

Learning Context-dependent Mappings from Sentences to Logical Form

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Context-dependent Analysis

Show me flights from New York to Singapore.

Which of those are nonstop?

Show me the cheapest one.

What about connecting?

Context-dependent Analysis

Show me flights from New York to Singapore.

$\lambda x. flight(x) \wedge from(x, NYC) \wedge to(x, SIN)$

Which of those are nonstop?

Show me the cheapest one.

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Context-dependent Analysis

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$\lambda x. flight(x) \wedge from(x, NYC) \wedge to(x, SIN)$

Which of those are nonstop?

$\lambda x. flight(x) \wedge from(x, NYC) \wedge to(x, SIN) \wedge nonstop(x)$

Show me the cheapest one.

What about connecting?

Context-dependent Analysis

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$\lambda x. flight(x) \wedge from(x, NYC) \wedge to(x, SIN)$

Which of those are nonstop?

$\lambda x. flight(x) \wedge from(x, NYC) \wedge to(x, SIN) \wedge nonstop(x)$

Show me the cheapest one.

$argmax(\lambda x. flight(x) \wedge from(x, NYC) \wedge to(x, SIN) \wedge nonstop(x),$
 $\lambda y. cost(y))$

What about connecting?

Context-dependent Analysis

Show me flights from New York to Singapore.

$\lambda x. flight(x) \wedge from(x, NYC) \wedge to(x, SIN)$

Which of those are nonstop?

$\lambda x. flight(x) \wedge from(x, NYC) \wedge to(x, SIN) \wedge nonstop(x)$

Show me the cheapest one.

$argmax(\lambda x. flight(x) \wedge from(x, NYC) \wedge to(x, SIN) \wedge nonstop(x),$
 $\lambda y. cost(y))$

What about connecting?

$argmax(\lambda x. flight(x) \wedge from(x, NYC) \wedge to(x, SIN) \wedge connect(x),$
 $\lambda y. cost(y))$

A Supervised Learning Problem

Training Examples:
sequences of sentences and logical forms

Show me flights from New York to Seattle.

$\lambda x. flight(x) \wedge from(x, NYC) \wedge to(x, SEA)$

List ones from Newark on Friday.

$\lambda x. flight(x) \wedge from(x, NEW) \wedge to(x, SEA) \wedge day(x, FRI)$

Show me the cheapest.

$argmax(\lambda x. flight(x) \wedge from(x, NEW) \wedge to(x, SEA) \wedge day(x, FRI),$
 $\lambda y. cost(y))$

A Supervised Learning Problem

Goal: Find a function f

$\lambda x. flight(x) \wedge from(x, NYC)$
 $\wedge to(x, SEA)$

$\lambda x. flight(x) \wedge to(x, SEA)$
 $\wedge from(x, NEW) \wedge day(x, FRI)$

Show me the cheapest?

f

$argmax(\lambda x. flight(x) \wedge from(x, NEW) \wedge to(x, SEA) \wedge day(x, FRI),$
 $\lambda y. cost(y))$

A Supervised Learning Problem

Goal: Find a function f

$\lambda x. flight(x) \wedge from(x, NYC)$
 $\wedge to(x, SEA)$

$\lambda x. flight(x) \wedge to(x, SEA)$
 $\wedge from(x, NEW) \wedge day(x, FRI)$

Show me the cheapest?

f

$argmax(\lambda x. flight(x) \wedge from(x, NEW) \wedge to(x, SEA) \wedge day(x, FRI),$
 $\lambda y. cost(y))$

Key Challenges:

- Structured input and output (lambda calculus)
- Hidden variables (only annotate final logical forms)

Talk Outline

- Sketch of the Approach
- Context-sensitive Derivations
- A Learning Algorithm
- Evaluation

An Example Analysis

Show me flights from New York to Seattle.

$\lambda x. flight(x) \wedge from(x, NYC) \wedge to(x, SEA)$

List ones from Newark on Friday.

An Example Analysis

Context:

$\lambda x. flight(x) \wedge from(x, NYC)$
 $\wedge to(x, SEA)$

Current sentence:

List ones from Newark on Friday.

An Example Analysis

Context:

```
 $\lambda x. flight(x) \wedge from(x, NYC)$   
 $\wedge to(x, SEA)$ 
```

Current sentence:

```
List ones from Newark on Friday.
```

Step 1: Context-independent parse

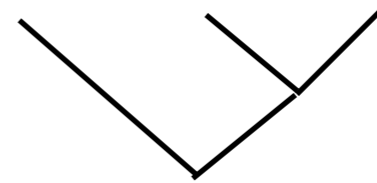
An Example Analysis

Context:

$\lambda x. flight(x) \wedge from(x, NYC)$
 $\wedge to(x, SEA)$

Current sentence:

List ones from Newark on Friday.



$\lambda x. !f(x) \wedge from(x, NEW) \wedge day(x, FRI)$

Step 1: Context-independent parse

An Example Analysis

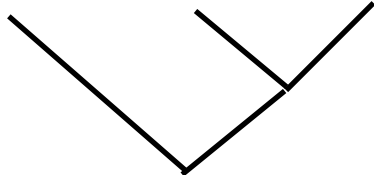
Context:

$\lambda x. flight(x) \wedge from(x, NYC)$
 $\wedge to(x, SEA)$

Current sentence:

List **ones** from Newark on Friday.

$\lambda x. \mathbf{!f(x)}$ $\wedge from(x, NEW) \wedge day(x, FRI)$



Step 1: Context-independent parse

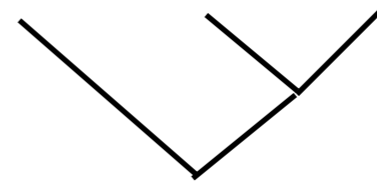
An Example Analysis

Context:

$\lambda x. flight(x) \wedge from(x, NYC)$
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Current sentence:

List ones from Newark on Friday.



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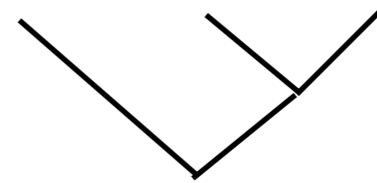
An Example Analysis

Context:

$\lambda x. flight(x) \wedge from(x, NYC)$
 $\wedge to(x, SEA)$

Current sentence:

List ones from Newark on Friday.



$\lambda x. !f(x) \wedge from(x, NEW) \wedge day(x, FRI)$

Step 1: Context-independent parse

Step 2: Resolve reference

An Example Analysis

Context:

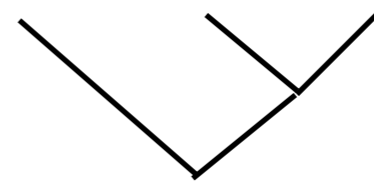
$\lambda x. flight(x) \wedge from(x, NYC)$
 $\wedge to(x, SEA)$



$\lambda x. flight(x) \wedge to(x, SEA)$

Current sentence:

List ones from Newark on Friday.



$\lambda x. !f(x) \wedge from(x, NEW) \wedge day(x, FRI)$

Step 1: Context-independent parse

Step 2: Resolve reference

An Example Analysis

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$\lambda x. flight(x) \wedge from(x, NYC)$
 $\wedge to(x, SEA)$

Current sentence:

List ones from Newark on Friday.

