# Representations in Syntax

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#### Introduction

Gereon (disappointedly) everyone is moving to representations

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#### What are representations?

- how should we think of them?
- what are the questions that we should ask?
- what is the trade-off with derivations?

What are derivations? ibid.

# We should focus on what information we need to support the interface maps

# **Representations of Derivations**

1. select *every* 

1. select *every* 

every

2. select boy boy

- 1. select *every* every
- 2. select boy boy
- 3. merge 1 and 2
   [DP every [NP boy ]]

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- 3. merge 1 and 2
   [DP every [NP boy ]]
- 4. select *laugh* laugh

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  [VP laugh [DP every boy ]]

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  [VP laugh [DP every boy ]]
- 6. select *will* will

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  [VP laugh [DP every boy ]]
- select will will

7. merge 6 and 5 [IP will [VP laugh [DP every boy ]]]

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- 4. select *laugh* laugh
- 5. merge 4 and 3
  [VP laugh [DP every boy ]]
- select will will

merge 6 and 5

 [IP will [VP laugh [DP every boy ]]]

 move every boy

 [IP [DP every boy ][I' will [VP laugh t]]]

#### Derivations are processes

A derivation is the process of constructing an expression

- derivations are important
- important things need to be thought about!
- it is helpful to be able to represent important things

#### Recipes are representations of processes

- lexical items are ingredients
- merge and move instead of bake, broil, whip, ...



#### **Derivations as recipes**

- 1. select every
- 2. select boy
- 3. merge 1 and 2
- 4. select laugh
- 5. merge 4 and 3
- 6. select will
- 7. merge 6 and 5
- 8. move 3 in 7

#### Derivations are structured

#### Order is important

- Some things must happen before others
- Sometimes, it doesn't matter

- merge det and noun cream sugar and butter
- *before* you merge the verb *before* you add the flour

**Represent** *before*-ness as dominance: if A must happen *before* B, then B should be higher than A

1. select *every* 

- 1. select *every*
- 2. select boy

every boy

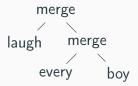
- 1. select every
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- 1. select every
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- 4. select laugh



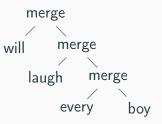
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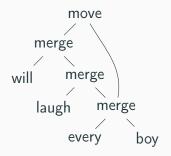
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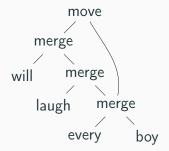


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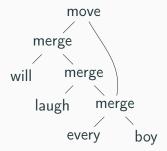


- 1. select every
- 2. select boy
- 3. merge 1 and 2
- 4. select laugh
- 5. merge 4 and 3
- 6. select will
- 7. merge 6 and 5
- 8. move every boy

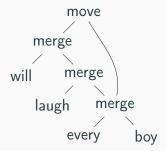


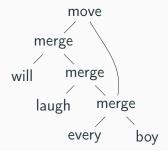


subtrees: describe how to construct something



**subtrees:** describe how to construct something **x dominates y:** to build *x*, you first have to build *y* 

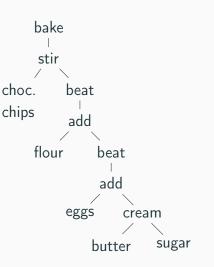




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#### For comparison

- cream sugar and butter
- 2. add eggs to 1
- 3. beat 2
- 4. add *flour* to 3
- 5. beat 4
- stir chocolate chips into 5
- 7. bake *6*



## Infinite regress?

## Do we have to build derivation trees? NO!!!

- a recipe is a description of the process, not the process itself
- a recipe is helpful to <u>think about</u> what you did/will do You can make a cookie without writing down what you did/are doing/will do

# **Properties of Derivations**

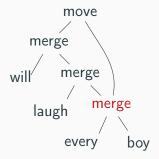
#### Why do derivations look the way they do?

Why?

