

Search Prioritization

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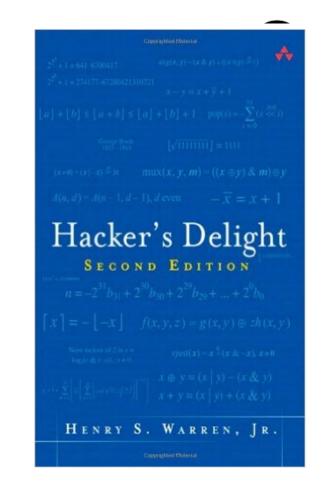
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Limitations of Enumerative Search I. Limited Scalability

- Explore candidates in order of increasing size
 - Good for finding generalizable solutions (Occam's razor)
- What if desired solutions are large?
 - Search space exponentially grows
- Enumerative search wastes computation resources for exploring many "unlikely" candidates.

Example: Hacker's Delight

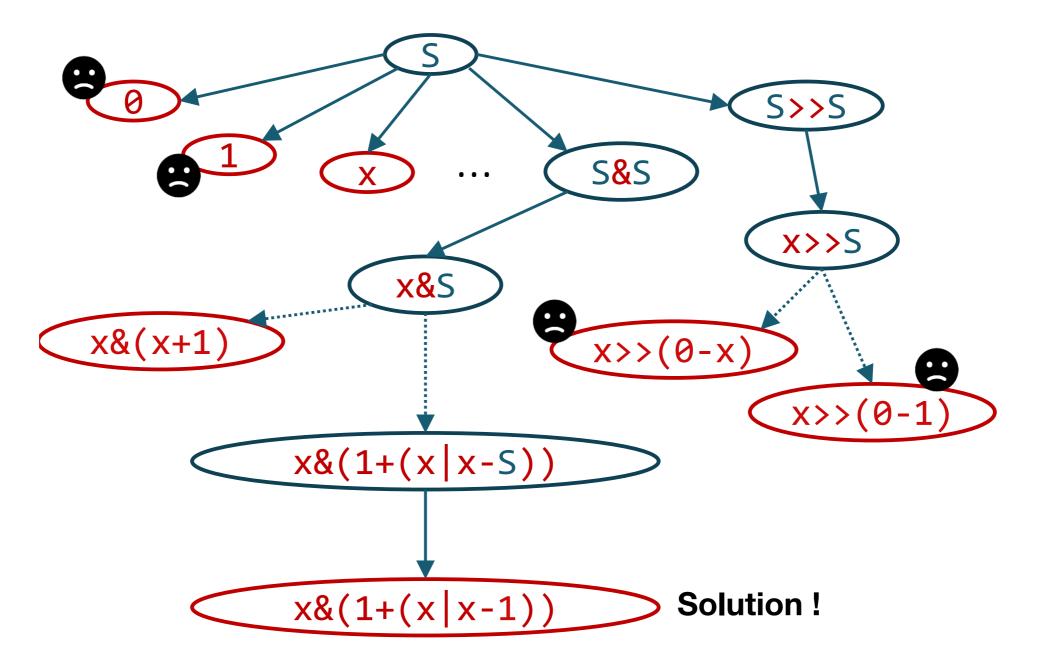
- Find a program transforming rightmost contiguous I's into 0's without a loop)
- Target : f(x: BitVec) : BitVec
- Syntactic constr.:



• Semantic constr: f(00101) = 00100, f(10110) = 10000 ...

Example: Hacker's Delight

Many "unlikely" candidates are explored by top-down search!



From https://github.com/nadia-polikarpova/cse291-program-synthesis

Limitations of Enumerative Search 2. Overfitting

- Despite Occam's razor, enumerative search does not guarantee most "likely" solutions.
 - "likely": generalizable beyond given I/O examples

Statistical Regularities in Programs

 Programs contain repetitive and predictable patterns [Hindle et al. ICSE'12]

for (i = 0; i < 100; ??)</pre>

Statistical program models define a probability distribution over programs

$$Pr(?? \rightarrow i++ | \text{for } (i = 0; i < 100; ??)) = 0.80$$

 $Pr(?? \rightarrow i-- | \text{for } (i = 0; i < 100; ??)) = 0.01$

- e.g., n-gram, neural network (e.g., LSTM), ______ Sequence-based

probabilistic context-free grammar (PCFG),

probabilistic higher-order grammar (PHOG)...

Grammar-based

• Many applications: code completion, deobfuscation, program repair, etc.

Applications of Statistical Program Models

Input: code snippet with holes

Output: holes completed with (sequences) of method calls

```
SmsManager smsMgr = SmsManager.getDefault();
    int length = message.length();
    if (length > MAX_SMS_MESSAGE_LENGTH) {
      ArrayList<String> msgList =
          smsMgr.divideMsg(message);
      ? {smsMgr, msgList} // (H1)
    } else {
      ? {smsMgr, message} // (H2)
    3
                          SLANG
SmsManager smsMgr = SmsManager.getDefault();
int length = message.length();
if (length > MAX SMS MESSAGE LENGTH) {
  ArrayList<String> msgList =
      smsMgr.divideMsg(message);
  smsMgr.sendMultipartTextMessage(...msgList...);
} else {
  smsMgr.sendTextMessage(...message...);
l.
```

Applications of Statistical Program Models

• Fixing syntactic errors

```
def evaluatePoly(poly, x):

a = 0

f = 0.0

for a in range(0, len(poly) - 1):

f = poly[a]*x**a+f

a += 1

return f

def evaluatePoly(poly, x):

a = 0

f = 0.0

while a < len(poly):

f = poly[a]*x**a+f

a += 1

return f
```

- Program = sequence of tokens
- Fix syntax errors using a skip-gram model

Exploiting Statistical Regularities

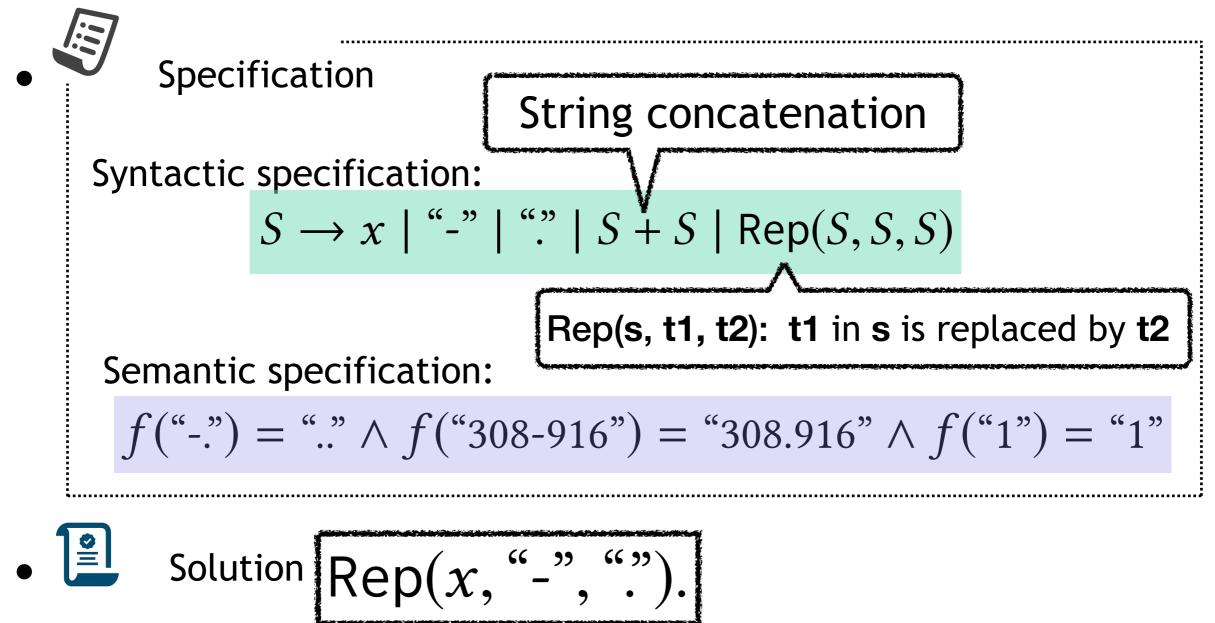
- Can we leverage statistical program models to accelerate program synthesis?
- Key Challenges
 - **Guided search:** How to guide 1.the search given a statistical model?
 - Learning models: How to learn a good statistical model?

