

# **Growing libraries of concepts with wake-sleep program induction**

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Kevin Ellis & Mathias Sablé Meyer

Joint with: Lucas Morales, Armando Solar-Lezama, Joshua B. Tenenbaum

Heavy inspiration from: Eyal Dechter

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MIT

# The Language of Thought

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## The Language of Thought

JERRY A. FODOR

A FORMAL THEORY OF INDUCTIVE  
INFERENCE, Part I\*†

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*The Language and Thought Series*

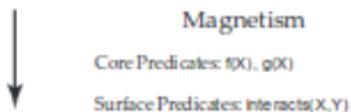
Jerrold J. Katz

D. Terence Langendoen

George A. Miller

# Engineering the language of thought

Universal  
Theory



Theory

Laws:  
 $\text{Interacts}(X,Y) \leftarrow f(X) \wedge f(Y)$   
 $\text{Interacts}(X,Y) \leftarrow f(X) \wedge g(Y)$   
 $\text{Interacts}(X,Y) \leftarrow \text{Interacts}(Y,X)$

$f(X)$ : "magnets"    "non-magnetic objects"

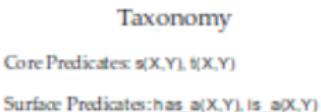
$g(X)$ : "magnetic objects"

Model



Data

Probabilistic Horn Clause Grammar



Laws:  
 $\text{is\_a}(X,Y) \leftarrow s(X,Y)$   
 $\text{has\_a}(X,Y) \leftarrow t(X,Y)$   
 $\text{has\_a}(X,Y) \leftarrow \text{is\_a}(X,Z) \wedge \text{has\_a}(Z,Y)$   
 $\text{is\_a}(X,Y) \leftarrow \text{is\_a}(X,Z) \wedge \text{is\_a}(Z,Y)$

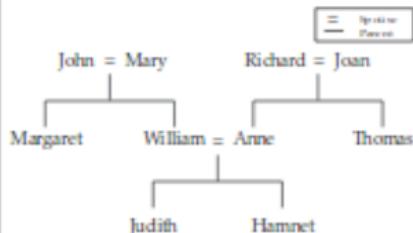


"a shark is a fish"  
 "a bird can fly"  
 "a canary can fly"  
 "a salmon can breathe"

Kinship

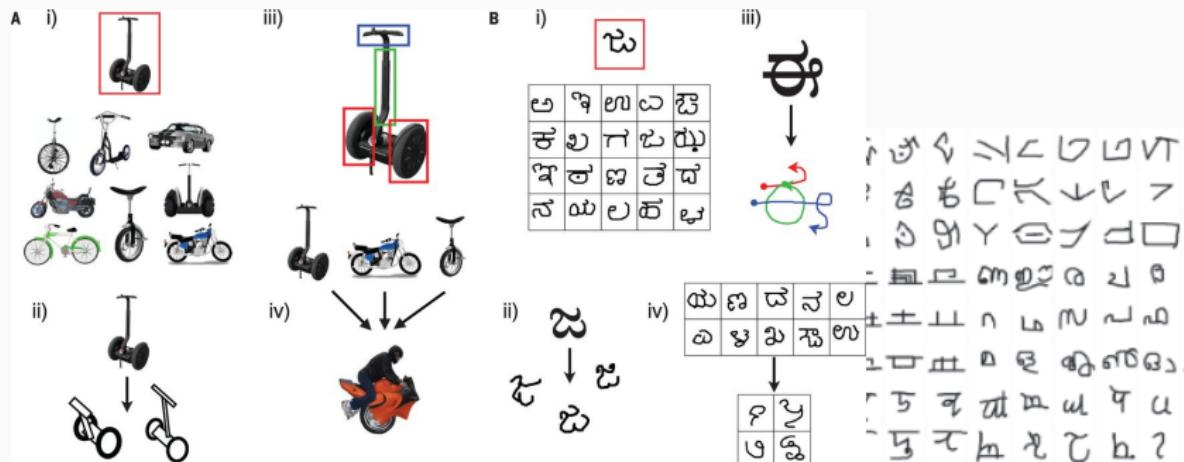
Core Predicates:  $u(X)$ ,  $v(X,Y)$ ,  $w(X,Y)$   
 Surface Predicates:  $\text{female}(X)$ ,  $\text{child}(X,Y)$ ,  $\text{parent}(X,Y)$ ,  
 $\text{spouse}(X,Y)$ ,  $\text{father}(X,Y)$ , ...

Laws:  
 $\text{female}(X) \leftarrow u(X)$   
 $\text{spouse}(X,Y) \leftarrow v(X,Y)$   
 $\text{spouse}(X,Y) \leftarrow v(Y,X)$   
 $\text{child}(X,Y) \leftarrow w(X,Y)$   
 $\text{child}(X,Y) \leftarrow \text{child}(X,Z) \wedge \text{spouse}(Z,Y)$   
 $\text{father}(X,Y) \leftarrow \neg \text{female}(X) \wedge \text{child}(X,Y)$   
 ...



"John is William's father"  
 "John is Judith's grandfather"  
 "Judith is Hamnet's sister"  
 "Margaret is Judith's aunt"

# Engineering the language of thought



# Growing a domain-specific language of thought

Goal: acquire domain-specific knowledge needed to induce a class of programs

# Growing a domain-specific language of thought

Goal: acquire domain-specific knowledge needed to induce a class of programs

- Library of concepts (declarative knowledge)
- Search strategy (procedural knowledge)

# DSL: Library of concepts

## Tasks and Programs

$[7 \ 2 \ 3] \rightarrow [7 \ 3]$

$[1 \ 2 \ 3 \ 4] \rightarrow [3 \ 4]$

$[4 \ 3 \ 2 \ 1] \rightarrow [4 \ 3]$

$f(\ell) = (f_1 \ \ell \ (\lambda \ (x) \ (> \ x \ 2)))$

$[2 \ 7 \ 8 \ 1] \rightarrow 8$

$[3 \ 19 \ 14] \rightarrow 19$

$f(\ell) = (f_2 \ \ell)$

$[7 \ 3] \rightarrow \text{False}$

$[3] \rightarrow \text{False}$

$[9 \ 0 \ 0] \rightarrow \text{True}$

$[0] \rightarrow \text{True}$

$[0 \ 7 \ 3] \rightarrow \text{True}$

$f(\ell) = (f_3 \ \ell \ 0)$

$f_0(\ell, r) = (\text{foldr } r \ \ell \ \text{cons})$

$(f_0: \text{Append lists } r \text{ and } \ell)$

$f_1(\ell, p) = (\text{foldr } \ell \ \text{nil} \ (\lambda \ (x \ a)$

$\text{if } (p \ x) \ (\text{cons } x \ a) \ a))$

$(f_1: \text{Higher-order filter function})$

$f_2(\ell) = (\text{foldr } \ell \ 0 \ (\lambda \ (x \ a)$

$\text{if } (> \ a \ x) \ a \ x))$

$(f_2: \text{Maximum element in list } \ell)$

$f_3(\ell, k) = (\text{foldr } \ell \ (\text{is-nil } \ell)$

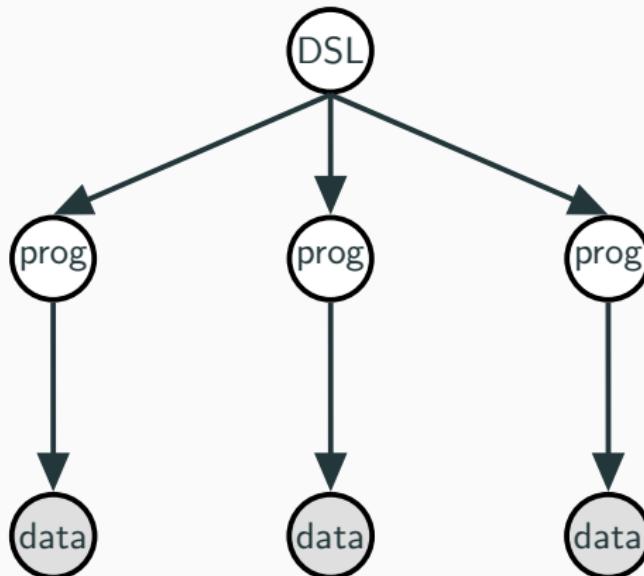
$(\lambda \ (x \ a) \ (\text{if } a \ a \ (= \ k \ x))))$

$(f_2: \text{Whether } \ell \text{ contains } k)$

- **Wake:** Solve problems by writing programs
- **Sleep:** Improve DSL and neural recognition model:
  - **Sleep-G:** Improve DSL (**G**enerative model)
  - **Sleep-R:** Improve **R**ecognition model

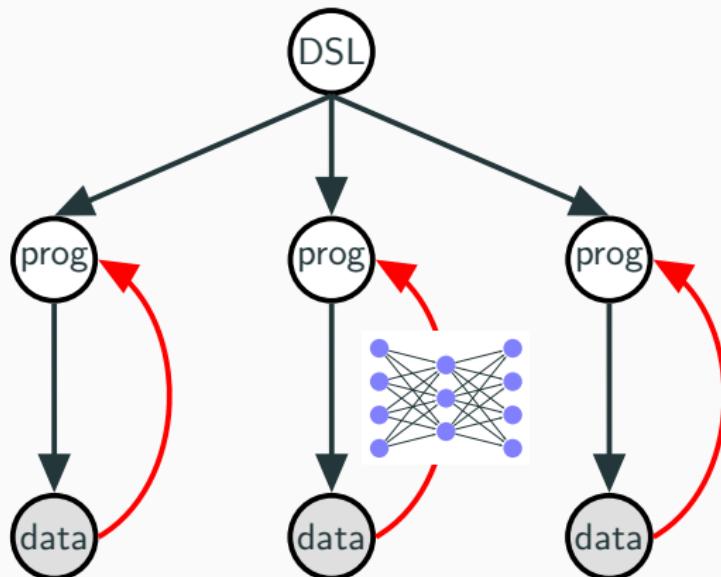
Combines ideas from Wake-Sleep & Exploration-Compression algorithm by Eyal Dechter

