

# DreamCoder: Bootstrapping Inductive Program Synthesis with Wake-Sleep Library Learning

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# Inductive program synthesis

**Program synthesis:** automatically write computer programs from a specification of what they should do

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**Inductive program synthesis:** Learning programs from examples

## FlashFill (Gulwani 2012)

EXAMPLE 3 (Directory Name Extraction). Consider the following example taken from an excel online help forum.

Input $v_1$	Output
Company\Code\index.html	Company\Code\
Company\Docs\Spec\specs.doc	Company\Docs\Spec\

String Program:

$\text{SubStr}(v_1, \text{CPos}(0), \text{Pos}(\text{SlashTok}, \epsilon, -1))$

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## Szalinski (Nandi 2020)



(a) CAD model of ship's wheel

```
(Union  
  (Cylinder [1, 5, 5])  
  (Fold Union  
    (Tabulate (i 6)  
      (Rotate [0, 0, 60i]  
        (Translate [1, -0.5, 0]  
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```

(b) Caddy program

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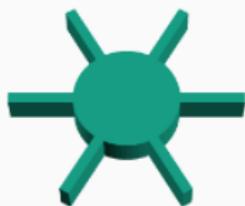
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String Program:

$\text{SubStr}(v_1, \text{CPos}(0), \text{Pos}(\text{SlashTok}, \epsilon, -1))$

String expr $P$	$\text{Switch}((b_1, e_1), \dots, (b_n, e_n))$
Bool $b$	$d_1 \vee \dots \vee d_n$
Conjunct $d$	$\pi_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \pi_n$
Predicate $\pi$	$\text{Match}(v_i, r, k) \mid \neg \text{Match}(v_i, r, k)$
