

Joachim Opdenakker

Network Engineer

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Personal Profile

I am a motivated network engineer with a passion for service provider and datacenter environments. I have experience writing automation tools working with different vendor-specific and open source libraries and API's. Network automation, and more specifically Infrastructure as Code is my top interest. During my past work experiences, I came in contact with different vendors such as Cisco and Juniper, but also had the pleasure to work with Linux-based white-box network equipment. Besides my professional experience, for the past 6 years I am member of a Student Organization called ULYSSIS which provides IT services to students and university personnel. This membership has taught me different skills, from working in a team, managing people and their projects, building complex webapplications, building physical networks etc. I like working in a vendor-agnostic organization where Open Communication, Open Data and Open Security are central. I am eager to learn and motivated to achieve different goals.

Core Skills

- TCP/IP
- Routing Protocols: BGP, OSPF, EIGRP, IS-IS, ..
- MPLS
- Infrastructure as Code; Ansible, Terraform,...
- Juniper, Cisco, Nokia, Mikrotik
- Linux
- Python, Java, PHP
- Git, including, but not limited to CI/CD tools like Github Actions and Gitlab Pipelines
- Open Source routing software such as SRLinux and FRR

Career Summary

March 2022 **QA Engineering Intern, IP Networks**

– **June 2022**

Nokia ION (IP Optical Networks) R&D, Antwerp, Belgium

Role outline

Working on automated testing infrastructure for Nokia Service Router products and features.

September 2020 **Network Development Engineer - Intern (Datacenter network engineering)**

– **July 2021**

Amazon Web Services (AWS), Dublin, Ireland

Role outline

I had the pleasure working along side people in different on-call roles. The team I was part of manages a datacenter fabric consisting of over 900k (nine hundred thousand) mixed vendor network devices. Most of my time at AWS was spent on projectwork (changemanagement)for the decommissioning of EoL devices within the network. This consisted on writing workflows to deconfigure certain parameters on the devices, check with network state api's and monitoring dashboards etc.

July 2018 **Network Engineer**

– **July 2020**

Belnet, NREN, Brussels, Belgium

Role outline

During my time at Belnet, which runs a Juniper based National Research and Education Network (NREN) and an internet exchange called BNIX, I worked on different projects in an initiative towards a more streamlined network automation toolchain. In doing so I have built tools on top of the Juniper PyEZ library (netconf). Besides these automation tools, I have also worked on a DDoS mitigation project. This tool was used to index active firewall rules across the backbone network. On occasion I have also configured BGP peering sessions with clients. This mainly meant re-configuring IPv6 peering sessions in an effort to standardise the use of IPv6 addresses across the network.

Personal Development

2020 **Cisco Certified Network Associate (CCNA)** (Certification)

2015 – present **ULYSSIS Member, former Vice-president** (Student organization)

ULYSSIS is a non profit which provides IT services to students and university personel of the KU Leuven association. During my time with ULYSSIS, I served as vice-president for 1 academic year. Other main responsibilities include: answering support tickets via e-mail, building webapplications in PHP, system administration on Linux (Mail, Web, DNS, LDAP, Databases (MySQL, PostgreSQL), etc). In 2016 I was lead-designer of an outdoor ethernet network. ULYSSIS uses this network during the annual 24-hour student run in Leuven to provide network connectivity for the RFID-based lap-counting system as well as internet for supporters and visitors of the event. During 2016 and 2017 I was lead network administrator during the event (24/24) which also involved preparations during the weeks preceding the event. Starting in 2018 I served as an advisor during the deployment of the wired and wireless equipment and focused on the administration. In 2019 I served as an advisor for a major redesign of the network to a more robust and easy-to-deploy wired network. In 2021 I took a step back and only served as a back-up administrator during the night shift. The redesigned network of 2019 proved its robustness and was easy to setup by new members of the team. <https://ulyssis.org>

Education

2017 - 2022 **Toegepaste Informatica** (UC Leuven Limburg)

Specialization Systems- and network administration. Class of 2022

2015 - 2017 **Informatica** (KU Leuven)

not completed