

Non-Monotonic Sequential Text Generation

Sean Welleck, Kianté Brantley, Hal Daumé III, Kyunghyun Cho

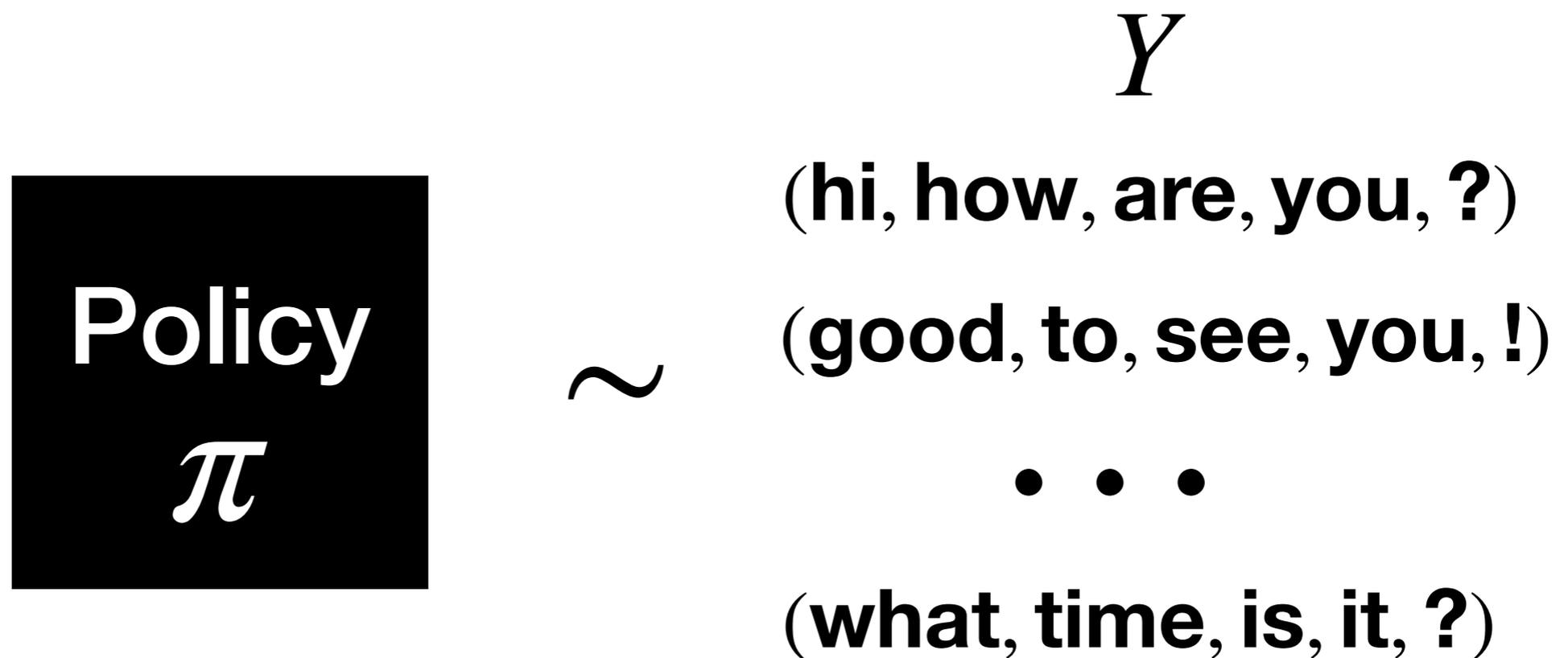
Sequential Text Generation

$$Y = (y_1, y_2, \dots, y_N)$$

(hi, how, are, you, ?)

Sequential Text Generation

Unconditional



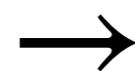
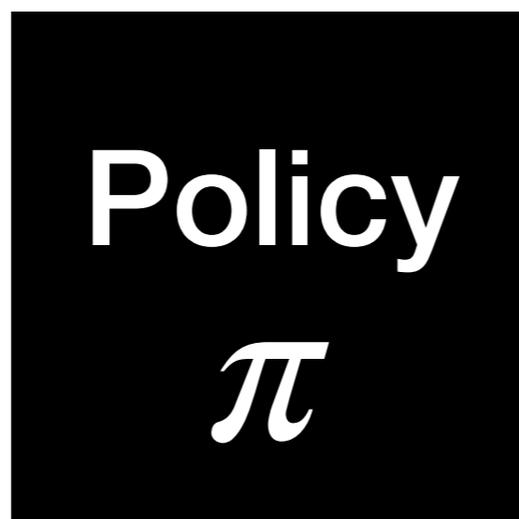
Sequential Text Generation

Conditional

X

Y

元気ですか?

