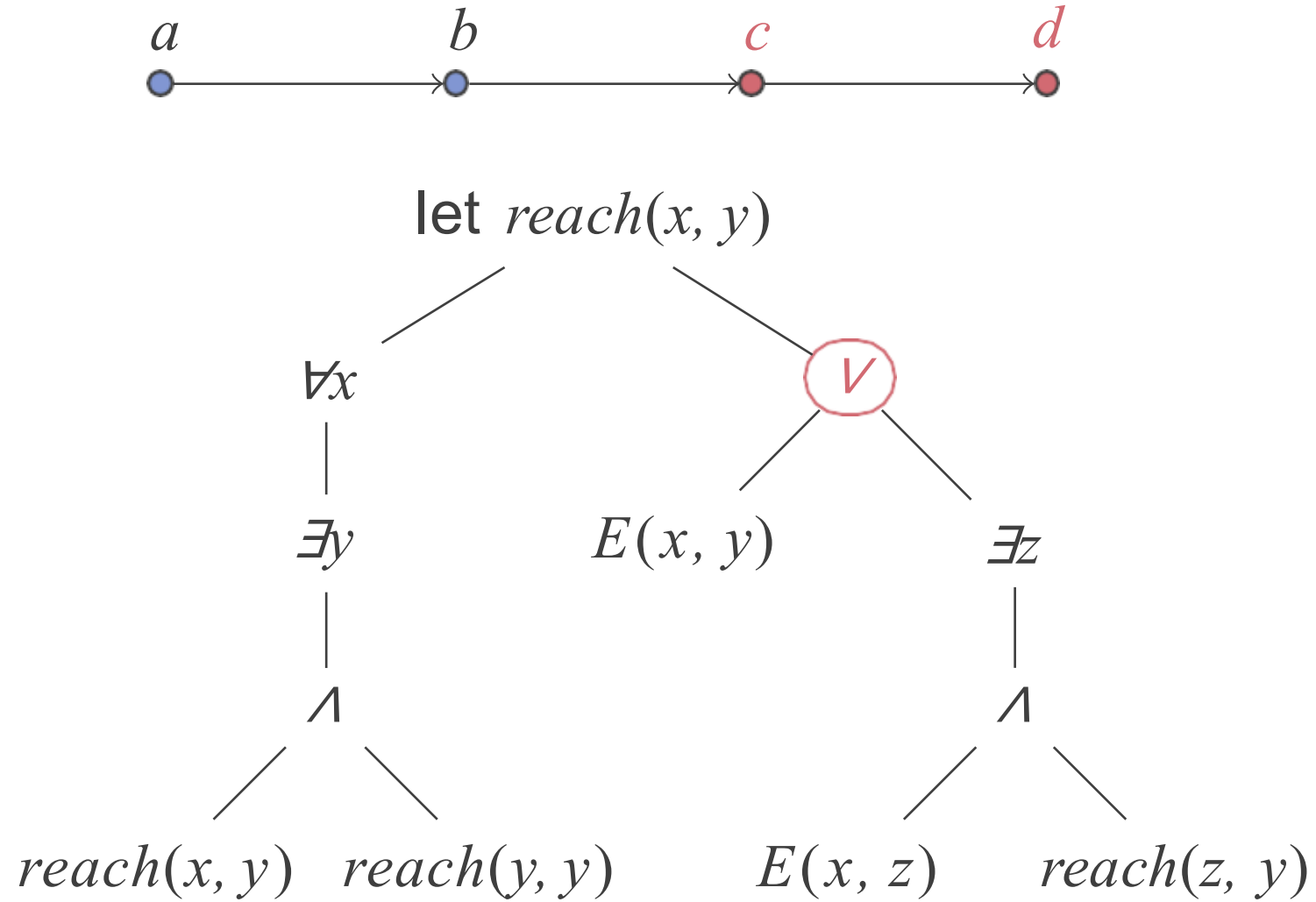
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