

# Lecture 20: Oracle Guided Program Synthesis

17-355/17-655/17-819: Program Analysis

Rohan Padhye and Jonathan Aldrich

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\* Course materials developed with Claire Le Goues

# Synthesis Approaches We've Seen So Far

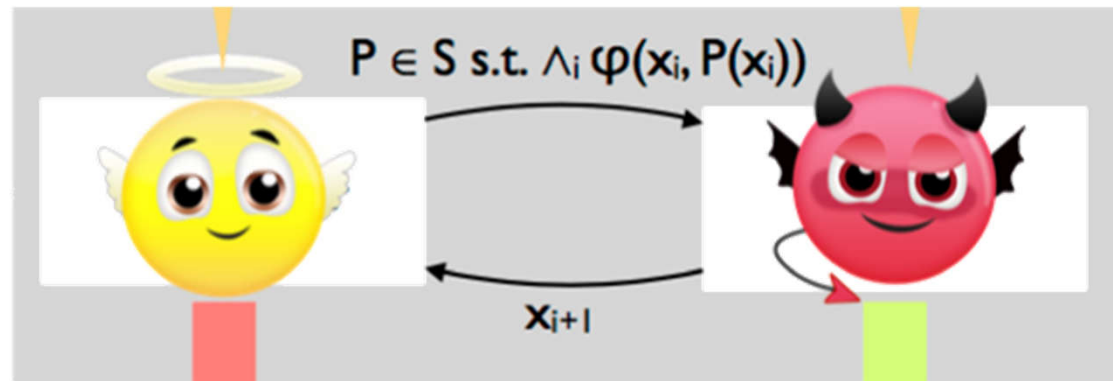
- **Deductive Synthesis**
  - Explore the space of programs equivalent to some spec, choose the best one
  - E.g. Denali for superoptimization
- **Inductive Synthesis with Sketching**
  - User specifies a “sketch” – a program with holes
  - Alternates generating a program from inputs, and generating counterexample inputs to force a better program, until convergence on a correct program
- **What if we want to do inductive synthesis, but don't have a sketch idea?**

# Today: Oracle-Guided Inductive Synthesis

1. Generalize CEGIS (counterexample-guided inductive synthesis)
  - From sketches to arbitrary programs
2. Synthesize programs from components

# CEGIS: A Mathematical View

- Let's formalize Counterexample-Guided Inductive Synthesis (CEGIS)
- Consider a formalization of synthesizing a *max* function for lists  
$$\exists P_{max} \forall l, m : P_{max}(l) = m \Rightarrow (m \in l) \wedge (\forall x \in l : m \geq x)$$
- CEGIS iterates between synthesis from examples and counterexample generation



- How do we generate a counterexample?

# Counterexample generation, formalized

- Let's say we have a candidate program  $P_{max}$ . Does it meet the spec?

- Here's how that can be formalized:

$$\forall l, m : P_{max}(l) = m \Rightarrow (m \in l) \wedge (\forall x \in l : m \geq x)$$

- By De Morgan's Law, this is equivalent to disproving the negation:

$$\exists l, m : (P_{max}(l) = m) \wedge (m \notin l \vee \exists x \in l : m < x)$$

- This finds a list  $l$  and a corresponding incorrect output  $m$
- Let's tweak this to generate the correct output,  $m^*$ :

$$\exists l, m^* : (P_{max}(l) \neq m^*) \wedge (m^* \in l) \wedge (\forall x \in l : m^* \geq x)$$

- We can use this to help generate the next version of  $P_{max}$

# Oracle-Guided Component-Based Program Synthesis

- Goal: given a set of  $N$  components  $f_1 \dots f_N$  and a set of  $n$  input/output pairs  $\langle \alpha_0, \beta_0 \rangle \dots \langle \alpha_n, \beta_n \rangle$ , synthesize a function  $f$  such that  $\forall \alpha_i. f(\alpha_i) = \beta_i$

- We search for programs of a particular form:

Put inputs in variables

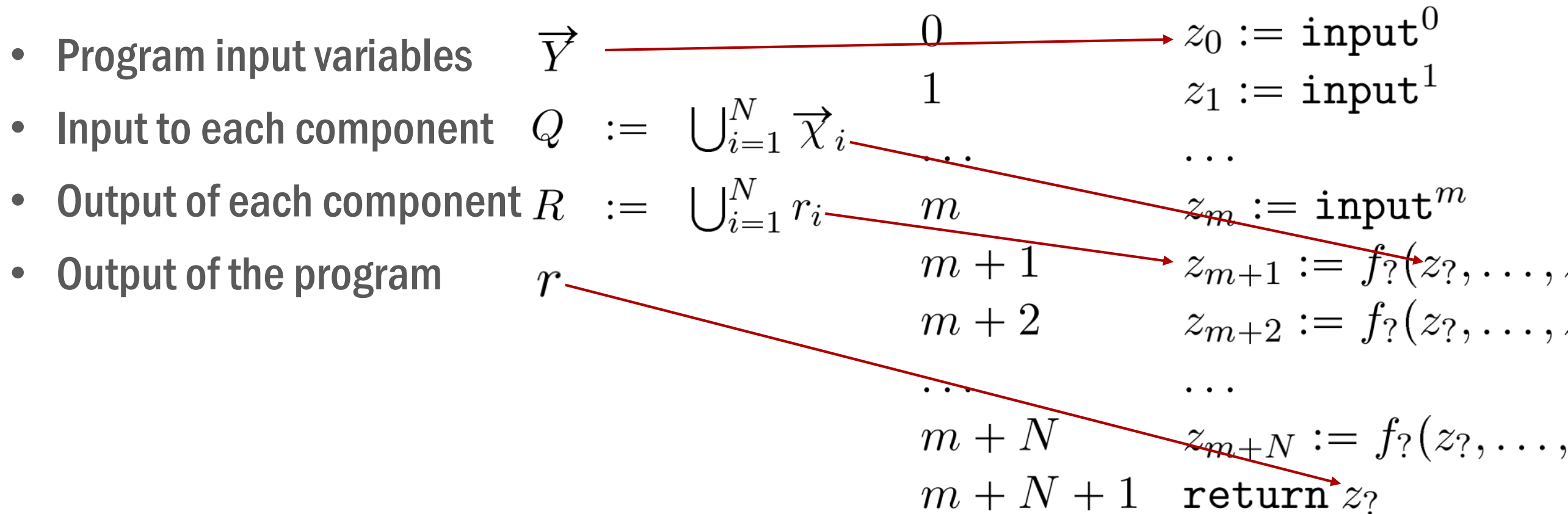
```
0       $z_0 := \text{input}^0$ 
1       $z_1 := \text{input}^1$ 
...
...
 $m$     $z_m := \text{input}^m$ 
 $m + 1$   $z_{m+1} := f?(z?, \dots, z?)$ 
 $m + 2$   $z_{m+2} := f?(z?, \dots, z?)$ 
...
...
 $m + N$   $z_{m+N} := f?(z?, \dots, z?)$ 
 $m + N + 1$  return  $z?$ 
```