$\lambda x. !f(x) \wedge from(x, NEW) \wedge day(x, FRI)$

$\lambda x. flight(x) \wedge to(x, SEA)$

$\lambda x. flight(x) \wedge to(x, SEA) \wedge from(x, NEW) \wedge day(x, FRI)$

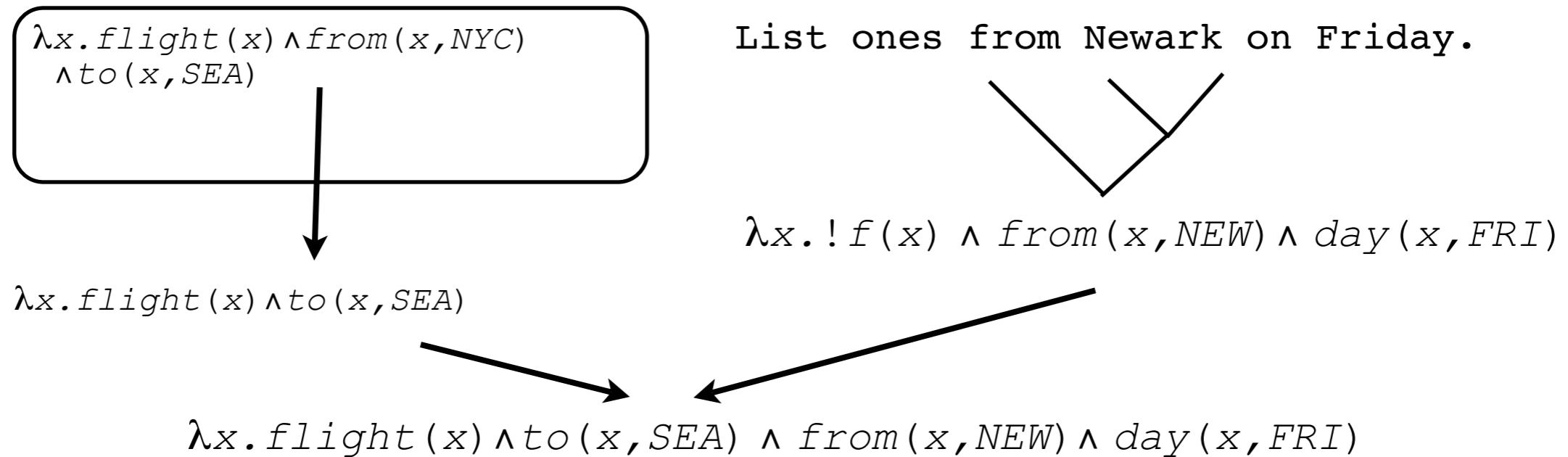
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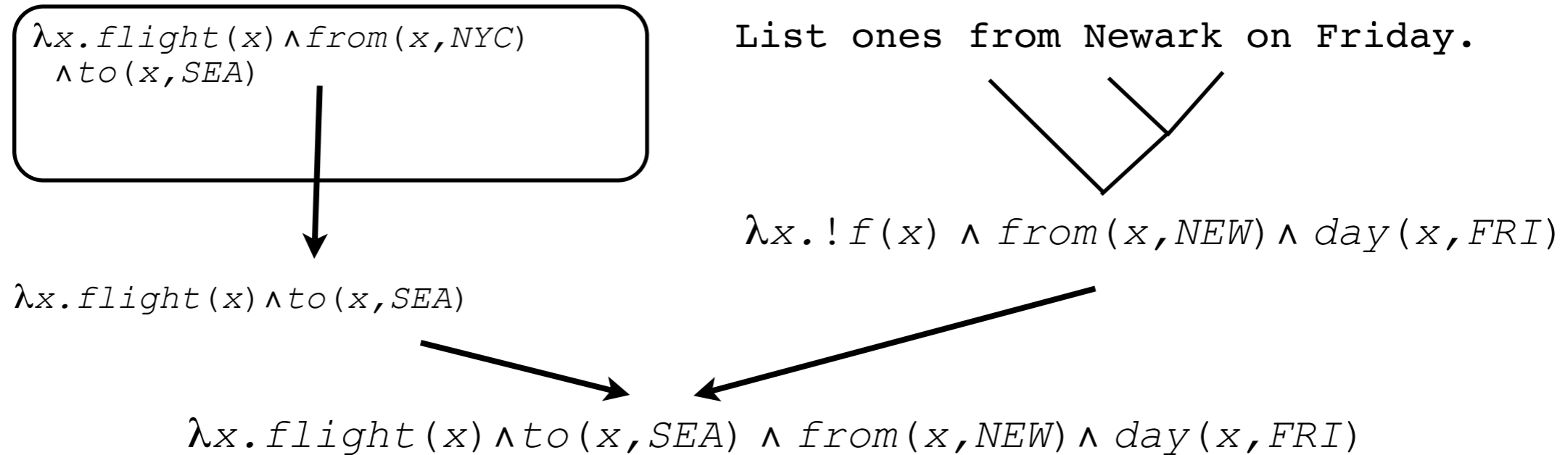
Derivations



Three step process:

- Step 1: Context-independent parsing
- Step 2: Resolve all references
- Step 3: Optionally, perform an elaboration

Derivations



Three step process:

- ➔ • Step 1: Context-independent parsing
- Step 2: Resolve all references
- Step 3: Optionally, perform an elaboration

Step 1: CCG Parsing

List	flights	to	Singapore
S/N	N	(N\N) / NP	NP
$\lambda f.f(x)$	$\lambda x.flight(x)$	$\lambda y.\lambda f.\lambda x.f(x) \wedge to(x,y)$	<i>sin</i>
		N\N	
		$\lambda f.\lambda x.f(x) \wedge to(x,sin)$	
		N	
		$\lambda x.flight(x) \wedge to(x,sin)$	
		S	
		$\lambda x.flight(x) \wedge to(x,sin)$	

Step 1: CCG Parsing

List	flights	to	Singapore
S/N	N	(N\N) / NP	NP
$\lambda f.f(x)$	$\lambda x.flight(x)$	$\lambda y.\lambda f.\lambda x.f(x) \wedge to(x,y)$	<i>sin</i>

N\N

$\lambda f.\lambda x.f(x) \wedge to(x, sin)$

N

$\lambda x.flight(x) \wedge to(x, sin)$

S

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Step 1: CCG Parsing

List	flights	to	Singapore
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$\lambda f.f(x)$	$\lambda x.flight(x)$	$\lambda y.\lambda f.\lambda x.f(x) \wedge to(x,y)$	<i>sin</i>
		N\N	
		$\lambda f.\lambda x.f(x) \wedge to(x, sin)$	
		N	
		$\lambda x.flight(x) \wedge to(x, sin)$	
		S	
		$\lambda x.flight(x) \wedge to(x, sin)$	

Step 1: CCG Parsing

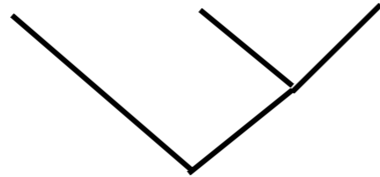
List	flights	to	Singapore
<p>S/N</p> <p>$\lambda f.f(x)$</p>	<p>N</p> <p>$\lambda x.flight(x)$</p>	<p>(N\N) / NP</p> <p>$\lambda y.\lambda f.\lambda x.f(x) \wedge to(x,y)$</p> <hr style="border: 0.5px solid black;"/> <p>N\N</p> <p>$\lambda f.\lambda x.f(x) \wedge to(x,sin)$</p>	<p>NP</p> <p><i>sin</i></p>
	<p>N</p> <p>$\lambda x.flight(x) \wedge to(x,sin)$</p>		
	<p>S</p> <p>$\lambda x.flight(x) \wedge to(x,sin)$</p>		

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S/N	N	(N\N) / NP	NP
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		N	
		$\lambda x.flight(x) \wedge to(x, sin)$	
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		$\lambda x.flight(x) \wedge to(x, sin)$	

Step 1: Referential lexical items

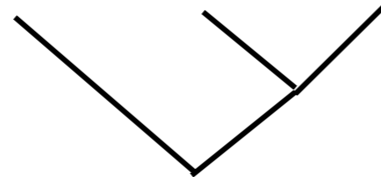
List ones from Newark on Friday.



$\lambda x. ! f(x) \wedge from(x, NEW) \wedge day(x, FRI)$

Step 1: Referential lexical items

List ones from Newark on Friday.



$\lambda x. !f(x) \wedge from(x, NEW) \wedge day(x, FRI)$

First extension:

- Add referential lexical items

ones	N	$\lambda x. !f(x)$
it	NP	$!e$
...		