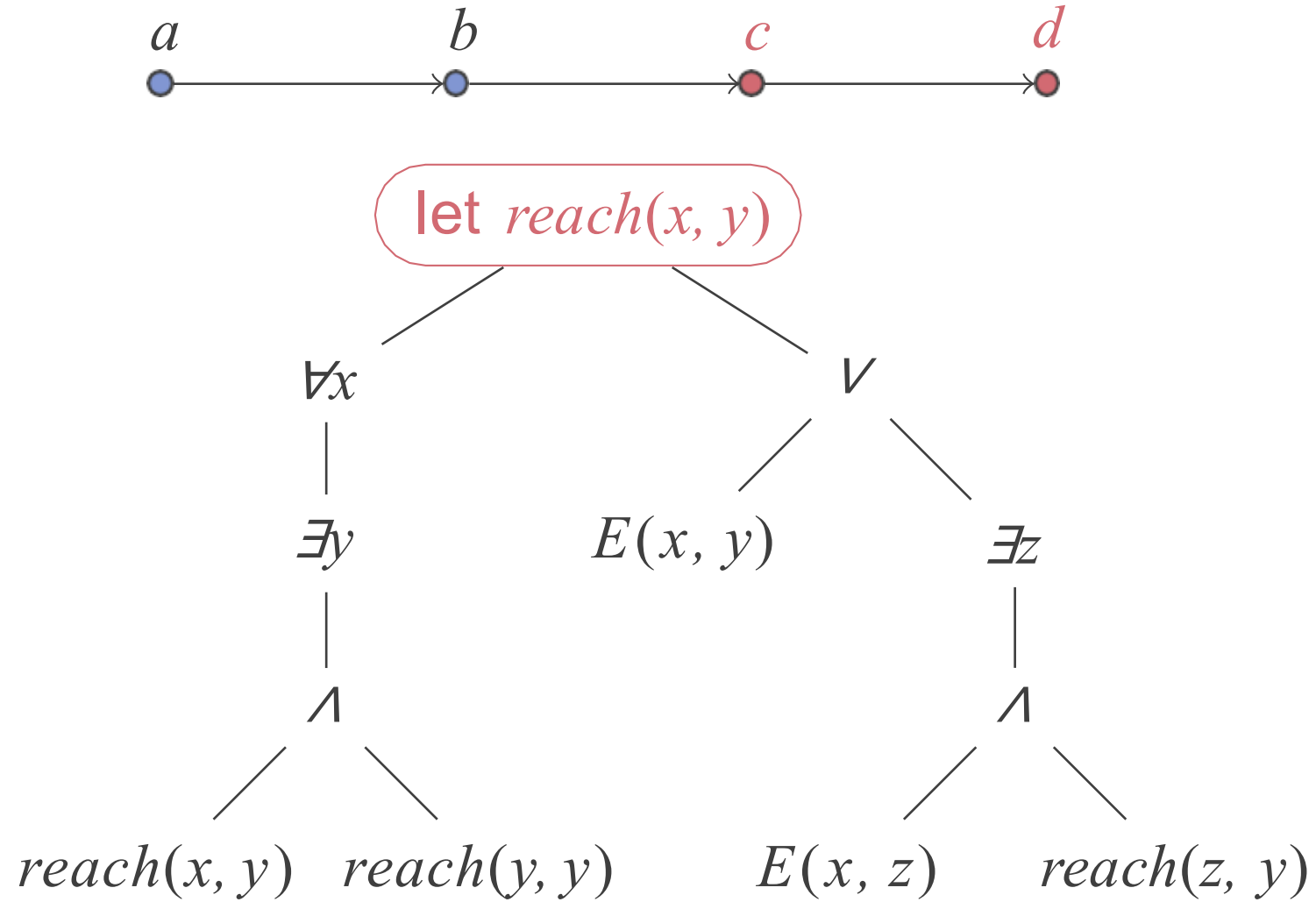
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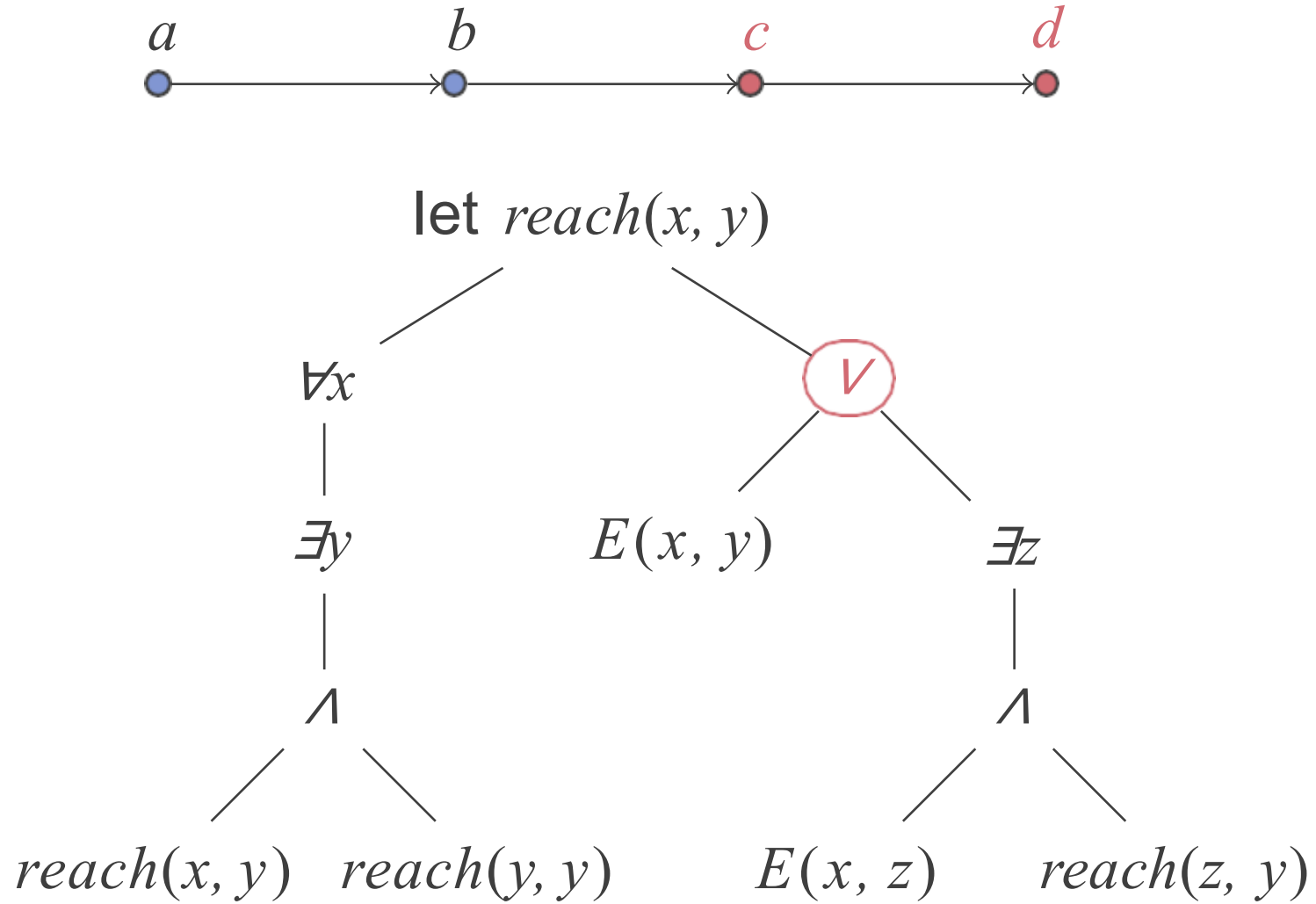