Trace expr $e$	$\text{Concatenate}(f_1, \dots, f_n)$
Atomic expr $f$	$\text{SubStr}(v_i, p_1, p_2)$   $\text{ConstStr}(s)$   $\text{Loop}(\lambda w : e)$
Position $p$	$\text{CPos}(k) \mid \text{Pos}(r_1, r_2, c)$
Integer expr $c$	$k \mid k_1 w + k_2$
Regular Expression $r$	$\text{TokenSeq}(T_1, \dots, T_m)$
Token $T$	$C + \mid [\neg C] + \mid \text{SpecialToken}$

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(b) Caddy program

op	$\ ::= \ + \mid - \mid \times \mid / \quad \text{num} \ ::= \ \mathbb{R} \mid \langle \text{var} \rangle \mid \langle \text{num} \rangle \langle \text{op} \rangle \langle \text{num} \rangle$
vec2	$\ ::= \ [\langle \text{num} \rangle, \langle \text{num} \rangle] \quad \text{vec3} \ ::= \ [\langle \text{num} \rangle, \langle \text{num} \rangle, \langle \text{num} \rangle]$
affine	$\ ::= \ \text{Translate} \mid \text{Rotate} \mid \text{Scale} \mid \text{TranslateSpherical}$
binop	$\ ::= \ \text{Union} \mid \text{Difference} \mid \text{Intersection}$
cad	$\ ::= \ (\text{Cuboid} \langle \text{vec3} \rangle) \mid (\text{Sphere} \langle \text{num} \rangle)$   $(\text{Cylinder} \langle \text{vec2} \rangle) \mid (\text{HexPrism} \langle \text{vec2} \rangle) \mid \dots$   $((\text{affine}) \langle \text{vec3} \rangle \langle \text{cad} \rangle)$   $((\text{binop}) \langle \text{cad} \rangle \langle \text{cad} \rangle)$   $(\text{Fold} \langle \text{binop} \rangle \langle \text{cad-list} \rangle)$
cad-list	$\ ::= \ (\text{List} \langle \text{cad} \rangle^+)$   $(\text{Concat} \langle \text{cad-list} \rangle^+)$   $(\text{Tabulate} ((\text{var}) \ Z^+)^+ \langle \text{cad} \rangle)$   $(\text{Map2} \langle \text{affine} \rangle \langle \text{vec3-list} \rangle \langle \text{cad-list} \rangle)$
