

Littleton

Or: how we learned to stop
compiling and love the law

Basu, Mohan, Grimmelmann, and Foster at ProLaLa '22



Lawyers don't read ASTs

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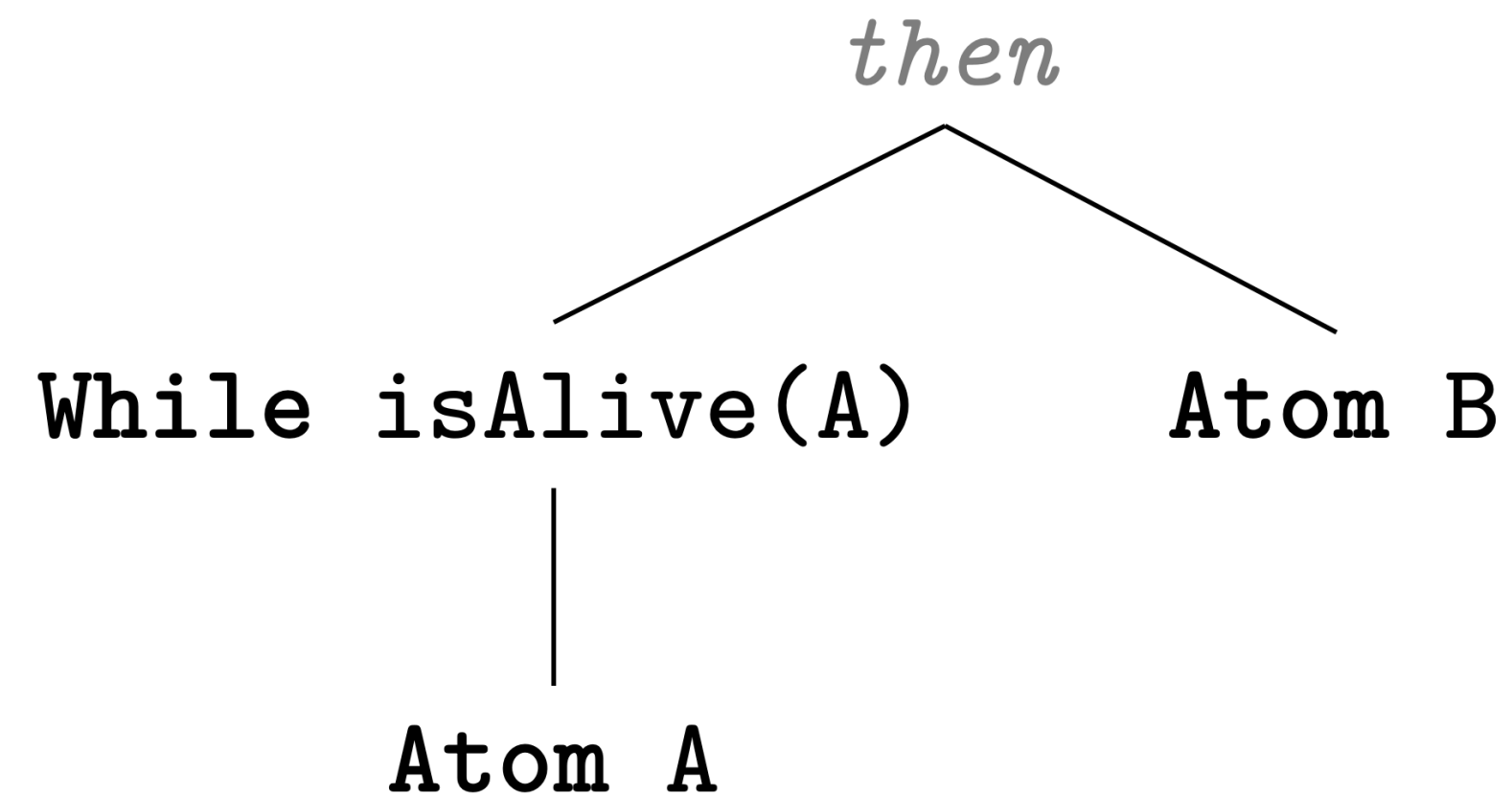
Orlando is a PL for property law:

- 1 0 *owns* P.
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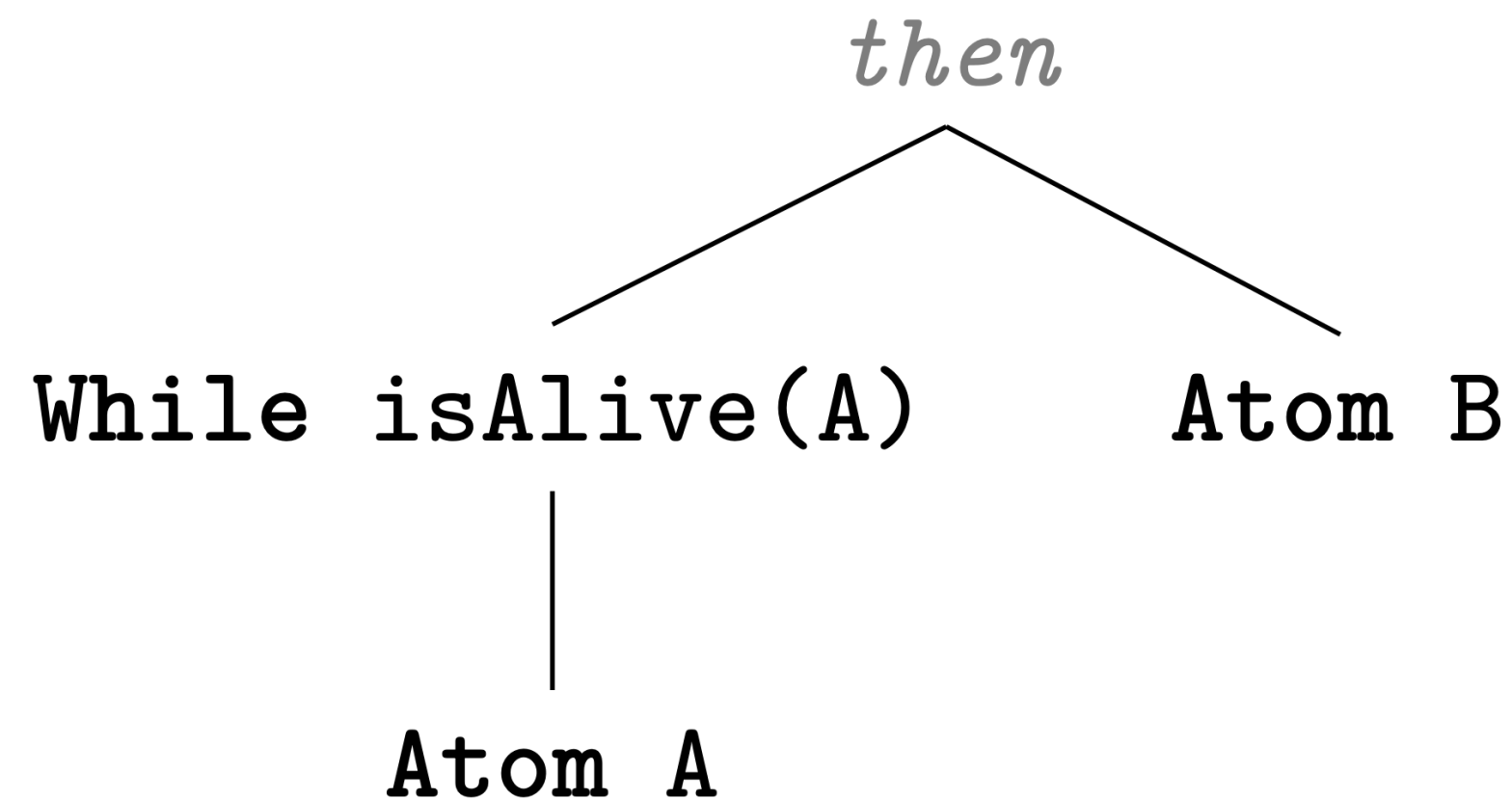
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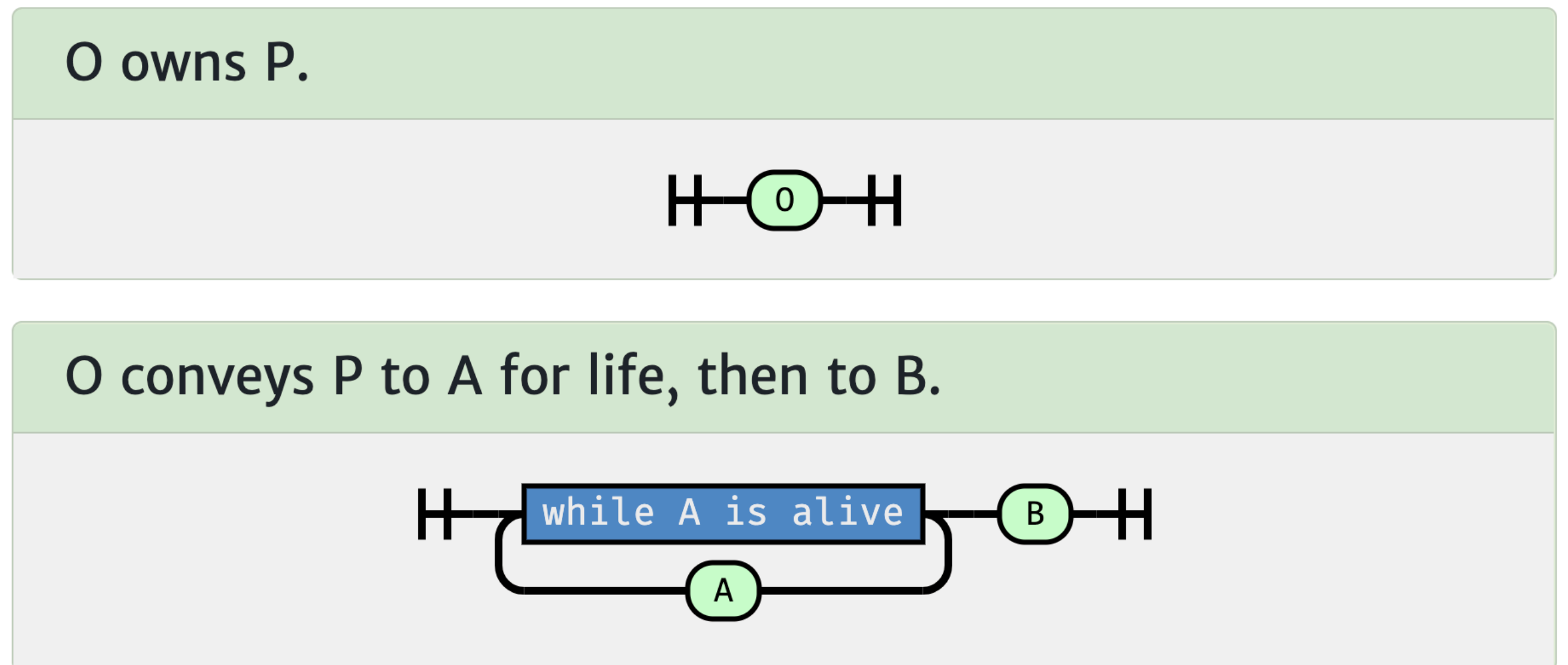
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Littleton makes this palatable:



A dynamic sandbox

**Allow users to
experiment with:**

- **further conveyances**