## DSL learning as Bayesian inference

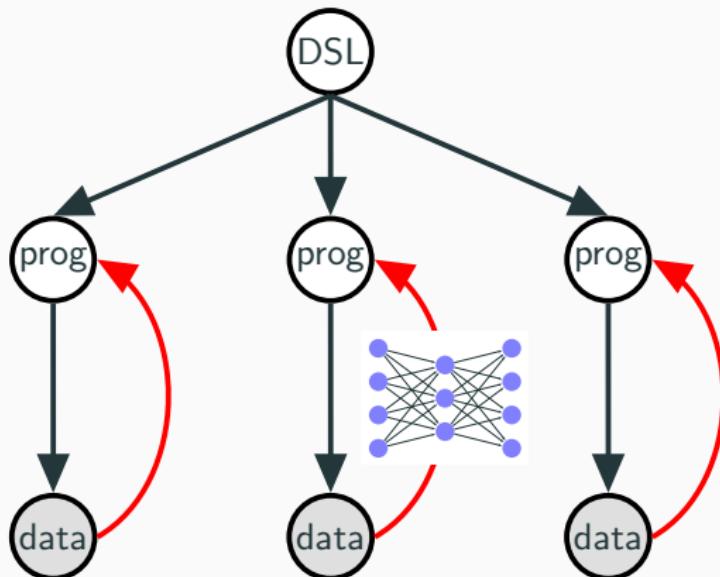


[Dechter et al., 2013] [Liang et al, 2010]; [Lake et al, 2015]

# DSL learning as amortized Bayesian inference

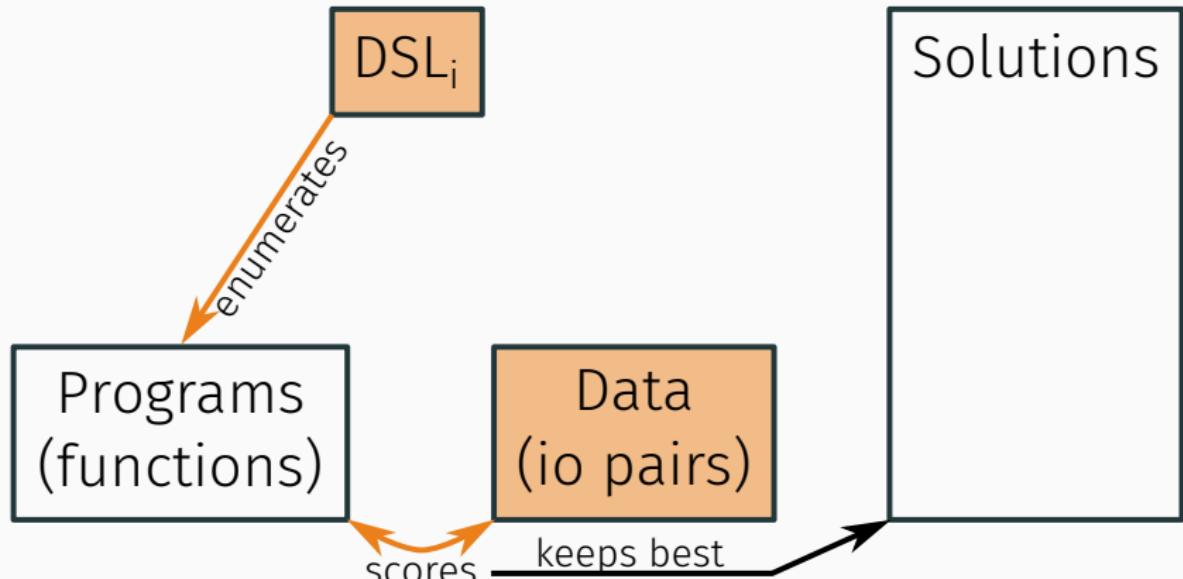


# DSL learning as amortized Bayesian inference



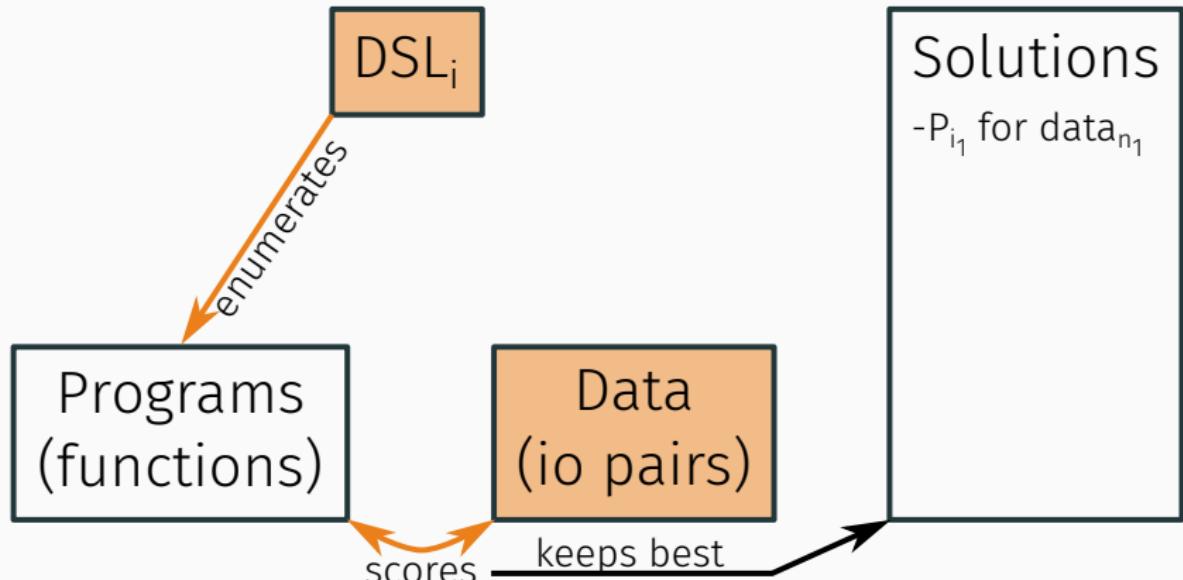
**New:** amortized inference +  
better program representation (Lisp) +  
better DSL inference

# Wake — as in Exploration/Compression Algorithm



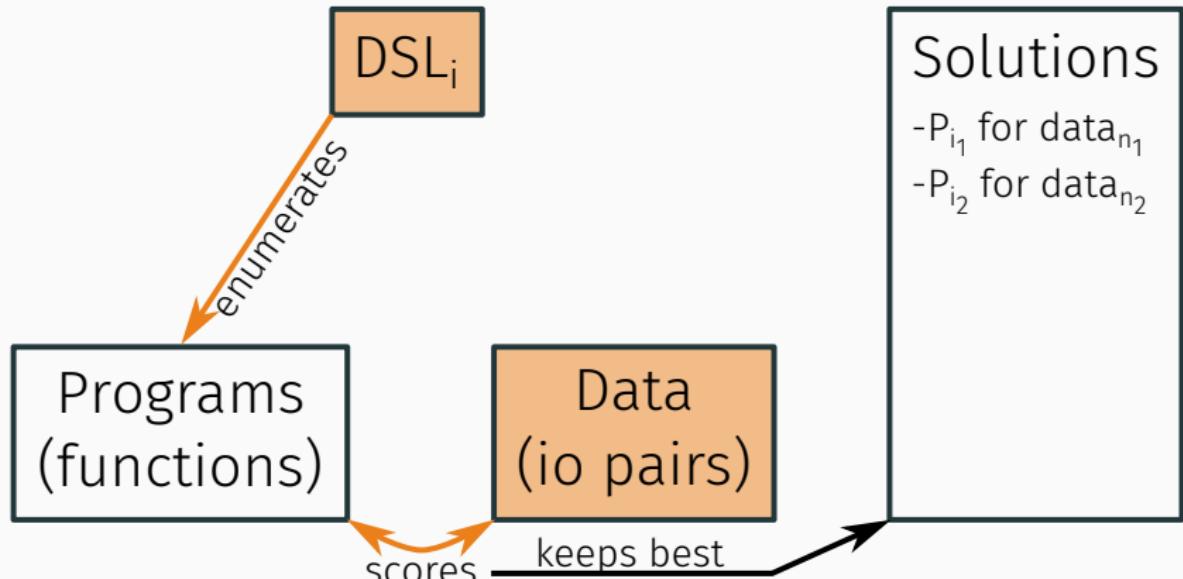
DSL	Programs	Data
$f_0(l,r) = \text{foldr } r\ l\ \text{cons}$ $f_1(l,p) = \text{foldr } r\ \text{nil}$ $\quad (\lambda\ (x\ a)$ $\quad \quad (\text{if}\ (p\ x)$ $\quad \quad \quad (\text{cons}\ x\ a)$ $\quad \quad \quad a))$	$f(l) = (f_0\ l\ l)$ $f(l) = (f_1\ l\ (\lambda x. x > 2))$	$[7\ 2] \rightarrow [7\ 2\ 7\ 2]$ $["a"] \rightarrow ["a"\ "a"]$ $[7\ 2\ 3] \rightarrow [7\ 3]$ $[1\ 2\ 3\ 4] \rightarrow [3\ 4]$ $[4\ 3\ 2\ 1] \rightarrow [4\ 3]$

# Wake — as in Exploration/Compression Algorithm



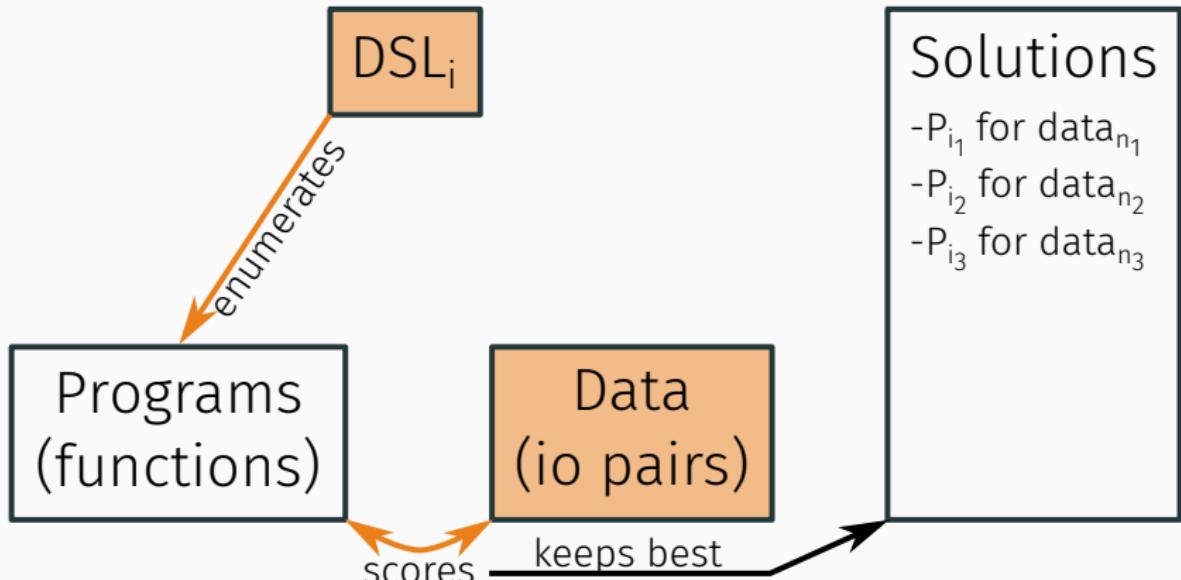
DSL	Programs	Data
$f_0(l, r) = \text{foldr } r \ l \ \text{cons}$ $f_1(l, p) = \text{foldr } r \ \text{nil}$ $\quad (\lambda (x \ a)$ $\quad \quad (\text{if} (p \ x)$ $\quad \quad \quad (\text{cons} \ x \ a)$ $\quad \quad \quad a))$	$f(l) = (f_0 \ l \ l)$ $f(l) = (f_1 \ l \ (\lambda x. \ x > 2))$	$[7 \ 2] \rightarrow [7 \ 2 \ 7 \ 2]$ $["a"] \rightarrow ["a" \ "a"]$ $[7 \ 2 \ 3] \rightarrow [7 \ 3]$ $[1 \ 2 \ 3 \ 4] \rightarrow [3 \ 4]$ $[4 \ 3 \ 2 \ 1] \rightarrow [4 \ 3]$