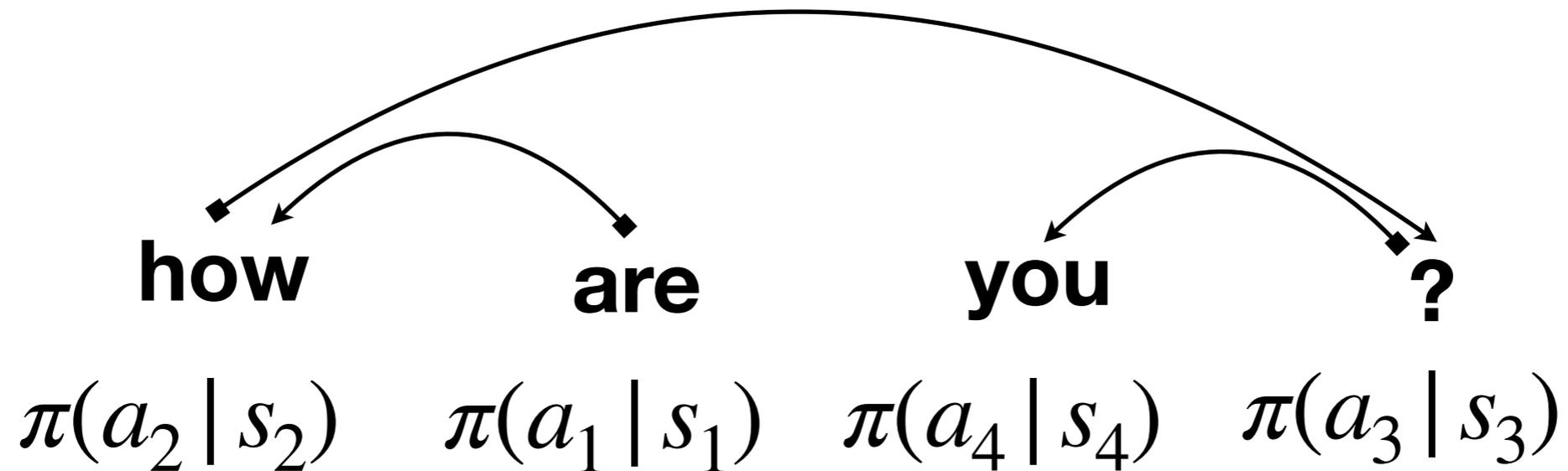


(how, are, you, ?)

Transformer, LSTM, ...

