Non-Linear Editing of Text-Based Screencasts

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Alice Oh	KAIST

Presenter : Yeong Hoon Park

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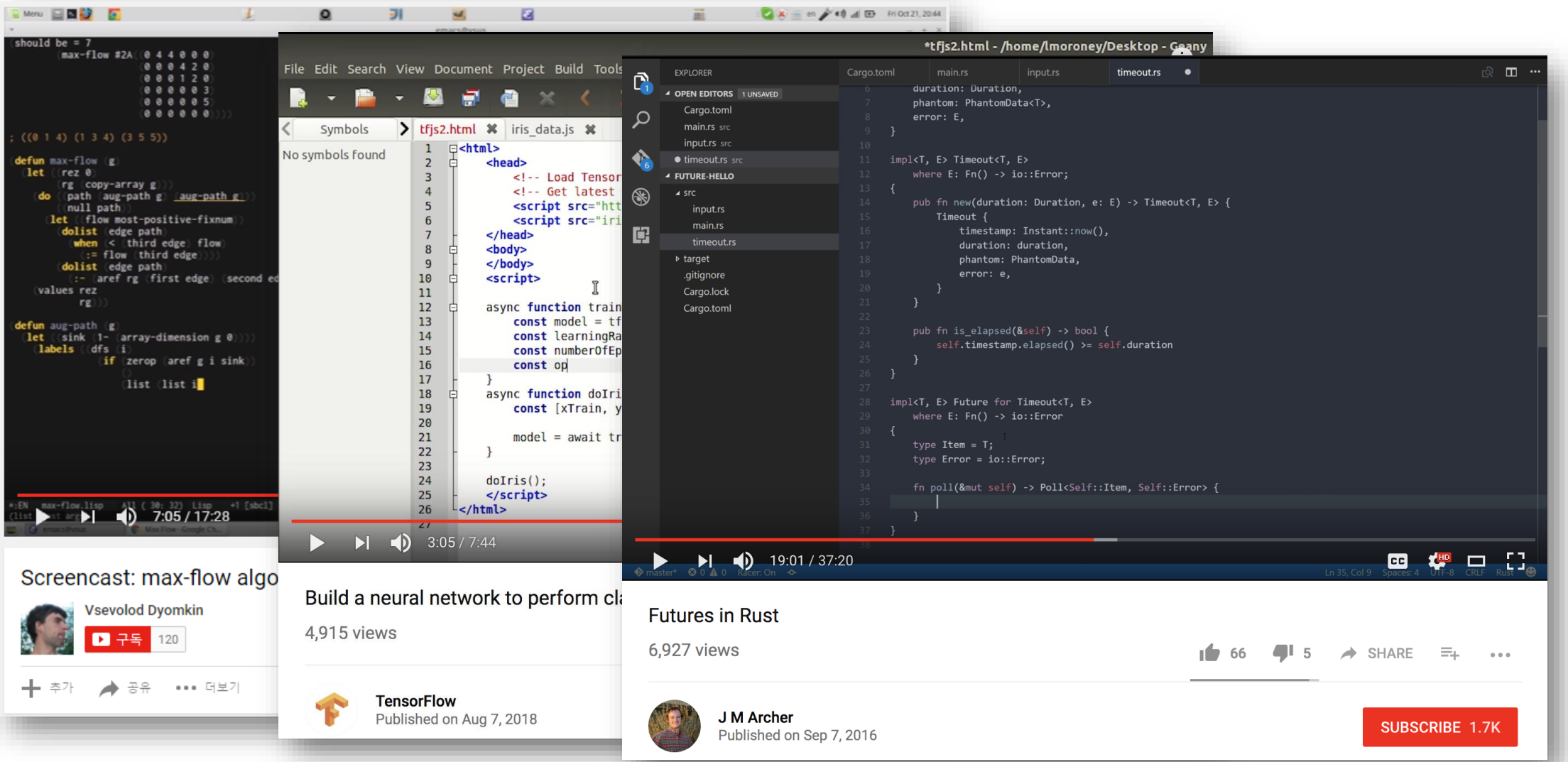
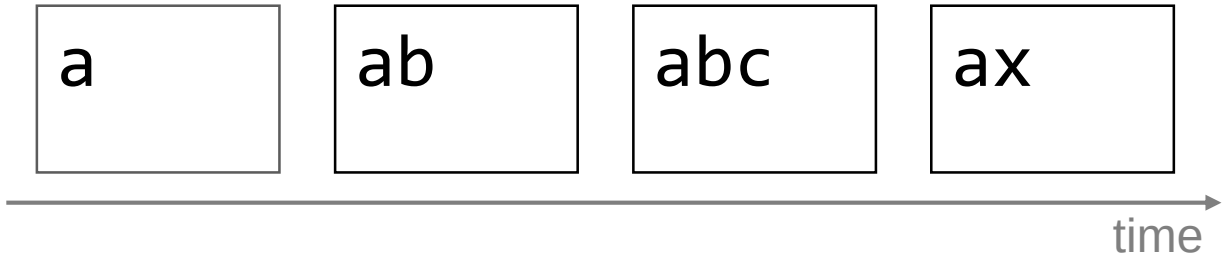
Instructional Screencasts are Increasingly Popular



Screencast frames:



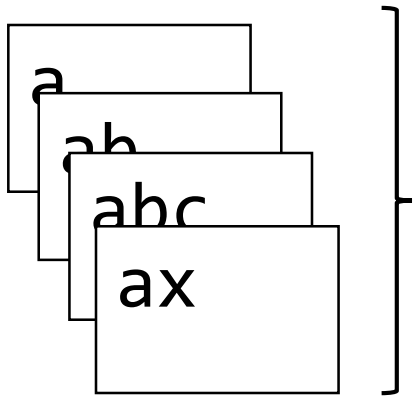


Image frames
(h.264, …)

Video format
records screen

```
δ(0, 0, “a”) = a
δ(1, 1, “b”) = ab
δ(2, 2, “c”) = abc
δ(1, 3, “x”) = ax
```

Text edit operations
(OT, …)

Text-based screencast
records text changes

*OT: Operational Transformation

Scrimba / Introduction to ES6+ / Classes

Sign in

Project

FILES

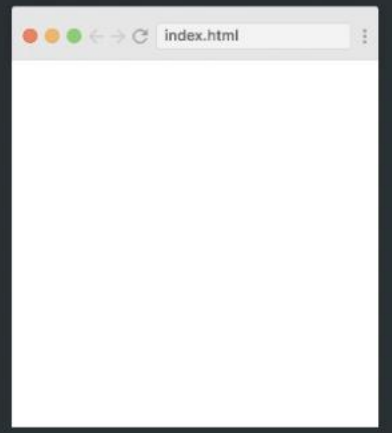
- animal.js
- index.html
- index.js

DEPENDENCIES

animal.js

RELOAD BROWSER

```
1  export class Animal {
2      constructor(type, legs) {
3          this.type = type;
4          this.legs = legs;
5      }
6
7      makeNoise(sound = 'Loud Noise') {
8          console.log(sound);
9      }
10
11     get metaData() {
12         return `Type: ${this.type},
13     }
14
15     static return10() {
16         return 10;
```

