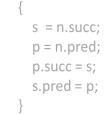
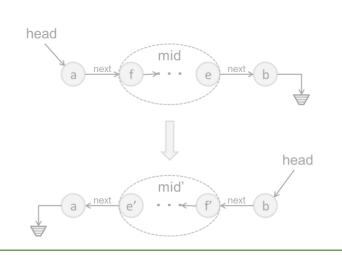
## $\exists c \forall in \ Q(c, in)$

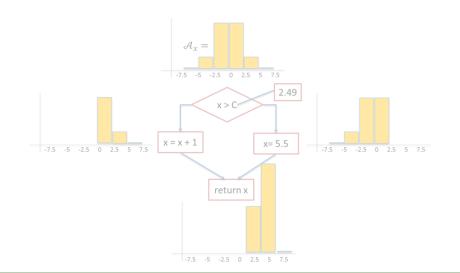
```
/* Average of x and y without using x+y (avoid overflow)*/
int avg(int x, int y) {
  int t = expr({x/2, y/2, x%2, y%2, 2 }, {PLUS, DIV});
  assert t == (x+y)/2;
  return t;
}
```

```
f_1
f_2
f_3
f_3
f_4
f_5
f_7
```



# Unit I: Synthesis from Examples







# Lecture 2 Syntax-Guided Synthesis and Enumerative Search

Nadia Polikarpova

## Logistics

#### Shared Google folder

- Does everyone have access?
- Register your team by Friday

#### EasyChair

- Does everyone have PC access?
- Submit review by Wednesday
- Paper discussion on Thursday

#### Other questions?

## This week

Synthesis from examples: motivation and history Syntax-guided synthesis

• grammars as structural constraints

#### Enumerative search

• enumerating all programs generated by a grammar

#### How to make it scale

search space pruning and prioritization

## Synthesis from Examples

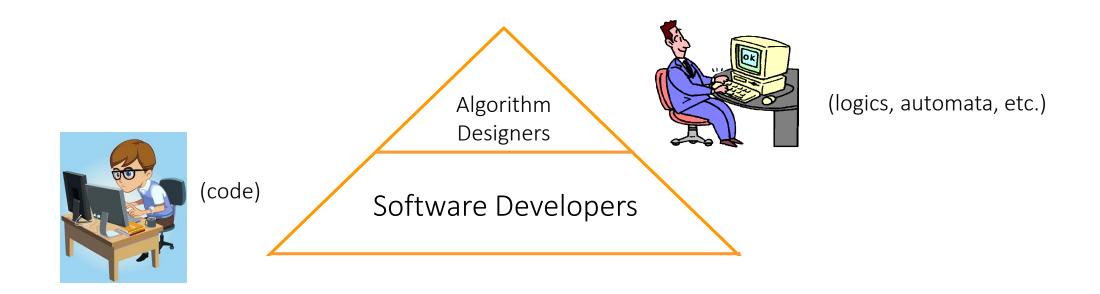
=

Programming by Example

=

Inductive Synthesis (Inductive Learning)

## Programming by Example: Motivation



(examples!)

## The Zendo game



This is called inductive learning!

The teacher makes up a secret rule

• e.g. all pieces must be grounded

The teacher builds two koans (a positive and a negative)

Students take turns to build koans and ask the teacher to label them

A student can try to guess the rule

- if they are right, they win
- otherwise, the teacher builds a koan on which the two rules disagree

## A little bit of history: inductive learning

MIT/LCS/TR-76

LEARNING STRUCTURAL DESCRIPTIONS FROM EXAMPLES

Patrick H. Winston

September 1970



Patrick Winston

Explored the question of generalizing from a set of observations

Similar to Zendo

Became the foundation of machine learning

## A little bit of history: PBE/PBD

Early systems searched a predefined list of programs
Tessa Lau: bring inductive learning techniques into PBE

#### Programming by Demonstration: An Inductive Learning Formulation\*

Tessa A. Lau and Daniel S. Weld
Department of Computer Science and Engineering
University of Washington
Seattle, WA 98195-2350
October 7, 1998
{tlau, weld}@cs.washington.edu

#### **ABSTRACT**

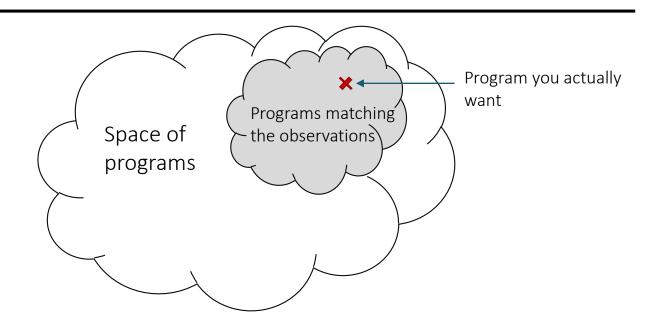
Although Programming by Demonstration (PBD) has