- **life events**

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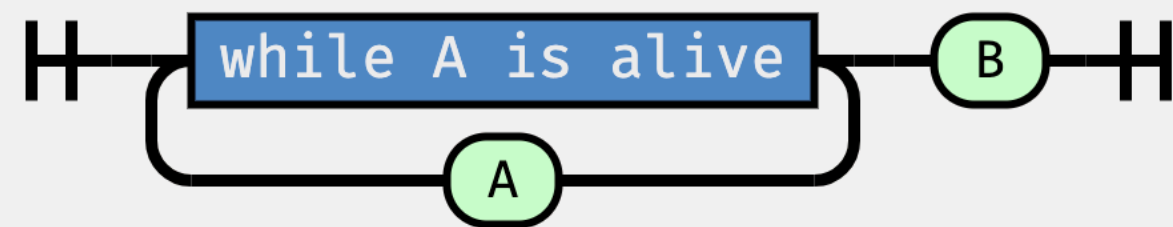

A dynamic sandbox

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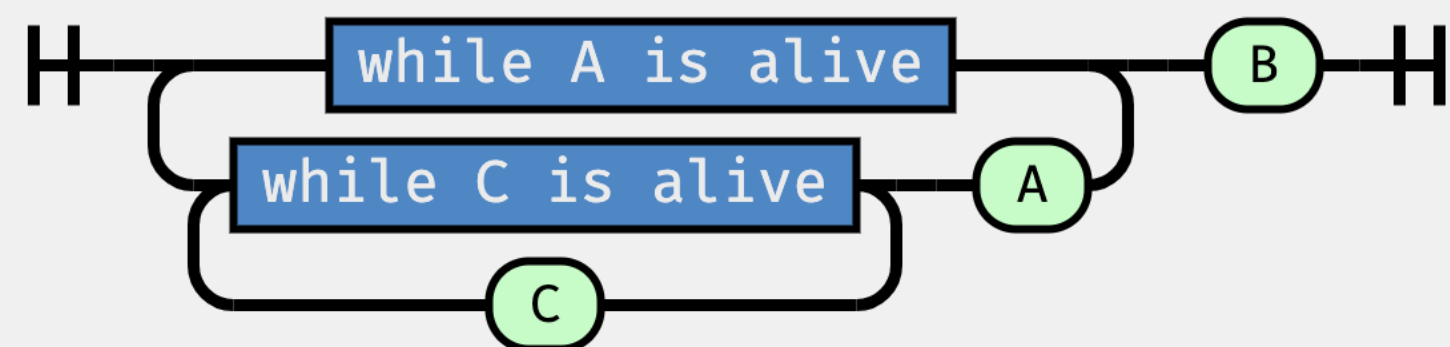
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O conveys P to A for life, then to B.



A conveys P to C for life.



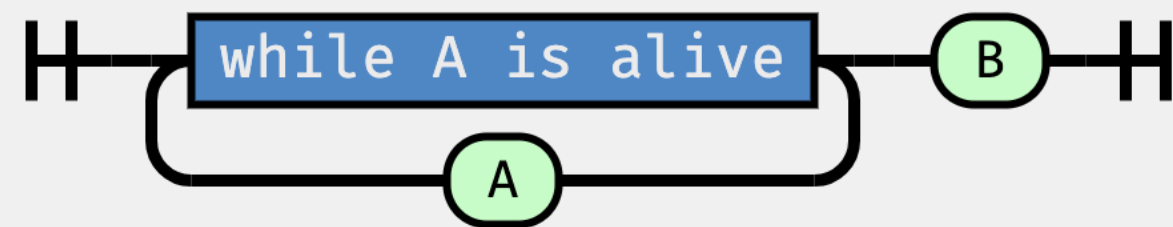
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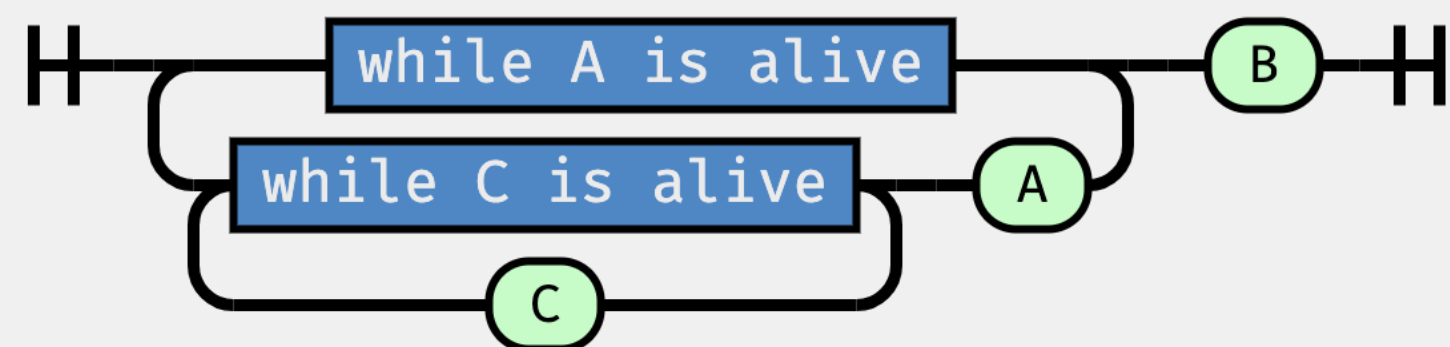
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```
1  0  owns  P .
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3  A  conveys P to C for life .
