

# Incremental Dependency Parsing

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**UNIVERSITÄT  
DES  
SAARLANDES**



# Overview

- Incremental Dependency Parsing
  - two algorithms
  - evaluation
- General criticism on present approaches
  - possible improvements
- Summary

# Dependency Parsing

The man loves cake.

(Sentence)



Det                  Subj                  Obj  
The man loves cake.

(Dependency Graph)

# Dependency Graph

Labeled, directed graph (W, A)

- W: words in the sentence
- A: dependency relation between words

# Dependency Graph

## Labeled, directed graph (W, A)

- W: words in the sentence
- A: dependency relation between words

## Well-formedness criteria:

- connected
- acyclic
- unique label
- single head
- projective

# Incremental Dependency Parsing

Dependency parsing

- is robust and performs well
- omits phrasal nodes

→ What about doing it incrementally?

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Dependency parsing

- is robust and performs well
- omits phrasal nodes

→ What about doing it incrementally?

→ One possibility:

Left-to-right bottom-up dependency parsing

# Bottom-up Dependency Parsing

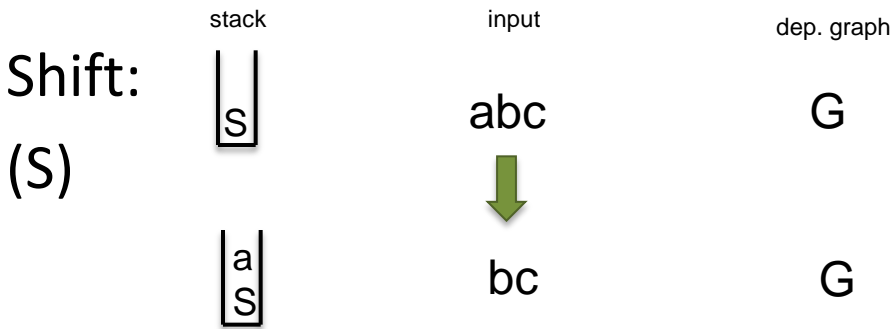
stack

input

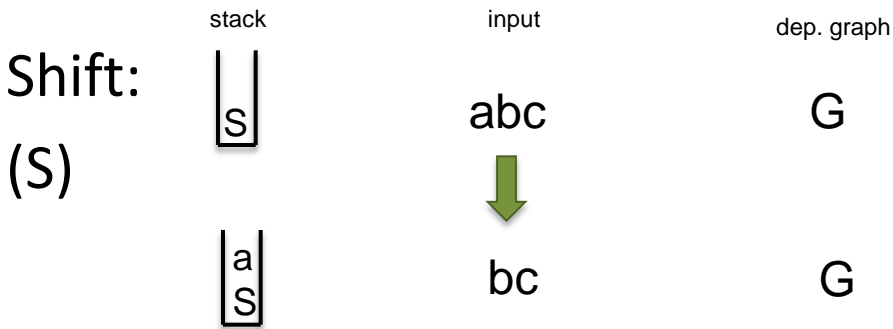
dep. graph



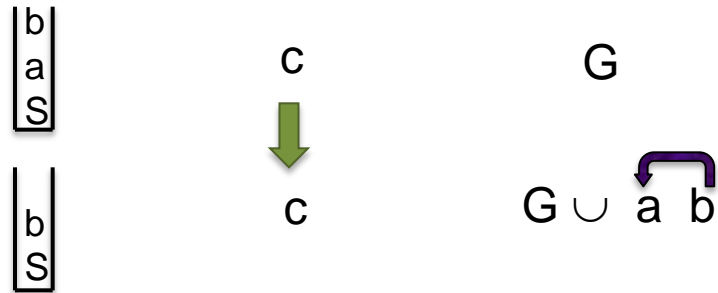
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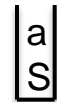
Left-Reduce (LR):



# Bottom-up Dependency Parsing

Shift:  
(S)

stack



input

abc



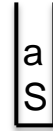
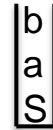
bc

dep. graph

G

G

Right-Reduce (RR):



c

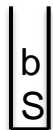
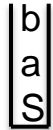


c

G



Left-Reduce (LR):



c



c

G



# Bottom-up Dependency Parsing

Example derivation of 

$\sqcup$

abc

$\emptyset$

# Bottom-up Dependency Parsing

Example derivation of 

(1)

$\square$

abc

$\emptyset$



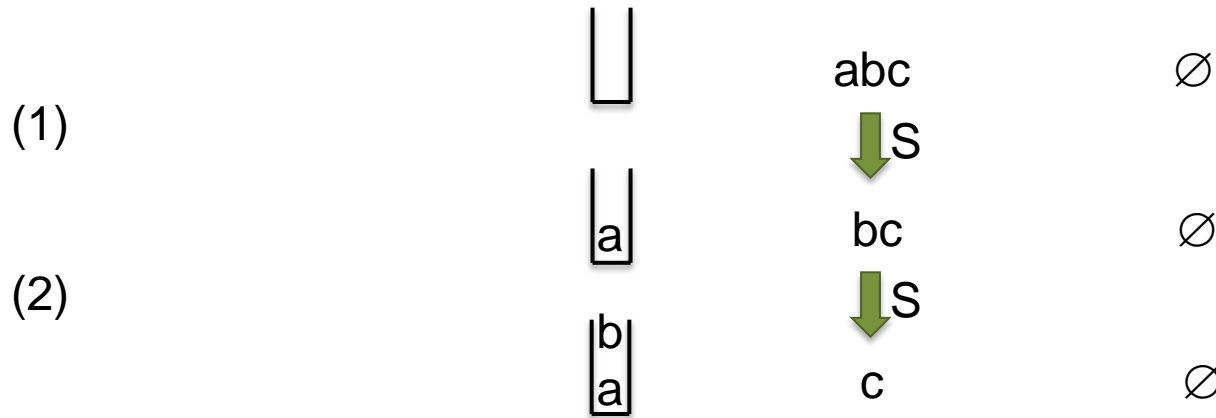
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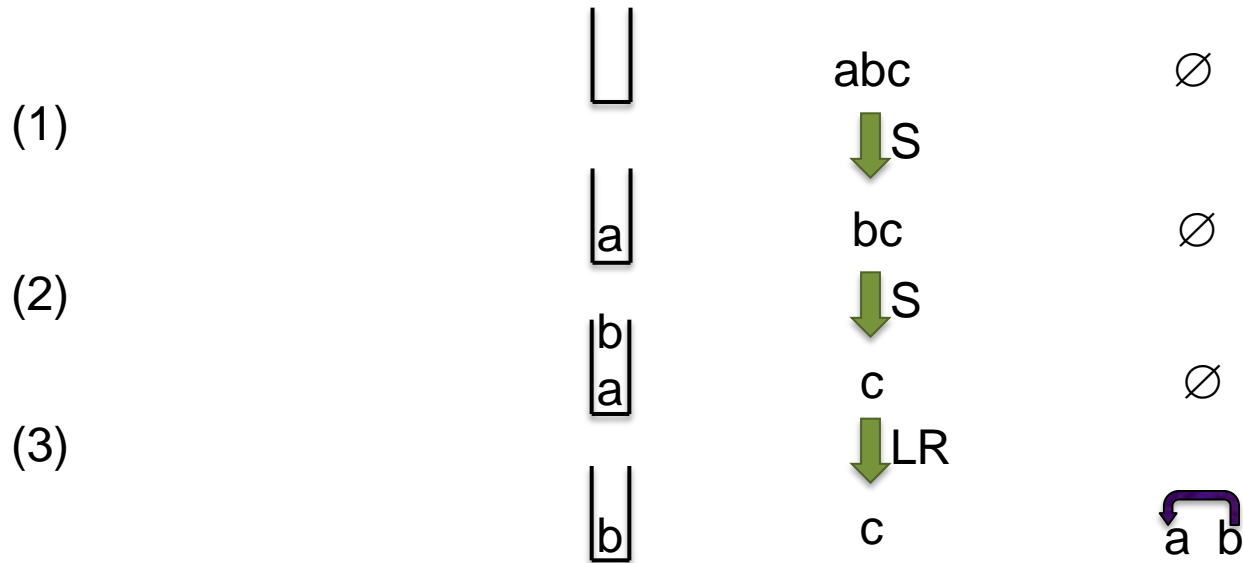
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Example derivation of 