• Applications that support macros allow users to record a fixed sequence of actions and later replay this



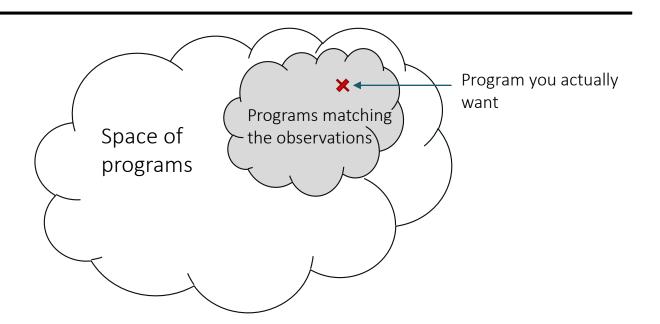
Tessa Lau

## Key issues in inductive learning



- (1) How do you find a program that matches the observations?
- (2) How do you know it is the program you are looking for?

## Key issues in inductive learning



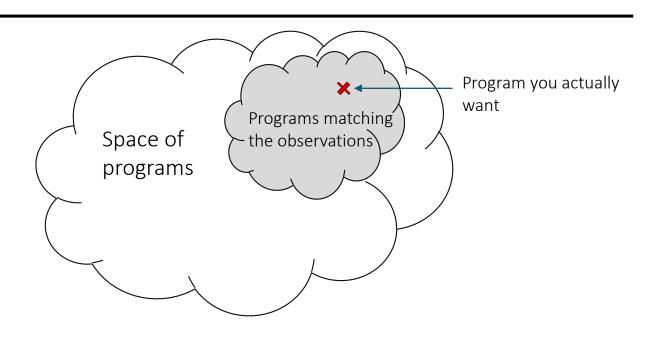
Traditional ML emphasizes (2)

• Fix the space so that (1) is easy

So did a lot of PBD work

- (1) How do you find a program that matches the observations?
- (2) How do you know it is the program you are looking for?

## The synthesis approach

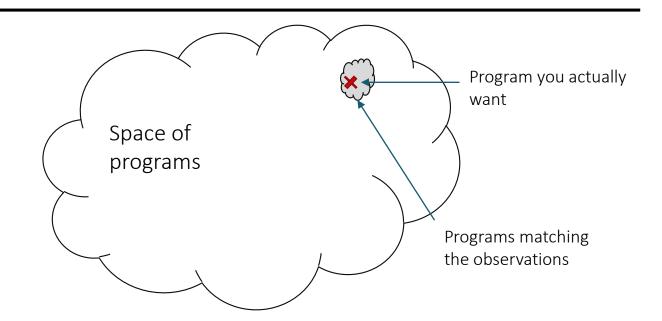


Modern emphasis

(1) How do you find a program that matches the observations?

(2) How do you know it is the program you are looking for?

## The synthesis approach



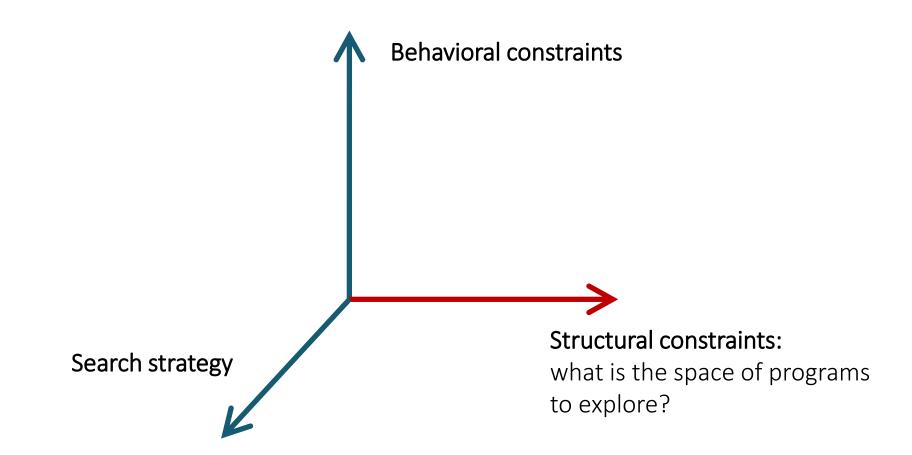
#### Modern emphasis

- If you can do really well with (1) you can win
- (2) is still important

(1) How do you find a program that matches the observations?

(2) How do you know it is the program you are looking for?