# Wake — as in Exploration/Compression Algorithm



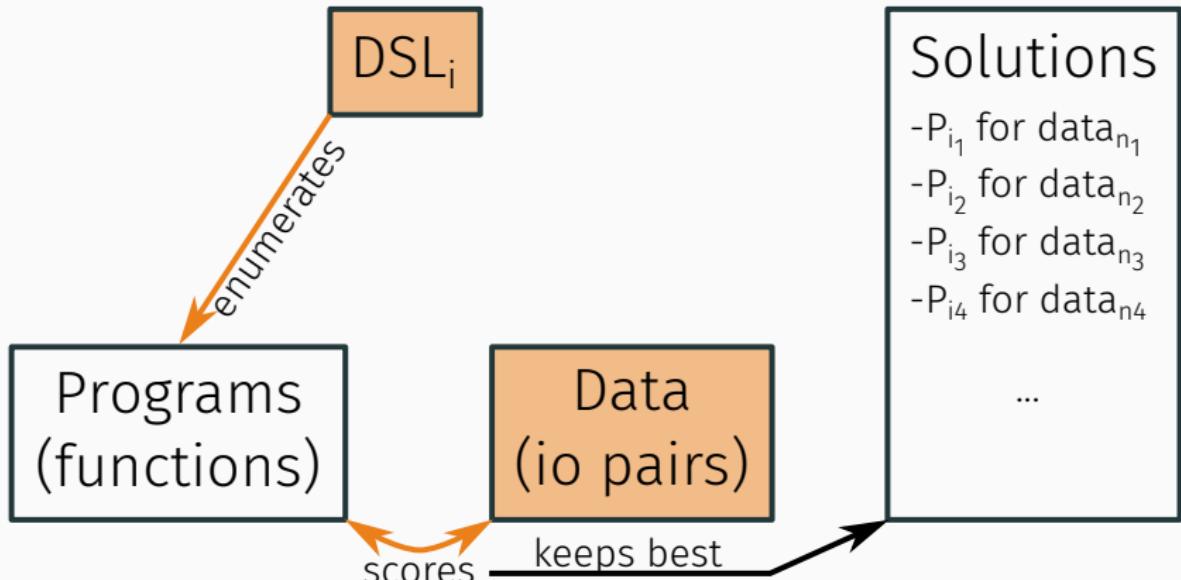
DSL	Programs	Data
$f_0(l,r) = foldr r l cons$ $f_1(l,p) = foldr r nil (\lambda (x a) (if (p x) (cons x a) a))$	$f(l) = (f_0 l l)$ $f(l) = (f_1 l (\lambda x. > x 2))$	$[7\ 2] \rightarrow [7\ 2\ 7\ 2]$ $["a"] \rightarrow ["a"\ "a"]$ $[7\ 2\ 3] \rightarrow [7\ 3]$ $[1\ 2\ 3\ 4] \rightarrow [3\ 4]$ $[4\ 3\ 2\ 1] \rightarrow [4\ 3]$

# Wake — as in Exploration/Compression Algorithm



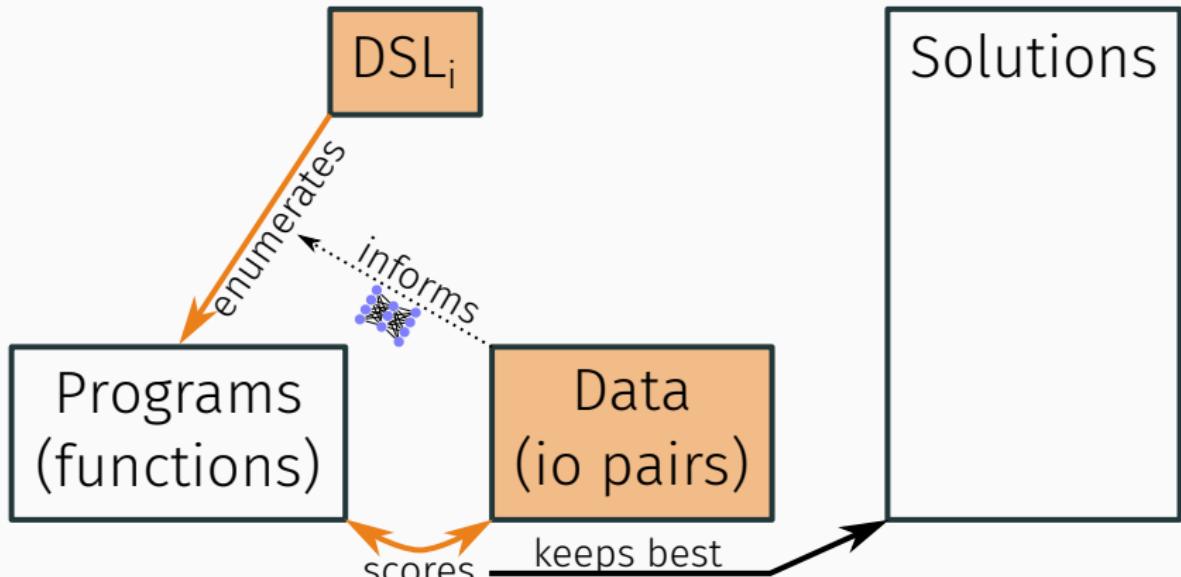
DSL	Programs	Data
$f_0(l,r) = \text{foldr } r\ l\ \text{cons}$ $f_1(l,p) = \text{foldr } r\ \text{nil}\ (\lambda(x)\ a)$ $\quad (\text{if } (p\ x)\ (\text{cons } x\ a)\ a))$	$f(l) = (f_0\ l\ l)$ $f(l) = (f_1\ l\ (\lambda x.\ x > 2))$	$[7\ 2] \rightarrow [7\ 2\ 7\ 2]$ $["a"] \rightarrow ["a"\ "a"]$ $[7\ 2\ 3] \rightarrow [7\ 3]$ $[1\ 2\ 3\ 4] \rightarrow [3\ 4]$ $[4\ 3\ 2\ 1] \rightarrow [4\ 3]$

# Wake — as in Exploration/Compression Algorithm



DSL	Programs	Data
$f_0(l,r) = \text{foldr } r\ l\ \text{cons}$ $f_1(l,p) = \text{foldr } r\ \text{nil}$ $\quad (\lambda\ (x\ a)$ $\quad \quad (\text{if}\ (p\ x)$ $\quad \quad \quad (\text{cons}\ x\ a)$ $\quad \quad \quad a))$	$f(l) = (f_0\ l\ l)$ $f(l) = (f_1\ l\ (\lambda x. x > 2))$	$[7\ 2] \rightarrow [7\ 2\ 7\ 2]$ $["a"] \rightarrow ["a"\ "a"]$ $[7\ 2\ 3] \rightarrow [7\ 3]$ $[1\ 2\ 3\ 4] \rightarrow [3\ 4]$ $[4\ 3\ 2\ 1] \rightarrow [4\ 3]$

# DreamCoder — Wake



## DSL

```
f0(l,r) = foldr r l cons  
f1(l,p) = foldr r nil  
          (λ (x a)  
            (if (p x)  
                (cons x a)  
                a))
```

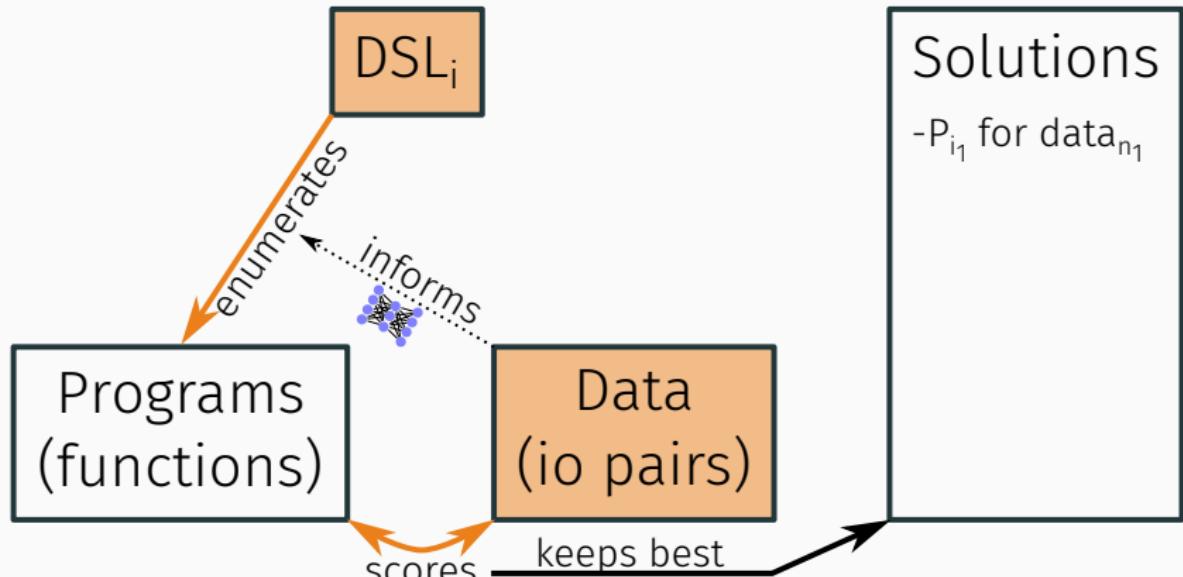
## Programs

```
f(l) = (f0 l l)  
f(l) = (f1 l (λx. > x 2))
```