Step I: Type-shifting operations

Second extension:

- Add type-shifting operators for elliptical expressions

the cheapest

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NP/N

$\lambda g. \text{argmin}(g, \lambda y. \text{cost}(y))$

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NP

$\text{argmin}(\lambda x. !f(x), \lambda y. \text{cost}(y))$

Step I: Type-shifting operations

Second extension:

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the cheapest

NP/N

$\lambda g. \text{argmin}(g, \lambda y. \text{cost}(y))$

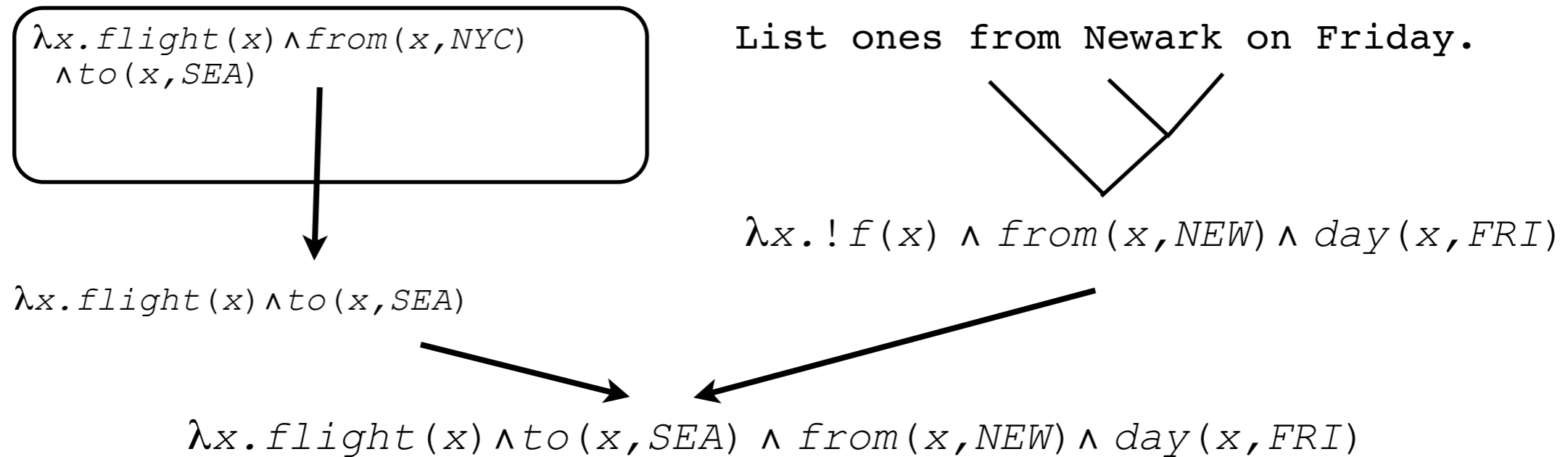
NP

$\text{argmin}(\lambda x. !f(x), \lambda y. \text{cost}(y))$

$A/B : g \Rightarrow A : g(\lambda x. !f(x))$

where g is a function with input type $\langle e, t \rangle$

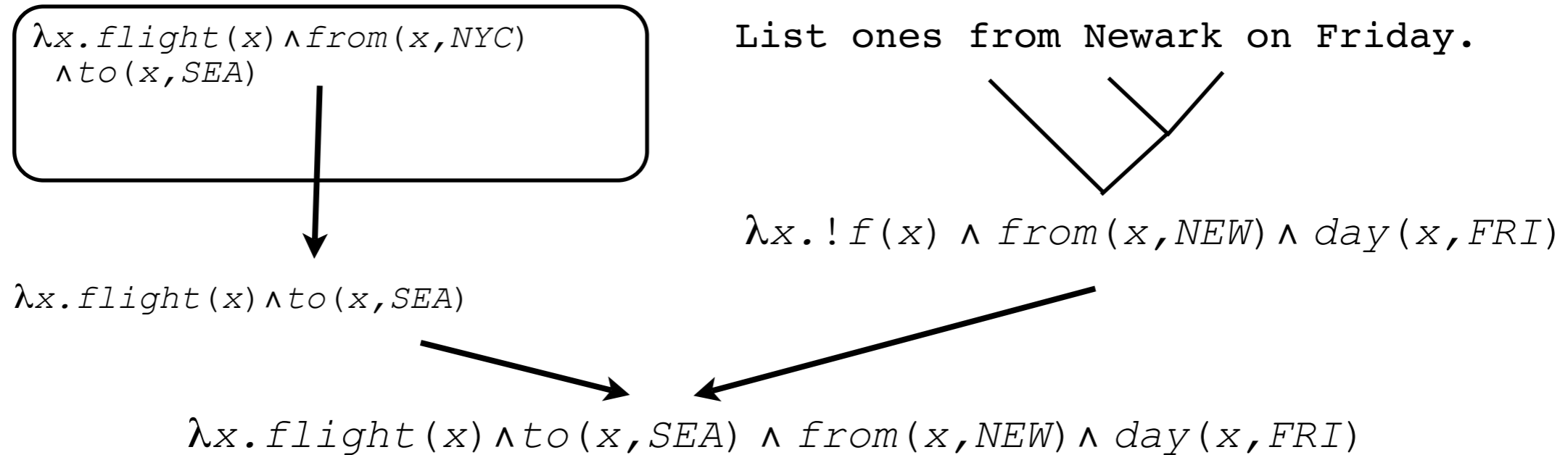
Derivations



Three step process:

- Step 1: Context-independent parsing
- Step 2: Resolve all references
- Step 3: Optionally, perform an elaboration

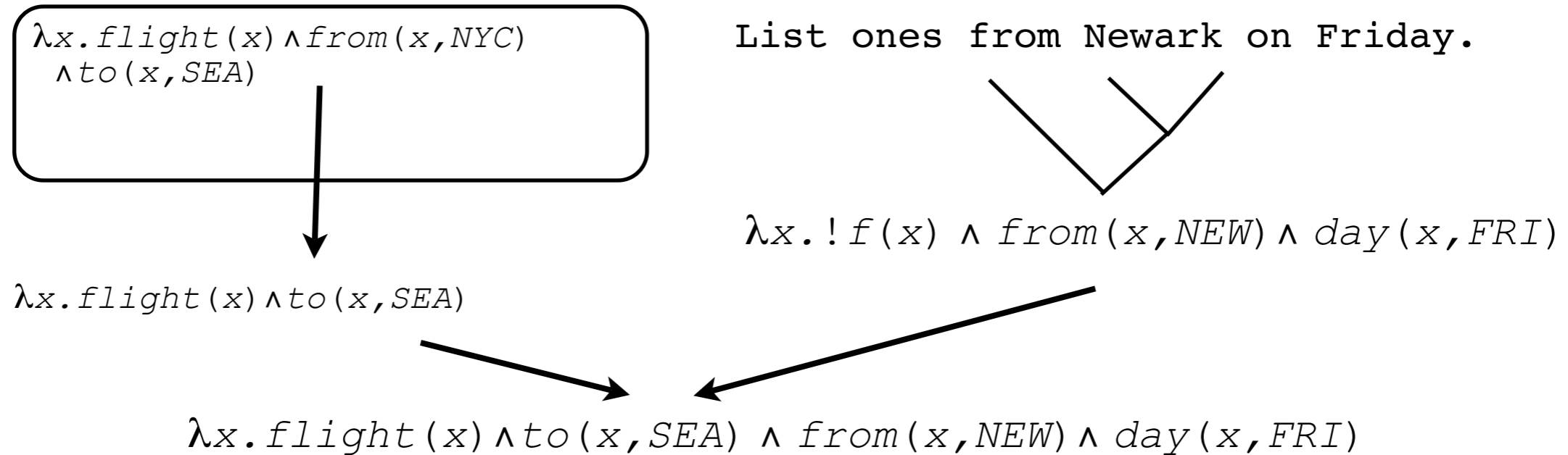
Derivations



Three step process:

- Step 1: Context-independent parsing
- ➔ • Step 2: Resolve all references
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Step 2: Resolving References



For each reference:

- Select an expression from the context
- Substitute into current analysis

Step 2: Selecting from Context

For each logical form in context,
enumerate e and $\langle e, t \rangle$ type subexpressions:

Context:

```
 $\lambda x. flight(x) \wedge from(x, NYC)$   
 $\wedge to(x, SEA)$   
  
 $\lambda x. flight(x) \wedge to(x, SEA)$   
 $\wedge from(x, NEW) \wedge day(x, FRI)$   
  
 $argmax(\lambda x. flight(x) \wedge to(x, SEA)$   
 $\wedge from(x, BOS),$   
 $\lambda y. depart(y))$ 
```

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SEA

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SEA

NYC

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$\lambda x. flight(x) \wedge from(x, NYC) \wedge to(x, SEA)$

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$argmax(\lambda x. flight(x) \wedge to(x, SEA)$
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NYC

