

Software Development Engineer in Test

ILIA DOBKIN

✉ idobkin@gmail.com 📞 +1 (647) 987-2792 in LinkedIn 📁 Gitea 🌐 iliadobkin.com 📍 Thornhill, Ontario, Canada

ABOUT ME

Software Development Engineer in Test with 20+ years across audit/financial platforms and modern regulated web, including real-money iGaming. Experienced owning Playwright/Cypress/Selenium automation across UI, API, and performance, plus CI/CD pipelines and DevOps tooling. Known for test-pyramid and shift-left practices, stabilizing flaky suites, and improving pipeline reliability in high-availability environments. Proactively eliminates repetitive work across teams through scripting, scheduled jobs, and workflow automation—freeing colleagues to focus on higher-value tasks. Improved end-to-end regression cycle time by ~40% by expanding automated coverage and parallelizing suites in CI pipelines.

EXPERIENCE

Key: 🏠 Remote ↔ Hybrid 🏢 On-site 📄 Contract 💼 Full-time ⌚ Part-time 🎓 Co-op

Niyasoft Canada Inc. 🏠 📄

Vaughan, Ontario, Canada

Quality Assurance Automation Engineer (SDET)

August 2023 - April 2026

- Built and maintained 300+ Playwright E2E tests and 250+ API/integration tests (Swagger/OpenAPI) plus Artillery performance suites for a regulated online-casino platform; coverage spanned happy-path, negative, workflow, page-navigation, and network request/response checks across payments, wallet/cashier, game/lobby, and back-office flows—cutting manual regression effort by ~50% and catching regressions earlier in the pipeline.
- Stabilized the Playwright suite by replacing brittle waits with deterministic patterns and improving environment readiness, cutting flaky-test noise and keeping daily pass rates consistently above ~95% across parallel CI stages.
- Validated responsible gaming and player protection end-to-end—deposit/loss/session limits, self-exclusion, cooling-off, reality checks—supporting successful compliance posture across licensed wagering markets.
- Ran compliance-sensitive scenarios for geo-eligibility, age-gating, and restricted jurisdictions with audit-friendly logging; traceability artifacts available for licensing reviews on demand.
- Optimized GitHub Actions pipelines (regression, functional, component, smoke) with parallelized stages and daily PR/review cadence, keeping feedback time short on a high-availability real-money stack.
- Monitored API reliability via GCP, Prometheus, and alerting; validated PostgreSQL-backed data integrity and prevented sev-1 incidents by catching performance regressions with Artillery baselines before release.

RIOS Canada 🏠 📄

Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Software Development Engineer in Test (SDET)

June 2022 - July 2023

- Built Cypress E2E and API suites (Swagger/OpenAPI) from scratch across core product flows; owned patterns, fixtures, and stability, enabling every-commit checks and cutting manual regression time by ~40% per release.
- Introduced AODA/WCAG accessibility checks (alt text, keyboard nav, contrast) into Bitbucket CI gates, preventing accessibility regressions across web and mobile releases.
- Automated test-environment provisioning with Ansible, producing disposable, repeatable setups that shortened spin-up time and eliminated pre-regression drift.
- Partnered with engineering and product on defect triage, risk-based prioritization, and pragmatic quality gates without blocking incremental delivery.

Attabotics 🏠 📄

Calgary, Alberta, Canada

QA Automation Developer (SDET)

September 2021 - May 2022

- Maintained 3,500+ SpecFlow/Gherkin scenarios with C# in .NET/Azure, owning flaky-test triage and keeping daily build stability above ~90% across the suite.
- Practiced left-shift QA in a large Agile team: co-authored scenarios with developers early in sprint, tightened Given/When/Then clarity, and shortened feedback from story to green build.
- Stood up Docker-based local and CI-aligned test environments; used SQL Server for data setup, assertions, and traceability across integrated warehouse-automation workflows.