Euphony for Guiding Top-Down Enumerative Search

- Woosuk Lee, Kihong Heo, Rajeev Alur, Mayur Naik, Accelerating Search-Based Synthesis Using Learned Probabilistic Moels, PLDI'18
- **Guided search:** A general approach to accelerate *CEGIS*-based program synthesis
 - by using a probabilistic model to guide the search towards likely programs
 - supports a wide range of models (e.g., *n*-gram, PCFG, PHOG, neural nets, ...)
- Learning models: Transfer learning-based method to mitigate overfitting
- <u>https://github.com/wslee/euphony</u>

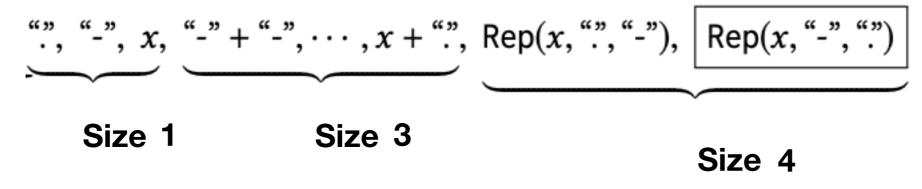
Example SyGuS Problem

- Goal: a function $f\,$ that replaces a hyphen (-) by a dot (.) in a given string x

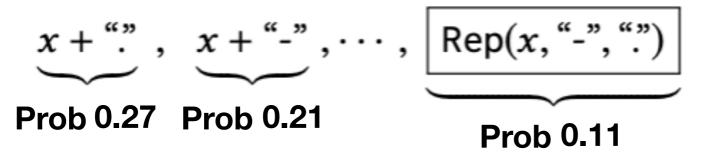


Guided Search

• Existing unguided enumerative search



- Unlikely candidates (e.g., "-" + "-") are explored.
- Guided enumerative search



 Likely candidates are explored first, while preserving the existing pruning optimizations

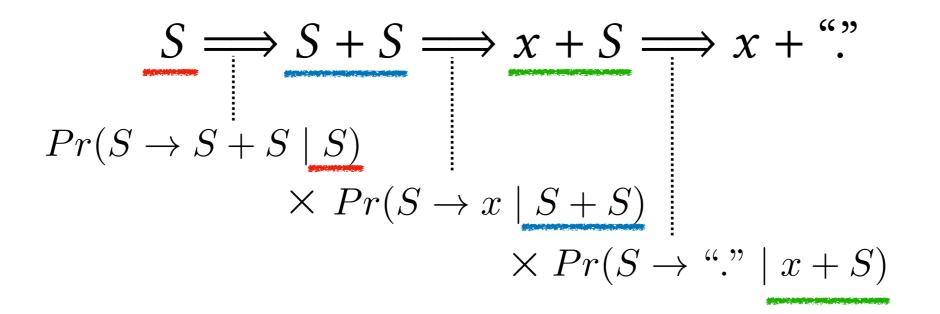
Guided Search

- Model learning
- Guided enumerative search

- Given CFG $\langle N, \Sigma, R, S \rangle$
- and an incomplete program: $(N \cup \Sigma)^*$ (i.e., sentential form),
- provides a probability for each production rule applicable next (usually on the leftmost nonterminal)
 - Pr(production rule | sentential form)

(Grammar-based) Statistical Program Models

- Determines a probability of a given program
- E.g., probability of x + "."



Example

• Probabilistic context-free grammar (PCFG)

$$\begin{array}{cccc} A \rightarrow \beta & P \\ S & \rightarrow & "." & 0.2 \\ S & \rightarrow & "-" & 0.2 \\ S & \rightarrow & x & 0.1 \\ S & \rightarrow & S+S & 0.1 \\ S & \rightarrow & \operatorname{Rep}(S,S,S) & 0.4 \end{array}$$

• Limitation: context around the place where a rule is applied is not considered \rightarrow imprecise

A Uniform Interface to Statistical Program Models

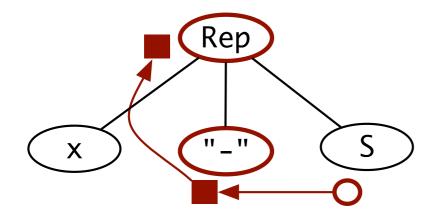
- A statistical program model is $G_q = \langle G, C, p, q \rangle$ for a given CFG $G = \langle N, \Sigma, R, S \rangle$
 - C set of contexts
 - p: (N∪Σ)* → C Given a sentential form, for extracting contextual information around the next hole (i.e., nonterminal) to be filled
 - $q : R \times C \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$ Considering contextual information, for determining a probability for production rule

Contexts

- Sequence of terminal/nonterminal symbols
- E.g., 2-gram

p(x+S) = [+, x]

• E.g., Sibling and parent nodes



$$p(\texttt{Rep}(x, ``-", S)) = [``-", \texttt{Rep}]$$

Example

<u>Probabilistic Higher-order Grammar</u> (PHOG) — the model used by Euphony

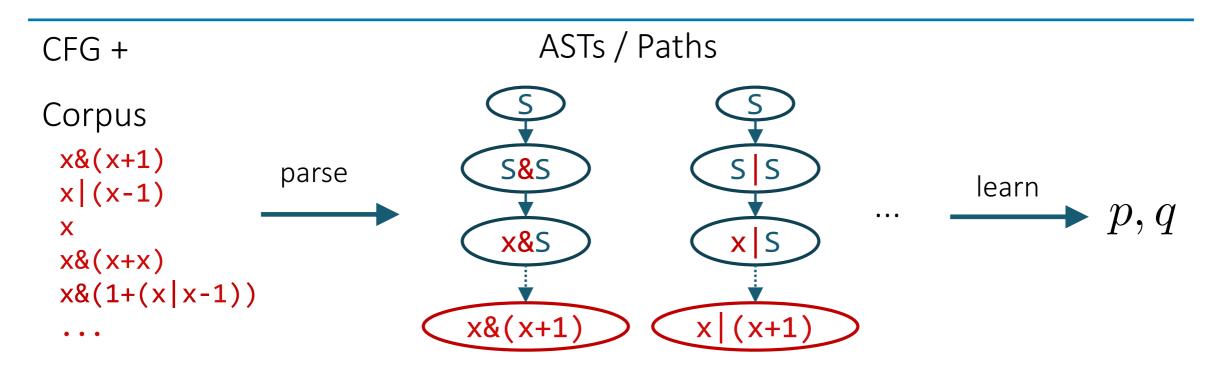
 $A[context] \rightarrow \beta$ P $Pr(S \to "." | \operatorname{Rep}("x", "-", S))$ 0.720.001 = 0.72 $\begin{array}{cccc} S["\text{-"}, \operatorname{Rep}] & \to & x \\ S["\text{-"}, \operatorname{Rep}] & \to & S+S \end{array}$ 0.120.02S["-", Rep] \rightarrow Rep(S, S, S)0.139

PHOG when *context* is symbols at left sibling and parent

Rep S Х

Bielik et al., Probabilistic Higher-Order Grammar, ICML'16

Learning a PHOG



- From *derivation* sequences of training programs, count occurrences of each rule application under certain contexts
 - E.g., From derivation sequence x & S \implies x & I , x | S \implies x | I, production rule S \rightarrow I is counted twice when sibling is x

• Prob. of
$$\alpha \to \beta$$
 under context $\gamma : q(\alpha[\gamma] \to \beta) = \frac{Count(\alpha[\gamma] \to \beta)}{Count(\alpha[\gamma])}$

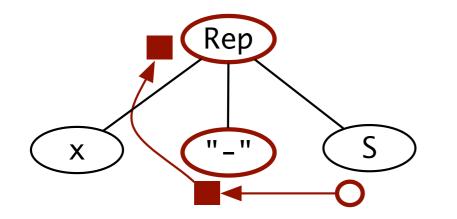
Learning a PHOG

- How to determine which contexts matter?
- The p function: program written in the TCond language

TCond $\rightarrow \epsilon$ | Write TCond | MoveOp TCond

MoveOp \rightarrow Up | Left | Right | DownFirst | DownLast

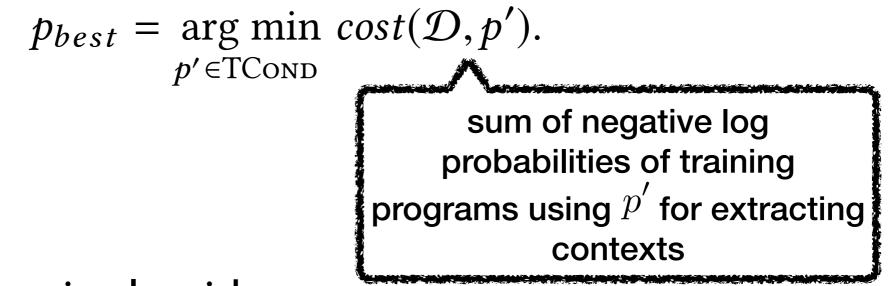
• E.g., collect contents of sibling and parent nodes



Left · Write · Up · Write

Learning a PHOG

• Given training programs \mathcal{D} , Find TCond program s.t.



