

Verifying & Improving Halide's Term Rewriting System with Program Synthesis

Julie L. Newcomb (University of Washington), Andrew Adams (Adobe Research),
Steven Johnson (Google), Ras Bodik (University of Washington), Shoaib Kamil
(Adobe Research)

Halide

```
Func blur_3x3(Func input) {  
    Func blur_x, blur_y;  
    Var x, y, xi, yi;  
  
    // The algorithm - no storage or order  
    blur_x(x, y) = (input(x-1, y) + input(x, y) + input(x+1, y))/3;  
    blur_y(x, y) = (blur_x(x, y-1) + blur_x(x, y) + blur_x(x, y+1))/3;  
  
    // The schedule - defines order, locality; implies storage  
    blur_y.tile(x, y, xi, yi, 256, 32)  
        .vectorize(xi, 8).parallel(y);  
    blur_x.compute_at(blur_y, x).vectorize(x, 8);  
  
    return blur_y;  
}
```

A key component!

Running benchmark suite without this engine resulted in a 5x increase in compilation times and a 26x increase in runtimes

Uses of the reasoning engine

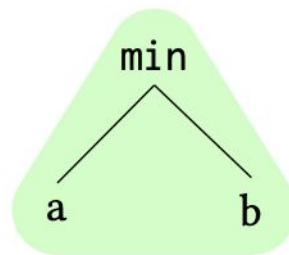
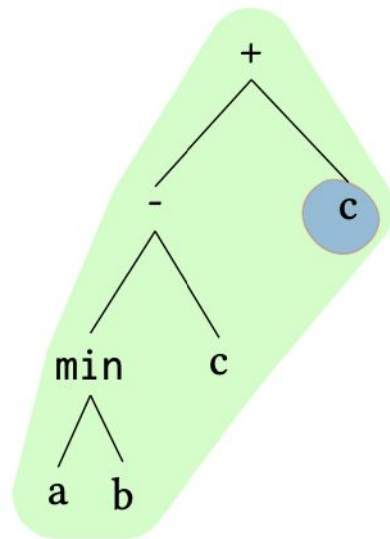
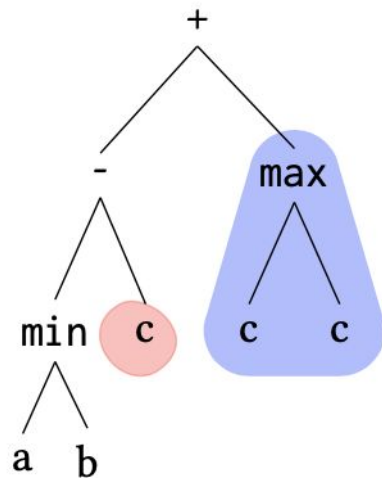
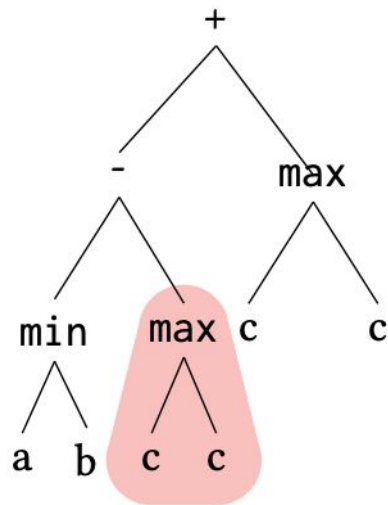
Halide code	If we can show	Optimization
Euclidean division	Denominator > 0	Machine insn division
Loop	Constant loop extent	Map loop to CUDA threads
<code>malloc</code>	Constant allocation size	Keep on stack

Talk roadmap

- Background
- Soundness
- Termination
- Greater reasoning power

Term rewriting systems

$$\begin{aligned}\max(x, x) &\rightarrow_R x \\ (x - y) + y &\rightarrow_R x\end{aligned}$$



$$\max(a + b, b + a)$$

Limits to reasoning power

Reasoning power vs. performance

Nonlinear integer arithmetic is undecidable \rightarrow the Halide TRS cannot be complete