$\lambda x. flight(x) \wedge from(x, NYC) \wedge to(x, SEA)$

$\lambda x. from(x, NYC)$
 $\wedge to(x, SEA)$

$\lambda x. flight(x)$
 $\wedge to(x, SEA)$

$\lambda x. flight(x)$
 $\wedge from(x, NYC)$

Step 2: Selecting from Context

For each logical form in context,
enumerate e and $\langle e, t \rangle$ type subexpressions:

Context:

$\lambda x. flight(x) \wedge from(x, NYC)$
 $\wedge to(x, SEA)$

$\lambda x. flight(x) \wedge to(x, SEA)$
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NYC

$\lambda x. flight(x) \wedge from(x, NYC) \wedge to(x, SEA)$

$\lambda x. from(x, NYC)$
 $\wedge to(x, SEA)$

$\lambda x. flight(x)$
 $\wedge to(x, SEA)$

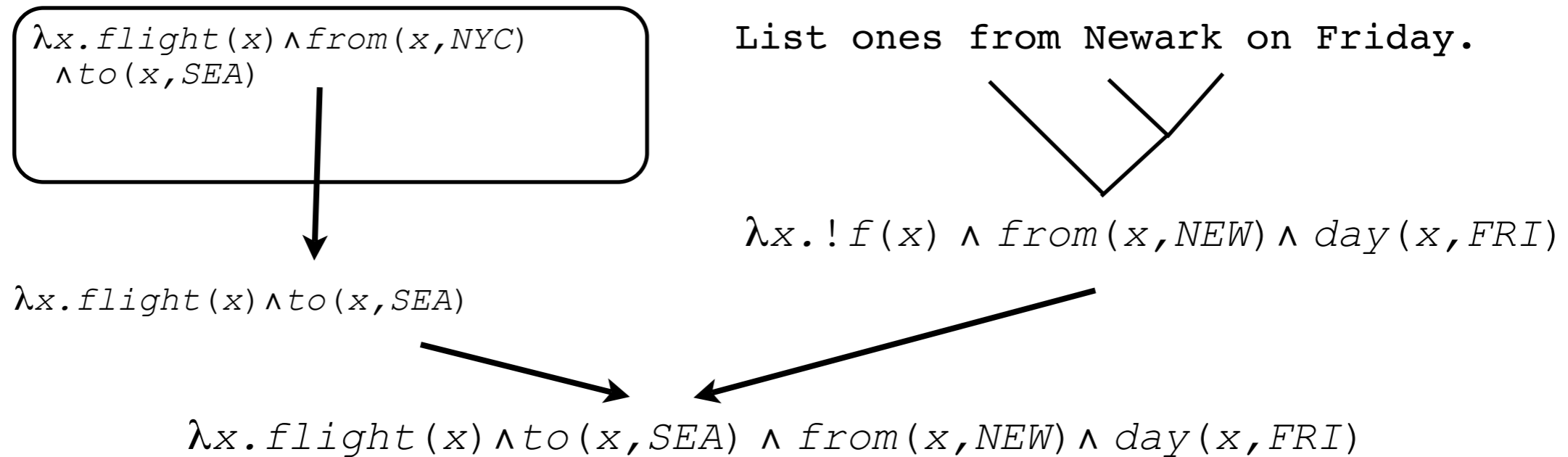
$\lambda x. flight(x)$
 $\wedge from(x, NYC)$

$\lambda x. to(x, SEA)$

$\lambda x. from(x, NYC)$

$\lambda x. flight(x)$

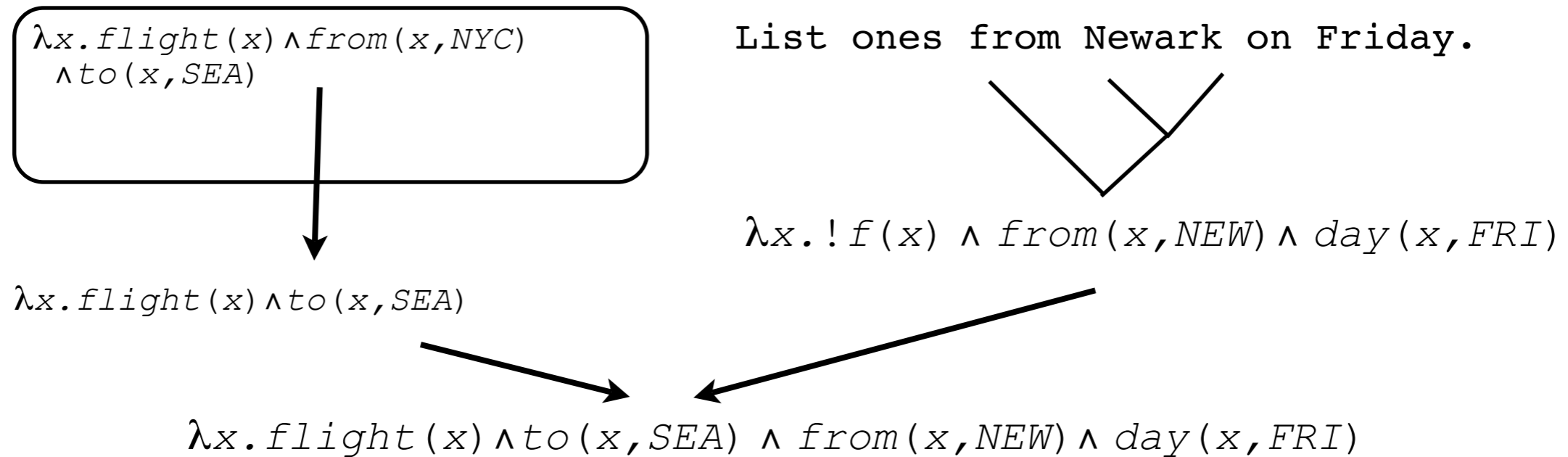
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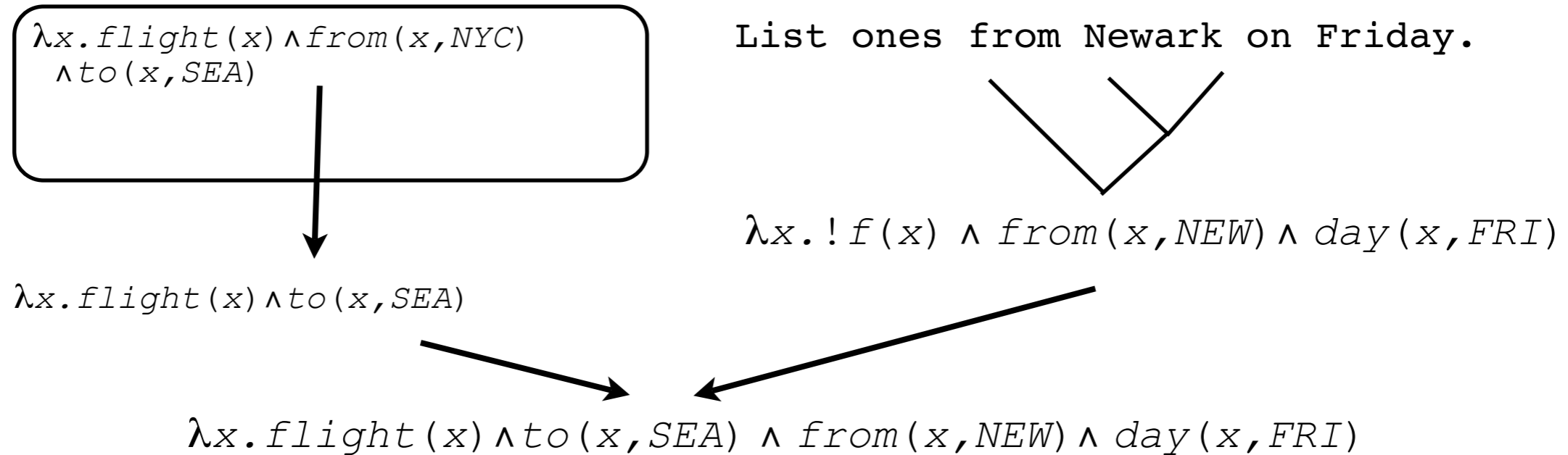
Derivations



Three step process:

- Step 1: Context-independent parsing
- Step 2: Resolve all references
- Step 3: Optionally, perform an elaboration

Derivations



Three step process:

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- Step 2: Resolve all references
- ➔ • Step 3: Optionally, perform an elaboration

