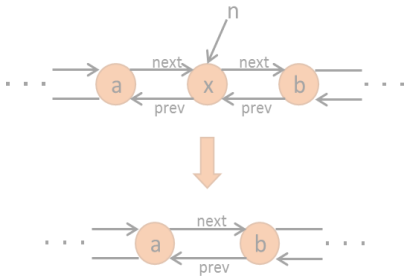
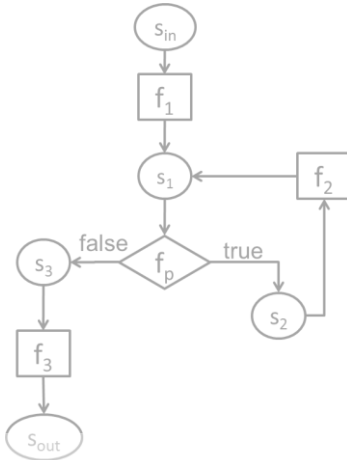


$$\exists c \forall in \ Q(c, in)$$

```

/* 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;
}

```

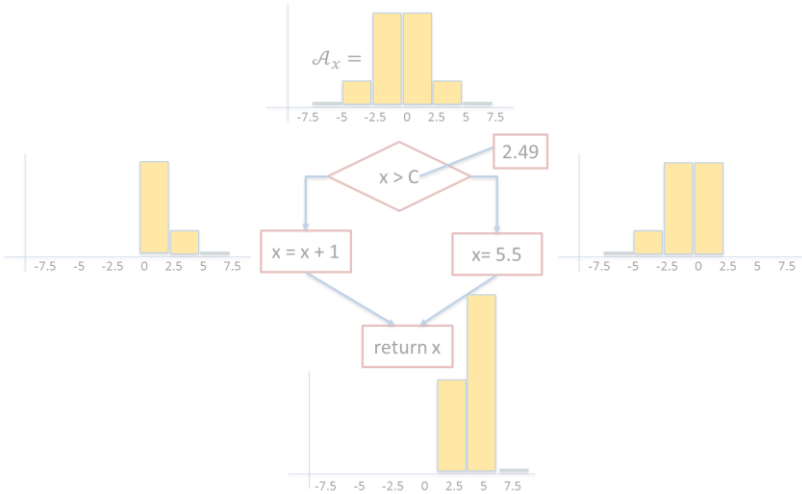
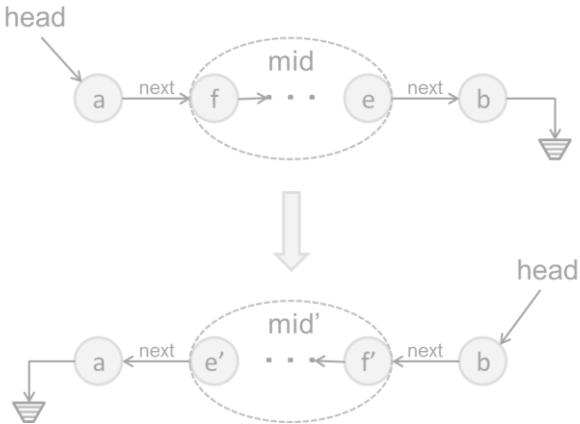


```

{
    s = n.succ;
    p = n.pred;
    p.succ = s;
    s.pred = p;
}

```

# Module I: Searching for Simple Programs



$$\varphi(p)$$

$$Sk[c](in)$$

# Lecture 2

## Syntax-Guided Synthesis and Enumerative Search

*Nadia Polikarpova*

# Logistics

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## Shared Google folder

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

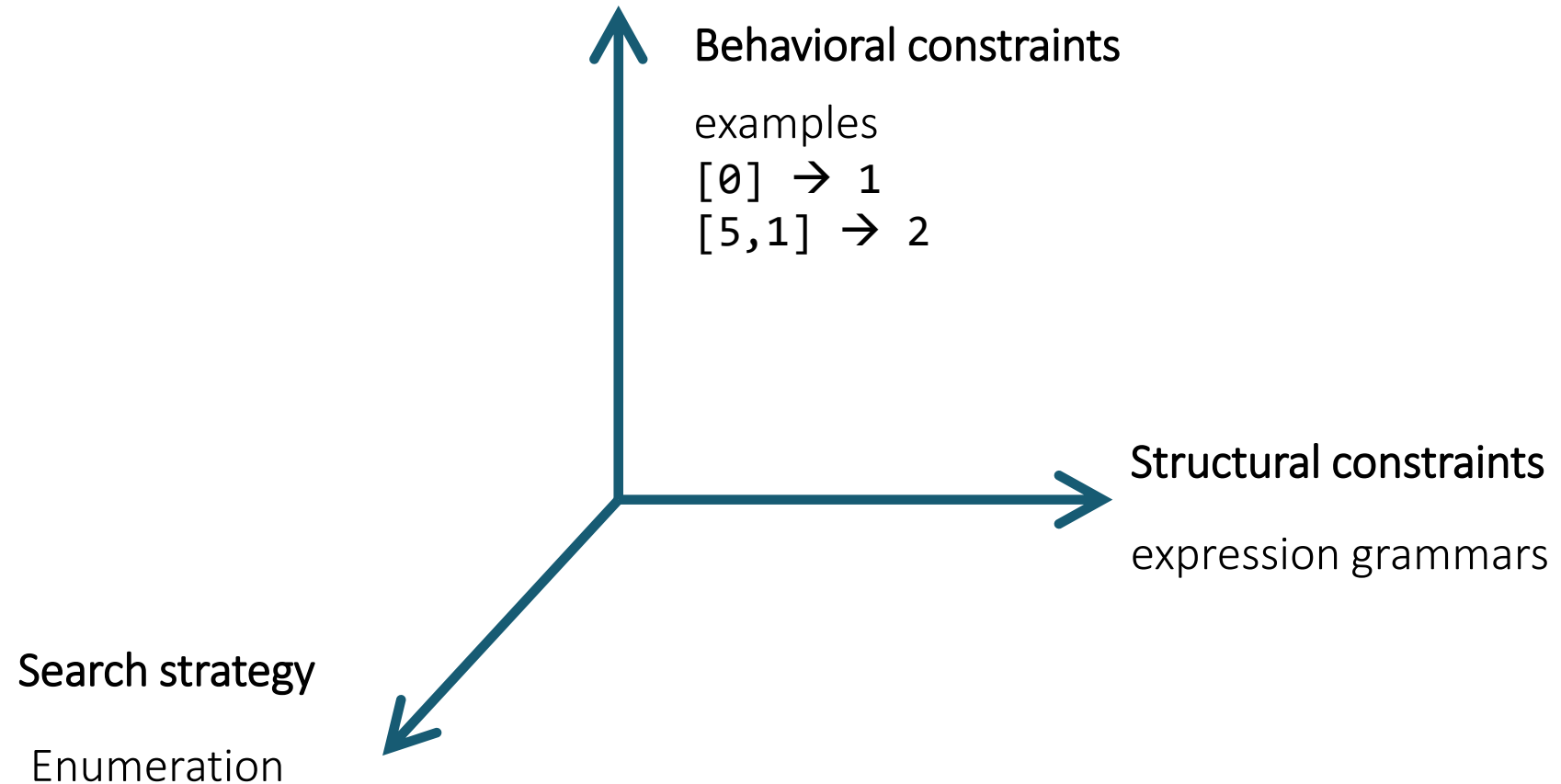
## EasyChair

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

Other questions?