• By using a genetic algorithm

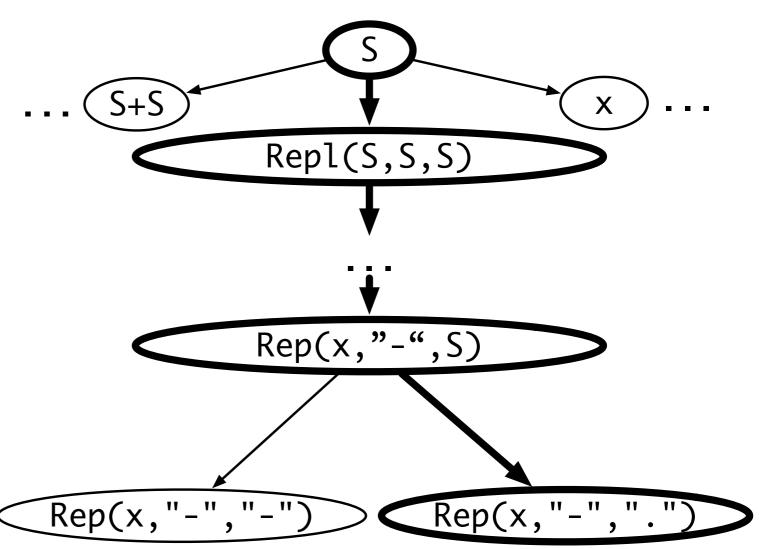
Guided Search

- Model Learning
- Guided enumerative search

Guided Search as Path Finding

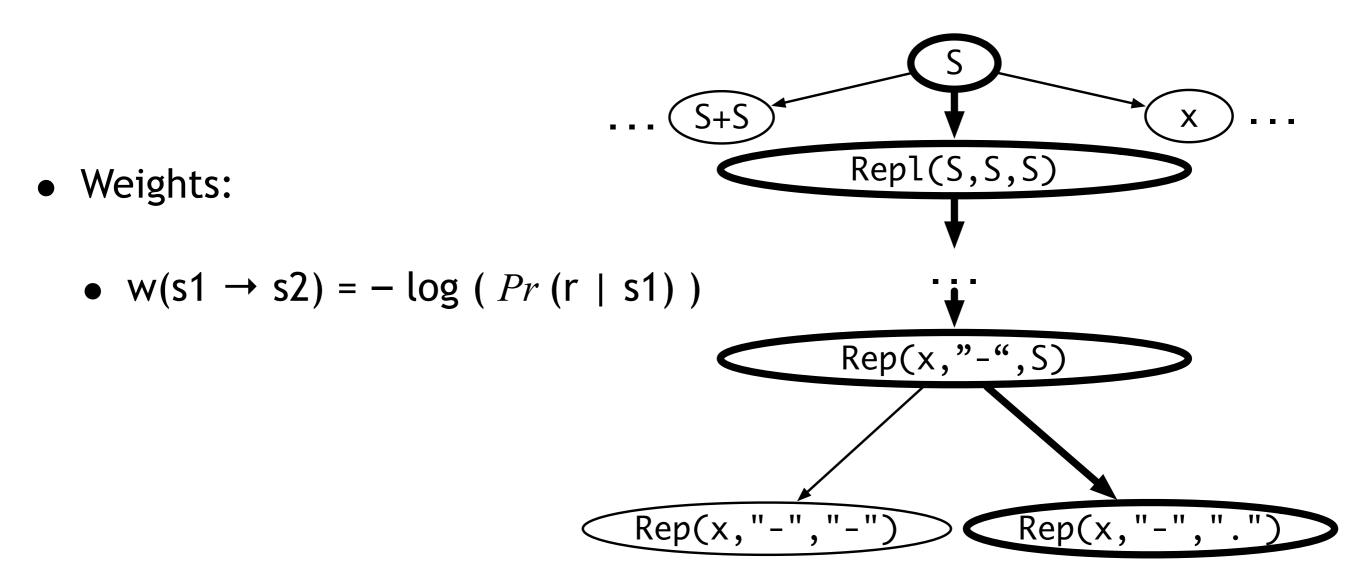
Contruct a directed weighted graph from a given CFG

- Nodes: sentential forms
- Edges: derivations between sentential forms
- Terminal nodes: sentences



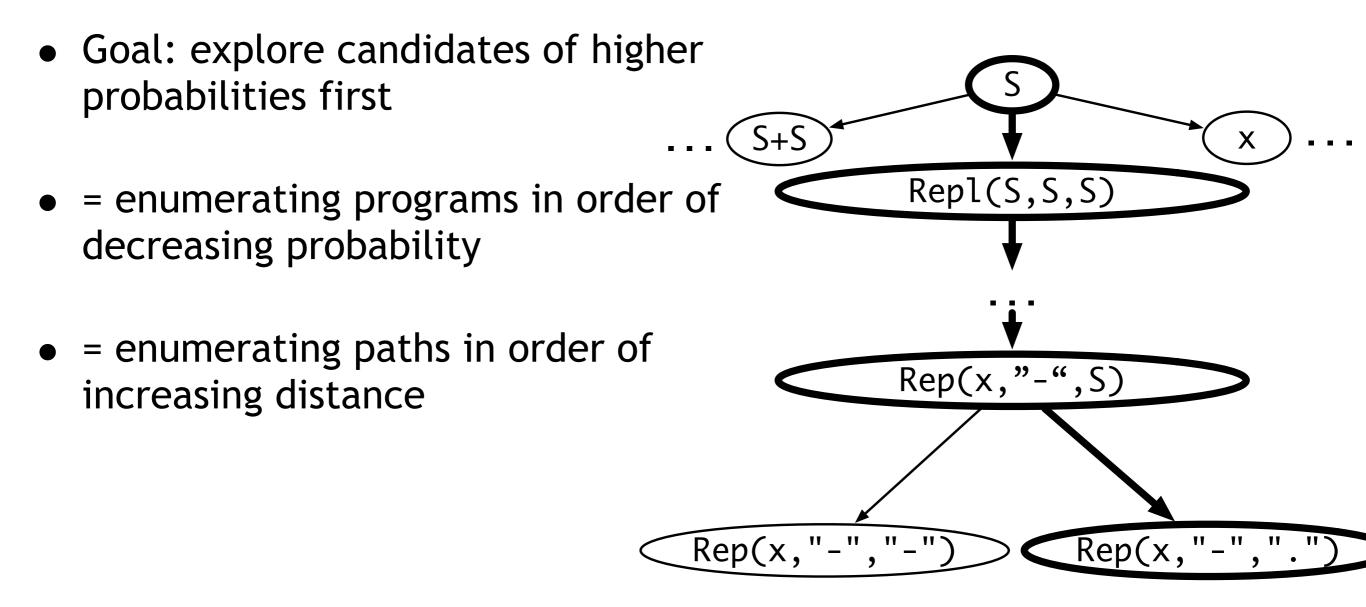
Guided Search as Path Finding

Contruct a directed weighted graph from a given CFG



Guided Search as Path Finding

Contruct a directed weighted graph from a given CFG



Unguided Top-Down Search

TopDown (grammar $G = \langle N, \Sigma, R, S \rangle$, spec Φ):

