

Samuel Gruetter: Curriculum Vitae

Education

Since fall 2017	PhD candidate in Computer Science at MIT, working with Prof. Adam Chlipala's Programming Languages and Verification group
April 2017	MSc in Computer Science from the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Lausanne (EPFL), specialization in "Foundations of Software", GPA: 5.80*
10/2016 – 03/2017	MSc thesis project at Prof. Andrew Appel's lab at Princeton University
2014 – summer 2015	3 semesters of MSc Research Scholars Program at EPFL: Master's program in Computer Science and in parallel, worked part-time as a research assistant at Prof. Martin Odersky's Programming Methods Lab (the "Scala Lab")
Summer 2014	Oregon Programming Languages Summer School on Types, Logic, Semantics, and Verification, at University of Oregon
2010 – 2013	Bachelor in Computer Science at EPFL, GPA: 5.51*

Research Experience

C Live Verification	Currently, I'm working on a framework for proving correctness of programs in a C-like language (Bedrock2). The user writes the program and the proof at the same time, aided by a real-time display of the program's current symbolic state.
Bedrock2 end-to-end	I wrote a compiler from a simple C-like language to RISC-V machine code, proved its correctness in the Coq proof assistant, and used it to prove end-to-end system correctness theorems covering whole software-hardware stacks [9]
C information flow	I was visiting Dr. Toby Murray at the University of Melbourne for 10 weeks to work on information flow control proofs for C [8]
Verifying AES	For a six months master thesis internship, I was working with Prof. Andrew Appel's group at Princeton, improving the proof automation tactics of their Verified Software Toolchain, and using it to verify the AES encryption implementation of mbed TLS [7]
DOT	During my master's at EPFL, I was working with Prof. Martin Odersky's Scala lab on the Dependent Object Types project, a formalization of the core of Scala's type system, writing proofs on paper and in Twelf and Coq [3, 4, 6]
Leon termination	For a class project at EPFL, I contributed to the function termination checker of Leon, a tool for verification and synthesis of Scala programs by Prof. Viktor Kuncak's group [5]
Dotty	While working at the Scala lab, I contributed to dotty, a new Scala compiler serving as a research platform to investigate new language concepts and compiler technologies for Scala
Structural Types	For my bachelor thesis, I designed, explored and implemented a simple structurally typed language in PLT redex [1]

Publications

ICFP 2023	Thomas Bourgeat, Ian Clester, Andres Erbsen, Samuel Gruetter, Pratap Singh, Andrew Wright, and Adam Chlipala. Flexible Instruction-Set Semantics via Abstract Monads (Experience Report). In <i>Proceedings of the ACM on Programming Languages Volume 7, Issue ICFP</i> , pp 108–124, August 2023.
TOPLAS 2023	Arthur Charguéraud, Adam Chlipala, Andres Erbsen, and Samuel Gruetter. Omnisemantics: Smooth Handling of Nondeterminism. In <i>ACM Transactions on Programming Languages and Systems 45(1)</i> , pp 5:1–5:43, March 2023.
PLDI 2021	Andres Erbsen, Samuel Gruetter, Joonwon Choi, Clark Wood, and Adam Chlipala. Integration Verification Across Software and Hardware for a Simple Embedded System. In <i>Proceedings of the 42nd ACM SIGPLAN International Conference on Programming Language Design and Implementation</i> , pp 604–619, June 2021.

JAR 2018	Qinxiang Cao, Lennart Beringer, Samuel Gruetter, Josiah Dodds, and Andrew W. Appel. VST-Floyd: A Separation Logic Tool to Verify Correctness of C Programs. In <i>Journal of Automated Reasoning</i> , 61(1-4) pp 367-422, June 2018.
PLAS 2017	Samuel Gruetter and Toby Murray. Short Paper: Towards Information Flow Reasoning about Real-World C Code. In <i>Proceedings of the 2017 Workshop on Programming Languages and Analysis for Security - PLAS '17</i> , pp 43-48, Dallas, Texas, USA, 2017. ACM Press.
WadlerFest 2016	Nada Amin, Samuel Gruetter, Martin Odersky, Tiark Rompf, and Sandro Stucki. The essence of dependent object types. In <i>WadlerFest</i> , 2016. Springer LNCS 9600, pp 249-272.