Step 3: Elaboration operations

Show me the latest flight from New York to Seattle.

$$\operatorname{argmax}(\lambda x. \text{flight}(x) \wedge \text{from}(x, \text{NYC}) \wedge \text{to}(x, \text{SEA}), \\ \lambda y. \text{time}(y))$$

on Friday

$$\operatorname{argmax}(\lambda x. \text{flight}(x) \wedge \text{from}(x, \text{NYC}) \wedge \text{to}(x, \text{SEA}) \wedge \text{day}(x, \text{FRI}), \\ \lambda y. \text{time}(y))$$

Step 3: Elaboration operations

$\text{argmax}(\lambda x. \text{flight}(x) \wedge \text{to}(x, \text{SEA}) \wedge$
 $\text{from}(x, \text{NYC}),$
 $\lambda y. \text{time}(y))$

on Friday



$\lambda x. \text{day}(x, \text{FRI})$

Step 3: Elaboration operations

$\text{argmax}(\lambda x. \text{flight}(x) \wedge \text{to}(x, \text{SEA}) \wedge$
 $\text{from}(x, \text{NYC}),$
 $\lambda y. \text{time}(y))$



$\lambda f. \text{argmax}(\lambda x. \text{flight}(x) \wedge \text{to}(x, \text{SEA}) \wedge$
 $\text{from}(x, \text{NYC}) \wedge f(x),$
 $\lambda y. \text{time}(y))$

on Friday



$\lambda x. \text{day}(x, \text{FRI})$

Step 3: Elaboration operations

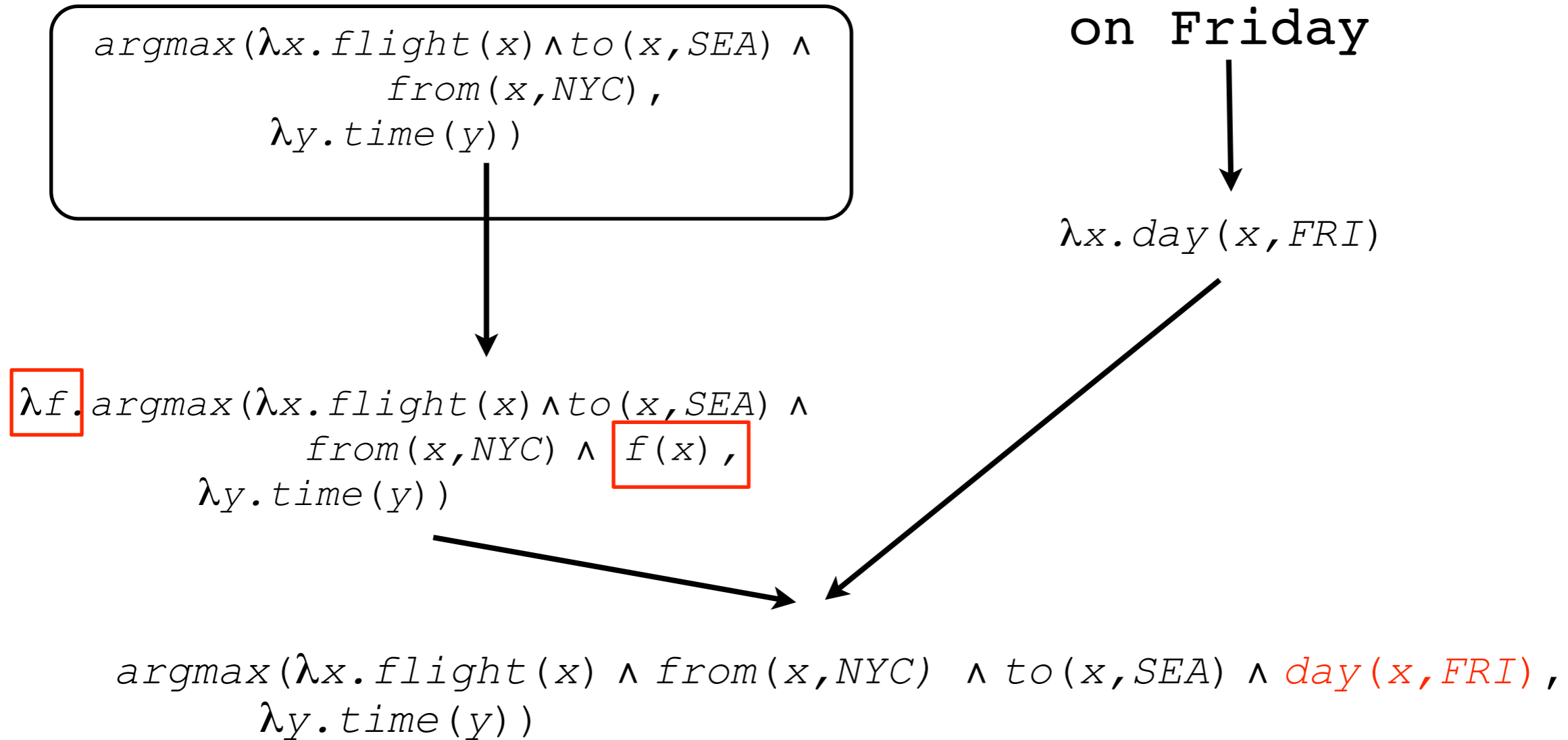
$\text{argmax}(\lambda x. \text{flight}(x) \wedge \text{to}(x, \text{SEA}) \wedge$
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on Friday

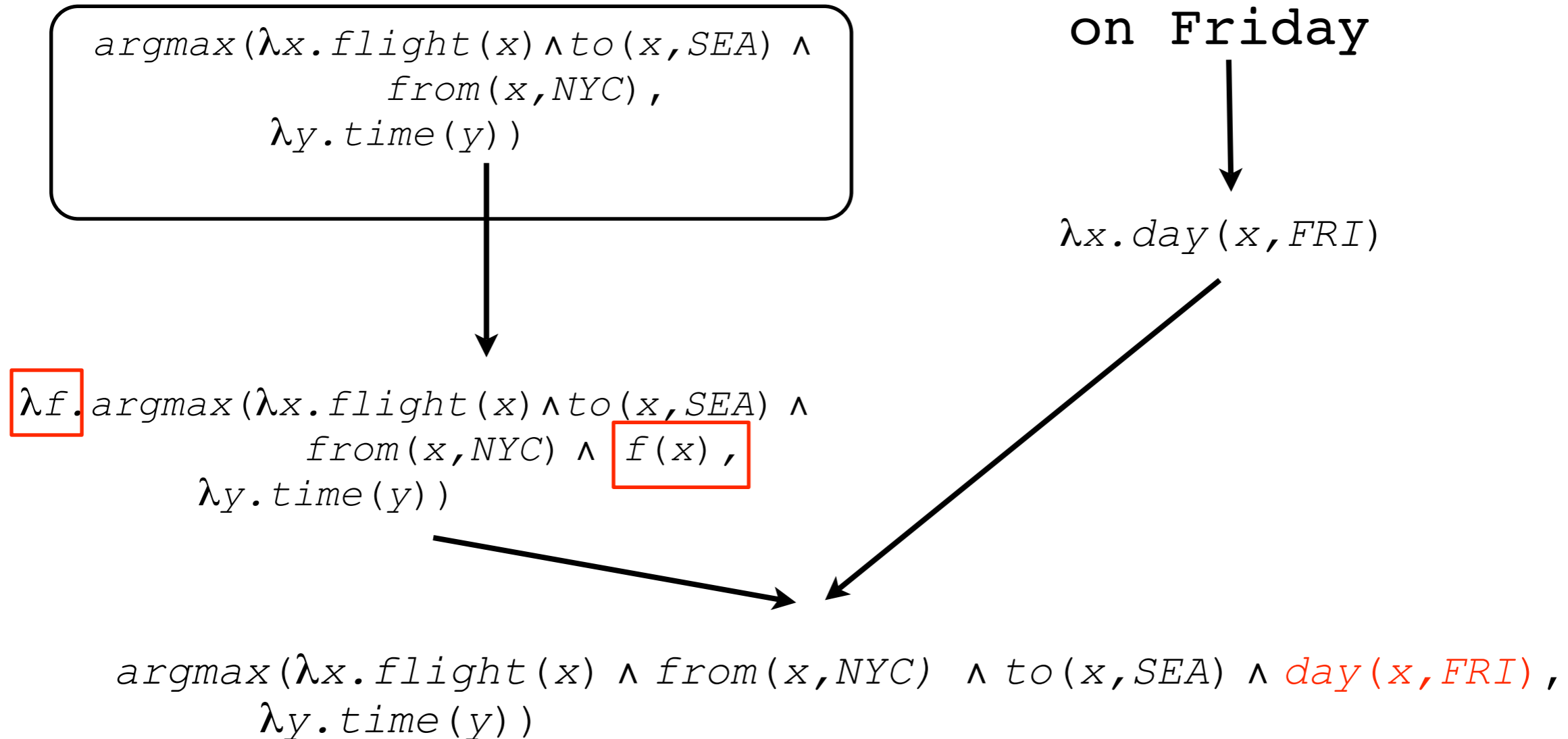
$\lambda x. \text{day}(x, \text{FRI})$

$\lambda f. \text{argmax}(\lambda x. \text{flight}(x) \wedge \text{to}(x, \text{SEA}) \wedge$
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Step 3: Elaboration operations



