Kseniia Popletneva

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Software Engineer, skilled in quality assurance, developing test automation of REST APIs using Python/ Pytest and debugging complex systems. Background in networking and low-level systems. Demonstrated ability to work independently on complex projects. Strong collaborator in cross-functional agile teams deeply committed to product quality. I bring a good blend of technical expertise, problem-solving skills and a growth mindset.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- **Programming Languages & Scripting:** Python, SQL, bash
- **AI Integrations:** Prompt engineering, applying AI tools (ChatGPT) to support QA and dev workflows
- **Continuous Integration and Continuous Delivery & Version Control:** Jenkins, Git, GitLab, GitHub
- **Cloud Services & Virtualization:** Google Cloud Platform (GCP), Amazon Web Services (AWS), VMware ESXi, Docker, Kubernetes, Infrastructure as Code (IaC), Software as a Service (SaaS)
- **Frameworks:** PyTest
- **Data Formats & Protocols:** TCP/IP Networking, HTTP, REST API, JSON, XML, HTML
- **Tools & Platforms:** Linux, Linux command line, Wireshark, Postman, Jmeter, JIRA, Confluence, TestRail
- **Methodologies:** Agile/Scrum
- **Team Leadership skills:** Proven ability in mentoring junior engineers and engineering teams.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Niako Labs, Self-Employed (https://niako.net)

Software Engineer, Nov 2023 – Present | Portland, OR

- Project: Building a "Helicopter ChairFly Trainer" app, applying PySide6, MVC architecture, and structured testing to ensure usability and long-term maintainability.
- Test Automation: Developed pytest-based automation framework for a PySide6 application, including GUI tests with pytest-qt and structured fixtures, enhancing reliability.
- CI/CD and DevOps: Implemented GitHub Actions CI pipeline from scratch to run automated tests across Python versions and operating systems, with caching optimization for faster builds.
- Project Docs: Authored clear technical documentation to support project sustainability.
- Continuous Learning: Earned Google IT Automation with Python (2025), Google AI Essentials (2024) & other certifications.

Professional & Personal Development, Nov 2021 – Nov 2023 | Portland, OR

- Completed helicopter pilot training and earned PPL, gaining direct experience with operational safety and human factors, strengthening adaptability, critical thinking and precision under pressure.

F5 Networks

Senior Test Engineer, Jan 2016 - Nov 2021 | San Jose, CA (On-site & Remote)

- Ensured QA of WAF features in a fast-paced environment, including functional requirements and code reviews, managing test data, test planning and execution according use cases, performance testing, functional and security testing, building automation, providing reports, pre and post-production support.

- Contributed to improving existing Robot and PyTest test automation frameworks to support WAF features and allow better reliability and scalability throughout the software development lifecycle (SDLC) within an Agile environment.
- Designed and developed test automation to verify that product meets quality standards and business requirements. That reduced manual testing effort by 40%, cut total regression cycle time by 30% and streamlined the software release process, improving performance and return on investment (ROI).
- Collaborated with cross-functional teams in San Jose and Tel Aviv on test coverage and code coverage analysis, improving automation efficiency by 30%, boosting end-to-end coverage by 15% and removing redundant tests.
- Mentored remote QA engineering team in manual and automated testing of BIG-IQ, fostering knowledge sharing and a supportive, collaborative culture through strong interpersonal skills, effective verbal and written communication skills, positive attitude and teamwork.

Test Engineer II/ III, Oct 2013 - Aug 2015 | Tomsk, Russia

- Led functional, user interface (UI), user experience (UX), regression and integration testing of BIG-IQ WAF security policies and RESTful Service under tight deadlines as the sole QA engineer, working closely with product development and product management to ensure alignment with business, functional and technical requirements.
- Maintained technical documentation, wrote and executed detailed test strategies and test cases with clear traceability to requirements and technical design documents. Identified testing issues, reproduced, tracked and verified bug fixes, analyzed test results to help resolve issues in a timely manner.
- Used basic SQL queries, basic JavaScript, custom scripts, Postman, JMeter, curl and telnet during test process, with traffic analysis done via Wireshark and tcpdump.
- Documented lots of WAF security violations in Confluence to support continuous improvement, with the resource later adopted across teams.
- Nominated for the internal 'High Five' award for delivering exceptional results within defined project scope while meeting deadlines.

Early Career Roles

IT Specialist, Network Administrator, IT Helpdesk Technician, Sep 2010 - Oct 2013 | Tomsk, Russia

- Gained hands-on experience in shell scripts, troubleshooting, debugging, network protocols, networking technologies, system setup, server rack buildup, firmware updates and infrastructure support.
- Gained working knowledge of Linux and Microsoft-based computer systems, their command lines and managing multiple operating systems.
- Supported end-users by diagnosing and resolving software, hardware, and network issues, cultivating a customer-oriented attitude and attention to quality that continue to shape my engineering work.
- Reinforced and expanded experience in hands-on lab environments, working with MATLAB, signal generators, diagnostic equipment (oscilloscopes, multimeters), electronic devices and soldering techniques gained during electrical engineering academic training.

EDUCATION

MS in Information Technology, Systems Engineering, Sep 2011 - Aug 2013 | Tomsk State University, Russia
BS, MS in Engineering, Quality Assurance, Sep 2005 – Jun 2011 | Tomsk Polytechnic University, Russia
CMPR.X416. (816). Python for programmers, 2018 | UCSC Silicon Valley Extension, Santa Clara, CA