# Week 1-2

---



# Today

---

Synthesis from examples: motivation and history

Syntax-guided synthesis

- expression grammars as structural constraints
- the SyGuS project

Enumerative search

- enumerating all programs generated by a grammar
- bottom-up vs top-down

**Synthesis from examples**

# Synthesis from Examples

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=

Programming by Example

=

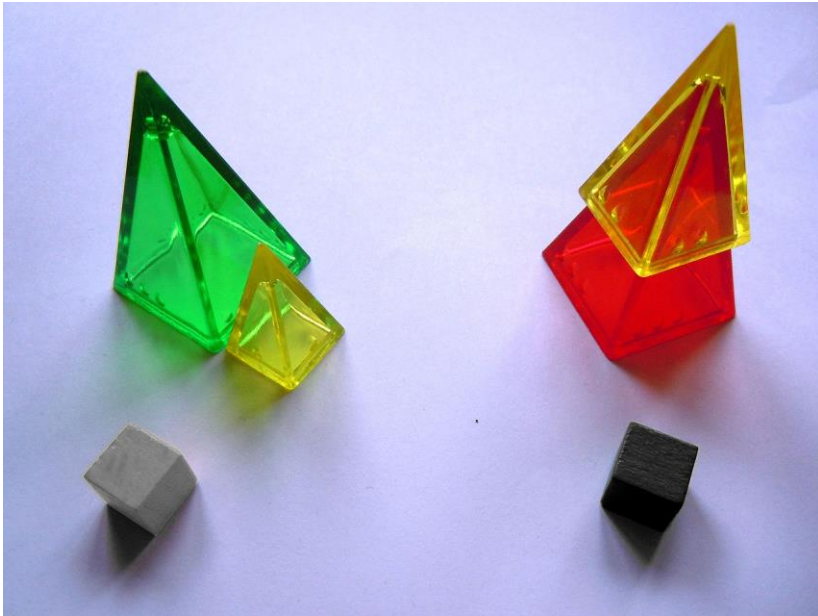
Inductive Synthesis

Inductive Programming

Inductive Learning

# 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

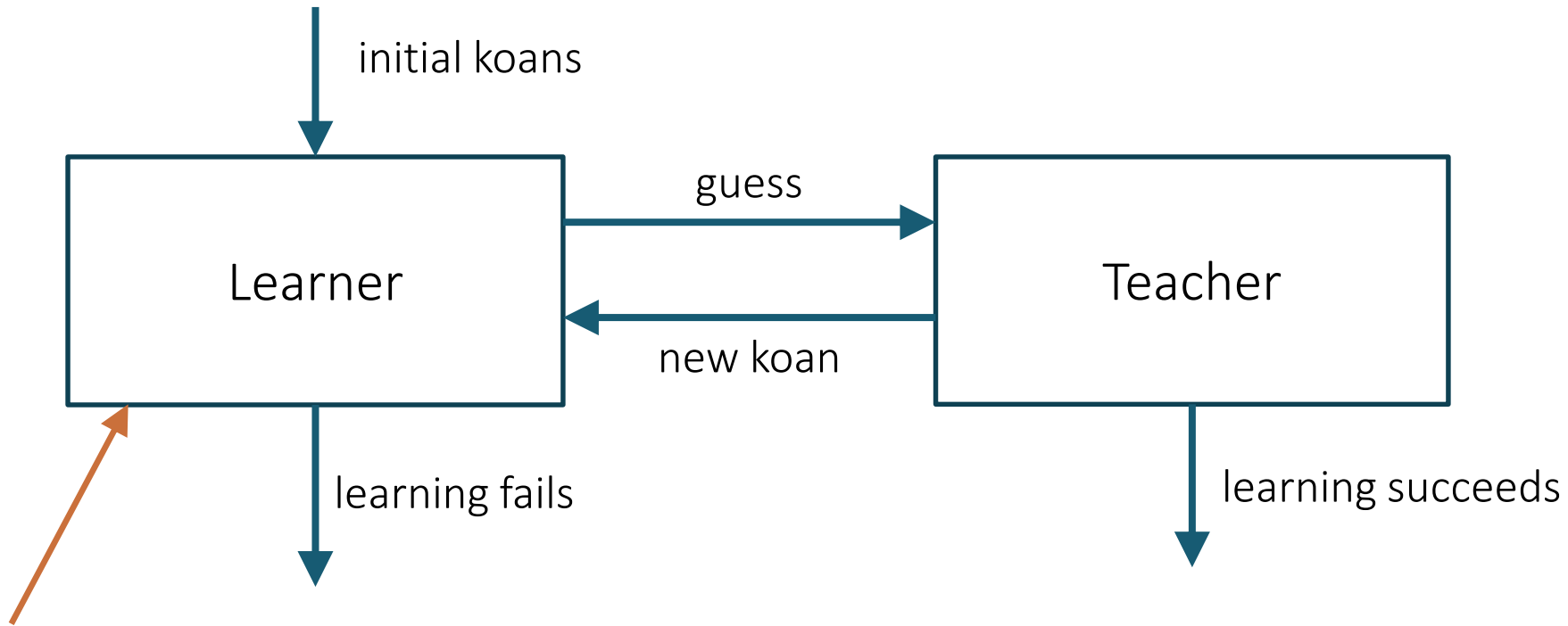
A student can try to guess the rule

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



# The Zendo game

---



1960s: humans are good at this...  
can computers do this?