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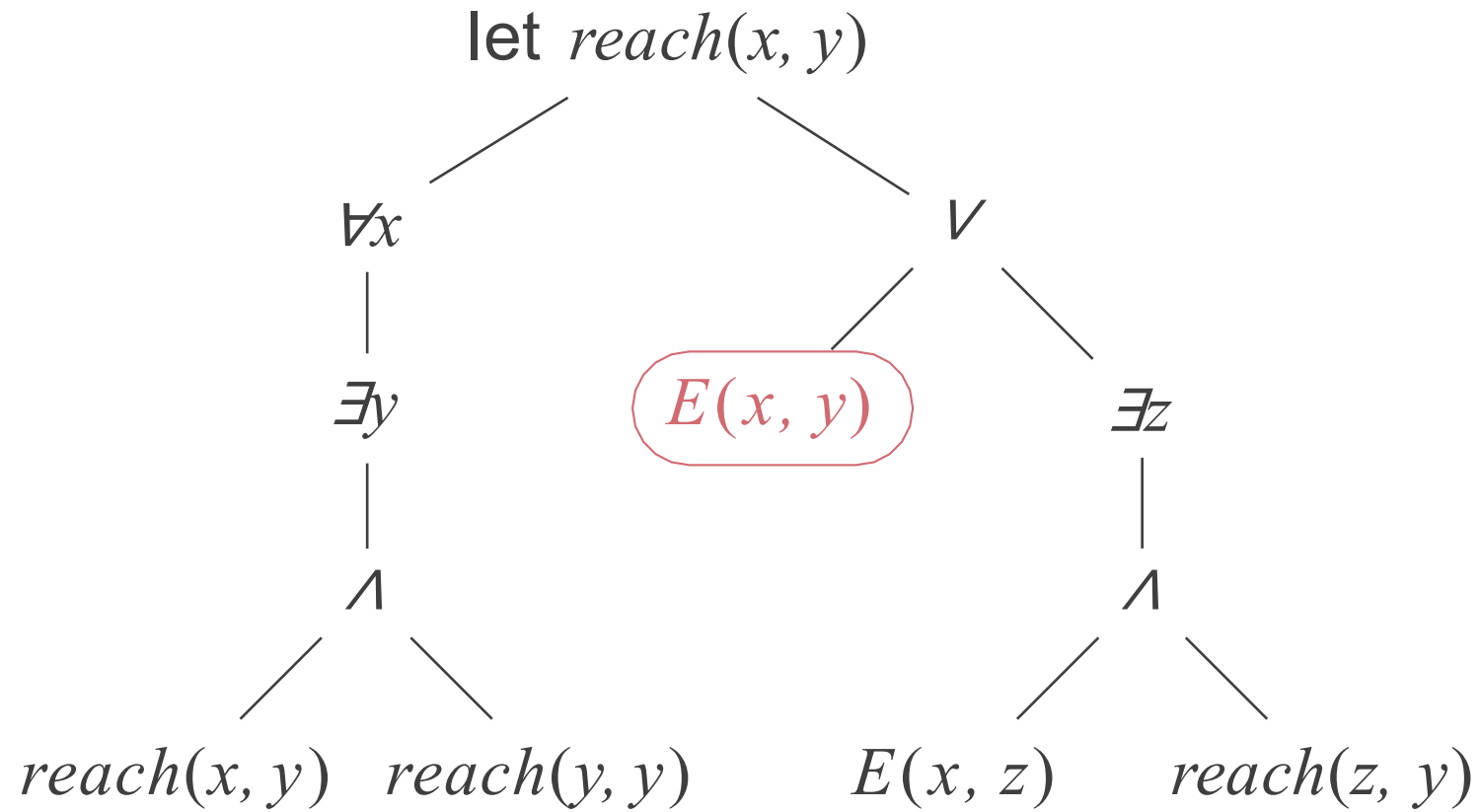