## Data

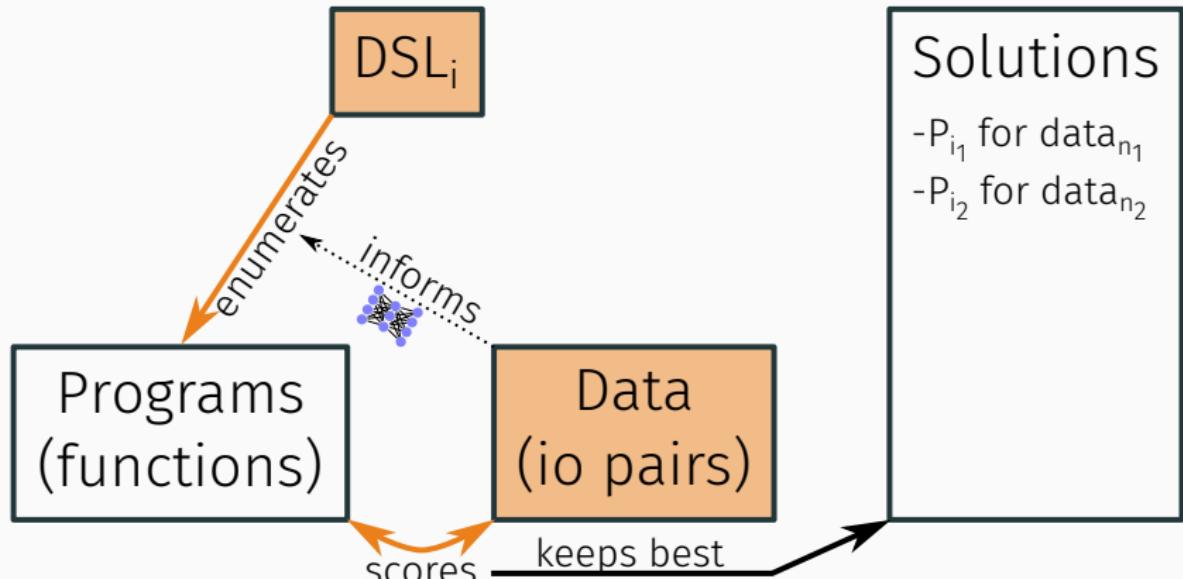
[7 2]→[7 2 7 2]
["a"]→["a" "a"]
[7 2 3]→[7 3]
[1 2 3 4]→[3 4]
[4 3 2 1]→[4 3]

# DreamCoder — Wake



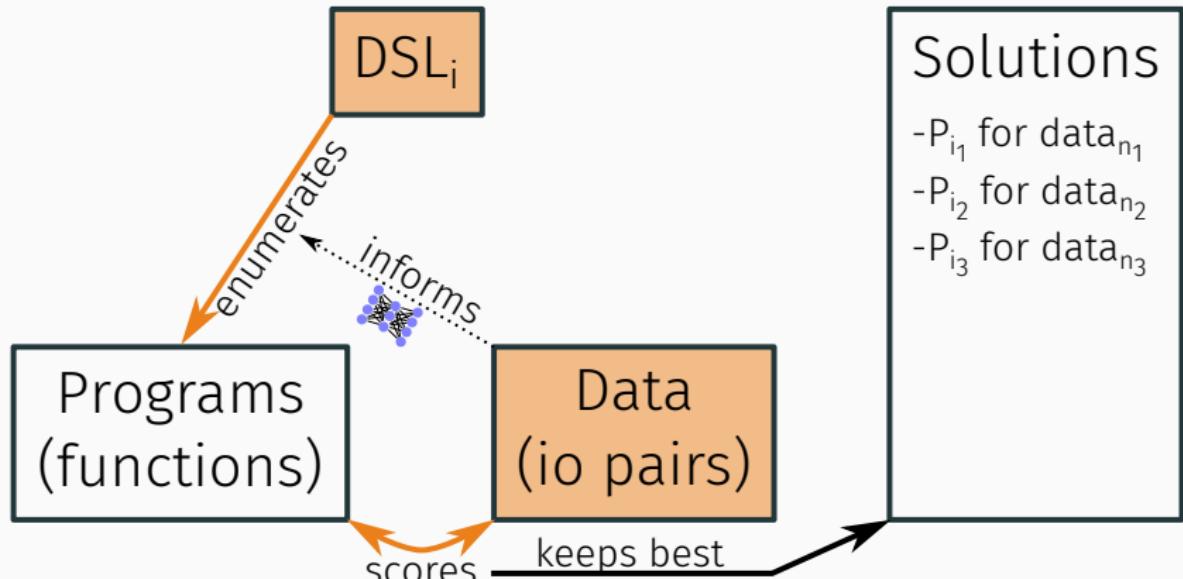
DSL	Programs	Data
$f_0(l, r) = \text{foldr } r \ l \ \text{cons}$ $f_1(l, p) = \text{foldr } r \ \text{nil}$ $\quad (\lambda (x \ a)$ $\quad \quad (\text{if} (p \ x)$ $\quad \quad \quad (\text{cons} \ x \ a)$ $\quad \quad \quad a))$	$f(l) = (f_0 \ l \ l)$ $f(l) = (f_1 \ l \ (\lambda x. \ x > 2))$	$[7 \ 2] \rightarrow [7 \ 2 \ 7 \ 2]$ $["a"] \rightarrow ["a" \ "a"]$ $[7 \ 2 \ 3] \rightarrow [7 \ 3]$ $[1 \ 2 \ 3 \ 4] \rightarrow [3 \ 4]$ $[4 \ 3 \ 2 \ 1] \rightarrow [4 \ 3]$

# DreamCoder — Wake



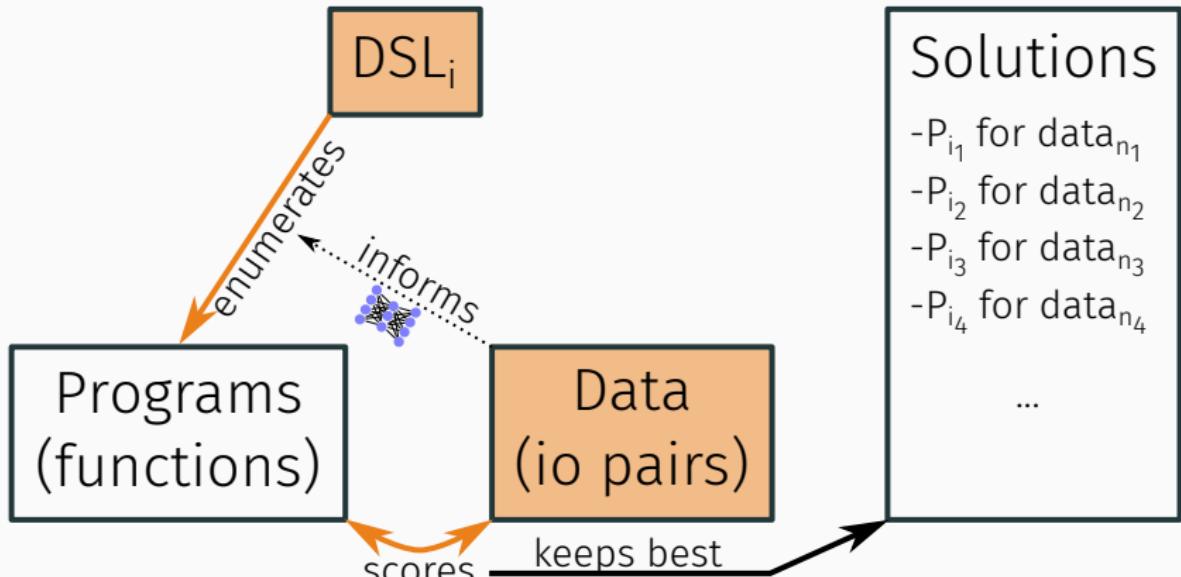
DSL	Programs	Data
$f_0(l, r) = \text{foldr } r \ l \ \text{cons}$ $f_1(l, p) = \text{foldr } r \ \text{nil}$ $\quad (\lambda (x \ a)$ $\quad \quad (\text{if} (p \ x)$ $\quad \quad \quad (\text{cons} \ x \ a)$ $\quad \quad \quad a))$	$f(l) = (f_0 \ l \ l)$ $f(l) = (f_1 \ l \ (\lambda x. \ x > 2))$	$[7 \ 2] \rightarrow [7 \ 2 \ 7 \ 2]$ $["a"] \rightarrow ["a" \ "a"]$ $[7 \ 2 \ 3] \rightarrow [7 \ 3]$ $[1 \ 2 \ 3 \ 4] \rightarrow [3 \ 4]$ $[4 \ 3 \ 2 \ 1] \rightarrow [4 \ 3]$

# DreamCoder — Wake



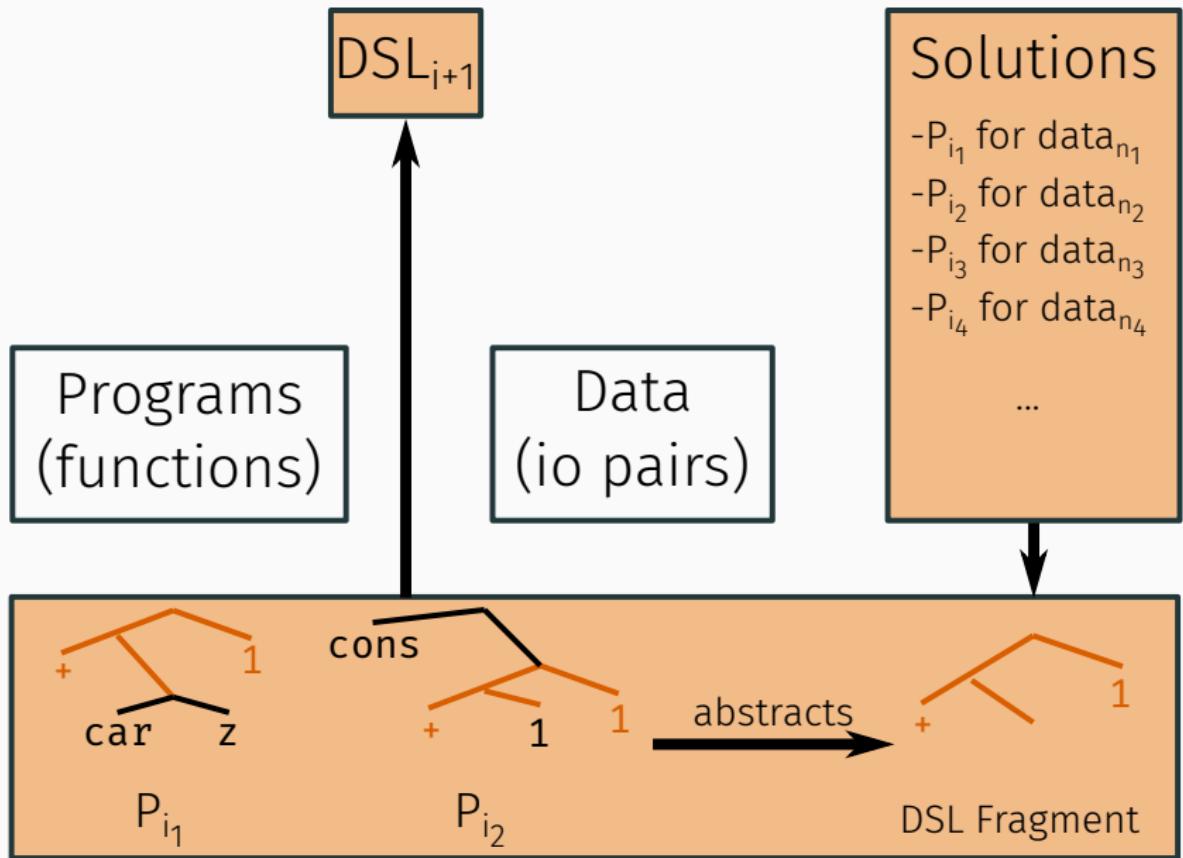
DSL	Programs	Data
$f_0(l, r) = \text{foldr } r \ l \ \text{cons}$ $f_1(l, p) = \text{foldr } r \ \text{nil}$ $(\lambda (x \ a)$ $(\text{if} (p \ x)$ $(\text{cons} \ x \ a)$ $a))$	$f(l) = (f_0 \ l \ l)$ $f(l) = (f_1 \ l \ (\lambda x. \ x > 2))$	$[7 \ 2] \rightarrow [7 \ 2 \ 7 \ 2]$ $["a"] \rightarrow ["a" \ "a"]$ $[7 \ 2 \ 3] \rightarrow [7 \ 3]$ $[1 \ 2 \ 3 \ 4] \rightarrow [3 \ 4]$ $[4 \ 3 \ 2 \ 1] \rightarrow [4 \ 3]$

