Kurt Wall

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Qualifications

- 11 years' experience analyzing and testing hardware and software in automated CI/CD settings using Jenkins, Travis or bespoke test harnesses.
- Competent in analysis, test plan/case design, automation, and manual validation in high-volume, large-matrix automated testing environments.
- 25 years' experience with shell; 4 years in Ruby; 1 year with Javascript; currently learning Python. Past programming experience includes C, C#, Clojure, JavaScript, Lisp, Perl, PHP, Tcl/Tk, Pascal, WFL (Algol derivative).
- Experienced using DocBook, SGML, HTML, XML, and CSS for document creation and markup.
- Strong written and verbal skills. Author of all or part of 10 books on Linux-related sysadmin and development topics.
- Candid, willing to change my mind, open to taking risks, acquainted with failure

Senior QA Test Engineer, Mercy Corps (Jan 2018-pres)

- Built the first functional test suites and supporting libraries for TolaActivity, a Web-based program management tool used by Mercy Corps and other NGOs to administer their programs at the HQ and local levels. Wrote the test suite in Javascript (ES6), Node, Selenium WebDriver, and WebdriverIO, a test framework for Node and Selenium.
- Selected the test framework, the language in which tests would be written, libraries, and frameworks, and bootstrapped approximately 150 test cases. Requirements were obtained from user stories documented in Git and a one-week analysis of the TolaActivity UI. I used JSDoc decorators in the test libraries and page objects to enable auto-generated API documentation for other test writers to use when writing their own tests.
- Rewrote the application README completely to match the actual process required to set up Tola Activity and its development environment. I wrote a test suite-specific README that described how to set up and run the tests.

Senior SDET, Puppet (Aug 2013-Jun 2017)

- Performed analysis, design, implementation, execution, and reporting of testing efforts for Puppet's software.
- Worked as a peer member of Puppet and Puppet Server feature teams. Attended scrums, standups, planning and grooming meetings, retrospectives, and participated in other agile rituals.

- Wrote and submitted patches Puppet and Puppet Server. Reviewed and merged pull requests from other team members.
- Developed, maintained, and tracked test plans using TestRail.
- Wrote and updated automated tests across multiple products using Ruby, shell, and Clojure.
- Monitored Jenkins CI for failures and errors. Reproduced incoming bugs, validated fixed bugs, identified regressions by bisecting commits (git and github).

Senior GPGPU QA Engineer, NVIDIA (Nov 2007-Jun 2013)

- Supporting and maintained testing environment for developer-written tests all levels.
- Automated CUDA driver and SDK testing to validate functionality on Linux, Windows, and OS X in a bespoke test harness.
- Built, extended, and maintained test harness. Tools used were PostgreSQL database; SQL to access the database; and shell and Perl scripts to execute the tests, parse the results, and load the database.
- Developed automated test reports using SQL embedded in shell scripts, PHP, and/or Perl.
- Triaged nightly test results, reproduced errors for debugging, and performed regression analysis. Primary tools included the test harness, Perforce, NVBugs (in-house bug tracker).
- Provided remote and on-site training support for Shanghai-based QA team.
- Wrote test to verify IEEE-754 compliance of single- and double-precision operations on Tesla GPGPUs. Wrote in C, executed in shell and Perl scripts, results stored in a MongoDB database.

Level 3 Technical Support Engineer, Panasas (May 2005-Oct 2007)

- Provided 3rd level technical support for a high-performance, parallel, distributed NAS storage product.
- Identified defective parts or systems and diagnosed hardware and software bugs. Tools used included an in-house Bugzilla; a Tcl-based CLI on deployed systems; Perl-, Tcl- and shell-based utilities, MySQL, and SQL.

Customer Support Engineer, TimeSys (May 2004-May 2005)

- Helped build TimeSys LinuxLink, a Web-based developer portal based on Zope and Python. Provided customers access to TimeSys-maintained infrastructure for building BSPs.
- Worked with customers to identify and resolve bugs in BSPs provided by TimeSys.

Content Group Manager, TimeSys (Jan 2002-May 2004)

- Drafted documentation plans and created writing schedules for all TimeSys products.
- Participated in project planning, product management, and design meetings.
- Automated rendering final documents from DocBook SGML source.
- Redesigned doc layout and created new figures and diagrams.
- Wrote reference and programming documentation for TimeSys Linux/Real-Time, Linux/Net, and Linux/CPU, a set of real-time OS extensions to the Linux kernel.

Documentation Manager, Caldera Systems (May 1999-Jun 2001)

- Coordinated writing schedules for all Caldera products and allocated resources to projects using FTEs and contract employees.
- Managed writing projects to ensure on-time and on-budget completion.
- Wrote product documentation for OpenLinux eServer, eDesktop, and eBuilder.
- Provided technical input for marketing department
- Maintained 12 doc-related RPMs shipped in Caldera's OpenLinux products.

Education

- University of Utah — BA, History, 1993

References

- Available upon request