Compute  $N$  functions,  
each of which has  
arguments

Choices: fill in the ?s

- What order are the functions in?
- What variables are passed to each function?
- What variable is returned?

# The program is defined by a set of variables



# Program variables are specified by location variables

- Location variable  $l_x$  specifies where  $x$  is defined
- $L$  is the set of location variables

$$L := \{l_x \mid x \in Q \cup R \cup \vec{Y} \cup r\}$$

(again: component inputs, component results, program inputs, and program result)

0	$z_0 := \text{input}^0$
1	$z_1 := \text{input}^1$
...	...
$m$	$z_m := \text{input}^m$
$m + 1$	$z_{m+1} := f?(z?, \dots, z?)$
$m + 2$	$z_{m+2} := f?(z?, \dots, z?)$
...	...
$m + N$	$z_{m+N} := f?(z?, \dots, z?)$
$m + N + 1$	return $z?$



# Example of Location Variables

- Imagine we have one input and one component, +
- Here's a sample program:  
0  $z_0 := \text{input}^0$   
1  $z_1 := z_0 + z_0$   
2 **return**  $z_1$

- This can be specified by the location variables

$$\{l_{r_+} \mapsto 1, l_{\chi_+^1} \mapsto 0, l_{\chi_+^2} \mapsto 0, l_r \mapsto 1, l_Y \mapsto 0\}$$

# Practice with Location Variable Encodings

Assume two components,  $*$  and  $\ll$ , each of which takes two inputs and produces a single output. Provide a map which assigns values to location variables that describe the following straight-line code. For your reference, the variables are:  $\vec{Y}, r, \vec{x}_i, r_i$

$z_0 = \text{input}_0$

$z_1 = \text{input}_1$

$z_2 = z_0 \ll z_1$       *// component  $\ll$*

$z_3 = z_2 * z_2$       *// component  $*$*

return  $z_2$

# Well-formedness constraints on the generated program

- Component inputs come from locations  $0 \dots M$ 
  - $M = \text{number of inputs } |\vec{Y}| + \text{number of functions } N$

$$\bigwedge_{x \in Q} (0 \leq l_x < M)$$

- Component outputs defined after program inputs

$$\bigwedge_{x \in R} (|\vec{Y}| \leq l_x < M)$$

- One component per line

$$\bigwedge_{x, y \in R, x \neq y} (l_x \neq l_y)$$

- Component inputs are defined before use

$$\bigwedge_{i=1}^N \bigwedge_{x \in \vec{X}_i} l_x < l_{r_i}$$

0	$z_0 := \text{input}^0$
1	$z_1 := \text{input}^1$
...	...
$m$	$z_m := \text{input}^m$
$m + 1$	$z_{m+1} := f?(z?, \dots, z?)$
$m + 2$	$z_{m+2} := f?(z?, \dots, z?)$
...	...
$m + N$	$z_{m+N} := f?(z?, \dots, z?)$
$m + N + 1$	<b>return</b> $z?$

# Functionality constraints

- Variables defined at the same location are the same (have the same value)

- Basically: define value flow from definition to use

$$\bigwedge_{x,y \in Q \cup R \cup \vec{Y} \cup \{r\}} (l_x = l_y \Rightarrow x = y)$$

- The program inputs and outputs match a test case pair

- We repeat this for all test cases

$$(\alpha = \vec{Y}) \wedge (\beta = r)$$

- Functional components obey their specification

$$\left( \bigwedge_{i=1}^N \phi_i(\vec{x}_i, r_i) \right)$$

# Component-Based Synthesis, Overall

- We conjoin the well-formedness and functionality constraints into one big formula
- We have an SMT solver solve that formula
- The result is a witness, assigning integer values to each location variable
  - We can then convert the witness into a program
  - Line  $i$  of the program:

$$z_i = f_j(z_{\sigma_1}, \dots, z_{\sigma_\eta}) \text{ when } l_{r_j} == i \text{ and } \bigwedge_{k=1}^{\eta} (l_{x_j^k} == \sigma_k)$$

- We can then put this into a CEGIS loop:

