

Sett Wai

SOFTWARE ENGINEER · POLYGLOT PROGRAMMER

Cape Town, South Africa

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Summary

Software engineer with 8+ years professional experience in a diverse range of projects, technologies, domains and teams, all over the world. While initially pursuing an interest in game development, a strong inclination for learning all things tech and a series of good opportunities allowed Sett to grow into a competent software development generalist and consultant. A good intuition and keen interest in systems (both technical and social) led him to his current role in the Science & Engineering sector.

Passionate about Continuous Delivery, Open Source and the developer experience. Cares deeply about craftsmanship and meaningful work.

Skills

Languages	Python, Shellscript, Go, JavaScript
Messaging & Data	RabbitMQ, Kafka, ZeroMQ, PostgreSQL, MySQL/MariaDB, MongoDB, Elasticsearch
DevOps	Jenkins, GoCD, ConcourseCI, Vagrant, Docker, Ansible, Kubernetes, OpenShift, ELK
Software Engineering	Continuous Delivery, Distributed Systems, Microservices, Infrastructure as Code, Legacy, Domain Driven Design
Practices	Automation, TDD, Pair Programming, Refactoring, CI/CD
Dabbles in...	Elm, Prolog, Haskell
Natural Languages	English, Afrikaans, Burmese

Experience

South African Radio Astronomy Observatory (NRF)

Cape Town, South Africa

SOFTWARE ENGINEER

Jan 2019 - Present

- Analysis, solutioning and implementation of improvements to build and deployment of the MeerKAT radio telescope's control system by applying Continuous Delivery and release engineering (Python/Fabric, Ansible, Jenkins, Docker)
- Contributing to planning and implementation of the international Square Kilometre Array radio telescope project pre-construction phase as part of an Agile team (Python, Kubernetes)

Independent Contractor/Self-employed

Johannesburg, South Africa

TECHNICAL CONSULTANT

May 2018 - Dec 2018

- Development of an SDK for small media & game development company's new interactive technology product/platform (JavaScript, NodeJS)
- Software development piecemeal working under FoldLeft Consulting for undisclosed client. (Java, Apache Kafka)

ThoughtWorks, Inc.

South Africa, Uganda, USA, Brazil,
Kenya

CONSULTANT/SENIOR/LEAD DEVELOPER

Apr 2013 - Dec 2017

- Built a project team and laid technical foundations, practices and software delivery approach to replace legacy corporate banking integration in large SA bank (Spring Cloud, OpenShift) - 7 months
- Pursued and led the development of an app for securities trading over USSD in Kenya (ASP.NET Core) - 3 months
- Implement new features and improvements, working with a large team creating a flagship Point Of Sale (POS) platform for large US retailer (iOS WebView, AngularJS, Spring, Microservices) - 11 months
- Assisted in technical approach and the development of a greenfield Counter Human-Trafficking system in Uganda (DropWizard, bespoke front-end) - 3 months
- Provided technical leadership on an Anti-counterfeit Medicine verification system over SMS, deployed across Africa (Django, RabbitMQ, MongoDB) - 14 months
- Contributor to OpenStack testing framework for large ISP in the US, as member of a Quality Engineering team (Python) - 6 months

Alacrity Technologies (Pty) Ltd

Johannesburg, South Africa

INTERN/JUNIOR DEVELOPER

May 2011 - Oct 2012

- Built a prototype mobile web app for booking boardrooms (Play! framework, BackboneJS)
- Maintained/extended legacy ASP.NET (VB.NET) application for training fund trustees at a large financial services company. Introduced version control and modern web development practices there.
- Sole developer of online web portal and mobile web app to allow customers to view their pension fund statements online for above-mentioned company (ASP.NET MVC4, JQuery Mobile)

Education

UP (University of Pretoria)

Pretoria, South Africa

B.IS (MULTIMEDIA)

Feb 2006 - Apr 2010

- A combination of Computer Science and Software Engineering core modules with additional focus on Web & Multimedia, Visual Design, Human-Computer Interaction, Game Development.

Publications

- [Pre-publication] S. Wai, "Toward Continuous Delivery Of A Nontrivial Distributed Software System", in Pre-Proceedings, 17th Biennial International Conference on Accelerator and Large Experimental Physics Control Systems (ICALEPCS 2019): New York, NY, USA, October 5-11, 2019, WESH2003.

Miscellaneous

- volunteering** Involved in teaching and mentoring younger developers on a frequent basis through meetups and codeschool organisations.
- hobbies** mountain biking, photography.