# 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

---

1980s: searching a predefined list of programs

1990s (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 the potential to improve the productivity of knowledge

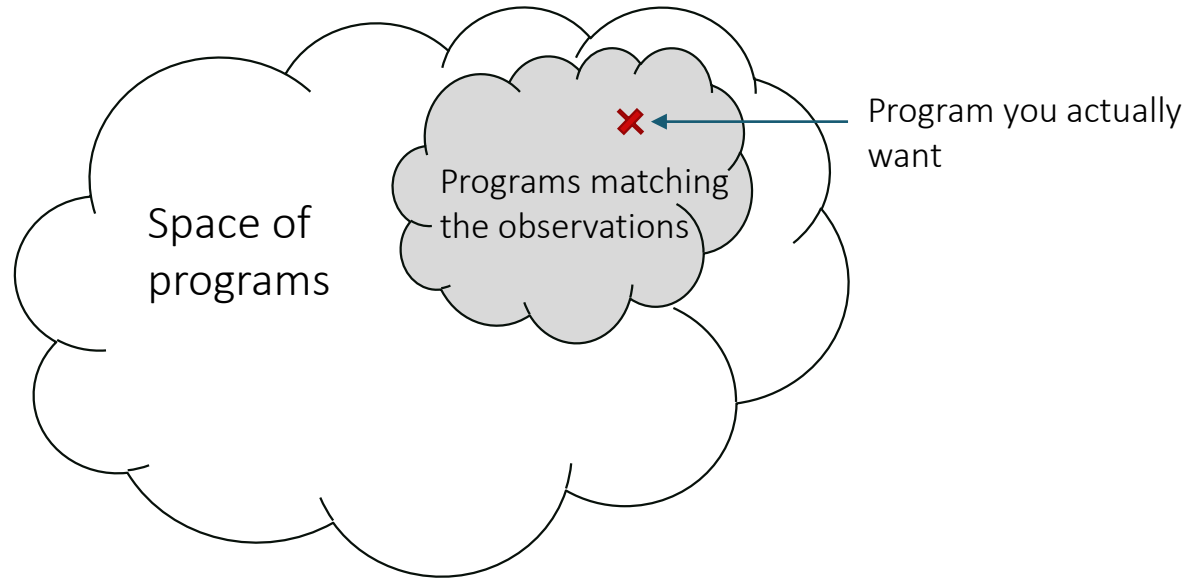
- Applications that support macros allow users to record a fixed sequence of actions and later replay this sequence using a shortcut such as a mouse click and a



Tessa Lau

# Key issues in inductive learning

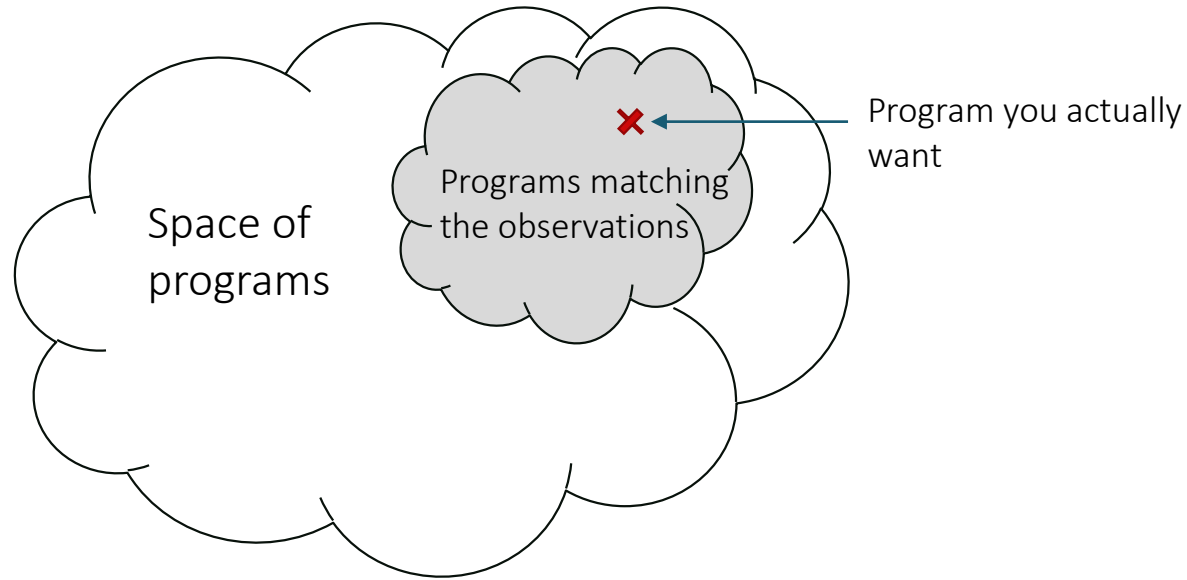
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- (1) How do you find a program that matches the observations?
- (2) How do you know it is the program you are looking for?

# Key issues in inductive learning

---



Traditional ML emphasizes (2)

