

# First Committee Meeting

## Progress Report

Jason Balaci

McMaster University

Oct. 21<sup>st</sup>, 2021

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## 1 Introduction

## 2 Project

- Drasil
- Goal #1: Typed Expression Language
- Goal #2: Theory Discrimination – “ModelKinds”

## 3 References

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# Who am I?

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Me, Camping in Killarney Prov.  
Park, Fall 2019

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- I am **Jason Balaci**
- Graduate of *McMaster University*, holding...
  - Hons. Actuarial and Financial Mathematics (B.Sc.)
  - Minor in Computer Science
- Currently pursuing a thesis-based Master's of Computer Science (M.Sc) at *McMaster University*, under the supervision of **Dr. Jacques Carette**.



Me, Camping in Killarney Prov. Park, Fall 2019

# Overview of Progression Towards C.S. M.Sc.

## Course-related progression

- I'm required to complete<sup>12</sup>:

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<sup>1</sup>[https://academiccalendars.romcmaster.ca/preview\\_program.php?catoid=45&poid=23470&returnto=9166](https://academiccalendars.romcmaster.ca/preview_program.php?catoid=45&poid=23470&returnto=9166)

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  - CAS 763 "Certified Programming with Dependent Types" - Theory & Software course, Winter 2021

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- Together, the courses completed satisfies the "Courses Requirement" as mentioned in the academic calendar<sup>1</sup> and the "Regulations for the Computer Science M.Sc. Program" document<sup>2</sup>.

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## Thesis/research-related Progression

- Conducted “full-time” research for at least 1 full semester (Spring/Summer 2021), and “part-time” research during courses.

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- Conducted “full-time” research for at least 1 full semester (Spring/Summer 2021), and “part-time” research during courses.
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- Attended a thesis defence to learn about what to expect from a thesis defence (and learn about their research).

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- Attended a thesis defence to learn about what to expect from a thesis defence (and learn about their research).
- Supervisory committee is formed, and we are currently having our first supervisory committee meeting.
  - *Supervisor:* Dr. Jacques Carette
  - Dr. Spencer Smith
  - Dr. Wolfram Kahl

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# Preface

What is Drasil?

Drasil...



Drasil's Logo

[Carette et al., 2021][Yggdrasil - Wikipedia, 2021]

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- has a website<sup>1</sup>!



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- TODO: here!

# Drasil Case Studies

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  - **Solar Water Heating System (SWHS)** - Modelling of a solar water heating system with phase change material, predicting temperatures and change in heat energy of water and the PCM over time.

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- *cont.d*<sup>1</sup>:
  - **SWHS without Phase Change Material (NoPCM)** - Modelling of a solar water heating system without phase change material, predicting temperatures and change in heat energy of water and the PCM over time.

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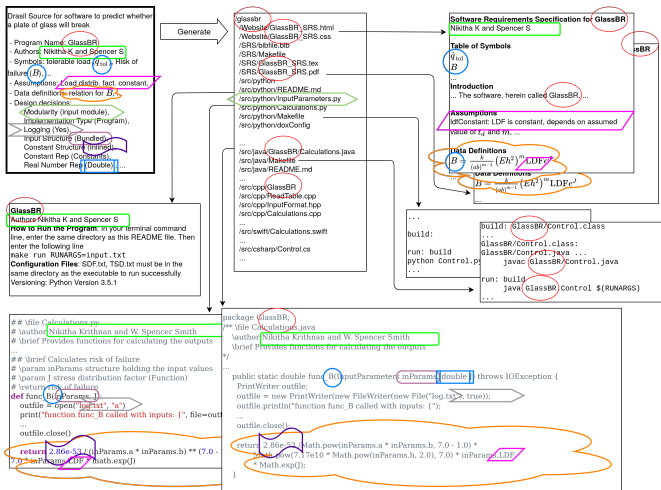
**The Drasil website is also generated by Drasil!**

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# Taking a closer look at one of the examples: GlassBR

## GlassBR Generates Code!



Knowledge flow from “knowledge-base”/source to artifacts, by Dr. Spencer Smith



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Where will I be contributing?

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Generating view-only data (e.g., SRS documents) is considerably easier than generating working code.

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A few, notable, blocking problems:

- Confidently generating usable software artifacts without strong type information places significant stress on developers, resulting in a higher likelihood of bugs in artifacts.
- Existing “theories”/“\*Models”<sup>1</sup> don't expose enough information. They must be enriched, so that we can better interact with, and understand them.

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# Goal #1: Typed Expression Language

## The Problem

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- Ensure only admissible expressions are used in GOOL-supported languages, and that all expressions are coherent.
- We want to ease developer cognitive load when writing expressions, as they will need to ensure their expressions are coherent, or else a type error can occur at runtime.

# Goal #1: Typed Expression Language

What makes up a “good” solution?



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- Catches, within reason, all possible scenarios where an expression goes awry.

# Goal #1: Typed Expression Language

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- Allows GOOL code generator to also become typed!
- Add extra functionality to existing expression languages safely, allowing for new data types to be introduced.

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    - Theories that rely on discussion of terms only found “ModelExpr” may only have code generated for them if we have rich enough data (see goal #2).
  - “CodeExpr” is a clone of ‘Expr’, with a few extra functionalities for GOOL.
  - Created a “typed tagless final” smart constructor encoding for writing expressions in “Expr” (or, optionally, ModelExpr).

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- Adjusting containers to allow for expressions with a type variable.
- Adding the final type signatures, using GADT syntax.

# Goal #2: Theory Discrimination – “ModelKinds”

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## The Problem

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- “RelationConcept”s don’t contain enough information on their own to be a core component usable in general code generation.

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## The Problem

- Previously, “RelationConcepts” were heavily used in both displaying expressions, and code generation. They are essentially “Relation”s (“Expr”s) with a natural language description of them.
- “RelationConcept”s don’t contain enough information on their own to be a core component usable in general code generation.
- If the “shape” of the expressions are not uniform, then writing more “interpreters”/“views”/code generators for them required difficult pattern analysis. It’s also not a total-conversion.

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- A good solution involves making the “Relation”s a “view” of a more data-rich specialized container for each kind of “Theory”/“\*Model”.
- “ModelKinds”
- By constructing our final data views through “more steps” (e.g., with more depth), we obtain a better understanding of our “theories”, allowing us to do more with them.

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- Considerable number of “theories”/“\*Models” have been restructured, but there are still many that are pending classification.

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- Considerable number of “theories”/“\*Models” have been restructured, but there are still many that are pending classification.
  - Most are best to be done once we have a typed expression language (so that we can better handle expressions that involve collections of sorts), and the rest are differential equation-related models (primarily Dong’s domain).



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- Understanding what kinds of needs we have for “collections”, pushing this information back into the typed expression language (once that is fully typed), and then creating model containers for these models.

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What are the next steps?

- Understanding what kinds of needs we have for “collections”, pushing this information back into the typed expression language (once that is fully typed), and then creating model containers for these models.
- For the differential equation-related models, we will need to build appropriate models for each kind.

Fin.  
Thank you!

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# References I



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