

# A Direct Semantics for Declarative Disambiguation of Expression Grammars

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# What is the meaning of associativity and priority declarations?

## context-free syntax

```
Exp.Var      = ID
Exp.Int      = INT
Expr        = "(" Expr ")" {bracket}
Exp.Add      = Exp "+" Exp {left}
Exp.Sub      = Exp "-" Exp {left}
Exp.Mul      = Exp "*" Exp {left}
Exp.Minus    = "-" Exp
Exp.Lambda   = "\\\" ID \".\" Exp
Exp.Inc      = Exp "++"
Exp.If       = "if" Exp "then" Exp
Exp.IfElse   = "if" Exp "then" Exp "else" Exp
Exp.Subscript = Exp "[" Exp "]"
Exp.While    = "while" Exp "do" Exp "done"
Exp.App      = Exp Exp {left}
Exp.Function = "function" PMatch+ {longest-match}
PMatch.Clause = ID "->" Exp
```

## context-free priorities

```
{Exp.Subscript Exp.Inc} > Exp.App > Exp.Minus >
Exp.Mul > {left: Exp.Add Exp.Sub} > Exp.IfElse >
{Exp.If Exp.Lambda Exp.Function}
```

# Research Questions

## What is the meaning of a set of disambiguation rules for a grammar?

- What are the parse trees associated with sentences in the language of the disambiguated grammar?
- independent of particular implementation strategy?

## Is a set of disambiguation rules safe?

- Do the disambiguation rules preserve the language of the grammar they disambiguate?
- Is it necessary for disambiguation rules to be safe, or can rules exclude sentences?

## Is a set of disambiguation rules complete?

- Do the rules identify at most one parse tree for each sentence in the language?
- Not obvious: ambiguity of CFGs is undecidable

## What is the coverage of disambiguation rules?

- What classes of ambiguity do the rules solve?

## What is an effective implementation strategy for disambiguation rules?

## What is the notational overhead of disambiguation rules?

- More effective than an encoding in the grammar?

# Contributions

## Expression grammars

- Sub-classes of CFGs with decidable ambiguity
- Extraction of embedded expression grammars

## Harmless overlap

- Avoid inherent ambiguities

## Subtree exclusion patterns

- Deep priority conflict patterns

## Safe and complete

- Preserve language and solve all ambiguities
- Proof: induction on trees under subtree exclusion

## Implementation in SDF3

- Transformation to contextual grammars
- Data-dependent parsing

## Evaluation on 5 programming languages

# This Talk

context-free grammars

indirectly recursive distfix (Section 7)

overlapping distfix (Section 6.1)

distfix (Section 6)

basic (Section 5)

prefix (Section 4)

infix  
(Section 3)



# Subtree Exclusion is Complete

(Inductive case) Assume that  $t_1, t_2 \in T_A^Q(G)$  and that their yields are unique.

(2) If  $A.C = A \oplus A$  is an infix production in  $G$ , since each constructor uniquely identifies a production, that is the only way we can construct the tree  $t = [A.C = t_1 \oplus t_2]$ . Now we need to demonstrate that if  $t \in T^Q(G)$  then there is no tree  $t' \in T^Q(G)$  such that  $t' \neq t$  and  $yield(t) = yield(t')$ . We consider the following cases:

- If  $t_1 = [A.C_1 = t_{11} \otimes t_{12}]$  with yield  $u \otimes v$  and  $t_2 = [A.C_2 = \langle t_{21} \rangle]$  with yields  $\langle w \rangle$  then  $t = [A.C = [A.C_1 = t_{11} \otimes t_{12}] \oplus [A.C_2 = \langle t_{21} \rangle]]$  with yield  $u \otimes v \oplus \langle w \rangle$ . By totality of disambiguation rules, we have that there is a disambiguation relation between  $A.C$  and  $A.C_1$ . If  $A.C > A.C_1$  then  $t$  matches a conflict pattern and therefore  $t \notin T^Q(G)$ . If  $A.C_1 > A.C$  then  $t$  does not match a conflict pattern (since there are no other disambiguation relations between the productions). The only other tree with the same yield is  $t' = [A.C_1 = t_{11} \otimes [A.C = t_{12} \oplus [A.C_2 = \langle t_{21} \rangle]]] \in T^Q(G)$ . However,  $t'$  does have a priority conflict and therefore  $t' \notin T^Q(G)$ . If the disambiguation relation is **left**, **right**, or **non-assoc**, the proof works analogously.

# Grammars and Ambiguity

# Grammars, Well-Formed Trees, Languages

## context-free syntax

Exp.Add = Exp "+" Exp

Exp.Sub = Exp "-" Exp

Exp.Mul = Exp "\*" Exp

Exp.Var = ID

$$\frac{a \in \Sigma}{a \in T^a(G)}$$

$$\frac{A.C = X_1 \dots X_n \in P(G) \quad t_i \in T^{X_i}(G) \quad 1 \leq i \leq n}{[A.C = t_1 \dots t_n] \in T^A(G)}$$

$$L(G) = \{L^X(G) \mid \text{yield}(T^X(G)), X \in V\}$$

$$[\text{Exp.Add} = [\text{Exp.Var} = \text{ID}] + [\text{Exp.Var} = \text{ID}]]$$



# Parsing

$$\Pi(G)(w) = \{t \in T^X(G) \mid \mathit{yield}(t) = w, X \in V\}$$

# Derivations

$$\frac{\alpha = \lambda A \rho \quad \beta = \lambda \gamma \rho \quad A.C = \gamma \in P(G)}{\alpha \Rightarrow_G \beta}$$

Lemma 2.5. A parse tree directly corresponds to a derivation, modulo the order in which productions are applied.

# Parse Tree to Abstract Syntax Tree

## context-free syntax

```
Exp.Add = Exp "+" Exp
Exp.Sub = Exp "-" Exp
Exp.Mul = Exp "*" Exp
Exp.Var = ID
```

## signature

### constructors

```
Add : Exp * Exp -> Exp
Sub  : Exp * Exp -> Exp
Mul  : Exp * Exp -> Exp
Var  : ID -> Exp
```

```
[Exp.Add = [Exp.Add = [Exp.Var = a] * [Exp.Var = b] + [Exp.Var = c]]]
```

```
Add(Mul(Var("a"), Var("b")), Var("c"))
```

# Tree Patterns and Pattern Matching

$$\frac{X \in V}{X \in TP^X(G)}$$

$$\frac{A.C = X_1 \dots X_n \in P(G) \quad t_i \in TP^{X_i}(G) \quad 1 \leq i \leq n}{[A.C = t_1 \dots t_n] \in TP^A(G)}$$

$$\frac{a \in \Sigma}{\mathcal{M}(a, a)}$$

$$\frac{[A.C = t_1 \dots t_n] \in T^A(G)}{\mathcal{M}([A.C = t_1 \dots t_n], A)}$$

$$\frac{[A.C = t_1 \dots t_n] \in T^A(G) \quad [A.C = q_1 \dots q_n] \in TP^A(G) \quad \mathcal{M}(t_i, q_i) \quad 1 \leq i \leq n}{\mathcal{M}([A.C = t_1 \dots t_n], [A.C = q_1 \dots q_n])}$$



