# Alexandre Decan

Data Scientist – Docteur en Sciences

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7904 Pipaix, Belgique
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Né le 29/01/85 à Anderlecht

# Expérience professionnelle

# Depuis Chercheur qualifié F.R.S.-FNRS, UMONS, Mons

10/2022 Service de Génie Logiciel

Université de Mons – UMONS

De 02/2015 à 09/2022

# Chercheur post-doctorant, UMONS, Mons

- Automated Assistance for Developing Software in Ecosystems of the Future SECO-ASSIST. Excellence of Science F.R.S. FNRS - FWO-Vlaanderen. Service de Génie Logiciel, 08/2018 - 10/2022.
  - Socio-Technical Methodology and Analysis of Software Ecosystem Health SECOHealth.
     F.R.S. FNRS FRQ Québec-Wallonie.
     Service de Génie Logiciel, 10/2017 07/2018.
  - Data quality, data provenance and big data FEDER-IDEES.
     Fonds Européen de Développement Régional.
     Service des Systèmes d'Information, 01/2017 07/2021.
  - Ecological Studies of Open Source Software Ecosystems ECOS.
     Actions de Recherche Concertées (ARC).
     Services de Génie Logiciel et d'Écologie Numérique des Milieux Aquatiques, 02/2015 07/2017.
  - Assistant temporaire en Réseaux et Télécommunications, 2016.

### De 10/2014 Analyste fonctionnel, Smals, Bruxelles

à 01/2015 Analyste fonctionnel dans le secteur Soins et Santé.

# De 10/2007 à 09/2014

### De 10/2007 Assistant de recherche, UMONS, Mons

- Data-Intensive Software System Evolution. Collaborateur volontaire F.R.S.-FNRS. Service de Génie Logiciel, 2013-2014.
- Recherche et développement dans les systèmes d'information. Réalisation d'une thèse sur les problématiques de data quality et de data integrity. Service des Systèmes d'Information, 2007-2013.
- Enseignement de cours de programmation, d'algorithmique, de bases de données, de datamining et de datawarehouse (cours de jour et horaires décalés); direction et encadrement de mémoires étudiants, 2007-2014.

### De 09/2013 Formateur-enseignant, Eurometropolitan e-Campus, Tournai

à 01/2014 Formateur-enseignant en business intelligence dans le cadre du Certificat d'Université d'Executive Master en e-Entrepreneurship.

De 09/2006 Élève-assistant, UMONS, Mons

à 06/2007 Fonction d'élève-assistant pour les cours de programmation et d'algorithmique.

07/2006 Stage en entreprise, S.A. ADLC, Péruwelz

Stage et réalisation d'un outil de suivi de commandes avancé pour l'intranet.

# Études

2007 à 2013 Docteur en Sciences, UMONS, Mons

Soutenance d'une thèse intitulée "Certain Query Answering in First-Order Languages".

2007 à 2009 Formation doctorale, UMONS, Mons

2003 à 2007 Licence en Sciences Informatiques, UMH, Mons

- Projet d'année : "Synthèse vocale" traitement du signal en C/OCaml,
- Mémoire de fin d'études : "Distributed Backup System" développement réseau/P2P en Java.

1997 à 2003 Secondaire général, Collège Saint Julien, Ath

Diplôme d'Honneur en option mathématiques et langues.

# Compétences informatiques

# Fouille de données

Expert dans l'analyse, le traitement et la fouille de données (data mining, data quality, data cleaning, machine learning). Maitrise de pandas, scipy, sklearn, matplotlib, seaborn, Jupyter.

#### Base de données

Maitrise de SQL, X-path, du XSLT, XML Schema et XQuery. Expérience pratique en PostgreSQL, SQLite, MySQL/MariaDB, Redis, MongoDB.

### Développement

Expert Python. Expérience de développement en Java, Kotlin, JavaScript, C et PHP; développement mobile & web. Expérience open source (mainteneur de projets & contributeur).

# Gestion de projets

Méthodologies agiles (Scrum), modélisation (UML, ER), gestion de versions (Git, SVN), bug tracking, testing (test- and behavior-driven development), virtualisation (Vagrant, Docker). Connaissance approfondie des systèmes Linux et Windows.

