Email: willemvanhulle@protonmail.com willemvanhulle.tech Mobile: $+32\ 479\ 080\ 252$

EXPERIENCE

OTIV (Remote operation of semi-autonomous rail vehicles)

Ghent, Belgium

Mid-level software engineer (Rust, Python)

Apr. 2024 - current

- o Distributed systems: Work on a system to operate freight trains remotely. Create a dynamic presence detection system. Create an internal asynchronous iterator / stream toolkit. Create a crucial connectivity monitoring systems that can react to connection loss and engage emergency breaking. Manage real-time audio- and video-streams through GStreamer and WebRTC.
- o Developer tools: Smooth out integration between the Rust language-server and the Bazel build system. Lead transition from Bazel to the Cargo build system for one team. Write CI/CD pipelines from scratch. Reduced run-time of existing CI pipelines up to 95 %.
- Mentorship: Organised trainings on parts of the Rust programming language that are lacking in documentation. Performed thorough code reviews and coached junior colleagues.
- o Tests: Write extensive unit tests for new and existing software modules. Implement integration tests based on requirements given by railway companies.
- o Native GUI: Co-create several immersive, multi-monitor, native user-interfaces. Implement widgets representing streamed data tables. Create a geographical map widget with highlighted train routes in Rust and Slint.
- Embedded: Write software modules interfacing with real physical controls of trains such as custom touch-screens, toggles and traction/breaking levers, running on Linux.

Inbiose (Microbial production of speciality carbohydrates)

Ghent, Belgium

Software engineer (Rust, Python, C, R, Typescript, HTML, SCSS)

June 2021 - January 2024

- o Micro-biotechnology: Learn science behind cellular cloning of e. coli. bacteria, used for producing sugars with special health benefits. Learn process of fermentation and down-stream processing with ion-exchange and membrane filtering. Get involved in lab activities with lab workers, operators and researchers.
- Web-development: Create graphical web-based data collection procedure and application for the down-stream processing department. Create accompanying simple time-series and data-grid visualisation widgets with Syelte. Introduce TypeScript as a tool for creating large web applications.
- Bio-informatics: Implement property-based unit tests in Python to verify correctness of batch operations on internal, proprietary genetic data. Extend and maintain internal tools for bio-informatics.
- Embedded systems: Supported creation of industrial small-scale microbial fermentation robots. Interfaced with legacy hardware (more than 25 years old) and modern optical industrial sensors. Transitioned from Python to asynchronous Rust.
- Data modelling: Analyse and model internal scientific processes. Model and construct scientific databases in PostgreSQL. Use graph-oriented databases such as Neo4j.
- Mentorship: Assist electronics engineers in optimising internal embedded C programs for Arduino and ESP32 micro-controllers.

CVO (Adult and refugee high-school)

Leuven, Belgium

Mathematics guest lecturer (Python, LATEX)

Sept. 2020 - Jan. 2021

Major Professional Projects

Emergency breaking mechanism

OTIV

Distributed, peer-to-peer systems, back-end (Rust)

Sept. 2024 - Mar. 2025

- Heartbeat monitor: Detects whether the connection between a remote human operator and a semi-autonomous freight train is still normal.
- Stream aggregator: Initialise incoming (and outgoing) pub-sub, TCP data streams for assigned freight trains. Aggregate the streams, detect connection loss, initiate emergency breaking mechanism. Findings on personal blog.

Fermentation robot

Robotics, automation (Python, Rust, C)

Oct. 2023 - April 2024

- Serial communication abstraction layer: Create a high-level and safe serial API in Rust for operating essential components for a fermentation robot. Implemented thorough error detection and propagation.
- Fermentation process manager: Add nutrients and chemicals throughout a 48h biological process for growing e. coli. bacteria. Detect anomalies and stabilise with PID-control.

Inbiose

Collaborative software, UX, UI design (Typescript, Svelte, SQL, HTML, SCSS)

Apr. 2023 - Feb. 2024

- o Distributed data-frames: Distributed, database-backed, persisted data-grid.
- Spreadsheet interface: Interactive co-operative table view for lab workers to enter chemical process data with columns grouping and multiple cell types, similar to a restricted version of Google Docs.

Hobby Projects

- Splitting data streams (Rust): Created a functional asynchronous Rust combinator to split data streams / asynchronous iterators. Run-time agnostic and fully tested. Intended to be used with many, simultaneous splits. Built with low-level asynchronous primitives such as Waker, Poll and Pin. Available as a public Rust crate.
- Smart plant pot workshop: Organise and co-lead a workshop on creating a smart plant pot watering system with a Raspberry Pi Pico / ESP32c6, Rust and async Embassy. Integrated USB serial communication and debugging (with JTAG or hardware debug probes), analogue sensing and wireless network notifications. Event at MeetUp.

SPOKEN LANGUAGES

- English, Dutch: Native.
- French, German: Intermediate.

Programming languages

- Rust: Advanced (2 years). Specialized in complex trait bounds and creating performant asynchronous combinators from scratch. Frameworks used: Axum (web server), Embassy and Tokio (asynchronous runtimes), Zenoh (publish-subscribe), Serde (serialization), Statig (state machines), Prost (protobuf). Limited experience with embedded HALs.
- Coq, Agda, Haskell: Intermediate (3 years). Used several proof-assistants for formal mathematics (topology) / systems software verification. Following up recent developments in free-time.
- HTML, SASS, TypeScript, JavaScript, SQL: Advanced (3 years). Express.js back-end, Svelte(Kit) front-end.
- **Python**: Advanced (6 years). Bio-informatics with BioPython. End-to-end UI testing. Used property-based testing with Hypothesis (fuzzer).

EDUCATION

KU Leuven, Belgium

Preparation program and Master of Science in Theoretical Physics (terminated early)

Sep. 2019 - April 2021

- Completed courses: Statistical mechanics, data mining and neural networks, thermodynamics, analytical mechanics, electrodynamics.
- Volunteering roles: Guide for international students.

KU Leuven, Belgium

Master of Science in Pure Mathematics (Eng.), thesis on functional progr. lang.

Sep. 2017 - June 2019

- Completed courses: Algebra, analysis, discrete mathematics, differential geometry, unified geometry, topology.
- Volunteering roles: Coordinator of Groot-Begijnhof Leuven student association.

VUB Brussels, Belgium

Bachelor of Science in Mathematics, Minor Computer Science, thesis on unsupervised learning Sep. 2013 - Aug. 2017

- Completed courses: Functional programming, algorithms and data-structures, logic, analysis, algebra, philosophy, geometry.
- Student job: Mathematics tutor.

Hobbies

- Community founder: Founder of "Systems Programming Ghent" (sysghent.be): organise networking events, in-depth talks and workshops in Ghent about systems programming languages such as Rust and C++.
- Play with electronical components: Order development boards and assemble simple electronical circuits with simple sensors. Some experience with ARM and RISC-V boards such as ESP32c6, Arduino Uno (AVR), Raspberry Pico (RP2040).
- Visit developer conferences: I go to the developer conferences in Europe to meet colleagues and share my passion.