# Tree Patterns and Pattern Matching: Example

$[\text{Exp}.\text{Add} = [\text{Exp}.Add = [\text{Exp}.Var = \text{ID}] + [\text{Exp}.Var = \text{ID}]] + [\text{Exp}.Var = \text{ID}]]$

$[\text{Exp}.Add = [\text{Exp}.Add = \text{Exp} + \text{Exp}] + \text{Exp}]$

# Ambiguity

a + b + c

context-free syntax

Exp.Add = Exp "+" Exp

Exp.Sub = Exp "-" Exp

Exp.Mul = Exp "\*" Exp

Exp.Var = ID

(i)  $\underline{Exp} \Rightarrow_G \underline{Exp} + Exp \Rightarrow_G a + \underline{Exp} \Rightarrow_G a + Exp + Exp \xRightarrow[*]{lm\ G} a + b + c$

(ii)  $\underline{Exp} \Rightarrow_G \underline{Exp} + Exp \Rightarrow_G Exp + Exp + Exp \xRightarrow[*]{lm\ G} a + b + c$

[Exp.Add = a + [Exp.Add = b + c]]

[Exp.Add = [Exp.Add = a + b] + c]

# Explicit Disambiguation (Brackets)

## context-free syntax

Exp.Add = Exp "+" Exp

Exp.Sub = Exp "-" Exp

Exp.Mul = Exp "\*" Exp

Exp.Var = ID

Exp = "(" Exp ")" {bracket}

a \* (b + c)

[Exp.Mul = a \* [Exp = ([Exp.Add = b + c])]]

Mul(a, Add(b, c))

# Disambiguation Filter

$$F(\Phi) \subseteq \Phi \text{ for any } \Phi \subseteq T(G)$$

$$L(G/F) = \{w \in \Sigma^* \mid \exists \Phi \subseteq T(G), \text{ yield}(\Phi) = \{w\}, F(\Phi) = \Phi\}$$



# Subtree Exclusion Filter

$$F^Q(\Phi) = \{t \in \Phi \mid \nexists t' \in \text{sub}(t) : \mathcal{M}(t', Q)\}$$

# Trees under Subtree Exclusion

$$\frac{a \in \Sigma \quad \neg \mathcal{M}(a, Q)}{a \in T_a^Q(G)}$$

$$\frac{A.C = X_1 \dots X_n \in P(G) \quad t_i \in T_{X_i}^Q(G) \text{ for } 1 \leq i \leq n \quad t = [A.C = t_1 \dots t_n] \quad \neg \mathcal{M}(t, Q)}{t \in T_A^Q(G)}$$

$$t \in T_X^Q(G) \iff t \in T_X(G) \wedge t \in F^Q(\{t\})$$

$$L(G/F^Q) = L(G^Q)$$

# Safety and Completeness

**COROLLARY 2.17.** *A subtree exclusion filter for a set of patterns  $Q$  for a grammar  $G$  is safe if for each  $w \in L(G)$  there is at least one  $t \in T^Q(G)$  with  $\text{yield}(t) = w$ .*

**COROLLARY 2.18.** *A subtree exclusion filter for a set of patterns  $Q$  for a grammar  $G$  is completely disambiguating if  $t_1, t_2 \in T^Q(G) \implies \text{yield}(t_1) \neq \text{yield}(t_2) \vee t_1 = t_2$*

# Expression Grammars



# Embedded Expression Grammars

## lexical syntax

ID = [a-zA-Z][a-zA-Z0-9]\*

INT = [0-9]+

ID = "if" {reject}

ID = "class" {reject}

## lexical restrictions

ID -/- [a-zA-Z0-9]

INT -/- [0-9]

## context-free syntax

Class.Class = "class" ID "{" Mem\* "}"

Mem.Method = Type ID "(" Arg\* ")" "{" Stmt\* "}"

Stmt.If = "if" "(" Expr ")" Stmt

Stmt.Expr = Expr ";"

Expr.Int = INT

Expr.Var = ID

Expr = "(" Expr ")" {bracket}

Expr.Add = Expr "+" Expr {left}

Expr.Eq = Expr "==" Expr {non-assoc}

Expr.Call = Expr "." ID "(" {Expr ","}\* ")"

