

# Cover Letter

## Synthesizing a Progression of Subtasks for Block-Based Visual Programming Tasks

In this cover letter, we describe the main changes made in our submission. These changes address the reviewers' questions and incorporate their feedback. Below, we discuss these changes separately for each section.

- **Introduction (Section 1):** We have added links to the implementation of our subtasking algorithm and to the online web app used for our study.
- **Problem Setup (Section 2):** We have expanded on the problem setup of the paper to formalize our task synthesis objective. In Section 2.1, we present additional notation related to the task and code space, specifically the notation related to task and code complexity. In Section 2.2, we present a formal definition of a progression of subtasks for a given reference task, as well as the objective function that is optimized to obtain such a progression.
- **Our Synthesis Algorithm (Section 3):** We have expanded on “Stage 4: Generating subtasks via subsequence selection” by including details on the objective function optimized and the techniques used for optimization.
- **Assisting Novice Human Programmers (Section 4):** We have added details about the participants recruited for the user study and described the online web app used. We have also provided clarifications on the baseline methods SAME-TC and SAME-C. Moreover, we have added a discussion about the limitations of our user study and suggested possible extensions to overcome these limitations.