# Divers

#### Langues

• Français (langue maternelle), anglais (B2 - pratique courante) et néerlandais (A2 - notions)

#### Développement

- Mainteneur et contributeur open-source
- Webmaster d'un site communautaire depuis 1996
- Expert LATEX

#### Situation

- Père de famille
- Titulaire du permis B
- Formation incendie Equipe de Première Intervention en 2012
- Président de l'assemblée générale des étudiants de la Faculté des Sciences de l'Université de Mons de 2004 à 2006

# Dossier scientifique

Journal avec peer-review

# 2023 On the Outdatedness of Workflows in the GitHub Actions Ecosystem Alexandre Decan, Tom Mens, Hassan Onsori Delicheh Journal of Systems and Software, 10.1016/j.jss.2023.111827, 2023

- 2023 On the usage, co-usage and migration of CI/CD tools: a qualitative analysis Pooya Rostami Mazrae, Tom Mens, Mehdi Golzadeh, Alexandre Decan Empirical Software Engineering 28, 52, 10.1007/s10664-022-10285-5, 2023
- 2022 Recognizing bot activity in collaborative software development

  Mehdi Golzadeh, Tom Mens, Alexandre Decan, Eleni Constantinou, Natarajan Chidambaram
  IEEE Software Special Issue: Bots in Software Engineering, 10.1109/MS.2022.3178601, 2022
- 2022 On the Impact of Security Vulnerabilities in the npm and RubyGems Dependency Networks

Ahmed Zerouali, Tom Mens, Alexandre Decan, Coen De Roover Empirical Software Engineering, 10.1007/s10664-022-10154-1, 2022

2021 Back to the Past – Analysing Backporting Practices in Package Dependency Networks

Alexandre Decan, Tom Mens, Ahmed Zerouali, Coen De Roover IEEE Transactions on Software Engineering, 10.1109/TSE.2021.3112204, 2021

2021 Lost in Zero Space – An Empirical Comparison of 0.y.z Releases in Software Package Distributions

Alexandre Decan, Tom Mens Science of Computer Programming, 10.1016/j.scico.2021.102656, 2021

2021 A ground-truth dataset and classification model for detecting bots in GitHub issue and PR comments

Mehdi Golzadeh, Alexandre Decan, Damien Legay, Tom Mens Journal of Systems and Software, 10.1016/j.jss.2021.110911, 2021

- 2021 A multi-dimensional analysis of technical lag in Debian-based Docker images Ahmed Zerouali, Tom Mens, Alexandre Decan, Jesus Gonzalez-Barahona and Gregorio Robles Empirical Software Engineering, 26,10.1007/s10664-020-09908-6, 2021
- 2020 Sismic A Python library for statechart execution and testing Alexandre Decan, Tom Mens SoftwareX, 10.1016/j.softx.2020.100590, 2020
- 2020 **GAP**: Forecasting Commit Activity in git Projects
  Alexandre Decan, Eleni Constantinou, Tom Mens, Henrique Rocha
  Journal of Systems and Software, 10.1016/j.jss.2020.110573, 2020
- What Do Package Dependencies Tell Us about Semantic Versioning?
  Alexandre Decan, Tom Mens
  IEEE Transactions on Software Engineering, 10.1109/TSE.2019.2918315, 2019
- 2019 A Formal Framework for Measuring Technical Lag in Component Repositories and its application to npm

Ahmed Zerouali, Tom Mens, Jesus Gonzalez-Barahona, Alexandre Decan, Eleni Constantinou, Gregorio Robles
Journal of Software: Evolution and Process, 10.1002/smr.2157, 2019

2018 A Method for Testing and Validating Executable Statechart Models
Tom Mens, Alexandre Decan, Nikolaos Spanoudakis
Software and Systems Modeling, 10.1007/s10270-018-0676-3, 2018

2018 An Empirical Comparison of Dependency Network Evolution in Seven Software Packaging Ecosystems

Alexandre Decan, Tom Mens, Philippe Grosjean Empirical Software Engineering, 23, 10.1007/s10664-017-9589-y, 2018

# 2012 Certain Conjunctive Query Answering in SQL

Alexandre Decan, Fabian Pijcke, Jef Wijsen Lecture Notes in Computer Science, 7520, p154-167, 2012

# 2012 An Aperiodicity Problem for Multiwords

Véronique Bruyère, Olivier Carton, Alexandre Decan, Olivier Gauwin, Jef Wijsen RAIRO: Theoretical Informatics and Applications, 46, 1, p33-50, 2012

### Article dans les actes avec comité de lecture

# 2024 Quantifying Security Issues in Reusable JavaScript Actions in GitHub Workflows

Hassan Onsori Delicheh, Alexandre Decan, Tom Mens

21st International Conference on Mining Software Repositories (MSR), Lisbon, Portugal, 2024