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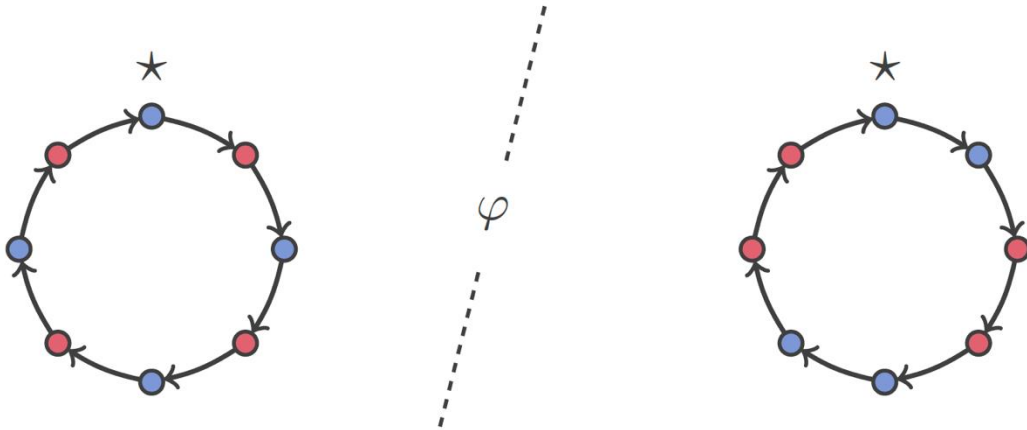