- $Q := \{S\}$
- while $Q != \emptyset$:
 - remove p from Q
 - if $\Phi(p)$: return p
 - P' := Unroll(G, p)
 - forall $p' \in P'$:
 - Q := Q.Enqueue(p')

```
Unroll (grammar G, spec \Phi):

P' := Ø

forall A \in p:

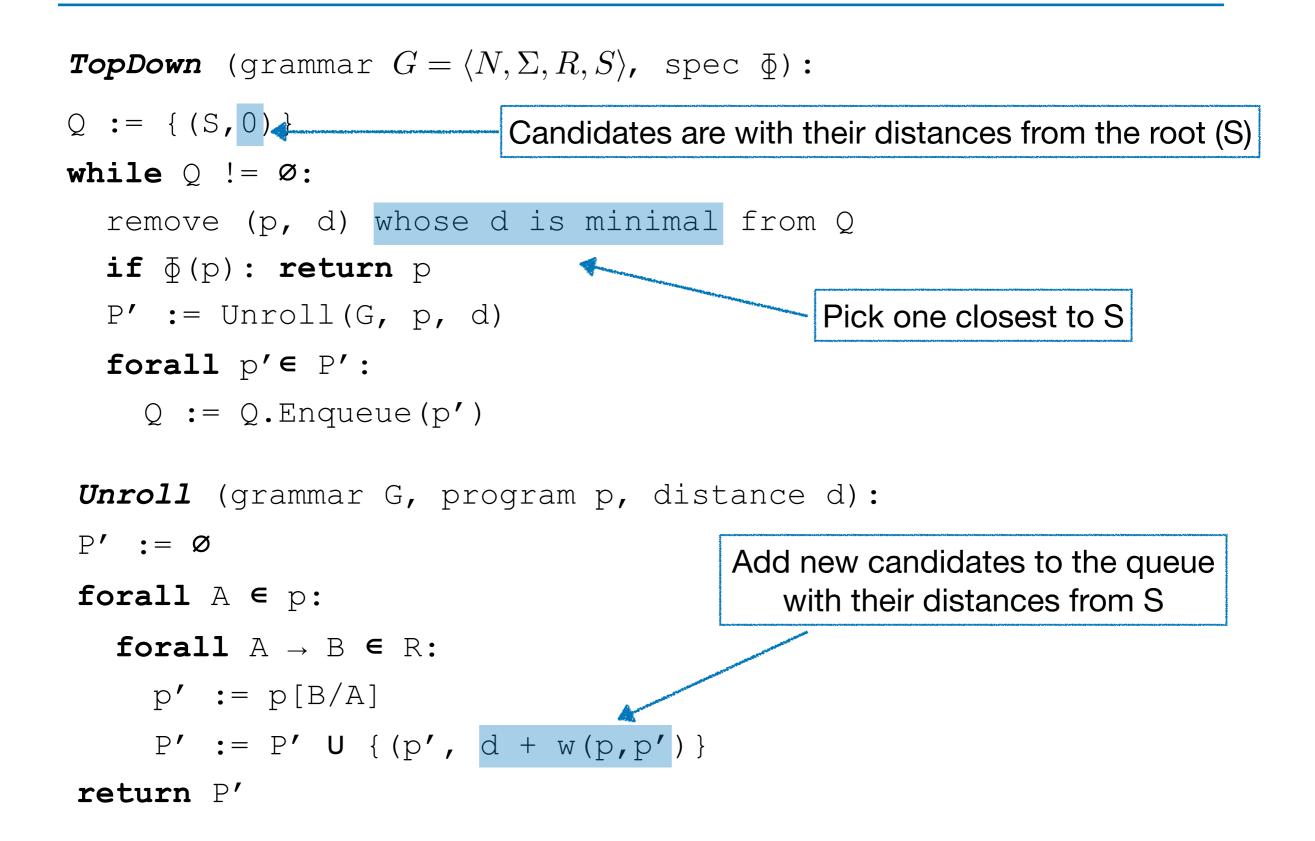
forall A \rightarrow B \in R:

p' := p[B/A]

P' := P' U {p'}

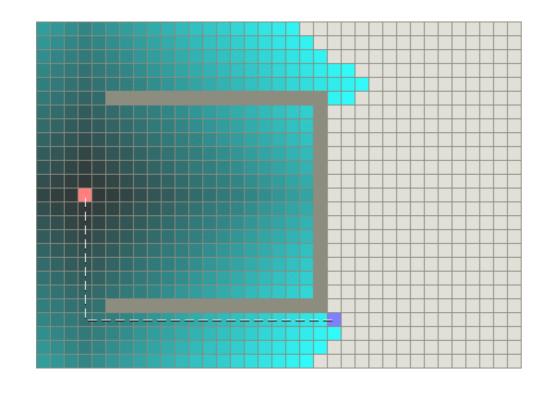
return P'
```

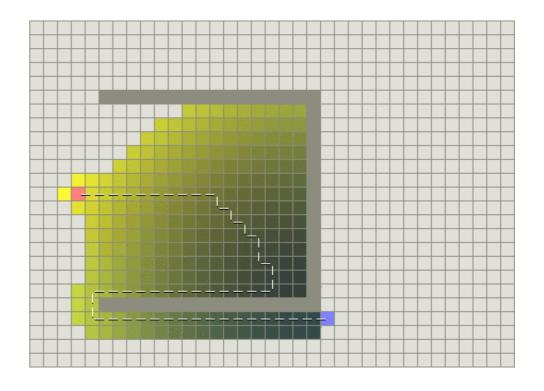
Guided Top-Down Search



Better Guided Top-Down Search

- The previous algorithm is based on Dijkstra algorithm
- We can use A*, which is better.





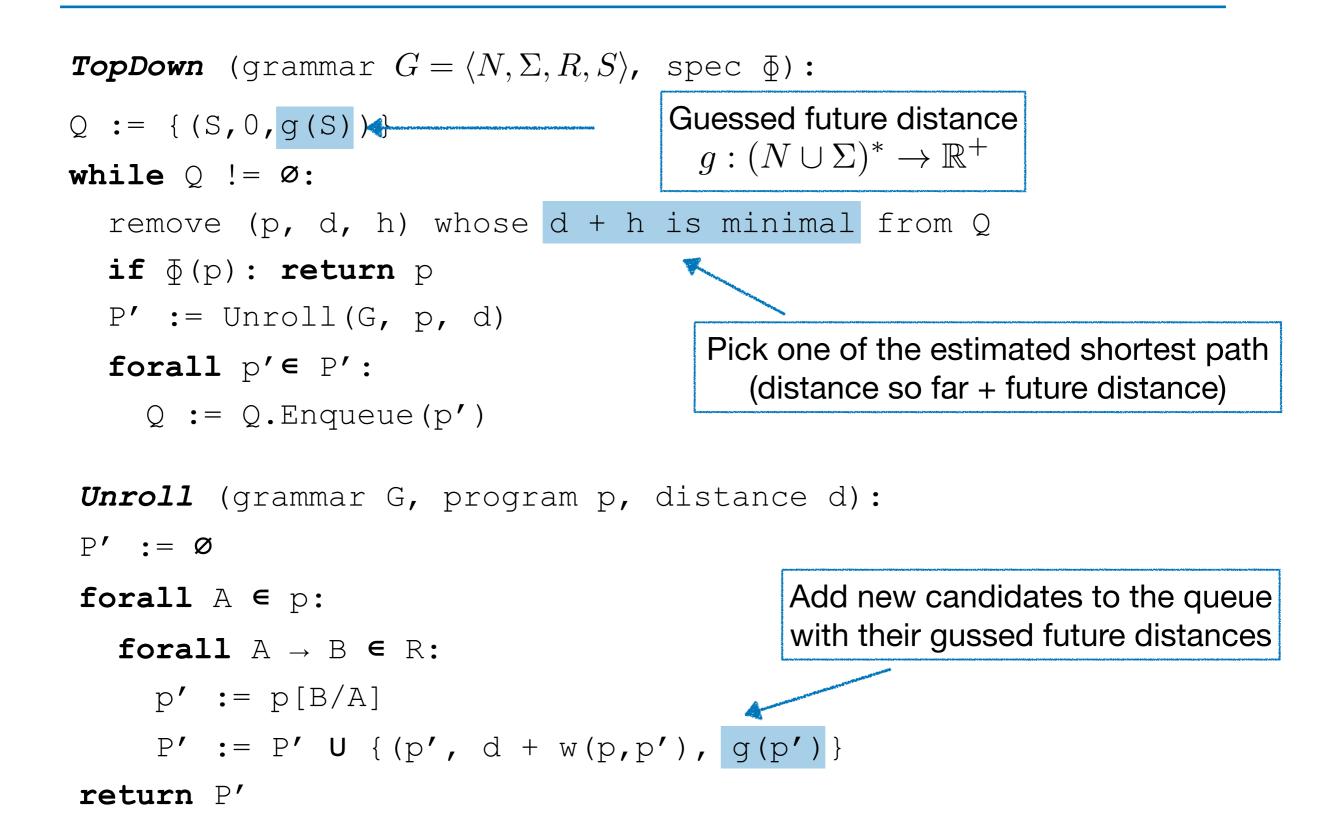
A*

Dijkstra Red: start node Blue: goal node GreenYellow: explored nodes

A* Search

- Dijkstra: picks one closest to the root
- A*: picks one of the estimated shortest path (= distance from the root + guessed future distance to the closest goal node)
- Often infeasible to compute the exact future distance an *under-approximation* is used.
- Heuristic function $g: Node \rightarrow Guessed$ Future distance
- A* finds the shortest paths if the heuristic function always underestimates future distances.

Guided Top-Down Search (improved)



How to compute g?

•
$$n \xrightarrow{r} s$$
: path from n to s

- $w(n \stackrel{r}{\rightsquigarrow} s)$: distance of the path from n to s
- Ideal heuristic function:

$$g^*(n) = \min_{s \in \Sigma^*, n \rightsquigarrow s} w(n \rightsquigarrow s)$$

 which is infeasible (:: possibly infinitely many goal nodes reachable from n)

How to compute g?

