

Master's Specialisation in Software Science

Frits Vaandrager

Radboud University

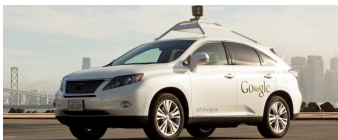
November 2018

1 Master's in Computing Science

- degree: Master of Science (MSc)
- duration: 2 years (120 EC), full-time
- specialisations:
 - ▶ *software science*
 - ▶ cyber security
 - ▶ data science
 - ▶ MFoCS
- software science: for whom?
 - ▶ you are passionate about programming
 - ▶ you are interested in scientific questions surrounding software
 - ▶ you are interested in building systems
 - ▶ you are creative
- career prospects: simply *excellent*

2 The Semantic Gap

- Computers are everywhere ...



- ...and they seem to be able to do anything.

2 The Semantic Gap

- However, on the most basic level a computer is very primitive.
- It consists of a large collection of switches, bits, which can take one of two values: 0 or 1.
- It only supports a handful of simple operations:
 - ▶ set bit to 0 or 1;
 - ▶ test bit (`if x==0 then ... else ...`).
- What is it that transforms these trivial operations on bits into the incredible feats we see computers perform?

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Software!

2 Software Science

Challenges:

- ensure correctness
- ensure security
- ensure robustness
- tame complexity
- embrace legacy
- short time to market

Facets:

- science
- technology
- creativity
- beauty

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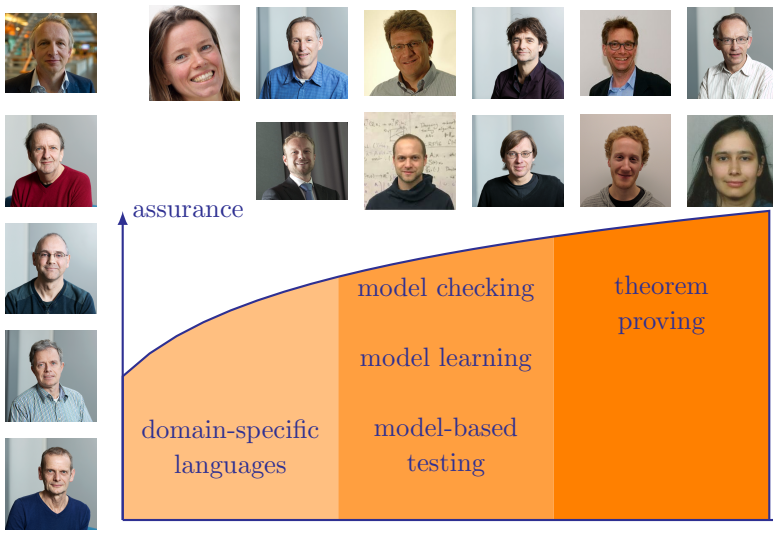
Facets:

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Our mission:

Develop theory, languages, and tools that simplify the construction of reliable software systems.

3 Research: High-assurance Software

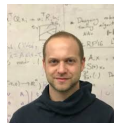


3 Research: Software Technology

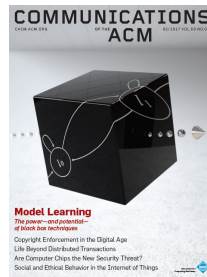


- functional programming
keep the fun in programming
- generic programming
how to let the computer do the work
- domain-specific languages
speaking the language of domain experts
- software quality
how do we measure it?
- a research highlight:
iTasks — task-oriented programming

3 Research: Model Checking and Learning



- model checking
is the bad state ever reached?
- model learning
how to reverse engineer models from code?
- model-based testing
does a system meet its specification?
- a research highlight:
cover article CACM



3 Research: Foundations



- interactive theorem proving
proofs with the computer as an assistant
- automated theorem proving
how to let the computer do most of the work
- type theory
a foundation for computer science and mathematics
- a research highlight:
formal semantics of C

4 Programme Outline

semester 1	track basic	track basic	track basic	track elective	free elective
semester 2	research seminar	track elective	track elective	track elective	master elective
semester 3	research internship		CS and society	master elective	master elective
semester 4	Master's project and thesis				

4 Courses

Basic courses

- Advanced Programming
- Testing Techniques
- Design of Embedded Systems

Elective Courses

- *Software Engineering:*
 - ▶ Compiler Construction
 - ▶ Software Development Entrepreneurship
 - ▶ Software Security
- *Computer-Aided Analysis:*
 - ▶ Model Checking
 - ▶ Software Analysis
 - ▶ Automated Reasoning
 - ▶ Proof Assistants
- *Theory of Computation:*
 - ▶ Type Theory & Coq
 - ▶ Semantics & Domain Theory
 - ▶ Complexity Theory
 - ▶ Computability Theory

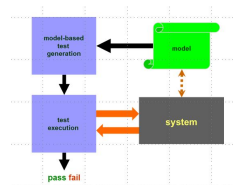
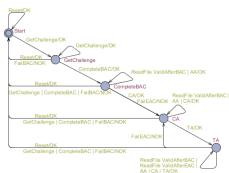
4 Course: Advanced Programming