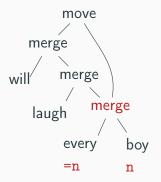


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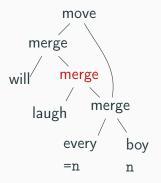
Why? because *every* selects for a *N*, and *boy* is an *N* 



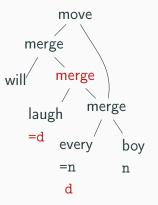
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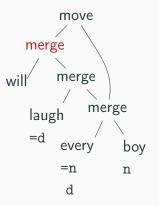
Why? because *laugh* selects for an *D*, and *every* is a *D* 



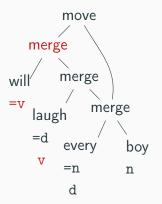
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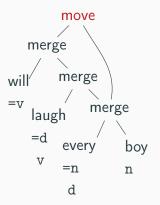
Why? because *will* selects for a *V*, and *laugh* is a *V* 



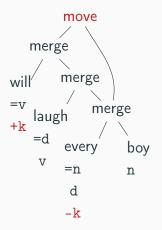
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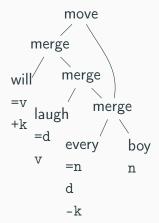


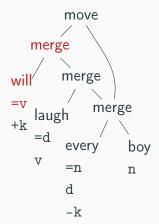
Why? because every boy needs case, and will assigns case

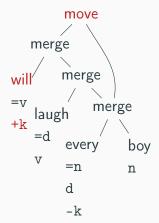


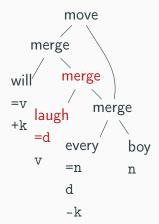
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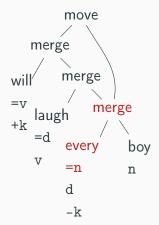


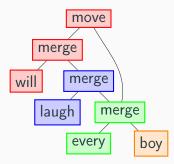






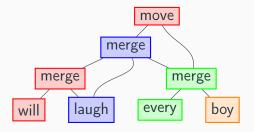


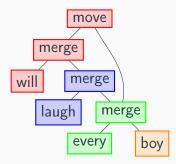


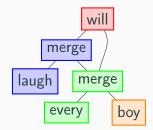


# (... unless countercyclicity)

- 1. select *laugh*
- 2. select will
- 3. merge 2 and 1
- 4. select every
- 5. select boy
- 6. merge 4 and 5
- 7. LATE merge 6 to 1 in 3
- 8. move 6 in 7





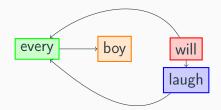


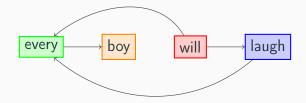




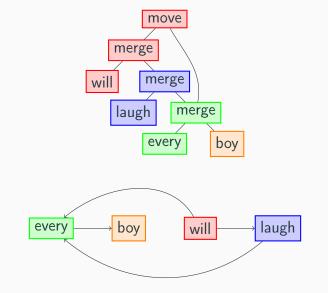








#### The same recipe



every

every

every

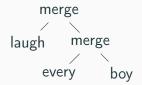
every

every boy every boy



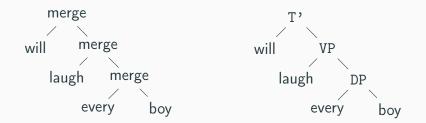
DP boy every

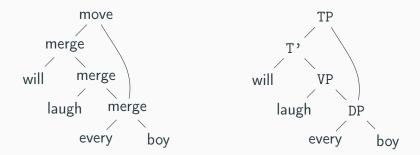












every

every

every

every

every boy

every boy



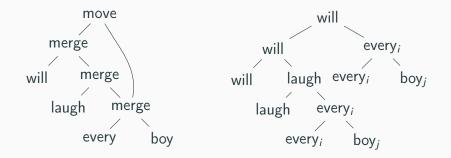












every

every

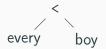
every

every

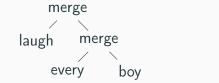
every boy

every boy





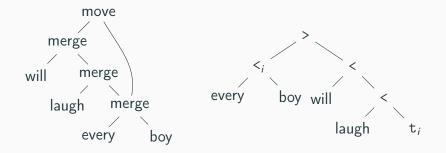




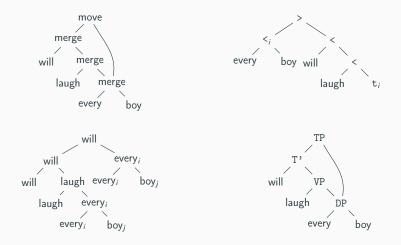








#### Same or Different?



### **Comparing Derived and Derivational Structure**

- easy identity conditions for derivational structure
- derived structure is a copy of the derivation