- Ues an underapproximation
- Compute the *h* function satisfying the following condition $\forall A \in N. \ h(A) = \max_{A \to \beta \in R, c \in C} \left(q(A \to \beta \mid c) \times \prod_{\beta_i \in N} h(\beta_i) \right)$

I) start with h(A) = 0 for all A

2) repeatedly update h according to the above equation until saturation

• E.g., Consider the following PCFG

$$S \rightarrow aSb (0.9)$$
 $S \rightarrow c (0.1)$
Ist iteration: $h(S) = \max(0.9 \times 0, 0.1) = 0.1$. The highest probability of program derivable from S is 0.1
2nd iteration: $h(S) = \max(0.9 \times 0.1, 0.1) = 0.1$.

How to compute g?

• Define the following function using the h function

$$g(n) = \begin{cases} 0 & (n \in \Sigma^*) \\ -\sum_{i \in N} \log_2 h(n_i) & (\text{otherwise}) \end{cases}$$

 n_i : i-th symbol in n

• This heuristic function is correct (why?):

$$\forall n \in (N \cup \Sigma)^*. \ g(n) \leq g^*(n).$$

Overfitting

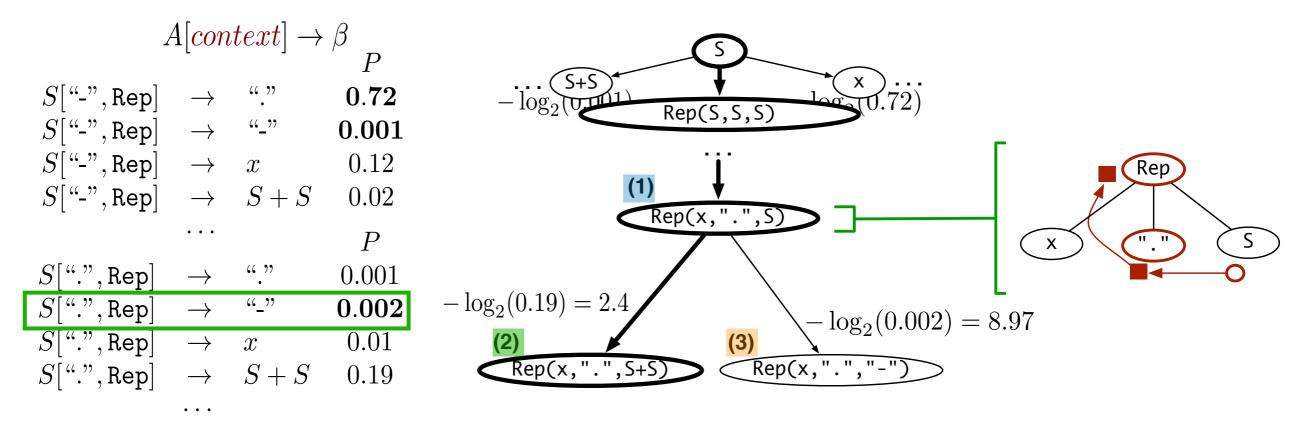
- The guided search quickly finds the solution $\operatorname{Rep}(x, \text{``-"}, \text{``"}).$
- What if a similar problem of the following semantic constraint is given?

$$f("12.31") = "12-31" \land f("01.07") = "01-07".$$

Solution:
$$\operatorname{Rep}(x, \, ".", \, "-")$$

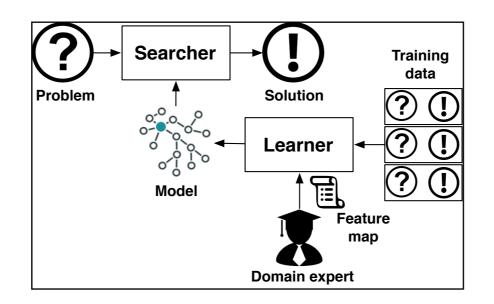
Overfitting

- Suppose $\operatorname{Rep}(x, ".", S)$ (node (1)) is currently explored.
- Using the PHOG we have, node (2) is preferred above (3) as the next candidate



• Becauseostatistical models like PHOGodnly consider syntactic information.

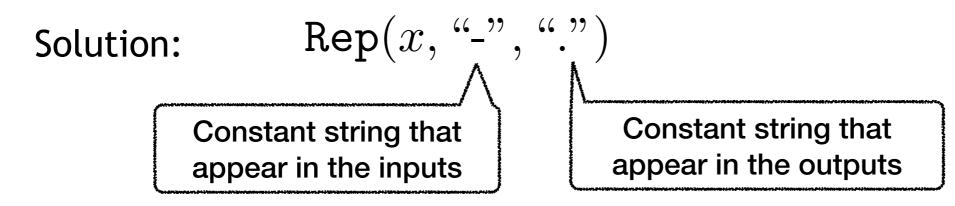
Transfer Learning



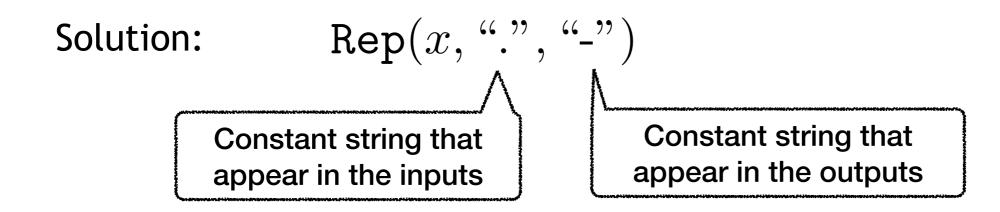
- Training data: solutions of existing synthesis problems
- Testing data: solutions of unseen synthesis problems
- They may follow different probability distributions because of diverse semantic specifications.
- Transfer learning reduces discrepancy between the probability distributions of training and testing data

Transfer Learning

• Spec: $f("-.") = ".." \land f("308-916") = "308.916" \land f("1") = "1"$

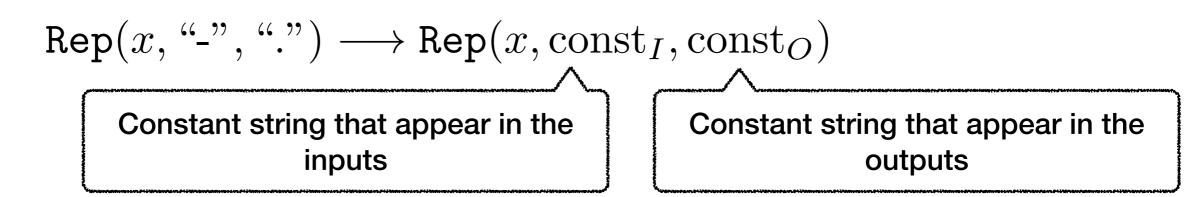


• Spec: $f("12.31") = "12-31" \land f("01.07") = "01-07"$.



Transfer Learning

• Spec: $f("-.") = ".." \land f("308-916") = "308.916" \land f("1") = "1"$



• Spec: $f("12.31") = "12-31" \wedge f("01.07") = "01-07"$.

 $\operatorname{Rep}(x, ".", "-") \longrightarrow \operatorname{Rep}(x, \operatorname{const}_I, \operatorname{const}_O)$

Now the solutions of the two problems become equal

Types of Constants

- I : Input examples O : Output examples
- $const_{10}$: constants that appear in I and O
- const₁: constants that appear in I
- const₀: constants that appear in O
- const $_{\perp}$: constants that appear in neither I nor O

