

Vasilii Kolobkov

Computers make for a nice company in mapping out the world, be it a personal computer, or a networked bunch. The current chapter of that journey is about organizing and searching for information. Other areas close to my heart are: build systems—as a means to making software more accessible—and integration projects—to connect and reuse disparate pieces.

Email: vasilii@orangeshoelaces.net, WWW: <https://orangeshoelaces.net>.

Citizenship: Russian and Estonian.

Languages: Russian, English, and a tiny bit of German.

Residence: Kaliningrad, Russia, pending a move to European shores of Baltic or Mediterranean sea.

Professional experience

Unless stated otherwise, the following are contract jobs done in a remote setting.

- Jul 2019-Apr 2020 Portchain ApS
At a startup in maritime shipping industry, i implemented new application features spanning browser application, backend services and database; analyzed performance issues; refactored old code and improved testing. Having joined at an early stage, i took a small part in streamlining the development processes. Here, i learned to value asynchronous collaboration, and practiced intermediate functional programming techniques.
- 2018 Perspicacity Ltd
A series of gigs for an analytics suite in fashion industry. A bit of math, but mostly web browser application doing charts and manipulating images.
- 2016 <https://orangeshoelaces.net/git/tttm/readme.html>
Result of labor of love for simple software and email. A mail retrieval agent, that knows how to talk IMAP only, and needs another program to carry out network connection. That's a design i'm particularly fond of, as it allows to test and swap out parts individually.
- 2014 NetProtect AG
Did a penetration testing tool that does reliable two-way communication over DNS protocol. Amusing hack.
- 2013 Gorohovaya 1, Saint-Petersburg, Russia
While recovering from a burnout, i helped my friends running an underground disco club. Plenty of music, culture hacking, some graphic design, plus all the dirty work that comes with it—a recipe i'm most thankful for.
- 2012 Surflog
Otherwise unassuming Firefox extension, that did some logging and request modification. My testament to what which happens unwittingly, as was the case with me picking up JavaScript.
- 2011-2012 QuickPeek, eDiscovery Labs

Created an application for running forensic analyses of disk images and live machines. It parsed file systems, scoured registry files for file, device, and network activity—enough bit fiddling to last me a lifetime.

- 2010 RTF patching library
Another milestone bearing more personal significance, where i confronted the dreaded task of parsing data. It was a choppy program, but it did the job for the client—parsed header/footer sections and meta data of RTF documents—and helped me turning a former monster into a long-lasting love for compilers.
- 2009-2011 Flash Cards
I created a complete WYSIWYG application for creating and printing flash cards. In order to limit text to a single page, i did custom user interface component. There also was a wizard aiding two-sided printing.
- 2006-2010 SDE at a software shop, Saint-Petersburg, Russia
This was my introduction to the world of enterprise software, something i'd heard of only from books before. Plus the pleasure of teamwork—something i had even less awareness of.

Toolbox

Haskell, LISP (Elisp, some Scheme), C, JavaScript (node.js, react.js, TypeScript); OpenBSD, some Linux experience, and whatever is in POSIX.

Education

2012 Algorithms: Design & Analysis part 1 by prof. Tim Roughgarden, Coursera MOOC

2000-2006 Specialist in CS at State University of Information Technologies, Mechanics, and Optics, Saint-Petersburg, Russia

Miscellaneous

My most practical, if modest, contribution to the computing community are token patches to mmh, LibreSSL, and ii.