Whisker: Automated Testing of Scratch Programs

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What is Scratch?

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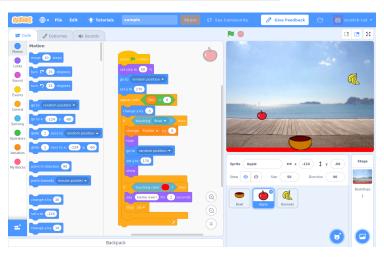


Figure: Scratch's GUI

What is Scratch?

- Block-based programming language
- Developed by the MIT media lab
- Code is separated into scripts that are triggered by events

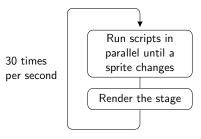


Figure: Scratch step cycle

Why Scratch?

Why Scratch? Scratch's online community

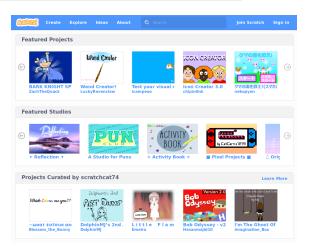


Figure: Scratch's online repository

Why Scratch? Scratch's online community

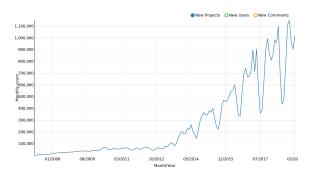


Figure: Submitted Scratch projects per month

- over 38 million projects shared
- over 36 million users

Why Scratch? Good introduction to programming

Many schools and universities deploy Scratch as a gentle introduction to programming.

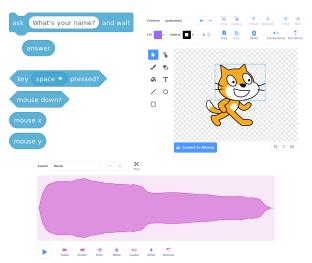
Why Scratch? Good introduction to programming

Intuitive: Block based code system only allows valid code



Why Scratch? Good introduction to programming

Engaging: User interaction, easy integration of graphics and sounds



Why automated testing for Scratch?

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Grading Scratch assignments is very time consuming

- every project has to be opened individually
- programs require large amounts of user interaction

Some courses are attended by a large number of students (> 200), making manual grading infeasible.

Students can also use automated tests to get feedback for their own implementations.

Why is automated testing for Scratch difficult?

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Usually functional testing is deployed to automatically assess student solution, but this is not straightforward for Scratch

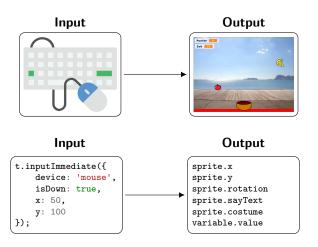
- Scratch is normally only accessible through its GUI
- no functions that take parameters and return a value
- no textual IO, keyboard and mouse input and graphical output





How to test Scratch programs?

Approach: Test on a system level by automating Scratch's IO



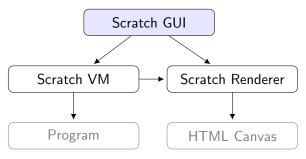


Figure: General architecture of Scratch

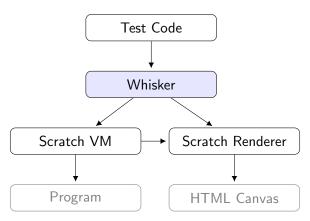
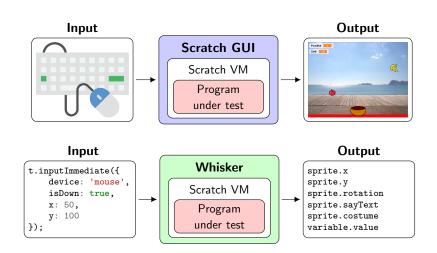


Figure: General architecture of Whisker



Whisker

Whisker, Whisker's GUI

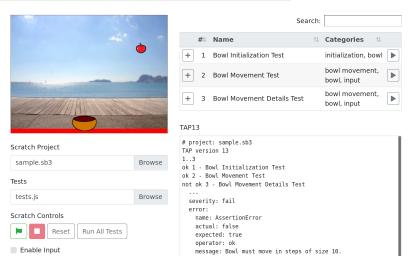


Figure: Whisker's GUI

Whisker, Example Test

```
const test = async function (t) {
 1
         const sprite = t.getSprite('Sprite1');
 2
3
         await t.runForTime(100):
4
         let oldX = sprite.x;
5
6
         await t.runForTime(1000):
7
8
         t.assert.ok(oldX === sprite.x);
9
10
         t.inputImmediate({
11
             device: 'keyboard',
12
             key: 'right arrow',
13
             isDown: true
14
         }):
15
16
         await t.runForTime(1000):
17
18
19
         t.assert.ok(oldX < sprite.x);</pre>
20
```

TODO: Whisker's functionality, then: constraint tests

Whisker, Simulating Inputs

```
t.inputImmediate({
 1
2
         device: 'keyboard',
         key: 'right arrow',
3
         isDown: true.
4
         duration: 100
5
    });
6
    t.addInput(1000, {
7
         device: 'mouse',
8
9
         x: 100.
         y: 200,
10
         isDown: true
11
    }):
12
    t.addInput(2000, {
13
         device: 'text',
14
         text: 'some answer'
15
    });
16
17
    t.getMousePos();
18
    t.isMouseDown():
19
    t.isKeyDown('space');
20
```

Whisker, Accessing Output

```
const sprite = t.getSprite('Sprite1');
 1
    const sprites = t.getSprites(sprite => sprite.x > 100);
 2
    const clones = sprite.getClones();
    const stage = t.getStage();
4
5
    const variable = stage.getVariable('my variable');
    const variables = stage.getVariables();
7
    const list = sprite.getList('my list');
8
9
    const lists = sprite.getLists();
10
11
    sprite.x;
    sprite.old.x;
12
13
    variable.value:
14
    sprite.isOriginal();
15
    sprite.isTouchingEdge();
16
    sprite.isTouchingSprite(otherSprite);
17
```

Whisker, Running the program

```
await t.runForTime(1000);
await t.runForSteps(30);
await t.runUntil(() => a > b, 1000);

t.getRunTimeElapsed();
t.getTotalTimeElapsed();

t.greenFlag();
```

Whisker, Callbacks

```
const callback = t.addCallback(() => {
         if (sprite.x > 100) {
             t.inputImmediate({ device: 'mouse', isDown: true });
        } else if (sprite.x < 0) {</pre>
             t.cancelRun();
    });
 7
 8
9
    t.addCallback(() => someList.push(sprite.x), true);
10
11
    callback.disable():
    callback.enable();
12
13
    callback.isActive();
```

Whisker, Constraints

Whisker, Input Generation