Sequential Text Generation

Non-Monotonic

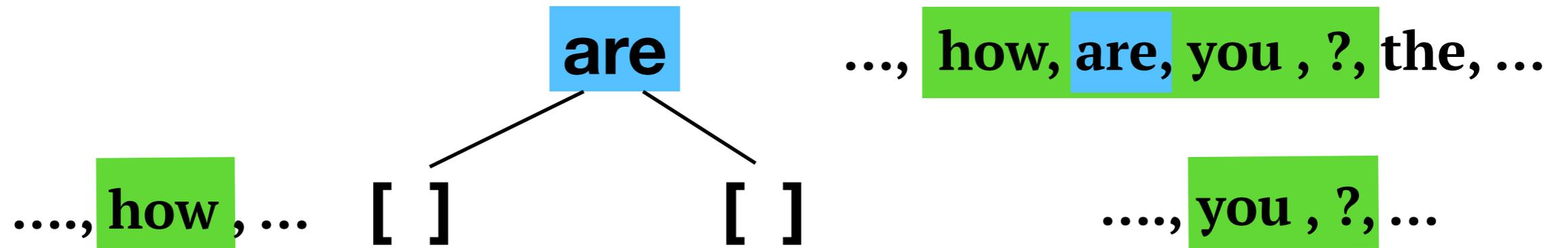


are how ? you

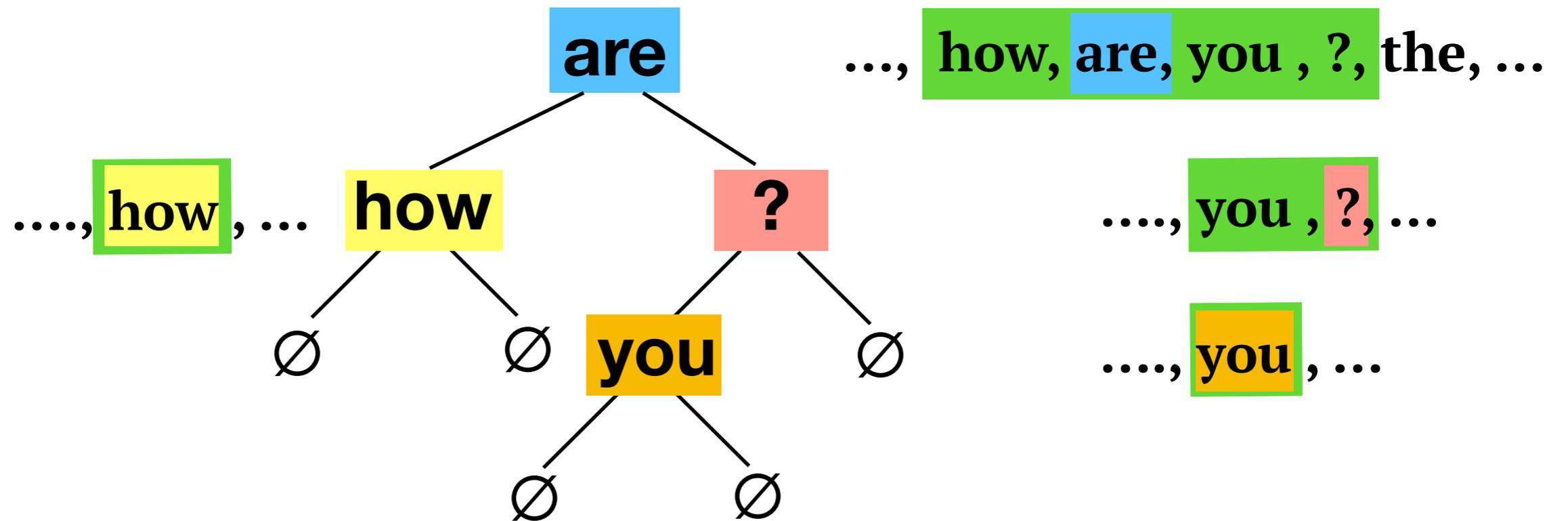


how are you ?