## Dimensions in program synthesis

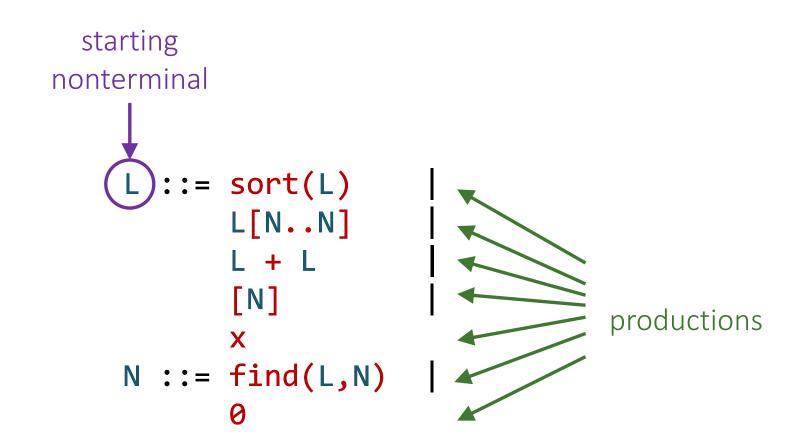


# Syntax-Guided Synthesis

## Example

```
[1,4,7,2,0,6,9,2,5,0,3,2,4,7] \rightarrow [1,2,4,7,0]
f(x) := sort(x[0..find(x, 0)]) + [0]
                                  [N]
                                  N ::= find(L,N)
```

## Context-free grammars (CFGs)



terminals

nonterminals

## CFGs as structural constraints

Space of programs

=

all complete programs generated by rewriting the starting nonterminal according to productions

## How big is the space?

depth <= 1



$$N(1) = 1$$

depth <= 2



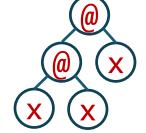


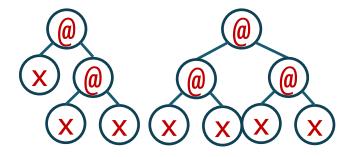
$$N(2) = 2$$

depth <= 3









$$N(3) = 5$$

$$N(d) = 1 + N(d - 1)^2$$

## How big is the space?

$$N(d) = 1 + N(d - 1)^2$$
  $N(d) \sim c^{2^d}$   $(c > 1)$ 

N(1) = 1

N(2) = 2

N(3) = 5

N(4) = 26

N(5) = 677

N(6) = 458330

N(7) = 210066388901

N(8) = 44127887745906175987802

N(9) = 1947270476915296449559703445493848930452791205

N(10) = 3791862310265926082868235028027893277370233152247388584761734150717768254410341175325352026

## How big is the space?

$$N(0) = 0$$
  
 $N(d) = k + m * N(d - 1)^{2}$ 

```
N(1) = 3

N(2) = 30

N(3) = 2703

N(4) = 21918630

N(5) = 1441279023230703

N(6) = 6231855668414547953818685622630

N(7) = 116508075215851596766492219468227024724121520304443212304350703
```

## CFGs as structural constraints

#### Pros:

- Clean declarative description
- Easy to sample
- Easy to explore exhaustively

#### Cons:

Insufficiently expressive

#### What if we know the following:

- Sort can be called at most once
- Sub-list is never called on a concatenation of singletons
- In a call to sub-list, the start index is <= the end index</li>

## Grammars vs generators

#### Grammars

#### Pros:

- Clean declarative description
- Easy to sample
- Easy to explore exhaustively

#### Cons:

Insufficiently expressive

#### Generators

Programs that produce programs

#### Pros:

- Extremely general
  - easy to enforce arbitrary constraints

#### Cons:

- Extremely general
  - Hard to analyze and reason about
  - Hard to automatically discover structure of the space

## The SyGuS project

SyGuS problem = < theory, spec, grammar >

A "library" of types and function symbols

**Example:** Linear Integer Arithmetic (LIA)

True, False 0,1,2,... ∧, ∨, ¬, +, ≤, ite

CFG with terminals in the theory (+ input variables)

**Example:** Conditional LIA expressions w/o sums

E ::= 
$$X \mid \text{ite } C \mid E \mid C \mid \neg C$$
C ::=  $E \leq E \mid C \mid A \mid C \mid \neg C$ 

## The SyGuS project

SyGuS problem = < theory, spec, grammar >



A first-order logic formula over the theory



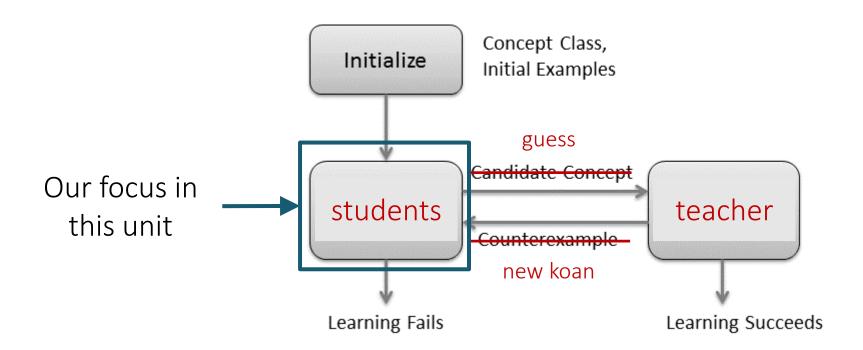
$$f(0, 1) = 1 \land f(1, 0) = 1 \land f(1, 1) = 1 \land f(2, 0) = 2$$