# **Can we** *replace* derived structure with derivational structure?

• what is at issue here?



## Is derivational structure real or not?

Previously:

# Do we have to build derivation trees? NO!!!

But now ...?

- am I proposing to replace derived trees w/ derivation trees?
- does this change things?

#### A parser

#### must construct a

- 1. well-formed
- 2. structure

#### the derivation

- 1. determines whether an expression is well-formed
- 2. gives you all the information you could ever want
  - a parser

#### A parser

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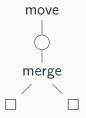
- 1. well-formed
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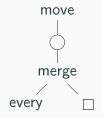
#### the derivation

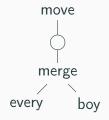
- 1. determines whether an expression is well-formed
- 2. gives you all the information you could ever want
  - a parser 1. must reconstruct a derivation and 2. needn't reconstruct anything else

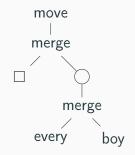
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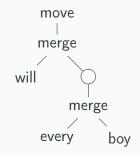
move

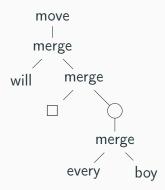


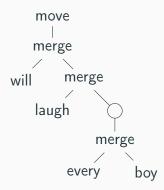


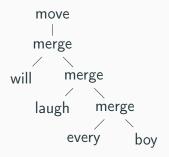










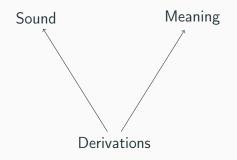


## Looking at the parsing model

- parser must reconstruct the derivation
- so the derivation *is* a 'real' level of structure?

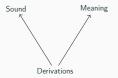
# Compositionality

#### Grammatical architecture



The question how do we go from *derivations* to sounds and meanings?

## Interpreting derivations



#### a canonical idea

- 1. start w/ derivation tree
- 2. do the derivation described
- 3. interpret the derived object

But step 2. is just building a copy of what we started with!

## **Globality vs Locality**

What is agreed upon? never need to see the whole previous structure to decide about outcome of next step

'phases'

# **Ultra-locality**

#### Compositionality

only use information about immediate arguments, and mode of combination, to determine result

$$\begin{bmatrix} & \mathsf{merge} \\ & & \\ \alpha & & \beta \end{bmatrix} = f_{\mathsf{merge}} \llbracket \alpha \rrbracket \llbracket \beta \rrbracket$$

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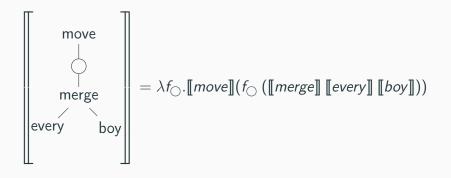
$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathsf{merge} \\ \land & \land \\ \alpha & \beta \end{bmatrix} = f_{\mathsf{merge}} \llbracket \alpha \rrbracket \llbracket \beta \rrbracket$$

if interface maps are compositional

- then we never need to construct a derivation tree
- can interpret every step as we postulate it

(an example is coming)

## The meaning of partial parse trees

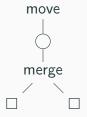




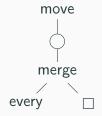
 $\square$ 

move

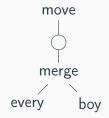
 $\lambda x_{\Box}, f_{\bigcirc}.(f_{\bigcirc} x_{\Box})'$ 