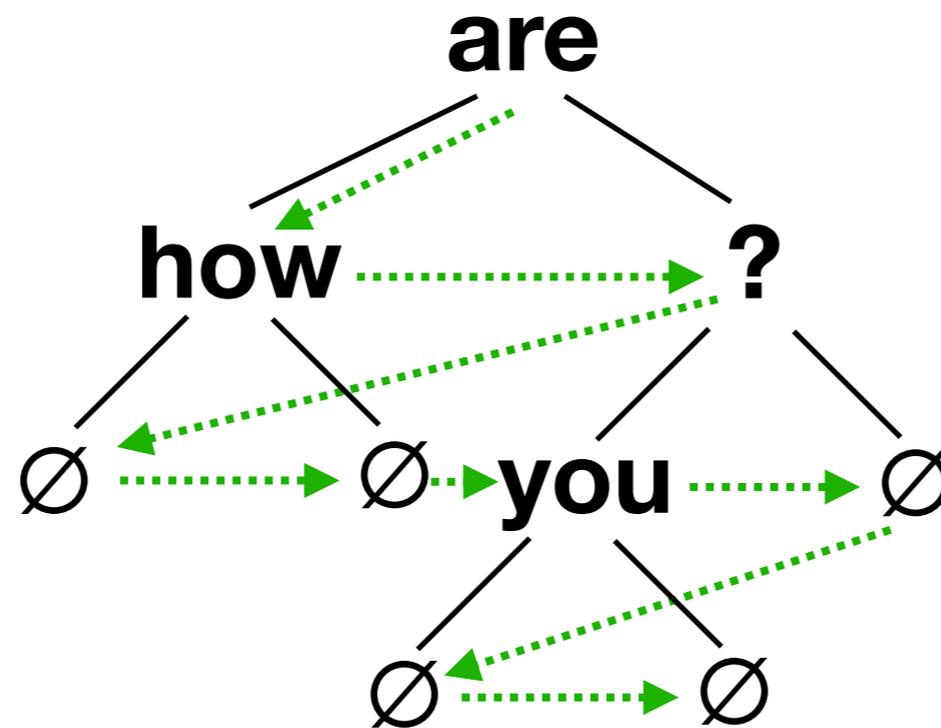
Binary Tree Generating Policy



Binary Tree Generating Policy



Binary Tree Generating Policy



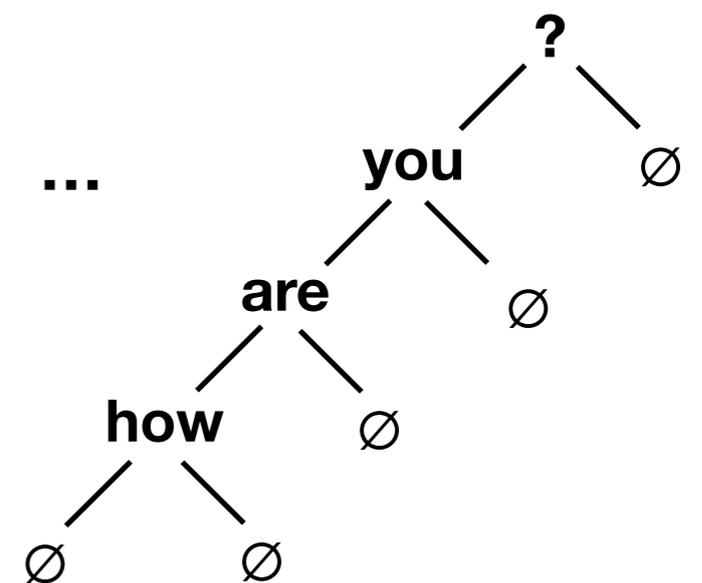
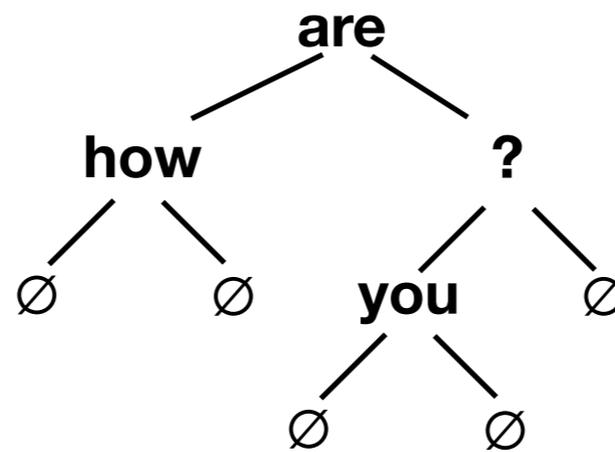
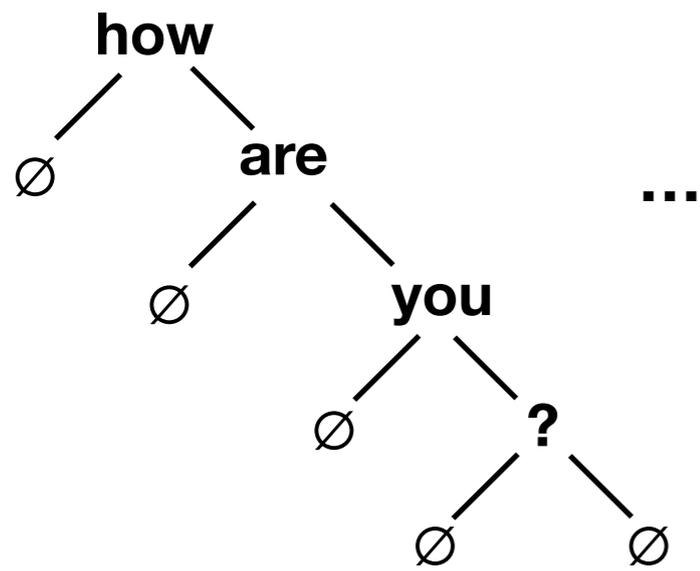
are how ? ∅ ∅ you ∅ ∅ ∅



in-order traversal

how are you ?