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Proofs of Correctness: Soundness

SMT Solver

z3

Verified 88% of ruleset

Proof assistant



Verified 12% of ruleset

An example of an unsound rule

Wrong

$$\frac{x * c_0}{c_1} \rightarrow_R \frac{x}{(c_1/c_0)} \text{ if } c_1 \% c_0 = 0 \wedge c_1 > 0$$

Fixed

$$\frac{x * c_0}{c_1} \rightarrow_R \frac{x}{(c_1/c_0)} \text{ if } c_1 \% c_0 = 0 \wedge c_0 > 0 \wedge \frac{c_1}{c_0} \neq 0$$

Counterexample

$$c_0 = -1, c_1 = 2, x = 1$$

Reverification of new semantics

Division redefined:

- Previously $x/0$ was undefined behavior
- Now, $x/0 == 0$
- Some sample rules that became incorrect:

$$(x/y) * y + x \% y \rightarrow_R x$$

$$-1/x \rightarrow_R \text{select}(x < 0, 1, -1)$$

$$(x + y)/x \rightarrow_R y/x + 1$$

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Proofs of correctness: termination

$$x + y \rightarrow_R y + x$$

$$3 + x \rightarrow x + 3 \rightarrow 3 + x \rightarrow \dots$$

Reduction order

A reduction order is a total order defined over terms.

$$x + x + y >_+ (x * 2) + y$$

The Halide simplification order

$s > t$ if

1. There are more vector operations in s than in t . If they have the same number of vector operations ...
2. There are more division, multiplication, and modulo operations (sum) in s than t . If they are the same ...
3. There are more occurrences of variables and constants in s than in t ...
4. ...
5. ...
6. ...

Talk roadmap

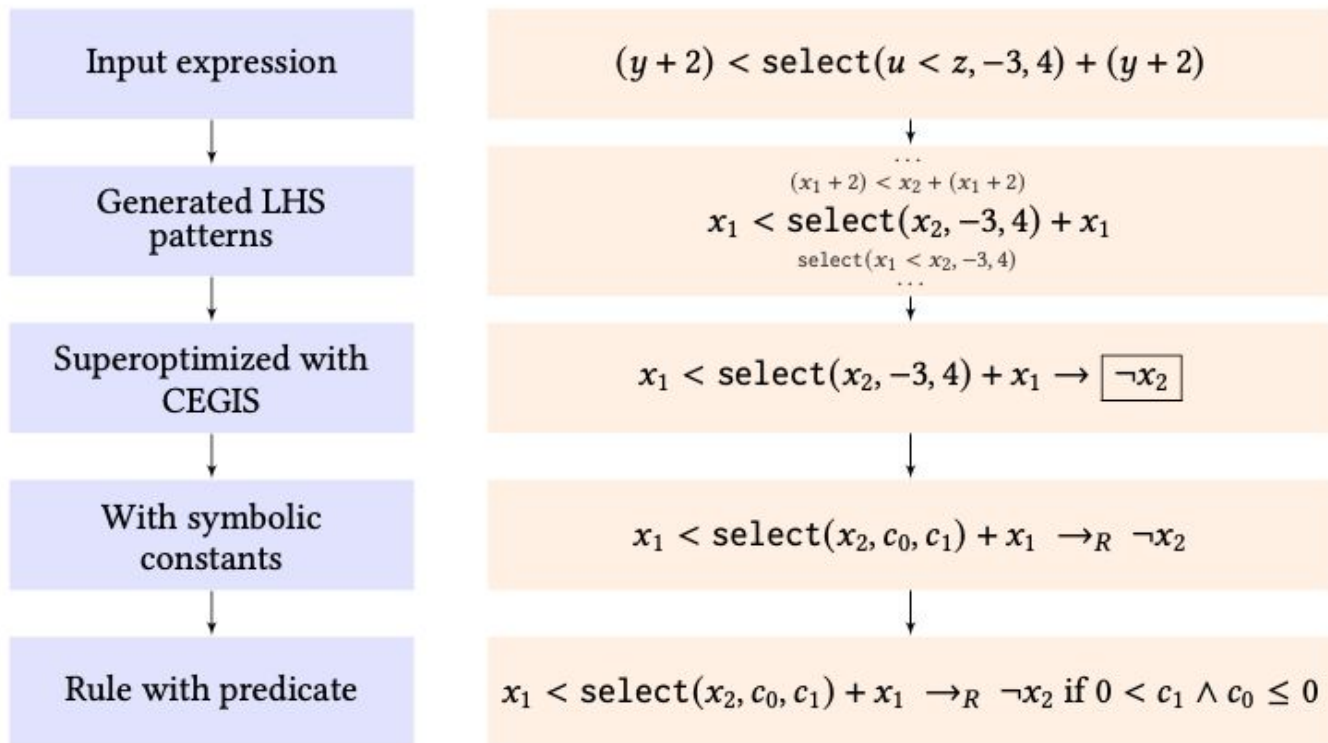
- Background
- Soundness
- Termination
- **Greater reasoning power**