# Evaluating Recursive Definitions



# Mutual Recursion

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let  $even(y) = \exists z. odd(z) \wedge E(z, y) \vee \star(y)$   
     $odd(y) = \exists z. even(z) \wedge E(z, y)$   
in  $\forall x. (blue(x) \rightarrow even(x)) \wedge (red(x) \rightarrow odd(x))$

Mutual recursion evaluated similar to recursion

Product of counters (one for each definition in a block)

## **Languages with Decidable Learning: A Meta-theorem**

PAUL KROGMEIER, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, USA  
P. MADHUSUDAN, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, USA

# **Beyond logic learning?**

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Slides by Paul Krogmeier

$\lambda x. \text{concat} (\text{map} (\text{take } 1) (\text{words } x))$

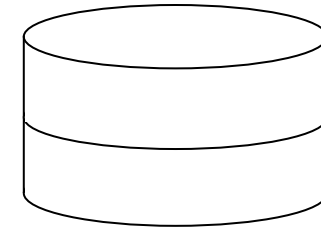
Chenan Wen	CW
Yizhan Qing	YQ
...	...

Program synthesis

$\exists Q : \text{Quorum}. \forall N_1, N_2 : \text{Node}.$   
 $(\text{leader}(N_1) \wedge \text{member}(N_2, Q))$   
 $\rightarrow \text{vote}(N_2, N_1)$

Invariant inference

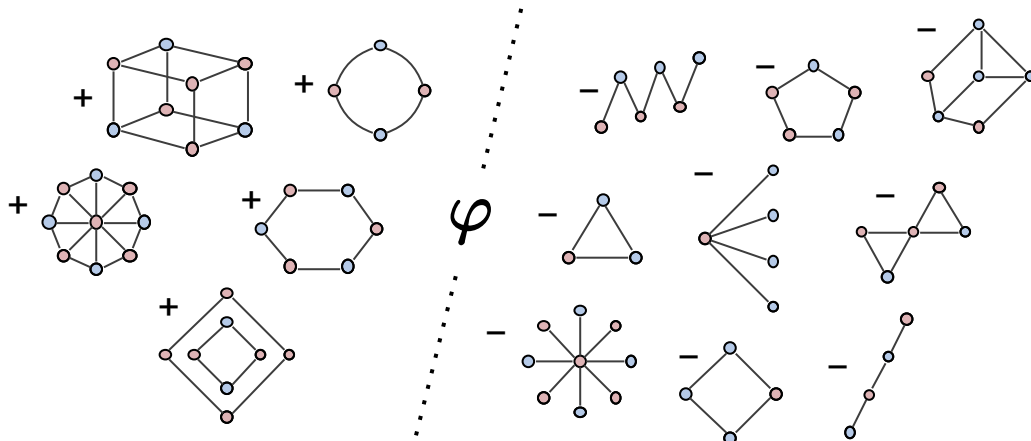
+ (id = 0, name = Alice, age = 40)  
 - (id = 0, name = Bob, age = 19)



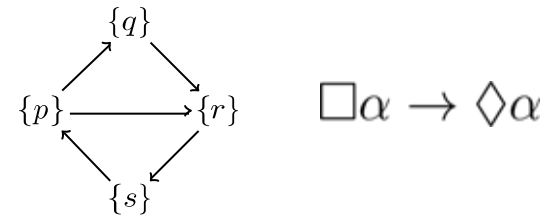
SELECT id, name, age  
 FROM employees  
 WHERE age >= 21;

Learning SQL queries

Example-driven logic learning



Synthesizing axiomatizations



Synthesizing specifications

...

$\lambda x. \text{concat} (\text{map} (\text{take } 1) (\text{words } x))$

+ (id = 0, name = Alice, age = 40)  
- (id = 0, name = Bob, age = 19)

Jaeho	
Hyeo	
Yoo	
...	...

# Algorithmic meta-theorem for symbolic learning problems



```
SELECT id, name, age
FROM employees
WHERE age >= 21;
```

Invariant inference

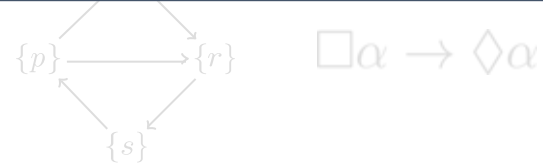
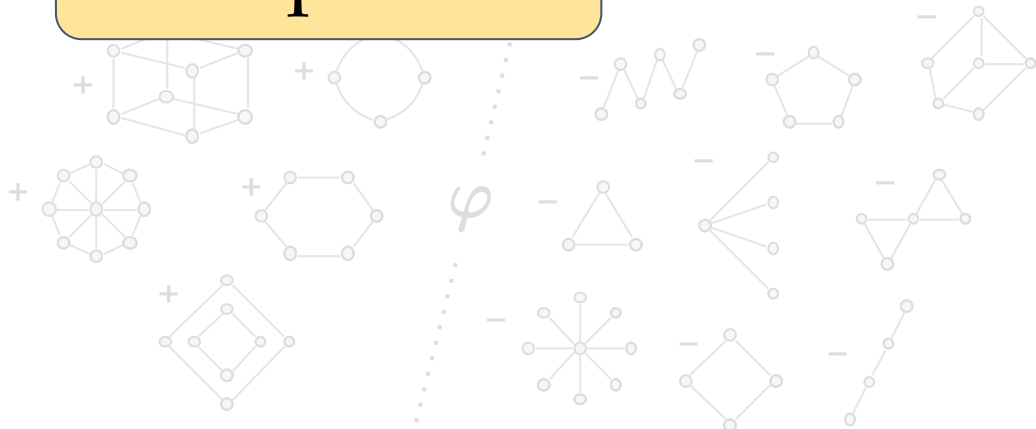
Learning SQL queries

Program synthesis

**Interpreters**

Meta-theorem

**Algorithms for learning**



Synthesizing specifications

...

# Learning regular expressions

---

Find a regular expression that matches words on the left and none on the right.