4  A  dies .
```

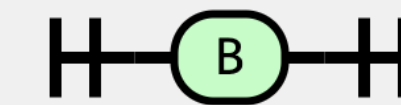
O conveys P to A for life, then to B.



A conveys P to C for life.



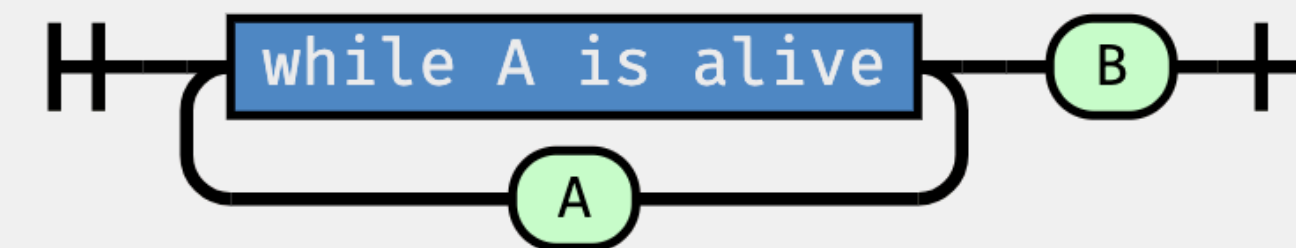
A dies.



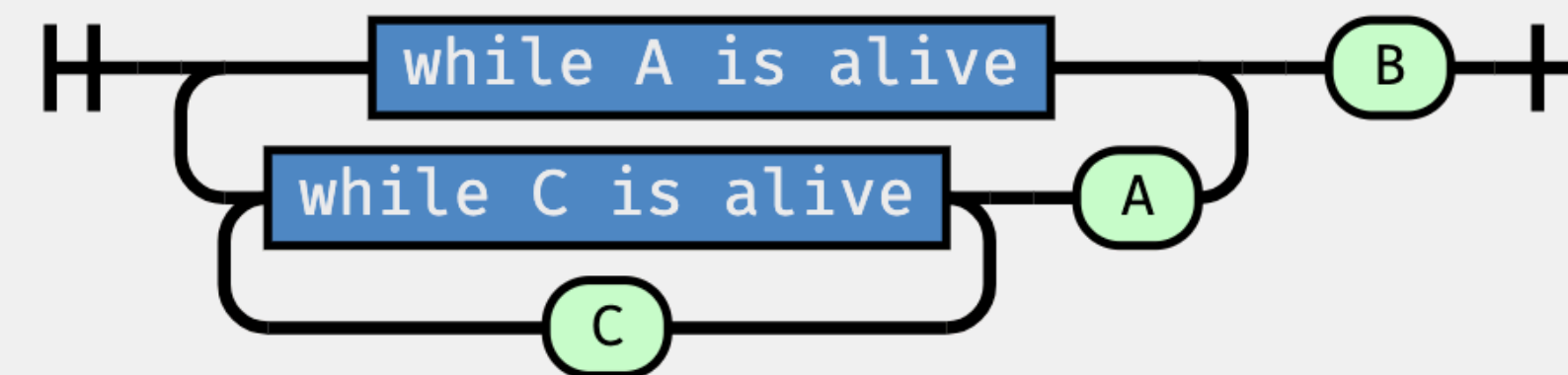
Bringing legal nuance to the fore

The law cares about *how* you came to own something.

O conveys P to A for life, then to B.



A conveys to C for life.



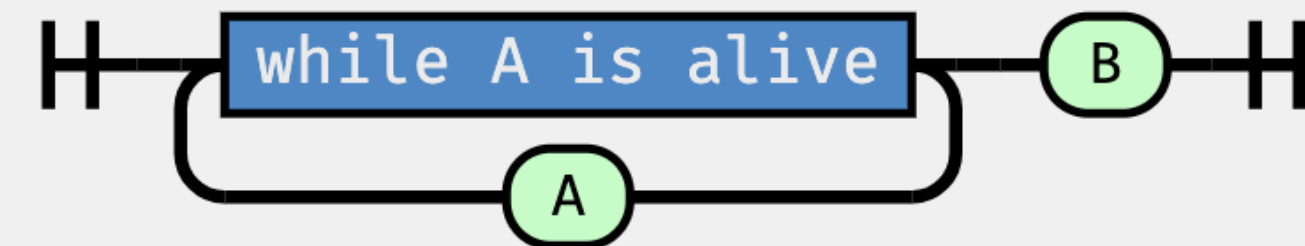
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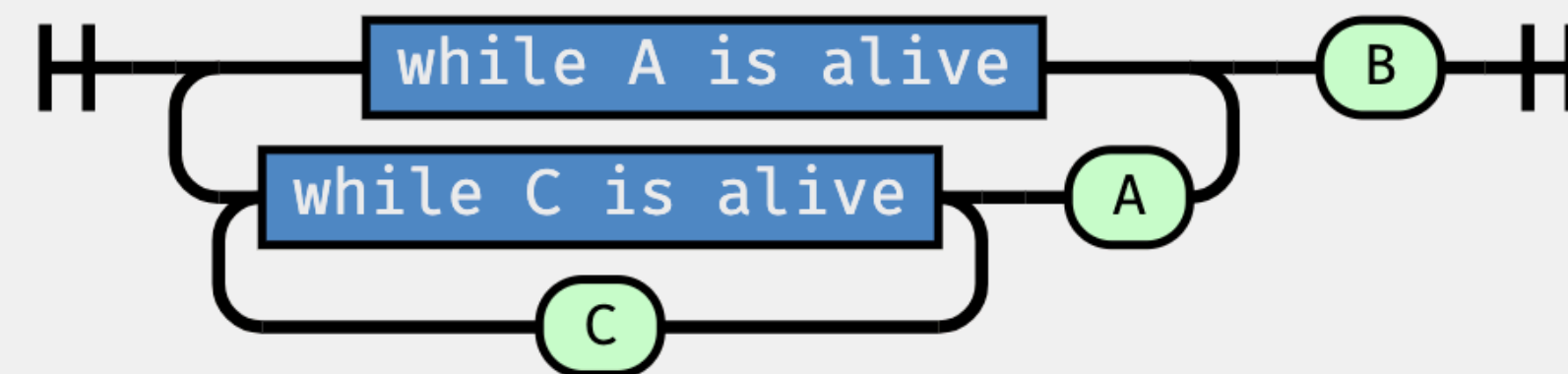
We already have this information.

We need to carefully bring it to the surface.

O conveys P to A for life, then to B.



A conveys to C for life.