Binary Tree Generating Policy

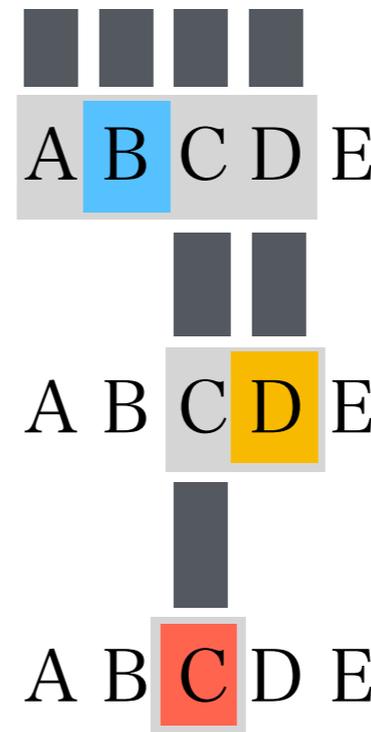
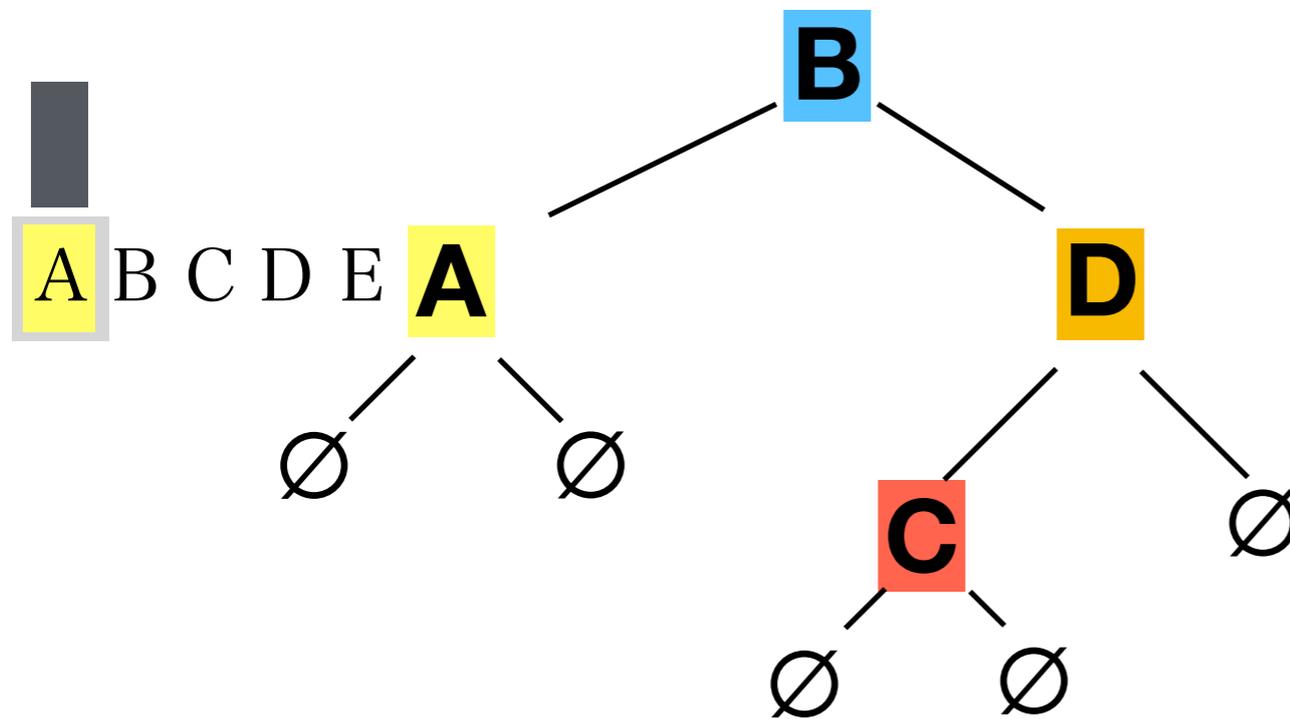


Imitation Learning

- Define an **oracle** $\pi^*(a_t | s_t, X, Y)$
- Sample sequences $(a_1, \dots, a_T) \sim \pi^*$
- Minimize cost $\mathbf{KL} [\pi^*(\cdot | s_t), \pi_\theta(\cdot | s_t)]$

Oracles

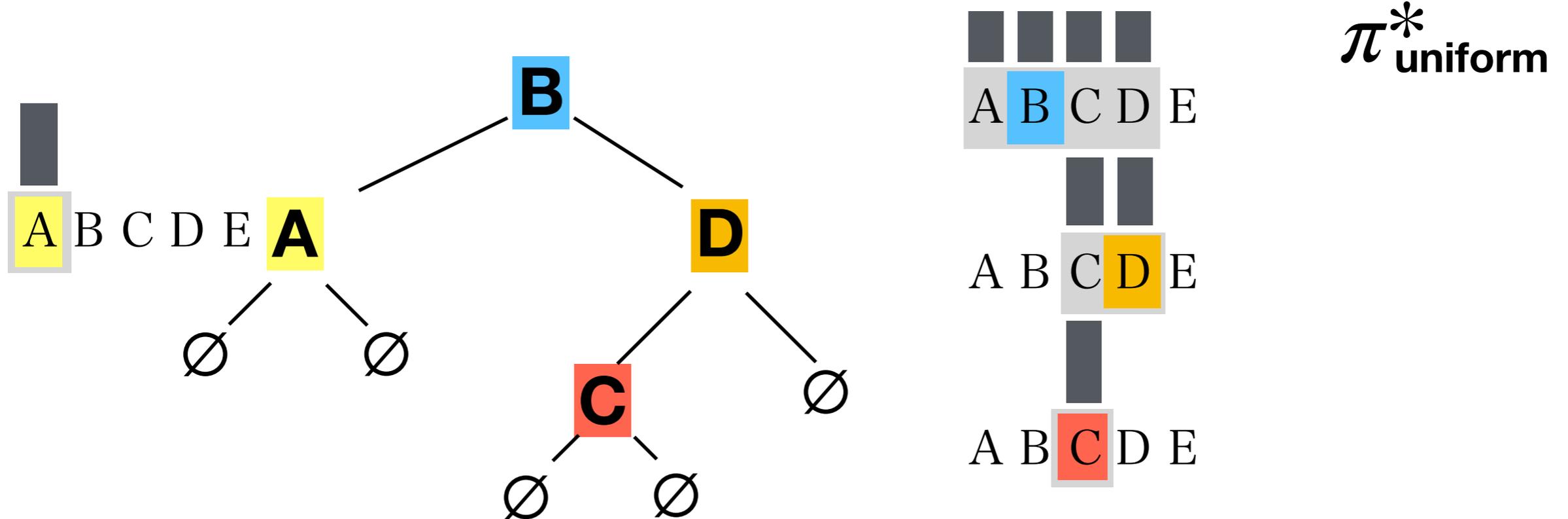
- **Oracle:** only puts mass on valid actions