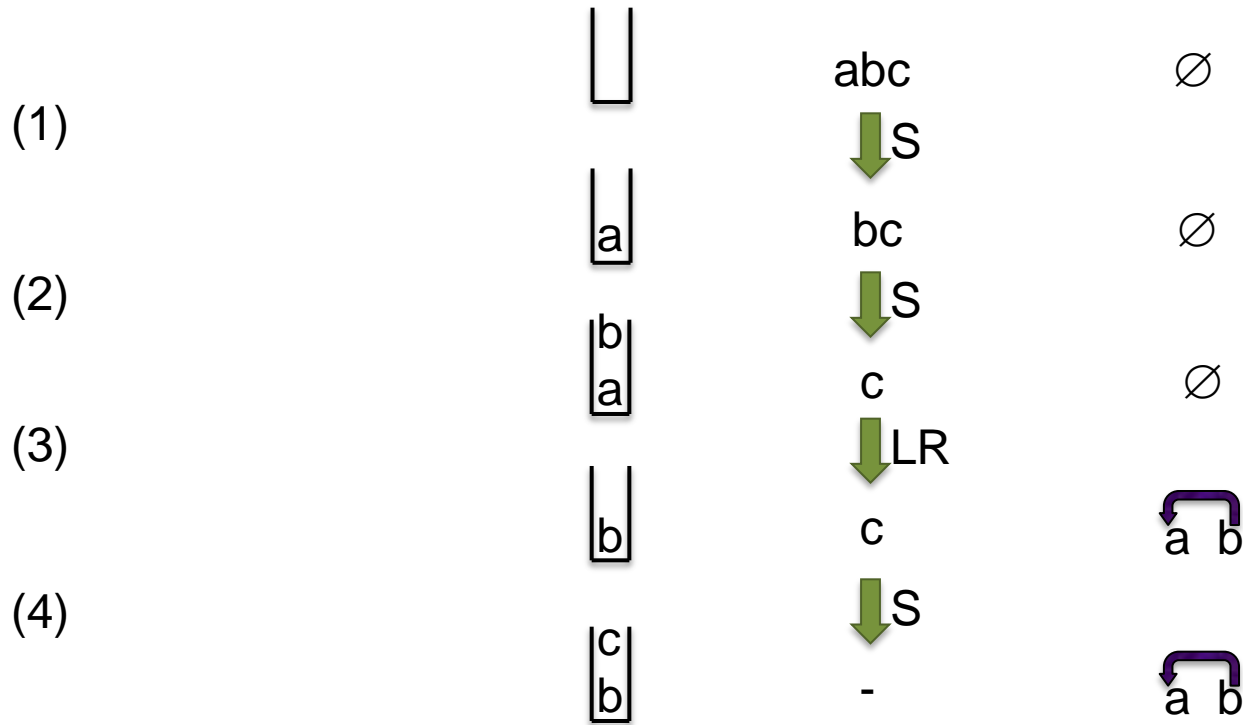
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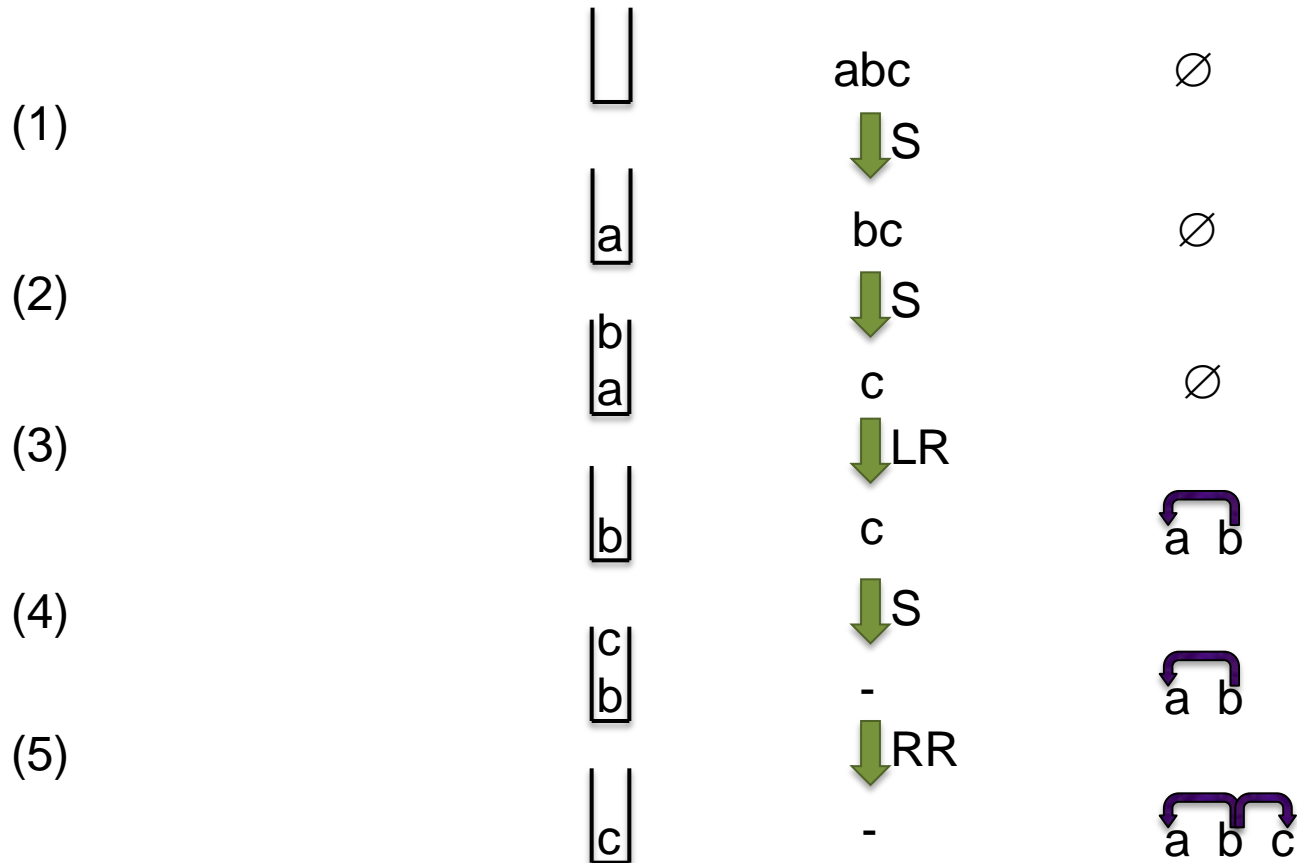
Example derivation of 





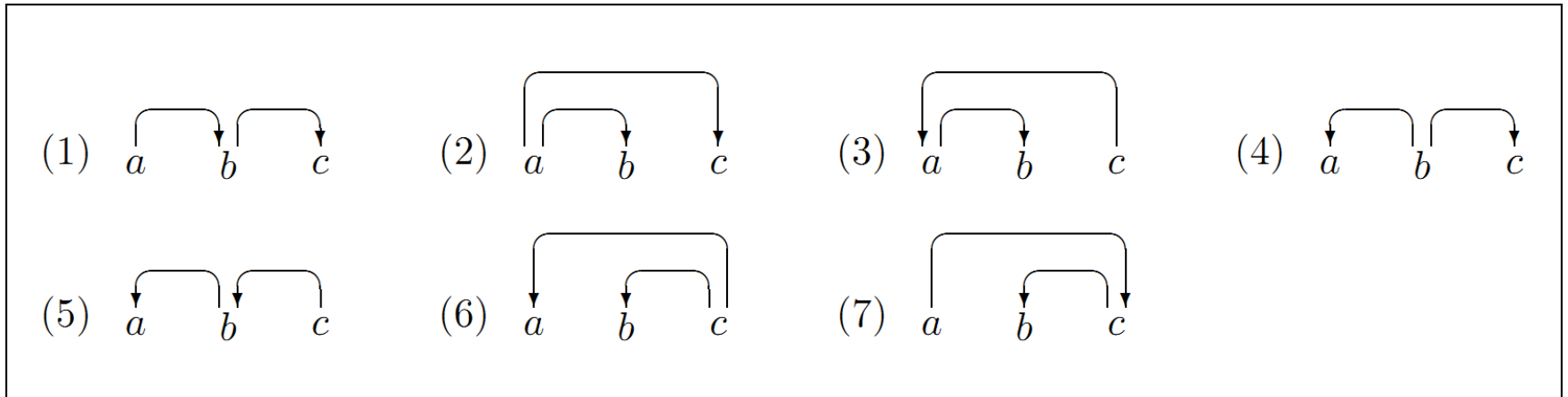
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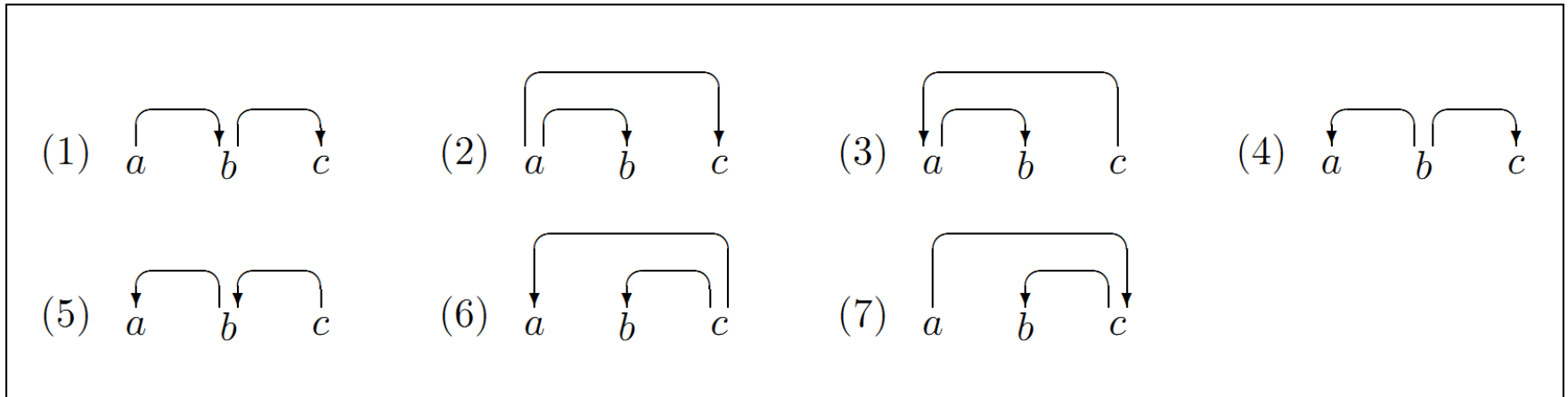
Dependency graphs with 3 nodes:



We have derived (4). (2), (3) and (5) can also be derived.