- generic programming
how to let the computer do the work
- design and implementation of domain-specific languages
speaking the language of domain experts
- application: a DSL for tasks
for the new Dutch navy vessel



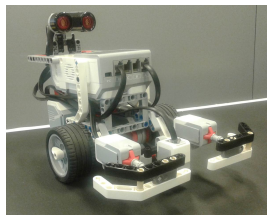
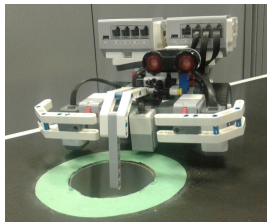
4 Course: Testing Techniques

- state-of-practice testing techniques
problems and challenges of software testing in industry
- model-based testing
automatic generation and execution of test cases
- model learning, or test-based modelling
reverse engineering of models for regression testing, legacy software, and security analysis



4 Course: Design of Embedded Systems

- scheduling and real-time operating systems
exercises with Xenomai, control LED clock
- model-based development of embedded systems
use of domain-specific languages to develop missions for Lego EV3 Rovers

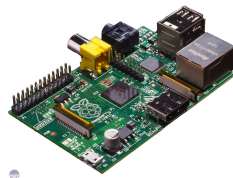
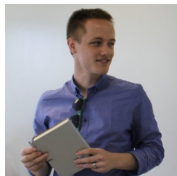


5 Research Internships

- join one of our research groups
- join our *New Devices Lab*



5 Add embedded devices to iTasks

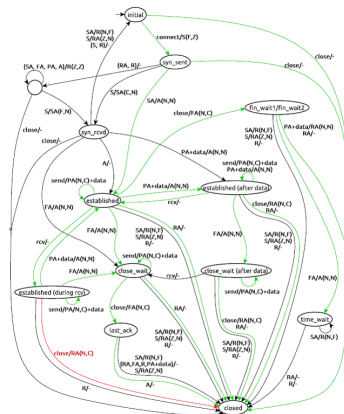
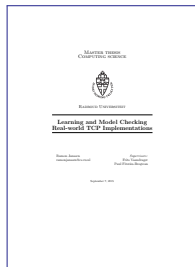


- embed *IoT* in *iTasks*
- work with embedded devices in the *New Devices Lab*

6 Master's Thesis Projects

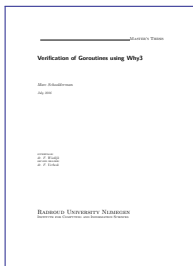
- within our institute
- within industry & society: ASML, Axini, Altran, TomTom, Thales, Sogeti, Océ, NXP, Philips, Belastingdienst, Navy, ...
- abroad: Oxford, Uppsala, London, ...

6 Learning TCP Implementations

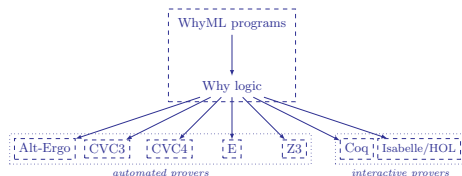


- model learning to construct state machine model of TCP protocol
- presented at CAV 2016
- Windows 8 TCP client: non-conforming (buggy)

6 Verification of Goroutines using Why3

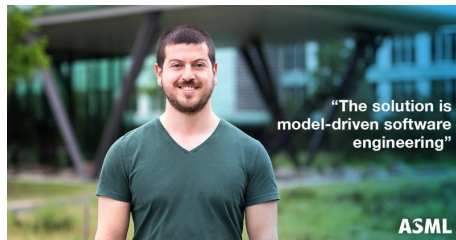


```
func sieve(src, out chan int) {
  p := <-src
  out <- p
  filt := make(chan int)
  go sieve(filt, out)
  for n := range src {
    if n%p != 0 {
      filt <- n
    }
  }
}
```

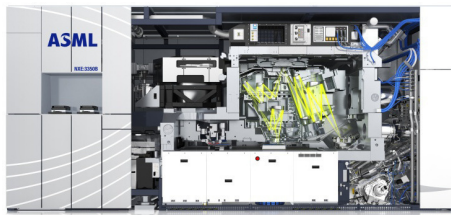


- program verification using automated provers
- extended to Go channels
- *example*: concurrent prime number sieve

6 Refactoring Legacy Software at ASML



- infer model of key legacy component
- use to assess quality of refactored version



7 Why MSc Software Science at Radboud?

1. cutting-edge research with strong ties to industry
2. unique spectrum from theory to practice
3. very different from bachelor@RU
4. flexible thanks to electives
5. small-scale; informal atmosphere
6. excellent career prospects

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Lead Engineer at ASML
ASML • Radboud University Nijmegen
Eindhoven Area, Netherlands • 160



Johan Uijen • 1st
Verification Engineer at Philips
Philips • University of Nijmegen
Netherlands • 343



Maxime Klusman • 1st
Engineer at Prodrive Technologies
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Nijmegen Area, Netherlands • 79

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Become one of tomorrow's leading software specialists!

7 Thank You! — Questions?

- *contact:*

Frits Vaandrager <fvaan@cs.ru.nl>

+31 24 — 36 52216

- *student advisor:*

Perry Groot <Perry.Groot@science.ru.nl>

+31 24 — 36 52037