

Ilias Nugaev

Senior Software Developer · Senior Software Engineer

Belgrade, Serbia

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Summary

Senior Software Engineer with 7+ years of experience in building high-load systems in Python and Golang. At Yandex (the largest BigTech company in CIS), built critical components of the payment engine (~1000 TPS), assuring reliability for all B2C payments (>20% of company revenue). Skilled in backend system design, performance optimization, DB tuning, managing infrastructure, and reliable multiservice communication (REST, gRPC, MQ). Strong domain expertise in financial instruments. Worked in both cross-functional teams and specialized engineering departments. Collaborative, feedback-driven team player with strong problem-solving mindset. Business proficiency in English, native in Russian. Academic background in Computer Science.

Skills

Skills & Tools	Go (last 2y), Python (5+y), FastAPI, Flask, Django, Kafka, RabbitMQ, Protobuf, Schema Registry, REST, gRPC, Message Queue, SQL, PostgreSQL, MongoDB, Redis, Elasticsearch, Docker, CI/CD, Gitlab, Github, Terraform, Grafana, Prometheus, VictoriaMetrics.
Methodologies	Scrum, Agile, Microservices, SOLID, DDD, EDA.
Languages	English (Business proficiency), Russian (Native)

Professional Experience (7+y)

Yandex | Largest big tech in CIS 3y 5m · Full-time
Senior Software Engineer | FinTech core team Oct. 2023 - Mar. 2025 · Belgrade, Serbia

Key achievements

- Redesigned core of the payment engine to improve load capacity by 50% and enable scalable feature development.
- Reduced hardware costs by 20% and improved core service response times by 40% (600ms → 350ms) through backend optimization.
- Reduced the average time-to-market from ~1 week to ~1 day by improving CI/CD process for the payment engine.

Ownership/responsibilities

- Supporting the team lead in aligning quarterly OKRs with business goals, taking part in planning, prioritization, and decomposition to ensure clear focus and efficient execution.
- Developing features and improving fault tolerance for the high-load payment system handling all Yandex B2C transactions (>20% of company's revenue).
- Handled on-call production duty for high-load services (~1000 TPS, up to 5,000 RPC/sec).
- Conducted 20+ technical interviews to support the company hiring process.

Software Engineer | FinTech core team Nov. 2021 - Oct. 2023 · Moscow, Russia

- Reduced incident response time by 80% by implementing an observability stack: metrics, dashboards, and alerts for different parts of the payment engine.
- Mitigated infrastructure risks by contributing to a purpose-built ORM and migrating a 1TB data collection to a cloud DB with zero downtime.
- Improved service reliability by launching testing duty rotation and training developers in structured incident response.

BI.ZONE | B2B cybersecurity products 1y 8m · Full-time

Software Developer | Cybersecurity products marketplace Mar. 2020 - Oct. 2021 · Moscow, Russia

- Built backend from scratch for 2 cybersecurity services (API + administration + async tasks) in a cross-functional team.
- Owned backend development for several production services — added features and optimizations, handled bug fixes.

Media Machines Laboratory | B2B digital marketing automation 7m · Full-time

Software Developer Sep. 2019 - Mar. 2020 · Moscow, Russia

- Integrated Google Ads and Facebook Graph APIs — enabled in-platform ad forecasting for media plan generation.
- Built Google Data Studio connector — retained 2 key clients and enabled a new direction for attracting clients.
- Improved media plan generation algorithm — reduced processing time by 20%.

START.ru | B2C streaming service 7m · Full-time

Software Developer Feb. 2019 - Aug. 2019 · Moscow, Russia

DC-systems.ru | B2B speech analyzing 1y 7m · Full-time

Software Developer Aug. 2017 - Feb. 2019 · Moscow, Russia

Education

HSE University (National Research University Higher School of Economics) Sep. 2012 - Nov. 2016

Bachelor in Software Engineering Moscow, Russia

The Yandex School of Data Analysis

Free listener

- Go language lecture course
- Python language lecture course

2024

Moscow, Russia