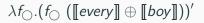


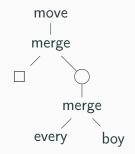
#### $\lambda x_{\Box}, y_{\Box}, f_{\bigcirc}.(f_{\bigcirc} (x_{\Box} \oplus y_{\Box}))'$



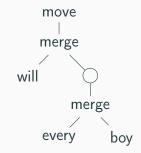
#### $\lambda y_{\Box}, f_{\bigcirc}.(f_{\bigcirc} (\llbracket every \rrbracket \oplus y_{\Box}))'$



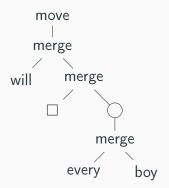




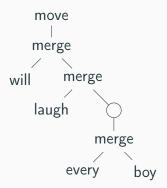
## $\lambda x_{\Box}, f_{\bigcirc}.(x_{\Box} \oplus (f_{\bigcirc} (\llbracket every \rrbracket \oplus \llbracket boy \rrbracket)))'$



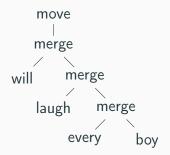
# $\lambda f_{\bigcirc}.(\llbracket \textit{will} \rrbracket \oplus (f_{\bigcirc} (\llbracket \textit{every} \rrbracket \oplus \llbracket \textit{boy} \rrbracket)))'$



#### $\lambda x_{\Box}, f_{\bigcirc}.(\llbracket will \rrbracket \oplus (x_{\Box} \oplus (f_{\bigcirc} (\llbracket every \rrbracket \oplus \llbracket boy \rrbracket))))'$



#### $\lambda f_{\bigcirc}.(\llbracket \textit{will} \rrbracket \oplus (\llbracket \textit{laugh} \rrbracket \oplus (f_{\bigcirc} (\llbracket \textit{every} \rrbracket \oplus \llbracket \textit{boy} \rrbracket))))'$



#### $(\llbracket will \rrbracket \oplus (\llbracket laugh \rrbracket \oplus (\llbracket every \rrbracket \oplus \llbracket boy \rrbracket)))'$

# **Dirty Tricks**

A trick add input structures to output domain

$$f_{\mathsf{merge}} \, a \, b = \bigwedge_{lpha}^{\operatorname{merge}} \, {}_{eta}$$

# **Dirty Tricks**

A trick add input structures to output domain

$$f_{\mathsf{merge}} \ a \ b = \bigwedge_{\alpha \qquad \beta}^{\mathsf{merge}}$$

This is the point of derived structure

# Compositionality

#### Compositionality is a restriction when

(Kracht)

- 1. we limit what  $f_{\rm merge}$  and  $f_{\rm move}$  can do, and
- 2. we restrict what interpretations can be

# Compositionality

#### Compositionality is a restriction when

- 1. we limit what  $\mathit{f}_{\rm merge}$  and  $\mathit{f}_{\rm move}$  can do, and
- 2. we restrict what interpretations can be

#### What should interpretations be?

- whatever we need
- if we end up needing craziness, we should worry

(Kracht)

# One man's junk ...

**Computer scientists** usually are happy to attach extra information to interpretations

• as long as it is finite

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**Example** add categorial information to strings

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**Computer scientists** usually are happy to attach extra information to interpretations

• as long as it is finite

**Example** add categorial information to strings

because we can think of this as being part of the operations instead:

not just merge, but merge-D-NP, merge-V-DP,...

#### What do we need

keep track of the unchecked syntactic features (I won't talk about this here)

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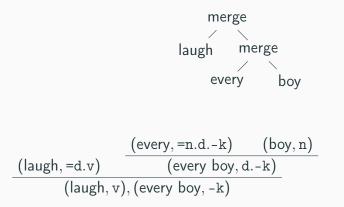
For PF keep track of which phrases are still moving

