VATHANIEL JOHNSTON

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nathaniel-johnston.github.io

Education

University of Waterloo

Bachelor of Applied Science, Electrical Engineering

Sep. 2017 - Apr. 2022 CGPA 87.34%

Work Experience

Solutions Architecture Developer

May 2022 - Aug. 2022

BlackBerry Ltd.

- Worked as sole developer for a Syslog emulator to generate all types of BlackBerry Syslogs for test and demo use cases
- Designed a **Python** parser to convert Syslogs into JSON using a combination of RegEx and string method
- Developed systems using **Docker** so the code could be easily run on any computer
- Wrote multiple blog posts about BlackBerry technologies on BlackBerry's developer blog

Solutions Architecture Developer

Sep. 2021 - Dec. 2021

BlackBerry Ltd.

- Aided in design of **React.** is application, allowing users to automatically find security vulnerabilities in mobile apps
- Added and modified server side REST endpoints using Node.js
- Used React Native and Firebase to build an Android app to receive security threat notifications on remote devices
- Wrote a technical blog post on BlackBerry security APIs for BlackBerry's developer blog

Hardware Designer - Research Assistant

Jan. 2021 - Apr. 2021

Institute for Quantum Computing - University of Waterloo

- Used KiCad to complete schematic capture and layout of an RF power amplifier PCB for use in a quantum simulator
- Designed and simulated 3rd order maximally flat (Butterworth) radio frequency filters using LTspice
- Modelled 3D electronic and mechanical components using Autodesk Inventor
- Sourced components and wrote in depth guides and documentation

Motor Control Subteam Lead

Jul. 2019 - Apr. 2020

Waterloop Student Design Team

- Managed team of 6 students, taught important concepts, and supervised progress through weekly meetings
- Designed high power motor control board with 3-phase transistor inverter for linear induction motor
- Performed schematic capture and circuit board layout using Altium Designer and KiCad

Enterprise Solutions Developer - IoT

Sep. 2019 - Dec. 2019

BlackBerry Ltd.

- Sole designer and developer for proof of concept for smart security system
 - * Microcontroller used ultrasonic sensor and camera to detect motion and send video to Raspberry Pi via MQTT
 - * Used Node.js and Python on a Raspberry Pi to detect faces and send secure alerts to users via BlackBerry APIs
 - * System automatically disarmed when it detected a nearby familiar device or correct PIN was entered into keypad
- Wrote multiple technical articles on the BlackBerry developer blog
- Served as Subject Matter Expert on new BlackBerry REST API for both company partners and team members

Full Stack Developer

Jan. 2019 - Apr. 2019

Martello Technologies

- Used Java and PostgreSQL to update how company's licenses are distributed to customers
- Improved loading time of customer profile page by $\sim 90\%$ from over 60 seconds to less than 5 seconds
- Made and modified REST endpoints to optimize performance and improve code readability

Projects

Automatic Pill Dispenser and Health Tracker

- Worked as part of a team of 4 to build an automatic pill dispenser, health tracking wristband, and Android app
- Used KiCad to perform schematic capture and PCB layout of the wristband and dispenser
- Designed wristband to use Li-Po battery with micro-USB charging
- Wrote embedded firmware for ESP32 microcontrollers and incorporated IoT protocols for reliable communication

Technical Skills

Hardware: Altium Designer, KiCad, LTspice, NI Multisim, soldering, oscilloscope

Embedded: SPI, I2C, UART, CAN, ESP32, Arduino, Raspberry Pi, TI Launchpad

Languages: Python, C, C++, JavaScript, Java, Matlab, SQL

Other: Linux, Git, Node.js, React.js, REST, Android Studio, Firebase, MQTT, Docker, Autodesk Inventor