

SAMUEL GIFFARD

📍 Almere, The Netherlands 🇫🇷 French

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🔗 Python Trainer, Engineer & Evangelist

📁 WORK EXPERIENCES

Since March 2024 Senior Software Engineer (Python, FastAPI, MySQL) Amsterdam – Netherlands

In **myTomorrows**'s backend team:

- + Tech Lead for EAP: led architecture and delivery of a scalable BE platform for internal ops and future SaaS
- + Designed reusable BE architecture adopted globally; validated as top-rated BE system in audit
- + Led CI/CD and quality overhaul (test sharding, isolation, ...), improving reliability, security, feedback cycles
- + Mentored engineers; contributed to multiple promotions and increased team autonomy
- + Built new backend hiring pipeline; conducted 30+ interviews improving hiring efficiency
- + Led trunk-based migration and standardized workflows (pre-commit, tooling, conventions)
- + Greatly modernized the stack, reducing technical debt and improving maintainability
- + Established documentation-first culture with automated docs, improving onboarding and collaboration

March 2023 - Dec. 2023 Senior Software Engineer (Python, Fedora, PG, MySQL) Amsterdam – Netherlands

In **Aiven**'s Product team responsible for PostgreSQL / MySQL.

Feb. 2022 - Feb. 2023 Software Engineer (Python, FastAPI, Docker, Hiring) Amsterdam – Netherlands

- + In **Picnic**'s Python Platform (Middleware), creation of libraries, tools, and processes.
- + Within the hiring team, I interviewed, reviewed and hired Python talents, and greatly improved the hiring process.

April 2021 - Dec. 2021 PM & Senior Software Engineer (Py, PHP, n8n, R-Pi, Bubble) Kitakyūshū – Japan

SaaS Project Manager (Coworking Spaces) at **HOA**. IoT facial recognition project.

Feb. 2018 - May 2019 DevOps (Python, Jenkins, Groovy, GCP, PowerShell, Docker) Ghent – Belgium

Promotion of software quality across **Around Media**.

- + Jenkins & Google CP to pipeline 1200+ UE4 builds, releases, migration of assets, VM backups & cloning.
- + Creation of <https://github.com/Mulugruntz/jam> to save 500€+ / GCE instance monthly.

April 2017 - Jan. 2018 Software Engineer (Python, Django, MariaDB, Postgres, Docker) Hasselt – Belgium

MVP Developer for **Unleashed** (mobile telco) in a Kanban + Squad environment.

Since July 2016 Independent Python Contractor Nice Area – France

Private financial market project. Python & Django missions. Python trainer for **AlterWay**, St Cloud, France.

Feb. 2016 - June 2016 IT Engineer (Java, Python, R-Pi, Angular) Sophia Antipolis – France

Lightning Project at **PwC** (IoT & B2B, Raspberry Pi): BE/FE and distributed systems (REST, XMPP, DTMF)

Nov. 2015 - Feb. 2016 IT Engineer (PHP, Java, C++, Linux) Nice Area – France

Classified project for **Airbus D&S**, through Antyas. It involved, among others, SPOT satellites' image processing.

Oct. 2012 - July 2015 IT Engineer (C++, Python, Sqlite, Oracle) Nice Area – France

In Data Replication team within **Amadeus**' Middleware department. Mainly focused on R&D, I worked on:

- + performance improvements (network, database, algorithms).
- + data replication over thousands of nodes (static and highly dynamic data).
- + abstract types bridging Oracle \rightleftharpoons C++ \rightleftharpoons Sqlite \rightleftharpoons Python.
- + scripting for prototyping and automation (storage, retrieval, backup, cleanup).
- + XML export pipelines with XSLT/XSD generation supporting multiple schema versions.
- + legacy migration (IBM TPF \rightarrow C++ OBE) and creation of novel transliteration algorithms (Hepburn).

May 2012 - Aug. 2012 MSc Dissertation (Python/Django, JS, HTML5/CSS3, \LaTeX) Edinburgh – Scotland

Summer 2011 Freelance (PHP, JS, HTML5/CSS3) Montauban – France

Creation of the website www.qualigraphie.com, and of its custom modular CMS. Visuals provided by the client.

