

# Cut to the Core

## Automated Feature Extraction in R Using Program Slicing

FOSD '24 | Ulm University | *Ruben Dunkel*, Florian Sihler, Thomas Thüm and Matthias Tichy | April, 2024



Software Engineering  
Programming Languages



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# Real-World R Code

1 } Load

2 } Model

3 } Model

4 } Figure

5 } Figure

6 } Figure

- Very long and complex
- Partial data availability (reproducibility problem)
- Take long to run

[1] Drudze et al., *Apple phenology data set and R script, related to publication "Full flowering phenology of apple tree (*Malus domestica*) in Pūre orchard, Latvia from 1959 to 2019"* (2021, Zenodo)



# The Plan

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```
sum ← 0
prod ← 1
n ← 10

for (i in 1:(n-1)) {
  prod ← prod * i
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cat("Sum:", sum, "\n")
cat("Product:", prod, "\n")
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Dataflow-  
Analysis

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(simplified dataflow)



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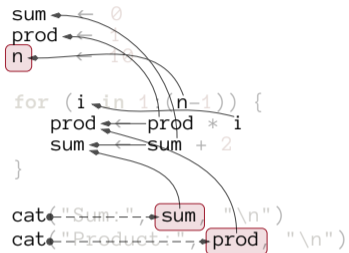
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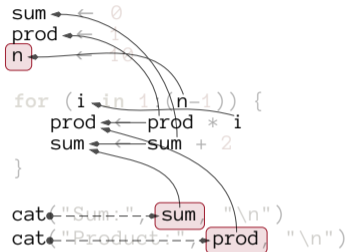
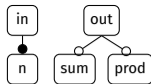


(simplified dataflow)

Dataflow-  
Analysis

Collect in-  
and outputs

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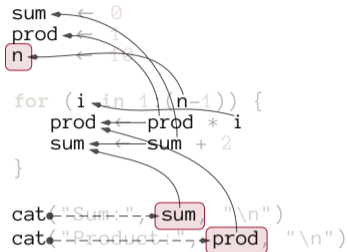
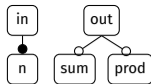


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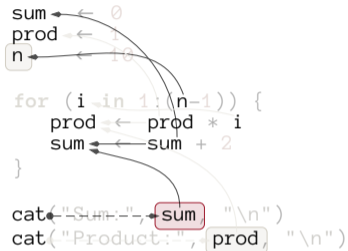
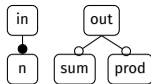
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Slicing  
with *flowR*

# The Plan



(simplified dataflow)

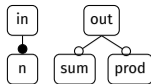
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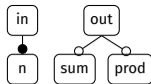
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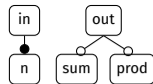
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(core)

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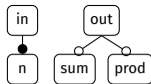
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Slices to  
Proposed  
Features

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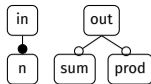
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Allow  
Manual  
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# Open Questions

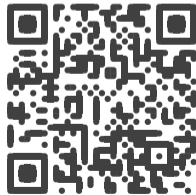


1. Who already worked with R?
2. What is your experience with code-extraction?
3. What is good/important related work?

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## References

- [1] Inese Drudze et al. *Apple phenology data set and R script, related to publication "Full flowering phenology of apple tree (*Malus domestica*) in Pūre orchard, Latvia from 1959 to 2019"*. June 2021