vec3-list	$\ ::= \ (\text{List} \langle \text{vec3} \rangle^+)$   $(\text{Concat} \langle \text{vec3-list} \rangle^+)$   $(\text{Tabulate} ((\text{var}) \ Z^+)^+ \langle \text{vec3} \rangle)$

## Learning to write code

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

- Library of abstractions (domain specific language)
- Inference strategy (synthesis algorithm)

# Library learning

## Initial Primitives

: read  
:

map

fold com

if

cons

>

:

## Sample Problem: sort list

[9 2 7 1] → [1 2 7 9]

[3 8 9 4 2] → [2 3 4 8 9]

[6 2 2 3 8 5] → [2 2 3 5 6 8]

...

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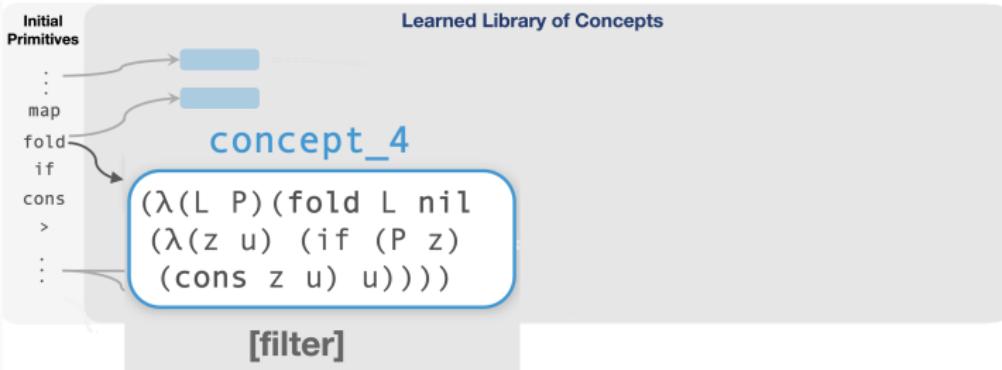
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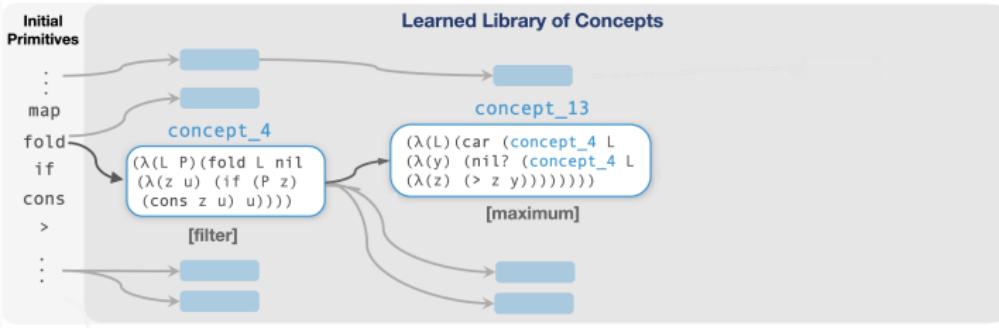
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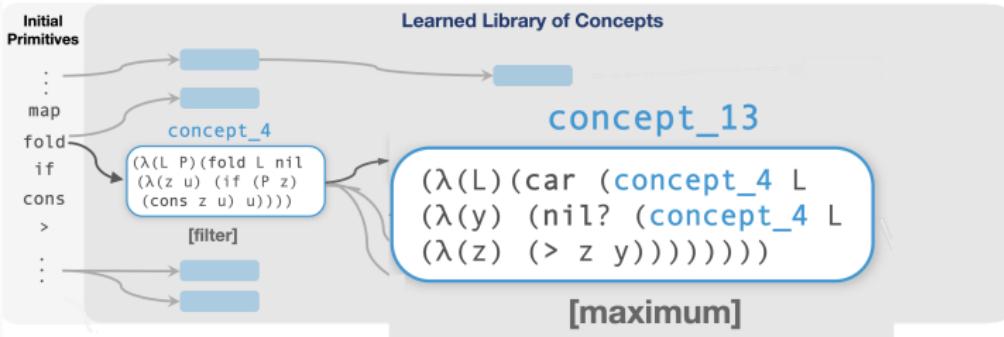
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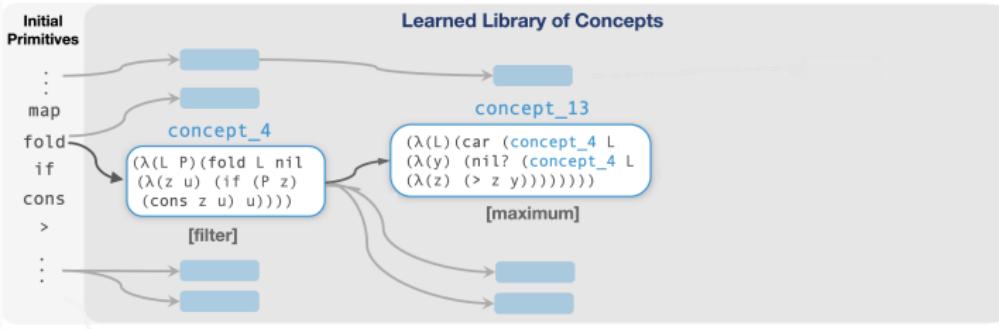
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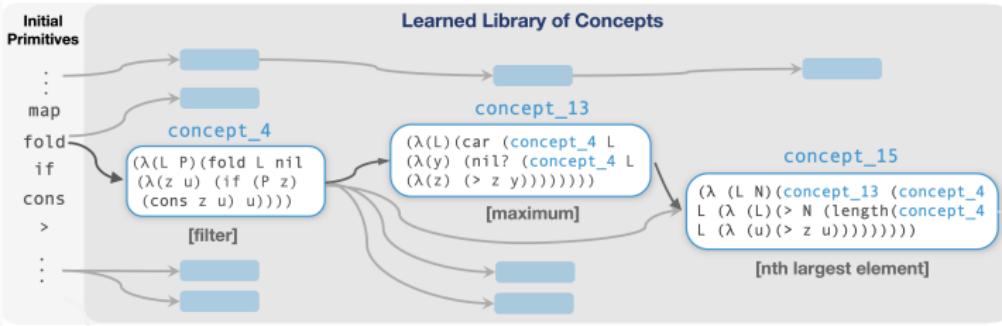
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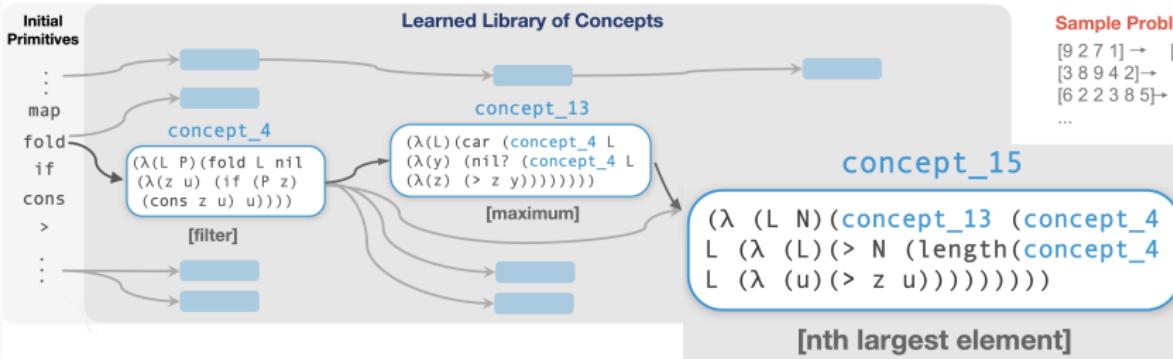
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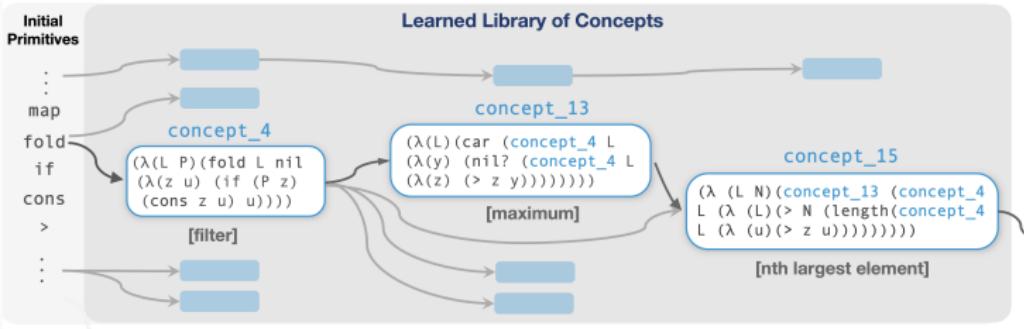
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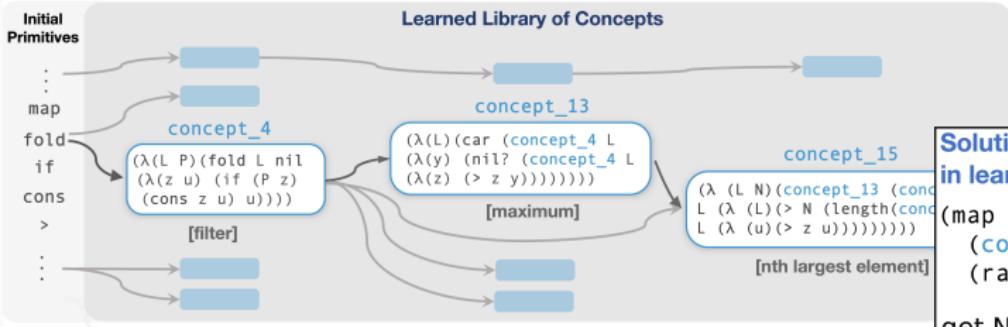
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## Solution to sort list discovered in learned language:

```
(map (λ (n)
  (concept_15 L (+ 1 n)))
  (range (length L)))
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# Library learning



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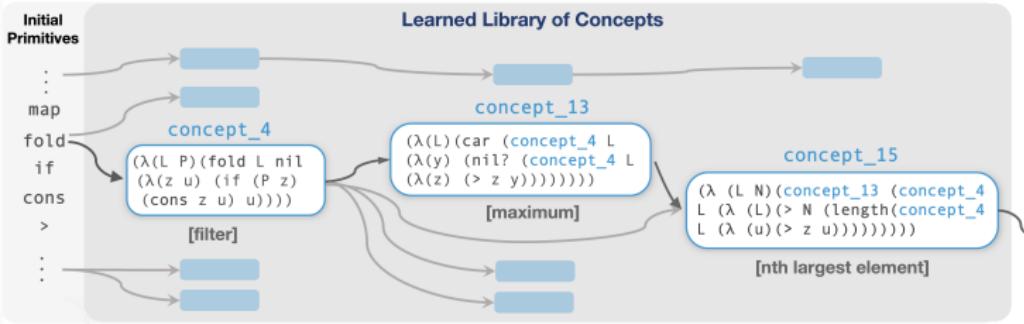
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get Nth largest element,  
where N is 1, 2, 3, ...

