

# Ph.D. Graduation Timeline

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## 1 Timeline

- Pre-thesis preparation period (dd/mm/yyyy)  
**03/09/2014**, started the Ph.D. program  
**01/09/2015**, passed the Ph.D. comprehensive exam  
**14/12/2015**, completed all courses  
**13/05/2017**, first poster paper was accepted by the ASAP'17  
**31/08/2017**, first full paper was accepted by the ICCD'17  
**16/07/2018**, passed the Ph.D. proposal exam  
**16/09/2018**, second full paper was accepted by the FPT'18  
**03/12/2018**, completed the RISC-V processor project
- Ph.D. thesis preparation period (dd/mm/yyyy)  
**14/03/2019**, submitted the RISC-V paper to the FPL'19  
**01/02 to 19/03/2019**, completed the thesis draft (1 month, 19 days)  
**20/03 to 12/06/2019**, supervisor approved the draft (2 months, 23 days)  
**20/06/2019**, initial thesis submission  
**16/08/2019**, did not pass the thesis evaluation  
**23/08/2019**, the university approved my thesis revision request  
**01/09/2019 to 03/02/2020**, completed the revision (5 months, 3 days)  
**04/02/2020**, revised thesis submission  
**11/03/2020**, passed the thesis evaluation
- Ph.D. oral defense preparation period (dd/mm/yyyy)  
**12/03 to 23/04/2020**, prepared for the defense (1 month, 12 days)  
**24/04/2020**, passed the defense :-)
- Ph.D. thesis final revision period (dd/mm/yyyy)  
**25/04 to 03/05/2020**, completed the thesis final revision (9 days)  
**04/05 to 15/05/2020**, supervisor approved the revision (12 days)  
**16/05/2020**, completed the Ph.D. program :- (using 5 yrs and 8 months)
- Graduation and convocation (dd/mm/yyyy)  
**09/06/2020**, officially graduated :-)  
**19/06/2020**, attended the McGill virtual convocation ceremony

## 2 Ph.D. Fundings Summary

- Total funding received from the university: **23,599 CAD**
  - McGill Grad Excellence Award, 12,000 CAD, 2014 academic year
  - McGill Grad Excellence Award, 10,000 CAD, 2018 academic year
  - McGill Great Travel Award, 1,599 CAD, 2018
- Total funding received from the supervisor: **5,241 CAD**
  - for ICCD conference travel to Boston USA, 714 CAD, 2017
  - for FPT conference travel to Okinawa Japan, 2,527 CAD, 2018
  - for living subsidy, 2,000 CAD, 2018

## 3 Ph.D. Thesis Revision Summary

Besides my Ph.D. oral defense committee, there are four participants in my thesis revision. The participants are my supervisor, internal/external examiners, and my collaborator from the University of Toronto.

- **Summary of the supervisor's revision**
  - **Initial thesis submission:** no revision
  - **Revised thesis submission:** no revision
  - **Final thesis submission after defense:** 3 changes were made
    1. "tradeoffs" was changed to "trade-offs".
    2. a sentence, "To clarify, the midway accelerator usually has lower maximum throughput and larger circuit area than that of 1) and 2), respectively.", was added to the thesis.
    3. a sentence, "Hence, to clarify, our multi-cycle processors are all loaded with the recursive vector addition testing program shown in section 5.8.2 when measuring the performance.", was added to the thesis.
- **Summary of the internal examiner's revision** (received "NOT PASS")
  1. Clarify the student's contribution with all the other co-authors.
  2. Clarify the contribution of current work with the master's thesis.
  3. The depth and extent of literature review require improvement.
  4. The presentation of the thesis requires improvement.
  5. Two areas of the thesis require further development.
  6. There were 21 minor technical corrections made by the examiner.
- **Summary of the external examiner's revision** (received "PASS")

1. State clearly which portions of the current thesis are repetitions of the master's thesis.
2. Limited, incomplete literature review.
3. Unsatisfactory level of English.
4. There were 20 minor technical corrections made by the examiner.

- **Summary of the oral defense committee's revision** (final revision)

1. Major Revision
  - (a) The defense committee proposed that the contribution of the revised thesis requires to be further quantified.
  - (b) The defense committee suggested to remove chapter 3 (logarithm accelerator), thanks to some portions of chapter 3 overlap with the master's thesis, and contribution of the rest chapters (without chapter 3) are sufficient to meet the graduation requirement.
2. There were 13 minor technical corrections made by the committee.

- **Summary of the collaborator's revision**

- **Initial thesis submission:** no revision
- **Revised thesis submission:** around 16 corrections were made
  1. helped to correct English grammatical and presentation issues in all chapters of the revised thesis.
  2. three paragraphs describing the FPGA, RTL, HLS were added to the "Introduction" chapter.
  3. two technical corrections were made to the "Background" chapter.
  4. three technical corrections were made to the "Reciprocal Accelerators" chapter.
  5. two technical corrections were made to the "Square Root Accelerators" chapter.
  6. six technical corrections were made to the "RISC-V Soft Processor" chapter.
- **Final thesis submission after defense:** no revision