# Bottom-up dependency parsing

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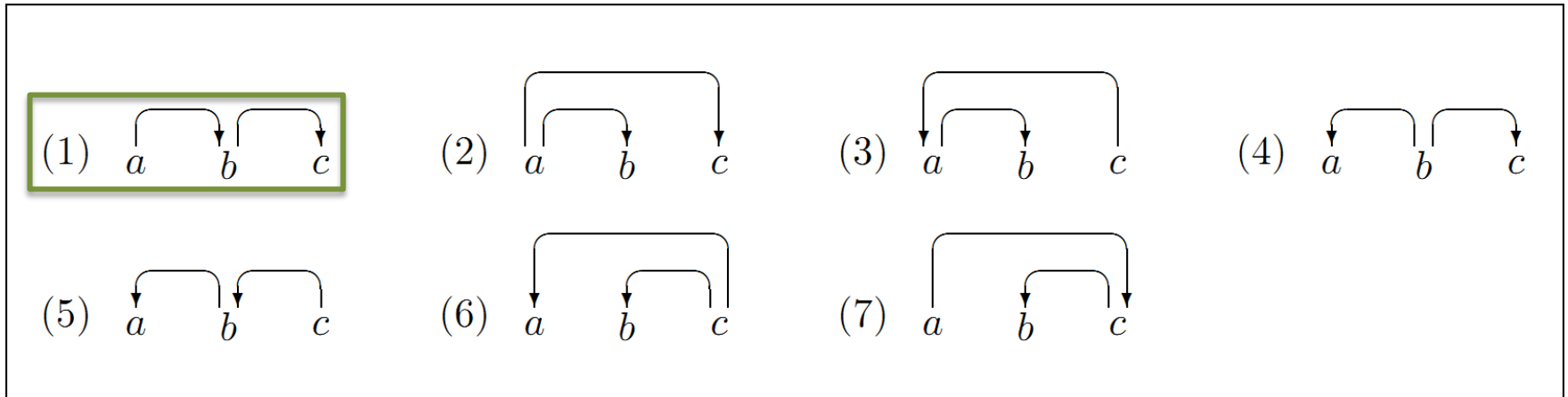


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(1) and (6), (7) can't be derived

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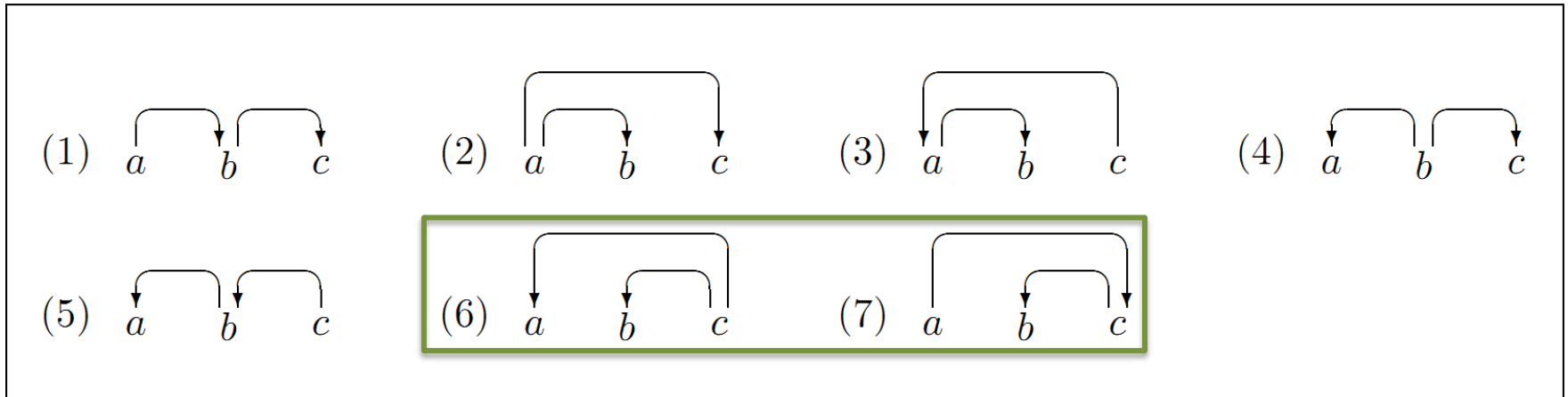
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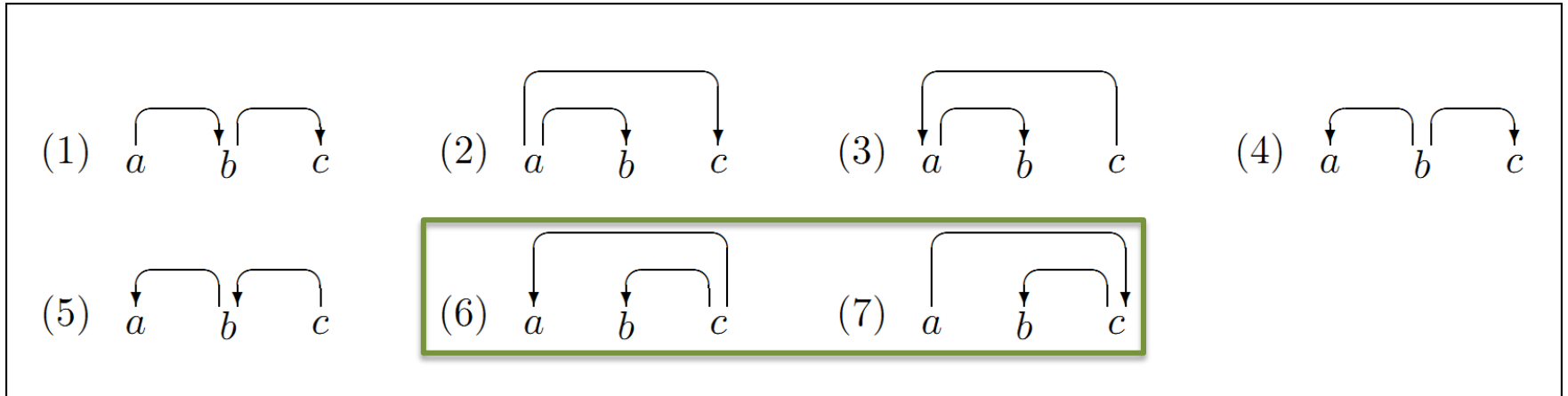
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(1): *b* is combined with *a* via Right-Reduction → *b* has a head → *b* erased from stack

(6), (7): no connecting arc between *a* and *b* → To connect them, we needed to put *c* onto the stack, too. (hence lose incrementality)

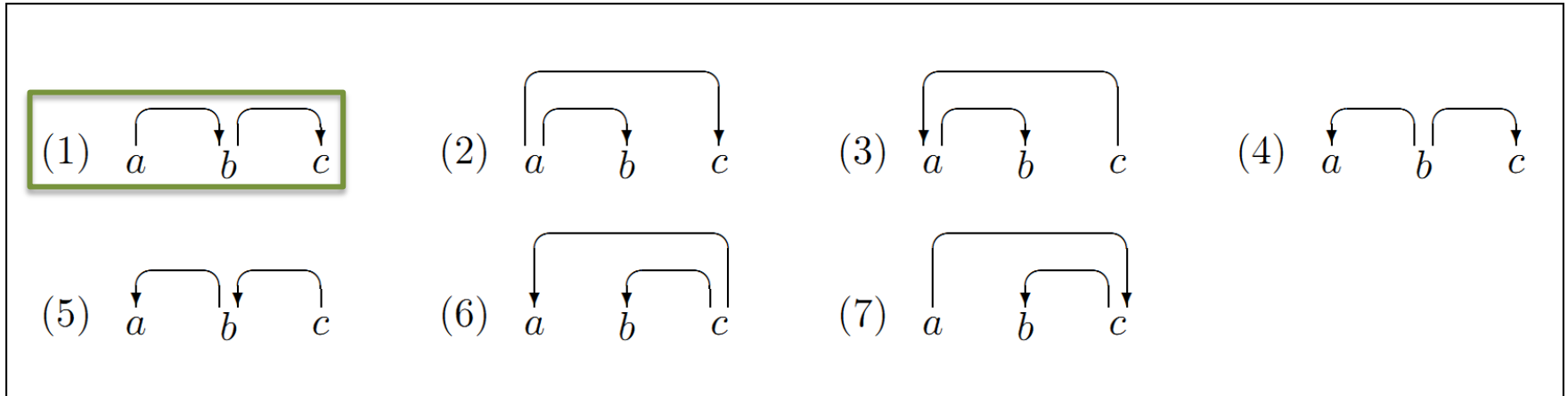
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Is there a way to parse (1) and (6), (7) incrementally?