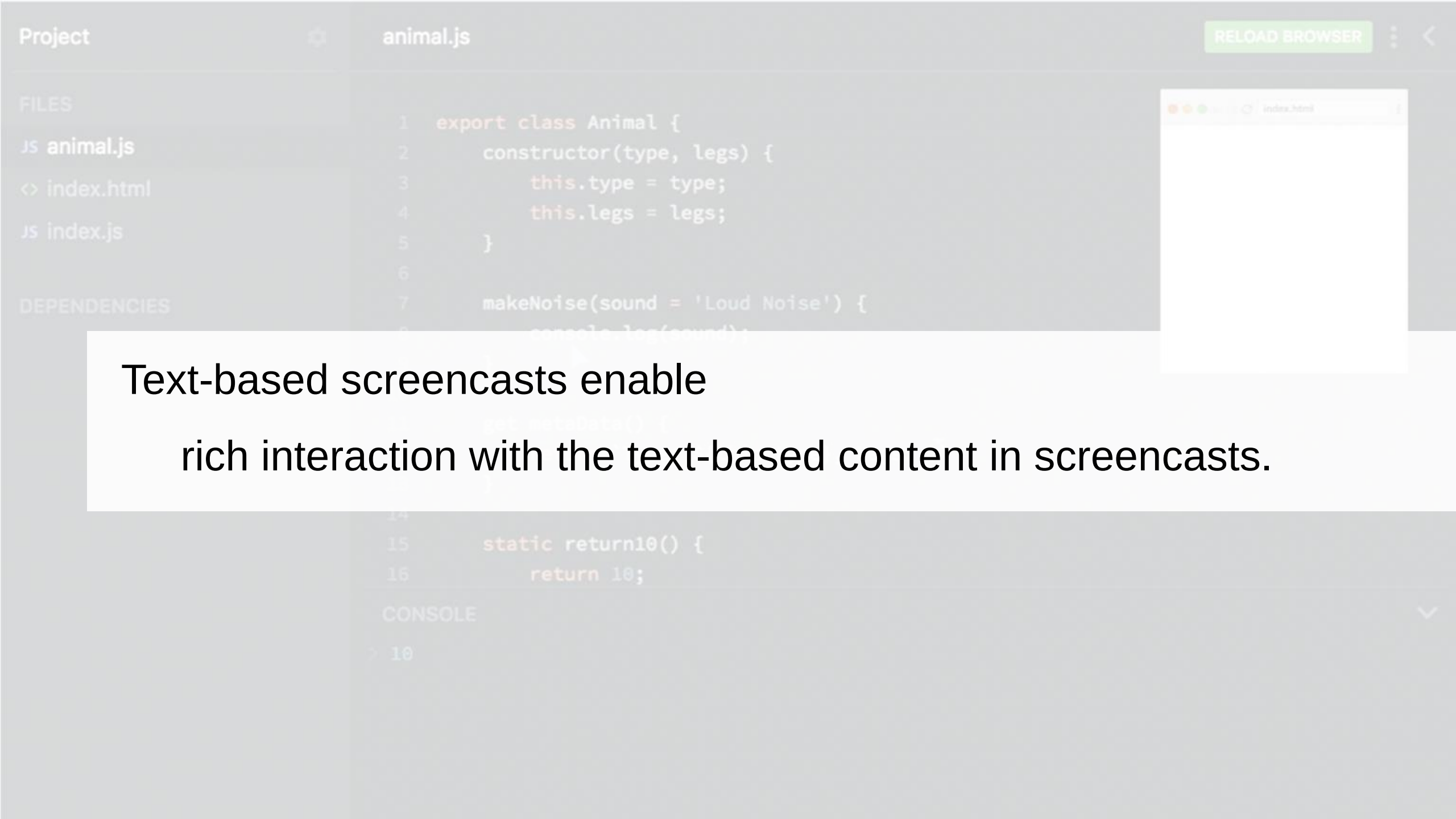


CONSOLE

> 10

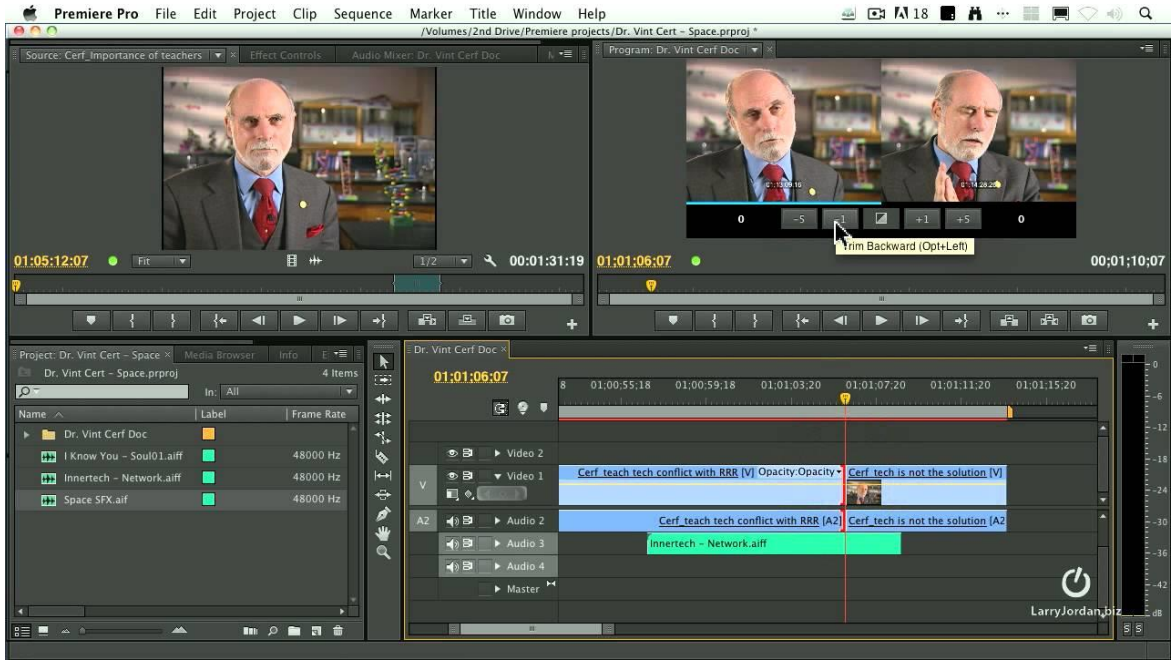
https://youtu.be/nYQeSQhOCVE

-4:55

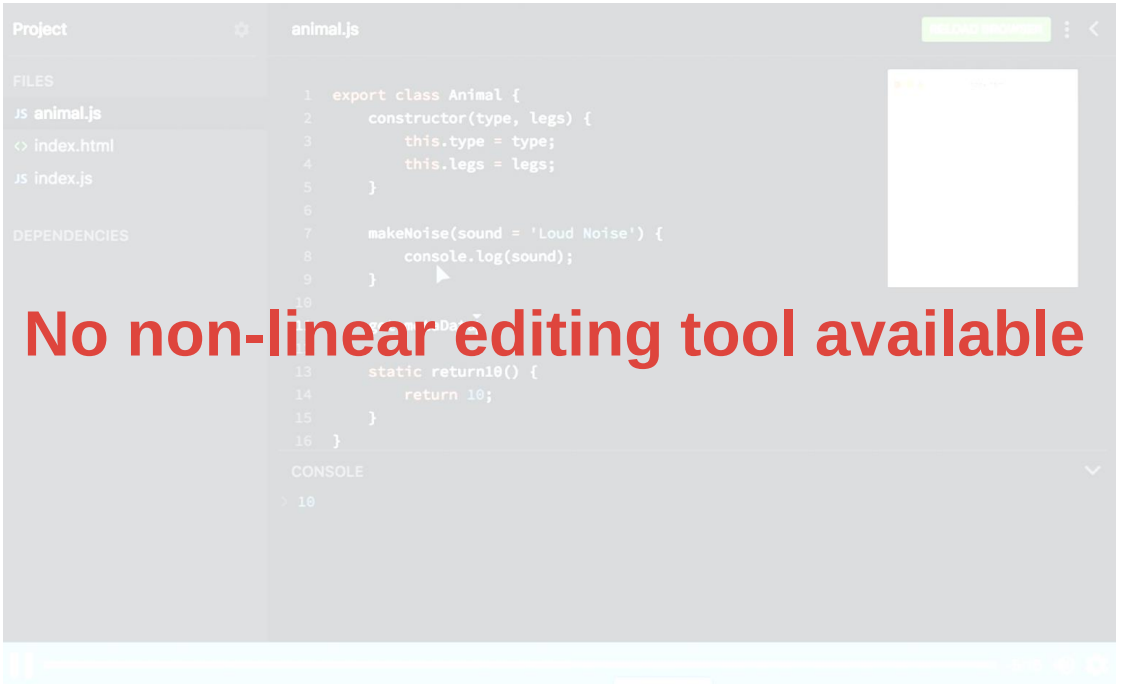


Text-based screencasts enable

rich interaction with the text-based content in screencasts.



Videos



No non-linear editing tool available

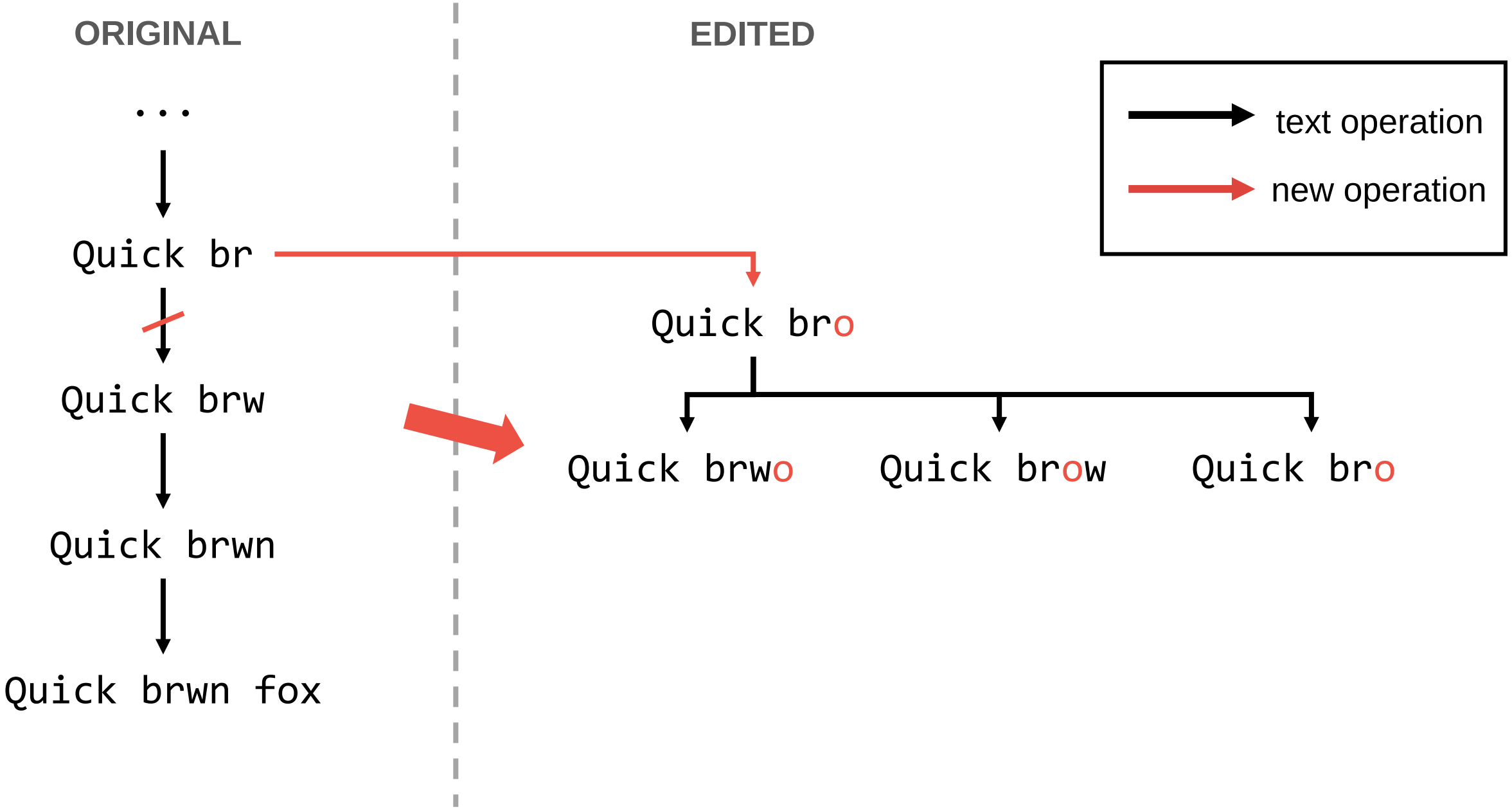
Text-based screencasts

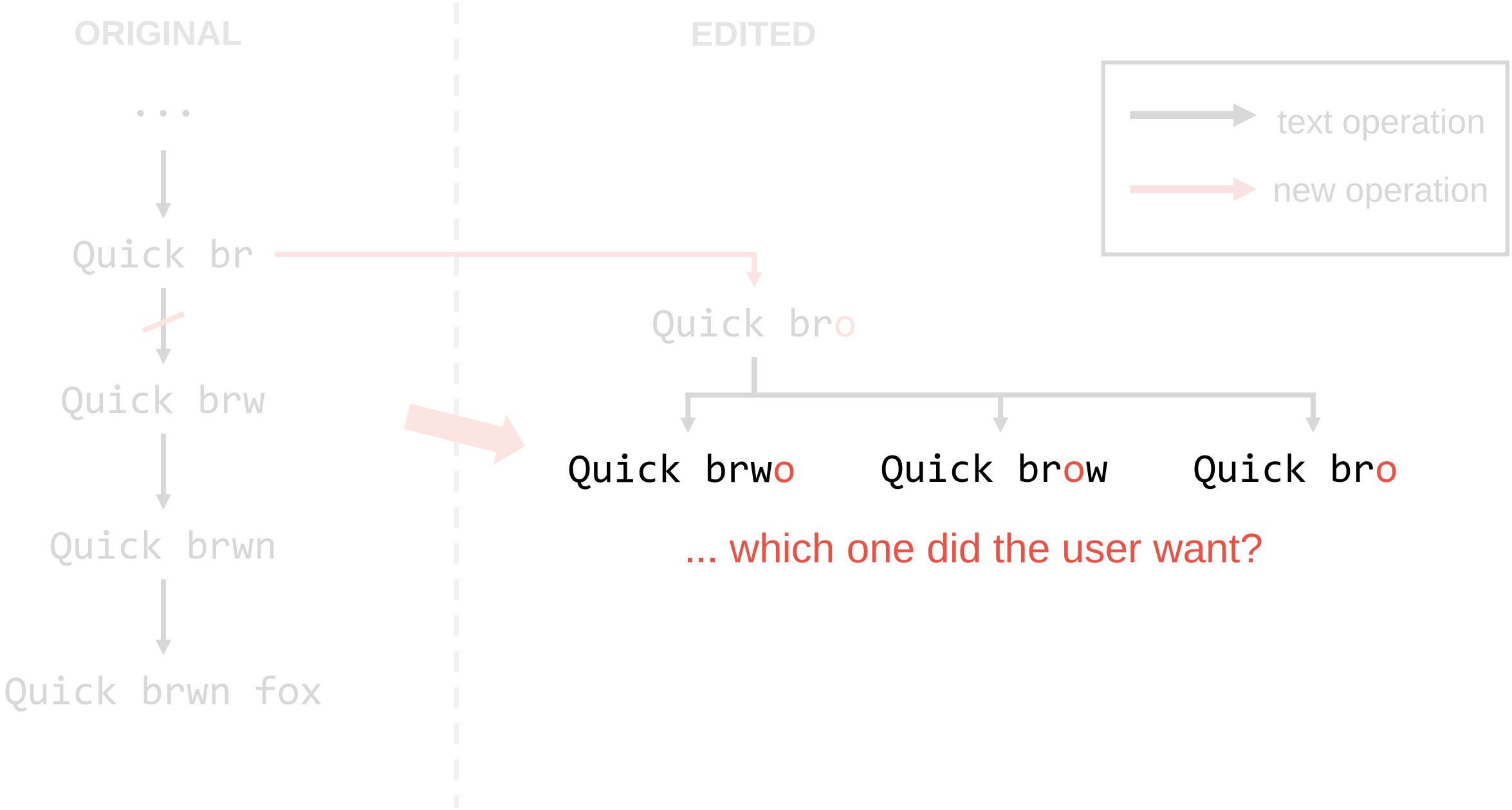
Technical Challenge

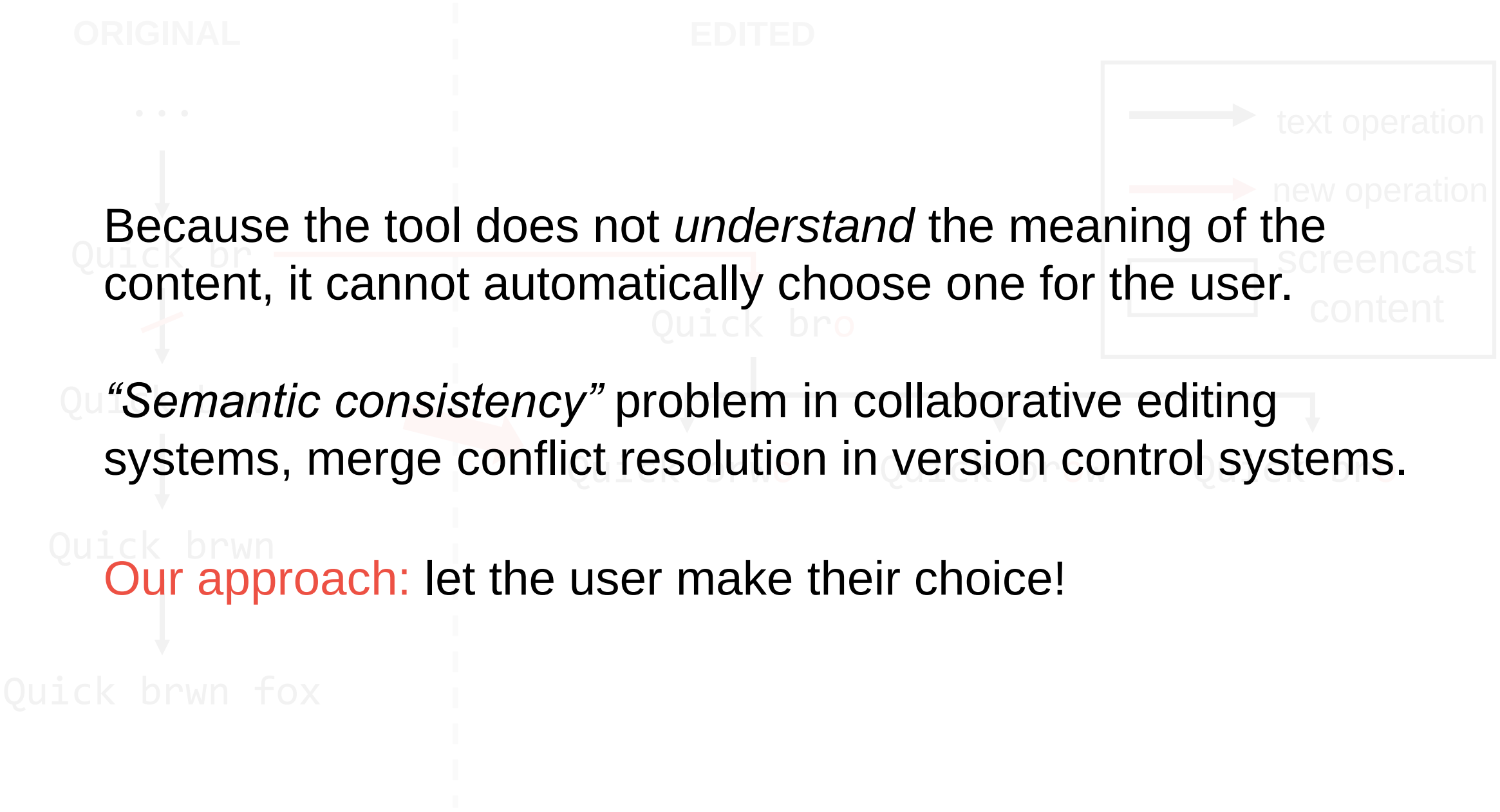
Text operation sequence has a **causal** structure. Future events are influenced by the past!