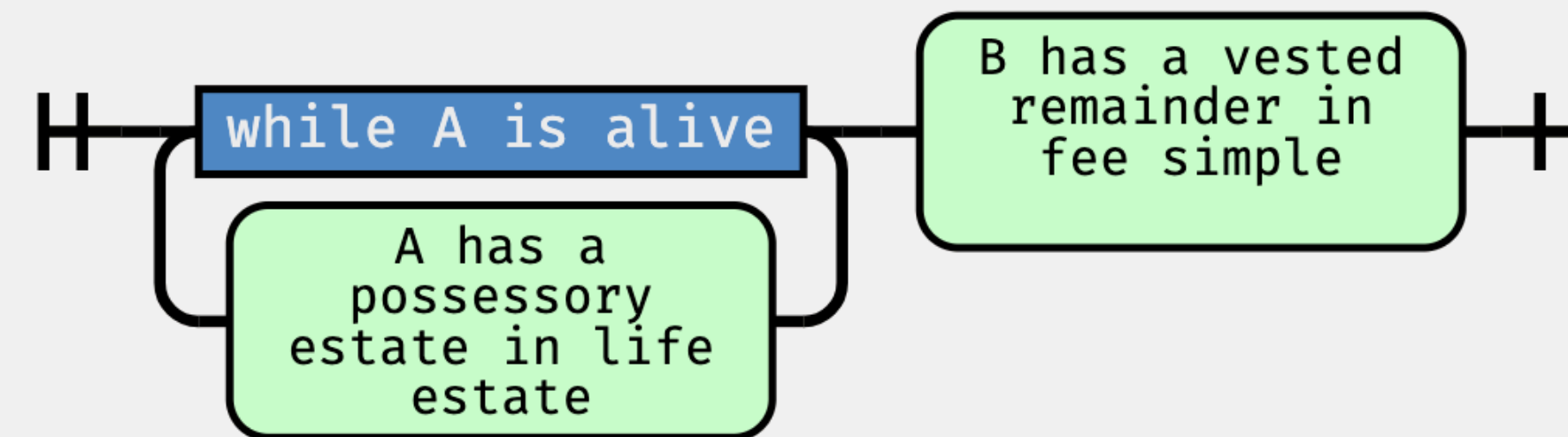
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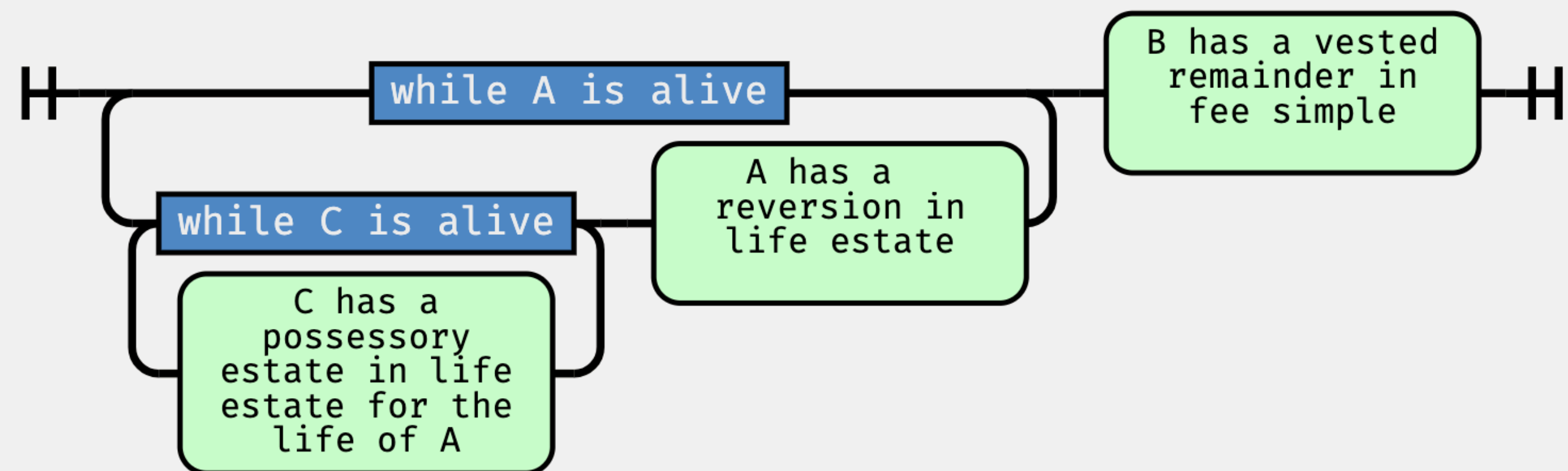
We already have this information.

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O conveys P to A for life, then to B.



A conveys to C for life.



A pedagogical resource

Littleton: A Future Interests Int x +

conveyanc.es/interpreter.html?

Choose an example or write your own

To Lear for life, then if Goneril survives Regan to Goneril for life, otherwise to Regan, then to Cordelia and her heirs.
Goneril dies.
Lear conveys to Cordelia.

Interpret ▶ Get Help!

Tutorial ▾

- To A for life, then to B.
A dies.
- To A for life, then to B for life, then to C for life.
B dies.
A dies.
C dies.
- To Slughorn for life, but if Slughorn eats chocolate to Charlie Bucket.
Slughorn dies.
- O conveys to A.
O conveys to B for life, then to C.
A conveys Blackacre to D.
- To Lear for life, then if Goneril survives Regan to Goneril for life, otherwise to Regan, then to Cordelia and her heirs.
- To A and eir heirs so long as A is unmarried.

Life Estates, Reversions, and Remainders ▾

See the results

To Lear for life, then if Goneril survives Regan to Goneril for life, otherwise to Regan, then to Cordelia and her heirs.

Goneril dies.

Lear conveys to Cordelia.

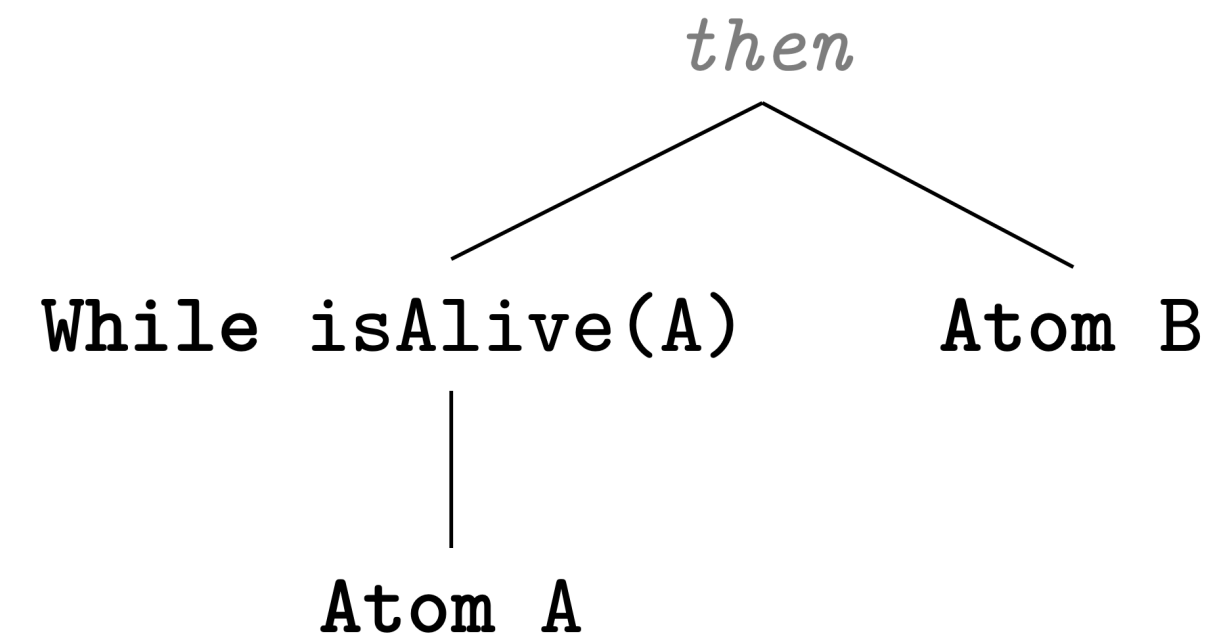
A pedagogical resource

Featuring dozens of examples from
Linda Edwards's standard textbook
Estates in Land and Future Interests.

- Determinable Interests ▾
- Executory Interests and Conditions Subsequent ▾
- Conditions Precedent ▾
- Miscellaneous Doctrines ▾
- Concurrent Interests ▾
- To A and B as tenants in common.
- To A and B and C and D as tenants in common.
- O conveys to A and B as tenants in common.
A conveys to C.
B conveys to D for life.
- O conveys to A and B as tenants in common.
A conveys to B.
- O conveys to A and B as tenants in common.
A conveys to C and D as tenants in common.
C conveys to B.
- O conveys to A and B as tenants in common for the life of A,
then to C and D as tenants in common.
- O conveys to A and B as joint tenants.