## context-free priorities

Expr.Call > Expr.Add > Expr.Eq

# Classes of Expression Grammars

$$A.C = LEX$$

$$A.C = \triangleright A \triangleleft$$

$$A.C = A \oplus A$$

$$A.C = \blacktriangleright A$$

$$A.C = A \blacktriangleleft$$

Basic

$$A.C = \blacktriangleright A \oplus_1 \dots \oplus_k A$$

$$A.C = A \oplus_1 \dots \oplus_k A \blacktriangleleft$$

$$A.C = A \oplus_1 \dots A \oplus_k A$$

$$A.C = \triangleright A \oplus_1 \dots \oplus_k A \triangleleft$$

Distfix

$$A.C = \blacktriangleright B_0 \oplus_1 \dots \oplus_k B_k$$

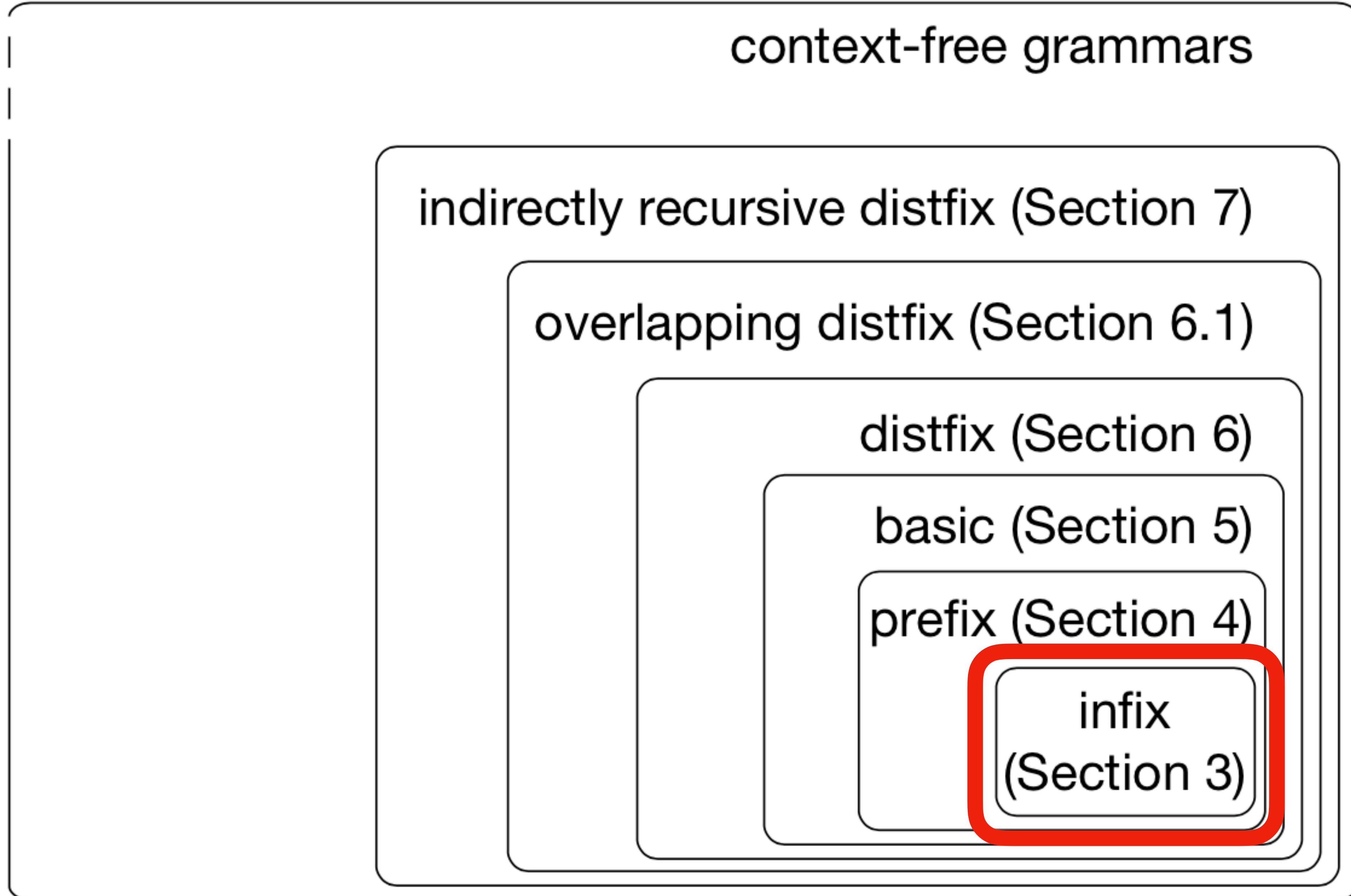
$$A.C = B_0 \oplus_1 \dots \oplus_k B_k \blacktriangleleft$$

$$A.C = B_0 \oplus_1 \dots \oplus_k B_k$$

$$A.C = \triangleright B_0 \oplus_1 \dots \oplus_k B_k \triangleleft$$

Indirectly recursive

# Expression Grammar Hierarchy



# Infix Expression Grammars

# Infix Expression Grammars

## context-free syntax

Exp.Add = Exp "+" Exp {left}  
Exp.Sub = Exp "-" Exp {left}  
Exp.Mul = Exp "\*" Exp {left}  
Exp.Pow = Exp "^" Exp {right}  
Exp.Eq = Exp "==" Exp {non-assoc}  
Exp.Var = ID  
Exp = "(" Exp ")" {bracket}

## context-free priorities

Exp.Pow > Exp.Mul >  
{left: Exp.Add Exp.Sub} > Exp.Eq

[Exp.Add = a + [Exp.Sub = b - c]]  
[Exp.Sub = [Exp.Add = a + b] - c]

[Exp.Add = [Exp.Add = a + b] + c]  
[Exp.Add = a + [Exp.Add = b + c]]

[Exp.Add = a + [Exp.Mul = b \* c]]  
[Exp.Mul = [Exp.Add = a + b] \* c]



# Grammar Rewriting

## context-free syntax

Exp.Add = Exp "+" Term

Exp.Sub = Exp "-" Term

Exp.Term = Term

Term.Mul = Term "\*" Factor

Term.Fact = Factor

Factor.Var = ID

Factor = "(" Exp ")" {bracket}

# SDF2 Semantics

$$A.C_1 > A.C_2 \in PR$$

$$\frac{A.C_1 > A.C_2 \in PR}{[A.C_1 = \alpha[A.C_2 = \beta]\gamma] \in Q_G}$$

$$A.C_1 \text{ right } A.C_2 \in PR$$

$$\frac{A.C_1 \text{ right } A.C_2 \in PR}{[A.C_1 = [A.C_2 = \beta]\gamma] \in Q_G}$$

$$A.C_1 \text{ left } A.C_2 \in PR$$

$$\frac{A.C_1 \text{ left } A.C_2 \in PR}{[A.C_1 = \alpha[A.C_2 = \beta]] \in Q_G}$$

$$A.C_1 \text{ non-assoc } A.C_2 \in PR$$

$$\frac{A.C_1 \text{ non-assoc } A.C_2 \in PR}{[A.C_1 = [A.C_2 = \beta]\gamma] \in Q_G}$$

$$A.C_1 \text{ non-assoc } A.C_2 \in PR$$

$$\frac{A.C_1 \text{ non-assoc } A.C_2 \in PR}{[A.C_1 = \alpha[A.C_2 = \beta]] \in Q_G}$$

$$\text{Exp.Mul} > \text{Exp.Add} \in PR$$

$$\frac{\text{Exp.Mul} > \text{Exp.Add} \in PR}{[\text{Exp.Mul} = [\text{Exp.Add} = \text{Exp} + \text{Exp}] * \text{Exp}] \in Q_G}$$

$$[\text{Exp.Add} = a + [\text{Exp.Mul} = b * c]]$$

$$[\text{Exp.Mul} = [\text{Exp.Add} = a + b] * c]$$

$$\text{Exp.Add left Exp.Add} \in PR$$

$$\frac{\text{Exp.Add left Exp.Add} \in PR}{[\text{Exp.Add} = \text{Exp} + [\text{Exp.Add} = \text{Exp} + \text{Exp}]] \in Q_G}$$

$$[\text{Exp.Add} = [\text{Exp.Add} = a + b] + c]$$

$$[\text{Exp.Add} = a + [\text{Exp.Add} = b + c]]$$



# Subtree Exclusion is Safe

LEMMA 3.3 (SUBTREE EXCLUSION IS SAFE). *Given an infix expression grammar  $G$  and a set  $Q$  of priority conflict patterns generated by disambiguation rules (not including `non-assoc`) for  $G$ , if  $w \in L(G)$  then there is a  $t \in T^Q(G)$  such that  $yield(t) = w$ .*

PROOF. By induction on the length of sentences in  $L(G)$ .

(Base case) If  $a$  is a lexeme then  $a \in T_a^Q(G)$  since disambiguation rules do not exclude lexemes.