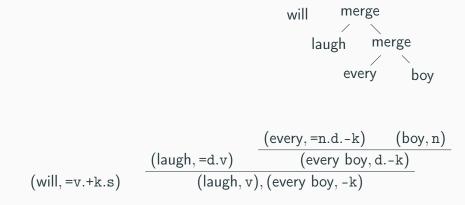
but not of their internal structure

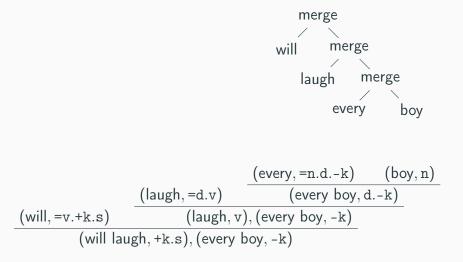
#### every

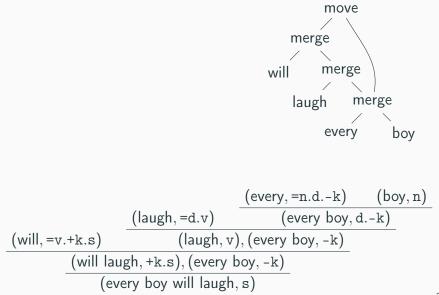
#### every boy

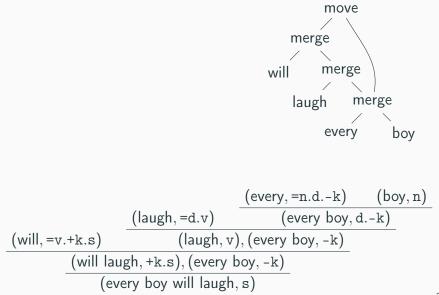
$$(every, =n.d.-k)$$
  $(boy, n)$ 













What is necessary for semantics?

keep track of the unchecked syntactic features (I won't talk about this here)

For PF keep track of which phrases are still moving

but not of their internal structure

For LF ???

# **Revisiting meaningless parts**

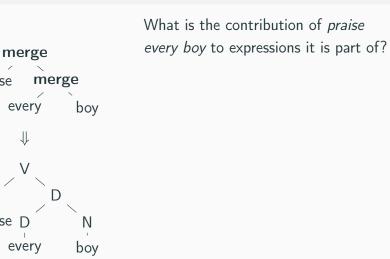
praise

praise

every

1

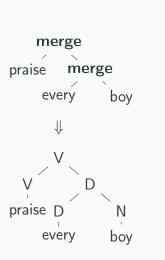
every



# Revisiting meaningless parts

merge praise merge boy every  $\downarrow$ praise every bov What is the contribution of *praise* every boy to expressions it is part of? a quantifier part  $every(boy)(\lambda x....$ and a property part praise(x)

# Revisiting meaningless parts



What is the contribution of *praise* every boy to expressions it is part of? a quantifier part  $every(boy)(\lambda x...)$ and a property part praise(x)Let's write instead: [every(boy)]  $\vdash$  praise(x)

## Notation and Operations

# $[every(boy)]_x \vdash praise(x)$

The general case, with multiple stored quantifiers:  $[Q_1]_{x_1}, \dots, [Q_i]_{x_i} \vdash M$ 

### Notation and Operations

$$[every(boy)]_x \vdash praise(x)$$

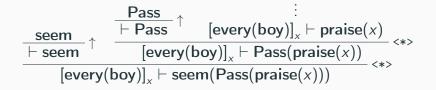
The general case, with multiple stored quantifiers:

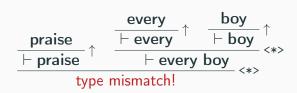
$$\left[Q_1\right]_{x_1},\ldots,\left[Q_i\right]_{x_i}\vdash M$$

The entire point is to ignore what is stored

$$\frac{M}{\vdash M} \uparrow \qquad \frac{\Gamma \vdash M \quad \Delta \vdash N}{\Gamma, \Delta \vdash M N} < >$$

# Working with Storage

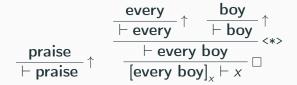






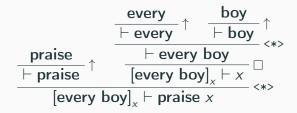
We want to 'insert a trace'

$$\frac{\vdash M}{[M]_x \vdash x} \square$$



We want to 'insert a trace'