*paul@krogmeier.org*

*john@self.123*

*barry@123.edu*

`(LetterDigit+)@(LetterDigit+).(letter+)`

*barry@self.co.uk*

*paul@krogmeier*

Concept: valid email addresses.

# Can we find terminating algorithms?

---

Infinite number of semantically different expressions

- Naive enumeration won't work

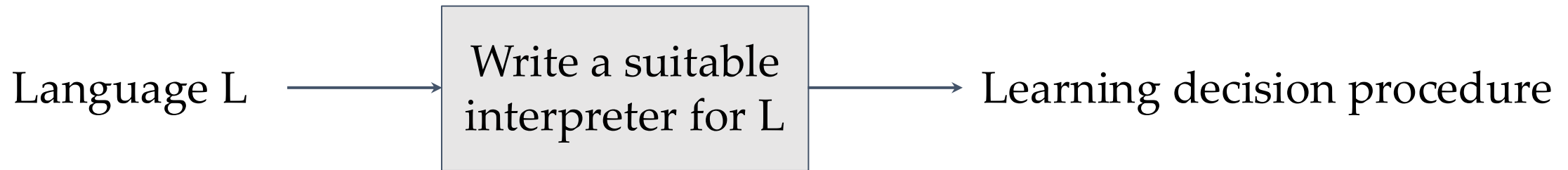
Don't overfit!

$ab$	$\varnothing$	$baa$
$abab$		$aab$
$ababab$		

- Good:  $(ab)^*$
- Bad:  $ab + abab + ababab$
- Grammar is crucial

# Meta-theorem

---



$\text{Interpreter}(\text{Structure}, \text{Expression}) \in \{\text{true}, \text{false}\}$

$\text{FOL}(\text{graph}, \varphi) = \text{true}$       iff       $\text{graph} \models \varphi$

$\text{Reg}(\text{word}, \text{regexp}) = \text{true}$       iff       $\text{word} \in L(\text{regexp})$

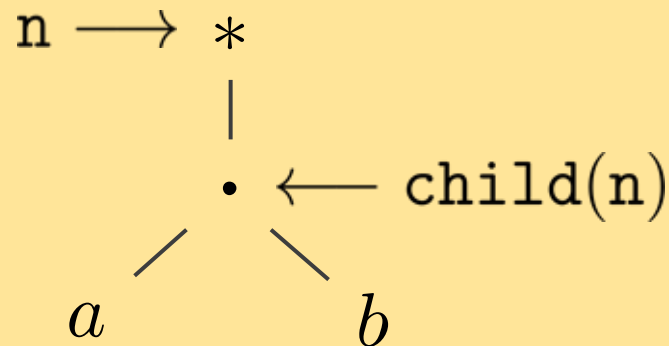
# FACET: a programming language for interpreters

$Prog ::= \{ Clause \dots Clause \}$   
 $Clause ::= P(M, \sigma(z), n) = \text{match label}(n) \text{ with Cases}$   
 $Cases ::= \alpha_1(z) \rightarrow e_1 \dots \alpha_n(z) \rightarrow e_n$

$e ::=$	True		False		$f(z)$
	$e_1 \text{ and } e_2$		$e_1 \text{ or } e_2$		$P(M, \sigma(z), \text{dir}(n))$
	$\text{all } (\lambda x. e) g(z)$		$\text{any } (\lambda x. e) g(z)$		$\text{if } f(z) \text{ then } e_1 \text{ else } e_2$

$\alpha(z) \in \text{pat}(\Delta)$        $\sigma(z) \in \text{pat}(\text{Asp})$        $f \in B, g \in S$        $\text{dir} \in \{\text{parent}, \text{child1}, \dots, \text{childk}\}$

Programs in FACET traverse syntax trees using pointers.



# Meta-theorem

---



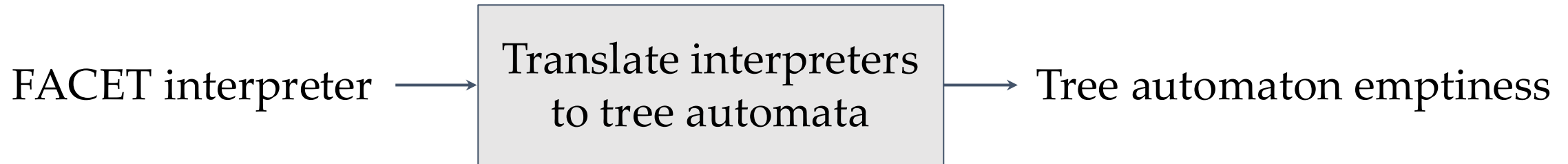
Crucial: interpreter memory is **independent of expression size**.