(Inductive case) Assume that  $u, v \in L(G)$  and that there are  $t_1, t_2 \in T_A^Q(G)$  such that  $yield(t_1) = u$ ,  $yield(t_2) = v$ , then there are two cases:

(1) If  $A.C = \triangleleft A \triangleright$  is a closed production in  $G$ , then  $\triangleleft u \triangleright \in L(G)$  and  $[A.C = \triangleleft t_1 \triangleright] \in T_A^Q(G)$ , since there is no priority conflict pattern that matches this tree. (Note that the original definition of Visser (1997a) does not restrict priority relations to infix productions. Via Equation 4.2 a priority relation  $A.C > A.C'$  for some production  $A.C' = \alpha$  in the grammar would lead to rejecting a tree  $[A.C = \triangleleft [A.C' = \dots] \triangleright]$ , and hence the corresponding sentence.)

# Subtree Exclusion is Safe

(Inductive case) Assume that  $u, v \in L(G)$  and that there are  $t_1, t_2 \in T_A^Q(G)$  such that  $yield(t_1) = u$ ,  $yield(t_2) = v$ , then there are two cases:

(2) If  $A.C = A \oplus A$  is an infix production in  $G$ , then  $u \oplus v = w \in L(G)$ . Now we need to demonstrate that there is a  $t \in T^Q(G)$  such that  $yield(t) = w$ . By induction  $u = yield(t_1)$  and  $v = yield(t_2)$  such that  $t_1, t_2 \in T^Q(G)$ . We consider the following cases:

- If  $t_1$  and  $t_2$  are lexemes or closed expressions then  $t = [A.C = t_1 \oplus t_2] \in T^Q(G)$  since there are no disambiguation rules that apply.



# Subtree Exclusion is Safe

(Inductive case) Assume that  $u, v \in L(G)$  and that there are  $t_1, t_2 \in T_A^Q(G)$  such that  $yield(t_1) = u$ ,  $yield(t_2) = v$ , then there are two cases:

(2) If  $A.C = A \oplus A$  is an infix production in  $G$ , then  $u \oplus v = w \in L(G)$ . Now we need to demonstrate that there is a  $t \in T^Q(G)$  such that  $yield(t) = w$ . By induction  $u = yield(t_1)$  and  $v = yield(t_2)$  such that  $t_1, t_2 \in T^Q(G)$ . We consider the following cases:

- If  $t_1 = [A.C_1 = t_{11} \otimes t_{12}]$  with yield  $u_{11} \otimes v_{12}$  and  $t_2 = [A.C_2 = \triangleleft t_{21} \triangleright]$  with yield  $\triangleleft w_{21} \triangleright$ . Take  $t = [A.C = [A.C_1 = t_{11} \otimes t_{12}] \oplus [A.C_2 = \triangleleft t_{21} \triangleright]]$  as the obvious candidate as tree for  $w$ . If  $A.C_1 > A.C$  then  $t \in T^Q(G)$  since it does not match a conflict pattern (since there are no other disambiguation relations between the productions). On the other hand, if  $A.C > A.C_1$  then  $t$  matches a conflict pattern and therefore  $t \notin T^Q(G)$ . However, the reordering  $t' = [A.C_1 = t_{11} \otimes [A.C = t_{12} \oplus [A.C_2 = \triangleleft t_{21} \triangleright]]]$  has the same yield and does *not* have a priority conflict, therefore  $t' \in T^Q(G)$ . If  $t_2$  is a lexeme, or the disambiguation relation is **left**, **right**, the proof works analogously.



# Subtree Exclusion is Safe

(Inductive case) Assume that  $u, v \in L(G)$  and that there are  $t_1, t_2 \in T_A^Q(G)$  such that  $yield(t_1) = u$ ,  $yield(t_2) = v$ , then there are two cases:

(2) If  $A.C = A \oplus A$  is an infix production in  $G$ , then  $u \oplus v = w \in L(G)$ . Now we need to demonstrate that there is a  $t \in T^Q(G)$  such that  $yield(t) = w$ . By induction  $u = yield(t_1)$  and  $v = yield(t_2)$  such that  $t_1, t_2 \in T^Q(G)$ . We consider the following cases:

- The proof works analogously when  $t_1$  is a lexeme or closed expression and  $t_2$  is an infix expression.
- When both  $t_1$  and  $t_2$  are infix expressions we have to consider more cases, but the reasoning is analogous: by the fact that there is at most one disambiguation relation between each pair of operators, we can always construct a non-conflicted tree for the sentence by re-ordering the sub-expressions of  $t_1$  and  $t_2$ .  $\square$

# Total Set of Disambiguation Rules

*Definition 3.4 (Total Set of Disambiguation Rules for Infix Expression Grammars).* A set of disambiguation rules  $PR$  for an infix expression grammar  $G$  is *total* for a non-terminal  $A$ :

- If for any pair of productions  $A.C_1 = A \text{ op}_1 A \in P(G)$ , and  $A.C_2 = A \text{ op}_2 A \in P(G)$ , such that  $A.C_1 \neq A.C_2$ , either  $A.C_1 R A.C_2 \in PR$  or  $A.C_2 R A.C_1 \in PR$  where  $R \in \{>, \text{right}, \text{left}\}$ .
- If  $A.C = A \text{ op} A \in P(G)$  then  $A.C R' A.C \in PR$  where  $R' \in \{\text{right}, \text{left}, \text{non-assoc}\}$ .



# Subtree Exclusion is Complete

LEMMA 3.5 (SUBTREE EXCLUSION IS COMPLETELY DISAMBIGUATING). *Given an infix expression grammar  $G$  and a set  $Q$  of priority conflict patterns generated by a total set of disambiguation rules for  $G$ , then all trees in  $T^Q(G)$  have unique yields. That is, if  $t_1, t_2 \in T^Q(G)$  and  $\text{yield}(t_1) = \text{yield}(t_2)$  then  $t_1 = t_2$ .*

PROOF. By induction on  $T^Q(G)$ .

(Base case) If  $a$  is a lexeme, then  $a \in T_a^Q(G)$  and has a unique yield.

(Inductive case) Assume that  $t_1, t_2 \in T_A^Q(G)$  and that their yields are unique.

- (1) If  $A.C = \triangleleft A \triangleright$  is a closed production in  $G$ , then  $t = [A.C = \triangleleft t_1 \triangleright] \in T_A^Q(G)$ , since there is no priority conflict pattern that matches this tree, and the fact that each constructor uniquely identifies a production, by uniqueness of  $t_1$ ,  $t$  is also unique.

# Subtree Exclusion is Complete

LEMMA 3.5 (SUBTREE EXCLUSION IS COMPLETELY DISAMBIGUATING). *Given an infix expression grammar  $G$  and a set  $Q$  of priority conflict patterns generated by a total set of disambiguation rules for  $G$ , then all trees in  $T^Q(G)$  have unique yields. That is, if  $t_1, t_2 \in T^Q(G)$  and  $yield(t_1) = yield(t_2)$  then  $t_1 = t_2$ .*

(Inductive case) Assume that  $t_1, t_2 \in T_A^Q(G)$  and that their yields are unique.

