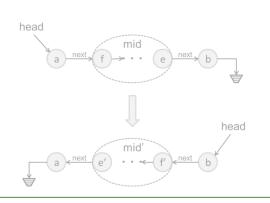
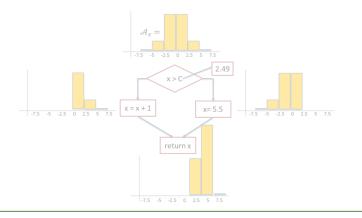
Module I: Searching for Simple Programs



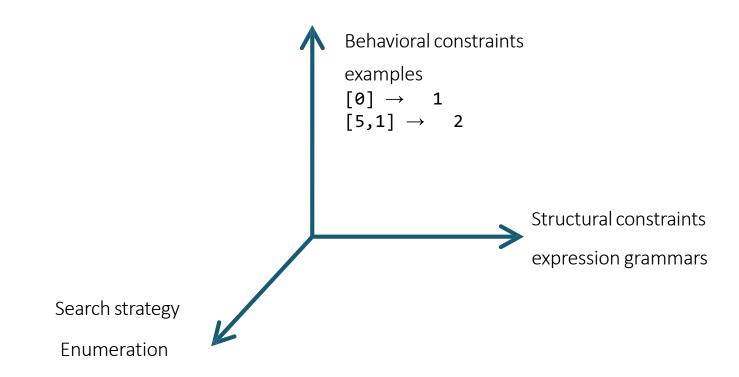




Sk[c](in)

Lecture 2 Syntax-Guided Synthesis and Enumerative Search

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

=

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

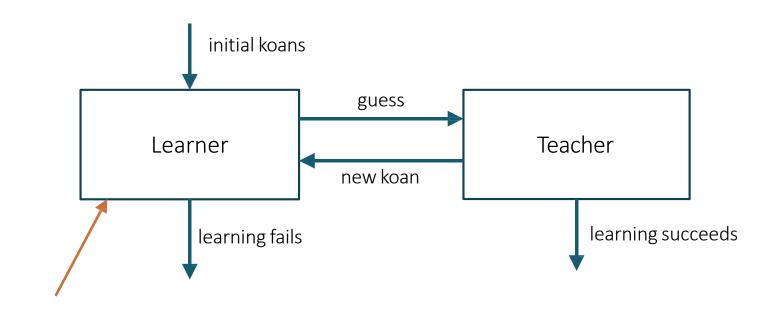
The teacher builds two koans (a positive and a negative)

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

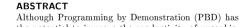
A little bit of history: PBE/PBD

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

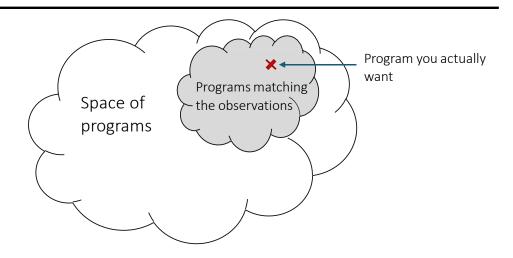


 Applications that support macros allow users to record a fixed sequence of actions and later replay this



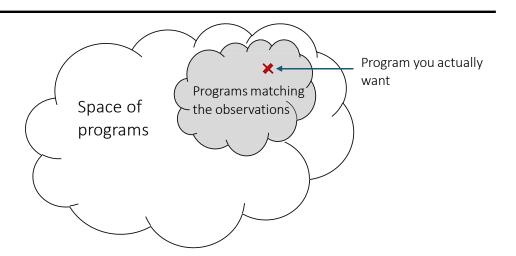
Tessa Lau

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)

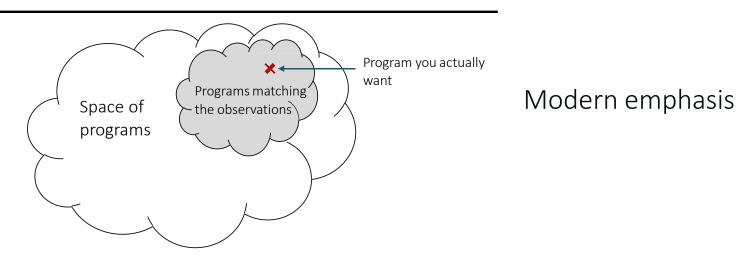
• Fix the space so that (1) is easy

So did a lot of PBD work

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

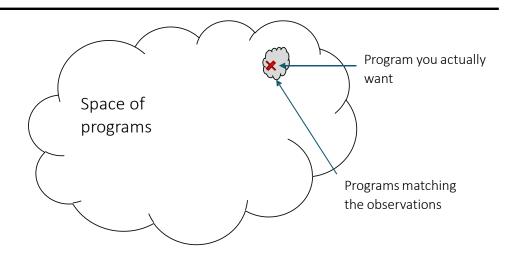
(2) How do you know it is the program you are looking for?