Ambiguity: Changes made in the past often create **multiple possibilities** for diverging future timelines.

Resolution: Need some mechanism to resolve the ambiguity.


ORIGINAL
EDITED
...
Quick br
Quick brw
Quick brwn
Quick brwn fox
Quick bro
Quick brwo
Quick brow
Quick bro
text operation
new operation

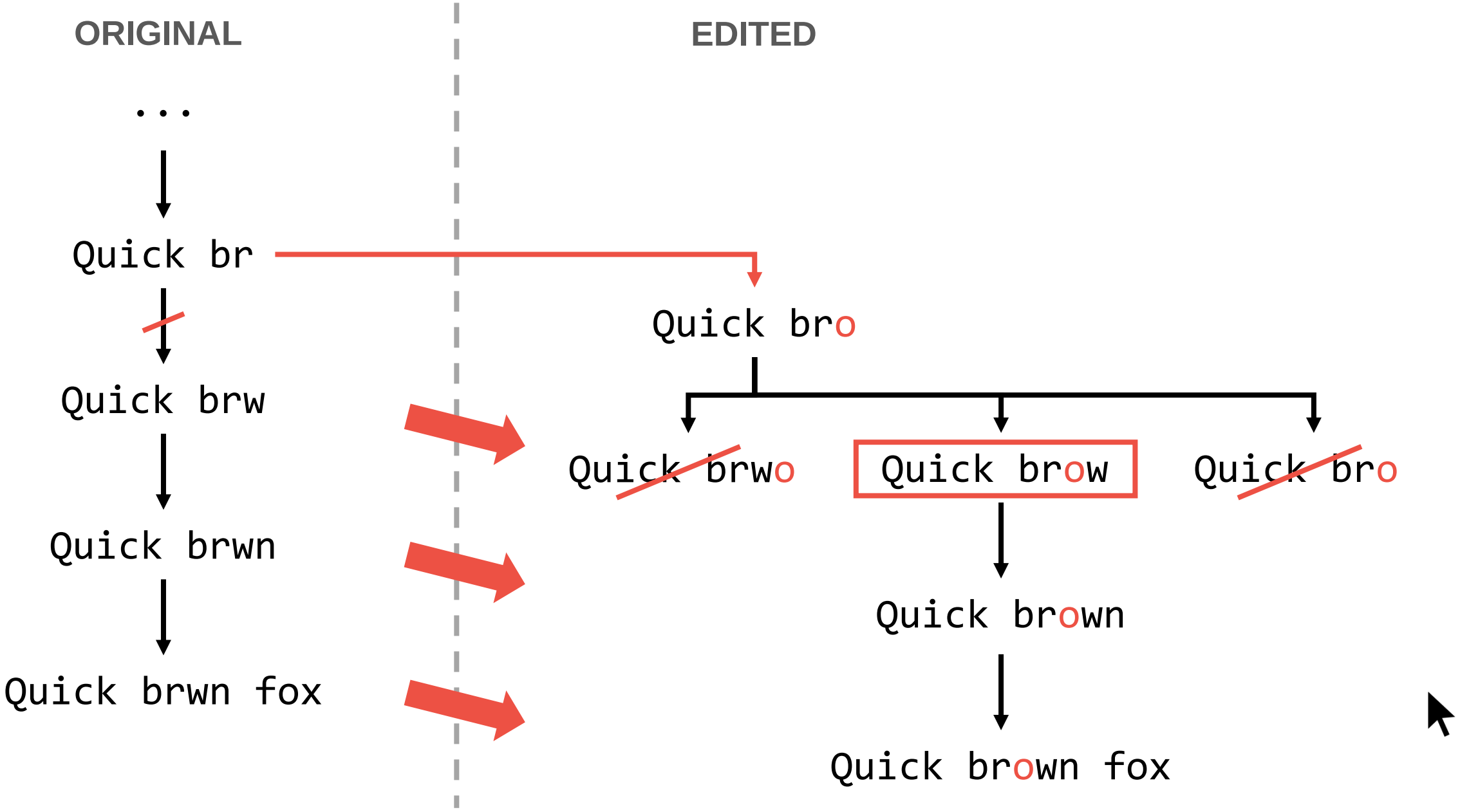

ORIGINAL
EDITED
...
Quick br
Quick brw
Quick brwn
Quick brwn fox
Quick bro
Quick brwo
Quick brow
Quick bro
text operation
new operation
... which one did the user want?



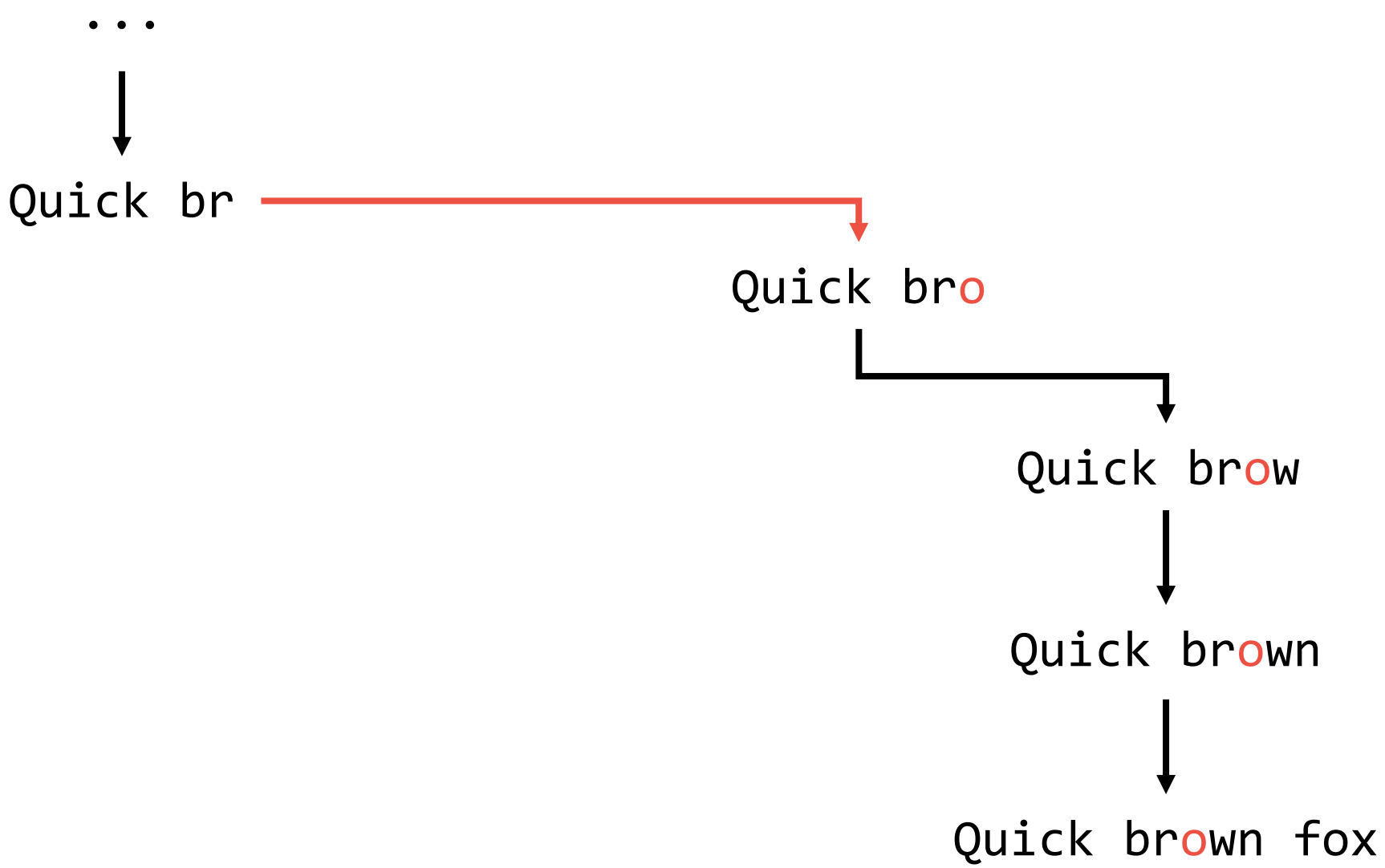
Because the tool does not *understand* the meaning of the content, it cannot automatically choose one for the user.

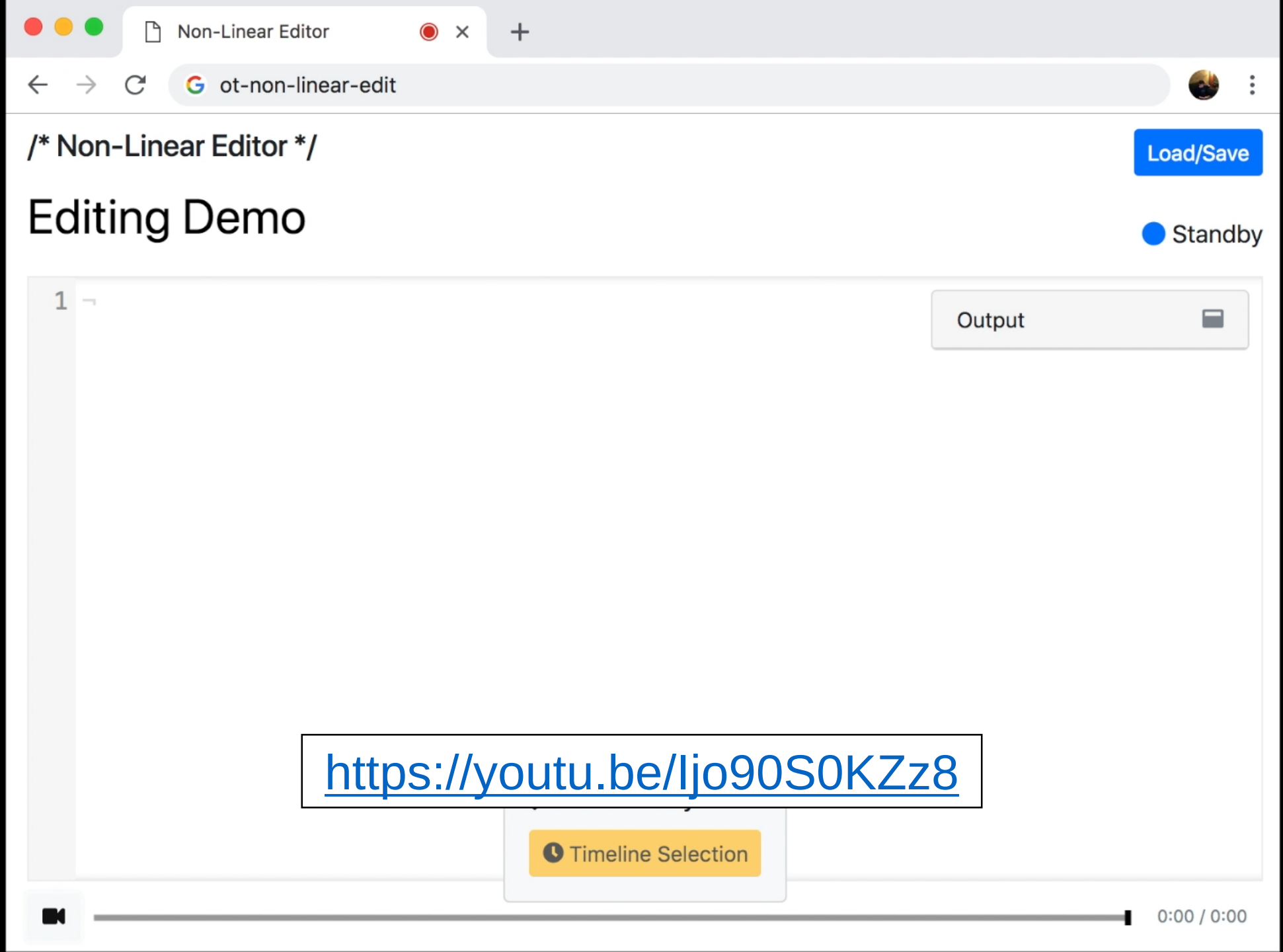
"Semantic consistency" problem in collaborative editing systems, merge conflict resolution in version control systems.