Pivot PHOG

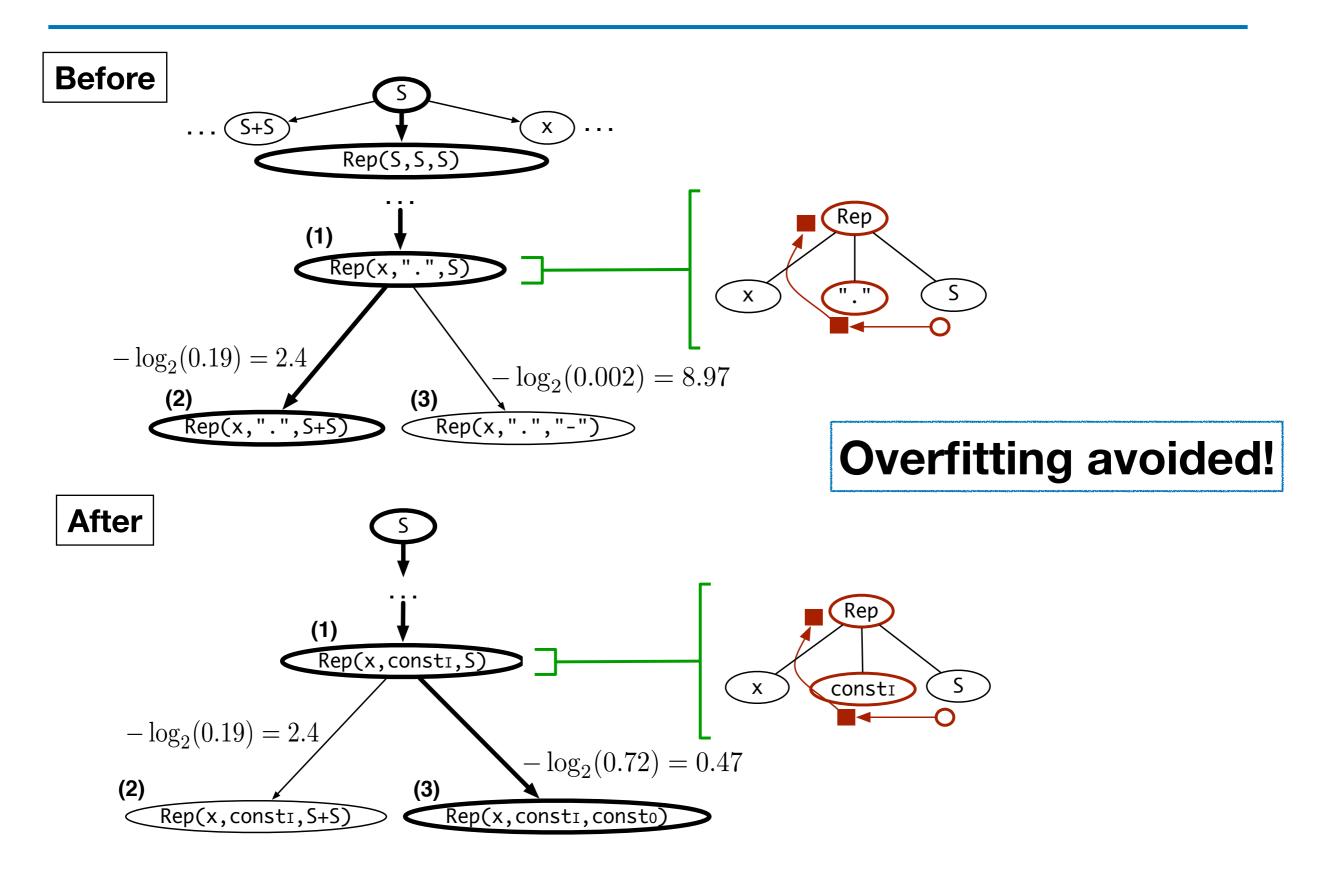
$$\begin{array}{cccc} A[\mathit{context}^{\#}] \rightarrow \beta^{\#} & P \\ S[\mathit{const}_I, \mathit{Rep}] & \rightarrow & \mathit{const}_O & \mathbf{0.72} \\ S[\mathit{const}_I, \mathit{Rep}] & \rightarrow & \mathit{const}_I & \mathbf{0.001} \\ S[\mathit{const}_I, \mathit{Rep}] & \rightarrow & \mathit{const}_I & \mathbf{0.001} \\ S[\mathit{const}_I, \mathit{Rep}] & \rightarrow & x & \mathbf{0.12} \\ S[\mathit{const}_I, \mathit{Rep}] & \rightarrow & S + S & \mathbf{0.02} \\ & & & & & P \\ S[\mathit{const}_O, \mathit{Rep}] & \rightarrow & \mathit{const}_O & \mathbf{0.001} \\ S[\mathit{const}_O, \mathit{Rep}] & \rightarrow & \mathit{const}_O & \mathbf{0.001} \\ S[\mathit{const}_O, \mathit{Rep}] & \rightarrow & \mathit{const}_I & \mathbf{0.002} \\ S[\mathit{const}_O, \mathit{Rep}] & \rightarrow & \mathit{const}_I & \mathbf{0.002} \\ S[\mathit{const}_O, \mathit{Rep}] & \rightarrow & x & \mathbf{0.01} \\ S[\mathit{const}_O, \mathit{Rep}] & \rightarrow & S + S & \mathbf{0.19} \end{array}$$

(a) A pivot grammar for string manipulation tasks

(b) A pivot PHOG learned using the pivot grammar

. . .

Guided Search with a Pivot PHOG



Other Examples of Exploiting Spec

An input-output example:

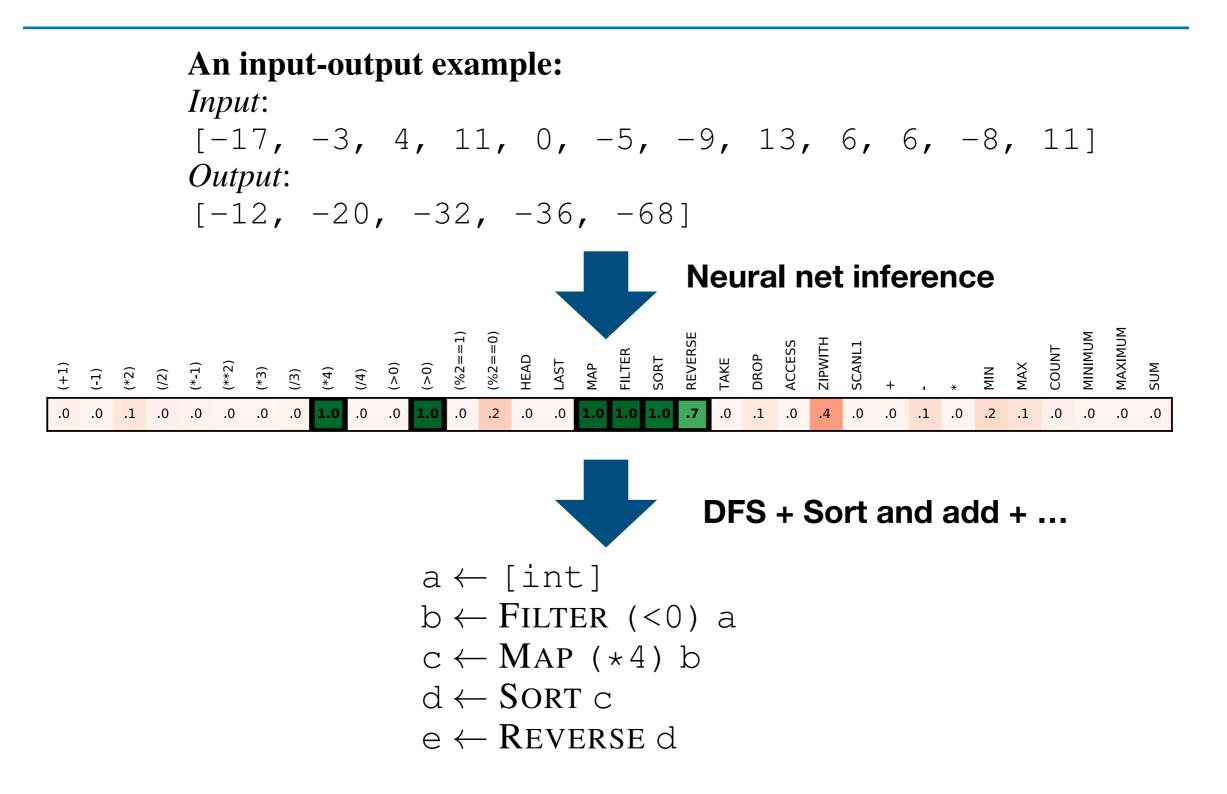
Input: [-17, -3, 4, 11, 0, -5, -9, 13, 6, 6, -8, 11] *Output*: [-12, -20, -32, -36, -68]



