

Iggy de Villiers

Senior Software Engineer (MEng)

Contact

Utrecht
The Netherlands

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Languages

English (Fluent)
Afrikaans (Fluent)
Dutch (Conversational)

Programming Languages

♥ Golang, ♥ Java,
♥ Python, ♥ Ruby,
Kotlin, C, Javascript,
Bash, SQL

DevOps

Docker, Kubernetes,
Terraform, Site
Reliability Engineering
(SRE)

Cloud Experience

Amazon Web Services
(AWS), Google Cloud
Platform (GCP)

Main Technologies

MySQL, PostgreSQL,
NoSQL, MongoDB,
RDS, Redis, SQS,
SNS, HTTP, gRPC,
OpenAPI, Maven,
Gradle, Spring Boot,
Apache Tomcat,
Github, Gitlab,
Datadog, Prometheus,
Apache ZooKeeper

Date of Birth: 31 March 1994
Nationality: Dutch
Residency: The Netherlands

I'm a curious, enthusiastic, collaborative engineer with 7+ years of experience. I'm a lifelong learner and sharing knowledge is my thing. I have a passion for technology, people, and the processes that bring them all together. I have a strong strategic sense and I love solving complex problems with simple solutions, without compromising on the performance and scalability.

Education

2018 → 2021

MEng [cum laude] (Electronic Engineering)

University of Stellenbosch

Thesis: Nomad - A P2P Distributed Storage network for MMVEs

Development Stack:

- Java
- Python
- SQL
- gRPC
- OpenAPI Generator
- Mapstruct
- AWS
- Distributed hash tables (DHTs)
- Kubernetes
- Docker & Docker-compose
- Maven
- RocksDB
- MongoDB
- H2

2013 → 2016

BEng (Electronic & Electrical Engineering)

University of Stellenbosch

Dissertation: Mininet as a Network Emulator

This dissertation focused on measuring how accurately a network emulator (Mininet) can emulate network effects such as bandwidth limitation, packet loss, delay and jitter

2008 → 2012

National Senior Certificate

Empangeni High School

Matriculated with distinctions in:

Information technology, Physical Science, Accounting, Afrikaans First Language, English First Additional Language, Life Orientation

Experience

May 2025 → present

Senior Software Engineer @ Creative Fabrica

Amsterdam, The Netherlands

As the lead backend engineer in the Social team, I play a crucial role in designing and building Creative Fabrica's social platform. Working closely with senior leadership I help shape the architecture of the platform, ensuring that it provides a solid foundation for future services in this domain. I've helped the team improve performance, reduce resource usage and scale efficiently by applying solid system design principles, implementing performance assessments and running internal security reviews.

Furthermore, I Played a key role in Creative Fabrica's Core Services team, architecting and implementing a new Identity and Access Management (IAM) service that processes billions of requests daily, ensuring secure and efficient session management across the platform

Development Stack:

- Golang
- Kubernetes
- Docker
- Terraform
- gRPC
- ORY - Kratos
- AWS
- Kafka
- Event-Driven Systems
- Microservices
- PostgreSQL
- Redis
- GraphQL

Sept 2022 → May 2025

Senior Software Engineer @ WeTransfer

Amsterdam, The Netherlands

As a key player on the Sudo (Core Services) Team, I contributed to the architecture, implementation, and optimization of WeTransfer's storage, upload, and download services, affecting millions of users worldwide. Our team focused on decreasing storage costs, reducing carbon emissions, and improving upload & download performance and stability. Our services ensured users could upload, store and download (share) data efficiently and securely, maintaining WeTransfer's cost-efficiency, security, and sustainability standards.

Development Stack:

- Golang
- Ruby
- JavaScript & TypeScript
- Github (Actions)
- Event-Driven Systems
- Kubernetes
- Terraform
- AWS (ElasticCache, SQS, SNS, RDS)
- Datadog
- PagerDuty

Reference: Alan Pich (alan@obfu5c8.me / +447782763807)

Apr 2019 → Sep 2022

Software Engineer @ bol.com

Utrecht, The Netherlands

Data Science Team (Jun 2022 - Sep 2022)

Developed a marketing attribution pipeline and machine learning model using first-party data, improving reporting, budgeting, and affiliate payouts for the marketing department.

SEO Team (Apr 2019 - Jun 2022)

Developed high-performance SEO services to optimize web visibility through Google, emphasizing clean architecture and robust performance. Our team prioritized customer needs from webshop users to API consumers and search engine crawlers. We ensured all features met strict criteria for scalability, security, and future readiness in a rapidly growing e-Commerce environment managing hundreds of millions in revenue, leading technology adoption and architectural decisions across the company.

Development Stack:

- Java
- Kotlin
- Python
- Bash
- Groovy
- Spring-boot
- Cucumber
- Apache Beam / Apache Airflow
- Kubernetes
- Docker
- Maven
- GitLab
- Jenkins
- Prometheus
- Grafana
- Google Cloud Platform

Reference: Nathalie Neesen (nneesen@bol.com)

Sep 2017 → Mar 2019

Systems Developer @ Entersekt

Stellenbosch, South Africa

As a backend engineer at Entersekt, I worked with developers, QA engineers, and product owners to enhance security-focused products. Our team developed the Secure Gateway, enabling banks to implement push authentication for transactions. I developed and maintained AWS AMIs for cloud deployments and managed physical on-premise server setups, creating automation scripts to streamline installation and provisioning.

Development Stack:

- Java
- Bash
- Python
- Apache Cassandra
- Apache Tomcat
- AWS
- Docker
- Maven

Reference: Tertius Wessels (tertius.wessels@gmail.com)

Internships

Apr 2017 → Sep 2017

Engineering Intern @ Reutech Radar Systems

Stellenbosch, South Africa

Gained hands-on experience across diverse engineering challenges, including high-frequency design and installation, optical processing, solar tracking for PV solar panels, and applying systems engineering principles to large-scale projects.

Experience:

- Systems Engineering
- Professional report writing
- Python
- Data handling & processing
- Software Architecture Design
- Electronic hardware Design
- Firmware Development
- Radio-Frequency Design

Reference: Derick Thiart (dthiart@gmail.com)

Notable Projects

- (Creative Fabrica) Social Platform: Designed and built Creative Fabrica's social platform, enabling creators to connect, share, and collaborate, driving engagement and subscription.
- (Creative Fabrica) Scaled Clubhouses from 0 to 10,000 members within 1 month of launch.
- (Creative Fabrica) Identity and Access Management (IAM) Service: Architected and implemented a new Identity and Access Management (IAM) service that processes billions of requests daily, ensuring secure and efficient session management across the platform.
- (WeTransfer) WeGreen Initiative: Achieved a 15% reduction in total storage costs by co-creating the WeGreen initiative, which proposed changes to the default storage duration for transfers on WeTransfer. This initiative was later adopted company-wide.
- (WeTransfer) Content Scanning Application Optimization: Reduced Kubernetes cluster usage by nearly 20% and achieved significant cost savings by leading the re-implementation of a legacy Crystal-

based content scanning application to a Golang alternative. The original service was responsible for 40% of total cluster resource usage, which I identified while investigating failing requests.

Leadership & Social

- Founder of WeTransfer core-services Un-conference (2023-2024)
- WeTransfer Culture Champion (2024)
- Founder of bol.com Knowledge Nibbles (2020-2022)
- bol.com Fleet Meeting Committee (2019-2020)
- Entersekt Social Committee (2018)