Our approach: let the user make their choice!


ORIGINAL
EDITED
...
Quick br
Quick brw
Quick brwn
Quick brwn fox
Quick bro
Quick brwo
Quick brow
Quick bro
Quick brown
Quick brown fox

EDITED




Non-Linear Editor
ot-non-linear-edit
/* Non-Linear Editor */
Load/Save
Editing Demo
Standby
1
Output
https://youtu.be/Ijo90S0KZz8
Timeline Selection
0:00 / 0:00

Outline

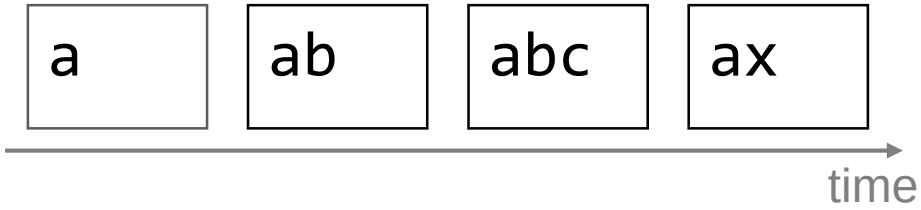
- Non-linear editing algorithm for text-based screencasts
- A prototype editor that implements non-linear editing functionality for text-based screencasts
- An exploratory study demonstrating that users can successfully edit a text-based screencast using our editor in various scenarios

Non-Linear Editing Algorithm
for text-based screencasts

DEFINITION

- A screencast is a sequence of text operations.
  (we use OT as a unit of text operations)

Screencast L = $\begin{pmatrix} \delta(0,\ 0,\ \text{“a”}), \\ \delta(1,\ 1,\ \text{“b”}), \\ \delta(2,\ 2,\ \text{“c”}), \\ \delta(1,\ 3,\ \text{“x”}) \end{pmatrix}$ =

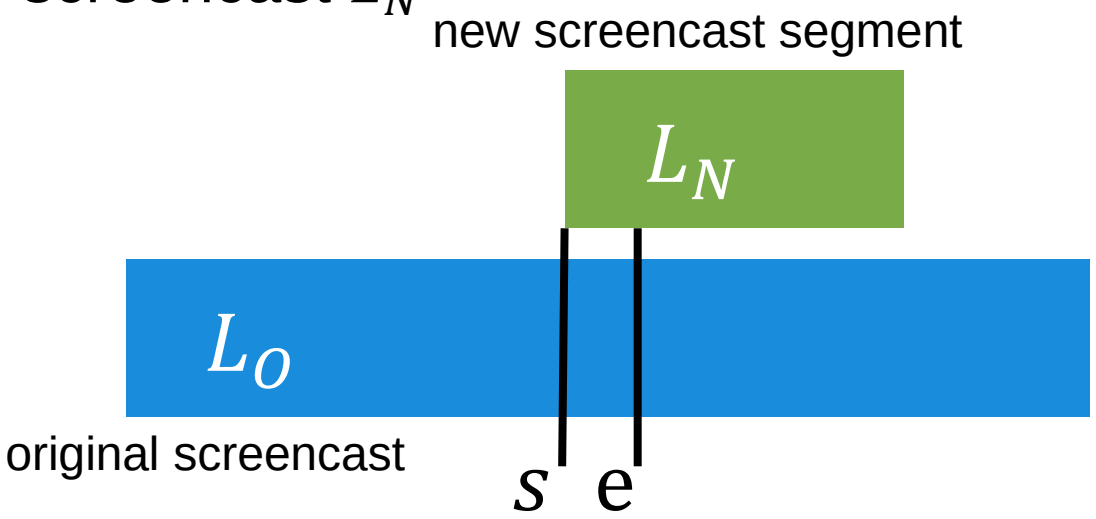


Non-Linear Editing Algorithm
for text-based screencasts

INPUT
- a screencast L_O
- a range $[s, \mathrm{e}]$ to re-record
- a re-recorded screencast L_N

OUTPUT
- a screencast L

$L \coloneqq L_O[:s] + L_N + resolve(L_O[e:])$



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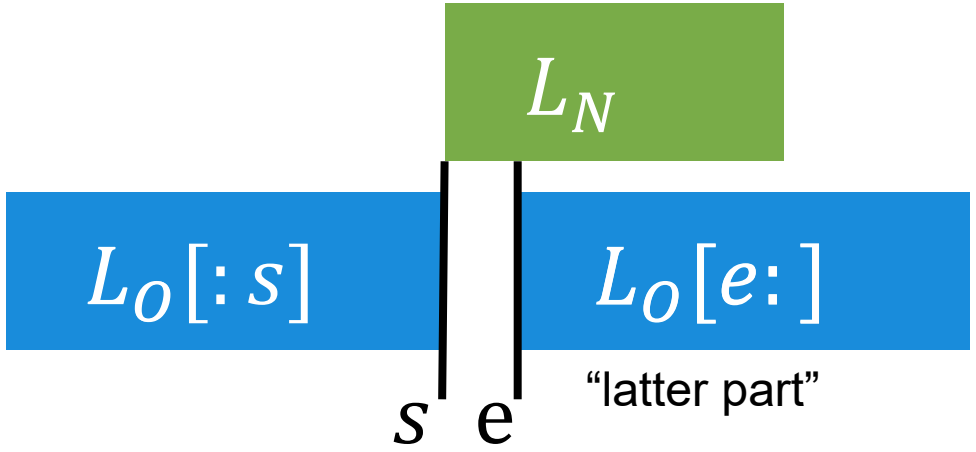

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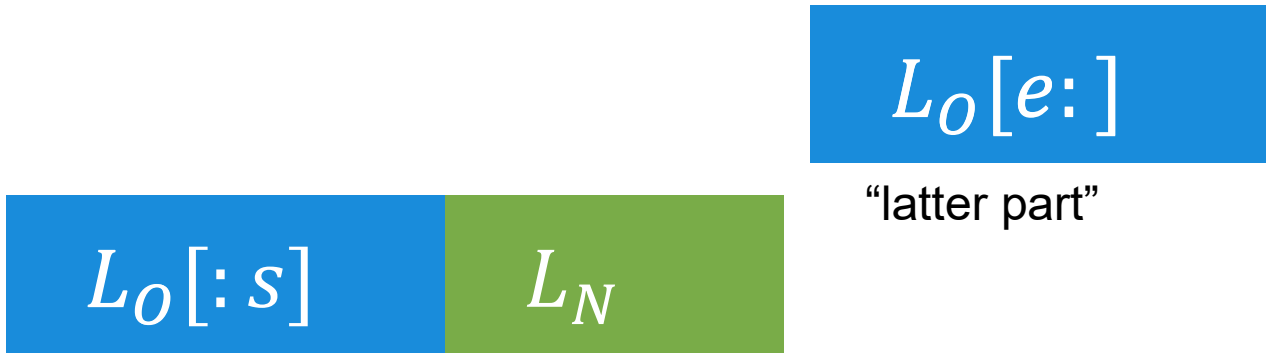

Non-Linear Editing Algorithm
for text-based screencasts

INPUT
- a screencast L_O
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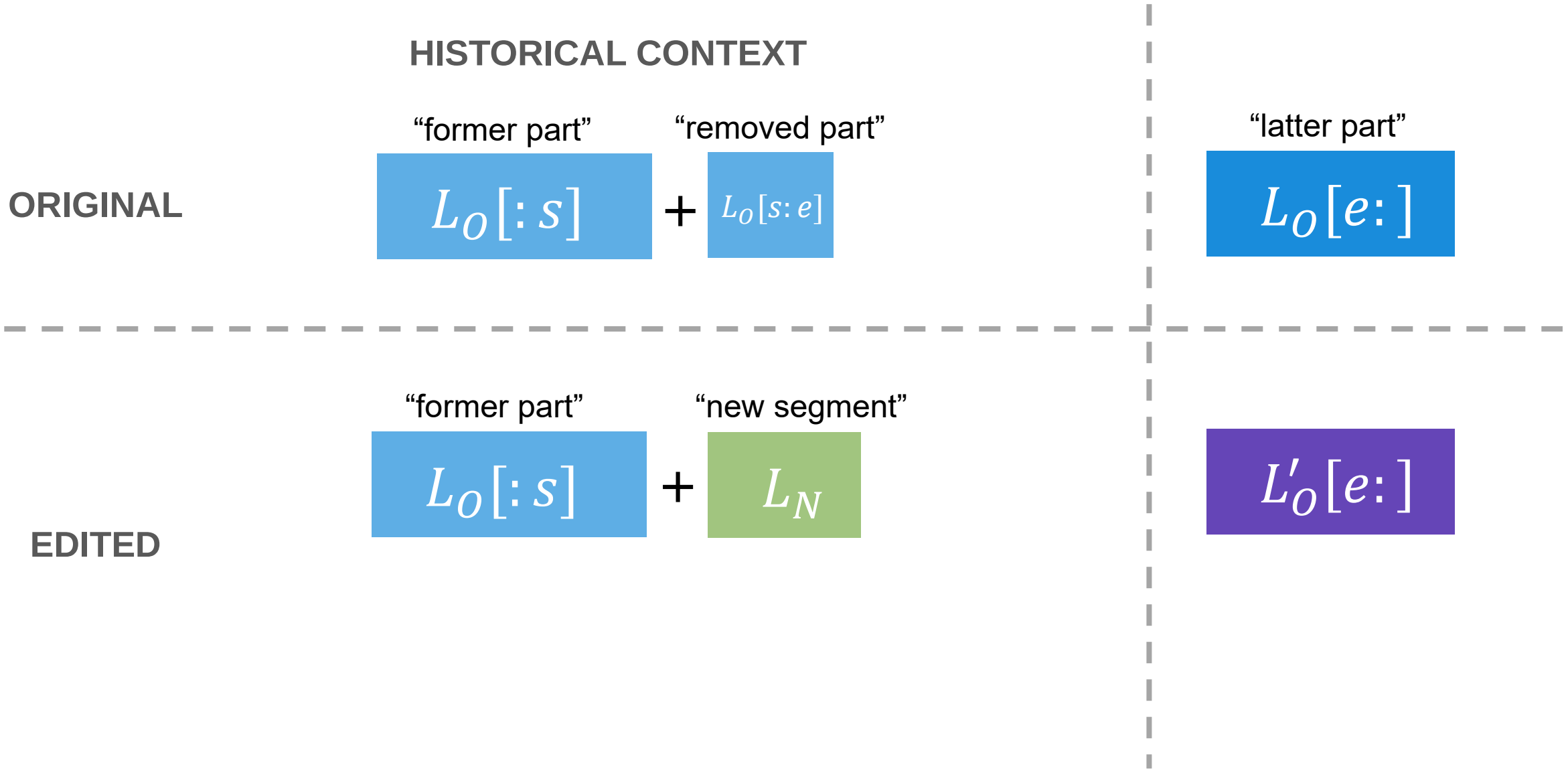
- a re-recorded screencast L_N