The synthesis approach



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

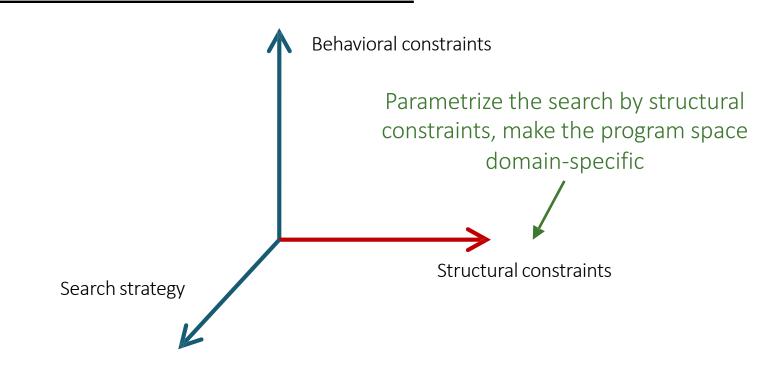
The synthesis approach



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

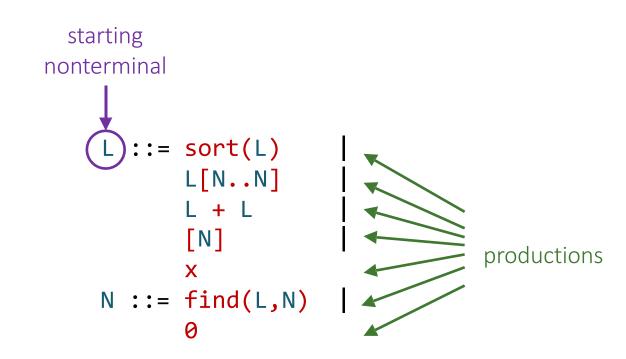


Syntax-Guided Synthesis

Example

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

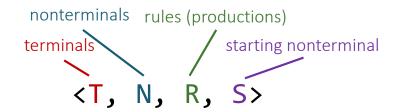
Context-free grammars (CFGs)



terminals

nonterminals

Context-free grammars (CFGs)



CFGs as structural constraints

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

```
L::= sort(L)

L[N..N]

L + L

[N]

X sort(x) x + x x[0..0]

...

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

...

N::= find(L,N)

0 sort(x[0..find(x, 0)]) + [0]
```

How big is the space?

E ::= x | E @ E



$$N(0) = 1$$

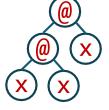


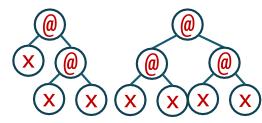


$$N(1) = 2$$









$$N(2) = 5$$

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

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

How big is the space?

$$N(0) = k$$

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

```
N(1) = 3 k = m = 3
```

N(2) = 30

N(3) = 2703

N(4) = 21918630

N(5) = 1441279023230703

N(6) = 6231855668414547953818685622630

N(7) = 116508075215851596766492219468227024724121520304443212304350703

[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 = < 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 ::= $E \leq E \mid C \mid A \mid C \mid \neg C$

SyGuS problems

SyGuS problem = < theory, spec, grammar >



A first-order logic formula over the theory

Examples:

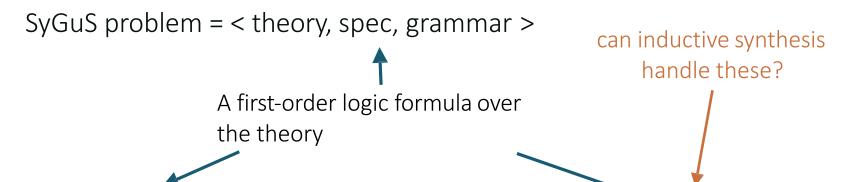
$$f(0, 1) = 1 \wedge$$

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

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

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

SyGuS problems



Examples:

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

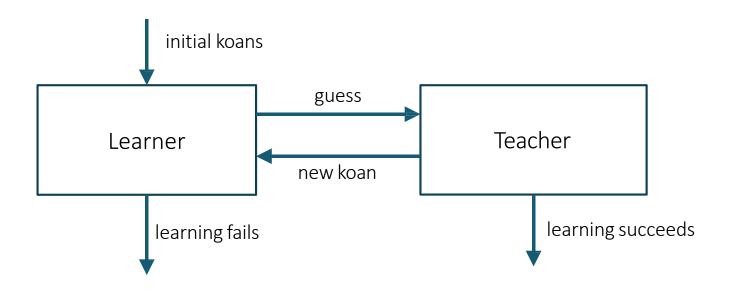
Formula with free variables:

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

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

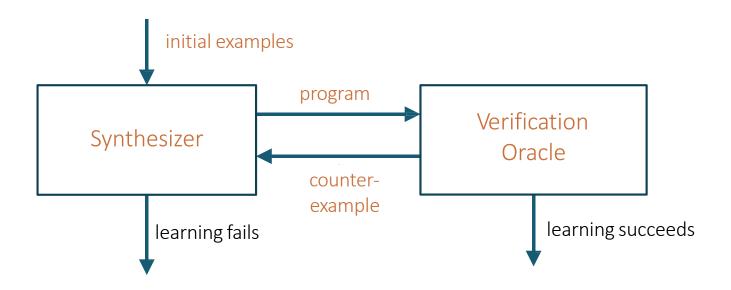
Counter-example guided inductive synthesis (CEGIS)

The Zendo of program synthesis

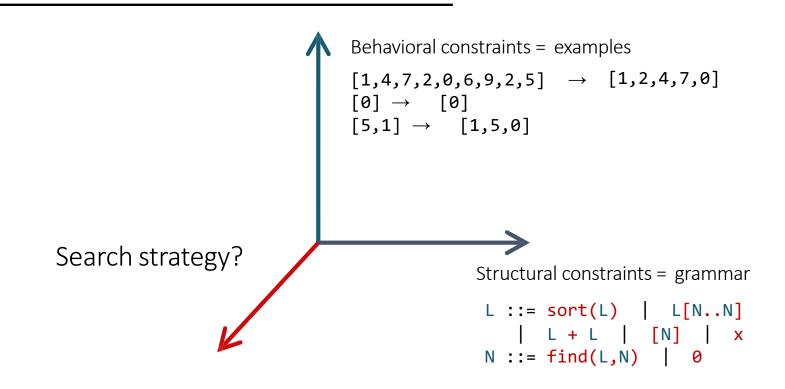


Counter-example guided inductive synthesis (CEGIS)

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

Bottom-up: example

```
Program bank P
         x 0
iter 0:
                                                        L ::= sort(L)
         sort(x)
                   x[0..0]  x + x  [0]
iter 1:
                                                               L[N..N]
         find(x,0)
                                                               N
iter 2:
         sort(sort(x)) sort(x[0..0]) sort(x + x)
                                                               X
         sort([0]) \times [0..find(x,0)] \times [find(x,0)..0]
                                                        N ::= find(L,N)
                                                               0
         x[find(x,0)..find(x,0)] sort(x)[0..0]
         x[0..0][0..0] (x + x)[0..0] [0][0..0] [[1,4,0,6] \rightarrow [1,4]]
         x + (x + x) x + [0] sort(x) + x x[0..0] + x
         (x + x) + x [0] + x x + x[0..0] x + sort(x)
          . . .
```

Bottom-up enumeration

```
nonterminals rules (productions)
      terminals
                            starting nonterminal
bottom-up (\langle T, N, R, S \rangle, [i \rightarrow 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 \rightarrow^* 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]]
```

Top-down enumeration

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

```
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: \star L[N..N]

iter 2: L[N..N]

iter 3: \times [N..N] L[N..N][N..N]

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

iter 5: \times [0..0] \times [0.. find(L,N)..N] ...

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

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

iter 8: \times [0.. find(x,0)] \times [0.. find(x,find(L,N))] ... ... ...

iter 9:
```

Top-down enumeration

```
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 (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] → [1,4]]
```

Bottom-up vs top-down

Bottom-up

Top-down

Smaller to larger

Has to explore between 3*109 and 10²³ 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