π^* uniform

Oracles

- **Oracle:** only puts mass on valid actions

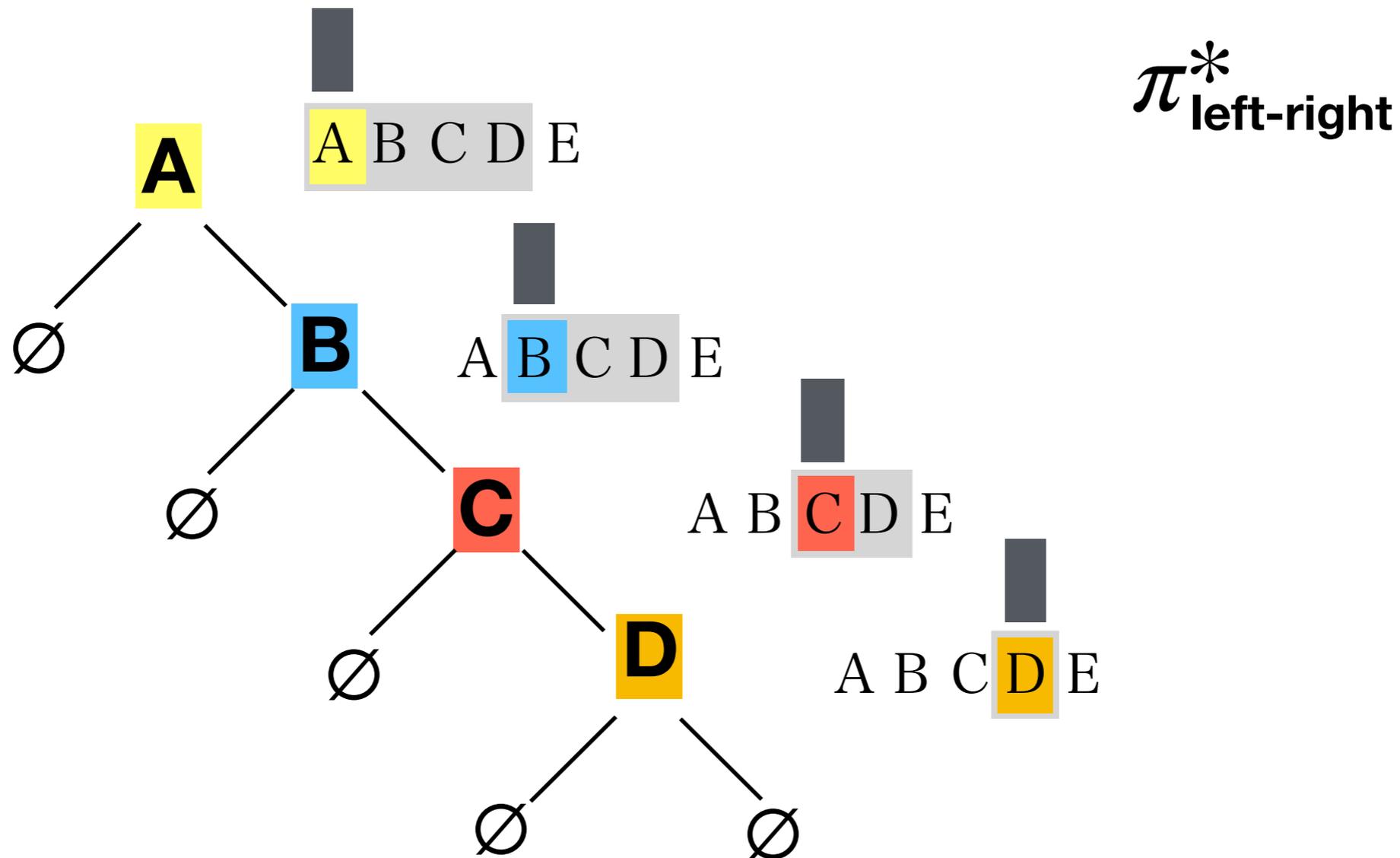


$$\mathcal{L}_1 = \text{KL} \left(\begin{array}{c} \text{■ ■ ■ ■} \\ \text{A B C D E} \end{array}, \begin{array}{c} \text{■ ■ ■ ■} \\ \text{A B C D E} \end{array} \right)$$