→(6), (7): no!

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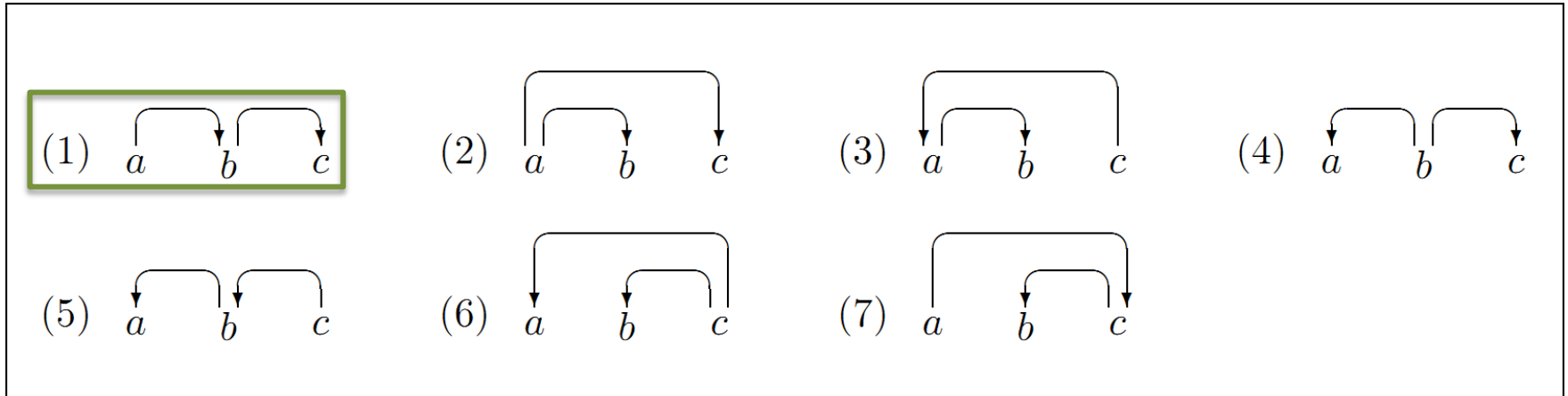
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→incrementality?

(1) can be processed incrementally



# Incremental Dependency Parsing

Bottom-up and Top-down in Dependency Parsing



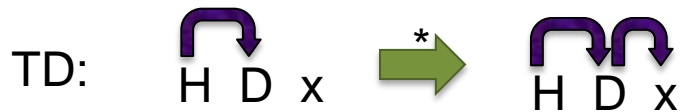
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Bottom-up and Top-down in Dependency Parsing



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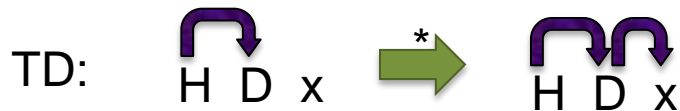
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Bottom-up and Top-down in Dependency Parsing



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Head H is attached to a dependent D before D is attached to its dependent(s)

Insight:

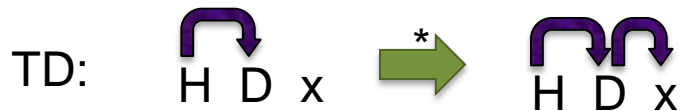
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- process right-dependents incrementally via TD parsing

# Incremental Dependency Parsing

Bottom-up and Top-down in Dependency Parsing



Dependent D is attached to its head H before H is attached to its head



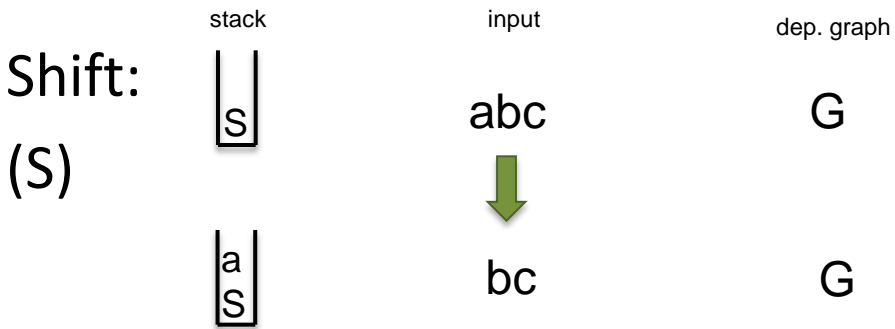
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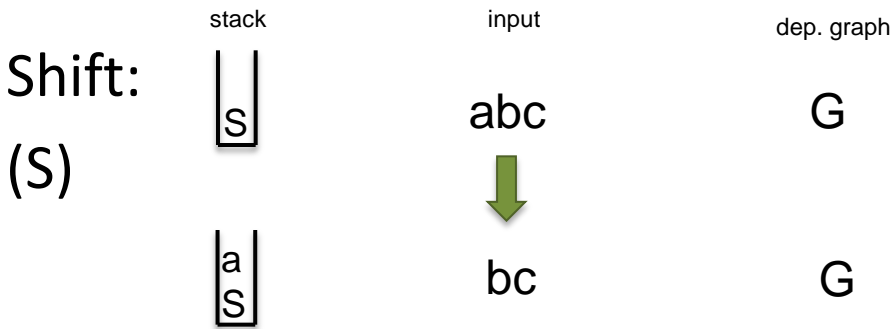
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→ Arc-Eager Dependency Parsing

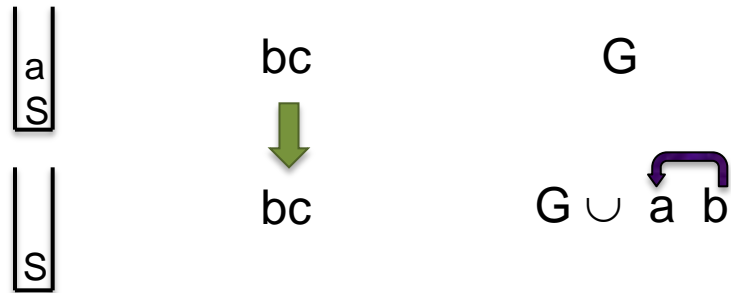
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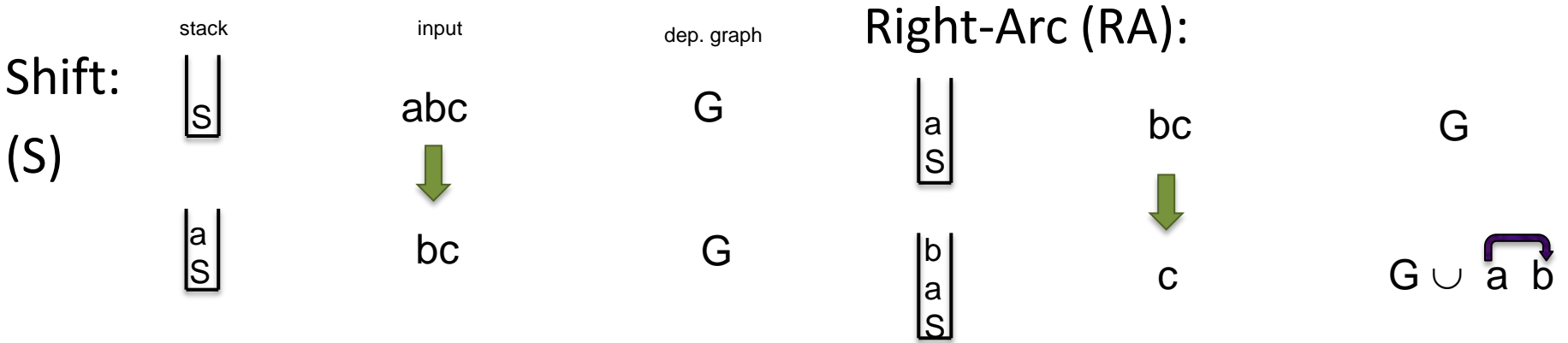
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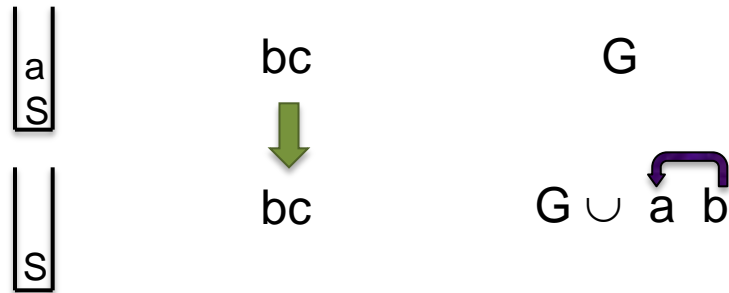
Left-Arc (LA):