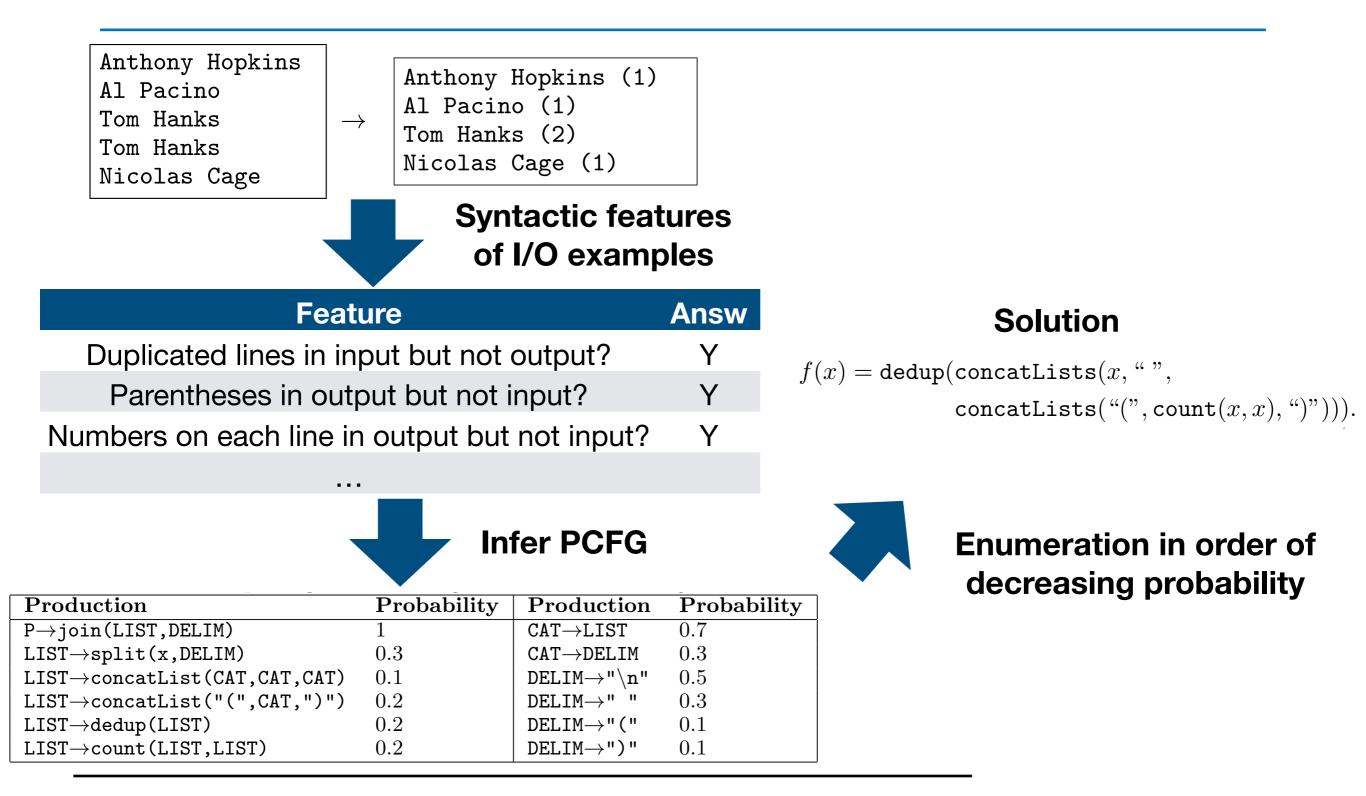
 $\begin{array}{l} \mathbf{a} \leftarrow [\texttt{int}] \\ \mathbf{b} \leftarrow \texttt{FILTER} \ (<\texttt{0}) \ \mathbf{a} \\ \mathbf{c} \leftarrow \texttt{MAP} \ (\texttt{*4}) \ \mathbf{b} \\ \mathbf{d} \leftarrow \texttt{SORT} \ \mathbf{c} \\ \mathbf{e} \leftarrow \texttt{REVERSE} \ \mathbf{d} \end{array}$

Balog et al., DEEPCODER: Learning To Write Programs

Other Examples of Exploiting Spec



Other Examples of Exploiting Spec



Menon et al., A Machine Learning Framework for Programming by Example

Evaluation

- Benchmarks
 - 1,167 problems used in SyGuS annual competitions
- Baselines
 - EUSolver (general-purpose): winner of SyGuS competition
 - FlashFill (domain-specific): string processing in spreadsheets

Benchmarks

1	A	В	C	D
1	Number	Phone		
2	02082012225	020-8201-2225		
3	02072221236	020-7222-1236		
4	0208123654	020-8123-654		
5	0207236523	020-7236-523		
6	02082012222	020-8201-2222		
7				
8				
0				6

