
Learning logic programs by discovering higher-order abstractions

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UK Research
and Innovation



Program Synthesis

| Input | Output |
|---------|---------|
| ijcai | IJCAI |
| program | PROGRAM |

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First-order program

```
f(Input,Output) ←  
    empty(Input), empty(Output).  
  
f(Input,Output) ←  
    head(Input,Head1), tail(Input,Tail1),  
    head(Output,Head2), tail(Output,Tail2),  
    uppercase(Head1,Head2), f(Tail1,Tail2).
```

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First-order program

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```

Second-order program

```
f(Input,Output) ←  
    map(uppercase, Input, Output).
```

Challenge

Automatically discover abstractions such as *map*, *fold*, *filter*, ...

Our approach

We introduce an approach that automatically discovers useful higher-order abstractions.

Our approach

We implement this approach as a constraint optimisation problem, where we compress a logic program.

1. abstract stage: we build higher-order abstractions
2. compress stage: we search for a subset of the abstractions that compresses the program

Our results

We can rediscover usual abstractions such as *map*, *filter*, and *fold*.

Our results

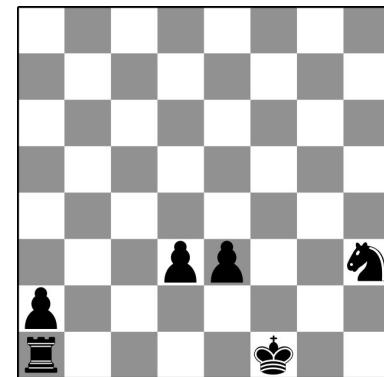
Discovering abstractions can:

- improve predictive accuracies by **27%**
- reduce learning times by **47%**

Our results

Discovered abstractions can be transferred to different domains

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Thank you!

Poster 2677