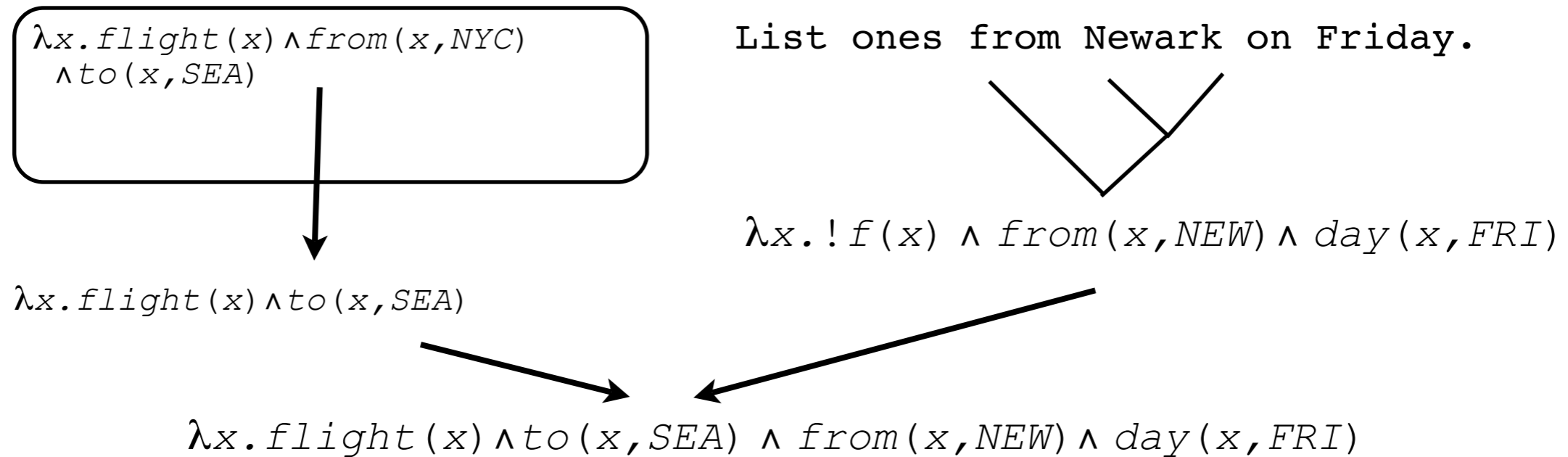
Step 3: Elaboration operations



Possible elaborations:

- Potentially expand any embedded variable
- Can do deletions on elaboration function

Derivations



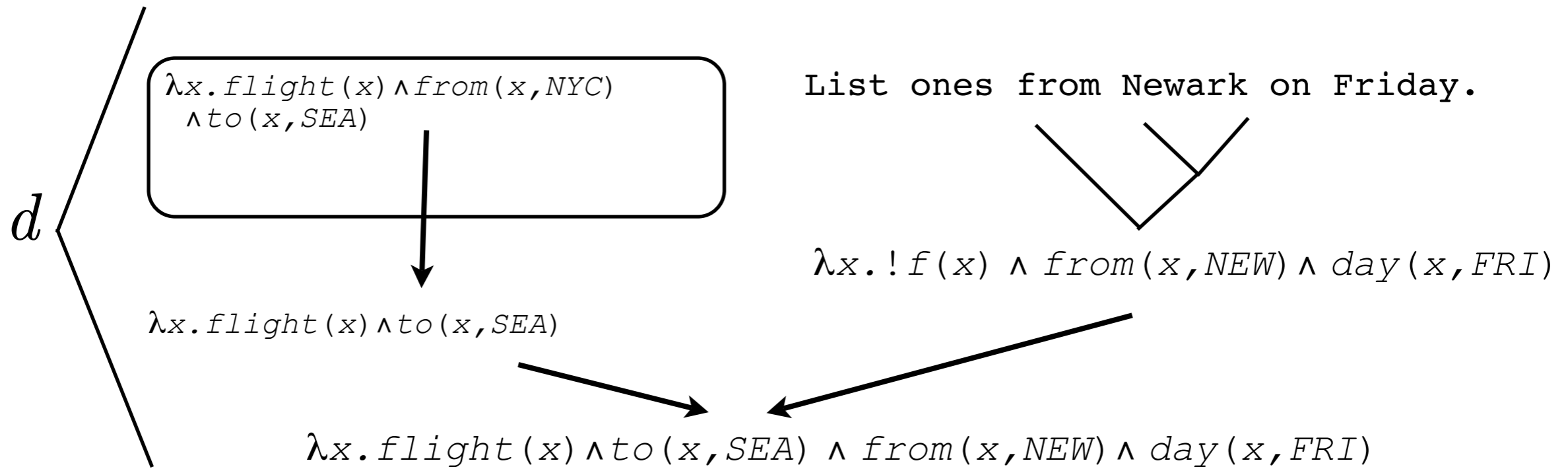
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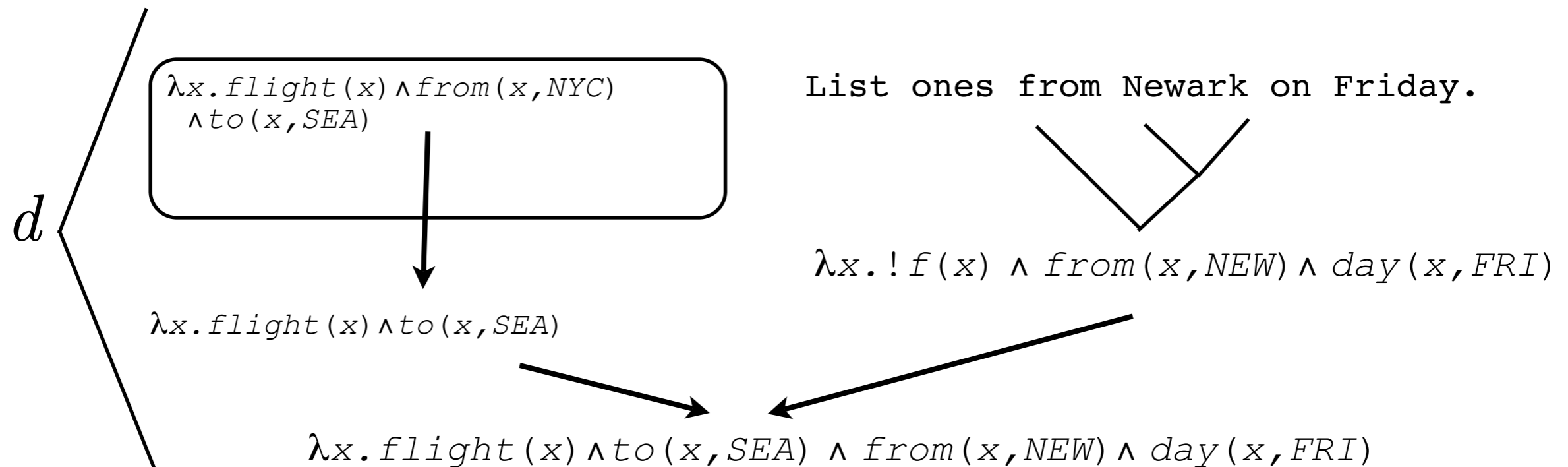
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- Evaluation

Scoring Derivations



Scoring Derivations



Weighted linear model:

- Introduce features: $f(d)$
- Compute scores for derivations: $w \cdot f(d)$

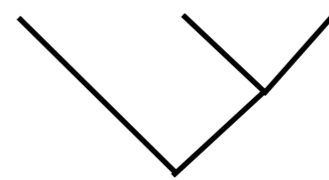
Features for Derivations: $f(d)$

$\lambda x. flight(x) \wedge from(x, NYC) \wedge to(x, SEA)$

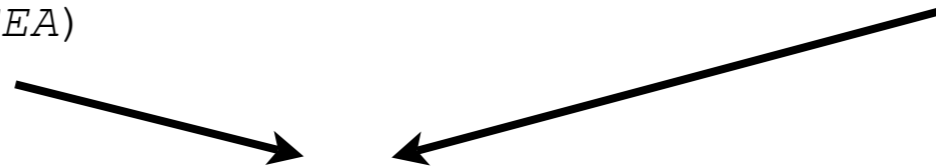


$\lambda x. flight(x) \wedge to(x, SEA)$

List ones from Newark on Friday.



$\lambda x. !f(x) \wedge from(x, NEW) \wedge day(x, FRI)$



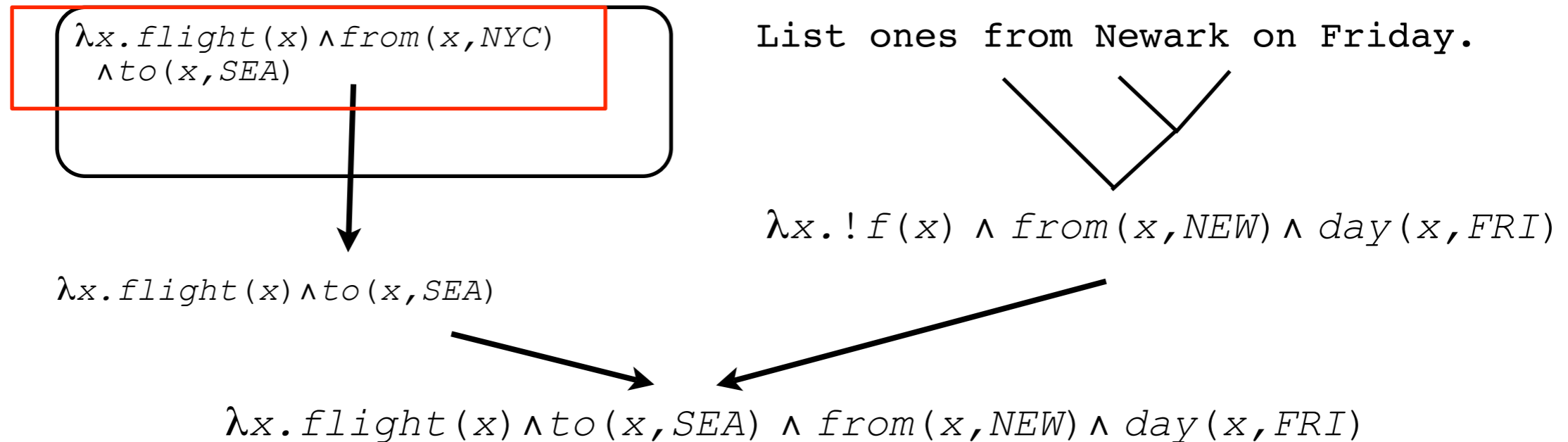
$\lambda x. flight(x) \wedge to(x, SEA) \wedge from(x, NEW) \wedge day(x, FRI)$

Parsing features: set from Zettlemoyer and Collins (2007)

Context features:

- Distance indicators, for integers (0,1,2,...)
- Copy indicators, for all predicates $\{flight, from, to, \dots\}$
- Deletion indicators, for all pairs of predicates $\{(from, flight), (from, from), (from, to), \dots\}$

Features for Derivations: $f(d)$



Parsing features: set from Zettlemoyer and Collins (2007)

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Features for Derivations: $f(d)$

$\lambda x. flight(x) \wedge from(x, NYC) \wedge to(x, SEA)$

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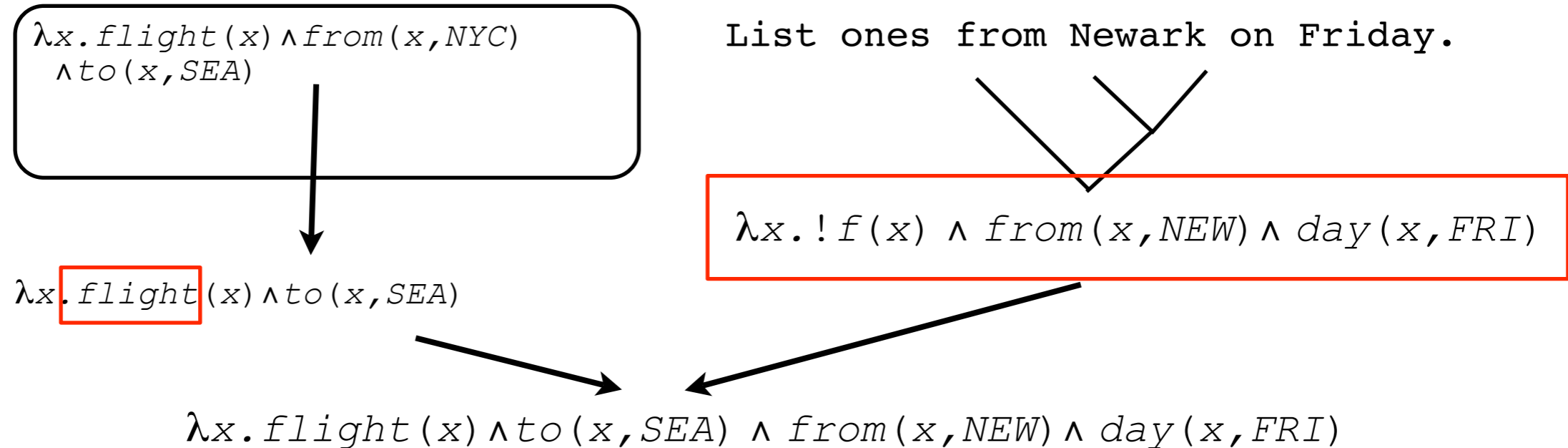
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- Deletion indicators, for all pairs of predicates $\{(from, flight), (from, from), (from, to), \dots\}$

Features for Derivations: $f(d)$



Parsing features: set from Zettlemoyer and Collins (2007)

Context features:

- Distance indicators, for integers (0, 1, 2, ...)
- Copy indicators, for all predicates $\{flight, from, to, \dots\}$ (with *flight* highlighted in a red box)
- Deletion indicators, for all pairs of predicates $\{(from, flight), (from, from), (from, to), \dots\}$

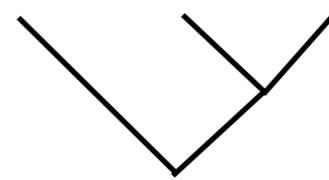
Features for Derivations: $f(d)$

$\lambda x. flight(x) \wedge from(x, NYC) \wedge to(x, SEA)$

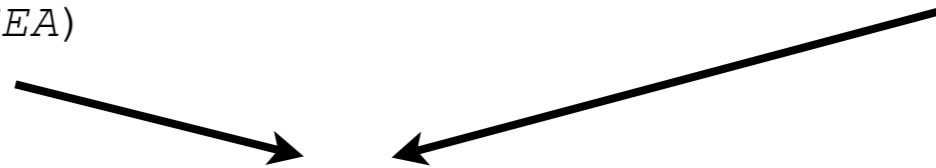


$\lambda x. flight(x) \wedge to(x, SEA)$

List ones from Newark on Friday.