STRING: End-user Programming 205 problems

complement

bitwise and

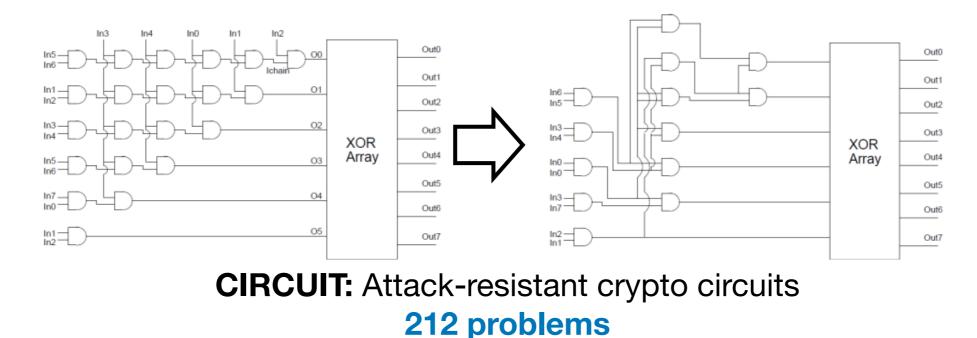
- 01010001110101110000000000001111

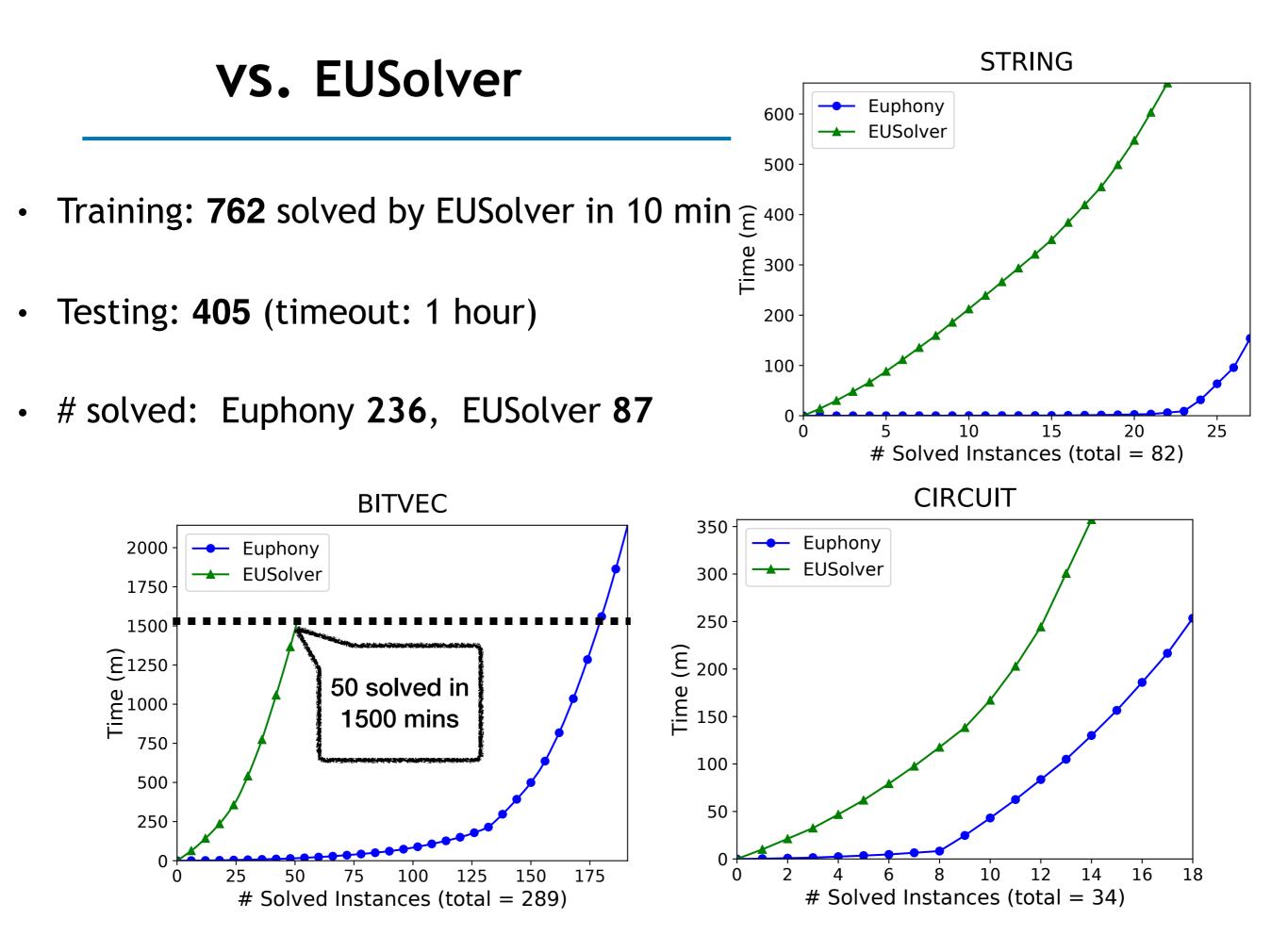
bitwise or

bitwise xor

- 01010001110101110000000000001111

BITVEC: Efficient low-level algorithm 750 problems

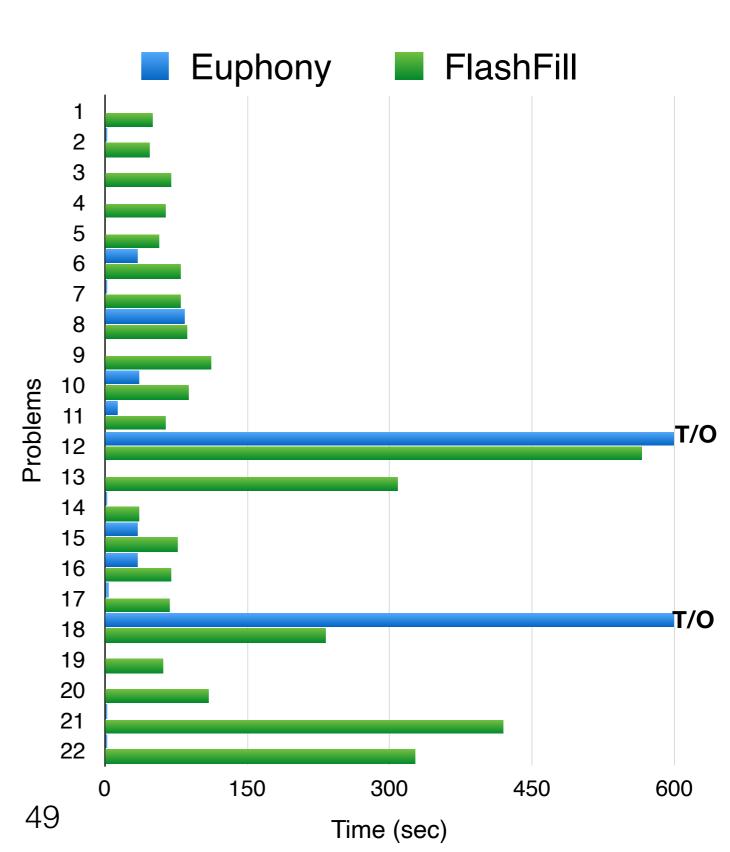




vs. FlashFill

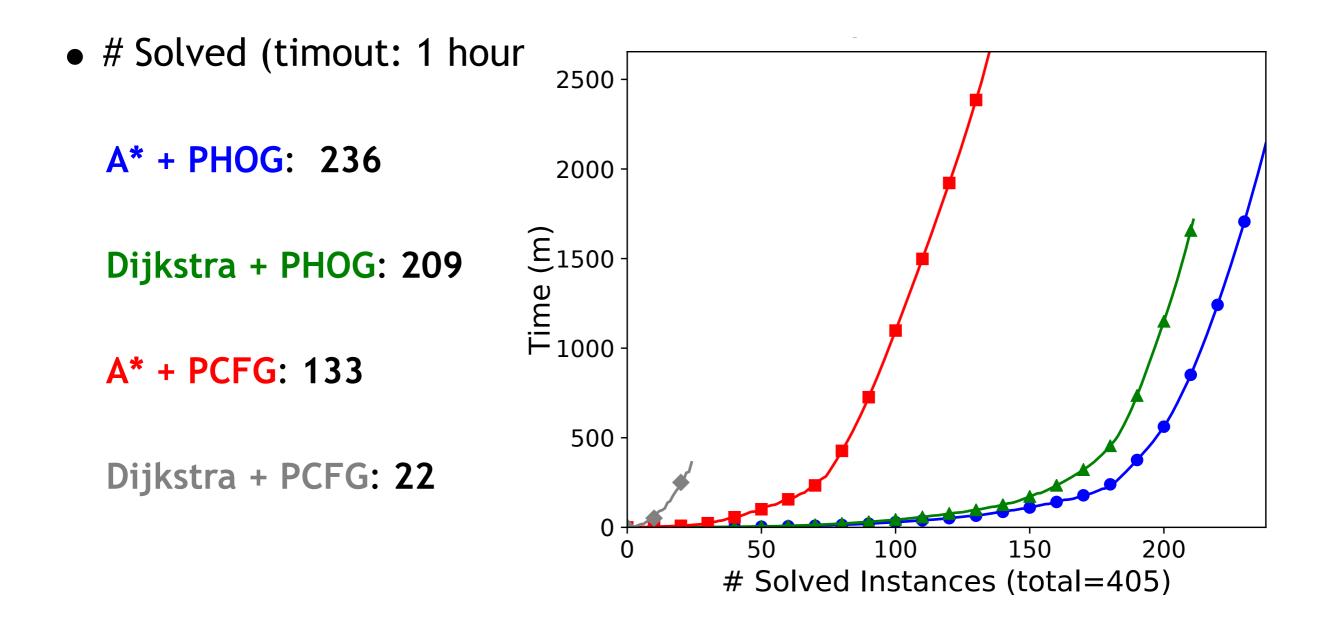
- Training: 91 solved by FlashFill in 10 s
- Testing: 22 (timeout: 10 min)
- Euphony outperforms in 20 / 22

	Average	Median
Euphony	13 s	3 s
Flashfill	140 s	78 s



Efficacy of A* and PHOG

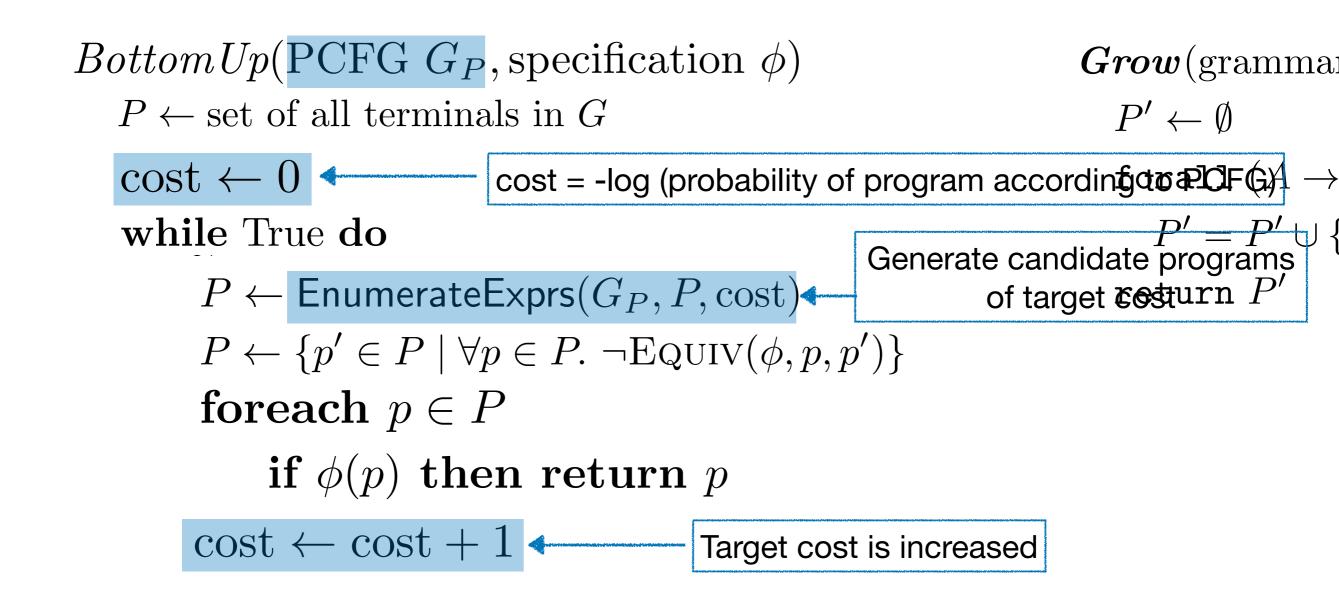
• Using PCFG and PHOG [Bielik et al. ICML'16]



What about Bottom-Up Search?

- Bottom-up enumeration in order of decreasing probability instead of increasing size
- Cannot consider contexts (why?)
- Use PCFGs, which are statistical models which do not consider contexts
 - Such PCFGs can be obtained from existing code, or justin-time learning (probabilities of production rules keep changed during search).

Guided Bottom-Up Search



Guided Bottom-Up Search (cont.)

$$\begin{array}{l} \mathsf{EnumerateExprs}(\mathsf{PCFG}\ G_P, P, \mathsf{cost}) \\ P' := P \\ \mathbf{for}\ N \to f(N_1, \cdots, N_k) \in R \quad \hline \mathsf{For each production rule} \\ P' := P \cup \{f(p_1, \cdots, p_k) \mid \forall i. \ N_i \Rightarrow^* p_i, -\log \Pr(f(p_1, \cdots, p_k)) = \mathsf{cost}\} \\ \mathbf{return}\ P' \\ \hline p_i \text{ is derivable from } N_i \end{array}$$