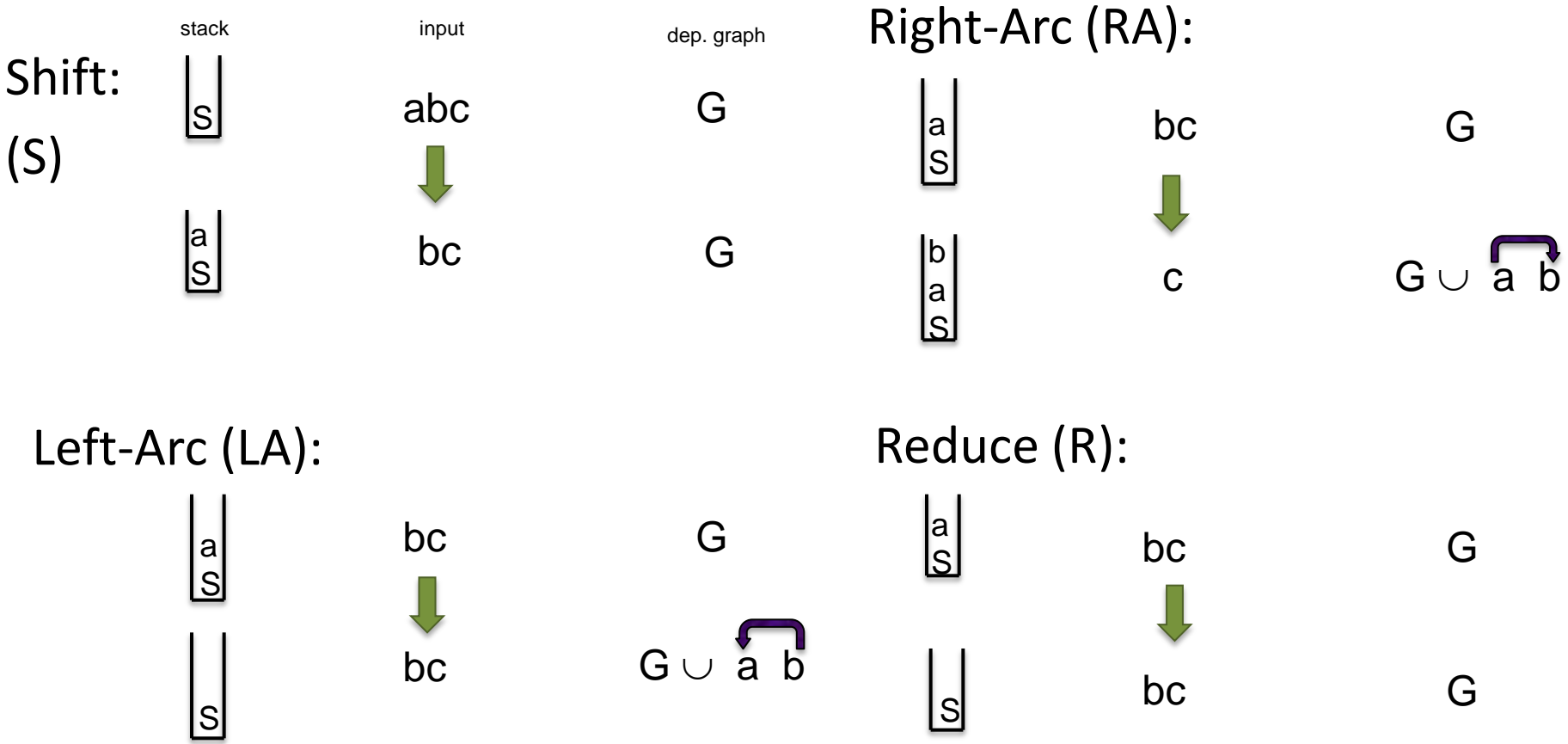
# Arc-Eager Dependency Parsing



Left-Arc (LA):



# Arc-Eager Dependency Parsing





# Bottom-up

vs.

# Arc-Eager

Shift:  
( $S_{BU}$ )

stack

S

a  
S

input

abc



bc

dep. graph

G

G

Shift:  
( $S_{AE}$ )

S

a  
S

abc



bc

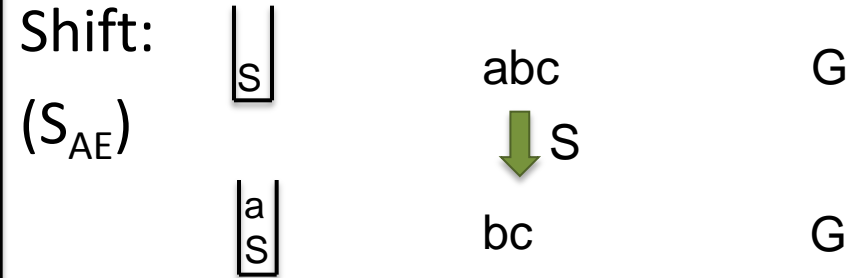
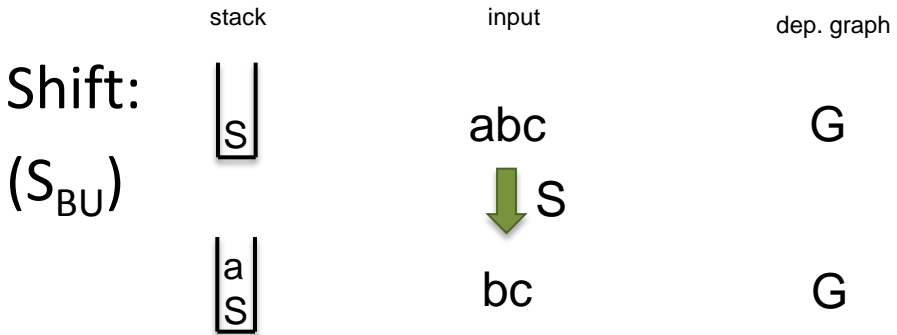
G

G

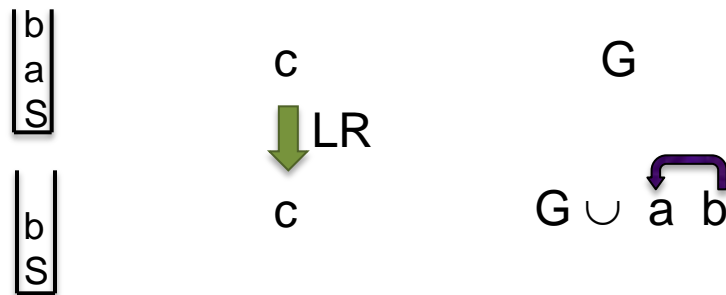
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vs.

