ricardokirkner

msc in computer science

General information

Age	30
Nationalities	Argentinian, German
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Education

1998 - 2007 **MSc in Computer Science**, *Facultad de Ciencias Exactas y Naturales, Universidad de Buenos Aires*, Buenos Aires, Argentina.

1997 **Deutsches Abitur** - **German High School**, *Goethe Schule Buenos Aires*, Buenos Aires, Argentina.

1991 - 1996 **Bachillerato Nacional Bilingüe en Ciencias y Humanidades con Orientación Científica** - **High School**, *Goethe Schule Buenos Aires*, Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Work Experience

January 2009 - present **Technical Leader**, *Globant (www.globant.com)*.
Working as a contractor for Active Broadband Networks. In charge of leading a team of people developing a system for collecting large volumes of data from cablemodem devices in order to gather usage statistics for a whole network. The current implementation is deployed in the Comcast network, handling around 17 million cablemodem devices. Due to the sheer amount of data involved, several ad-hoc solutions had to be developed in order to manage this data while still complying to performance and hardware requirements, and being able to provide a rich dataset for performing deeper analysis on the stored data.

July 2008 - January 2009 **Senior Software Engineer**, *Globant (www.globant.com)*.
Worked as a contractor for Yahoo!. Designed and developed the UI for an internal application for the Sponsored Search Management System. One of the challenges faced was the integration between the application and Yahoo!'s internal bug management system.
Worked as a contractor for Google. Designed and developed the UI for a VoIP application intended to serve as a high-performance and scalable PBX. The initial requirement was for the application to handle up to 10K simultaneous SIP connections with a foreseen demand for up to 100K. The system would be used worldwide across several locations, in a distributed fashion.

December 2007 - July 2008 **Project Manager**, *EasyTech (www.easytech.com.ar)*.
Designed and lead the development of a system for taking the Buenos Aires city's Driver's Licence exam. This system would be used by roughly 1500 persons each day. Also designed and lead the development of an application for creating and editing print-media products while off-line, for a major chilean web-based company.

February 2005 - September 2006 **Python Web Developer (Plone)**, *EuskoSare (www.euskosare.org)*.
Designed and developed a four-language multilingual web portal on top of the Plone CMS, with a completely redesigned interface; the multilingual system was novel in that it would present content to the user in several languages simultaneously, according to each user's personal preferences. Also designed and implemented a news gathering system that would screen-scrape several news sites and then integrate the gathered content into the portal, so that it could be searched like any other user generated content.

June 2001 - May 2005	**System and Network Administrator**, *Facultad de Ciencias Exactas y Naturales, Universidad de Buenos Aires*.
	Was in charge of managing the whole network infrastructure for the university; this included installing and administering web-, mail-, ldap- and file-servers, as well as routers, both hardware devices, like Cisco routers, and custom built GNU/Linux boxes working as routers. Also dealt with monitoring and ensuring availability of all these services. Some achievements include setting up an anti-spam mail filtering system that filtered 40000 spam emails daily, and setting up a single sign on infrastructure using OpenLDAP and Kerberos for simplifying granting access to the different servers to faculty members.
June 2000 - December 2000	**Web Developer (PHP)**, *Nexitel*.

Languages

Spanish	**Native**
German	**Native**
English	**Advanced**

Language Certificates

1996	**Deutsches Sprachdiplom Zweite Stufe**, *Kultusministerkonferenz (German State) by means of Goethe Schule Buenos Aires*, Buenos Aires, Argentina.
1995	**Certificate of Proficiency in English**, *The University of Michigan*, MI, USA.

Operating Systems

- GNU/Linux (Debian, Ubuntu, ArchLinux, RedHat, Fedora, Slackware, Gentoo)
- OpenBSD

Programming Languages

Advanced Skills	Python, Java, JavaScript, C, C++, Perl, Bash, SQL, HTML, PHP, Flex, ActionScript
Medium Skills	C#, Visual Basic, QuickBasic
Basic Skills	Assembler, Haskel, Prolog, Smalltalk, Pascal

Software

Advanced Skills	Sendmail, Apache, MySQL, PostgreSQL, Named/Bind, Perdition, Mailman, Nagios, LaTeX
Medium Skills	Postfix, Exim, Dovecot, Courier-IMAP, NTP, MRTG, Monit, OpenLDAP
Basic Skills	Kerberos, Zebra

Activities

2005 - present	**Member**, *Python Argentina - PyAr (www.python.com.ar)*.
2002 - present	**Member**, *Vocal Sospir (www.sospir.com.ar)*.

Research

2008	**Research**, *On the possibilities of using previous knowledge in the form of Behaviour Trees in order to speed up Q-learning*.
	Currently in progress.
2006	**Research**, *Reinforcement Learning in Self-reconfigurable Modular Robots*.
2005	**Survey**, *State of the Art in the field of Self-reconfigurable Modular Robots*.

Publications

March 2007 — **Master Thesis**, *Reinforcement Learning on Self-reconfigurable Modular Robots*, Facultad de Ciencias Exactas y Naturales, Universidad de Buenos Aires.
The full document is available upon request.

Open Source Projects

September 2008 — **0AI: Team entry at Pyweek #7**, *(pyweek.org)*.
Implemented the AI for our game 0AI.

2008 — **reply**, *(reply.googlecode.com)*.
A reinforcement learning library written in python.

March 2008 — **Robo-T2: Team entry at Pyweek #6**, *(pyweek.org)*.
Implemented the AI for our game Robo-T2.

2006 - 2007 — **MrSim: M-TRAN Robot Simulator**.
The source code for this simulator is available upon request.

References

Available upon request.