- Wills and Intestacy ▾
- Fee Tail ▾
- Term of Years ▾
- Class Gifts ▾
- Vesting ▾

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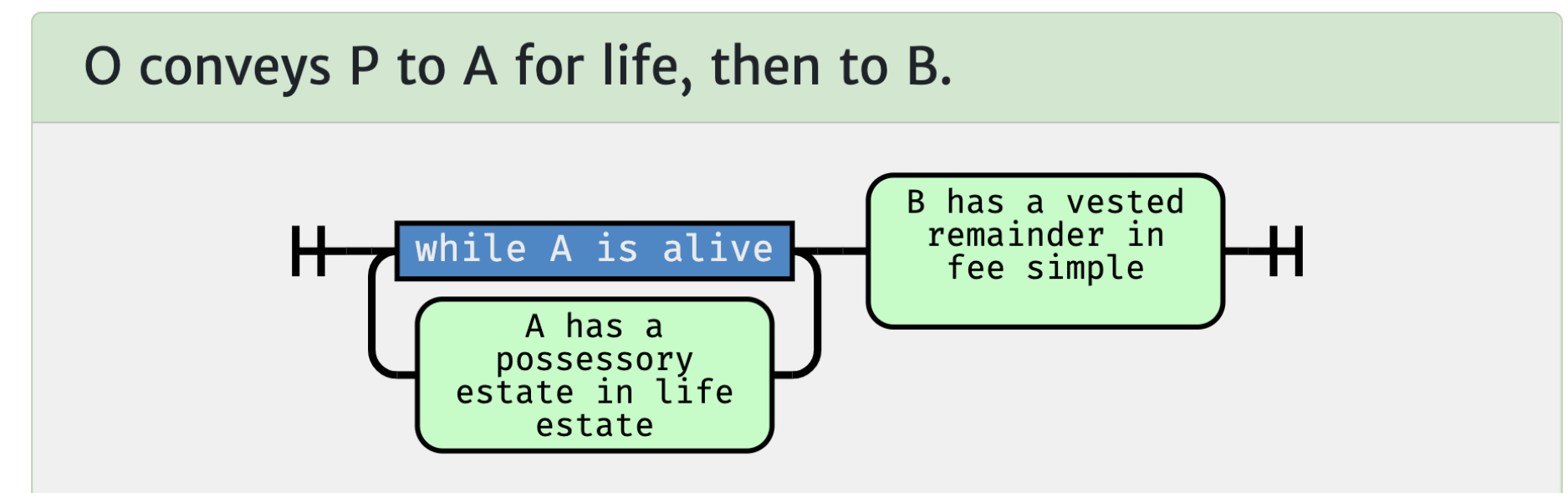
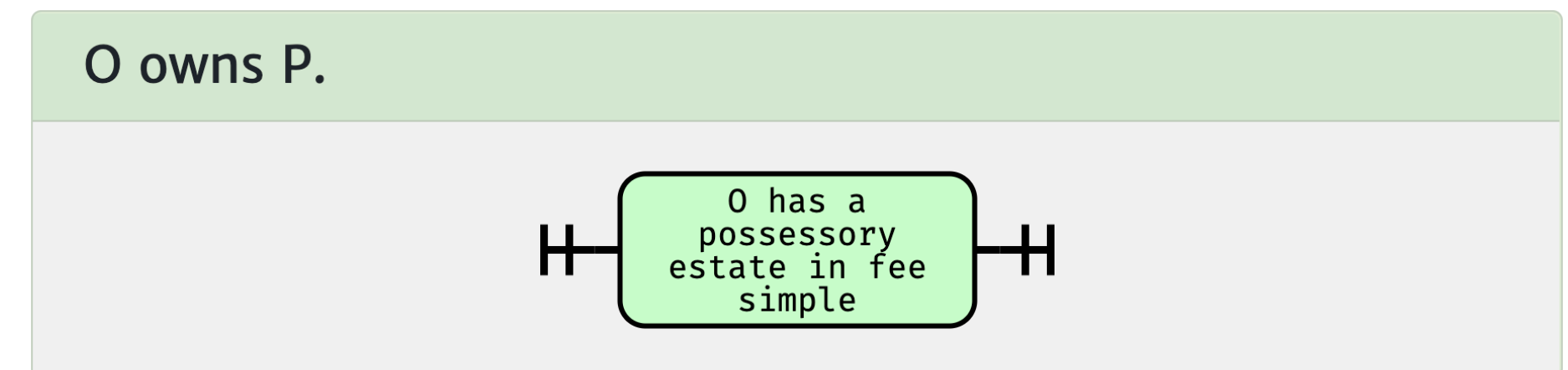
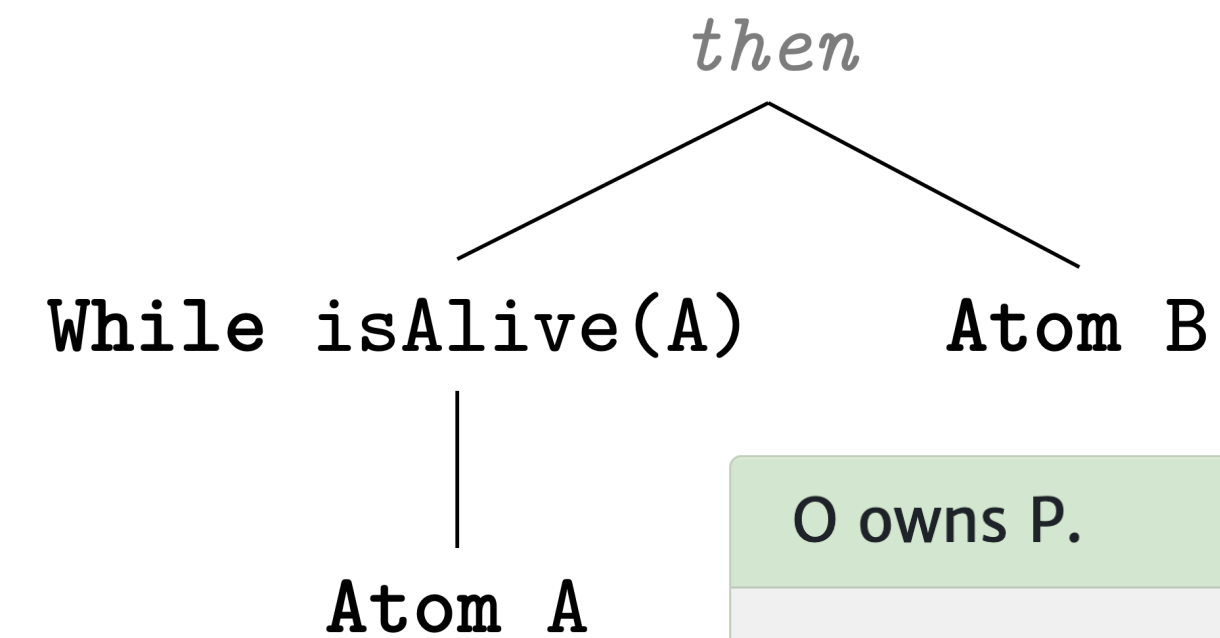
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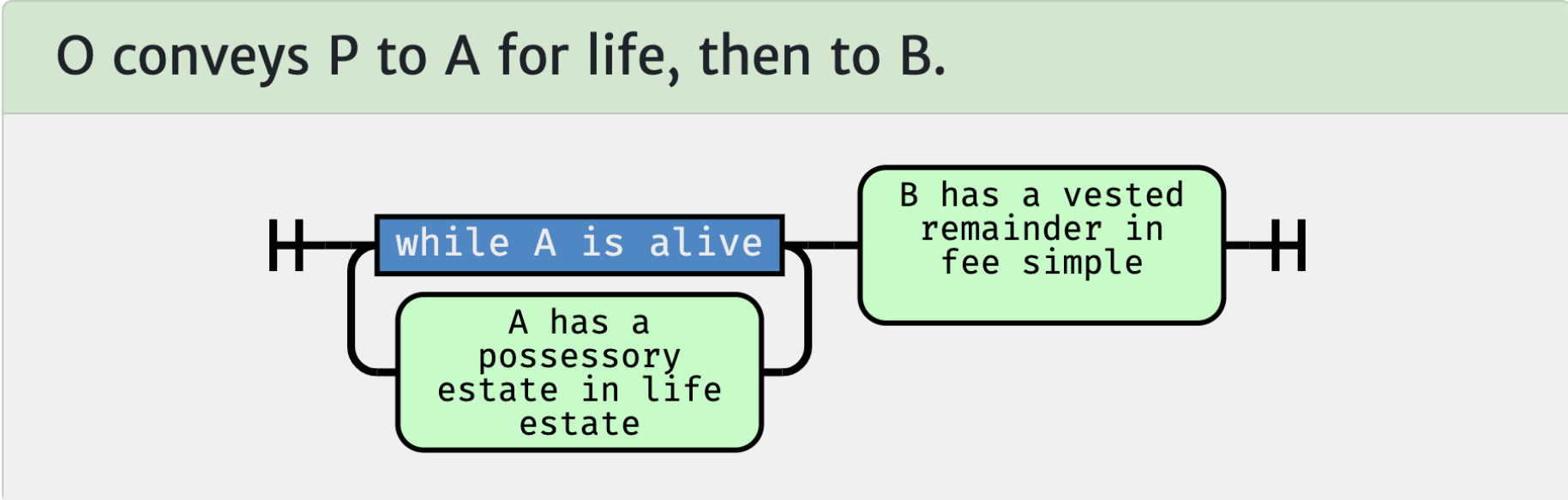