# DreamCoder — Wake

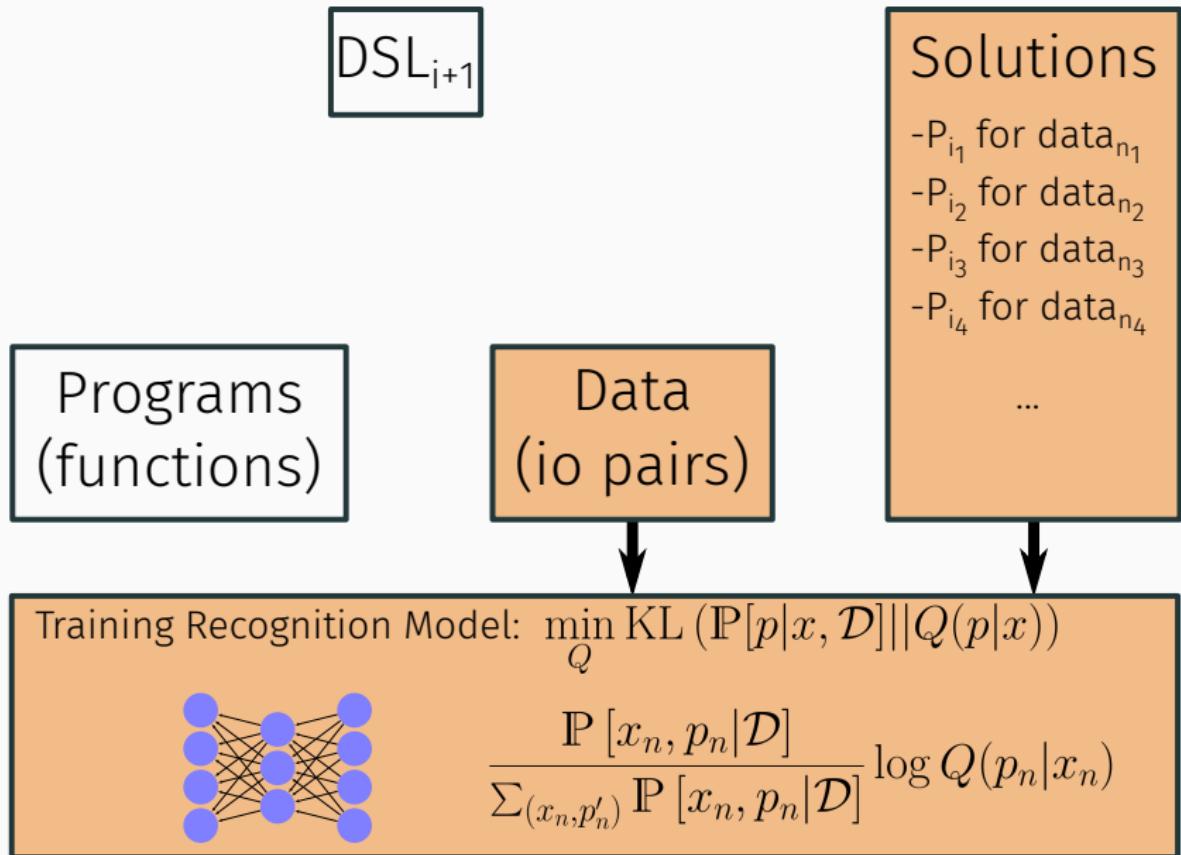


DSL	Programs	Data
$f_0(l, r) = \text{foldr } r \ l \ \text{cons}$ $f_1(l, p) = \text{foldr } r \ \text{nil}$ $(\lambda (x \ a)$ $(\text{if} (p \ x)$ $(\text{cons} \ x \ a)$ $a))$	$f(l) = (f_0 \ l \ l)$ $f(l) = (f_1 \ l \ (\lambda x. \ x > 2))$	$[7 \ 2] \rightarrow [7 \ 2 \ 7 \ 2]$ $["a"] \rightarrow ["a" \ "a"]$ $[7 \ 2 \ 3] \rightarrow [7 \ 3]$ $[1 \ 2 \ 3 \ 4] \rightarrow [3 \ 4]$ $[4 \ 3 \ 2 \ 1] \rightarrow [4 \ 3]$

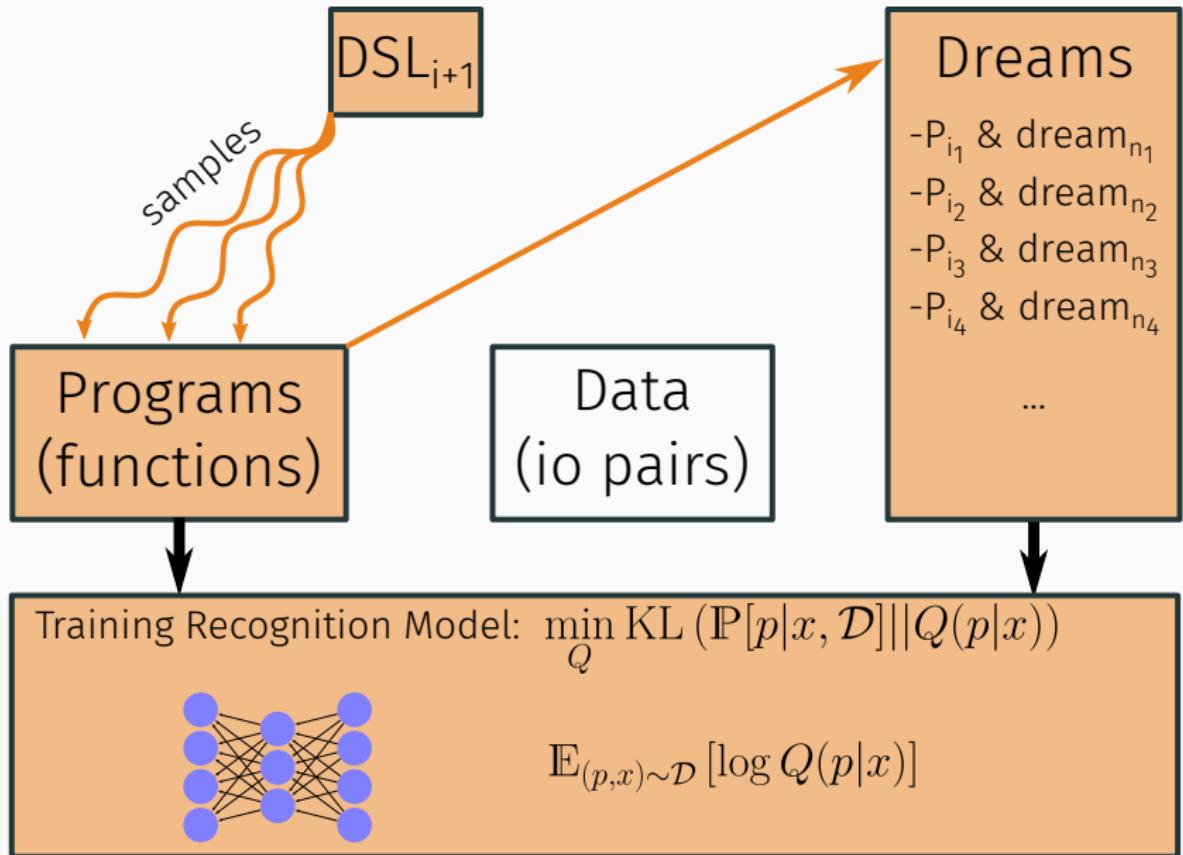
# DreamCoder — Sleep-G



# DreamCoder — Sleep-R (Experience Replay)



# DreamCoder — Sleep-R (Dreaming)

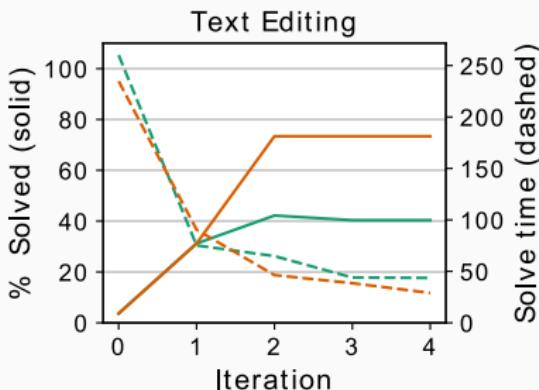
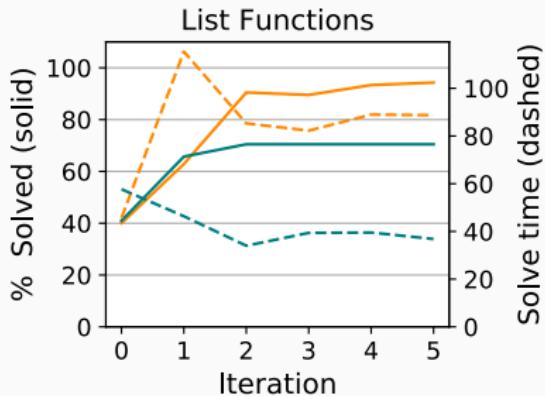


## List functions — Created & investigated by Lucas Morales

Name	Input	Output
repeat-3	[7 0]	[7 0 7 0 7 0]
drop-3	[0 3 8 6 4]	[6 4]
rotate-2	[8 14 1 9]	[1 9 8 14]
count-head-in-tail	[1 2 1 1 3]	2
keep-div-5	[5 9 14 6 3 0]	[5 0]
product	[7 1 6 2]	84

Discovers 38 concepts, including ‘filter’. With suitable curriculum can also learn ‘map’, ‘fold’, etc.