(2) If  $A.C = A \oplus A$  is an infix production in  $G$ , since each constructor uniquely identifies a production, that is the only way we can construct the tree  $t = [A.C = t_1 \oplus t_2]$ . Now we need to demonstrate that if  $t \in T^Q(G)$  then there is no tree  $t' \in T^Q(G)$  such that  $t' \neq t$  and  $yield(t) = yield(t')$ . We consider the following cases:



# Subtree Exclusion is Complete

(Inductive case) Assume that  $t_1, t_2 \in T_A^Q(G)$  and that their yields are unique.

(2) If  $A.C = A \oplus A$  is an infix production in  $G$ , since each constructor uniquely identifies a production, that is the only way we can construct the tree  $t = [A.C = t_1 \oplus t_2]$ . Now we need to demonstrate that if  $t \in T^Q(G)$  then there is no tree  $t' \in T^Q(G)$  such that  $t' \neq t$  and  $yield(t) = yield(t')$ . We consider the following cases:

- If  $t_1$  and  $t_2$  are lexemes or closed expressions then  $t \in T^Q(G)$  since there are no disambiguation rules that apply. By uniqueness of  $t_1$  and  $t_2$  and non-overlap of productions, there are no other ways to construct a tree with the same yield as  $t$ .



# Subtree Exclusion is Complete

(Inductive case) Assume that  $t_1, t_2 \in T_A^Q(G)$  and that their yields are unique.

(2) If  $A.C = A \oplus A$  is an infix production in  $G$ , since each constructor uniquely identifies a production, that is the only way we can construct the tree  $t = [A.C = t_1 \oplus t_2]$ . Now we need to demonstrate that if  $t \in T^Q(G)$  then there is no tree  $t' \in T^Q(G)$  such that  $t' \neq t$  and  $yield(t) = yield(t')$ . We consider the following cases:

- If  $t_1 = [A.C_1 = t_{11} \otimes t_{12}]$  with yield  $u \otimes v$  and  $t_2 = [A.C_2 = \langle t_{21} \rangle]$  with yields  $\langle w \rangle$  then  $t = [A.C = [A.C_1 = t_{11} \otimes t_{12}] \oplus [A.C_2 = \langle t_{21} \rangle]]$  with yield  $u \otimes v \oplus \langle w \rangle$ . By totality of disambiguation rules, we have that there is a disambiguation relation between  $A.C$  and  $A.C_1$ . If  $A.C > A.C_1$  then  $t$  matches a conflict pattern and therefore  $t \notin T^Q(G)$ . If  $A.C_1 > A.C$  then  $t$  does not match a conflict pattern (since there are no other disambiguation relations between the productions). The only other tree with the same yield is  $t' = [A.C_1 = t_{11} \otimes [A.C = t_{12} \oplus [A.C_2 = \langle t_{21} \rangle]]] \in T^Q(G)$ . However,  $t'$  does have a priority conflict and therefore  $t' \notin T^Q(G)$ . If the disambiguation relation is **left**, **right**, or **non-assoc**, the proof works analogously.



# Subtree Exclusion is Complete

(Inductive case) Assume that  $t_1, t_2 \in T_A^Q(G)$  and that their yields are unique.

(2) If  $A.C = A \oplus A$  is an infix production in  $G$ , since each constructor uniquely identifies a production, that is the only way we can construct the tree  $t = [A.C = t_1 \oplus t_2]$ . Now we need to demonstrate that if  $t \in T^Q(G)$  then there is no tree  $t' \in T^Q(G)$  such that  $t' \neq t$  and  $yield(t) = yield(t')$ . We consider the following cases:

- The proof works analogously when  $t_1$  is a lexeme or a closed expression and  $t_2$  is an infix expression.
- When both  $t_1$  and  $t_2$  are infix expressions, we have to consider more cases since all combinations of disambiguation relations between the three productions need to be considered, but the reasoning is the same; by totality there are relations between all three productions, and therefore at most one tree is selected.  $\square$

# Disambiguation for Infix Expression is Safe and Complete

**THEOREM 3.6.** *Disambiguation of an infix expression grammar using a total set of disambiguation rules (not including `non-assoc`) is safe and completely disambiguating.*

**PROOF.** Assume that  $G$  is an infix expression grammar and  $R$  a total set of disambiguation rules for  $G$ . Let  $Q$  be the set of priority conflict patterns for  $R$  according to Definition 3.2. By Lemma 3.3 we have that if  $w \in L(G)$  then there is a  $t \in T^Q(G)$  such that  $yield(t) = w$ . By Corollary 2.17 we have that  $F^Q$  is a safe disambiguation filter. By Lemma 3.5 we have that if  $t_1, t_2 \in T^Q(G)$  then  $yield(t_1) \neq yield(t_2) \vee t_1 = t_2$ . By Corollary 2.18 we have that  $F^Q$  is completely disambiguating.  $\square$

# Deep Priority Conflicts



# Prefix Expression Grammars

## context-free syntax

Exp.Add = Exp "+" Exp {left}  
Exp.Lambda = "\\\" ID "." Exp  
Exp.Minus = "-" Exp  
Exp.Var = ID  
Exp = "(" Exp ")" {bracket}

## context-free priorities

Exp.Minus > Exp.Add > Exp.Lambda

(1) [Exp.Minus = - [Exp.Add = a + b]]

(2) [Exp.Add = [Exp.Minus = - a] + b]

(3) [Exp.Add = a + [Exp.Minus = - b]]

Exp.Minus > Exp.Add  $\in PR$

[Exp.Minus = - [Exp.Add = Exp + Exp]]  $\in Q_G$



# SDF2 Semantics is Unsafe for Prefix Expression Grammars

## context-free syntax

Exp.Add = Exp "+" Exp {left}

Exp.Lambda = "\\\" ID "." Exp

Exp.Minus = "-" Exp

Exp.Var = ID

Exp = "(" Exp ")" {bracket}

## context-free priorities

Exp.Minus > Exp.Add > Exp.Lambda

(4) [Exp.Add = [Exp.Lambda = \ x . a] + b]

(5) [Exp.Lambda = \ x . [Exp.Add = a + b]]

(6) [Exp.Add = a + [Exp.Lambda = \ x . b]]

Exp.Add > Exp.Lambda  $\in PR$

[Exp.Add = [Exp.Lambda = \ ID . Exp] + Exp]  $\in Q_G$

Exp.Add > Exp.Lambda  $\in PR$

[Exp.Add = Exp + [Exp.Lambda = \ ID . Exp]]  $\in Q_G$

# Safe Semantics

## context-free syntax

Exp.Add = Exp "+" Exp {left}  
Exp.Lambda = "\\\" ID "." Exp  
Exp.Minus = "-" Exp  
Exp.Var = ID  
Exp = "(" Exp ")" {bracket}