Interpreter(Structure, **Memory**, Expression)  $\in$  {true, false}

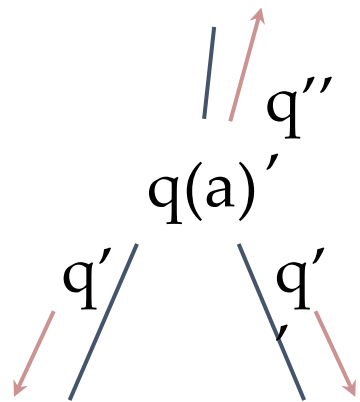
$$\bigcap \\ |\mathbf{Total\ Memory}| = f(|\mathbf{Structure}|)$$

# Proof: translate interpreters to tree automata

---



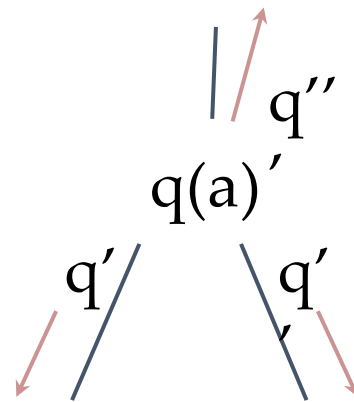
Interpreter(example 1)    ...    Interpreter(example k)    Grammar G



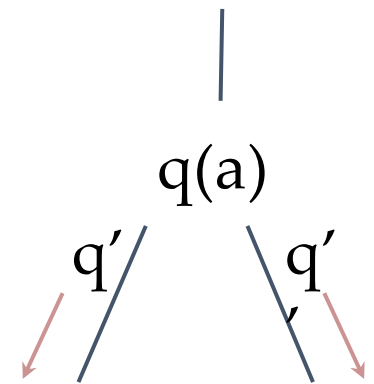
$\times$

...

$\times$



$\times$



# Example: learning regular expressions

---

Write a program  $\text{Reg}(w, e)$  that computes whether  $w$  matches  $e$ .

$$\text{Reg}(w, e) = \text{True} \quad \text{iff} \quad w \in L(e)$$

$$\text{Reg}(ababab, (ab)^*) = \text{True}$$

$$\text{Reg}(aab, (ab)^*) = \text{False}$$

What memory to use?

Remember which **subword** to check. Indicate with  $(l, r)$ .

$$ababab(2, 5) = bab$$

# Regular expression interpreter

---

$\text{Reg}(w, (l, r), n) = \text{True}$       iff  $w(l, r) \in L(\text{regexp}(n))$

$\text{Reg}(w, (l, r), n) =$

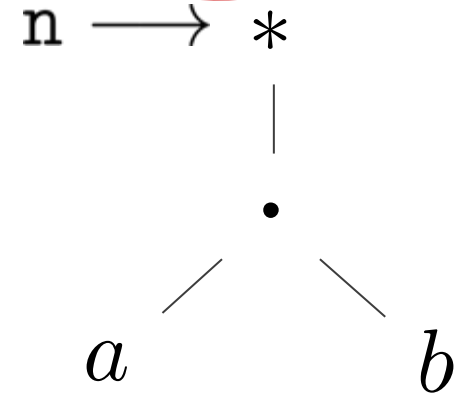
`match` `label(n)` `with`

`*`  $\rightarrow$  `if`  $(l = r)$  `then` `True`  
`else`

`any`  $(\lambda y. \text{Reg}(w, (l, y), \text{child1}(n))$   
`and`  $\text{Reg}(w, (y, r), n)) [l+1, r]$

`.`  $\rightarrow$  `any`  $(\lambda y. \text{Reg}(w, (l, y), \text{child1}(n))$   
`and`  $\text{Reg}(w, (y, r), \text{child2}(n))) [l, r]$

`x`  $\rightarrow$   $r = l+1$  `and`  $w(l) = x$



# Regular expression interpreter

---

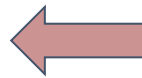
$\text{Reg}(w, (l, r), n) = \text{True}$       iff  $w(l, r) \in L(\text{regexp}(n))$

