Program Synthesis

http://d3s.mff.cuni.cz

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Introduction

- Goal: discovering executable programs that realize some task

- Motivation: simple repetitive tasks

- Selected target domains
  - Basic textbook algorithms (sorting, graphs)
  - Complex bit-vector manipulation routines
  - Simple text string manipulation programs
  - Mutual exclusion (thread synchronization)
Dimensions

- Expressing the user intent
  - few pairs of input-expected output examples
  - demonstrations of program behavior (traces)
  - logical relations between inputs and outputs

- Search space of programs
  - Restrictions: control structure, allowed operations

- Efficient search technique
  - Exhaustive brute force search (over the whole space)
  - Machine learning (probabilistic, genetic programming)
  - Logical reasoning (constraints, induction, SAT/SMT)
Literature


• F. Logozzo and T. Ball. *Modular and Verified Automatic Program Repair*. OOPSLA 2012, ACM.
Further reading

  - generating programs (Scala code) from logical constraints (specifications) based on decision procedures (SMT)

  - automatic inserting fences (barriers) to concurrent programs (TSO model)
  - goal: eliminate undesired and incorrect behavior (thread interleavings)
  - barrier prevents reordering instructions under the weak memory models

- P. Hawkins, A. Aiken, K. Fisher, M. Rinard, M. Sagiv. **Data Representation Synthesis**. PLDI 2011, ACM.
  - synthesizing low-level code for data representation and processing from high-level relational specification and client program