

# Joshua Dawes

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## Education

2017-present **CERN, CMS Experiment & University of Manchester**  
**PhD Computer Science** - Automated Performance Analysis of Python Programs using Runtime Verification

Expected graduation - September 2020

Supervised by Dr Giles Reger (Manchester), Dr Giovanni Franzoni (CERN) and Dr Andreas Pfeiffer (CERN)

Developed theory and first implementation of what is, to the best of our knowledge, the first application of Runtime Verification in High Energy Physics.

Fulfilled publication quota (recommended by Manchester) of 4 papers 1 year and 10 months after beginning my PhD.

2013-2017 **University of Manchester**  
**BSc (Hons) Computer Science and Mathematics with Industrial Experience at CERN**

First Class Honours (80%) - top 10% of all Computer Science students

## Employment and Experience

at CERN

2015-2016 **13 Month Technical Studentship, CMS Experiment**  
Designed and implemented multiple systems (see *Projects and Research Output*). Work during this time led to my doctoral appointment at CERN.

at Manchester

2014 **Summer Student**  
Proposed a project, conducted research sessions and worked with another student to implement a game-based workshop to introduce primary school pupils to Computer Science.

## Projects and Research Output

### VyPR

A framework for automated performance analysis of Python programs, the main implementation output of my PhD. <http://cern.ch/vypr>.

Track record includes identification of performance bottlenecks in a critical service used at the CMS Experiment; preliminary applications to multiple other services; and inclusion in a Continuous Integration process to combine functional testing with performance analysis.

For theoretical contributions, see publications, talks and collaboration.

For this project, I coordinate work done by a Masters student (funded by CERN) and a PhD student (funded by CMS) to extend my PhD research.

### **CMS Alignment and Calibrations Consumption Framework**

An object-oriented framework in Python to facilitate consumption of CMS non-event data used during physics reconstruction. Includes an optimised version of a key service used by CMS, due for deployment during LHC Run 3 in 2021.

### **CMS Alignment and Calibrations Browser**

The prototype version of the application that is now used as the entry-point for management of non-event data at the CMS Experiment.

### **Profiling Tool for CMS Web Services**

A tool for profiling, efficient caching and subsequent plotting of performance data from CMS Web Services. This project led to my Doctoral appointment.

## Collaboration

### **Università della Svizzera italiana (USI)**

USI PhD student hosted at CERN to perform research for VyPR. First instance of long-term funding from the CMS Collaboration for work on VyPR and surrounding program analysis research.

## Awards

2017 **University of Manchester - Head of School of Computer Science Award**

Outstanding contribution to life in the School of Computer Science

2017 **University of Manchester - Certificate of Excellence**

Graduated in top 10% of Computer Science students

## Students Supervised

**Marta Han (Masters student)** - University of Zagreb

*CERN Technical Student 2020 - Development of a Web-based Analysis Tool for the VyPR Performance Analysis Framework*

*CERN Summer Student 2019 - Development of Analysis Tools for the VyPR Performance Analysis Framework*

**Jurgis Rancevas (Bachelors student)** - University of Vilnius

*Erasmus Student 2019 - Development of Automated Release Validation Infrastructure for the CMS Alignment and Calibrations Constants Release Service*

**Per Sunde (post-Bachelors student)** - University of Oslo

*CERN Summer Student 2018 - Timed Pushdown Automata for Offline Runtime Verification of Web Services*

## Technical Competences

Python - used for the last 5 years for multiple projects at CERN and personal projects, and in the last 3 years for development of the VyPR framework core.

Relational Databases - used consistently for the last 10 years at CERN and for personal projects.

Javascript (jQuery, Vue.js) - used for personal projects for the last 10 years and for some parts of the VyPR eco-system.

PHP - used for personal projects until 5 years ago.

Java, C and C++ - learned in classes during Bachelors.

## Languages

English - Mother Tongue, French - Conversational

## Publications

During PhD

- 2020 J H Dawes, M Han, O Javed, G Reger, G Franzoni, A Pfeiffer, **Analysing the Performance of Python-based Web Services with the VyPR Framework - Tutorial**, International Conference on Runtime Verification, Los Angeles, USA
- 2020 O Javed, J H Dawes, M Han, G Franzoni, A Pfeiffer, G Reger, W Binder, **PerfCI: A Toolchain for Automated Performance Testing during Continuous Integration of Python Projects - Tool Demo**, International Conference on Automated Software Engineering, Melbourne, Australia
- 2019 J H Dawes, G Reger, **Explaining Violations of Properties in Control-Flow Temporal Logic**, International Conference on Runtime Verification, Porto, Portugal
- 2019 J H Dawes, G Reger, G Franzoni, A Pfeiffer, G Govi, **VyPR2: A Framework for Runtime Verification of Python Web Services**, International Conference on Tools and Algorithms for the Construction and Analysis of Systems, Prague, Czech Republic
- 2019 J H Dawes, G Reger, **Specification of Temporal Properties of Functions for Runtime Verification**, ACM/SIGAPP Symposium on Applied Computing, Limassol, Cyprus
- 2019 J H Dawes, M Han, G Reger, G Franzoni, A Pfeiffer, **Analysis Tools for the VyPR Performance Analysis Framework for Python**, International Conference on Computing in High Energy and Nuclear Physics, Adelaide, Australia
- 2018 J H Dawes, G Reger, **Specification of State and Time Constraints for Runtime Verification of Functions**, arXiv

Before PhD

- 2016 J H Dawes, on behalf of the CMS Collaboration, **A Python object-oriented framework for the CMS alignment and calibration data**, International Conference on Computing in High Energy and Nuclear Physics, San Francisco, USA

## Talks

- October 2020** **RV 2020**, Los Angeles, USA  
Analysing the Performance of Python-based Web Services with the VyPR Framework - Tutorial
- November 2019** **CHEP 2019**, Adelaide, Australia  
Analysis Tools for the VyPR Framework for Python  
<http://jdawes.web.cern.ch/jdawes/talks/chep-2019.pdf>
- October 2019** **CMS Offline Software and Computing Week** - Fermilab, USA - video call, invited  
Automated Performance Analysis for Python with VyPR  
<http://jdawes.web.cern.ch/jdawes/talks/fermilab-2019.pdf>
- October 2019** **RV 2019**, Porto, Portugal  
Explaining Violations of Properties in Control-Flow Temporal Logic  
<http://jdawes.web.cern.ch/jdawes/talks/rv-2019.pdf>
- May 2019** **CERN Computing Seminar**, Geneva, Switzerland  
Part of the official CERN seminar series  
VyPR2: A Framework for Automated Performance Analysis of Python Programs  
<https://indico.cern.ch/event/805991/>

**April 2019 TACAS 2019**, Prague, Czech Republic

VyPR2: A Framework for Runtime Verification of Python Web Services

<http://jdawes.web.cern.ch/jdawes/talks/tacas.pdf>

**April 2019 University of Manchester Formal Methods Seminar**, Manchester, UK

VyPR2: A Framework for Automated Performance Analysis of Python Web Services

<http://cern.ch/jdawes/talks/Manchester-2019.pdf>