$\text{Reg}(w, (l, r), n) =$

  match label(n) with



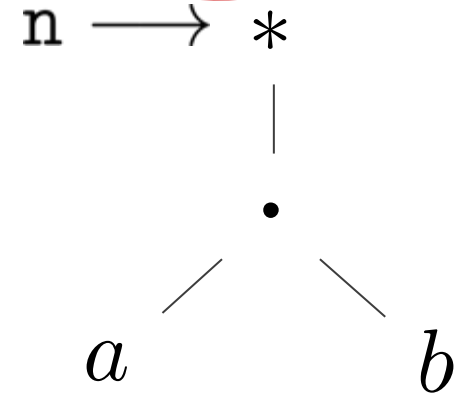
\*  $\rightarrow$  if (l = r) then True  
  else



    any ( $\lambda y. \text{Reg}(w, (l, y), \text{child1}(n))$   
      and  $\text{Reg}(w, (y, r), n)$ ) [l+1, r]

  .  $\rightarrow$  any ( $\lambda y. \text{Reg}(w, (l, y), \text{child1}(n))$   
    and  $\text{Reg}(w, (y, r), \text{child2}(n))$ ) [l, r]

x  $\rightarrow$  r = l+1 and w(l) = x




# Regular expression interpreter

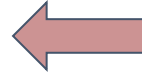
---

$\text{Reg}(w, (l, r), n) = \text{True}$       iff  $w(l, r) \in L(\text{regexp}(n))$

$\text{Reg}(w, (l, r), n) =$

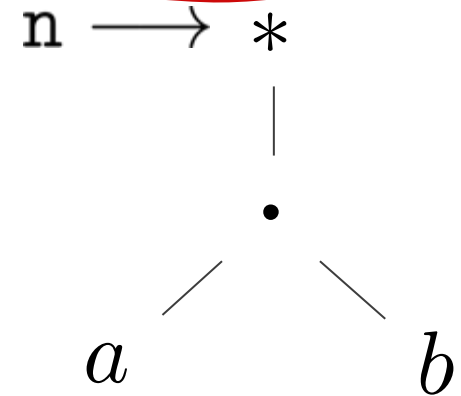
`match` `label(n)` `with`

 `*`  $\rightarrow$  `if` `(l = r)` `then` `True`  
          `else`

`any` `(λy. Reg(w, (l, y), child1(n))`  
                  `and Reg(w, (y, r), n)) [l+1, r]` 

`.`  $\rightarrow$  `any` `(λy. Reg(w, (l, y), child1(n))`  
          `and Reg(w, (y, r), child2(n))) [l, r]`

`x`  $\rightarrow$  `r = l+1 and w(l) = x`



# Bird's eye view

---

```
Reg(w, (l,r), n) =  
  match label(n) with  
  * → if (l = r) then True  
     else  
       any (λy. Reg(w, (l,y), child1(n))  
           and Reg(w, (y,r), n)) [l+1,r]  
  . → any (λy. Reg(w, (l,y), child1(n))  
           and Reg(w, (y,r), child2(n))) [l,r]  
  x → r = l+1 and w(l) = x
```

Meta-theorem

Decision procedure for  
regular expression learning

Decidability results obtained by writing interpreters.

Algorithms based on tree automaton emptiness.

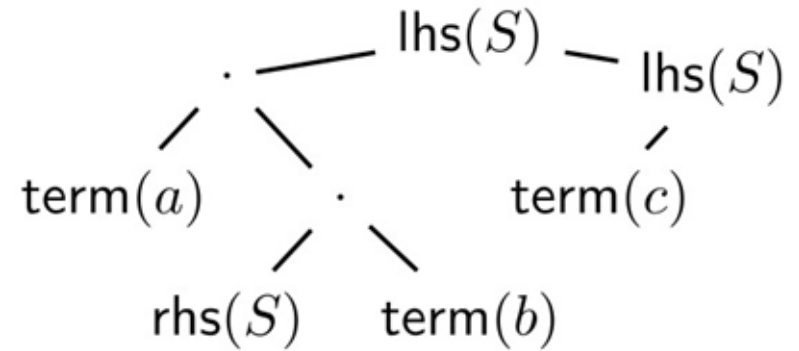
For which languages have we proved decidable learning?

# Learning context-free grammars

---

*aaaacbbb*

$S \longrightarrow aSb \mid c$



Memory: subwords + counter + parsing information

# Learning functional programs

---

“International Business Machines”  $\rightarrow$  “IBM”    `Loop( $\lambda w$ . Concat(SubStr(in, Upper, w)))`

Decidable learning in an extension of the DSL for FlashFill (Gulwani 11)

Memory: subwords + bounded counters + finite maps

# Results

---

- ★ Linear temporal logic on infinite periodic words
- ★ Modal logic on Kripke structures
- ★ Computation tree logic on Kripke structures
- ★ First-order queries over rational numbers with order
- ★ Regular expressions on finite words
- ★ Context-free grammars on finite words
- ★ Functional programs on strings (extension of FlashFill's DSL)

Explains recent results on learning in finite-variable logics (POPL 22)