## context-free priorities

Exp.Minus > Exp.Add > Exp.Lambda

$$\frac{A.C_1 > A.C_2 \in PR}{[A.C_1 = [A.C_2 = \alpha A]\gamma] \in Q_G^{safe}}$$
$$\frac{A.C_1 > A.C_2 \in PR}{[A.C_1 = \alpha[A.C_2 = A]\gamma] \in Q_G^{safe}}$$

(4) [Exp.Add = [Exp.Lambda = \ x . a] + b]

(5) [Exp.Lambda = \ x . [Exp.Add = a + b]]

(6) [Exp.Add = a + [Exp.Lambda = \ x . b]]

$$\frac{\text{Exp.Add} > \text{Exp.Lambda} \in PR}{[\text{Exp.Add} = [\text{Exp.Lambda} = \ \text{ID} . \text{Exp}] + \text{Exp}] \in Q_G^{safe}}$$

# Safe Semantics for Shallow Conflicts

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \frac{A.C_1 > A.C_2 \in PR}{[A.C_1 = [A.C_2 = \alpha A]\gamma] \in Q_G^{safe}} \\
 \frac{A.C_1 > A.C_2 \in PR}{[A.C_1 = \alpha[A.C_2 = A\gamma]] \in Q_G^{safe}} \\