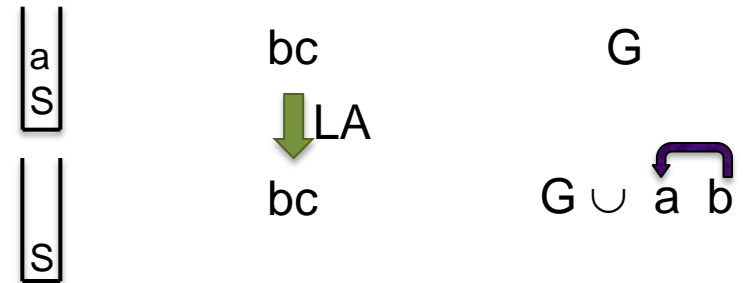
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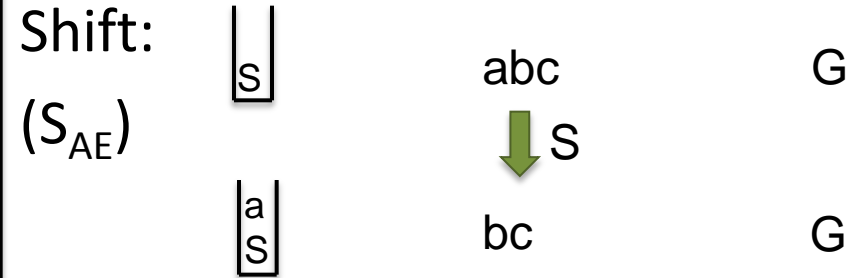
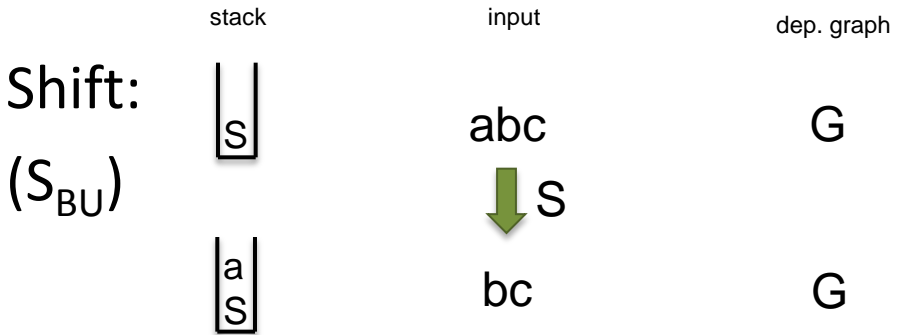
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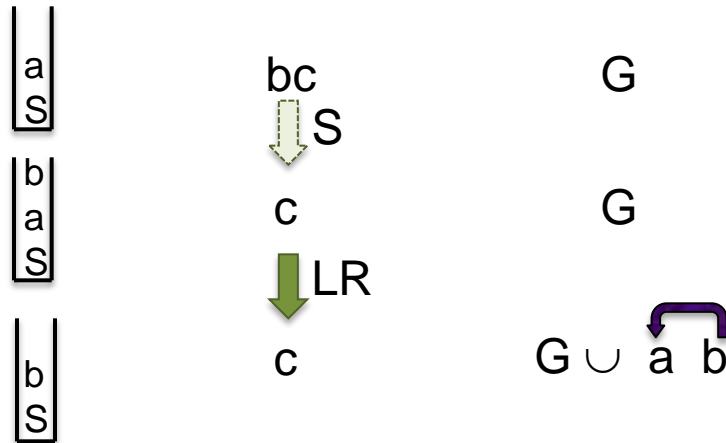
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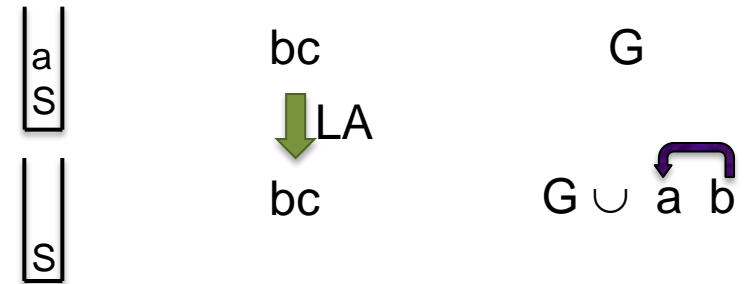
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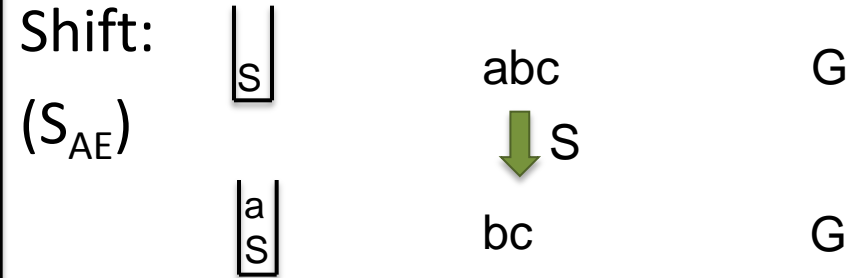
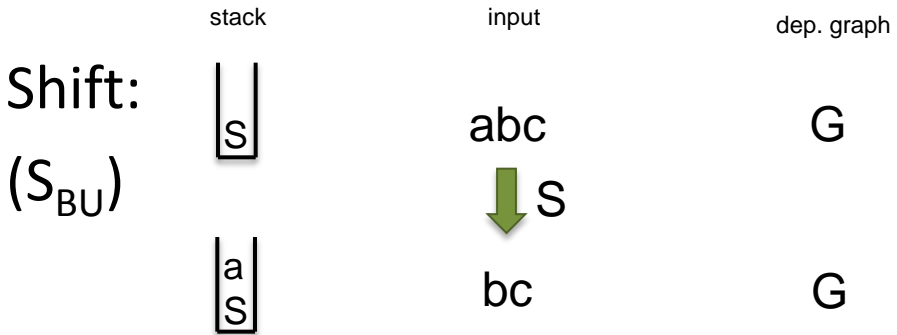
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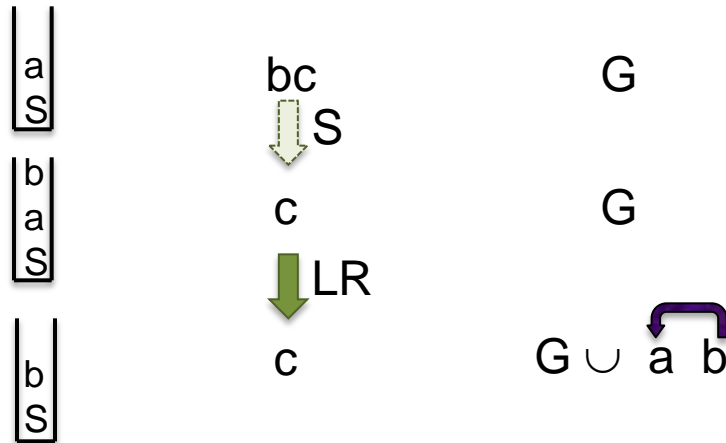
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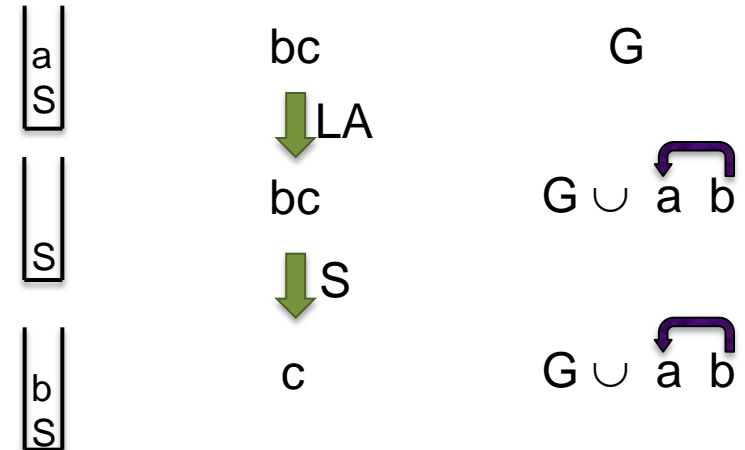
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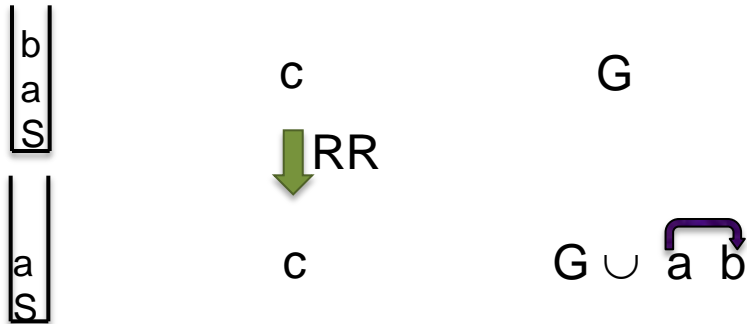


# Bottom-up

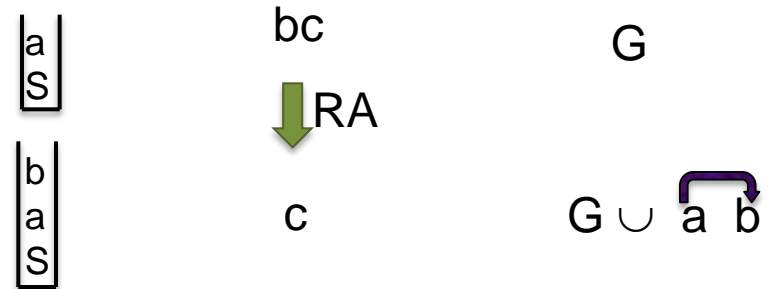
vs.

# Arc-Eager

Right-Reduce (RR):



Right-Arc (RA):