# 2024 gawd: A Differencing Tool for GitHub Actions Workflows

Pooya Rostami Mazrae, Alexandre Decan, Tom Mens

21st International Conference on Mining Software Repositories (MSR), Lisbon, Portugal, 2024

# 2024 RABBIT: A tool for identifying bot accounts based on their recent GitHub event history

Natarajan Chidambaram, Tom Mens, Alexandre Decan

21st International Conference on Mining Software Repositories (MSR), Lisbon, Portugal, 2024

### 2024 A dataset of GitHub Actions workflow histories

Guillaume Cardoen, Tom Mens, Alexandre Decan

21st International Conference on Mining Software Repositories (MSR), Lisbon, Portugal, 2024

# 2023 A Preliminary Study of GitHub Actions Workflow Changes

Pooya Rostami Mazrae, Alexandre Decan, Tom Mens, Mairieli Wessel

Seminar Series on Advanced Techniques & Tools for Software Evolution (SATToSE), Salerno, Italie, 2023

# 2023 Distinguishing Bots from Human Developers Based on their GitHub Activity Types

Natarajan Chidambaram, Alexandre Decan, Tom Mens

Seminar Series on Advanced Techniques & Tools for Software Evolution (SATToSE), Salerno, Italie, 2023

# 2023 A Preliminary Study of GitHub Actions Dependencies

Hassan Onsori Delicheh, Alexandre Decan, Tom Mens

Seminar Series on Advanced Techniques & Tools for Software Evolution (SATToSE), Salerno, Italie, 2023

# 2022 A Dataset of Bot and Human Activities in GitHub

Natarajan Chidambaram, Alexandre Decan, Tom Mens

20th International Conference on Mining Software Repositories (MSR), Melbourne, Australia, 2023

# 2022 Patched Clones and Missed Patches among the Divergent Variants of a Software Family

Poedjadevie Ramkisoen, John Businge, Brent van Bladel, Alexandre Decan, Serge Demeyer, Coen De Roover, Foutse Khomh

ACM Joint European Software Engineering Conference and Symposium on the Foundations of Software Engineering (ESEC/FSE), Singapore, 2022

#### 2022 On the Use of GitHub Actions in Software Development Repositories

Alexandre Decan, Tom Mens, Pooya Rostami Mazrae, Mehdi Golzadeh

 $38\mathrm{th}$  IEEE International Conference on Software Maintenance and Evolution (ICSME), Limassol, Cyprus, 2022

# 2022 On the accuracy of bot detection techniques

Mehdi Golzadeh, Alexandre Decan, Natarajan Chidambaram

4th Workshop on Bots in Software Engineering (BotSE), IEEE/ACM ICSEW 2022

# 2022 Leveraging Predictions From Multiple Repositories to Improve Bot Detection

Natarajan Chidambaram, Alexandre Decan, Mehdi Golzadeh

4th Workshop on Bots in Software Engineering (BotSE), IEEE/ACM ICSEW 2022

#### 2022 On the rise and fall of CI services in GitHub

Mehdi Golzadeh, Alexandre Decan, Tom Mens

29th IEEE International Conference on Software Analysis, Evolution and Reengineering (SANER), Honolulu, Hawai, 2022

# 2022 Variant Forks – Motivations and Impediments

John Businge, Ahmed Zerouali, Alexandre Decan, Tom Mens, Serge Demeyer, Coen De Roover 29th IEEE International Conference on Software Analysis, Evolution and Reengineering (SANER), Honolulu, Hawai, 2022

### 2021 Identifying bot activity in GitHub pull request and issue comments

Mehdi Golzadeh, Alexandre Decan, Eleni Constantinou, Tom Mens 3rd Workshop on Bots in Software Engineering (BotSE), IEEE/ACM ICSEW 2021

# A Quantitative Assessment of Package Freshness in Linux Distributions

Damien Legay, Alexandre Decan, Tom Mens

4th International Workshop on Software Health (SoHeal), IEEE/ACM ICSEW 2021

# 2020 How Magic is Zero? An Empirical Analysis of Initial Development Releases in Three Software Package Distributions

Alexandre Decan, Tom Mens

3rd International Workshop on Software Health (SoHeal), IEEE/ACM ICSEW 2020, Seoul, Republic of Korea, 2020