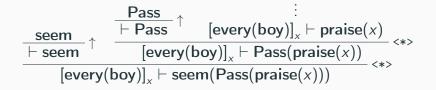
$$\frac{\vdash M}{[M]_x \vdash x} \square$$



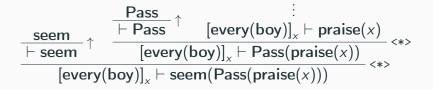
We want to 'insert a trace'

$$\frac{\vdash M}{[M]_x \vdash x} \square$$

# Taking things out of storage



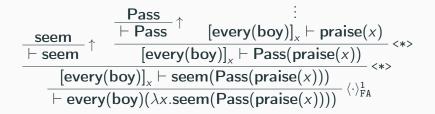
# Taking things out of storage



retrieval

$$\frac{\Gamma, [M_i]_{x_i}, \Delta \vdash N}{\Gamma, \Delta \vdash M_i \oplus (\lambda x_i.N)} \langle \cdot \rangle^i_{\oplus}$$

# Taking things out of storage



retrieval

$$\frac{\Gamma, [M_i]_{x_i}, \Delta \vdash N}{\Gamma, \Delta \vdash M_i \oplus (\lambda x_i.N)} \langle \cdot \rangle^i_{\oplus}$$

# **Manipulating Stores**

pure

apply

$$\frac{M}{\vdash M}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash M}{\Gamma, \Delta \vdash M N} < >$$

retrieve

store

$$\frac{\Gamma, [M_i]_{x_i}, \Delta \vdash N}{\Gamma, \Delta \vdash M_i \oplus (\lambda x_i.N)} \langle \cdot \rangle^i_{\oplus}$$

$$\frac{\vdash M}{[M]_{x}\vdash x}\square$$

#### Understanding stores

$$\begin{split} \left[ M_1 \right]_{x_1}, \dots, \left[ M_i \right]_{x_i} &\vdash N \\ & \Rightarrow \lambda k.k \ M_1 \ \dots \ M_i \ (\lambda x_1, \dots, x_i.N) \end{split}$$

#### Example

 $[every boy]_{x} \vdash praise x$  $\Rightarrow \lambda k.k (every boy) (\lambda x.praise x)$ 

#### Some examples



 $M^{\uparrow} \equiv \lambda k.k \ M$ 

 $\Box m \equiv \lambda k.m \ (\lambda M.k \ M \ (\lambda x.x))$ 

#### More notation

#### idiom brackets

write 
$$(|f a_1 \dots a_i|)$$
  
for  $f^{\uparrow} < > a_1 < > \dots < > a_i$ 

application

Forward  $f \lhd a := f a$ Backward  $a \triangleright f := f a$ 

#### **Minimalist semantics**

 $\llbracket merge \rrbracket \mapsto \lambda m, n. (m \oplus n)$  $\llbracket merge \rrbracket \mapsto \lambda m, n. (m \oplus \Box n)$ 

 $\llbracket move \rrbracket \mapsto \lambda m.m$  $\llbracket move \rrbracket \mapsto \lambda m. \langle m \rangle_{\oplus}^k$ 

 $\llbracket \ell \rrbracket = \mathcal{I}(\ell)^{\uparrow}$ 

for  $\oplus \in \{\lhd, \rhd\}$ 

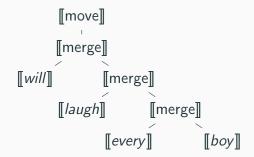
## Unpacking the notation

Recall that

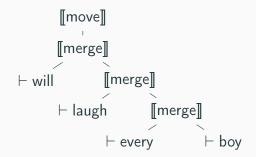
 $\lambda m, n.(m \triangleleft n)$ 

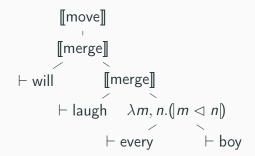
means

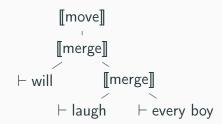
 $\lambda m, n. (\lhd)^{\uparrow} \iff m \iff n$ 



```
\begin{bmatrix} move \end{bmatrix} \\ \begin{bmatrix} merge \end{bmatrix} \\ \mathcal{I}(will)^{\uparrow} \qquad \begin{bmatrix} merge \end{bmatrix} \\ \mathcal{I}(laugh)^{\uparrow} \qquad \begin{bmatrix} merge \end{bmatrix} \\ \mathcal{I}(levery)^{\uparrow} \qquad \mathcal{I}(boy)^{\uparrow} \end{bmatrix}
```