 \frac{A.C_1 \text{ right } A.C_2 \in PR}{[A.C_1 = [A.C_2 = A\beta_2 A]\beta_1 A] \in Q_G^{safe}} \\
 \frac{A.C_1 \text{ left } A.C_2 \in PR}{[A.C_1 = A\beta_1[A.C_2 = A\beta_2 A]] \in Q_G^{safe}} \\
 \frac{A.C_1 \text{ non-assoc } A.C_2 \in PR}{[A.C_1 = A\beta_1[A.C_2 = A\beta_2 A]] \in Q_G^{safe}} \\
 \frac{A.C_1 \text{ non-assoc } A.C_2 \in PR}{[A.C_1 = [A.C_2 = A\beta_2 A]\beta_1 A] \in Q_G^W} \\
 \frac{A.C_1 \text{ non-nested } A.C_2 \in PR \quad \neg(\alpha_i \Rightarrow^* A\gamma)}{[A.C_1 = \alpha_1[A.C_2 = \alpha_2 A]] \in Q_G^W}
 \end{array}$$



# Deep Priority Conflicts

## context-free syntax

Exp.Add = Exp "+" Exp {left}

Exp.Lambda = "\\\" ID "." Exp

Exp.Minus = "-" Exp

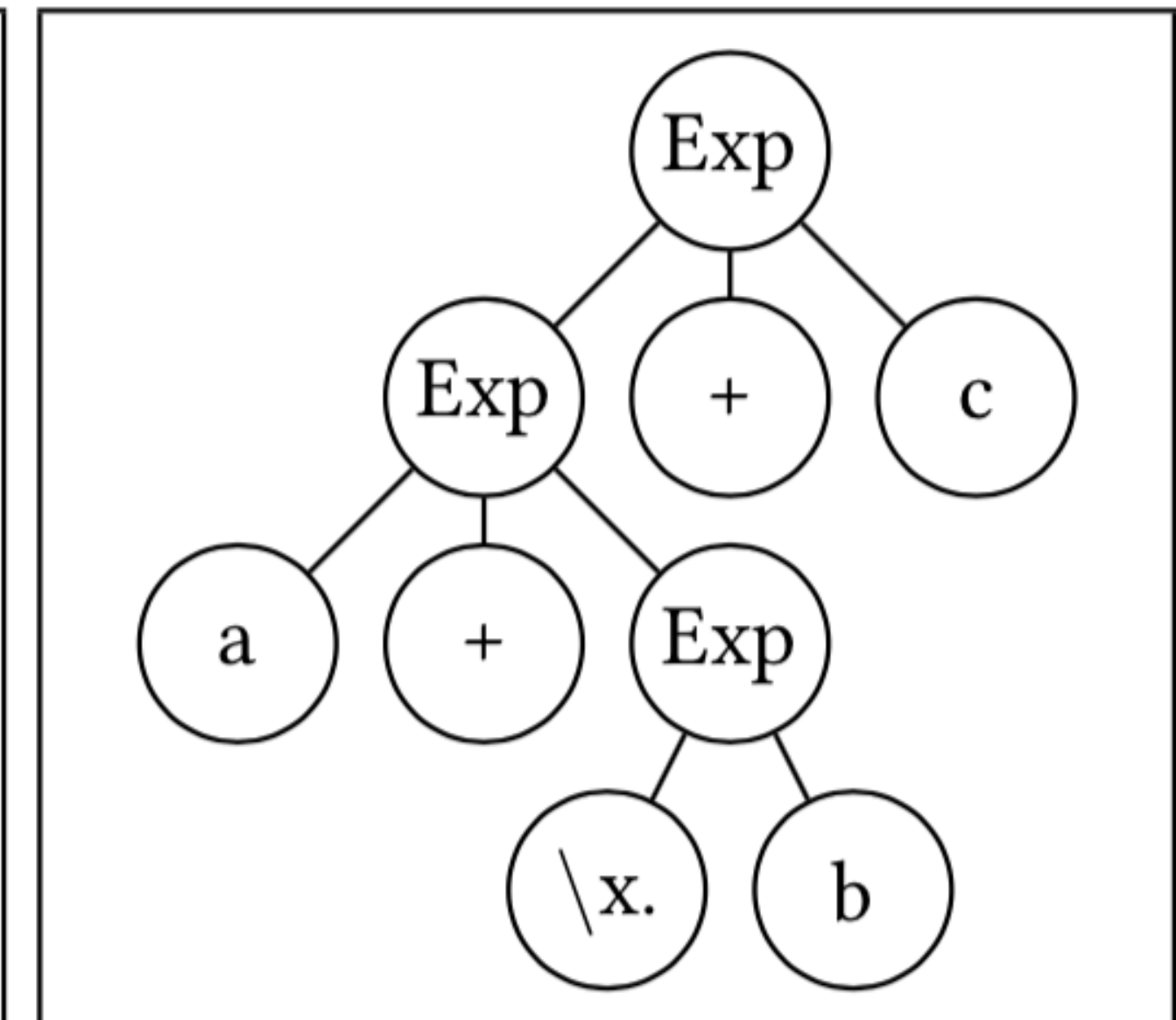
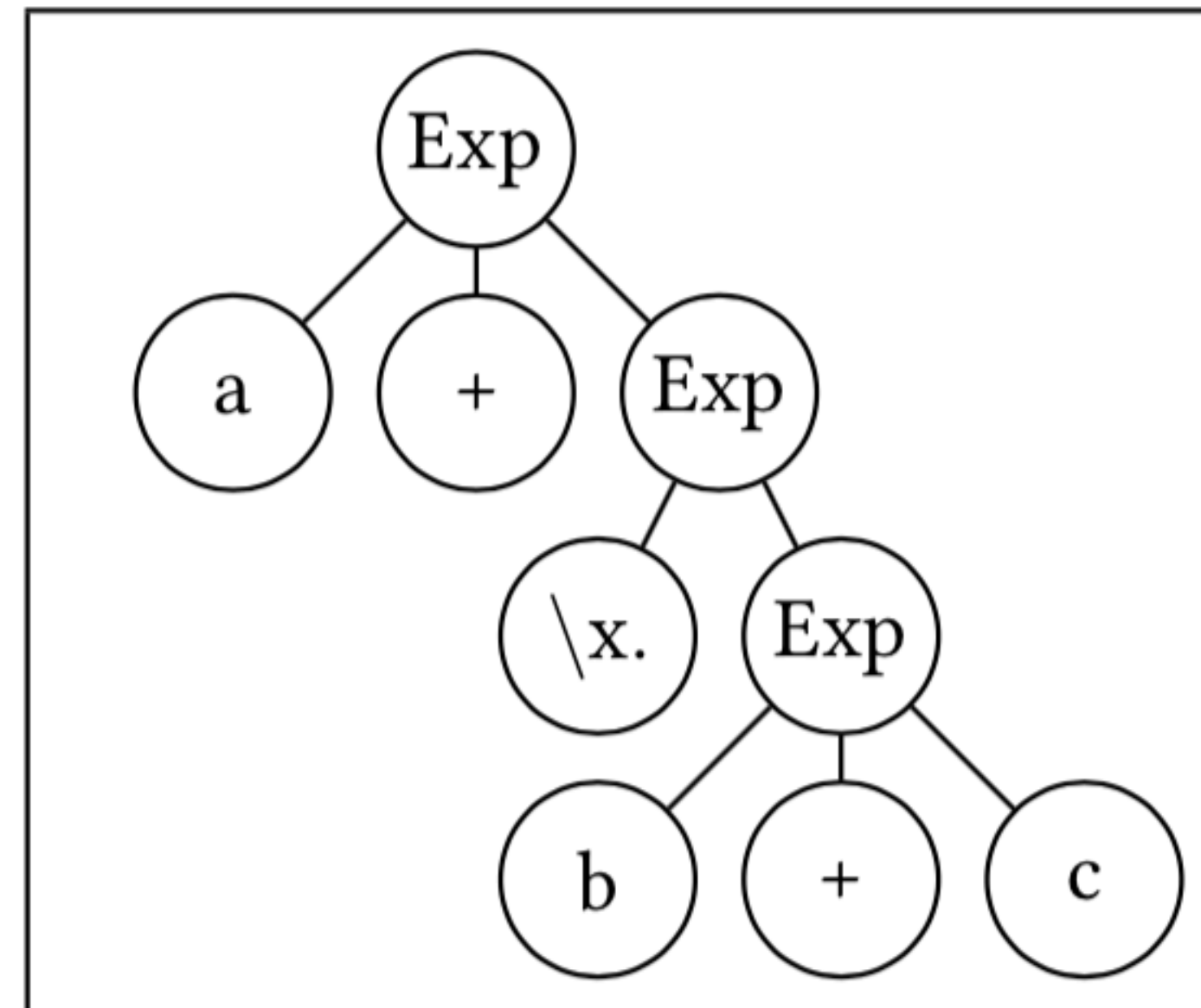
Exp.Var = ID