Formula with free variables:

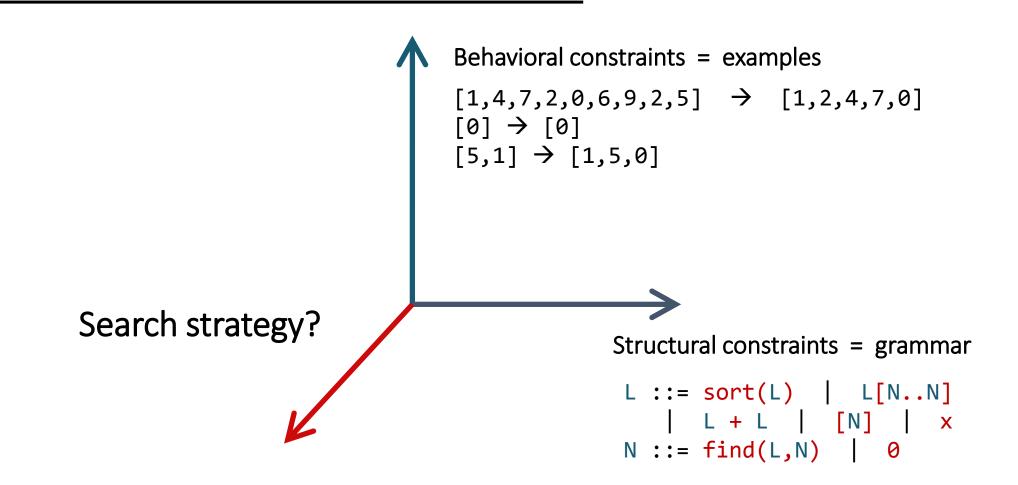
$$x \le f(x, y) \land$$
  
 $y \le f(x, y) \land$   
 $(f(x, y) = x \lor f(x, y) = y)$ 

## Counter-example guided inductive synthesis

The Zendo of program synthesis



## The problem statement



## Enumerative search

## **Enumerative search**

\_

Explicit / Exhaustive Search

Idea: Generate programs from the grammar one by one and test them on the examples

## Bottom-up enumeration

Start from terminals

Combine sub-programs into larger programs using productions

Q: "Run" bottom-up on the board with

```
L ::= sort(L)

L[N..N]

L + L

[N]

X

N ::= find(L,N)

0

[[1,4,0,6] → [1,4]]
```

```
bottom-up (\langle T, N, R, S \rangle, [i \rightarrow o]) {
  P := [t | t in T && t is nullary]
  while (true)
    P += grow(P);
    forall (p in P)
       if (whole(p) \&\& p([i]) = [o])
         return p;
grow (P) {
  P' := []
  forall (r in R)
    P' += [r[N -> ps] | ps in P]
  return P';
```

## Top-down enumeration

Start from the start non-terminal

Expand remaining non-terminals using productions

Q: "Run" top-down on the board with

```
L ::= L[N..N]

X
N ::= find(L,N)

0

[[1,4,0,6] → [1,4]]
```

```
top-down(\langle T, N, R, S \rangle, [i \rightarrow o]) {
  P := [S]
  while (P != [])
    p := P.dequeue();
    if (ground(p) \& p([i]) = [o])
      return p;
    P.enqueue(unroll(p));
unroll(p) {
  P' := []
  forall (N in p)
    forall (N ::= rhs in R)
      P' += p[N -> rhs]
  return P';
```

## Bottom-up vs top-down

#### Bottom-up

#### Top-down

#### Smaller to larger

Has to explore between 3\*10<sup>9</sup> and 10<sup>23</sup> programs to find sort(x[0..find(x, 0)]) + [0] (depth 6)

## Candidates are ground but might not be whole

- Can always run on inputs
- Cannot always relate to outputs

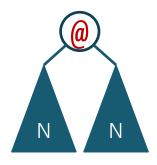
# Candidates are whole but might not be ground

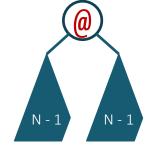
- Cannot always run on inputs
- Can always relate to outputs (?)

### How to make it scale

#### Prune

Discard useless subprograms







$$m * (N - 1)^2$$

#### **Prioritize**

Explore more promising candidates first