

First Committee Meeting

Progress Report

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McMaster University

June 19, 2023

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- Drasil
- The Common Drasil Workflow
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About Me

- I am **Samuel "Sam" Crawford**

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- Graduated from McMaster University (2022)
 - Bachelor of Engineering (B.Eng.) in Software Engineering
 - Worked on Drasil as an Undergraduate Summer Research Assistant (during the summers of 2018 and 2019)

- I am **Samuel "Sam" Crawford**
- Graduated from McMaster University (2022)
 - Bachelor of Engineering (B.Eng.) in Software Engineering
 - Worked on Drasil as an Undergraduate Summer Research Assistant (during the summers of 2018 and 2019)
- Currently pursuing a Master of Applied Science (M.A.Sc.) in Software Engineering under the supervision of **Dr. Jacques Carette** and **Dr. Spencer Smith**

Overview of Progression Towards M.A.Sc.

Course-related progression

- I'm required to complete:
 - Two "Software" courses
 - One "Theory" course
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 - CAS 741: Development of Scientific Computing Software - Winter 2023

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 - CAS 761: Logic for Practical Use - Fall 2022
 - CAS 741: Development of Scientific Computing Software - Winter 2023
 - CAS 781: Advanced Topics in Computing and Software
(High-Performance Scientific Computing) - Winter 2023

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Thesis/research-related Progression

- Conducted "part-time research" while taking courses (Fall 2022/Winter 2023)
- Pivoted to "full-time research" for Spring 2023 (and beyond)
- Formed my supervisory committee; we are currently having our first supervisory committee meeting!

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Preface

What is Drasil?

Drasil is "a framework for generating all of the software artifacts from a stable knowledge base, focusing currently on scientific software"
[Hunt et al., 2021]

¹<https://jacquescarette.github.io/Drasil/>

Preface

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Drasil is "a framework for generating all of the software artifacts from a stable knowledge base, focusing currently on scientific software"
[Hunt et al., 2021]

- This knowledge, using recipes, is used to generate software artifacts, including:
 - SRS (HTML, PDF, Jupyter)
 - Code (Python, Java, C#, C++, Swift)
 - READMEs
 - Makefiles
 - Its own website¹!

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Visualizing Drasil's Traceability

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- Drasil is "tested" by comparing generated artifacts to stable
- This does not actually say anything about Drasil's output!

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 - 2 Targets a more complex artifact that is harder to verify
 - 3 Gives Drasil another "bragging point"!

The Common Drasil Workflow

Example: Projectile

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- 3 Generate it!

The Common Drasil Workflow

Applied to Testing

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- Manual unit tests (26 **pass**, 18 **fail with known reason**)

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- Manual system tests (3 **pass**, 4 **fail with known reason**)

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Applied to Testing

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- Changes made to "stable" to facilitate testing
 - The inclusion of `__init__.py` files to improve import statements
 - Wrapping `Control.py`'s functionality in a `main` function
 - Changing how command line parameters are passed to `Control.py`

The Common Drasil Workflow

Applied to Testing

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- Changes made to "stable" to facilitate testing
 - The inclusion of `__init__.py` files to improve import statements
 - Wrapping `Control.py`'s functionality in a `main` function
 - Changing how command line parameters are passed to `Control.py`
- Changes to be made to generated code to improve correctness
 - Invalid values should stop the calculations [?]
 - Assumptions, such as values of constants, should be verified

Why Test Generated Code?

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- 4 Generating code for testing allows for it to be done "properly" instead of taking shortcuts commonly taken by humans

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 - **Research Question #2:** How can test cases be generated from information that currently exists within Drasil?

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 - **Research Question #3:** How can new information be added to facilitate the generation of more types of testing?

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"The information you have should be just as useful for generating tests as it should be for manually running them." — Dr. Jacques Carette

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- Test cases will then be written for:
 - Other variabilities of Projectile's Python implementation
 - Projectile's implementation in other languages
 - Other examples where code is generated: GlassBR, NoPCM, DbIPendulum, PD Controller [Hunt et al., 2021]

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 - Other variabilities of Projectile's Python implementation
 - Projectile's implementation in other languages
 - Other examples where code is generated: GlassBR, NoPCM, DbIPendulum, PD Controller [Hunt et al., 2021]
- These test cases will also be added to Drasil's CI/CD to ensure that future changes preserve the code's functionality

Acknowledgements

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- The format of this presentation was *heavily* based on a previous presentation by Jason Balaci
- Dr. Smith created the knowledge flow figure shown earlier
- The past and current Drasil team have created a truly amazing framework!

Thank you!
Questions?

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Hunt, A., Michalski, P., Chen, D., Balaci, J., and Smith, S. (2021).
Drasil - Generate All the Things!