# List functions & Text editing: Learning curves on hold out tasks



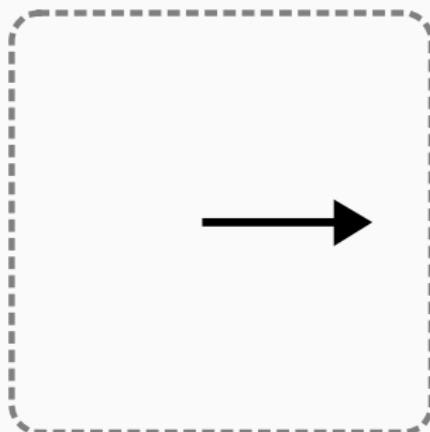
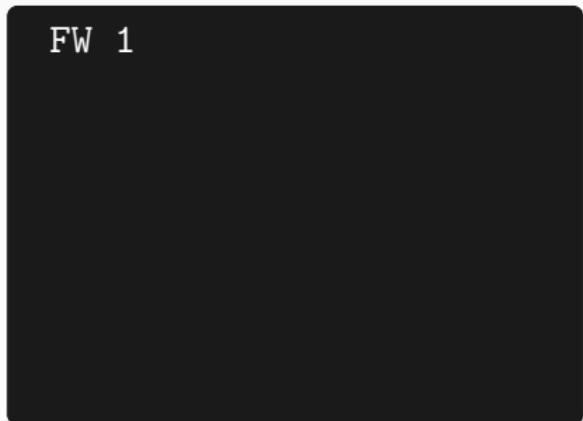
Learning curves for DreamCoder both with (in orange) and without (in teal) the recognition model. Solid lines: % holdout testing tasks solved w/ 10m timeout. Dashed lines: Average solve time, averaged only over tasks that are solved.

## DSL

OP ::= FW x | RT x | UP | DOWN | SET state

## Tasks

task : image



## DSL

OP ::= FW x | RT x | UP | DOWN | SET state

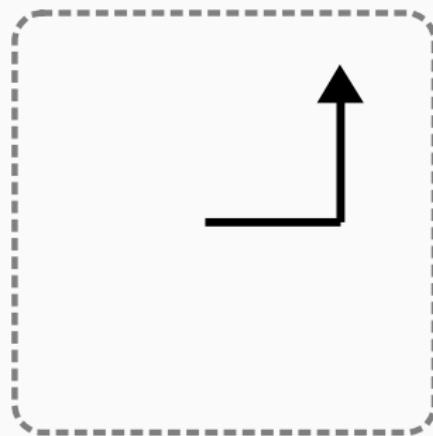
## Tasks

task : image

FW 1

RT  $\frac{\pi}{2}$

FW 1



## DSL

OP ::= FW x | RT x | UP | DOWN | SET state

## Tasks

task : image

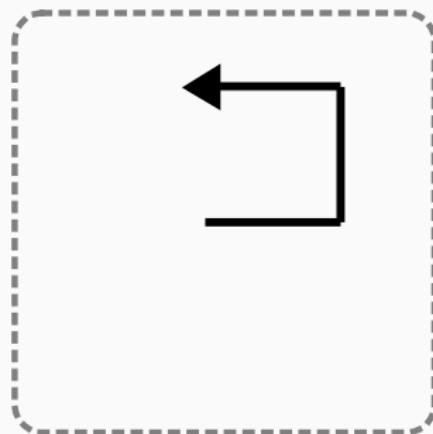
FW 1

RT  $\frac{\pi}{2}$

FW 1

RT  $\frac{\pi}{2}$

FW 1



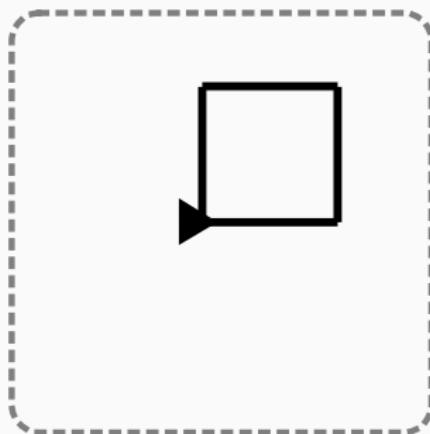
## DSL

OP ::= FW x | RT x | UP | DOWN | SET state

## Tasks

task : image

```
for i in range(4)
> FW 1
> RT  $\frac{\pi}{2}$ 
```



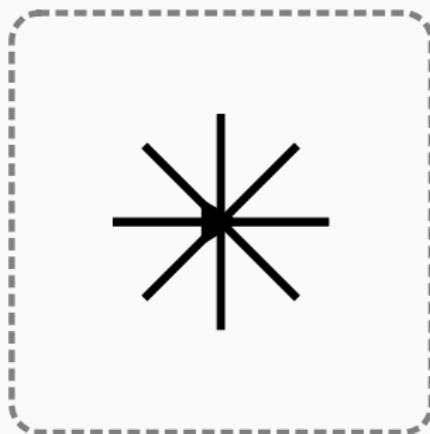
## DSL

OP ::= FW x | RT x | UP | DOWN | SET state

## Tasks

task : image

```
for i in range(8)
> FW 1
> SET origin
> RT  $\frac{2\pi}{8}$ 
```



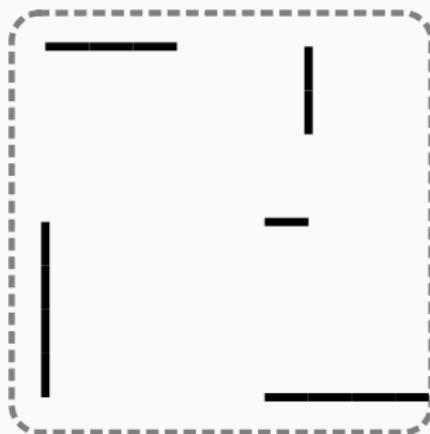
## DSL

OP ::= FW x | RT x | UP | DOWN | SET state

## Tasks

task : image

```
for i in range(8)
> PU
> FW  $\frac{i}{2}$ 
> PD
> FW  $\frac{i}{2}$ 
> RT  $\frac{\pi}{2}$ 
```



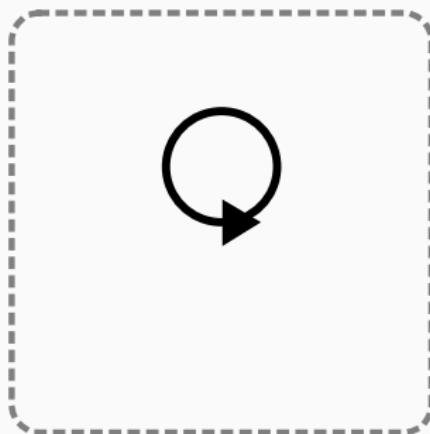
## DSL

OP ::= FW x | RT x | UP | DOWN | SET state

## Tasks

task : image

```
for i in range( $\infty$ )
> FW ε
> RT ε
```



## DSL

OP ::= FW x | RT x | UP | DOWN | SET state

## Tasks

task : image

```
for i in range(5 × ∞)
> FW i × ε
> RT ε
```



## DSL

OP ::= FW x | RT x | UP | DOWN | SET state

## Tasks

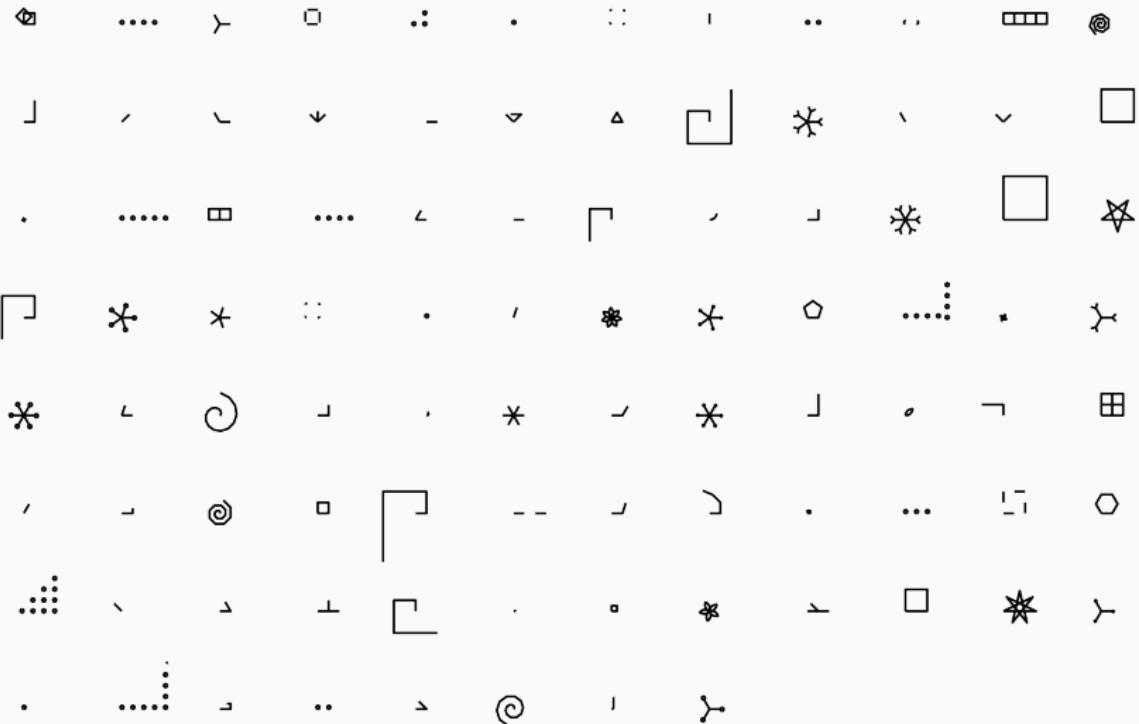
task : image

```
for i in range(5 × ∞)
> FW i × ε
> RT ε
```