- Fix the space so that (1) is easy

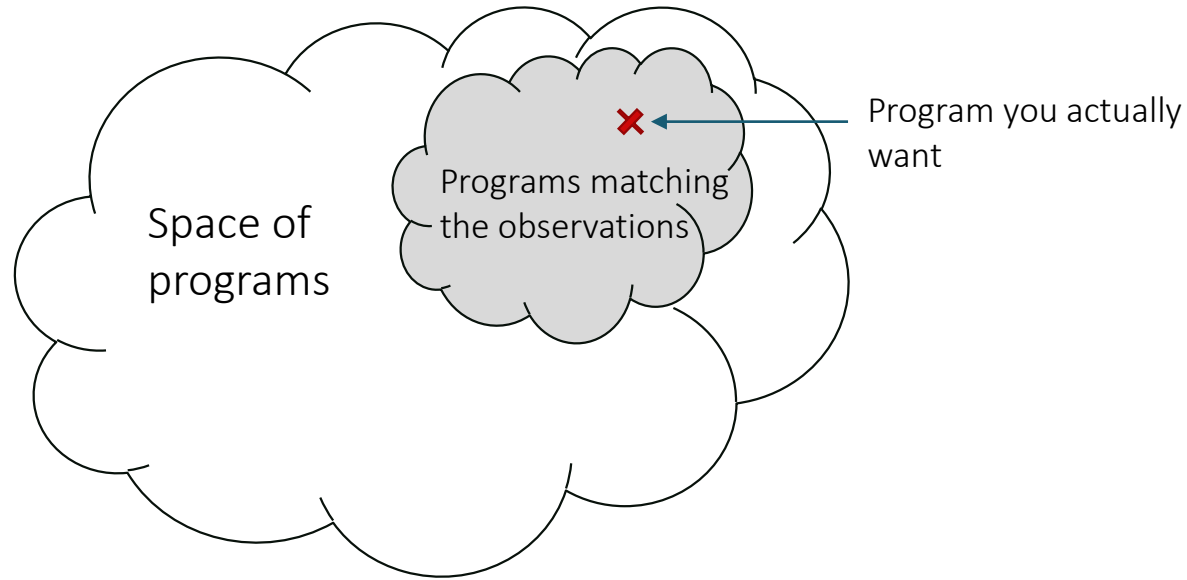
So did a lot of PBD work

(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

---

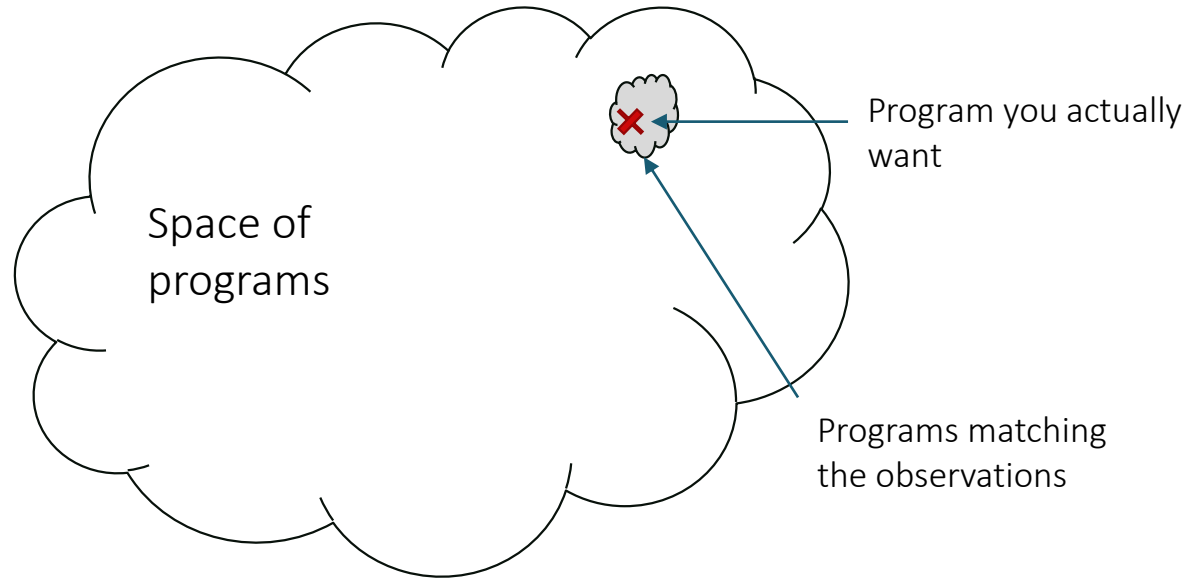


Modern emphasis

- (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

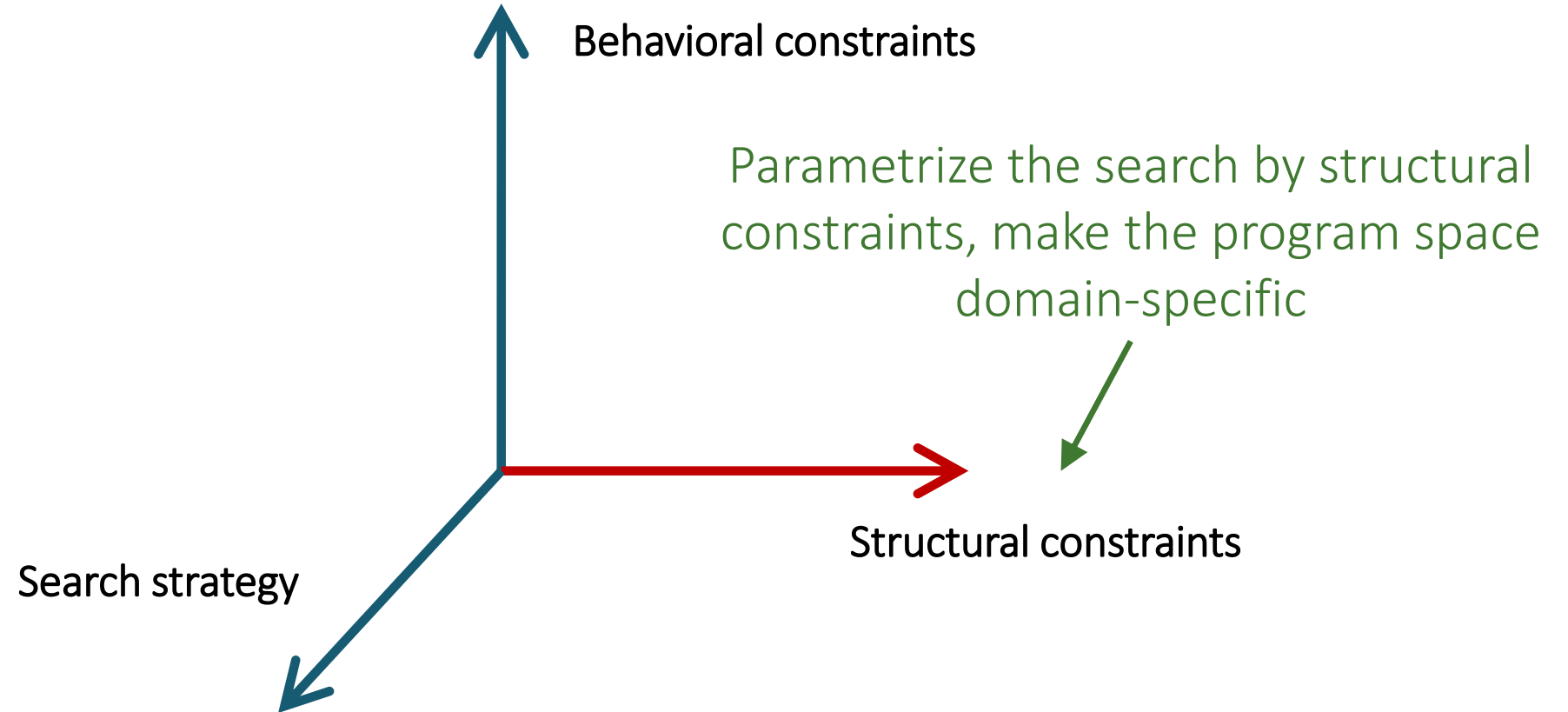
- If you can do really well with (1) you can win
- (2) is still important