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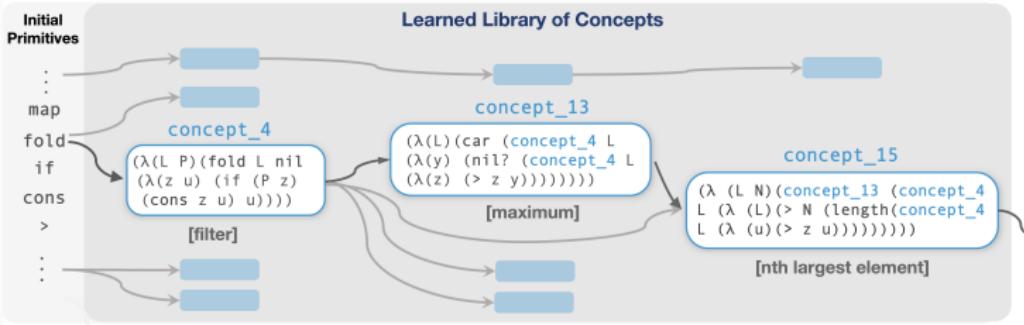
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## Solution rewritten in initial primitives:

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(lambda (x) (map (lambda (y) (car (fold (fold x nil (lambda (z u) (if (gt? (+ y 1) (length
(fold x nil (lambda (v w) (if (gt? z v) (cons v w) w)))))) (cons z u) u))) nil (lambda (a b) (if
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# Library learning



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induced sort program found in  $\leq 10\text{min}$ . Brute-force search  
without learned library would take  $\approx 10^{73}$  years

- **Wake:** Solve problems by writing programs
- **Sleep:** Improve library and neural network:
  - **Abstraction sleep:** Improve library
  - **Dream sleep:** Improve neural network

cf. Helmholtz machine, wake/sleep neural network training algorithms

Three unknowns:

- programs
- library
- neural net weights

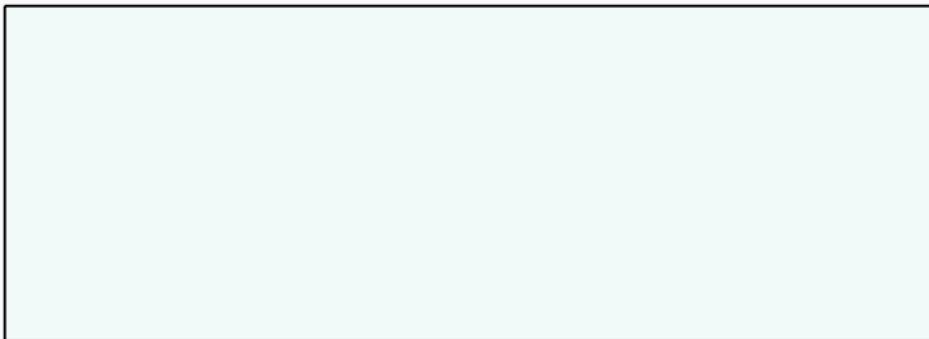
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iteratively:

solve each unknown,  
holding others fixed

**WAKE**



**SLEEP: ABSTRACTION**



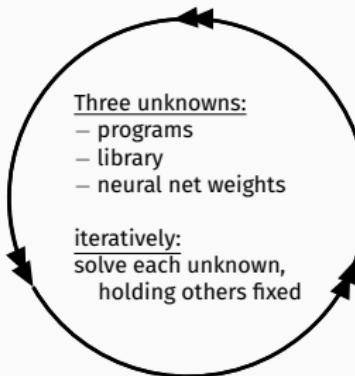
**SLEEP: DREAMING**



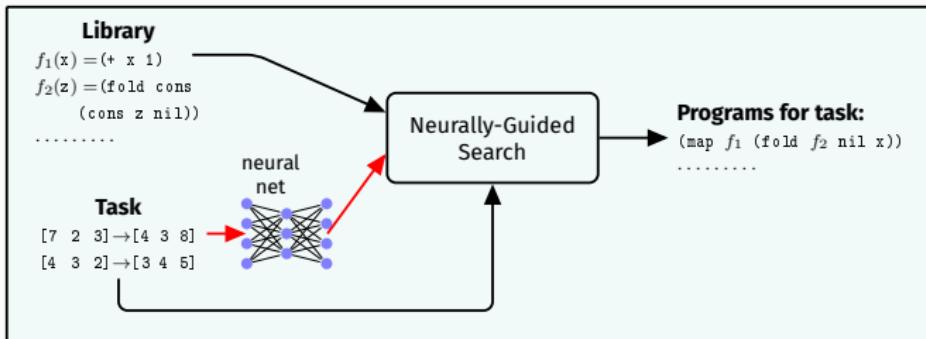
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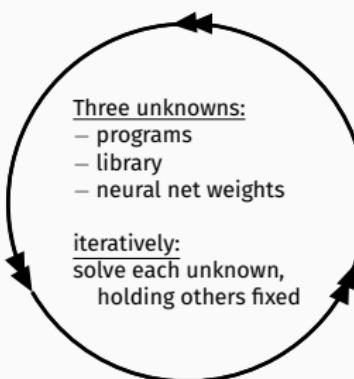
## WAKE



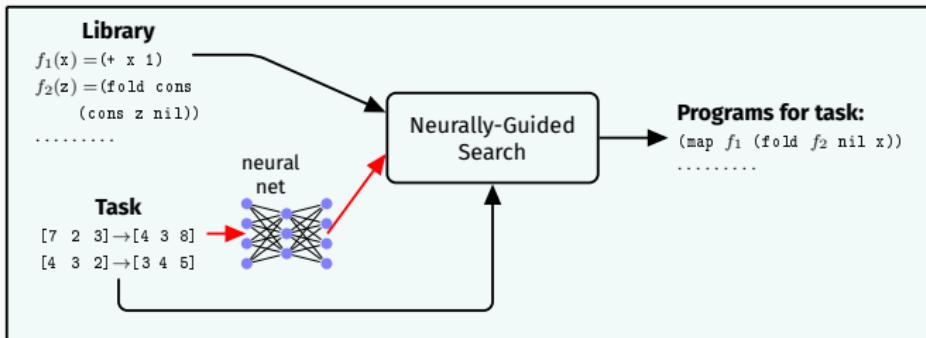
## SLEEP: ABSTRACTION



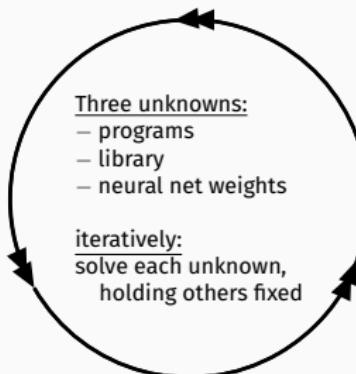
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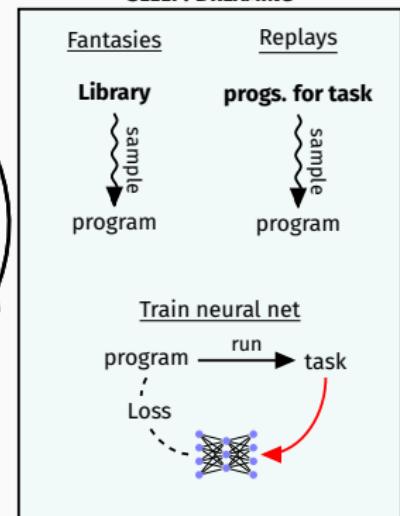
## WAKE