$\lambda x. !f(x) \wedge from(x, NEW) \wedge day(x, FRI)$



$\lambda x. flight(x) \wedge to(x, SEA) \wedge from(x, NEW) \wedge day(x, FRI)$

Parsing features: set from Zettlemoyer and Collins (2007)

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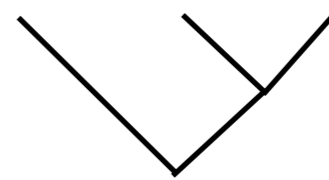
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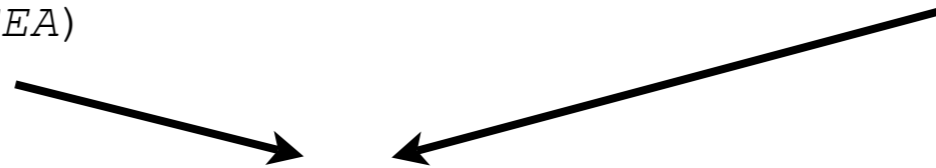


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Inference and Learning

Two computations:

- Best derivation:

$$d^* = \arg \max_d w \cdot f(d)$$

- Best derivation with final logical form z :

$$d' = \arg \max_{d \text{ s.t. } L(d)=z} w \cdot f(d)$$

We use a beam search algorithm.

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Learning:

- Hidden variable version of the structured perceptron algorithm
[Liang et al., 2006] [Zettlemoyer & Collins, 2007]

Inputs: Training set $\{I_i \mid i = 1 \dots n\}$ of interactions. Each interaction $I = \{(w_{i,j}, z_{i,j}) \mid j = 1 \dots n_i\}$ is a sequence of sentences and logical forms. Initial parameters w . Number of iterations T .

Output: Parameters w .

Inputs: Training set $\{I_i \mid i = 1 \dots n\}$ of interactions. Each interaction $I = \{(w_{i,j}, z_{i,j}) \mid j = 1 \dots n_i\}$ is a sequence of sentences and logical forms. Initial parameters w . Number of iterations T .

Computation:

For $t = 1 \dots T, i = 1 \dots n$: (Iterate interactions)

Set $C = \{\}$ (Reset Context)

For $j = 1 \dots n_i$: (Iterate training examples)

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Step 1: Check Correctness

- Find best analysis: $d^* = \arg \max_d w \cdot f(d)$
- If correct: $L(d^*) == z_{i,j}$, go to the Step 3.

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- Find best correct analysis: $d' = \arg \max_{d \text{ s.t. } L(d)=z_{i,j}} w \cdot f(d)$
- Update parameters: $w = w + f(d') - f(d^*)$

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Output: Parameters w .

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Talk Outline

- Sketch of Approach
- Context-sensitive Derivations
- A Learning Algorithm
- ➔ • Evaluation

Evaluation

- **Domain:** ATIS travel database queries
 - 399 training interactions (3813 sentences)
 - 127 test interactions (826 sentences)
- **Comparison:** previous state-of-the-art [Miller et al. 1996]
 - requires full annotation of all syntactic, semantic, and context-resolution decisions
 - decision tree learning

The Miller et al. [1996] Approach

Step 1: Semantic parsing

Step 2: Select frame and fill slot values

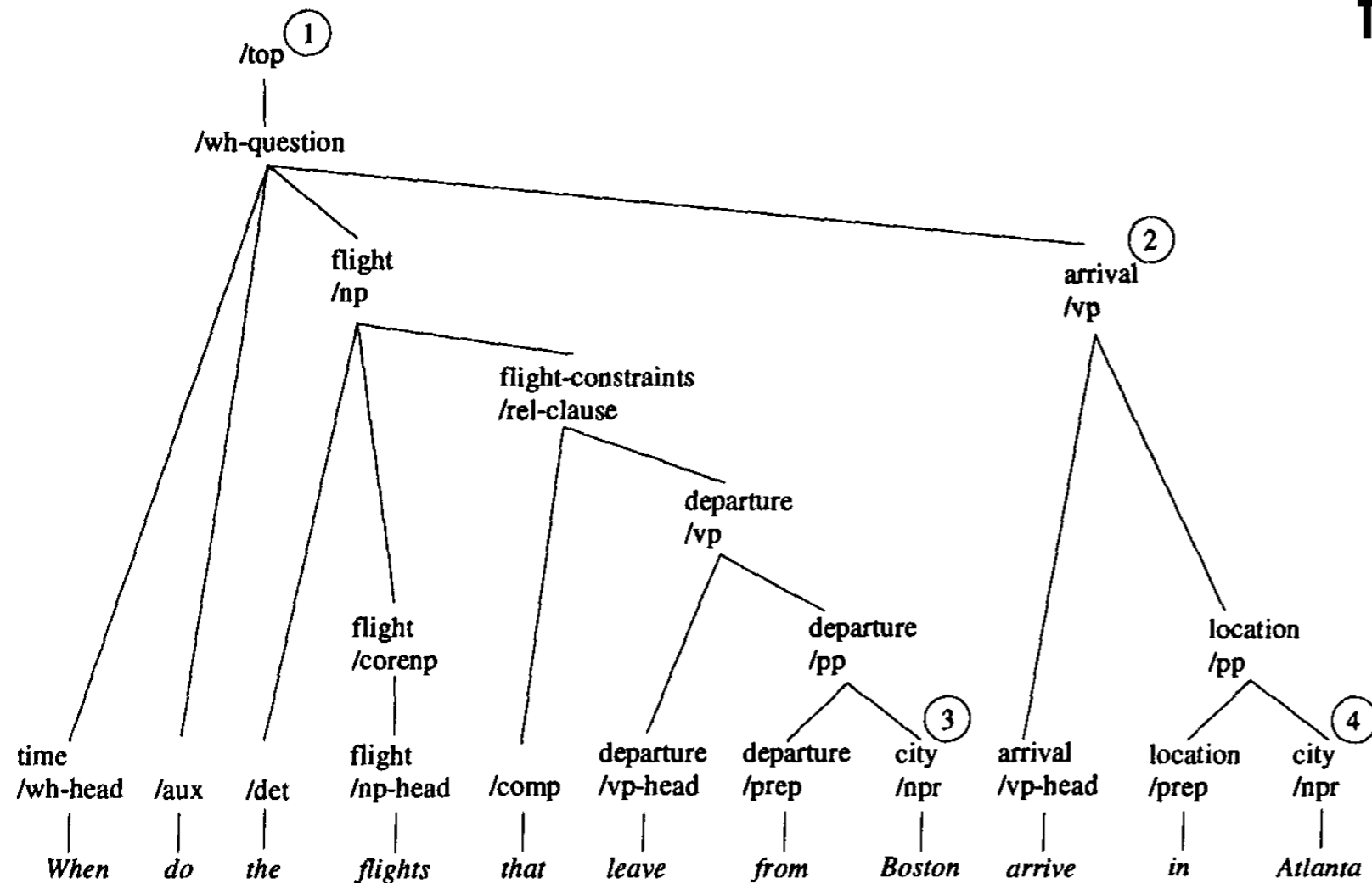


Figure 2: A sample parse tree.

Air-Transportation

Show: (Arrival-Time)

Origin: (City "Boston")

Destination: (City "Atlanta")

Figure 3: A sample semantic frame.

Step 3: Optionally copy slot values from previous frames

Evaluation

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- **Metric:** accuracy recovering fully correct meanings

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 - 127 test interactions (826 sentences)
- **Comparison:** previous state-of-the-art [Miller et al. 1996]
- **Metric:** accuracy recovering fully correct meanings
- **Result:** improved accuracy
 - 78.4% => 83.7%
 - less engineering effort: only annotated final meanings

Varying the Length of a Context Window M

ATIS Development Set:

Context Length	Accuracy
$M=0$	45.4
$M=1$	79.8
$M=2$	81.0
$M=3$	82.1
$M=4$	81.6
$M=10$	81.4

Example Learned Feature Weights

Negative weights:

- Distance features: (1,2,3,...)

Positive weights:

- Copy features: *flight, from, to*
- Deletion features: (*from, from*),
(*nonstop, connect*),
(*during-day, time*)

Summary

$\lambda x. flight(x) \wedge from(x, NYC)$
 $\wedge to(x, SEA)$

$\lambda x. flight(x) \wedge to(x, SEA)$
 $\wedge from(x, NEW) \wedge day(x, FRI)$

Show me the cheapest?

f

$argmax(\lambda x. flight(x) \wedge from(x, NEW) \wedge to(x, SEA) \wedge day(x, FRI),$
 $\lambda y. cost(y))$

Key challenges:

- Structured input and output, hidden structure not annotated

Solution:

- **Analysis:** two-stage approach
- **Learn:** how to incorporate meaning from the context

The End
