

Career outlook

In my professional life I am enthusiastic about making high quality software. My proven track-record and history in QA has led to me being called upon as the person who will quickly pick up a new technology or solve complex problems. This frequently sees me moved into projects looking for either my depth of python knowledge or my breadth of experience. I am looking for a workplace where I am a senior member of a creative, innovative team in which I can work with my colleagues to craft products of the highest quality.

I have a lifelong passion for building software which has translated into an active membership of various communities. As part of the [London Python Dojo](#) team I help less experienced python developers, practice leadership, encourage best practices such as TDD, and build relationships within the python community. Wishing to extend this to to long-form projects, and not seeing anything similar already out there, I founded the [London Python Project Nights](#) meetup. During this time I have worked on [Romaine](#), a BDD framework. My involvement in the python community exemplifies my approach to creating software in a collaborative, encouraging and open environment.

Professional experience and abilities

Skimlinks Ltd

Software Engineer

03/2015 to Present

I have delivered multiple projects within ambitious timelines. One example of this was learning clojure alongside a mature codebase and delivering a new set of endpoints within a month in order to satisfy a key client. As a result of this I have become the go-to engineer for multiple codebases in multiple languages. I have cleaned up and taken ownership of large legacy codebases in the absence of the original contributors, maintaining [100% uptime](#). With my previous experience in QA I have designed data pipelines with an eye towards validation and testing. I approach challenging projects confidently and competently, ensuring a high level of performance and reliability.

My recognised technical expertise and ability to solve complex problems within tight deadlines has earned me strategic influence within the wider tech team. This extends to product managers where I have been able to set realistic delivery deadlines, with a discussion of what features were imperative, and what could be delayed in order to meet other business pressures. To guarantee that projects were properly deployed, coded to a high standard, and rigorously tested, I have taken a DevOps approach.

My technical excellence, strategic overview, and ability to take ownership of complex challenges that involve working across multiple technologies and departments means that at present my role is focused on working with the most important clients to ensure delivery of critical features. I am keen to expand this to take more of a leadership role alongside development in my next position.

Skills:

[Back-end development](#)

[DevOps](#) [TDD](#)

Technologies:

[python](#) [php](#) [clojure](#) [spark](#)

[mysql](#) [postgresql](#) [mongodb](#)

[redis](#) [s3](#) [EMR](#) [docker](#) [puppet](#)

JustYoyo Ltd

Senior QA Engineer

06/2014 - 11/2014

I introduced QA at JustYoyo, a young startup in mobile payments. I inserted quality into the development and release processes, increasing both internal and external confidence in the product. I implemented an issue tracking system, used this to introduce quality gates before and after development activities, then automated a proportion of the test suite against the product's REST server.

I worked a split role between testing and development during the run-up to a major release, developing a django micro-service which delivered GCM and APNS push notifications. In doing this I familiarised myself with the back-end architecture, and was able to assess the unit testing practices that were in use. This led to a more detailed understanding of the system as a whole, feeding back into my test strategy.

Skills:

[Process Improvement](#)

[Project Management](#) [QA](#)

[Test Automation](#)

[Back-end development](#)

[Kanban](#)

Technologies:

[TargetProcess](#) [Appium](#)

[UIAutomation](#) [Django](#) [REST](#)

[Javascript](#) [Python](#)

I instigated continual process improvement by introducing and chairing fortnightly retrospective meetings. Increasing the level of communication within the team also changed way we communicated across the company while helping me to refine the process and training around issue tracking.

Mind Candy Ltd

Automation Engineer

12/2013 - 04/2014

As a progression from my first role at Mind Candy I brought quality into the tools development process, and streamlined manual tasks for greater efficiency. I created new background services to integrate first and third party tools. This reduced workload, removed manual steps and shortened iteration times.

I introduced BDD to the team, and formulated system-level tests for their web applications. For this I developed a new test framework: [Fattoush](#). This streamlined test creation and made test deployment more reliable by allowing the same tests to be run either locally, or in parallel across an number of differing remote webdriver sessions, with a simple configuration change.

Skills:

[BDD](#) [Kanban](#) [DevOps](#)
[Deployment](#)

Technologies:

[Python](#) [Selenium](#) [Saucelabs](#)
[REST](#) [Puppet](#) [Vagrant](#)
[Teamcity](#) [Gitlab](#) [Git](#)

Mind Candy Ltd

QA Automation Engineer

10/2011 - 12/2013

Initially my task was to manage contractors, using Eggplant. I put together a business case for a system which used Sikuli and Selenium in place of Eggplant, and a custom tool for intercepting traffic between the web front end and the back end. I implemented this myself resulting in more stable and easier to maintain tests.

I also wrote UI tests for the Unity app which would play every level in the game. For this I developed two systems, of which one was chosen by the development team. The tests written within this system were integrated with the CI server, providing continuous testing on commit.

Skills:

[Test automation](#) [Scrum](#)
[DevOps](#)

Technologies:

[Python](#) [C# \(Mono/Unity\)](#)
[Jython](#) [REST](#) [Teamcity](#)
[Eggplant](#) [Sikuli](#) [Selenium](#)
[Svn](#) [Git](#)

IT2 Treasury Solutions

Product Quality Consultant

07/2009 - 10/2011

My base role involved writing and executing test cases and strategies for testing new features or adopting new technologies. I frequently put myself forward for projects where I could apply and expand my knowledge and skills. My ability to automate long and error-prone manual processes quickly saw my role expand to include scripting and test automation as well as writing tools for others around the business. I was tasked with the maintenance of a legacy automation suite, extending it to gather performance data, and then converting some manual test scripts to CodedUI tests.

Skills:

[Testing](#) [QA](#)
[Tools Development](#)
[Test Automation](#)

Technologies:

[Python](#) [C# \(.Net/CodedUI\)](#)
[SQL Server](#) [VSS](#) [TFS](#)

University of York - BSc (Hons) in Computer Science and Mathematics with Industrial Placement

IBM UK Ltd

Industrial Trainee

07/2007 - 06/2008

As part of my degree I spent a year working for IBM Tivoli, accredited under the SFIA scheme. In this role I was tasked with developing an automated testing project from a broadly defined specification which gave scope to shape the project, but mandated using a number of technologies I had never used before.

Technologies:

[Jython](#) [XML](#) [STAF/STAX](#)
[CPython](#) [bash](#) [Clearcase](#)

Skills:

[Testing](#) [Tools Development](#)
[Test Automation](#)
[Cross-platform](#) [Agile](#)