### 2020 On Package Freshness in Linux Distributions

Damien Legay, Alexandre Decan, Tom Mens

36th IEEE International Conference on Software Maintenance and Evolution (ICSME), Adelaide, Australia, 2020

# 2020 Bot or not? Detecting bots in GitHub pull request activity based on comment similarity

Mehdi Golzadeh, Damien Legay, Alexandre Decan, Tom Mens 2nd Workshop on Bots in Software Engineering (BotSE), IEEE/ACM ICSEW 2020, Seoul, Republic of Korea, 2020

# 2020 An Empirical Investigation of Forks as Variants in the npm Package Distribution John Businge, Alexandre Decan, Ahmed Zerouali, Tom Mens, Serge Demeyer

19th Belgium-Netherlands Software Evolution Workshop (BENEVOL), Luxembourg, Luxembourg,

#### 2020 Evaluating a Bot Detection Model on Git Commit Messages

Mehdi Golzadeh, Alexandre Decan, Tom Mens

19th Belgium-Netherlands Software Evolution Workshop (BENEVOL), Luxembourg, Luxembourg,

# Towards an Understanding of the Impact of Badges in GitHub Repositories

Damien Legay, Alexandre Decan, Tom Mens

18th Belgium-Netherlands Software Evolution Workshop (BENEVOL), Brussels, Belgium, 2019

# 2019 On the Effect of Discussions on Pull Request Decisions

Mehdi Golzadeh, Alexandre Decan, Tom Mens

18th Belgium-Netherlands Software Evolution Workshop (BENEVOL), Brussels, Belgium, 2019

# 2018 On the Evolution of Technical Lag in the npm Package Dependency Network Alexandre Decan, Tom Mens, Eleni Constantinou

34th IEEE International Conference on Software Maintenance and Evolution (ICSME), Madrid, Spain,

# 2018 On the Impact of Security Vulnerabilities in the npm Package Dependency Network

Alexandre Decan, Tom Mens, Eleni Constantinou

15th International Conference on Mining Software Repositories (MSR), Gothenburg, Sweden, 2018

# 2018 Breaking the Borders: An Investigation of Cross-Ecosystem Software Packages

Eleni Constantinou, Alexandre Decan, Tom Mens

17th Belgium-Netherlands Software Evolution Workshop (BENEVOL), Delft, the Netherlands, 2018

# 2018 On the Impact of Pull Request Decisions on Future Contributions

Damien Legay, Alexandre Decan, Tom Mens

17th Belgium-Netherlands Software Evolution Workshop (BENEVOL), Delft, the Netherlands, 2018

# 2017 An Empirical Comparison of Dependency Issues in OSS Packaging Ecosystems Alexandre Decan, Tom Mens, Maëlick Claes

24th IEEE International Conference on Software Analysis, Evolution, and Reengineering (SANER), Klagenfurt, Austria, 2017

# 2017 On the Interaction of Relational Database Access Technologies in Open Source Java Projects

Alexandre Decan, Mathieu Goeminne, Tom Mens

Seminar Series on Advanced Techniques & Tools for Software Evolution (SATToSE), 1820, 26-35, Mons, Belgique, 2017

# 2016 On the Topology of Package Dependency Networks : a comparison of three programming language ecosystems

Alexandre Decan, Tom Mens, Maëlick Claes

ECSAW'16: Proceedings of the 10th European Conference on Software Architecture Workshops, Copenhagen, Denmark, 2016

# 2016 When GitHub meets CRAN: An Analysis of Inter-Repository Package Dependency Problems

Alexandre Decan, Tom Mens, Maëlick Claes, Philippe Grosjean

23rd IEEE International Conference on Software Analysis, Evolution, and Reengineering (SANER), Osaka, Japan, 2016

# 2015 On the Development and Distribution of R Packages: An Empirical Analysis of the R Ecosystem

Alexandre Decan, Tom Mens, Maëlick Claes, Philippe Grosjean International Workshop on Software Ecosystems (IWSECO), 2015

# 2014 Co-evolving Code-related and Database-related Changes in Data-intensive Software System

Mathieu Goeminne, Alexandre Decan, Tom Mens

IEEE CSMR-WCRE 2014 Software Evolution Week, 353-357, Antwerpen, Belgique, 2014

#### 2010 A Variant of Pattern Matching for Multiwords

Véronique Bruyère, Olivier Carton, Alexandre Decan, Olivier Gauwin, Jef Wijsen Journées Montoises en Informatique Théorique, Amiens, France, 2010