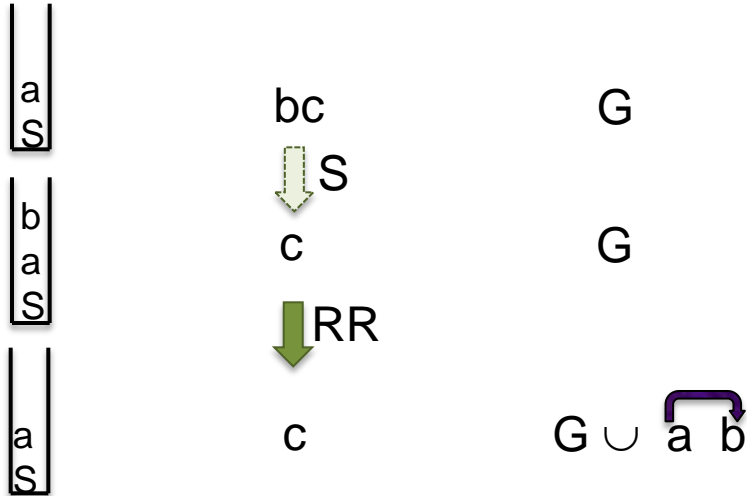


# Bottom-up

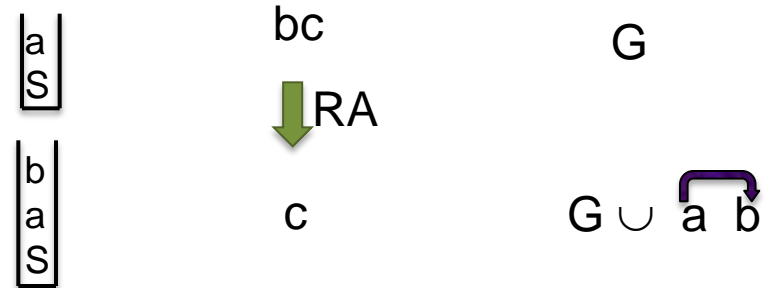
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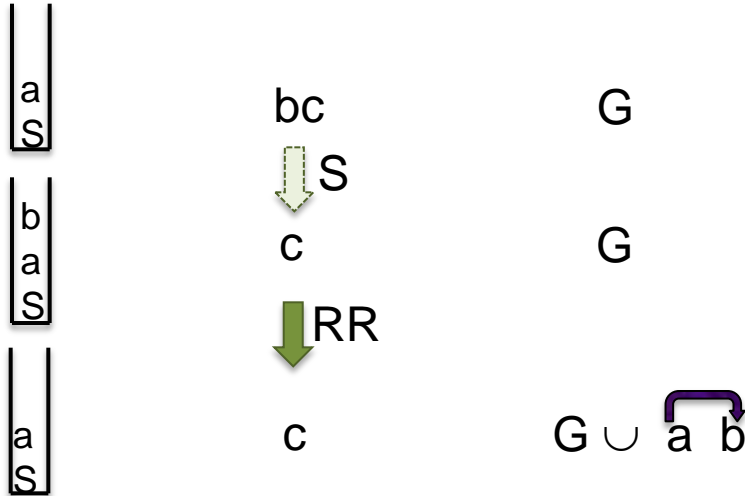


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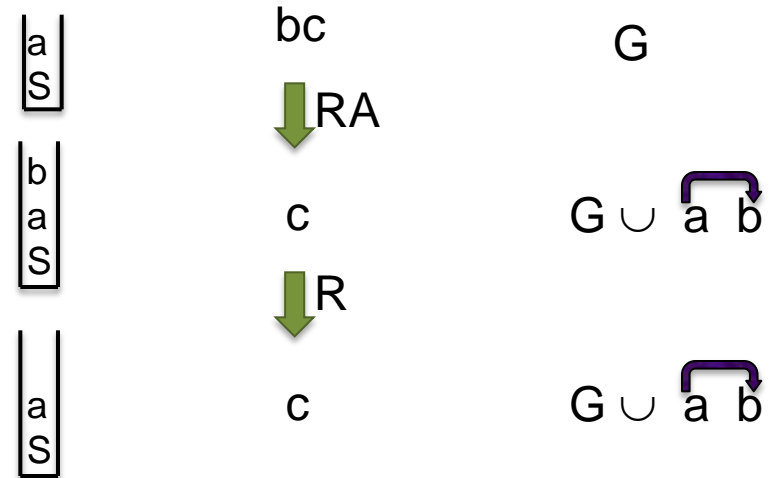
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Right-Reduce (RR):



Right-Arc (RA):



→ Arc-Eager Dependency Parsing can fully simulate Bottom-up Dependency Parsing!

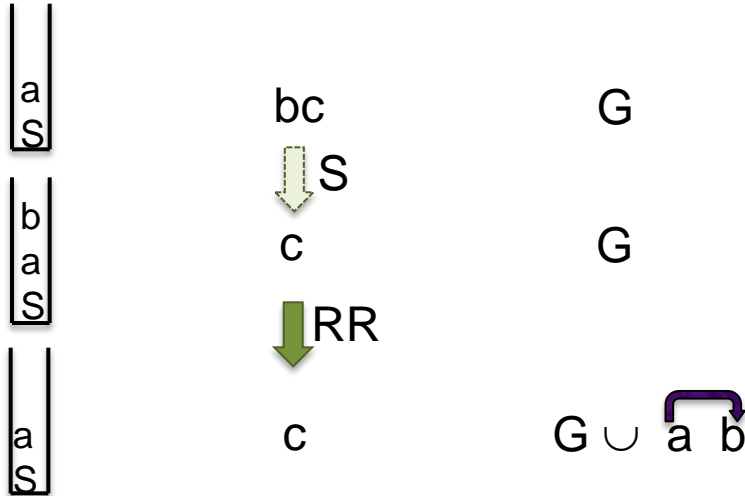


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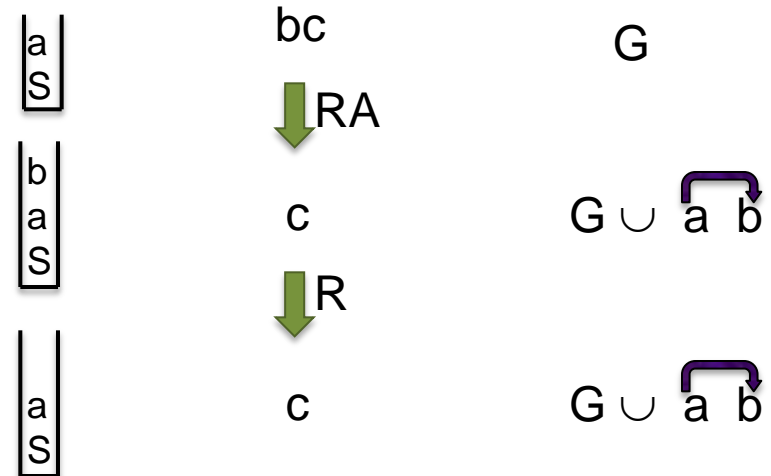
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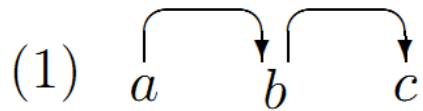
Right-Arc (RA):



→ Arc-Eager Dependency Parsing can fully simulate Bottom-up Dependency Parsing

→ We can also derive new graphs with AE! (see next slide)

# Arc-Eager Dependency Parsing



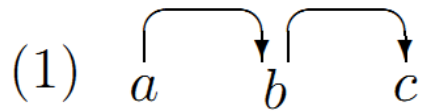
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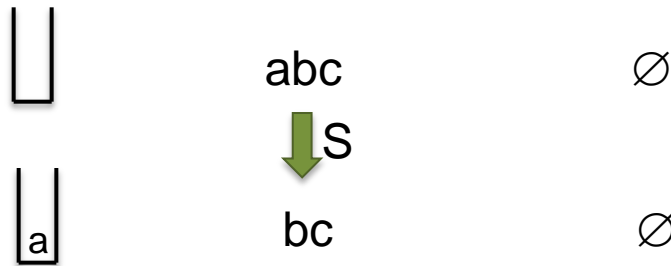
abc

$\emptyset$

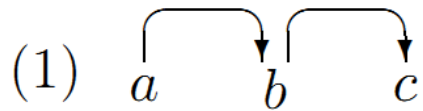
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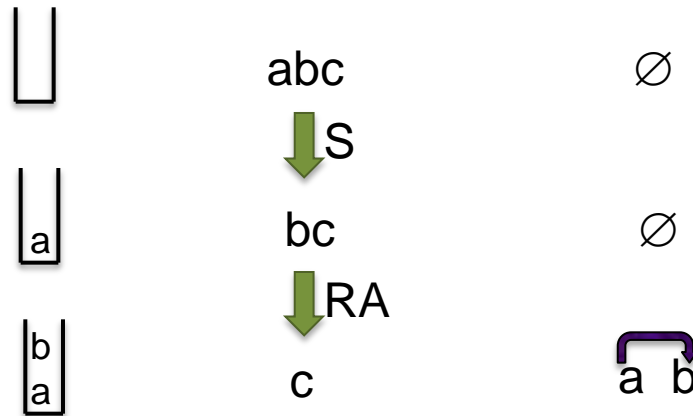
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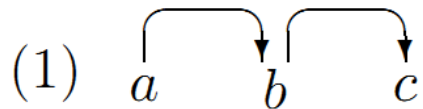
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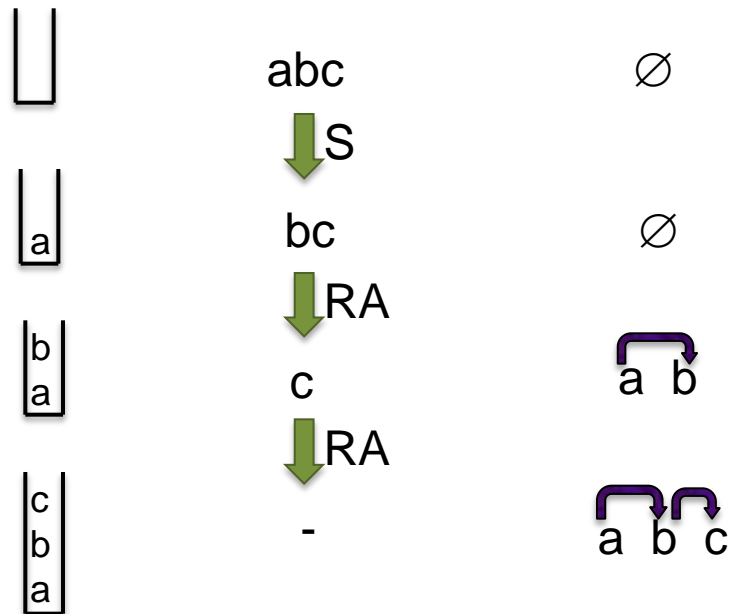
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# Arc-Eager Parsing: Evaluation