OUTPUT
- a screencast L

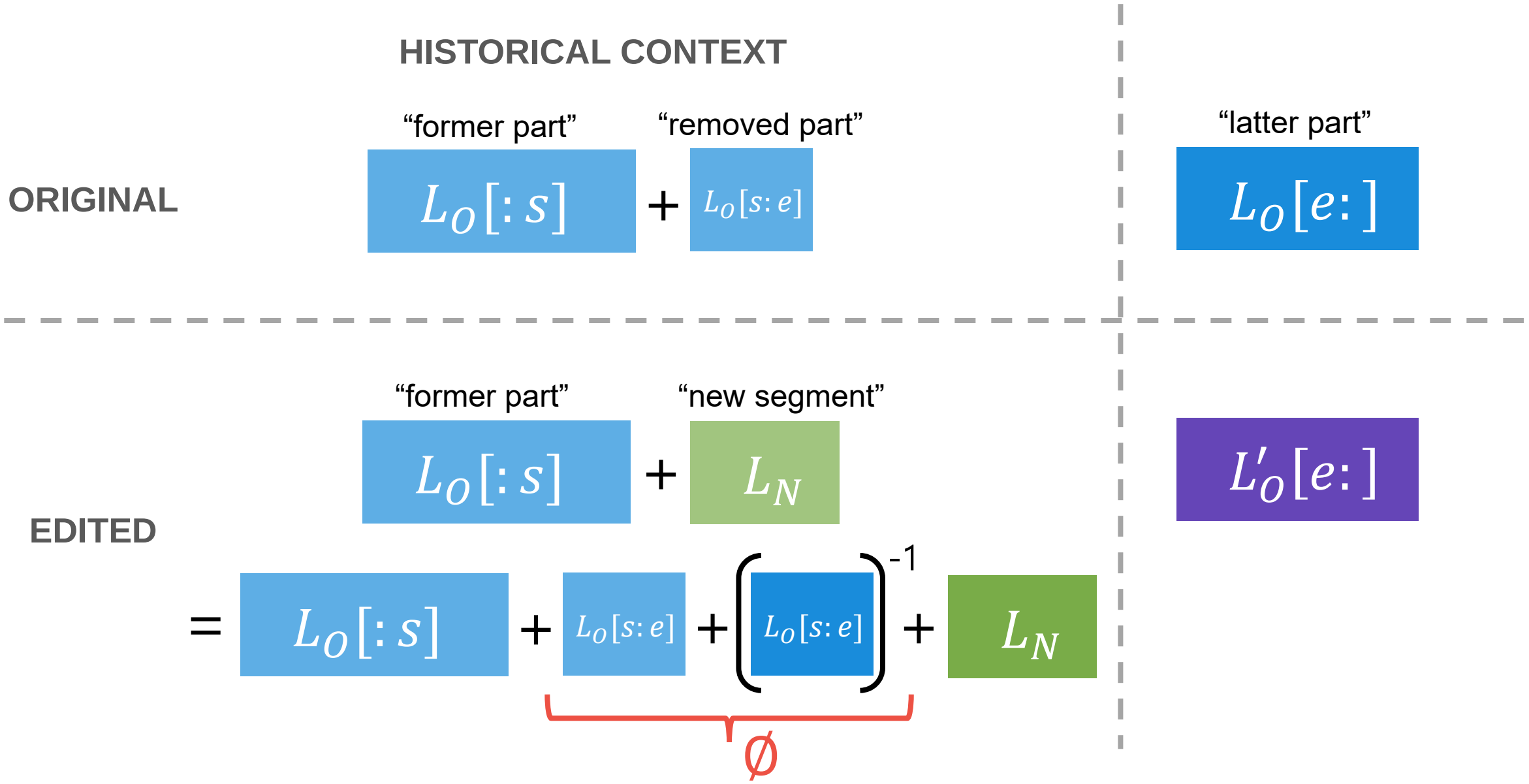
$L \coloneqq L_O[:s] + L_N + resolve(L_O[e:])$

Transform the OTs.
In case of ambiguity, ask user.

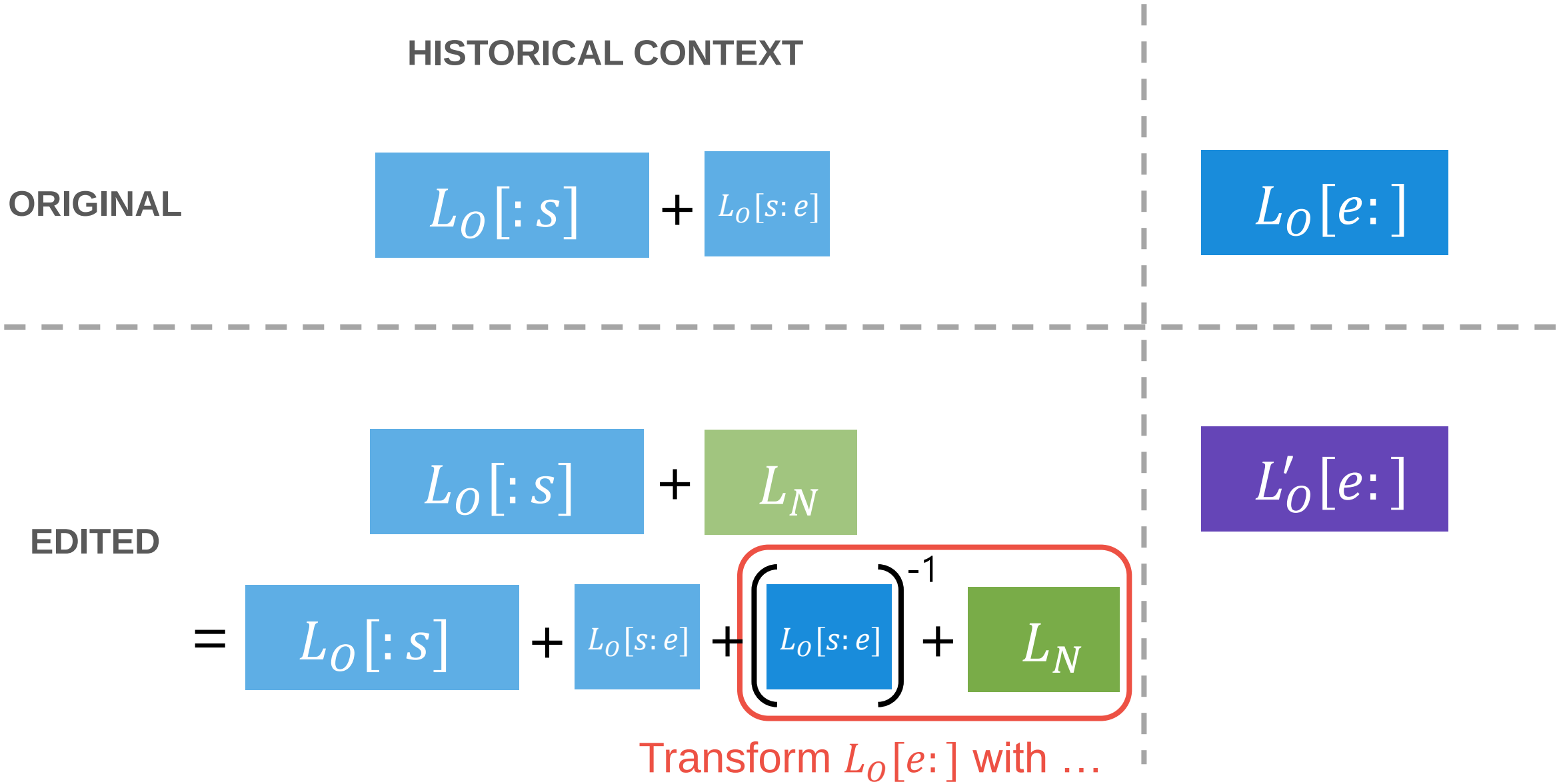
$L_O[:e]$ Transformation (w/o Ambiguity Resolution)



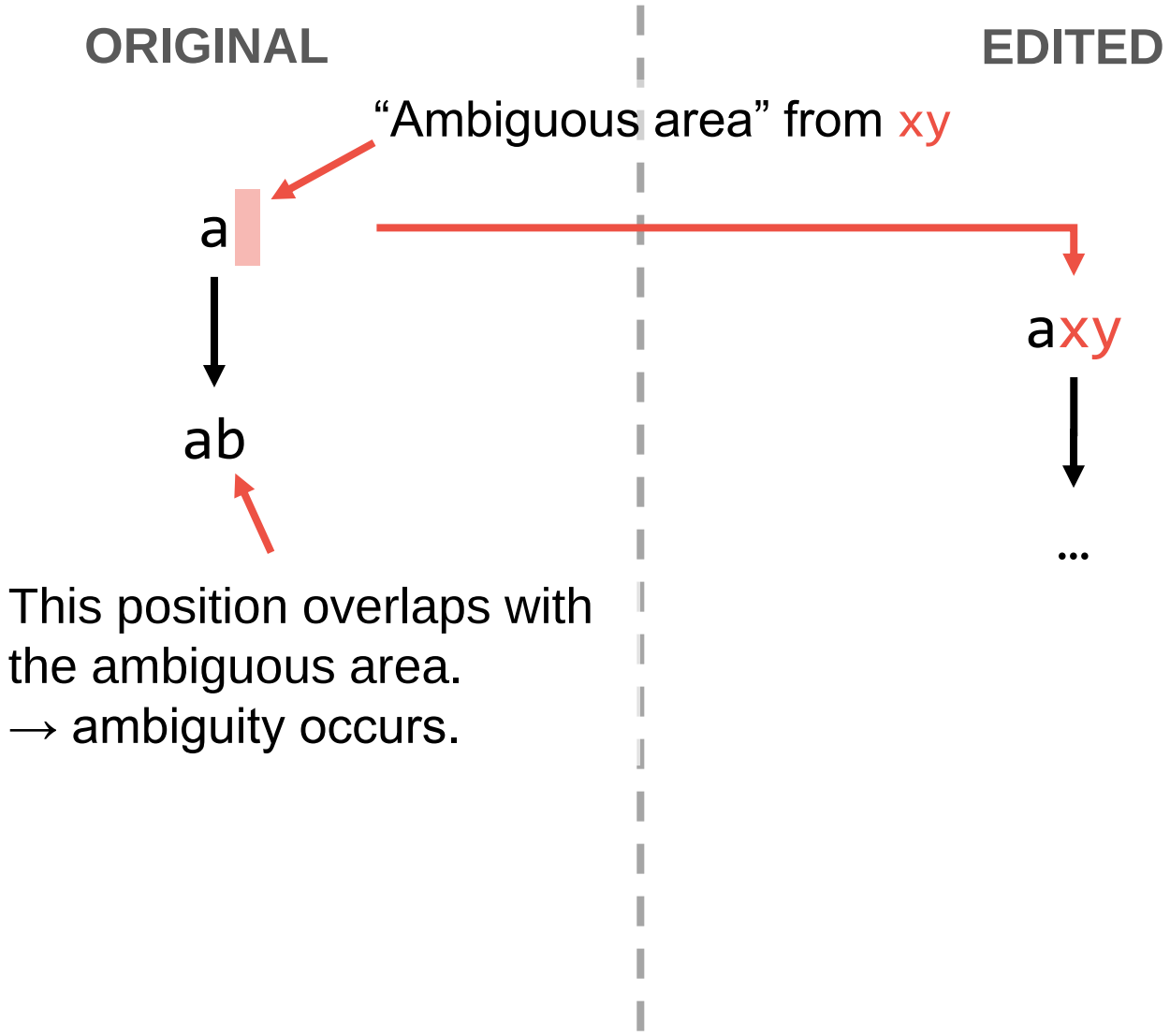
$L_O[:e]$ Transformation (w/o Ambiguity Resolution)



$L_O[:e]$ Transformation (w/o Ambiguity Resolution)

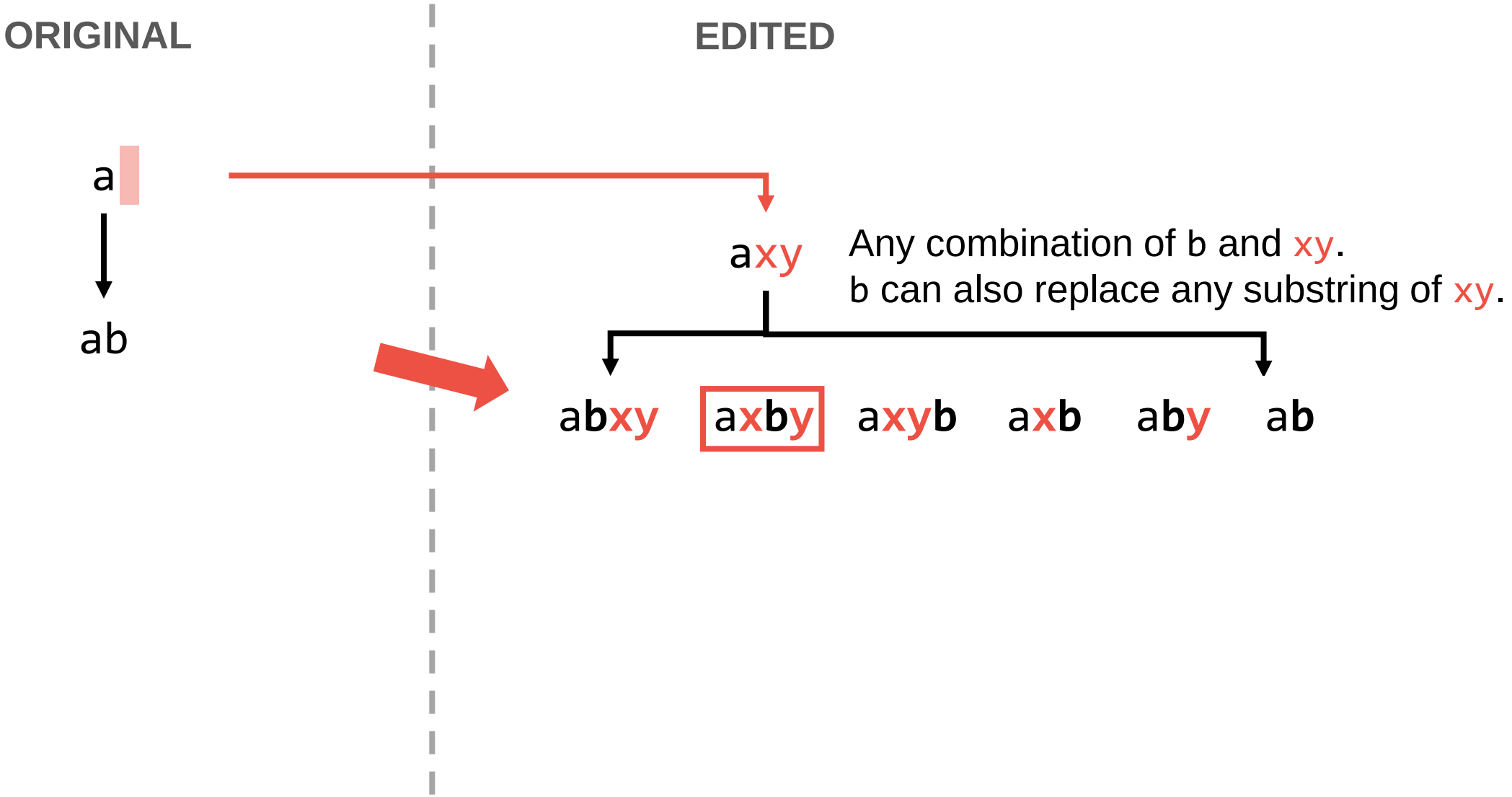


$L_O[:e]$ Transformation (w/ Ambiguity Resolution)