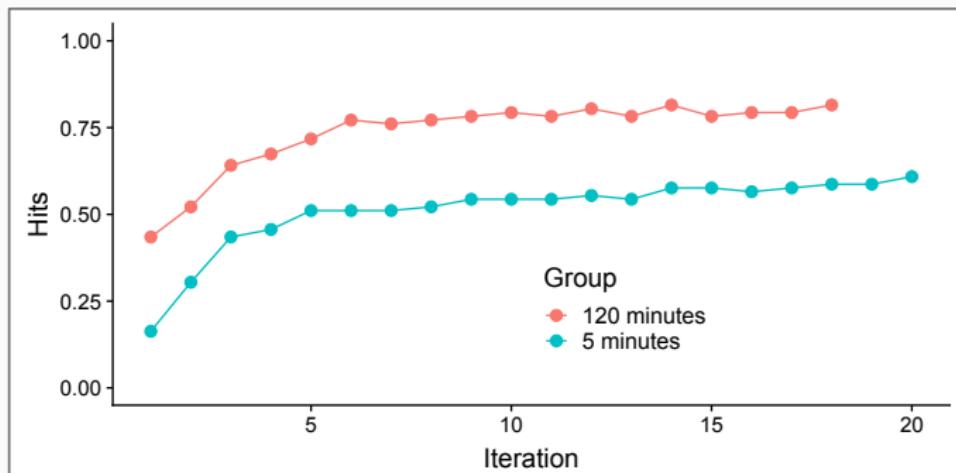


NUM ::= 1 |  $\pi$  |  $\infty$  |  $\varepsilon$  | + | - | \* | /

# Turtle graphics — Training tasks



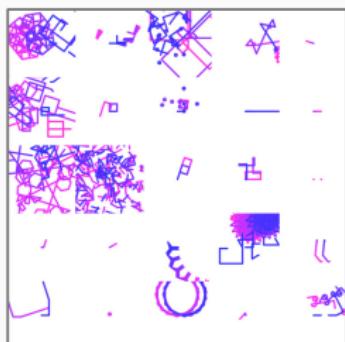
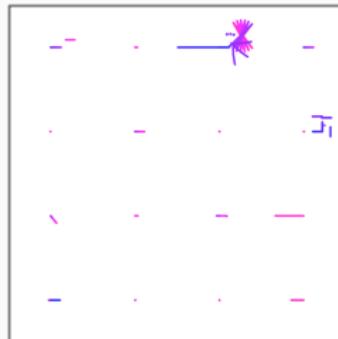
## Turtle graphics — Learning curves



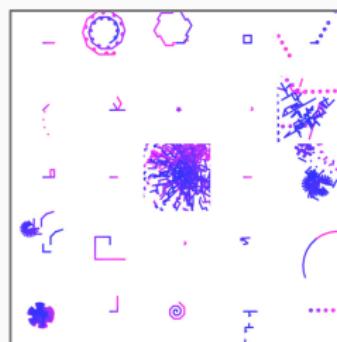
- $\frac{\pi}{2}$  and  $\frac{\pi}{4}$  from  $\pi$ , 2, + and /
- A line of length  $n$  followed with a right angle
- Loops of length  $n$  that uses the number  $n$  inside.
- Unit line then teleport back to origin
- ...

# Turtle graphics — Dreams

Before training

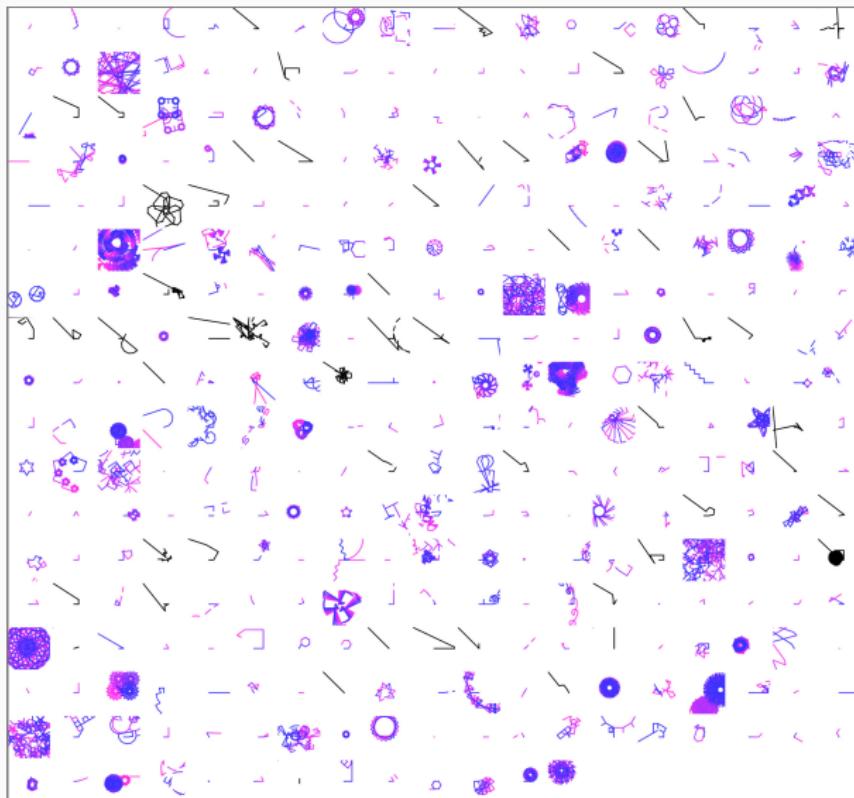


Plateau 5 minutes

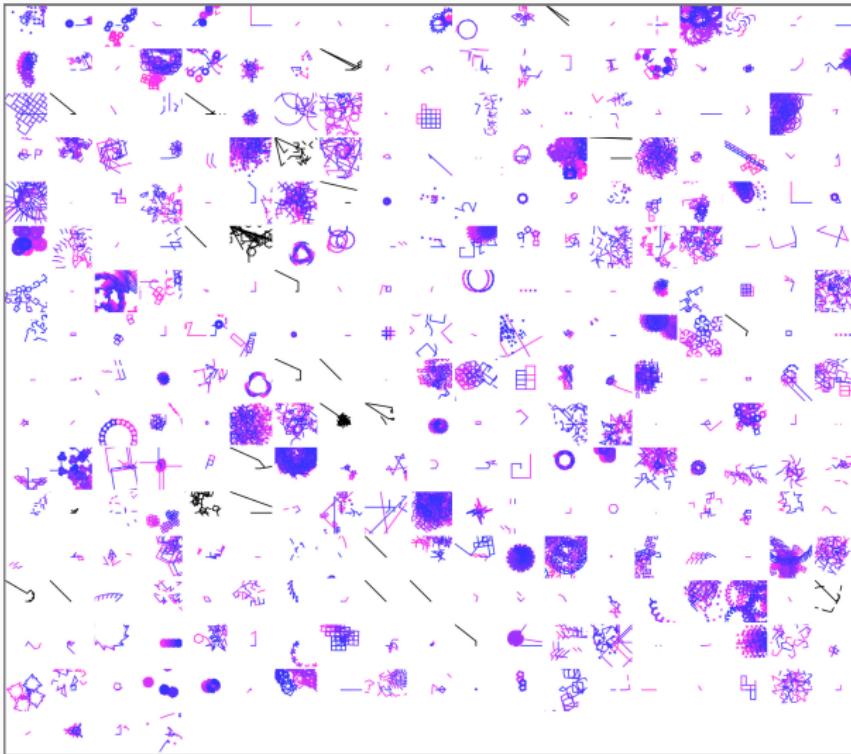


Plateau 2 hours

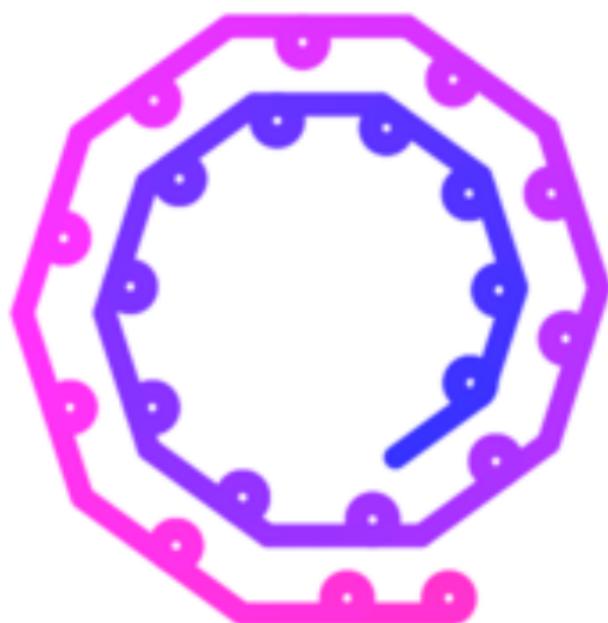
# Turtle graphics — More dreams, 5 minutes, 1st iteration



