

Experienced Developer Job Description



About Gambit

Established in 2005, Gambit Research develops automated tools to facilitate high-speed trading on sports betting markets. On behalf of our clients, we devise and implement strategies to exploit market inefficiencies, then run them on our high-frequency execution platform. Our system is always trading, and we need to maintain a reliable, low latency service and adapt it to the evolving needs of the company and our clients.

When you join us, you'll find that we have a very flat hierarchy, and that we place an emphasis on employee freedom. You'll be encouraged to work on projects that you find interesting, as we believe people are happiest and most productive when they're intellectually stimulated. You don't need to be interested in sports betting.

You'll be encouraged to maintain a good work-life balance, and will benefit from flexible working hours, quarterly bonuses, private healthcare, private pension contributions, part-funded sabbaticals after five years of service, excellent holiday allowances, office chef multiple times per week serving healthy lunches, regular employee outings, opportunities to attend conferences in the UK and abroad, extensive and expanding technical library, height-adjustable desks, the ability to build your own PC, get a mechanical keyboard, and get up to 4 monitors.

We're very proud of the open, intelligent, and collaborative culture at Gambit, and are always looking to expanding our development team. You'll join our team of exceptional individuals, to pool your diverse experiences, enhance our existing systems, and build new products. So, if you have a deep understanding of computers, an interest in problem solving, want to join a company with a stimulating and development focussed culture, and have a proven ability to learn new skills, then we'd love to hear from you.

Purpose of the Role

As an Experienced Developer, you'll be responsible for implementing new features for our system, diagnosing issues, and fixing bugs. Our market maker is a machine written in Python which maintains an orderbook on multiple betting exchanges by analysing various sporting data. You'll have the chance to get up close and personal with this, enhancing your experience, whilst working on a project that has a real impact on the business.

Responsibilities and Duties

Your day-to-day duties will typically include (but not be limited to):

- Designing and developing enhancements to projects, and integrating them.
- Refactoring to allow for large or significant code changes.
- Using a range of both 1st and 3rd party libraries and technologies as appropriate for the task.
- Working in a Linux environment.
- Coordinating with team members on the development of large components.
- Analysing sources such as log files, database tables, graphs, and code to diagnose problems, and subsequently fix them.
- Researching and learning new skills and technologies as requirements evolve.
- Giving input into the potential progression of the company and its systems.

Skills and Competencies

You'll need:

- A good understanding of the Python language and its basic APIs.
- A working knowledge of algorithms and data structures.
- The ability to work on an established and relatively complex codebase.
- The ability to communicate well with others from a variety of backgrounds, and build strong, healthy, professional relationships.
- Problem solving skills, and the tenacity to resolve technical problems that you might not have seen before.
- Research and decision making skills, as you'll be need to decide where to focus your learning, and what to focus on.
- The ability to work collaboratively and productively in a team, as well as on solo projects when needed.
- Openness to hear the technical suggestions of others, and find constructive solutions when these disagree with your own ideas.

An interest in new technologies, theoretical computer science, and/or mathematics is common among team members, so may help your application.

Qualifications and Experience

You'll have the following:

- An excellent academic record, ideally a 2.1 (or higher) Bachelor's degree, in a relevant subject - or equivalent experience.

- Previous experience of developing in a commercial environment.
- Knowledge of Internet technologies and protocols.
- Experience developing with Linux, including the use of shell utilities such as grep, sed, find.
- An understanding of concurrency problems and solutions.
- Experience with a range of technologies and libraries.

The following will be helpful to your application, as they are technologies we frequently use, but are not requirements:

- A working knowledge of relational databases and SQL.
- Experience working with Numpy and/or Pandas.
- Exposure to greenthread-based systems (or actor-model coding as in Erlang).
- Exposure to distributed computing, and the sorts of issues it can produce.
- Experience with Docker and/or Kubernetes.
- Understanding of exchange trading, especially sports markets (eg. Betfair).
- A basic understanding of statistical tests and probabilities.