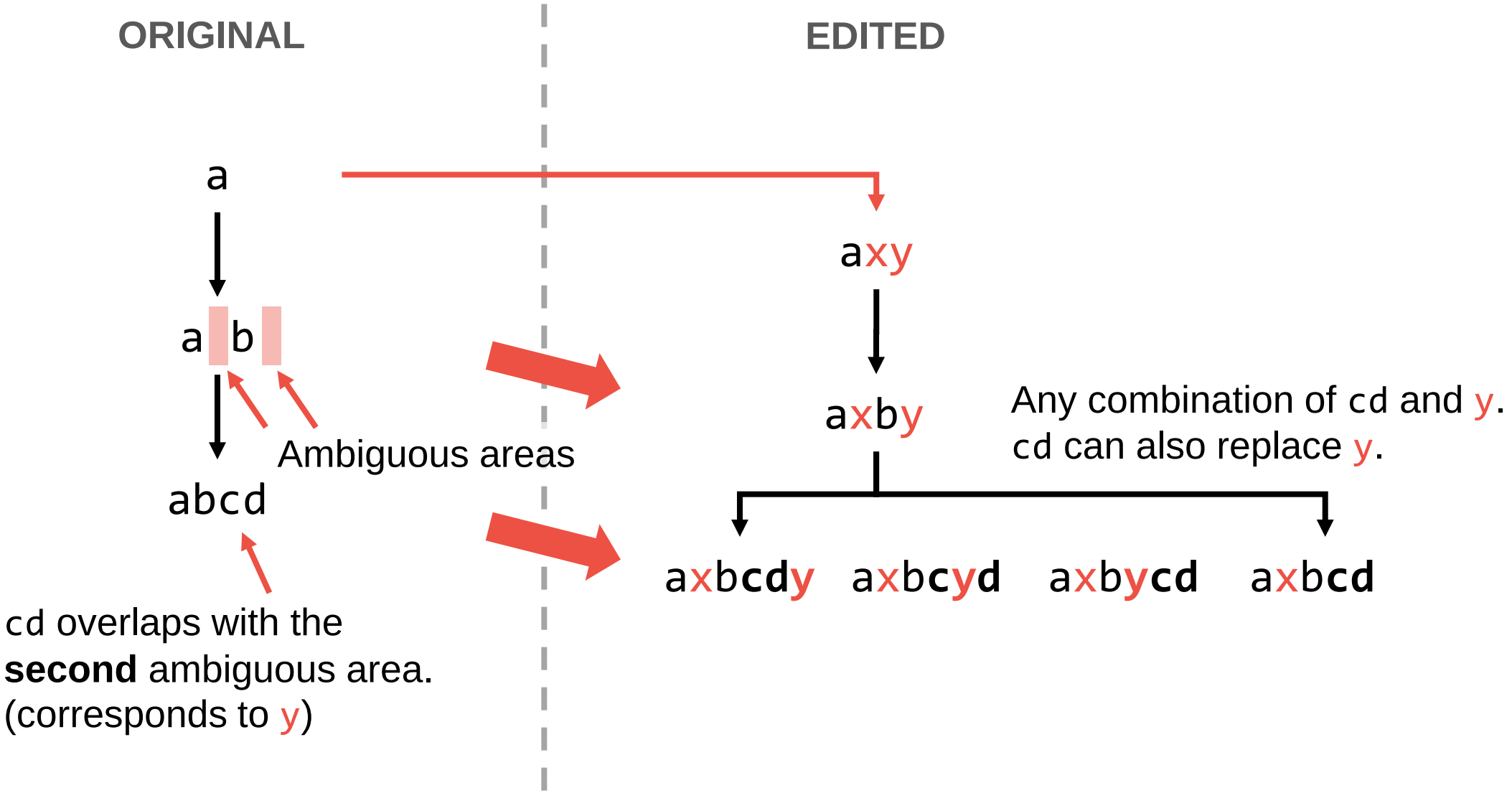


- Is there an ambiguity?
- If so, what are the possible transformations?

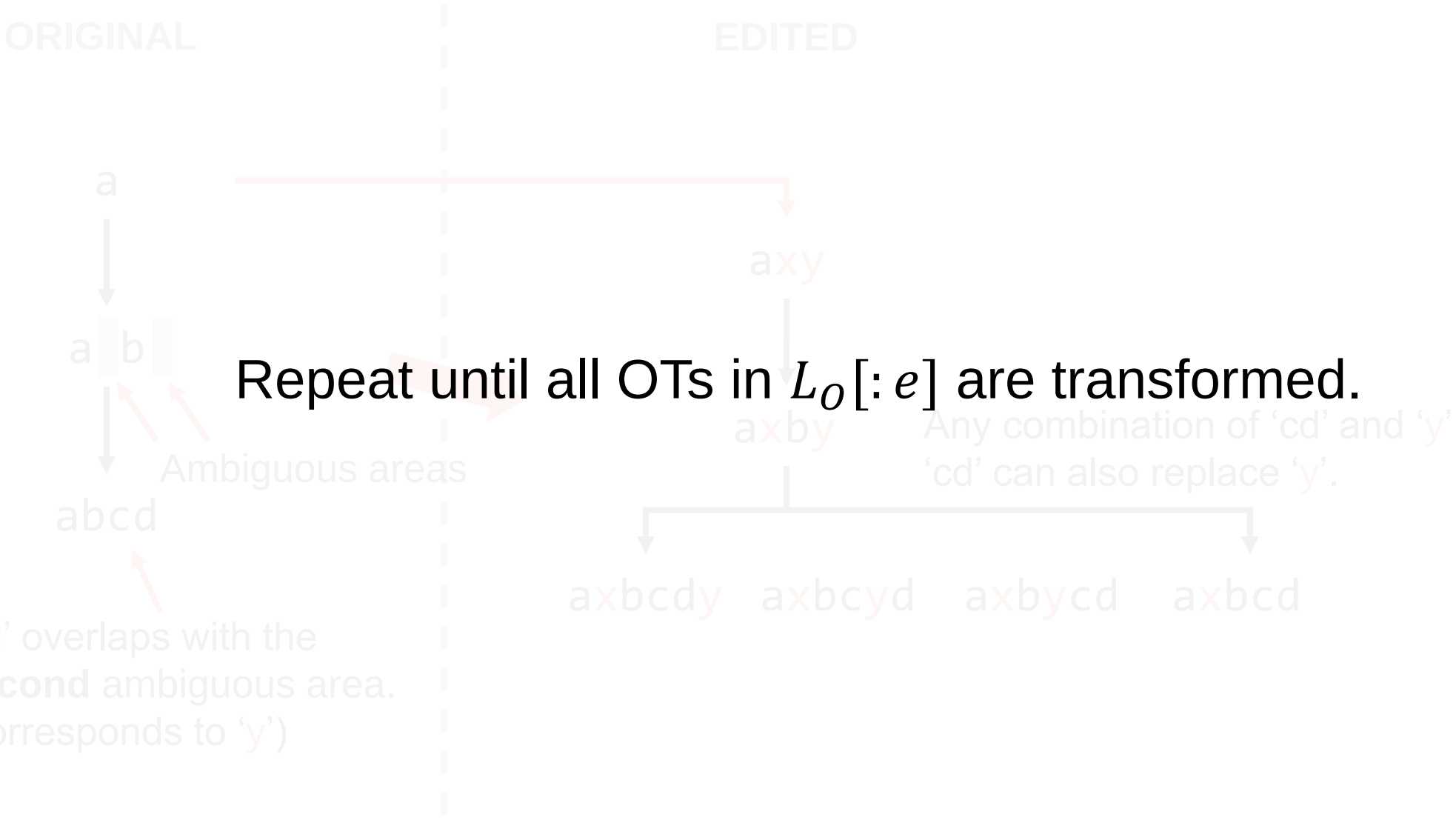
$L_O[:e]$ Transformation (w/ Ambiguity Resolution)



$L_O[:e]$ Transformation (w/ Ambiguity Resolution)



$L_O[:e]$ Transformation (w/ Ambiguity Resolution)



Repeat until all OTs in $L_O[:e]$ are transformed.

Outline

Non-linear editing algorithm for text-based screencasts

A prototype editor that implements non-linear editing functionality for text-based screencasts

An exploratory study demonstrating that users can successfully edit a text-based screencast using our editor in various scenarios

/* Non-Linear Editor */

Load/Save

S6 - Task 5

● Paused

```
1  class HashTable:
2      def __init__(self, n)
3          self.n = n
4          self.bucket = [[] for _ in range(n)]
5
6      def put(self, key, value):
7          self.bucket[key % self.n].append((key, value))
8
9      def get(self, key):
10         if len(self.bucket[key % self.n]) == 0:
11             return None
12         for k, v in self.bucket[key % self.n]:
13             if k == key:
14                 return v
15
16     def remove(self, key):
17         for i, (k, v) in enum                key % self.n]):
```

Output

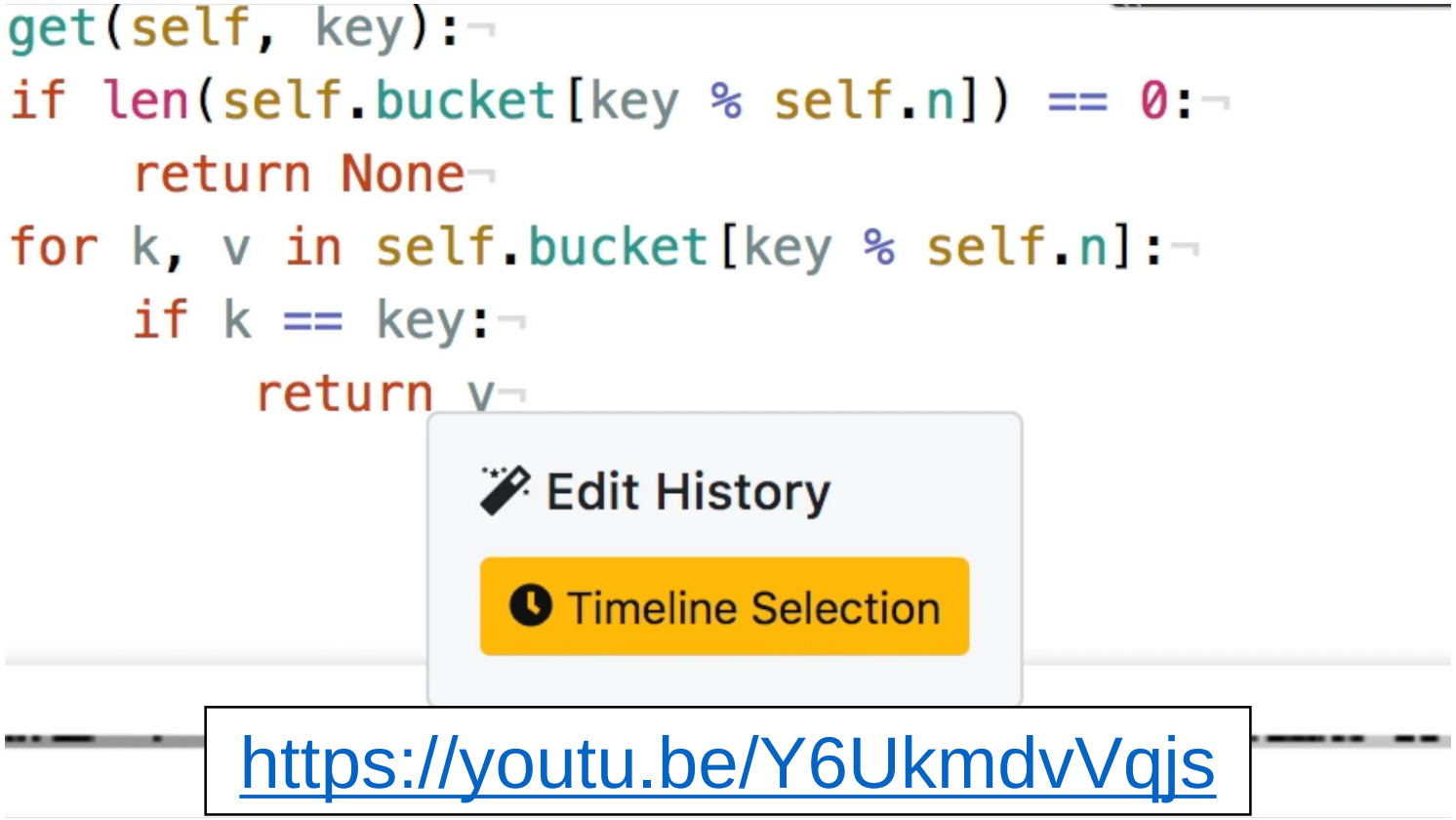
```
  File "/codefile.py", line 2
    def __init__(self, n)
                         ^
SyntaxError: invalid syntax
```