Strengthening the ruleset via synthesis

But: set of potential rules is infinite

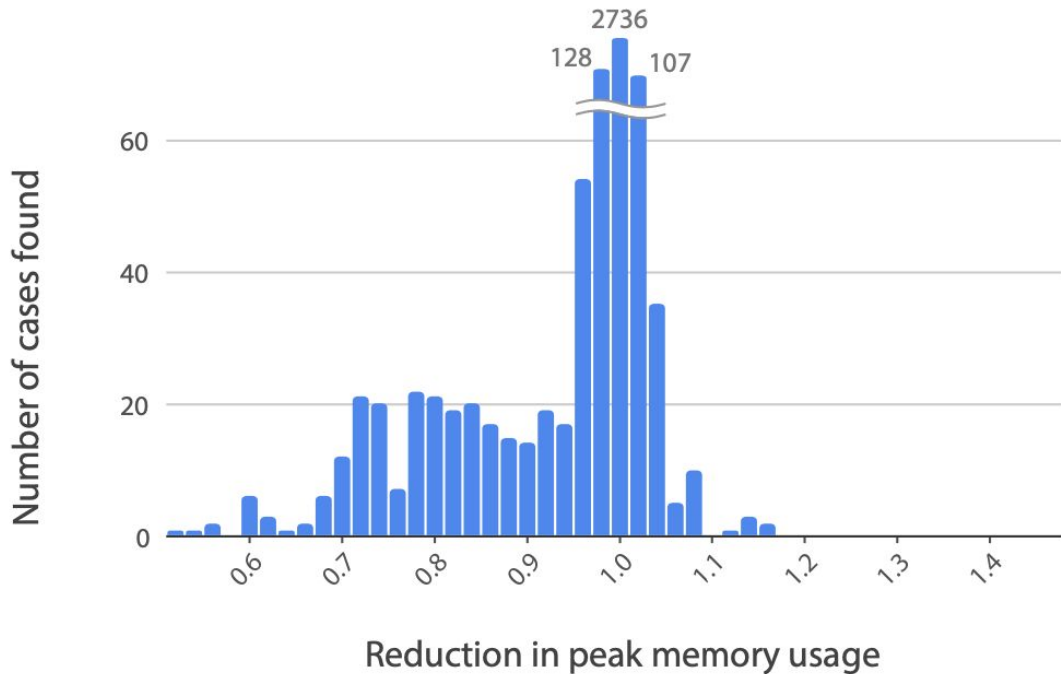
So we are guided by the bias in expressions seen by the compiler

Our synthesis pipeline (briefly)



Case studies & anecdotes

- Synthesized bug fixes as good or better than the human-authored fixes
- Used corpus of ~100k expressions to synthesize ~4000 rules, resulting in reductions of peak memory usages and no appreciable increase in compilation times.
- Human developers have used the synthesizer as an assistant



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