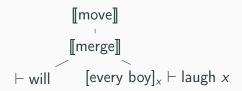


$$[move]]$$

$$[merge]]$$

$$\vdash will \qquad \lambda m, n. (m \lhd \Box n)$$

$$\vdash laugh \qquad \vdash every boy$$



 $[[move]] \\ \lambda m, n. ([m \lhd n]) \\ \vdash will \qquad [every boy]_x \vdash laugh x$ 

# $\llbracket move \rrbracket$ [every boy]<sub>x</sub> $\vdash$ will (laugh x)

$$\lambda m. \langle m \rangle_{\rhd}^{1}$$
  
[every boy]<sub>x</sub>  $\vdash$  will (laugh x)

 $\vdash \mathsf{every boy} \ (\lambda x.\mathsf{will} \ (\mathsf{laugh} \ x))$ 

# **Compositional interfaces**

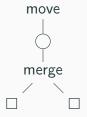
... allow for elimination of representational structure Performance systems can 'use' the derivation in 'the wrong order' to construct the desired interface objects

 $\square$ 

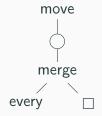


move

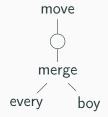




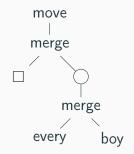
# $\lambda x_{\Box}, y_{\Box}, f_{\bigcirc}. \langle f_{\bigcirc} (( x_{\Box} \oplus y_{\Box} )) \rangle_{\oplus}^{k}$



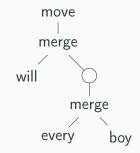
## $\lambda y_{\Box}, f_{\bigcirc}.\langle f_{\bigcirc} (((\lambda z.every \oplus z)^{\uparrow} y_{\Box}))\rangle_{\oplus}^{k}$



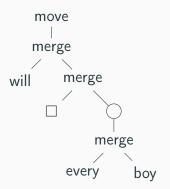
$$\lambda f_{\bigcirc}.\langle f_{\bigcirc} \text{ (every boy}^{\uparrow}) \rangle_{\oplus}^{k}$$



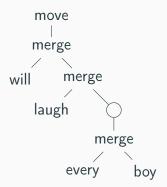
# $\lambda x_{\Box}, f_{\bigcirc}.\langle (|x_{\Box} \oplus (f_{\bigcirc} (every \ boy^{\uparrow}))|) \rangle_{\oplus}^{k}$



# $\lambda f_{\bigcirc}.\langle ((\lambda z.will \oplus z)^{\uparrow} (f_{\bigcirc} (every \ boy^{\uparrow}))) \rangle_{\oplus}^{k}$



 $\lambda x_{\Box}, f_{\bigcirc}.\langle ((\lambda z. will \oplus z)^{\uparrow} (|x_{\Box} \oplus (f_{\bigcirc} (every \ boy^{\uparrow})))) \rangle \rangle_{\oplus}^{k}$ 



 $\lambda f_{\bigcirc}.\langle ((\lambda z.will (laugh \oplus z))^{\uparrow} (f_{\bigcirc} (every boy^{\uparrow}))) \rangle_{\oplus}^{k}$ 



#### every boy $(\lambda z.will (laugh z))^{\uparrow}$

## Conclusions

#### Derivations have structure

- with clear identity conditions
- of just the kind we want to assign

Interface maps focus our attention on what matters: how much information (representation) we need to compositionally interpret our derivations

**Derived structure** is a familiar trick to circumvent compositionality