Non-Linear Edit

Start Selection

▶ 7:33 / 7:50

Time Range Selection



https://youtu.be/Y6UkmdvVqjs

Ambiguity Resolver

Original Before

```
    self.n]) == 0:
                return None
            for k, v in
    self.bucket[key % self.n]:
                if k == key:
                    return v

        def remove(self, key):
            for k, v
```

Original After

```
    self.n]) == 0:
                return None
            for k, v in
    self.bucket[key % self.n]:
                if k == key:
                    return v

        def remove(self, key):
            for k, v i
```

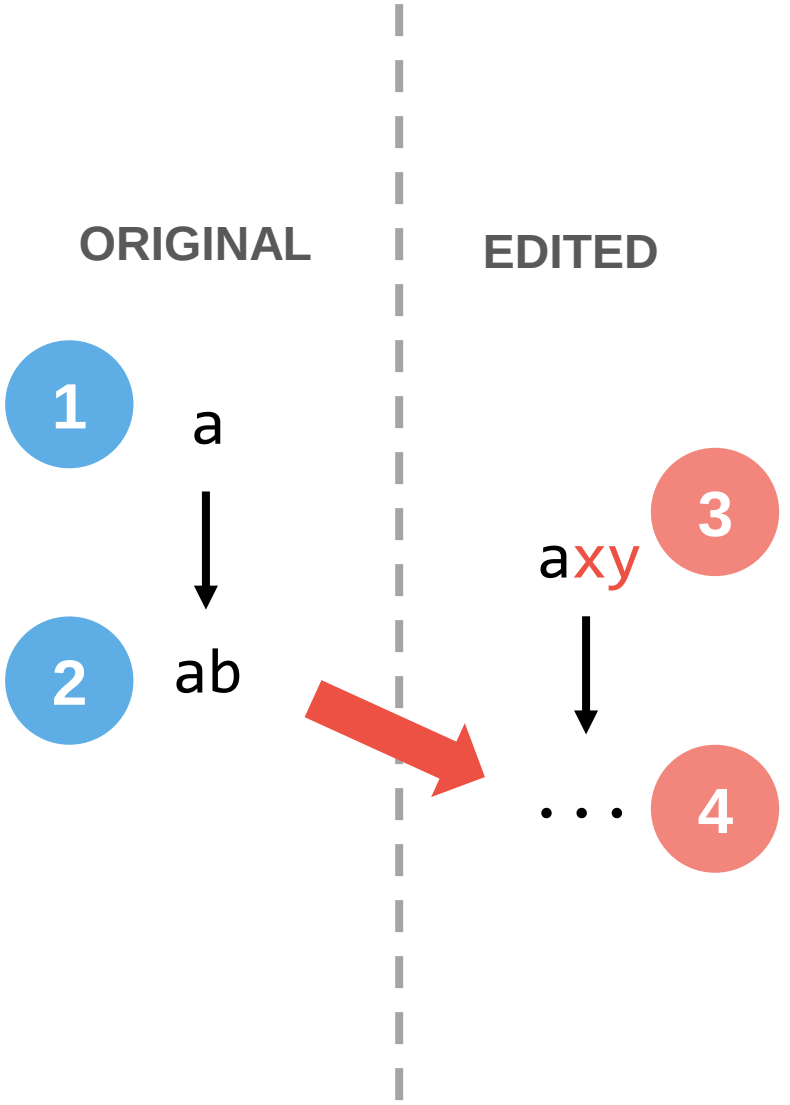
Current Frame

```
    def get(self, key):
        if len(self.bucket[key %
    self.n]) == 0:
                return None
            for k, v in
    self.bucket[key % self.n]:
                if k == key:
                    return v

        def remove(self, key):
            for i, (k, v)
```

Next Frame

```
    def get(self, key):
        if len(self.bucket[key %
    self.n]) == 0:
                return None
            for k, v in
    self.bucket[key % self.n]:
                if k == key:
                    return v

        def remove(self, key):
            for i, (k, v) i
```

Resolve Cancel



Outline

Non-linear editing algorithm for text-based screencasts

A prototype editor that implements non-linear editing functionality for text-based screencasts

An exploratory study demonstrating that users can successfully edit a text-based screencast using our editor in various scenarios

Exploratory User Study
with simulated real-world use cases

(i) Can users successfully edit a screencast in a diverse range of use cases?

(ii) What editing patterns emerge when users carry out different editing tasks?

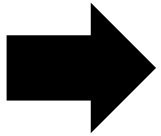
(iii) How difficult is it for the users to perform ambiguity resolution?

Exploratory User Study
with simulated real-world use cases

6 participants

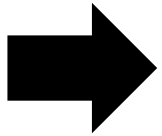
Tool tutorial

10 minutes



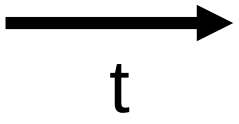
Record a 10-minute screencast
+ do 4 editing tasks

60 minutes



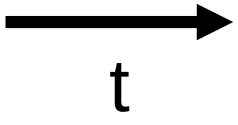
Semi-structured interview

15 minutes



Task 1. Record 10-minute screencast

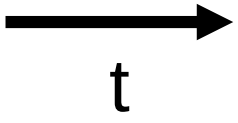
(write a simple hash table with put/get methods then test cases.)



Task 1. Record 10-minute screencast

(write a simple hash table with put/get methods then test cases.)

Task 2. Find and correct 3 mistakes



Task 1. Record 10-minute screencast
(write a simple hash table with put/get methods then test cases.)

Task 2. Find and correct 3 mistakes

Task 3. Add a *remove* method after implementing *put* and *get* methods but before writing test cases

t

Task 1. Record 10-minute screencast
(write a simple hash table with put/get methods then test cases.)

Task 2. Find and correct 3 mistakes

Task 3. Add a *remove* method after implementing *put* and *get* methods but before writing test cases

Task 4. Rename one variable that is referenced at least 3 times

t

Task 1. Record 10-minute screencast
(write a simple hash table with put/get methods then test cases.)

Task 2. Find and correct 3 mistakes

Task 3. Add a *remove* method after implementing *put* and *get* methods but before writing test cases

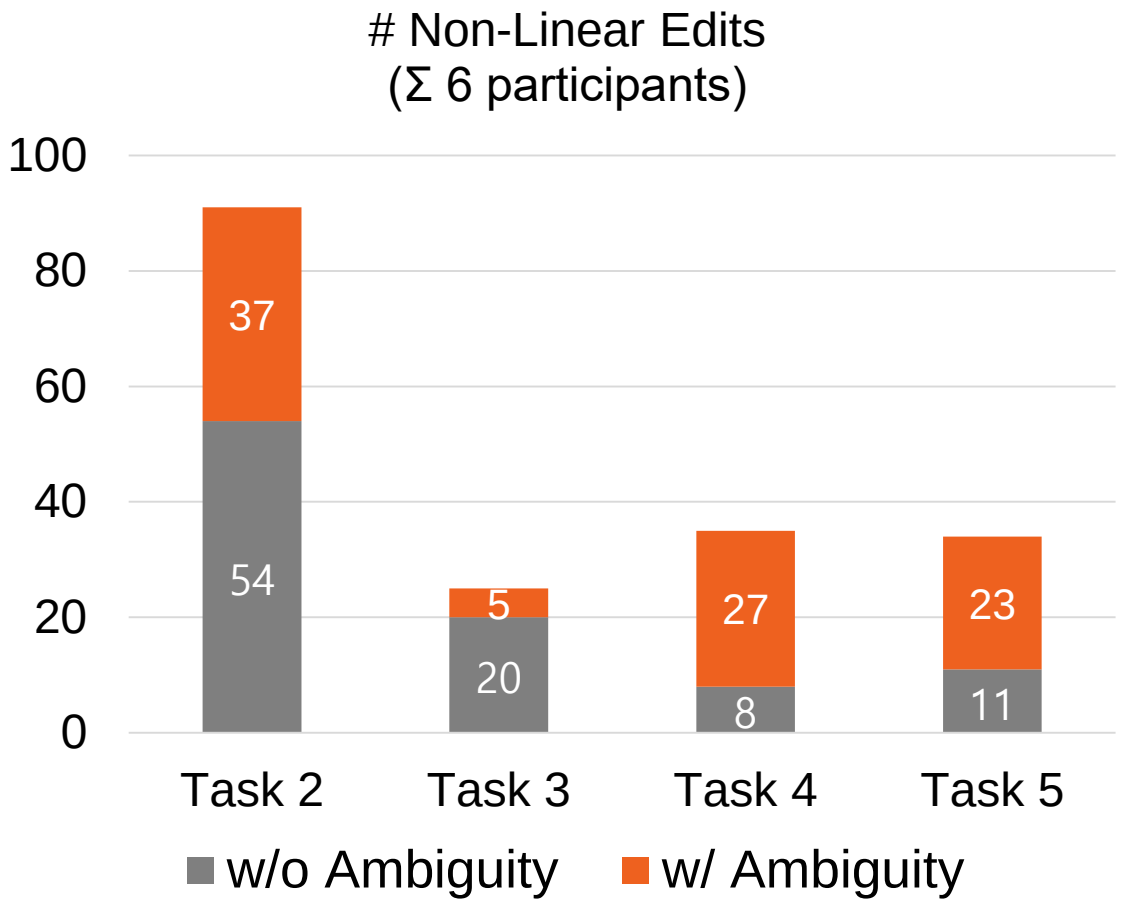
Task 4. Rename one variable that is referenced at least 3 times

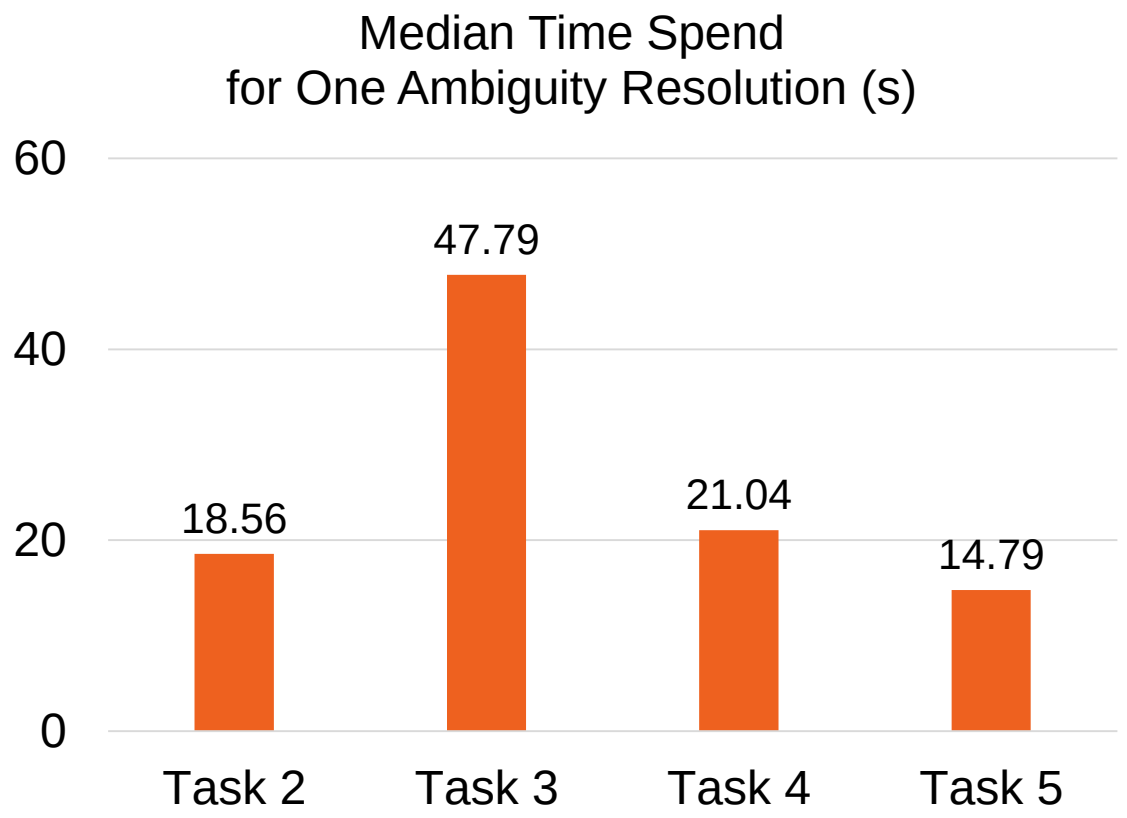
Task 5. Write docstring for *put* and *get* methods

Result Highlights

All participants completed the tasks successfully.