Oct. 2010 - May 2011 Honours Project (PHP, JS, HTML/CSS) Aberdeen – Scotland

Feb. - May 2009 Observation placement in Middle School (Technology) Montauban – France

June - Aug. 2008 Internship (PHP, JS, HTML/CSS) Toulouse – France

Oct. - Nov. 2007 IT Maintenance for **CROUS de Toulouse** (public establishment) Toulouse – France

SKILLS

Languages

- + **French:** native, **English:** bilingual, **Spanish:** ≈B1, **Russian:** A2, **Dutch:** ≈A2, **Japanese:** ≈A1

Computer

- + **Concepts:** Architecture, Multimedia, Security, Relational Databases, Distributed & Advanced Databases, High-Performance Computing, Object-Oriented, Complexity, Hadoop, Continuous Integration / Deployment
- + **Software:** Oracle, PyCharm, Eclipse, Xcode, PDB, GDB, Valgrind, Adobe (Dw, Ps, Sb, Fl), git, Jenkins
- + **Languages:** **Python**, FastAPI, Django, **C/C++**, Linux BASH, MySQL, SQLite, **Oracle PL/SQL**, EdgeDB, Objective-C (iOS), JAVA, ARM, OpenGL (Glut), \LaTeX , JS, jQuery, PHP, HTML/CSS, Bubble.io

Leadership

- + Elected twice as President of ASSERP, the Student Association in Ponsan-Bellevue (Toulouse – France). I coordinated the management of over ten societies, each with their own president
- + Head Judge for the international game *Magic: The Gathering* in Nice – France
- + Lead several group projects to their completion and success

Communication

- + In Amadeus, supervised interns for three months on Django and for six months on Node.js / Aria Template.
- + Judge for *MTG*. Most of the tournaments had over 120 players and last for over 14 hours
- + Worked as part of customer facing teams in Pizzerias, Restaurants, Tea house
- + Led training courses for students in school: Technology in Middle School, Montauban – France
- + Led campus tours at RGU, Aberdeen – Scotland

ACHIEVEMENTS

- April 18, 2018 Python Challenge Europe 2018 **Winner Pro** (by Cisco, EDITx, ECAM)
- July 15, 2011 Graduated as **Valedictorian** 2010-2011
- July 1, 2011 Awarded the **Nexen Prize** for the highest academic achievement

EDUCATION

- 2011 - 2012 MSc Computer Science University of Edinburgh – Scotland
 - + **MSc Computer Science with Distinction** in Computer Systems, Software Engr. and High Perf. Computing
- 2009 - 2011 BSc (Hons) Computer Science Robert Gordon University – Scotland
 - + **First-class Bachelor with Honours** in Computing for Internet and Multimedia
- 2008 - 2009 Licence 3 Informatique Fondamentale Toulouse III (Université Paul Sabatier) – France
 - + Equivalent: third year of BSc, Fundamentals in Computer Science
- 2007 - 2008 **DUT Informatique** (equiv. HND Computing) IUT “A” – Toulouse III – France
 - + Two-year University degree in Computer Science, in one intensive year (called “Année Spéciale”)
- 2006 - 2007 CPGE TSI Lycée Jean-Baptiste Dumas – Alès – France
 - + Preparation for national competitive French “Grandes Écoles”, specializing in Mathematics and Physics
- 2006 Baccalauréat (equiv. A-Levels), in Electronics Lycée Antoine Bourdelle – Montauban – France
 - + **Bac STI Génie Électronique mention Bien** (top 10%, ~ with Honours)

MISCELLANEOUS

- French driving license
- TOEFL iBT** (June 25, 2011): **107/120** (Reading 23/30, Listening 27/30, Speaking 29/30, Writing 28/30)

HOBBIES

- Dev, weightlifting (5 years), Go, MahJong MCR, boardgames, traveling, baking, hitchhiking, cultural exchanges

REFEREES

- Professor Fan Wenfei wenfei-at-inf.ed.ac.uk <http://homepages.inf.ed.ac.uk/wenfei>
- Dr. Niccolo Capanni niccolo-at-capanni.co.uk <http://www.linkedin.com/in/capanni>