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

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

# Key idea

---





# Syntax-Guided Synthesis

# Example

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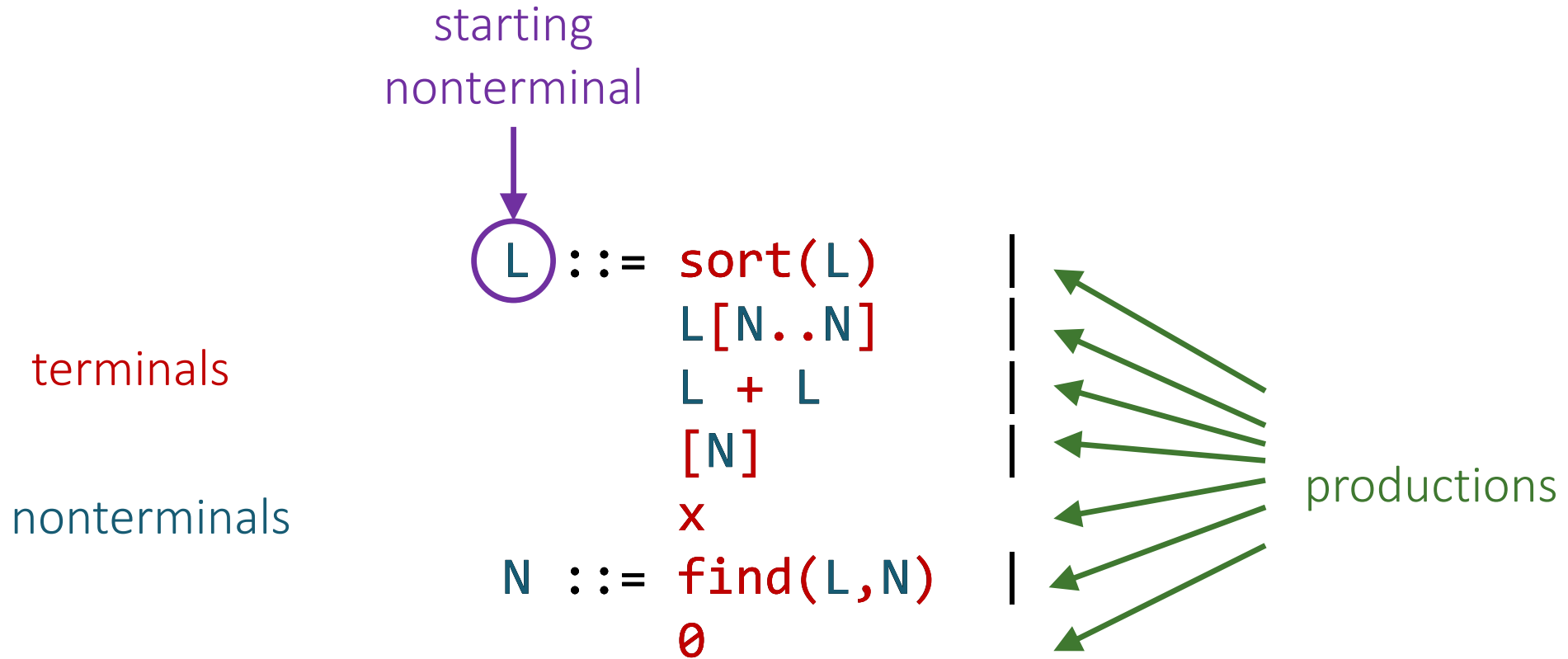
$[1, 4, 7, 2, 0, 6, 9, 2, 5, 0] \rightarrow [1, 2, 4, 7, 0]$

$f(x) := \text{sort}(x[0..\text{find}(x, 0)]) + [0]$

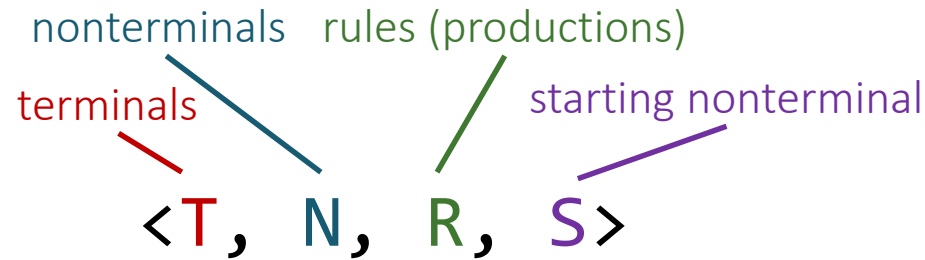
```
L ::= sort(L)      |  
    L[N..N]        |  
    L + L           |  
    [N]             |  
    x  
N ::= find(L, N)    |  
    0
```

# Context-free grammars (CFGs)

---



# Context-free grammars (CFGs)



Sentential forms:  $\{\alpha \in (N \cup T)^*\}$

Rewrites to:  $\alpha A \beta \rightarrow \alpha \gamma \beta \equiv (A \rightarrow \gamma) \in R$

(Incomplete) terms/programs:  $\{\alpha \in (N \cup T)^* \mid A \rightarrow^* \alpha\}$

