Damián Búho

Currently residing in Uruguay. Available from UTC-8 to UTC+2.
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CV tailored for Staff / Principal Engineer.

Online version

Open to opportunities · Remote · Full-time · Part-time · Contract

WHAT I'M LOOKING FOR: Problems worth solving · High stakes and adversaries · Reasonable autonomy

WHAT I OFFER: 20+ years of experience · Instincts for unconventional problems · Particular set of skills

REMUNERATION: Market rate · Prefer stablecoins · Flexible with other methods · Not interested in equity

WHAT I'M AVOIDING: "AI for AI's sake" startups · Gambling / predatory finance · Surveillance and data brokers · *Adult industry clients welcome*

SKILLS

Levels out of 10 · More details in online version. Click a skill to see related experience.

- System Design 10
- Microservices & EDA 10
- Static Analysis & Linting 10
- Self-Hosting & Bare-Metal 10
- Platform Engineering & DevEx 10
- Stakeholder Management 10
- Intelligence 10
- Observability 9
- Release Engineering 9
- Debugging 7
- Quality Assurance 7
- Redis, Valkey, Memcached 7
- Hardening & Zero Trust 7
- Python 6
- Kafka, RabbitMQ, NATS, MQTT 6
- Accessibility Audit 6
- Kubernetes 5
- Data Modeling & Schema Design 10
- Code Review 10
- Profiling & Load Testing 10
- HTTP: Nginx, Traefik 10
- Engineering Management 10
- Standards Authorship 10
- Documentation 9
- Grafana Stack 9
- SEO, GEO, Web Analytics 9
- Cryptography 7
- Authentication 7
- Application Security 7
- PgSQL, MariaDB, SQLite 6
- IaC, GitOps, Ansible, Terraform 6
- Incident Response & Command 6
- High Load 5
- Rust 4

LANGUAGES

C2 Russian · **C1** English · **A1** Spanish · **A1** Ukrainian

COUNTRIES

Preferred
Chile (Willing to relocate) · Uruguay · Colombia · Argentina · Peru · Mexico

Some details are omitted for privacy; I can disclose them in person.

RELEVANT EXPERIENCES

Made pipelines and container images

as CI/CD Lead at fintech company in Asia · for ~4 years in early 2020s

- Developed and maintained Docker images for a huge fleet of microservices (more than 500)
- Designed and implemented CI pipelines (Jenkins and Makefile)
- Built a unified CI library that freed developers to focus on their code
- Developed standards and automation workflows
- Supported internal DevEx services

Modernized production

as Fractional CTO at leathercraft workshop · for 7 months in early 2020s

- Got involved in small-scale leathercraft production for some time
- Developed a *tailored* ERP/CRM system with stock management and automatic pricing (from blueprints and supplier inputs)
- The software traced the full product lifecycle: by the item serial number, you could tell where every thread or button came from
- Even integrated a laser engraver (you still need a human to move things though)

Fought ad blockers

as Chief Technology Officer at stealth startup · for ~3 years in around 2016

- Built a system that prevented adblockers from … blocking ads
- Our product processed existing advertisement inventory in real-time, making it unblockable, without damage to RTB/VAST performance and loss of conversion
- Designed the architecture, developed core code, managed developers, Ops, UX and QA specialists
- Dealt with CI/CD, built pipelines, migrated from delivery via Debian packages to containers
- Studied the life patterns of a local AdBlock list maintainer and timed our updates to the hours when he couldn't react, which is a totally normal thing to do

Developed local yelp-like app

as Chief Technology Officer at stealth startup · for ~2 years in early 2010s

- Made a version of Yelp for the local market
- Designed the architecture and framework; managed developers, Ops, UX and QA specialists as hands-on CTO
- Set up infrastructure and CI/CD

Developed web analytics platform

as Lead Developer at stealth startup · for 6 months in early 2010s

- Designed and developed a system for tracking visits, clicks and leads for affiliate programs
- Zero-effort integration: any e-commerce site could gain affiliate functionality with a couple of hooks

Automated municipal services

as Lead Developer at government contractor · for ~1 year in early 2010s

- Built and managed a separate department: developers, sysops, QA and even one tech writer
- Led development of an integrated system for interaction between citizens and city services / utilities
- Payment processing, emergency handling, and compliance and regulation control across a whole bunch of small departments, companies, vendors, etc.

