

Facundo Olano

I'm a software engineer with over 15 years of professional experience.

During the first part of my career, I worked as a web developer while completing my Software Engineering degree. Later, I specialized in backend development, service-oriented architectures, and distributed systems, using various technologies and programming languages (Python, Node.js, Clojure, Erlang, Rust).

I'm more of a problem-solver than a technologist; because I consider that software development is primarily a human activity, I place a high value on communication and knowledge sharing. I try to keep a business perspective in software discussions and provide technical insight to non-engineers.

I tend to assume a leadership role in the teams I integrate, leading by example and from experience rather than title.

I occasionally write about software on [my blog](#) and have published several Open-Source Software [projects](#).

Contact

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- Location: Buenos Aires, Argentina (GMT-3)

Selected writings

- [Code is run more than read](#)
- [Reclaiming the Web with a Personal Reader](#)
- [Squeezing the most out of the server: Erlang Profiling](#)
- [Rustenstein 3D: Game programming like it's 1992](#)

Selected projects

- [software-papers](#): a curated list of papers for software engineers.
- [rpg-cli](#): a command-line role-playing game written in Rust.
- [feedi](#): a personal news feed and mastodon client.
- [google-play-scraper](#): a node.js library to scrape app data from the Google Play store.

Education

Software Engineering @Universidad de Buenos Aires 2006 - 2013

6-year career program, similar to a master's degree. Focused on Sciences, Systems Programming and Software Design.

Graduate Advisor @Universidad de Buenos Aires 2020 - 2022

As a graduate member of the Curricular Commission I contributed to the design of the new Software Engineering career program.

Professional Experience

@Freelance

Software Engineering Consultant Mar 2024 - Present

Assist an early-stage startup building a data extraction service around Large Language Models.

#Python #Flask #LLMs #Azure

@[LambdaClass](#)

5 years 7 months

Staff Software Engineer Jul 2022 - Dec 2022

As a Staff Engineer I reported directly to the CEO. I provided technical leadership for about 20 people on a newly formed organization within the company. I started a Platform Team to support the rest of the organization and later led a distributed systems research and development effort.

#DistributedSystems #DevOps #Rust #Elixir #Terraform #AWS #Nomad

Senior Software Engineer @[NextRoll](#) Feb 2018 - Jul 2022

As part of the Real-time bidding team, I worked on design, development, maintenance and operation of the bidding service and its support systems. These were decade-old systems, deployed to 2000 servers across the world, with high traffic and low latency restrictions. Operations work included infrastructure set up, deploys, monitoring, and production incident handling.

I assumed informal leadership of the team during its growth from 4 to 13 engineers and collaborated in projects with internal and external stakeholders (Engineering, Product, Legal, Supply, Ad Exchanges, Service providers).

Some of the work efforts I led at NextRoll:

- Streamline and automate new exchange integrations, a process that went from a couple of months to a couple of weeks.
- Automate several periodic operational tasks, in particular reducing deploy time from 6 hours to 45 minutes.
- Modernize and decommission legacy systems.
- Implement a tool to assess canary deploy health from DataDog metrics, using Pandas.
- Profile and optimize the server performance with the specific goal of infrastructure cost savings.
- Redesign, prototype and future-proof systems in preparation for privacy-related changes in the Ad Tech industry.

#AdTech #DistributedSystems #DevOps #Erlang #Python #Elixir #JavaScript #PostgreSQL #AWS #Terraform #Datadog

Senior Software Engineer Jun 2017 - Feb 2018

As one of the first engineers to join the company, I divided my time between open-source projects and contractor work for one of the clients.

#Erlang #ClojureScript #WebRTC #Cassandra #PostgreSQL

@Mad Mobile

1 year 4 months

Senior Software Engineer Mar 2016 - Jun 2017

As part of the Core Services team, I designed and developed a Backend as a Service platform to support the mobile applications developed by the company. The platform, implemented by a set of microservices, provided integration with external services as well as support functionality like authentication, authorization, analytics and caching.

I led the development of some of the most complex features of the platform such as a decentralised system for environment migrations and On-Premise to Cloud communications through a cluster of Web Sockets.

#DistributedSystems #Microservices #Node.js #Clojure #MongoDB #RabbitMQ #ElasticSearch #Redis #socket.io

@TappedOut.net

10 months

Software Engineer Mar 2015 - Dec 2015

Software development for a MTG online community. In addition to the base web application, I implemented a companion Android app and a web-based draft simulator.

#Python #Django #Node.js #Redis #PostgreSQL #Neo4j #socket.io #ElasticSearch #JQuery #Android

@Globant

1 year 8 months

Tech Lead @National Geographic May 2013 - Dec 2014

As part of the Services Team, I designed and developed a set of RESTful services used by systems across the organization (CMS backend, authentication & authorization, taxonomy graph database). As the leader of a team of 4 engineers, I interviewed candidates, mentored new members of the team, scoped projects and acted as the technical touchpoint between the customer and the consultancy managers.

#Python #Django #DjangoRestFramework #ElasticSearch #Haystack #PostgreSQL #WSO2

@Freelance

2 years 11 months

Python/Django Developer Jul 2010 - May 2013

Full stack development of web applications for both local and US-based customers:

- FreeSwitch web controller and real-time call-center management. Deployed to SheevaPlug servers and integrated to USB LCD displays.
- Reverse auctions Facebook app with real-time interface updates. Facebook credits and PayPal integration.
- App Store catalog. Consumption of the Apple's Enterprise Partner Feed (Tables of 60+ millions of records). Caching, database and query optimizations.
- Digital Contracts management web application.
- Professional social network.

#Python #Django #MySQL #PostgreSQL #Solr #Haystack #Celery #RabbitMQ #Apache #nginx #JQuery

Java Developer Jan 2008 - Aug 2008

Development of Enterprise applications.

#Java #Hibernate #Spring #SpringMVC #Struts #MySQL

QA Analyst Feb 2007 - Dec 2007

Testing of web, desktop and mobile applications. Test cases design. Load testing with JMeter.