Ground programs:  $\{\alpha \in T^* \mid A \rightarrow^* \alpha\}$

= programs without holes, complete programs

Whole programs:  $\{\alpha \in (N \cup T)^* \mid S \rightarrow^* \alpha\}$

= roughly, programs of the right type

$x \ N \ x$

$x \ N \ x \rightarrow x \ \text{find}(L, N) \ x$

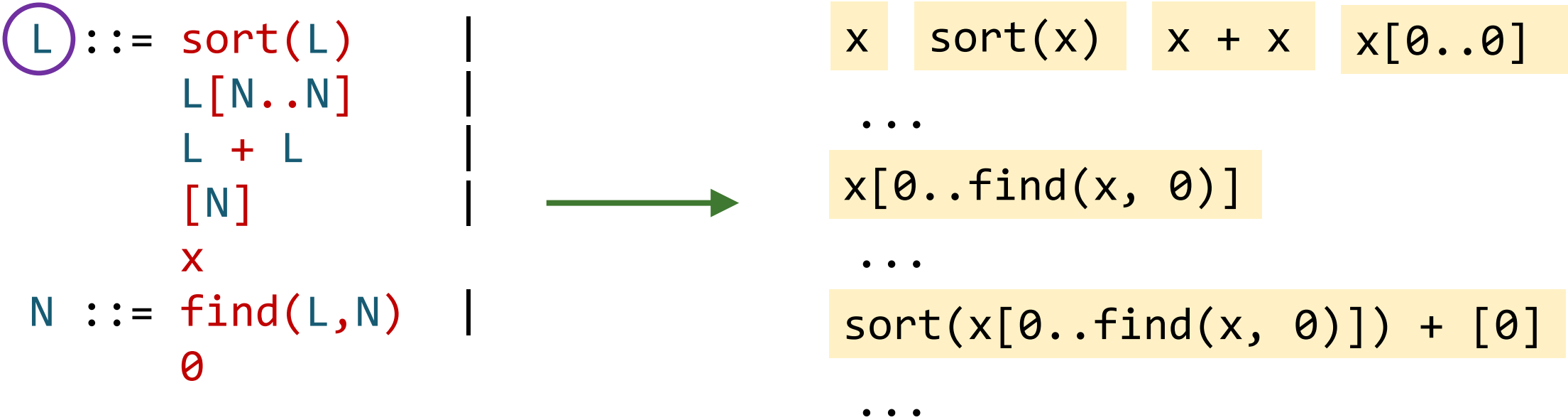
$\text{find}(L+L, N)$

$\text{find}(x+x, \theta)$

$\text{sort}(L+L)$

# CFGs as structural constraints

Space of programs  
=  
all **ground**, **whole** programs



# How big is the space?

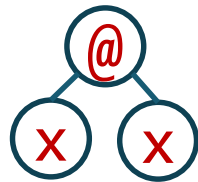
$E ::= x \mid E @ E$

depth  $\leq 0$



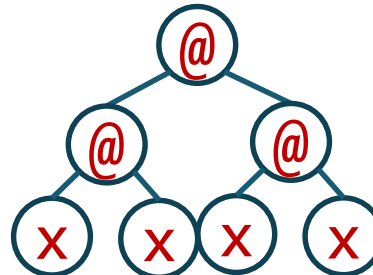
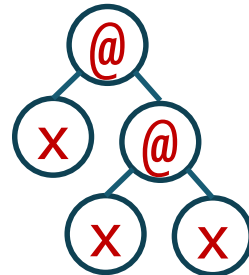
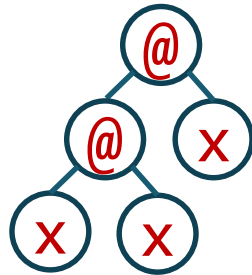
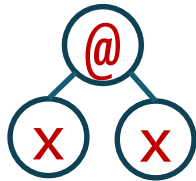
$$N(0) = 1$$

depth  $\leq 1$



$$N(1) = 2$$

depth  $\leq 2$



$$N(2) = 5$$

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

# How big is the space?

---

$E ::= x \mid E @ E$

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

$$N(d) \sim c^{2^d} \quad (c > 1)$$

$$N(1) = 1$$

$$N(2) = 2$$

$$N(3) = 5$$

$$N(4) = 26$$

$$N(5) = 677$$

$$N(6) = 458330$$

$$N(7) = 210066388901$$

$$N(8) = 44127887745906175987802$$

$$N(9) = 1947270476915296449559703445493848930452791205$$

$$N(10) = 3791862310265926082868235028027893277370233152247388584761734150717768254410341175325352026$$

# How big is the space?

---

$$E ::= E \overset{x_1}{@_1} E \mid \dots \mid E \overset{x_k}{@_m} E$$

$$N(\emptyset) = k$$

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

$$N(1) = 3$$

$$N(2) = 30$$

$$N(3) = 2703$$

$$N(4) = 21918630$$

$$N(5) = 1441279023230703$$

$$N(6) = 6231855668414547953818685622630$$

$$N(7) = 116508075215851596766492219468227024724121520304443212304350703$$

$$k = m = 3$$



# The SyGuS project

---

[Alur et al. 2013]

<https://sygus.org/>

Goal: Unify different syntax-guided approaches

Collection of synthesis benchmarks + yearly competition

- 6 competitions since 2013
- consider writing a SyGuS solver for your project!

Common input format + supporting tools

- parser, baseline synthesizers

# SyGuS problems

---

SyGuS problem =  $\langle$  theory, spec, grammar  $\rangle$

A “library” of types and function symbols

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

True, False

0, 1, 2, ...

$\wedge$ ,  $\vee$ ,  $\neg$ ,  $+$ ,  $\leq$ , ite

CFG with terminals in the theory  
(+ input variables)

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

$E ::= x \mid \text{ite } C \ E \ E$

$C ::= E \leq E \mid C \wedge C \mid \neg C$

# SyGuS problems

---

SyGuS problem =  $\langle \text{theory, spec, grammar} \rangle$

A first-order logic formula over  
the theory

Examples:

$$f(0, 1) = 1 \wedge$$

$$f(1, 0) = 1 \wedge$$

$$f(1, 1) = 1 \wedge$$

$$f(2, 0) = 2$$

# SyGuS demo

---

# SyGuS problems

---

SyGuS problem =  $\langle \text{theory, spec, grammar} \rangle$

A first-order logic formula over  
the theory

Examples:

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

Formula with free variables:

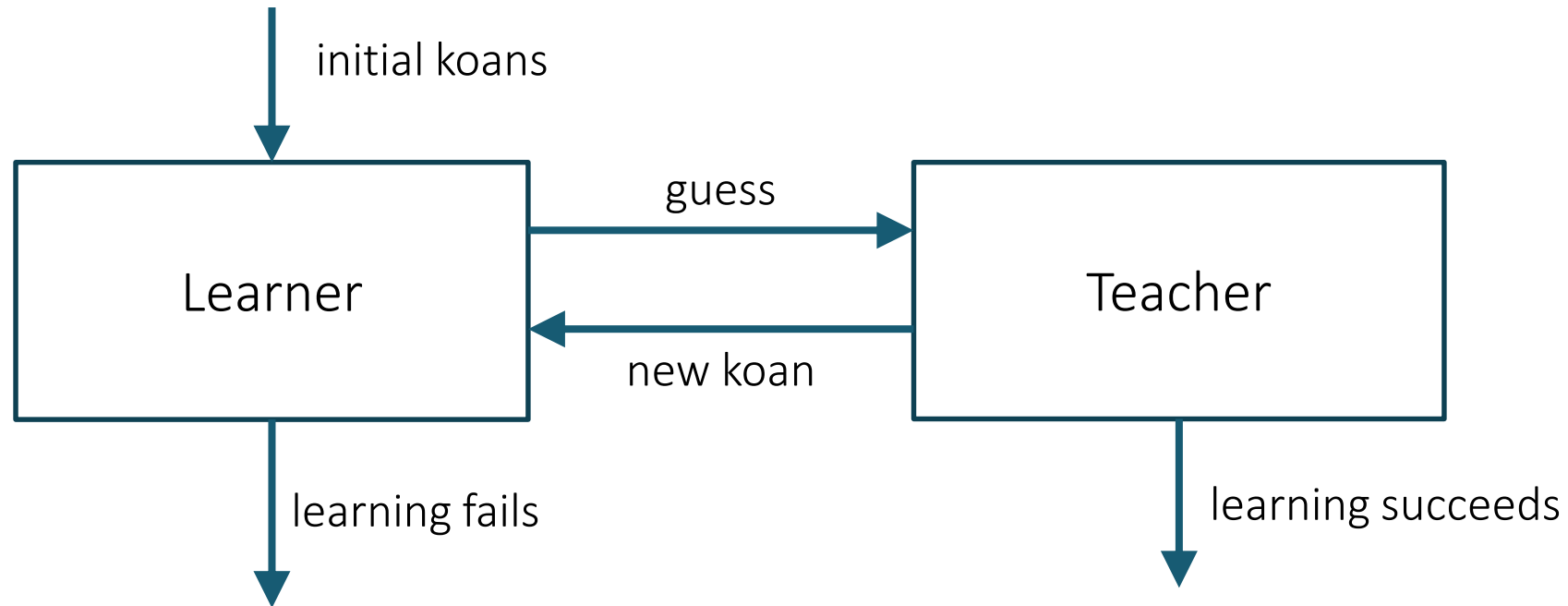
$x \leq f(x, y) \wedge$   
 $y \leq f(x, y) \wedge$   
 $(f(x, y) = x \vee f(x, y) = y)$