Did Competitive Intelligence

as "Analyst" at small outlet · for 11 months in late 2000s

- Surveillance and corroboration
- Penetration testing
- Research and analytics
- Deception and exploiting trust
- Background checks on slow days

Made "stock exchange" from scratch

as Lead Developer at stealth startup · for ~1 year in late 2000s

- Developed a system that allowed investors to buy and sell shares in various non-traditional assets
- In short, you could "IPO" your business, website, or even a cow, if you wanted. Any income source.
- We had dividends, splits and merges, direct exchange between assets and a lot of other machinery for all the roles
- Something like modern tokenization, but centralized and in the pre-Bitcoin era
- The founder came with this raw idea and I brought this project to production, solo

OTHER EXPERIENCES

Developed commercial CMS

as PHP Developer at stealth startup · for 6 months in early 2010s

- Developed a "retail" closed-source PHP CMS/CMF
- Brought my print media experience to digital publishing: one of the first CMSes with drafts, notes, collaborative editing and real workflows (with sign-offs)

Littered the internet

as Software Developer at small SEO company · for 6 months in late 2000s

- Developed and supported a machine that stole and rewrote content on an industrial scale, before that became grounds for an IPO
- Worked on a large automated doorway/satellite network, link farming and other SERP manipulation stuff

Started in publishing

as Jack of all trades at local outlet · for ~1 year in around 2005

- Produced a small local newspaper
- Did everything: writing, typography, design, pre-press, web-version

FEATURED PROJECTS

The Projectfile Specification Maintained

The Projectfile specification describes "projectfile", a simple hierarchical file about a project. It can be YAML, TOML or JSON. There is a CLI tool that hides formats from you, reads and writes keys and supports includes, interpolation and other interesting stuff.

Spiderlint Maintained

- 600+ distinct checks
- Fact/rule engine: you can override everything and create your own rules declaratively
- Page-specific and site-specific checks
- A11Y, SEO, GEO, Lighthouse

- Validations for every used format
- Even uncompressed images!
- Well-known files, TLS, HTTP Headers, Semantic Markup
- Can and should be self-hosted

Report Relay Maintained

Accepts 16 report formats and sends them to stdout or an OpenTelemetry collector as logs.

- CAA IODEF incident reports
- Cross-Origin-Embedder-Policy and Cross-Origin-Opener-Policy reports
- Browser crash and Deprecation reports
- Legacy CSP report-uri, HPKP pin validation failure and Expect-CT reports
- Content Security Policy and Document Policy reports
- Permissions Policy and Subresource Integrity reports
- Browser intervention and Network Error Logging reports
- SMTP TLS reports

Ignorelint Maintained

- Validates 20+ different kinds of ignore files
- Automatically fixes errors that could be fixed deterministically
- Informs about dead rules

B19 / Ubuntu Maintained

B19 is a set of conventions and slightly opinionated tools, with Ubuntu as its foundation and around 100 images built on it. Healthchecks, tests, benchmarks, reports, commands, bootstraps, everything is pre-set and extremely extendable. Perfect for creating in-house manageable image inventories.

Uwindaji Kit Maintained

Uwindaji can automatically find facts about intelligence targets, keep them tamper-proof, maintain provenance, monitor developments.

You specify a person or organization, you get a report from multiple distributed tools that work together. Every domain, email, phone number and address triggers "specialist" services (non-LLM), which enrich them and share findings between themselves. You can analyze it manually or use it with agents as MCP/CLI (*LLMs love to play spies*).

Currently this system monitors and prevents sanctions compliance violations.

Doomsday Clock Exporter Maintained

Doomsday Clock Exporter regularly fetches the current Seconds to Midnight value from the Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists and makes it available to your Prometheus. You can set up automations like "cancel all my cloud subscriptions if the value drops below 30 seconds".

Or just keep it as a reminder that nothing really matters.