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- evaluating incrementality: number of connected components on stack during parse ( $\leq 1$  means strictly incremental)

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| Connected components | Parser configurations |         |
|----------------------|-----------------------|---------|
|                      | Number                | Percent |
| 0                    | 1251                  | 7.6     |
| 1                    | 10148                 | 61.3    |
| 2                    | 2739                  | 16.6    |
| 3                    | 1471                  | 8.9     |
| 4                    | 587                   | 3.5     |
| 5                    | 222                   | 1.3     |
| 6                    | 98                    | 0.6     |
| 7                    | 26                    | 0.2     |
| 8                    | 3                     | 0.0     |
| $\leq 1$             | 11399                 | 68.9    |
| $\leq 3$             | 15609                 | 94.3    |
| $\leq 8$             | 16545                 | 100.0   |

← strictly incremental

# Arc-Eager Parsing: Evaluation

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← strictly incremental  
← “mildly” incremental



# Intermediate Summary

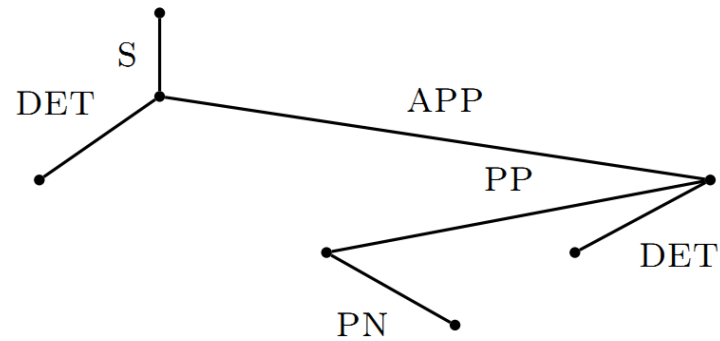
- Dependency parsing works well in practice
- Incremental dependency parsing possible in many cases
- Improving the parsing technique is essential
  - Arc-Eager performs better than Bottom-up dep. parsing
  - Well-formed parsing results show high incrementality

# Intermediate Summary

- Dependency parsing works well in practice
- Incremental dependency parsing possible in many cases
- Improving the parsing technique is essential
  - Arc-Eager performs better than Bottom-up dep. parsing
  - Well-formed parsing results show high incrementality
- ... but, what about those structures (6) and (7) we couldn't parse incrementally?

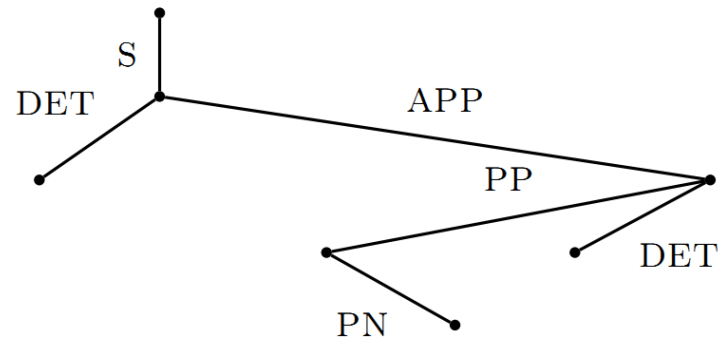


# Robust Incrementality



*Das Buch , mit dem der Lehrer*  
*The book with which the teacher*

# Robust Incrementality

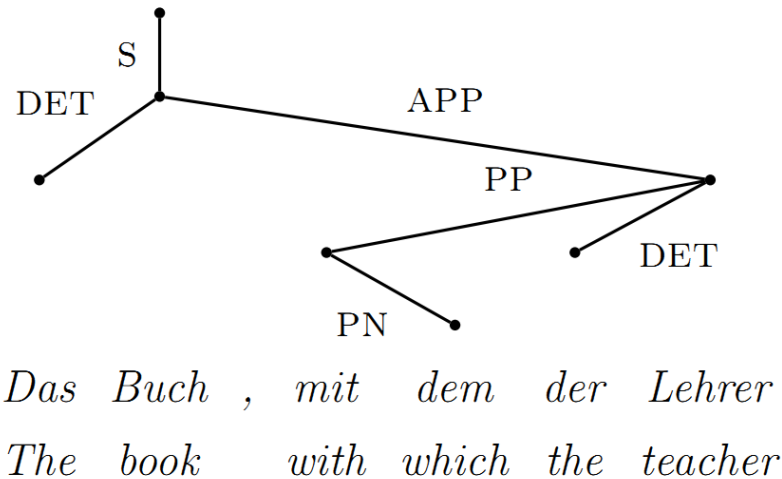


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Drawbacks of storing components on a stack

- psycholinguistic plausibility: why not integrate directly?

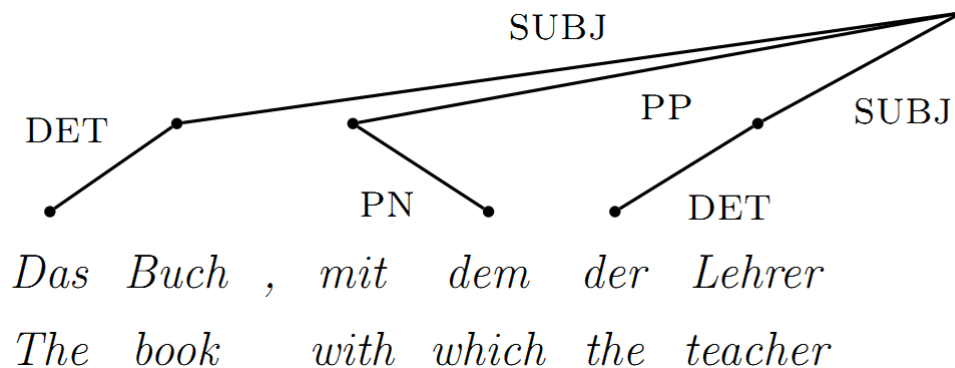
# Robust Incrementality



Drawbacks of storing components on a stack

- psycholinguistic plausibility: why not integrate directly?
- practicality: delay of output as stored components are not part of it

# Robust Incrementality



## - Argument Dependency Model

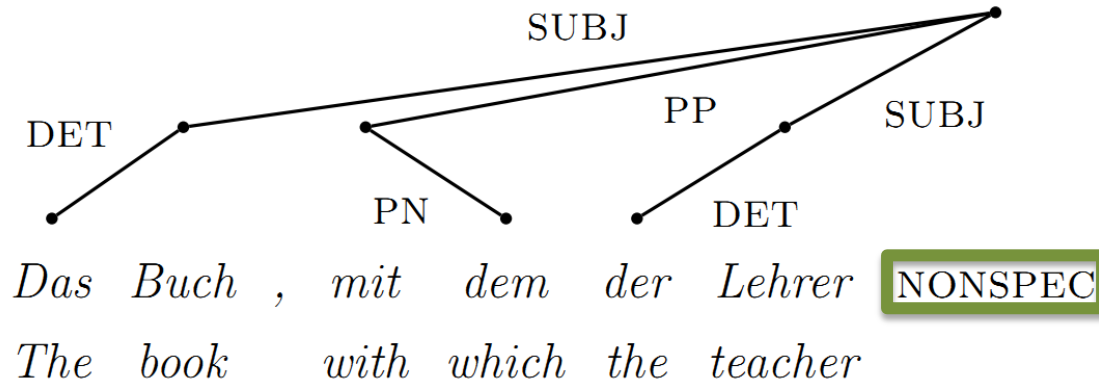
- dependencies between a verb's arguments
- proto roles (proto-agent, proto-patient)
  - e.g.: noun(animate & nominative)

→ noun(proto-agent)

→ dependency rel. SUBJ governs the noun (phrase)

→ unless contradictory constraints override this

# Robust Incrementality



## NONSPEC node

- connect structures to NONSPEC node while verb has not been found
- NONSPEC can change into any other node and even divide into several nodes
- May even be in the resulting graph

# Robust Incrementality: Evaluation

- corpus with
    - uniform sentence pattern
    - verb-final subclauses
- 97.3% accurate dependency graphs, but...



# Summary

- Incremental Dependency Parsing is possible and efficient
- Verb-end structures pose problems to strict incrementality
- Pseudo-strict incrementality with abstract NONSPEC node suggested
- Integrates dep. relations on-the-fly
- still seems a lot like a renamed stack to me (which can be output) → too vague

A thick, purple, textured arrow that starts above the word 'Thank', curves over the top, and points down towards the word 'you!'.

Thank you!

# References

- Joakim Nivre (2004). Incrementality in Deterministic Dependency Parsing
- Wolfgang Menzel (2009). Towards radically incremental parsing of natural language