## Turtle graphics — More dreams, 5 minutes, last iteration



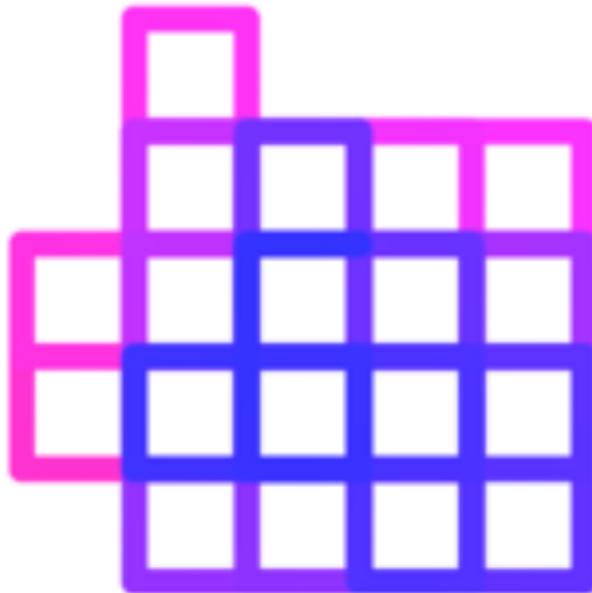
## Turtle graphics — Generative model



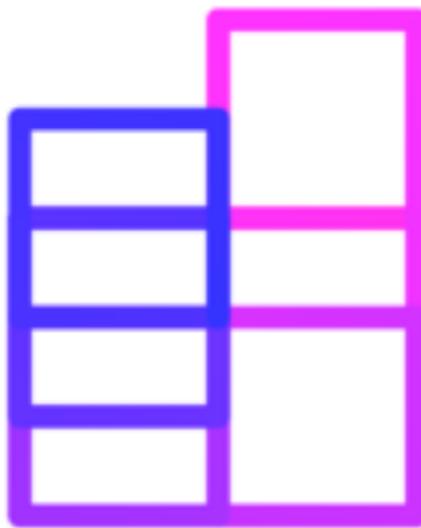
## Turtle graphics — Generative model



## Turtle graphics — Generative model



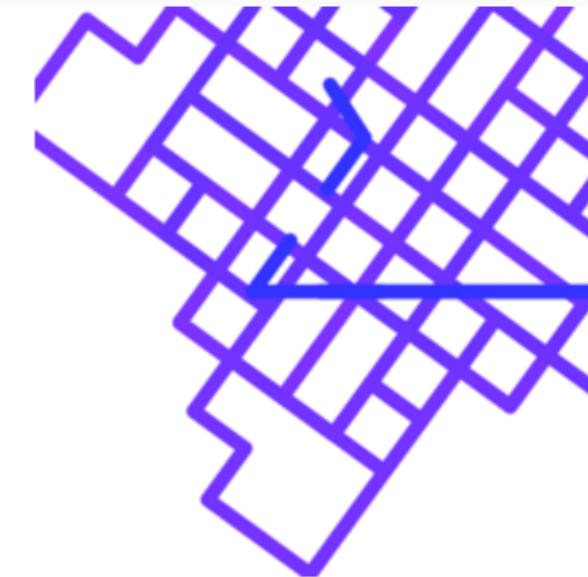
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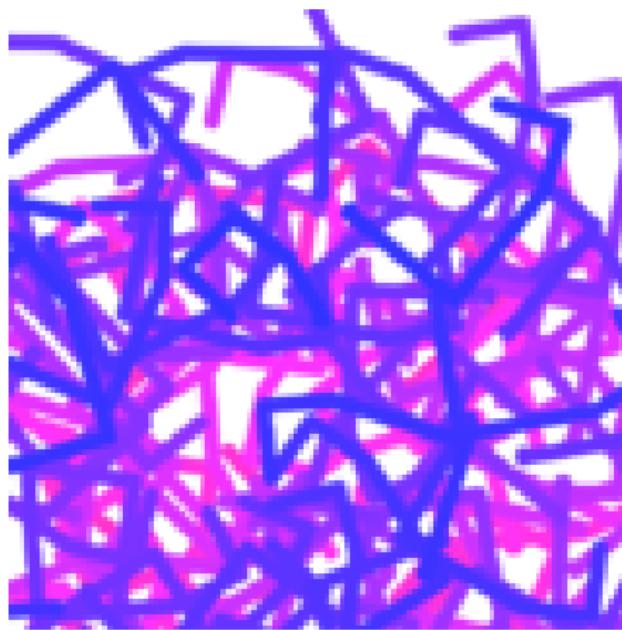
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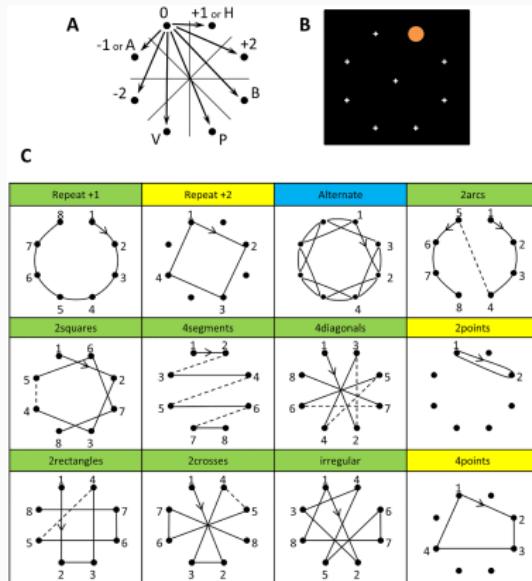
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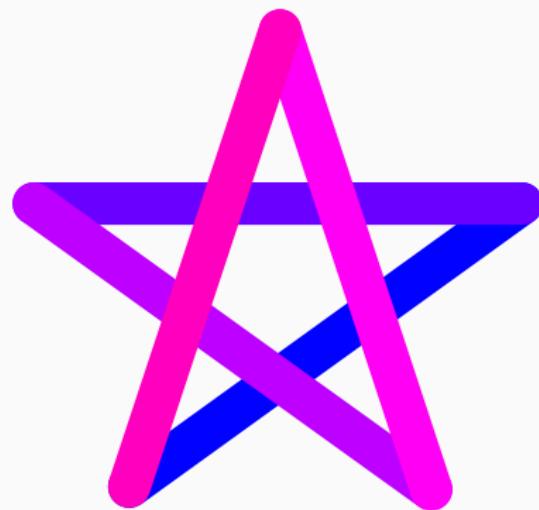


# Turtle graphics — All the way down

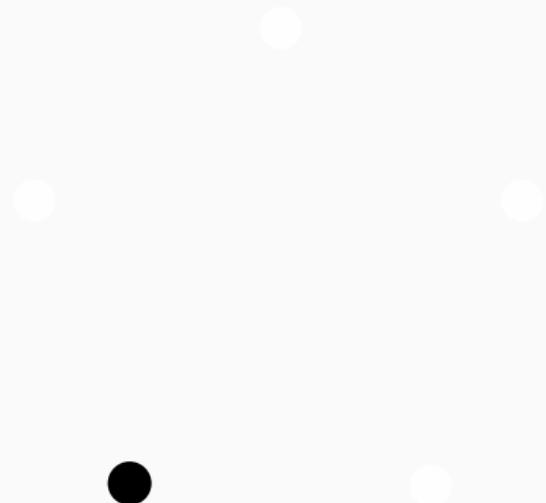


Marie Amalric, Stanislas Dehaene et al.

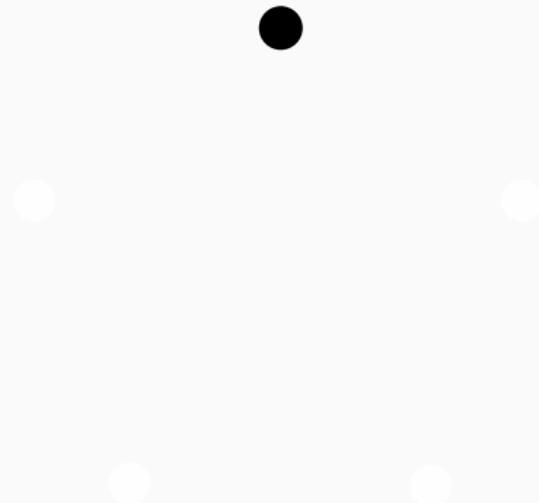
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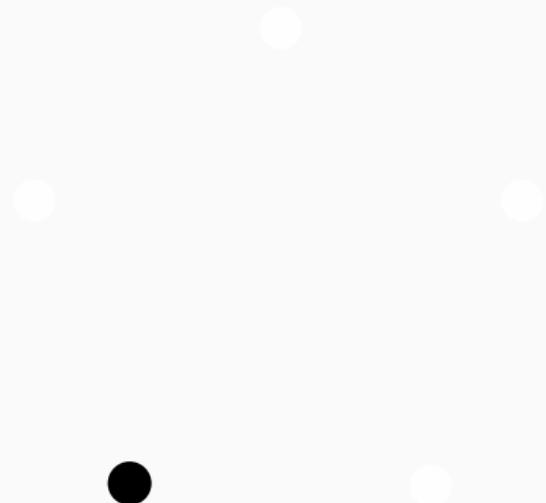
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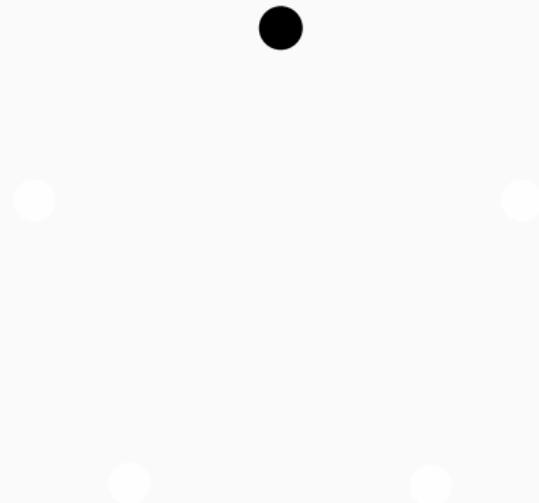
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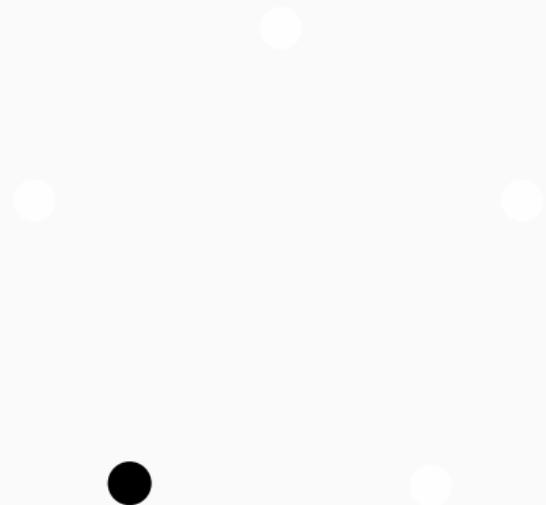


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# Vision

More human-like machine intelligence:

Flexibly adapting to new problem domains by acquiring a domain-specific language-of-thought (DSL), while jointly learning how to use the language of thought (recognition model)

# Vision

More human-like machine intelligence:

Flexibly adapting to new problem domains by acquiring a domain-specific language-of-thought (DSL), while jointly learning how to use the language of thought (recognition model)

```
f2(p,f,n,x) = (if (p x) nil  
                  (cons (f x) (f2 (n x))))  
(f2: unfold)  
f3(i,l) = (if (= i 0) (car l)  
              (f3 (f1 i) (cdr l)))  
(f3: index)  
f4(f,l,x) = (if (empty? l) x  
                  (f (car l) (f4 (cdr l))))  
(f4: fold)  
f5(f,l) = (if (empty? l) nil  
              (cons (f (car l)) (f5 (cdr l))))  
(f5: map)
```

Symbolic Regression	
	
$f(x) = (f_1 \times x)$	$f(x) = (f_6 \times x)$
	
$f(x) = (f_4 \times x)$	$f(x) = (f_3 \times x)$
$f_0(x) = (+ \times \text{real})$	
$f_1(x) = (f_0 \times (\star \text{ real } x))$	
$f_2(x) = (f_1 \times (\star \times (f_0 \times x)))$	
$f_3(x) = (f_0 \times (\star \times (f_2 \times x)))$	
$f_4(x) = (f_0 \times (\star \times (f_3 \times x)))$	
<i>(f<sub>4</sub>: 4th order polynomial)</i>	
$f_5(x) = (/ \text{ real } x)$	
$f_6(x) = (f_5 \times (f_0 \times x))$	
<i>(f<sub>6</sub>: rational function)</i>	

