About

I am a full-stack engineer & leader deeply interested in agile methodologies, web technologies, software crafting and teaching. I contribute to a variety of open source projects, engage in a multitude of community events, enjoy attending and speaking at conferences.

Work

Remote

04/2021 — 10/2023

Senior Staff Engineer (18 months) / Staff Engineer (13 months)

Working on a big Elixir & Phoenix monolith with a focus on the payments domain, automating processes to ensure safe, quick & reliable payments of millions while improving processes and technology company wide.

- Implemented multiple features to help our payments efficiency and product offering: automatic invoice payments, bank integration via PAIN XML to automate salary payments, enable direct debit for huge sums & allowing non local currencies
- Design and Implementation of central payment projects aiming to incorporate more providers
- Most senior engineer individual contributor for a long time, involved in high level technology decision making
- Introduced Background Job System to guarantee reliable asynchronous execution
- Improved processes such as branching strategy (death to long lived branches!) and the RFC process itself
- Advocated for hiring non Elixir engineers & setup a training camp and mentoring structure to help them succeed

Shopify

08/2020 — 03/2021

Staff Developer

Engineering Lead for a team working in Ruby on Rails on topics ranging from local market adaptation, to legal and delivery promise.

Self-employed

08/2019 — 07/2020

Freelance Leader, Developer & Consultant

Consulting, Teaching and Development.

- Helped a company develop their first Elixir project, introducing the technology to the team
- Work on a complex microservice metrics visualization application in Ruby & NodeJS
- Open Source Work on the code coverage tool SimpleCov thanks to Ruby Together
- Consulted on the design, architecture & implementation of an open source project, including implementation

Liefery

11/2017 — 2/2019

Tech Lead (de facto Head of Engineering)

Led a product department of 15 together with the CTO, handling the day-to-day needs of the team.

- Helped, mentored & guided colleagues through 1o1s, pairing sessions, pull request reviews and knowledge sharing sessions
- Ran retrospective and iteration meetings, continously adapting and improving processes
- Architected and designed features with the squads
- Monitored application performance and fixed performance problems
- Screened and interviewed candidates
- Gathered problems and requirements to define and discuss solutions
- Ran integration projects with customers and other involved parties

Liefery

01/2017 — 11/2017

Senior Software Developer (de facto Team Lead)

Built and maintained applications to track shipments, plan tours and manage all required logistics data in Ruby on Rails, Elixir and Phoenix as well as JavaScript (AngularJS, React).

- Functioned as interim-CTO during a sabbatical

bitcrowd

01/2015 — 10/2016

Software Engineer

Built applications, helping companies blossom. Worked as part of a team or team lead on customer projects big and small. Introduced practices such as retrospectives and CI-servers and mentored juniors.

Self-employed — 05/2013 — 09/2018

Part-Time Freelancer

Occassionally projects related to teaching programming, such as an introductory course at Humboldt-University Berlin.

Community

Conferences — 05/2012 — current

Speaker, Program Committee Member & Organizer

I like to speak at conferences to share knowledge and spread ideas. I have spoken at conferences such as Øredev, Lambdadays, Polyconf and Full Stack Fest (overview of my talks). I also helped organize JRubyConf & eurucamp 2015 and was a member of the program committee of GOTO Berlin 2014.

- My talks cover a wide range, from Benchmarking to "Functioning Among Humans"
- One of the main organizers and host for Devs for Ukraine

Open Source — 08/2011 — current

Creator, Maintainer & Contributor

fill me in

- **benchee** a powerful and extensible benchmarking library for elixir and erlang
- **simplecov** the popular ruby code coverage tool
- **Shoes** an easy to use GUI toolkit written in JRuby that I also worked on as part of Google Summer of Code

Programming Language Related User Group — 10/2012 — current

Main Organizer

The user group is a monthly meetup of people interested in a specific programming language and related topics. Each meeting consists of three presentations and a couple of lightning talks. Currently the user group attracts between 80 and 120 attendees per meeting. My main responsibilities are organizing venues, contacting speakers and moderating the meetings as well as the mailing list. Sometimes I also give presentations.

Rails Girls / code curious — 06/2012 — current

Coach & Mentor

Rails Girls helps to diversify the tech community by helping beginners to get in touch with programming. I coach at workshops and since 2013 I also coach a weekly project group, the rubycorns, helping attendees grow into Juniors & beyond.

Education

Hasso Plattner Institute / Blekinge Institute of Technology (Erasmus) — 2008 — 2014

🎓 Bachelor & Master in IT-Systems Engineering

Final grade: 1.2 (A), Specialization in Software Architecture, Internet Security, agile & distributed software development

Skills

Enginneering Practices

- agile Software Development (XP/Scrum/Kanban)
- Test Driven Development (RSpec, ExUnit, Jasmine...)
- Pair Programming
- Version Control (git)

Programming

- Object Oriented Programming (Ruby, Smalltalk)
- Functional Programming (Elixir, functional JavaScript)
- Web frameworks (Ruby on Rails, Phoenix)
- Benchmarking & Performance Improvements
- Web Technologies (HTML, CSS, JavaScript, JSON...)

Leadership & Communication Skills

- Run and moderate meeetings such as Retrospectives
- one-on-ones
- Mentoring and Teaching
- Empathy
- Eye for process improvements and bottle necks

System Architecture

- Database Design (SQL)
- Domain Driven Design
- Design Patterns
- Monoliths, microservices and the in-between
- APIs (modules, REST)

Languages

German
Native speaker

English
Full working proficiency

Swedish
Limited working proficiency

French
Basic knowledge