

## Gregory P. Ward

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### Overview

#### Objective

A software development position that takes advantage of my extensive technical skills and experience.

#### Citizenship

Canada/U.S. (dual)

#### Programming languages

Python, C, Go, Java, Perl, Unix shells, D, C++, Tcl/Tk, MATLAB, ML, assembler (x86, VAX, 68k, SPARC)

#### Operating systems

Linux, OS X, IRIX, Solaris, SunOS, Windows, MS-DOS, VMS

#### Technical skills and interests

- software configuration management
- software analysis and design
- web application development
- non-relational (“NoSQL”) databases
- SQL and relational database design
- virtualization
- Internet security
- Internet email (analysis, filtering, general administration)
- Unix/Linux system administration
- GUI development (with GTK, Qt, Tcl/Tk, Perl/Tk, Swing)
- technical writing and editing

### Employment

#### Dyn

*Senior Software Developer*

Manchester, NH  
*May 2014 to present*

#### Renesis Corporation (acquired by Dyn)

*Senior Software Developer*

Hanover, NH  
*July 2013 to May 2014*

I work on the middleware layer of Dyn’s Internet performance assurance platform, which consumes a steady flood of data gathered from a worldwide Internet sensor grid and turns it into something manageable for consumption by the front-end.

At the same time, I’m helping to change the development culture to introduce automated tests, code review, and other best practices. We’re starting to see the benefits already, especially comparing new code to old (untested) code.

#### Intelrad Medical Systems

*Staff Software Developer*

Montreal, QC  
*2003 to 2012*

In 2007, I became the company’s first build controller. My first major project was to rewrite the build system using

Buildbot, resulting in a more transparent, maintainable, and extensible system that ran builds 50% faster than its predecessor. Next, I tackled our main workflow, switching the company from CVS to Mercurial and simplifying many day-to-day tasks for developers. I also wrote a web application to expose the inner workings of R&D to the rest of the company.

Prior to that, I worked in the web applications team, maintaining and developing tools used by Intelrad's customers to administer their medical workflow and image management software (PACS). This was an interesting challenge due to undocumented requirements, low-quality and untested code, and a complex distributed runtime environment. We gradually tamed the beast and turned it into a maintainable piece of software for our successors. Also during this time, I worked on Intelrad's front-end diagnostic image viewer, a Java/Swing-based GUI application.

### **MEMS & Nanotechnology Exchange**

*Software Developer*

Reston, VA

1998 to 2003

My responsibilities spanned requirements analysis, system architecture, design, implementation, testing, and deployment of a web-driven system for distributed semiconductor fabrication. Our team developed a web application that enabled customers to search a library of processing capabilities, construct a custom process sequence for fabrication, and track their process to completion. I also interacted extensively with the network's member fab sites to determine their processing capabilities and add them to our database.

Additionally, I shared responsibility for development and production infrastructure, including version control, testing frameworks, maintenance of developer workstations, database selection and design, web application server selection and design, and maintenance and security of our web/email/DNS servers.

### **McConnell Brain Imaging Centre, Montreal Neurological Institute**

*Programmer/Systems Analyst*

Montreal, QC

1993; 1994 to 1998

I was involved in a wide range of the Centre's activities, focused on making scientific work more efficient and less error-prone. This mainly involved writing programs to automate repetitive procedures and writing an extensive Perl library for such programs. That library is still in use 15 years later. In addition, I did some work on distributing large-scale processing across a network of workstations.

## **Education**

### **McGill University**

*M.Sc. in computer science*

Montreal, QC

1998

### **McGill University**

*B.Sc. in physics with a minor in computer science (graduated with distinction)*

Montreal, QC

1994

## **Selected Open Source Projects**

### **Fubsy**

Currently under development, Fubsy is an efficient, scalable, practical build tool. It's strongly influenced by Make and SCons, but aims to be easier to use, more flexible, and faster.

### **vcprompt**

A tiny command-line utility to incorporate information about version control working directories in the Unix shell prompt.

### **Mercurial (contributor)**

I have contributed several fixes and a few small features to Mercurial, a popular distributed version control system.

## **cvs2hg**

An alternative backend for `cvs2svn` that converts a CVS repository directly to Mercurial.

## **elspy**

An extension to the Exim MTA (mail transfer agent) that embeds a Python interpreter, allowing the use of arbitrary Python code for scanning email before it is accepted by the SMTP daemon.

## **Optik**

A flexible, extensible, easy-to-use command-line parsing library for Python. Included in the standard library since Python 2.3 as `optparse`.

## **Quixote (co-designer)**

A lightweight web application framework designed specifically for simplicity and familiarity to Python programmers.

## **Python Distribution Utilities (distutils)**

A framework that provides a standard way for developers to distribute Python modules and applications, making it easier for end-users and administrators to install and maintain them. Included in the standard library since Python 2.0.

## **btOOL**

A comprehensive programmer's toolkit for processing BiBTeX data files, consisting of a C library for efficient low-level parsing and a Perl library for higher-level tasks.

See also:

- <http://hg.gerg.ca/>
- <https://bitbucket.org/gward/>
- <https://github.com/gward/>

## **Conferences, Publications, Training**

- presented talks at PyCon Canada 2013, PyCon 2014, CUSEC 2015, PyCon 2015, and PyCon Canada 2016
- organized and co-taught the Montreal Python Workshop, a weekend workshop for non-programmers to learn the basics of programming (February 2013)
- presented a tutorial at PyCon Canada, Toronto, November 2012: "Fast, Faster, Fastest: Getting the Best Performance From Python"
- "Quixote: a Python-Centric Web Application Framework"; Linux Journal (online edition); July 22, 2002; <http://www.linuxjournal.com/article.php?sid=6178>
- member of the program committee for the Python track of the 1999 O'Reilly Open Source Convention and for the Eighth, Ninth, and Tenth International Python Conferences (2000, 2001, 2002)
- presented talks at the 1999 O'Reilly Open Source Convention and the Eighth International Python Conference, Arlington, Virginia (2000)