can inductive synthesis  
handle these?

# Counter-example guided inductive synthesis (CEGIS)

---

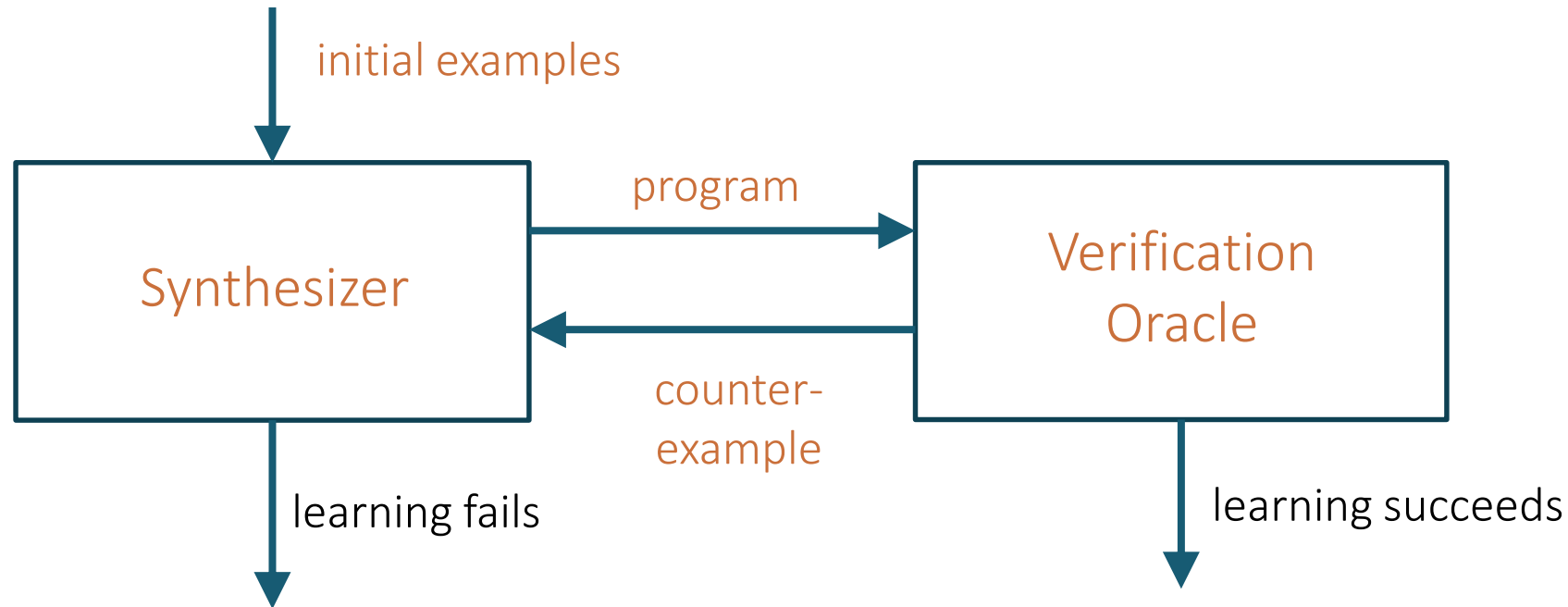
The Zendo of program synthesis



# Counter-example guided inductive synthesis (CEGIS)

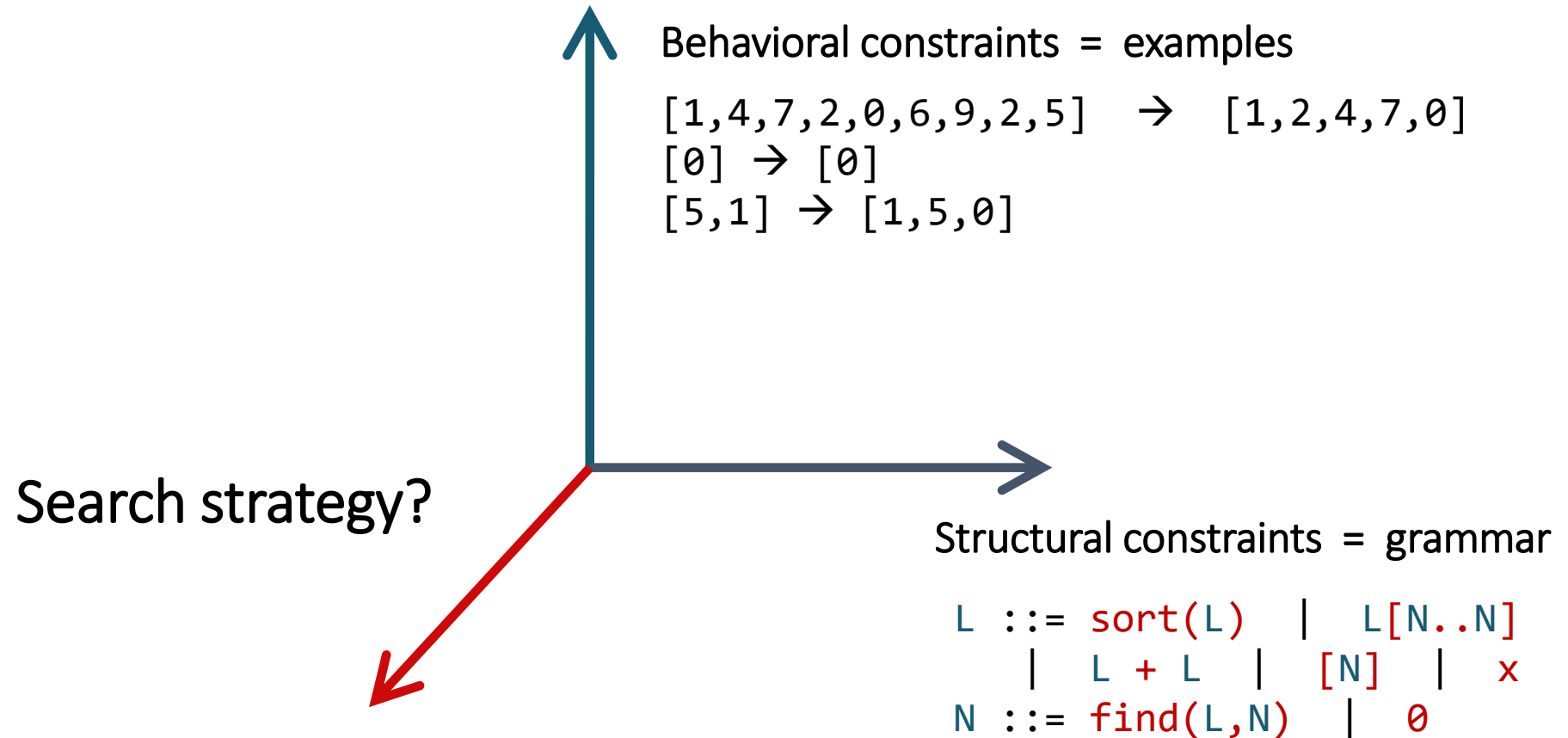
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The Zendo of program synthesis