Industry Internships

Google, 2021	In the Silver Oak Project [10], used Bedrock2 [9] to formally verify drivers for peripherals used in the OpenTitan root of trust [11], and connected software correctness proofs to hardware correctness proofs
Amazon ARG, 2019	Worked with Rustan Leino at Amazon's Automated Reasoning Group on a prototype rewrite of Amazon's S3 Encryption Client in Dafny, a verification-aware programming language. Wrote and proved specifications for software interacting with real-world systems such as Amazon's S3 storage service
Netcetera, 2015	6 months Software Engineering Internship at Netcetera AG, Berne, working in a scrum team, developing an expert tool for defining and maintaining the fare zone plans and ticket pricing for all Swiss public transport associations, with a Java/Oracle DB/Spring backend and an AngularJS frontend being migrated from JavaScript to TypeScript
Accenture, 2012	Java Summer Internship at Accenture in Bangalore (India), developed a web interface with JSF/Enterprise JavaBeans monitoring servers and databases

Teaching and Mentoring Experience

MIT UROP mentor	Over the course of my PhD, I mentored 12 undergraduates working on research projects in our lab through MIT's Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program, and also mentored two students writing their MEng theses. Two of my former advisees are now pursuing a PhD in formal methods (the field I introduced them to) at top US universities
MIT FRAP TA	Teaching assistant for the "Formal Reasoning about Programs" course at MIT. Designed and graded problem sets, held office hours and recitations
MOOC TA	Teaching assistant for the "Principles of Reactive Programming" course on Coursera, a massive open online course with more than 40'000 students. Developed RxScala, the library on which the programming assignments were based, helped develop and test the assignments, and answered forum questions
EPFL TA	Teaching assistant for the BSc class "Introduction to Logic Systems", helping students with questions about the exercises
SOI lecturer	Gave lectures at workshops of the Swiss Olympiad in Informatics, teaching basic algorithms (such as graphs, scanline, dynamic programming) to high schoolers

Awards

MIT Fellowship 2017	Presidential Graduate Fellowship by MIT
hc2 2013	Ranked 3rd at Helvetic Coding Contest
SWERC 2012	Ranked 7th at Southwestern Europe Regional Contest of ACM International Collegiate Programming Contest
SOI 2010	Ranked 1st at Swiss Olympiad in Informatics
SPO 2010	Ranked 1st at Swiss Olympiad in Philosophy

Opensource Experience

RxScala Main contributor of RxScala (Reactive Extensions for Scala), a library for composing asynchronous and event-based programs using observable sequences. RxScala is an adapter for the RxJava library by Netflix. Integrated into the Netflix repository [2] in 2013

Other

Study Foundation Admitted to the complementary learning program of the Swiss Study Foundation
hc2 organizer Helped organize the Helvetic Coding Contest 2014
SOI organizer Helped organize the Swiss Olympiad in Informatics 2011-2016, leader of the Swiss delegation to the International Olympiad in Informatics 2013

Languages

German native
English fluent (TOEFL: 107/120, Cambridge Certificate of Proficiency in English)
French fluent
Latin took 5 years of Latin in high school, finished with a Latin grade of 6*

Contact

Permanent address Mattenstrasse 19a, 3073 Gümligen, Switzerland
US address 67a Dana St Apt 2, Cambridge MA 02138, USA
E-Mail gruetter@mit.edu

Links

- [1] BSc semester project "Explorations of type systems", Spring 2013
<https://github.com/samuelgruetter/type-systems-spring13/blob/master/doc/report.pdf>
- [2] RxScala (Reactive Extensions for Scala)
<https://github.com/ReactiveX/RxScala>
- [3] MSc semester project "Machine-checked typesafety proofs", Spring 2014
<https://github.com/samuelgruetter/typesafety-proofs-spring14/blob/master/report.pdf>
- [4] Report "Dependent Object Types With Existential Quantification Over Objects", July 2015
<https://github.com/samuelgruetter/dot-calculus/tree/master/doc/gDOT-and-exDOT>
- [5] Report "Improving Leon's Termination Checker", June 2015
<https://samuelgruetter.net/assets/LeonTermination.pdf>
- [6] MSc optional semester project "Connecting Scala to DOT", Spring 2016
<https://github.com/samuelgruetter/dot-calculus/blob/master/doc/Connecting-Scala-to-DOT>
- [7] MSc thesis "Improving the Coq proof automation tactics of the Verified Software Toolchain, based on a case study on verifying a C implementation of the AES encryption algorithm", Spring 2017
<https://www.cs.princeton.edu/research/techreps/TR-999-17>
- [8] arXiv report "VST-Flow: Fine-grained low-level reasoning about real-world C code", Summer 2017
<https://arxiv.org/abs/1709.05243>
- [9] Bedrock2, a low-level systems programming language with a verified compiler
<https://github.com/mit-plv/bedrock2>
- [10] Silver Oak Project: Peripherals and their drivers formally verified in Coq
<https://github.com/project-oak/silveroak>
- [11] OpenTitan silicon root of trust
<https://opentitan.org/>

*Swiss grades: 1 = lowest, 4 = pass, 6 = best