$\pi^*_{\text{uniform}} \qquad \pi_{\theta}$

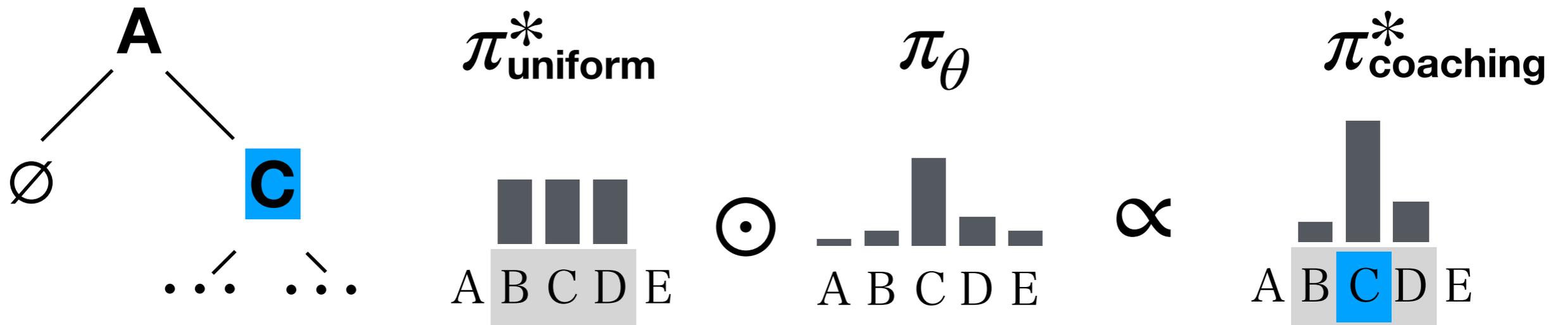
Oracles

- **left-right**: only put mass on 'left-most' valid action



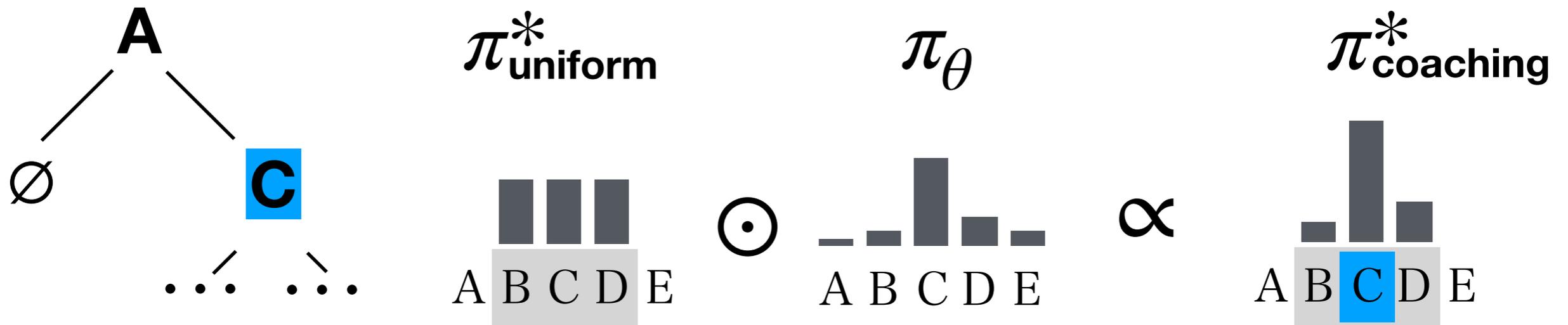
Coaching

- Weight correct actions by the learned policy



Coaching

- Weight valid actions by the learned policy



- Loss reinforces **preferred orders**

$$\text{KL} \left(\underbrace{\begin{array}{c} \text{Bar chart for } \pi_{\text{coaching}}^* \\ \text{A B C D E} \end{array}}_{\pi_{\text{coaching}}^*}, \underbrace{\begin{array}{c} \text{Bar chart for } \pi_{\theta} \\ \text{A B C D E} \end{array}}_{\pi_{\theta}} \right)$$

Results | Unconditional

Oracle	%Novel	%Unique	Avg. Tokens	Avg. Span	BLEU
left-right	17.8	97.0	11.9	1.0	47.0
uniform	98.3	99.9	13.0	1.43	40.0
annealed	93.1	98.2	10.6	1.31	56.2
Validation	97.0	100	12.1	-	-

Results | Conditional

Word Reordering

Oracle	Validation			Test		
	BLEU	F1	EM	BLEU	F1	EM
left-right	46.6	0.910	0.230	46.3	0.903	0.208
uniform	44.7	0.968	0.209	44.3	0.960	0.197
annealed	46.8	0.960	0.230	46.0	0.950	0.212