# 2009 On First-Order Query Rewriting for Incomplete Database Histories

Véronique Bruyère, Alexandre Decan, Jef Wijsen

16th International Symposium on Temporal Representation and Reasoning, TIME 2009, 54-61, Bressanone, Italie, 2009

# 2008 On First-Order Query Rewriting for Incomplete Database Histories

Alexandre Decan, Jef Wijsen

International Workshop on Logic in Databases (LID), 2008

# Chapitre de livre

# 2023 The GitHub Development Workflow Automation Ecosystems

Mairieli Wessel, Tom Mens, Alexandre Decan, Pooya Rostami Mazrae

Software Ecosystems: Tooling and Analytics, Springer International Publishing, 2023

#### 2017 Inter-component Dependency Issues in Software Ecosystems

Maëlick Claes, Alexandre Decan, Tom Mens

Software Technology : 10 Years of Innovation, IEEE Computer, John Wiley & Sons/IEEE Press, New York, NY, 2017

# 2017 Analysing the Evolution of Database Usage in Data-Intensive Software Systems

Loup Meurice, Mathieu Goeminne, Tom Mens, Csaba Nagy, Alexandre Decan, Anthony Cleve Software Technology: 10 Years of Innovation, IEEE Computer, John Wiley & Sons/IEEE Press, New York, NY, 2017

#### Thèse de doctorat

# 2013 Certain Query Answering in First-Order Languages

Thèse de doctorat soutenue le 2 juillet 2013

# Organisation de conférences

### 2022 **BENEVOL**, *Mons*, 12-13 septembre 2022

21st Belgium-Netherlands Software Evolution Workshop

### 2017 **TIME 2017**, Mons, 16-18 octobre 2017

24th International Symposium on Temporal Representation and Reasoning

### 2009 EuroDocInfo 2009, Mons, 22-23 janvier 2009

# 2009 Bases de Données Avancées (BDA) 2009, Namur, 20-23 octobre 2009

25èmes journées de Bases de Données Avancées

#### Distinction

### 2022 ICSME 2022 Distinguished Paper

 $38^{\rm th}$  IEEE International Conferences on Software Maintenance & Evolution

Distinguished Paper Award for "On the Use of GitHub Actions in Software Development Repositories"

### Financement

# 2023 Mandat d'Impulsion Scientifique, F.R.S.-FNRS, 2023 à 2025

On the impact of workflow automation solutions on continuous collaborative open source software engineering (F.4515.23, 428.991 $\mathfrak C$ )

# 2022 Chercheur Qualifié, F.R.S.-FNRS, 2022

Analysing and improving workflow automation in continuous collaborative open source software engineering (1.C.024.23F, 20.000€)

#### Promoteur de thèse

#### 2023 Youness Hourri, Université de Mons, 2023 (en cours)

On the impact of workflow automation on continuous collaborative open source software engineering

#### 2023 Guillaume Cardoen, Université de Mons, 2023 (en cours)

On workflow automation in open source software repositories

#### 2022 Hassan Onsori Delicheh, Université de Mons, 2022 (en cours)

Empirical analysis, recommendations and improvements for software development workflow automation ecosystems

# Jury de thèse

### 2023 Identifying Development Bots in Social Coding Platforms

Mehdi Golzadeh, University of Mons, 22 juin 2023

### 2021 Dealing with Inconsistencies in Knowledge Bases

Horacio Tellez Perez, University of Mons, 23 septembre 2021

# 2019 A Measurement Framework for Analyzing Technical Lag in Open-Source Software Ecosystems

Ahmed Zerouali, University of Mons, 4 septembre 2019

# 2017 Theoretical and Practical Methods for Consistent Query Answering in the Relational Data Model

Fabian Pijcke, University of Mons, 8 février 2018

# Lecture & Comité de lecture

Conférences International Conference on Open Source Systems – International Conference on Mining Software Repositories – International Workshop on Software Health in Projects, Ecosystems and Communities - Seminar Series on Advanced Techniques & Tools for Software Evolution – International Workshop on Software Engineering for Systems-of-Systems – European Conference on Software Architecture Workshops – Belgian-Netherlands software evolution symposium – International Symposium on Open Collaboration – ...

Journals

Journal of Systems and Software – Transactions on Software Engineering – IEEE Software – Empirical Software Engineering – International Journal of Business Intelligence and Data Mining – Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada – The VLDB Journal - Information Processing Letters - . . .