Exp = "(" Exp ")" {bracket}

## context-free priorities

Exp.Minus > Exp.Add > Exp.Lambda

a + \x. b + c





# Rightmost Deep Matching

$$\frac{\forall 0 \leq i \leq n : \mathcal{M}^{rm}(t_i, q_i)}{\mathcal{D}^{rm}([A.C = t_1 \dots t_n], [A.C = q_1 \dots q_n])}$$

$$\frac{\mathcal{M}(t, q)}{\mathcal{M}^{rm}(t, q)}$$

$$\frac{\mathcal{M}^{rm}(t_n, q)}{\mathcal{M}^{rm}([A.C = t_1 \dots t_n], q)}$$

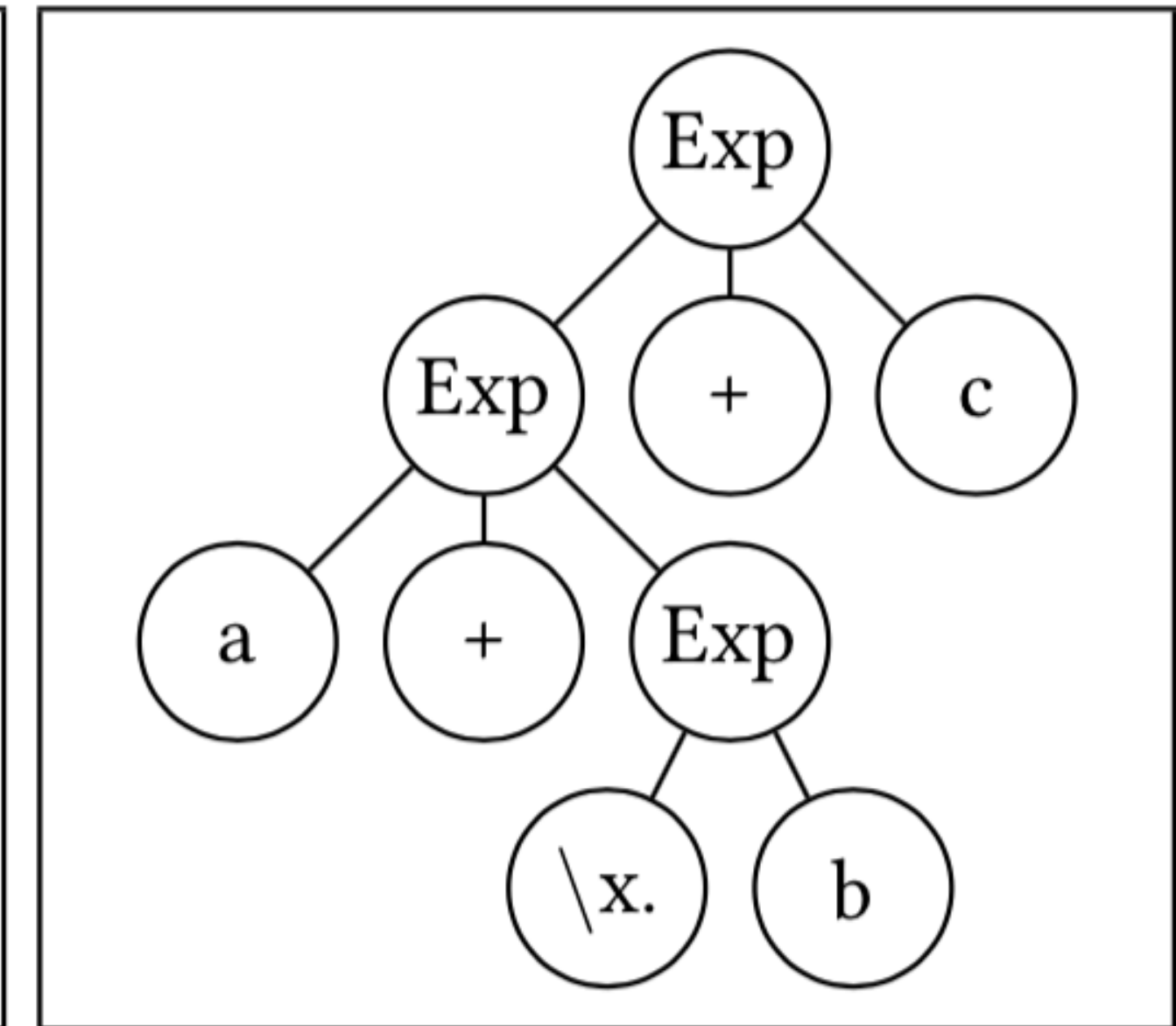
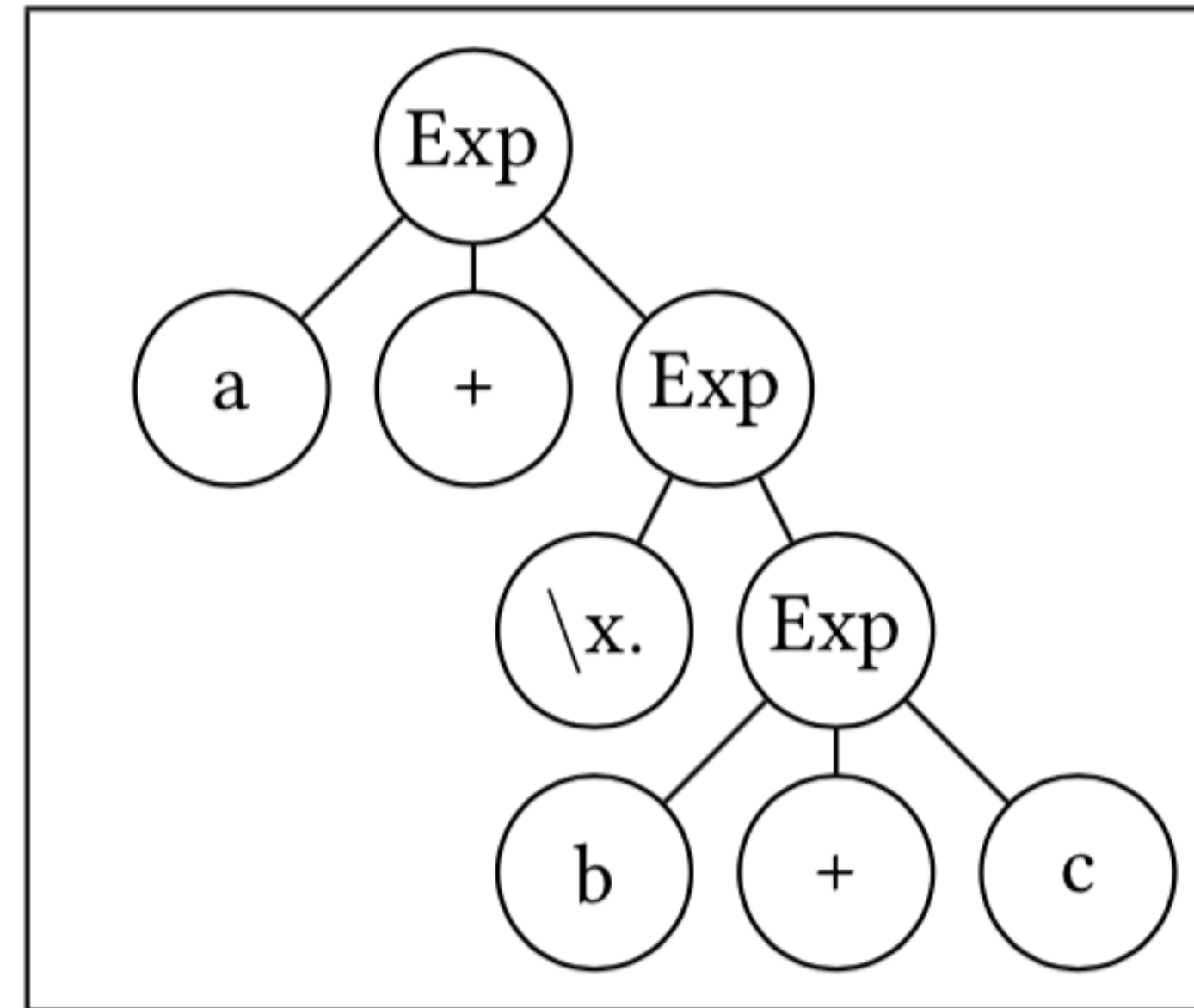
$t$  : [Exp.Add = [Exp.Add = a + [Exp.Lambda = \ x . b]] + c]  
 $q$  : [Exp.Add = [Exp.Lambda = \ ID . Exp] + Exp]

# Rightmost Deep Matching

$t : [\text{Exp.Add} = [\text{Exp.Add} = a + [\text{Exp.Lambda} = \backslash x . b]] + c]$   
 $q : [\text{Exp.Add} = [\text{Exp.Lambda} = \backslash \text{ID} . \text{Exp}] + \text{Exp}]$

$$\frac{\mathcal{M}^{rm}([\text{Exp.Lambda} = \backslash x . b], [\text{Exp.Lambda} = \backslash \text{ID} . \text{Exp}])}{\frac{\mathcal{M}^{rm}([\text{Exp.Add} = a + [\text{Exp.Lambda} = \backslash x . b]], [\text{Exp.Lambda} = \backslash \text{ID} . \text{Exp}])}{\mathcal{D}^{rm}(t, q)}}$$

# Rightmost Deep Priority Conflict Pattern



$$\frac{A.C_1 > A.C_2 \in PR}{[A.C_1 = [A.C_2 = \alpha A] \gamma] \in Q_G^{safe}}$$

$$\frac{A.C_1 > A.C_2 \in PR}{[A.C_1 = \alpha [A.C_2 = A \gamma]] \in Q_G^{safe}}$$

$$\frac{A.C_2 > A.C_1 \in PR \quad \alpha \not\Rightarrow_G^* A \beta}{[A.C_2 = [A.C_1 = \alpha A] \gamma] \in Q_G^{rm}}$$

**Etc.**