Levkin Inc. 🏠 📄

Vaughan, Ontario, Canada

Senior Software Developer (SDET)

October 2020 - August 2021

- Built reusable Playwright building blocks with deterministic patterns, eliminating arbitrary waits and measurably reducing suite flakiness.
- Audited and refactored legacy test and UI code; documented testing strategy and shared patterns across the team.
- Optimized GitLab CI/CD pipelines for speed and reliability; piped test and pipeline metrics into Grafana dashboards for release visibility.
- Provisioned AWS (S3) environments with Terraform, validated end-to-end, and promoted to dev via the team's release procedure.
- Ongoing: self-hosted infrastructure lab and local-GPU AI assistant under the Levkin brand—see Projects section.

- Owned CaseWare/CaseView template delivery including compliance updates, standards-driven releases, and documentation for internal and client use.
- Reviewed software for improvements and implemented recommendations and collaborated with support on reported issues.
- Automated build and packaging workflows with scripting, compressing roughly eight hours of manual release effort down to under two minutes per cycle.

- Developed and maintained C# / .NET / .NET Core applications integrating with CaseWare/CaseView; extended with JavaScript where specs required.
- Contributed automation strategy and hands-on Selenium/Cucumber work; managed Jenkins triggers, Cucumber reporting, and Azure DevOps pipelines.

- Delivered features, defect fixes, and client templates (JavaScript, HTML, YUI, jQuery, CSS) for global financial/audit systems; automated validation with SilkTest.
- Mentored junior developers on conventions, debugging, and code review; built reusable JS libraries; Agile Scrum, Jira, Git.

- Voice broadcasting and SMS service (Python, Twilio API); websites across multiple stacks; technical consulting for nonprofits and SMBs.

EARLIER CAREER

- QA automation with QTP/Quality Center, cross-browser and end-to-end testing, and UAT support (Kaboose); Java/J2EE development (Coutts); Informatica ETL co-op on AIX/DB2 (EDS/Scotiabank).

PROJECTS

Levkin — Self-Hosted Infrastructure Lab

- Proxmox-based homelab (VMs/LXC): Gitea + CI runners, Vaultwarden, Vikunja, Uptime Kuma, Mailcow, Listmonk, n8n, SonarQube—provisioned via Ansible, Caddy edge TLS, TrueNAS backups.
- Full Linux admin: multi-domain DNS, firewall hardening, monitoring, and repeatable deploys; patterns from this lab directly informed production DevOps decisions in later roles.

Levkin — Privacy-First Local AI Assistant

- Tool-using assistant wired into mail and calendars (triage, drafts, scheduling) on local GPU inference—prompts and context stay on-LAN, no SaaS LLMs.
- Composable with homelab identity, TLS, secrets, and automation so event-driven workflows hand off without third-party model APIs; used daily for personal productivity.

SKILLS

Test automation: Playwright, Cypress, Selenium, SilkTest; UI, API, mobile, cross-browser; page object model, BDD	Languages & frameworks: TypeScript, JavaScript, C#, .NET, Python, Java, Bash/Shell, Node.js, ASP.NET, Spring Boot, HTML/CSS
CI/CD & DevOps: GitHub Actions, GitLab, Bitbucket, Jenkins, Azure DevOps; Git, Terraform, Ansible, Docker, SonarQube, self-hosted runners	Cloud & infra: AWS (Lambda, S3), Azure, GCP; Linux administration, Proxmox, Caddy, TrueNAS, Vaultwarden
Observability & performance: Grafana, Prometheus, Sentry, DataDog, Artillery, JMeter, metrics & logging	Data & domain: PostgreSQL, SQL Server, MySQL, DB2, Informatica/ETL; CaseWare/CaseView, audit & financial software
QA practices: BDD (SpecFlow, Cucumber, Gherkin), API testing (Postman, Swagger/OpenAPI), accessibility (AODA/WCAG), Agile/Scrum, Jira, shift-left QA	AI & LLM testing: GenAI-assisted test design, prompt and workflow validation, privacy-first local LLM usage, MCP/agent-based automation