Participants found the ambiguity resolution process difficult.





Avg. 31 edits / task / participant
49.7% of the edits introduced an ambiguity

Each ambiguity requires avg. 1.45 decisions
Median 19.1 seconds to resolve an ambiguity

Result Highlights

All participants completed the tasks successfully.

Participants found the ambiguity resolution process difficult.

Difficulty of keeping track of all the changes from recording

> *“I cannot be conscious of the whole changes from the beginning to end when I'm editing.” (S4)*

> *“It seems that I have a habit of unconsciously inserting characters and removing them while I'm thinking.” (S3)*

Showing only the “Next Frame” is not enough

> *“I don’t know what comes next.. with this one character diff.” (S2)*

Too much cognitive effort

“I didn’t give too much thought into ‘why’ or ‘how’ before every move because it’s complicated. ...” (S6)

Some users shook the ‘from’ and ‘to’ handles until the Next Frame turned out as they desired

Further Research Directions

Need to improve interface design for ambiguity resolution.

- Give users much more context of what they are doing.
- Usability issues.

Reduce the cognitive burden of ambiguity resolution.

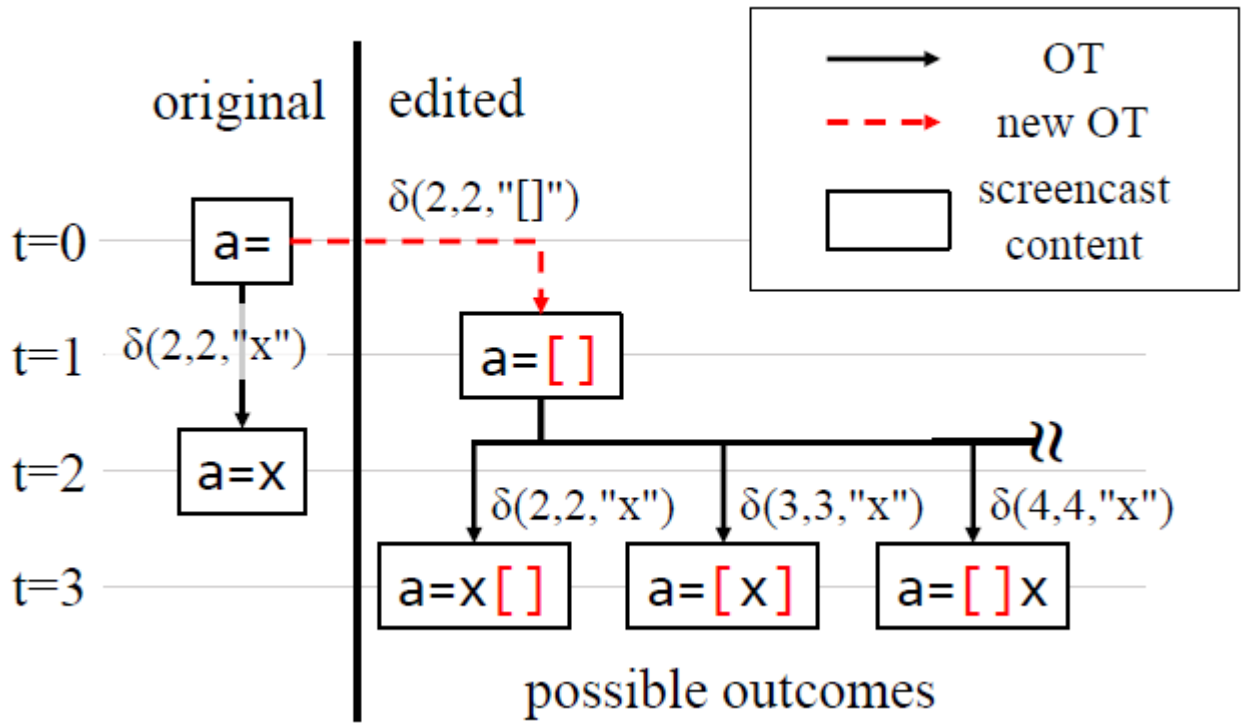
- Context-aware suggestions?

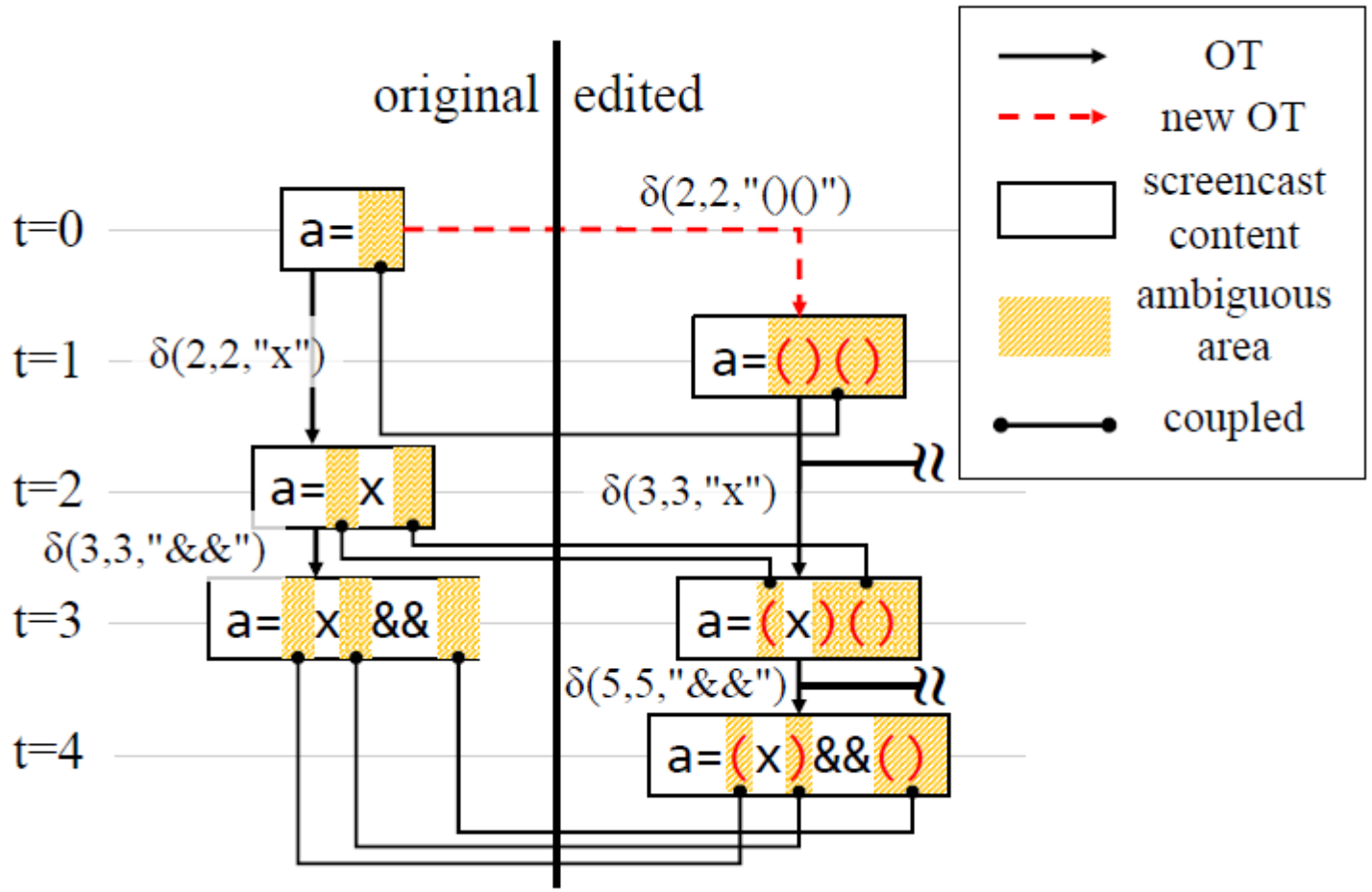
https://github.com/elicast-research/non-linear-edit

https://github.com/elicast-research/non-linear-edit

Non-Linear Editing of Text-Based Screencasts

Jungkook Park*	KAIST
Yeong Hoon Park*	University of Minnesota
Alice Oh	KAIST


original
edited
OT
new OT
screencast content
δ(2,2,"[]")
t=0
a=
t=1
δ(2,2,"x")
a=[ ]
t=2
a=x
δ(2,2,"x")
δ(3,3,"x")
δ(4,4,"x")
t=3
a=x[ ]
a=[x]
a=[ ]x
possible outcomes


original
edited
t=0
t=1
t=2
t=3
t=4
a=
δ(2,2,"()()")
δ(2,2,"x")
a=()()
a=x
δ(3,3,"x")
δ(3,3,"&&")
a=x&&
a=(x)()
δ(5,5,"&&")
a=(x)&&()
OT
new OT
screencast content
ambiguous area
coupled

13: **function** GETAMBIGUOUSAREAS(L_N)
    // Get ambiguous areas introduced by OTs L_N
14: $A \leftarrow \{\}$
15: **for** $i \in \{0, 1, ..., N-1\}$ **do**
16: $a \leftarrow \{x \in \mathbb{R} | L[i].s \leq x \leq L[i].e\}$
17: **for** $j \in \{i-1, i-2, ..., 0\}$ **do**
18: $a \leftarrow \Gamma(a, L[j].s, -L[j].t.length)$
19: $a \leftarrow \Gamma(a, L[j].s, L[j].e - L[j].s)$
20: **end for**
21: $A \leftarrow A \cup a$
22: **end for**
23: **return** A
24: **end function**
25: **function** $\Gamma(a, p, d)$
    // Transform area a at the position p with the amount d
26: **return** $\{x \in \mathbb{R} | (x \leq p \wedge x \in a) \vee (p + d^+ \leq x \wedge x - d \in a)\}$
27: **end function**

function GETCOUPLEDAMBIGUOUSAREA(L_N)
  // Get a coupled ambiguous area introduced by OTs L_N
  $A_{before} \leftarrow$ GetAmbiguousAreas(L_N)
  $L_N^{inv} \leftarrow L_N.map(x \rightarrow x^{-1}).reverse()$
  $A_{after} \leftarrow$ GetAmbiguousAreas(L_N^{inv})
  $C \leftarrow []$
  while $A_{before} \neq \emptyset$ **do** // always $|A_{before}| = |A_{after}|$
    Pop leftmost interval a_{before} from A_{before}
    Pop leftmost interval a_{after} from A_{after}
    $C.append((a_{before} \rightarrow a_{after}))$
  end while
  return C
end function

1: **function** GETPOSSIBLETRANSFORM(C, x)
// Get all possible transformations of OT x given by the coupled ambiguous area C
2: $p_a \leftarrow a_{after}$ s.t. $(a_{before} \rightarrow a_{after}) \in C \wedge x.s \in a_{before}$
3: $p_b \leftarrow a_{after}$ s.t. $(a_{before} \rightarrow a_{after}) \in C \wedge x.e \in a_{before}$
4: if $p_a = \emptyset$, then $p_a \leftarrow [x.s + \Delta(C, x.s), x.s + \Delta(C, x.s)]$
5: if $p_b = \emptyset$, then $p_b \leftarrow [x.e + \Delta(C, x.e), x.e + \Delta(C, x.e)]$
6: $P_x \leftarrow []$
7: **for** $a', b' \in p_a \times p_b$ **do**
8: if $a' \leq b'$, then $P_x.append(\delta(a', b', x.t))$
9: **end for**
10: **return** P_x
11: **end function**
12: **function** $\Delta(C, p)$
// Get the amount of position shift at p by the coupled ambiguous area C
13: $d \leftarrow \sum_{\substack{(a_{before} \rightarrow a_{after}) \in C \\ \wedge a_{before} \leq p}} (a_{after}.length - a_{before}.length)$
14: **return** d
15: **end function**

1: **function** REPLACESCREENCAST(L_O, L_N, s, e)
   // Replace a part of screencast $L_O[s:e]$ with OTs L_N
2: $L_T^{inv} \leftarrow L_O[s:e].map(x \rightarrow x^{-1}).reverse()$
3: $L'_N \leftarrow L_T^{inv} \cdot L_N$
4: $L \leftarrow \text{InsertScreencast}(L_O, L'_N, e)$
5: $L' \leftarrow L[0:s] \cdot L[2e-s:]$
6: **return** L'
7: **end function**

```
function InsertScreencast(L_O, L_N, k)
  // Insert a new screencast L_N between two OTs L_O[k-1] and L_O[k]
  L ← L_O[0 : k] · L_N
  C ← GetCoupledAmbiguousArea(L_N)
  for i ∈ {0, 1, ..., |L_O| − k − 1} do
    x := L_O[k + i]
    Y ← GetPossibleTransform(C, x)
    if |Y| > 1 then
      Ask user to choose one y from Y
    else
      y ← Y[0]  // No ambiguity
    end if
    L.append(y)
    for (a_before → a_after) ∈ C do
      a_before ← Γ(Γ(a_before, x.s, x.s − x.e), x.s, x.t.length)
      a_after ← Γ(Γ(a_after, y.s, y.s − y.e), y.s, y.t.length)
    end for
  end for
  return L
end function
```