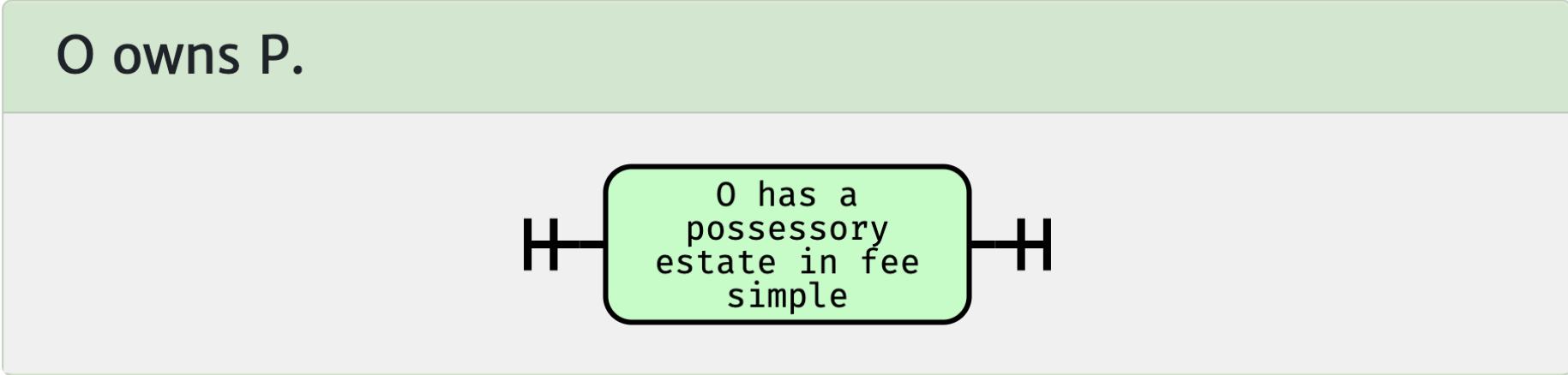
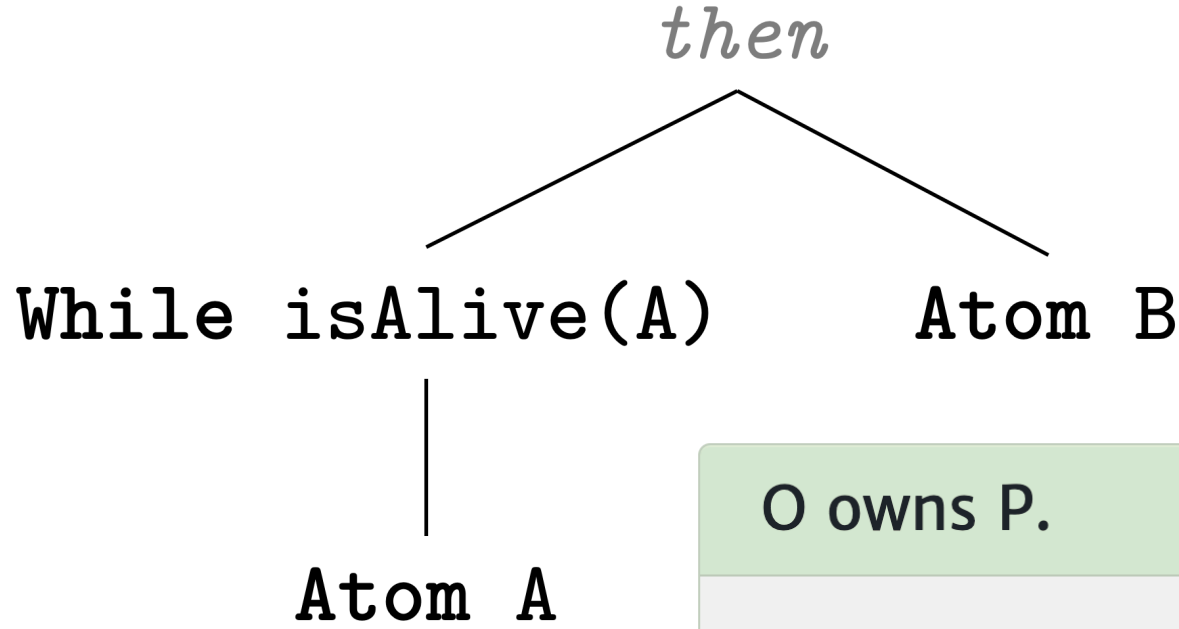


system

Orlando + Littleton: A ~~PL~~ for property law

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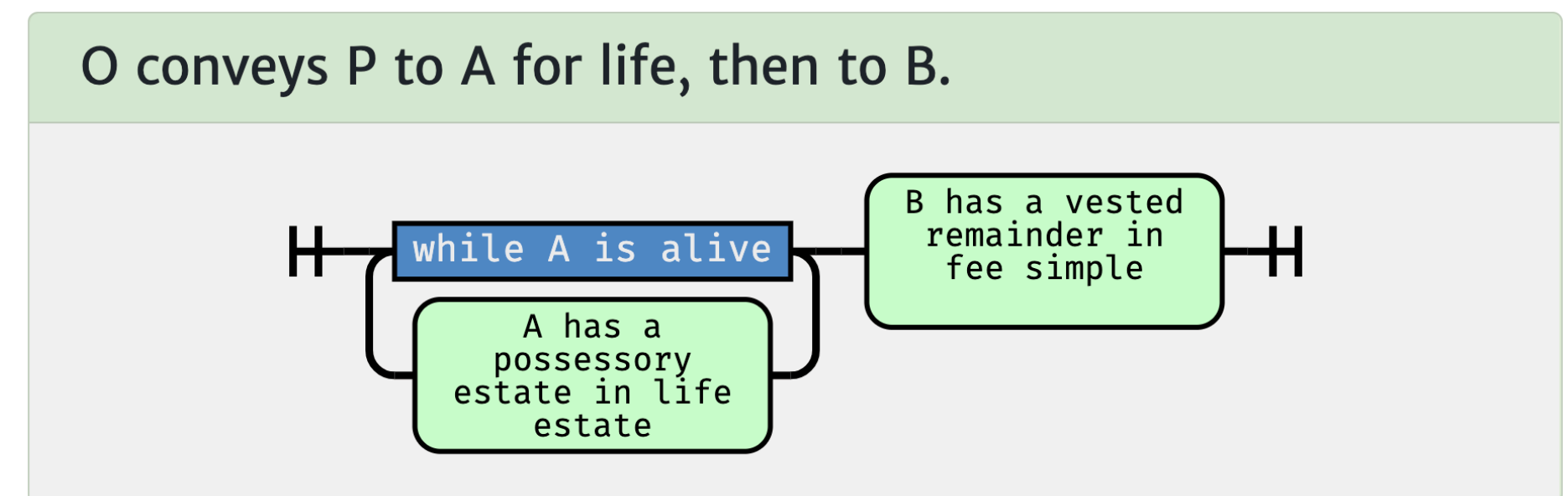
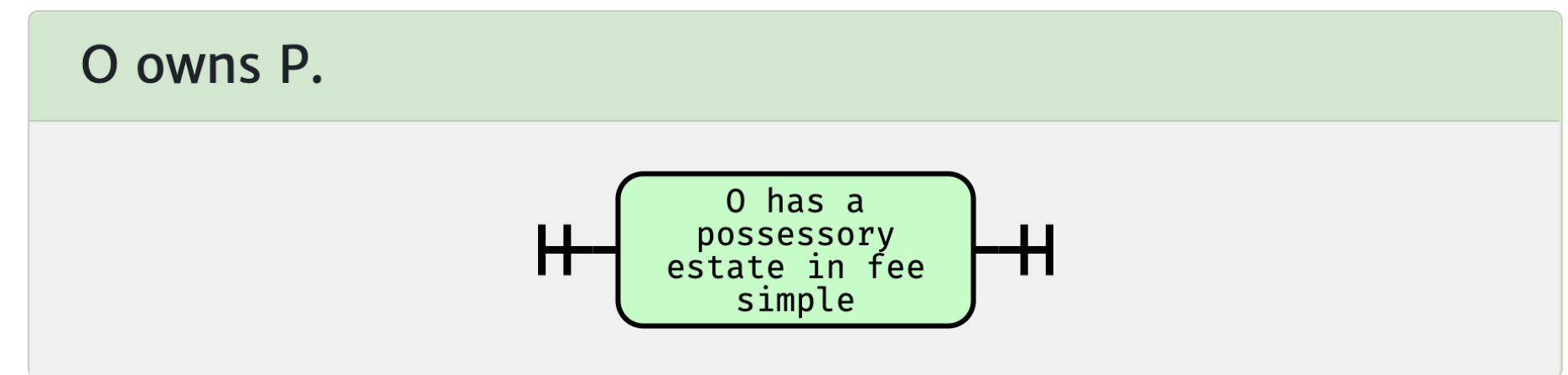