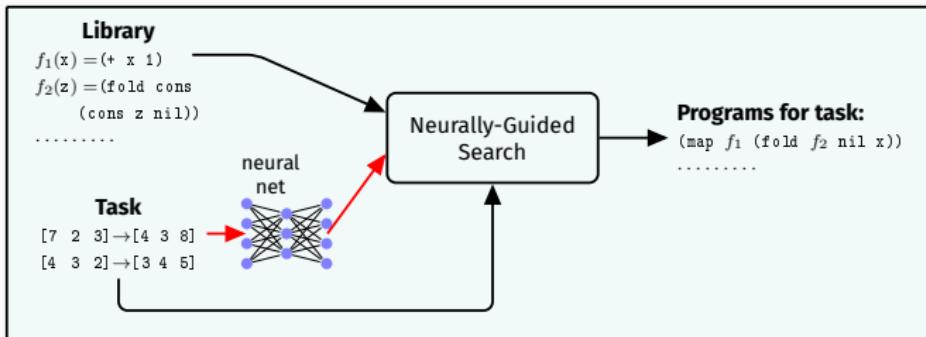
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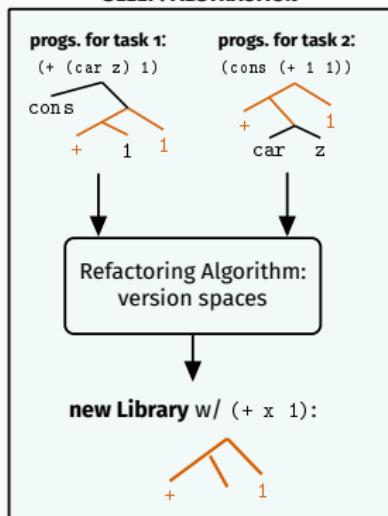
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## WAKE



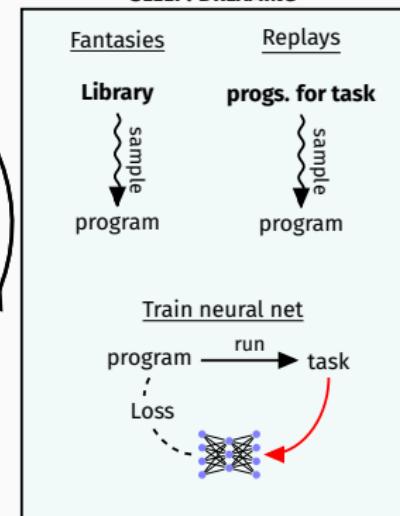
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– programs  
– library  
– neural net weights

iteratively:  
solve each unknown,  
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## SLEEP: DREAMING



# DreamCoder Domains

## List Processing

### Sum List

$[1 \ 2 \ 3] \rightarrow 6$   
 $[4 \ 6 \ 8 \ 1] \rightarrow 17$

### Double

$[1 \ 2 \ 3] \rightarrow [2 \ 4 \ 6]$   
 $[4 \ 5 \ 1] \rightarrow [8 \ 10 \ 2]$

## Text Editing

### Abbreviate

Allen Newell → A.N.  
Herb Simon → H.S.

### Drop Last Three

shrdlu → shr  
shakey → sha

## Regexes

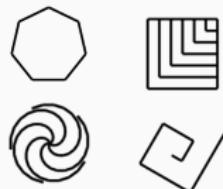
### Phone numbers

(555) 867-5309  
(650) 555-2368

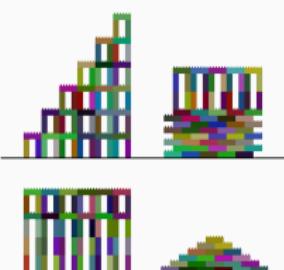
### Currency

\$100.25  
\$4.50

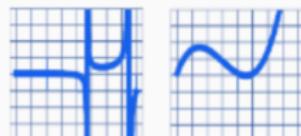
## LOGO Graphics



## Block Towers



## Symbolic Regression



$$y = f(x)$$

## Recursive Programming

### Filter Red

[■■■■■■■■] → [■■■■]  
[■■■■■■■■■■] → [■■■■■■■■]  
[■■■■■■■■] → [■■■■■■■■]

## Physical Laws

$$\vec{a} = \frac{1}{m} \sum_i \vec{F}_i$$

$$\vec{F} \propto \frac{q_1 q_2}{|\vec{r}|^2} \hat{r}$$