# The problem statement

---





**Enumerative search**

# Enumerative search

---

=

Explicit / Exhaustive Search

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

**Challenge:** How do we systematically enumerate all programs?

bottom-up vs top-down

# Bottom-up enumeration

---

Start from terminals

Combine sub-programs into larger programs using productions

```
L ::= sort(L)      |  
    L[N..N]        |  
    L + L          |  
    [N]            |  
    x              |  
N ::= find(L,N)    |  
    0
```

$[[1,4,0,6] \rightarrow [1,4]]$

# Bottom-up enumeration

nonterminals    rules (productions)  
terminals    starting nonterminal

```
bottom-up (<T, N, R, S>, [i → o]) {  
  P := [t | t in T && t is nullary]  
  while (true)  
    forall (p in P)  
      if (whole(p) && p([i]) = [o])  
        return p;  
    P += grow(P);  
}  
  
grow (P) {  
  P' := []  
  forall (A ::= rhs in R)  
    P' += [rhs[B → p] | p in P, B →* p]  
  return P';  
}
```

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: example

Program bank P

iter 0:

x0

iter 1:

sort(x)

x[0..0]

x + x

[0]

find(x,0)

iter 2:

sort(sort(x))

sort(x[0..0])

sort(x + x)

sort([0])

x[0..find(x,0)]

x[find(x,0)..0]

x[find(x,0)..find(x,0)]

sort(x)[0..0]

x[0..0][0..0]

(x + x)[0..0]

[0][0..0]

x + (x + x)

x + [0]

sort(x) + x

x[0..0] + x

(x + x) + x

[0] + x

x + x[0..0]

x + sort(x)

L ::= sort(L)

L[N..N]

L + L

[N]

x

N ::= find(L,N)

0

←

←

←

←

←

←

←

[[1,4,0,6]]

→

[1,4]

...

# Top-down enumeration

---

Start from the start non-terminal  
Expand remaining non-terminals using  
productions

$L ::= L[N..N] \quad |$

$N ::= \overset{x}{\text{find}}(L, N) \quad |$   
 $\quad \quad \quad \theta$

$[[1, 4, \theta, 6] \rightarrow [1, 4]]$

# Top-down enumeration

---

```
top-down(<T, N, R, S>, [i → o]) {  
  P := [S]  
  while (P != [])  
    p := P.dequeue();  
    if (ground(p) && p([i]) = [o])  
      return p;  
    P.enqueue(unroll(p));  
}
```

```
unroll(p) {  
  P' := []  
  forall (A in p)  
    forall (A ::= rhs in R)  
      P' += p[A -> rhs]  
  return P';  
}
```

Q: “Run” top-down on the board with

```
L ::= L[N..N] |  
      x  
N ::= find(L,N) |  
      0
```

$[[1, 4, 0, 6] \rightarrow [1, 4]]$

# Top-down: example

Worklist P

iter 0: L

iter 1: x<sup>✗</sup> L[N..N]

iter 2: L[N..N]

iter 3: x[N..N] L[N..N][N..N]

iter 4: x[0..N] x[find(L,N)..N] L[N..N][N..N]

iter 5: x[0..0]<sup>✗</sup> x[0.. find(L,N)] x[find(L,N)..N] ...

iter 6: x[0.. find(L,N)] x[find(L,N)..N] ...

iter 7: x[0.. find(x,N)] x[0.. find(L[N..N],N)] ...

iter 8: x[0.. find(x,0)]<sup>✓</sup> x[0.. find(x,find(L,N))] ...

iter 9:

L ::= L[N..N] | ←

x

N ::= find(L,N) | ←

0 ←

[ [1,4,0,6] → [1,4] ]



# Bottom-up vs top-down

---

## Bottom-up

Smaller to larger

- Has to explore between  $3 \cdot 10^9$  and  $10^{23}$  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

## Top-down

Candidates are **whole** but might not be **ground**

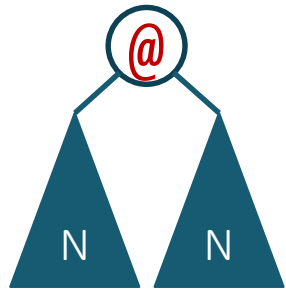
- Cannot always run on inputs
- Can always relate to outputs (?)

# How to make it scale

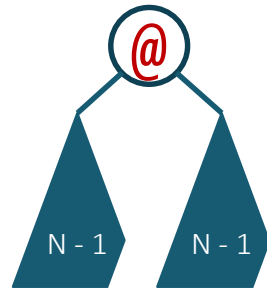
---

## Prune

Discard useless subprograms



$$m * N^2$$



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

## Prioritize

Explore more promising candidates first

$$P = \{ \begin{array}{l} [0][N..N] \\ x[N..N] \\ \dots \end{array} , \quad \leftarrow \begin{array}{l} \text{dequeue} \\ \text{this first} \end{array}$$