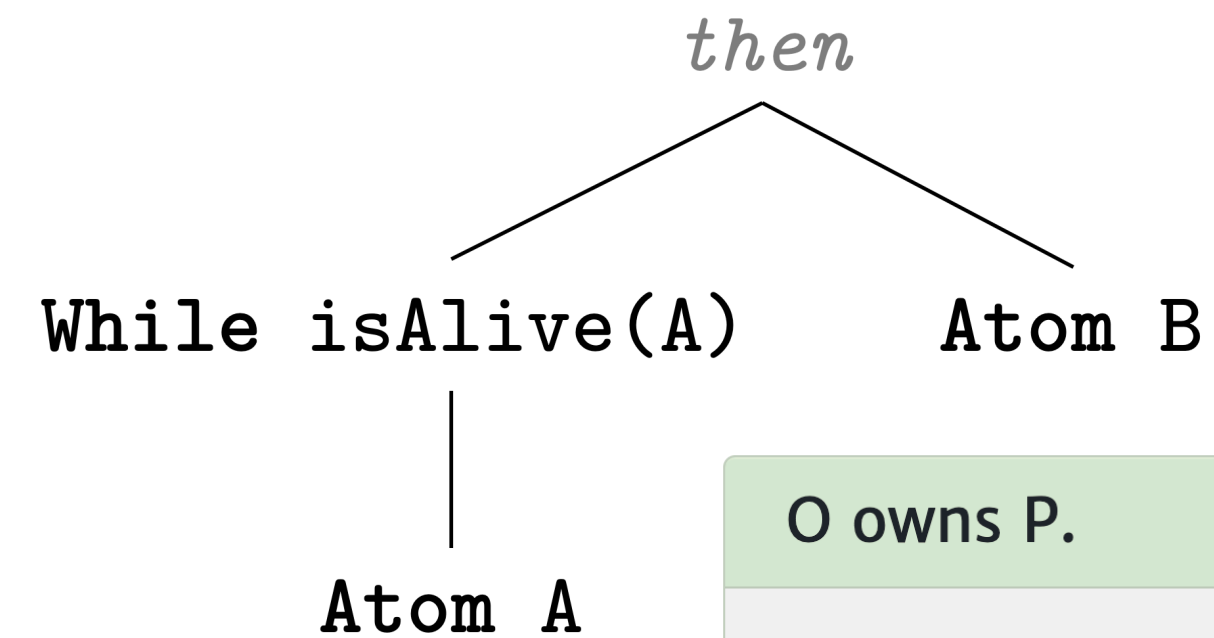


Orlando + Littleton: A ~~PL~~ ^{system} for property law

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It has opened up the possibility of classroom deployment.



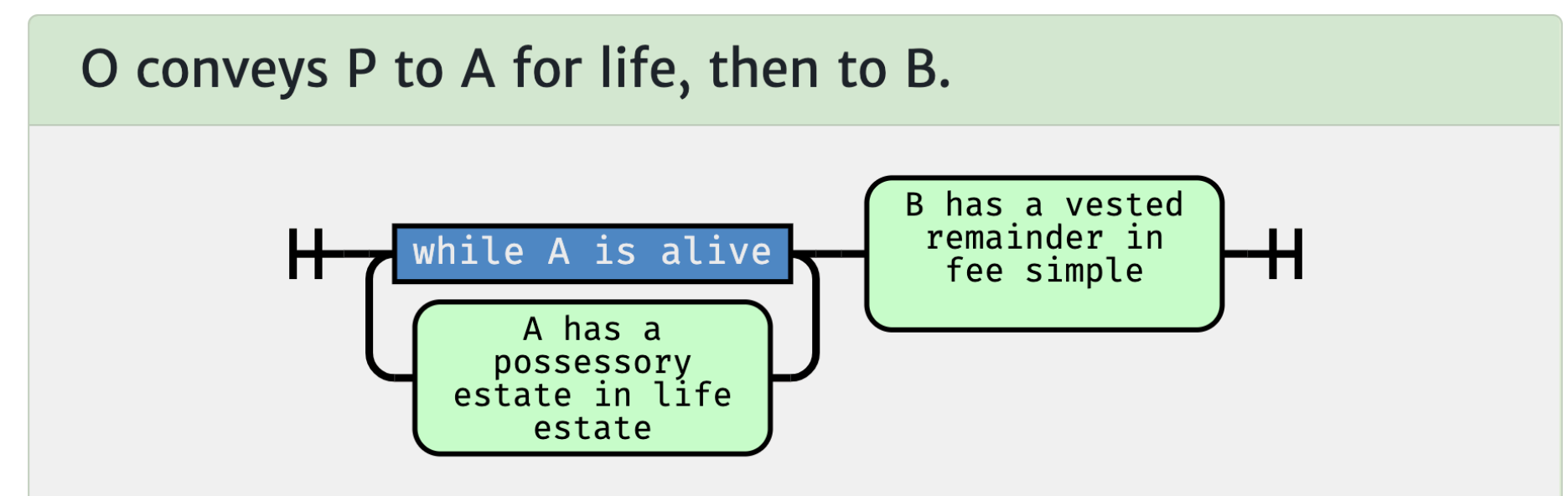
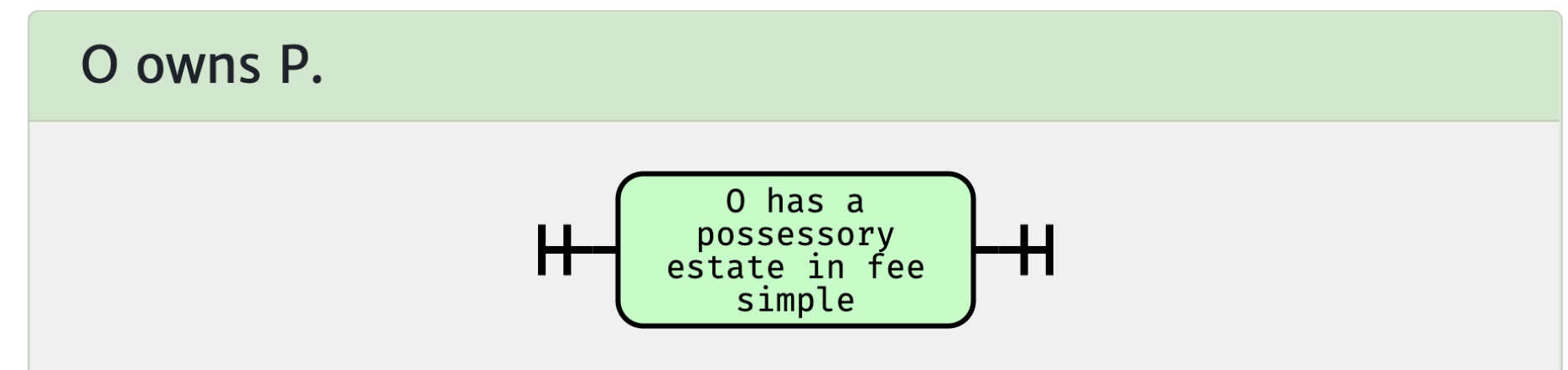
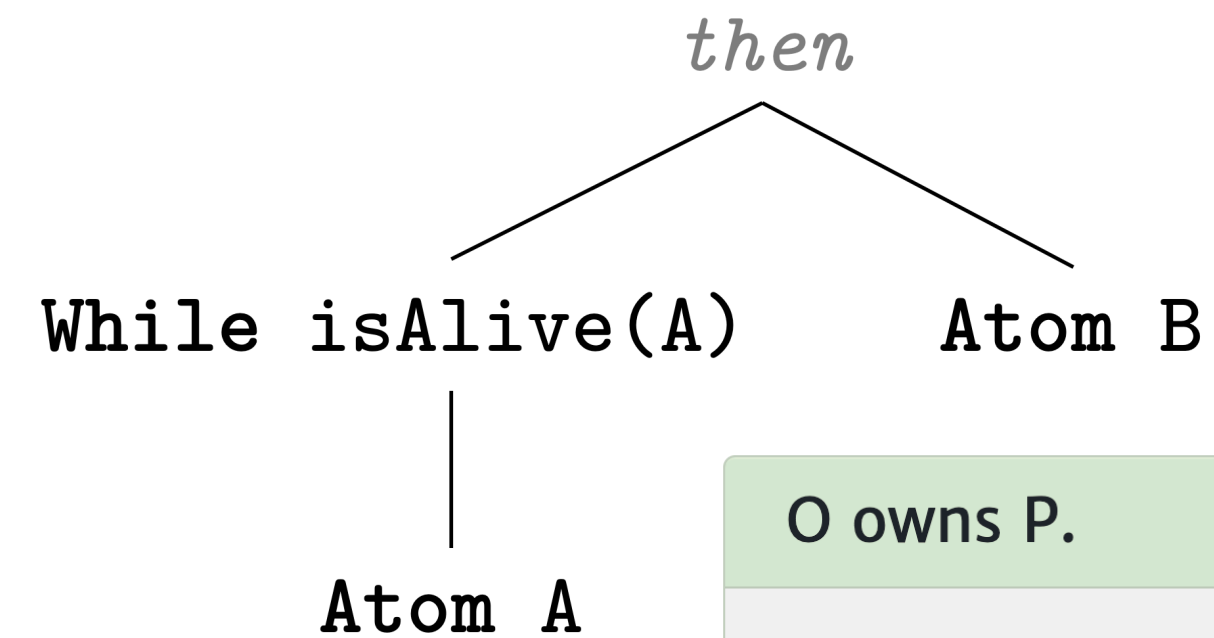