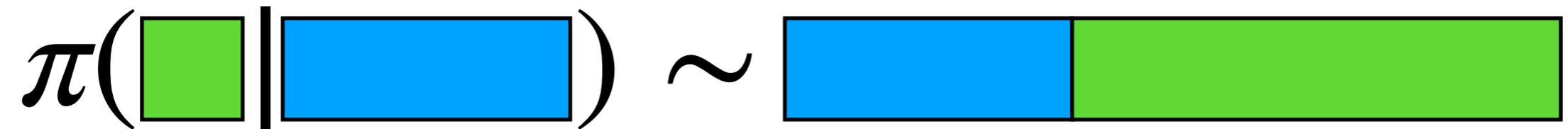
Results | Conditional

Machine Translation

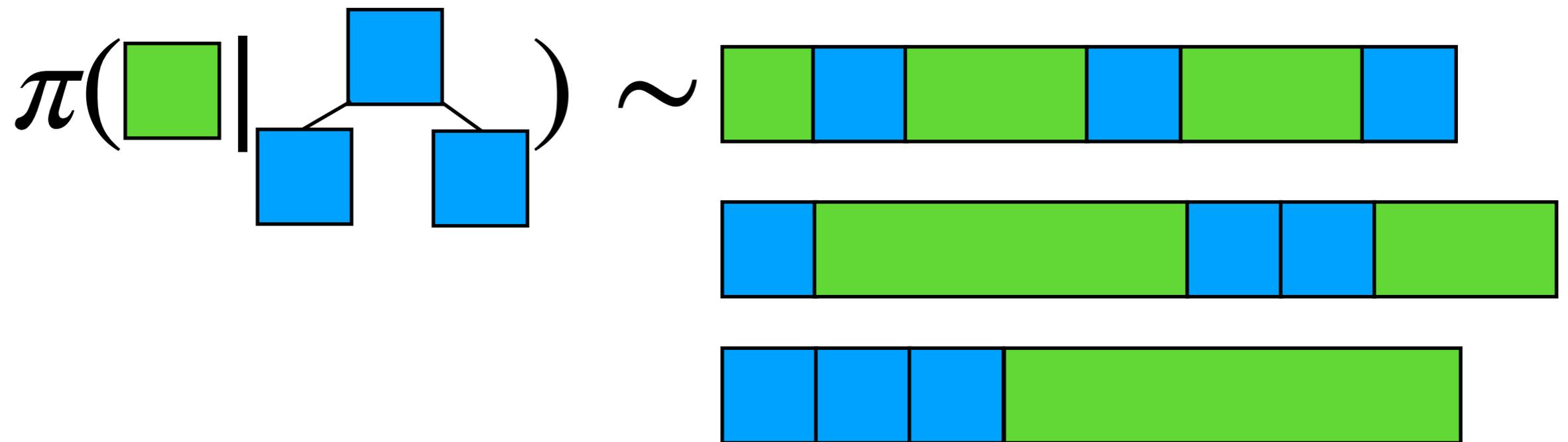
Oracle	Validation				Test			
	BLEU (BP)	Meteor	YiSi	Ribes	BLEU (BP)	Meteor	YiSi	Ribes
left-right	32.30 (0.95)	31.96	69.41	84.80	28.00 (1.00)	30.10	65.22	82.29
uniform	24.50 (0.84)	27.98	66.40	82.66	21.40 (0.86)	26.40	62.41	80.00
annealed	26.80 (0.88)	29.67	67.88	83.61	23.30 (0.91)	27.96	63.38	80.91
+tree-encoding	28.00 (0.86)	30.15	68.43	84.36	24.30 (0.91)	28.59	63.87	81.64
+⟨end⟩-tuning	29.10 (0.99)	31.00	68.81	83.51	24.60 (1.00)	29.30	64.18	80.53

Results | Variable-Sized Text Infilling

Left-Right



Non-Monotonic

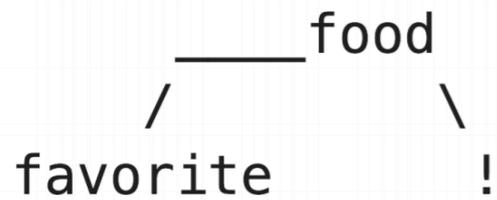


...

Results | Variable-Sized Text Infilling

Initial Tree

Samples



- lasagna is my **favorite food** !
- my **favorite food** is mac and cheese !
- what is your **favorite food** ? pizza , i love it !
- whats your **favorite food** ? mine is pizza !
- seafood is my **favorite** . and mexican **food** !
what is yours ?

- **Code & Pre-trained Models:**

https://github.com/wellecks/nonmonotonic_text

- **Poster #45** (Pacific Ballroom)

- **Code & Pre-trained Models:**

https://github.com/wellecks/nonmonotonic_text

- **Poster #45** (Pacific Ballroom)