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Try it now: <https://conveyanc.es/>



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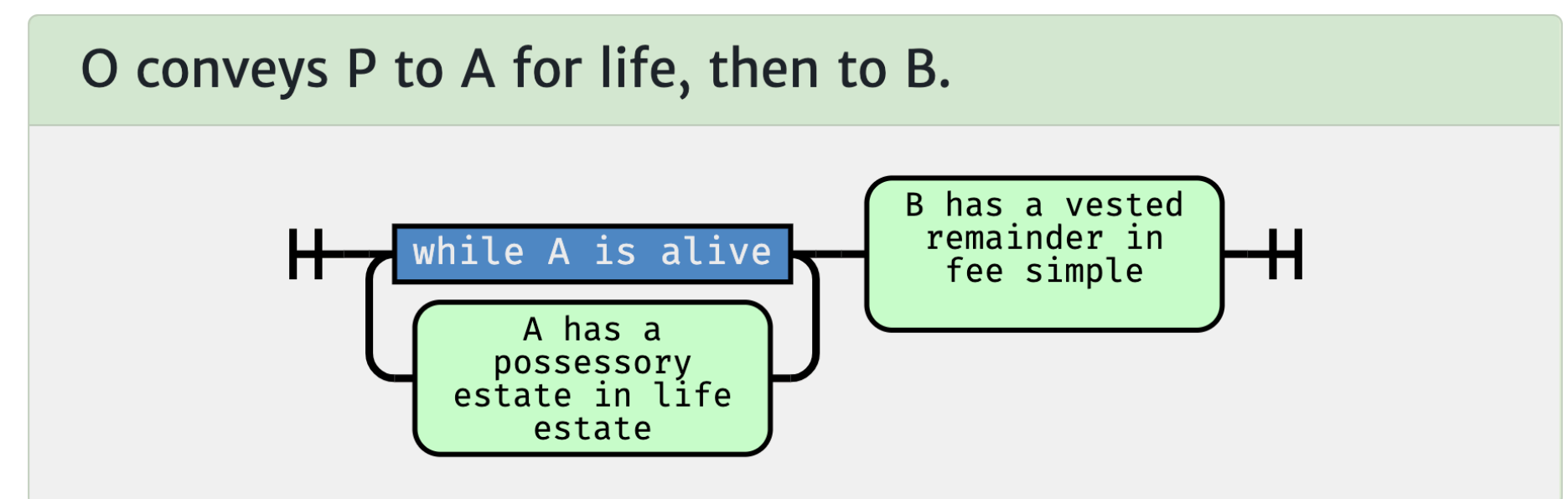
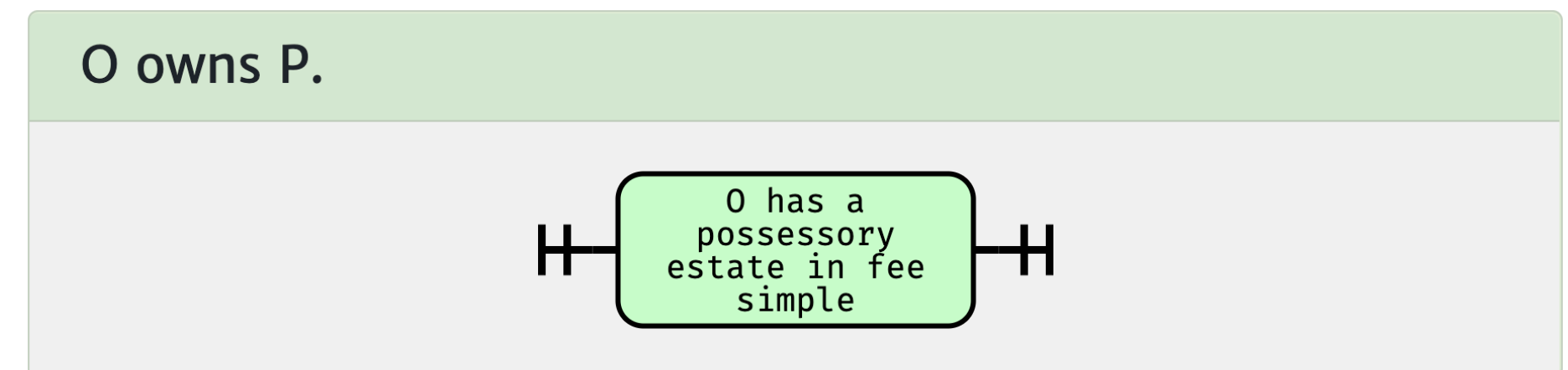
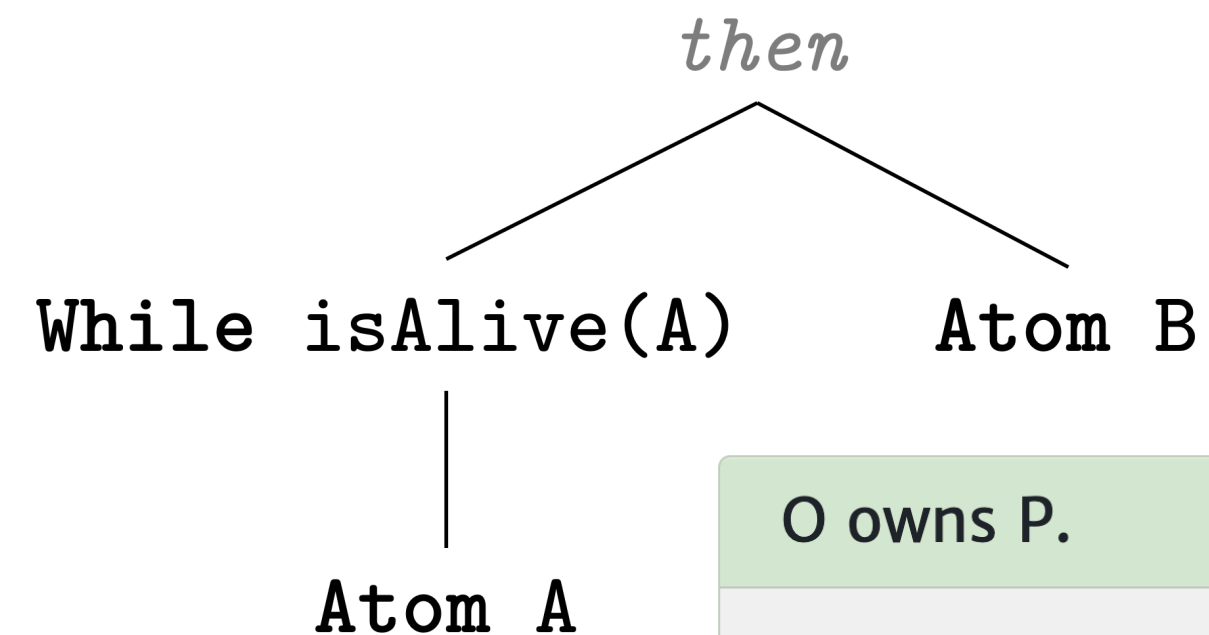
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Thanks!