

# Brian Pitts

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## SKILLS

- ◇ **Languages:** Bash, Python, Ruby
- ◇ **Operating Systems:** CentOS, Debian, Fedora, Red Hat, Ubuntu
- ◇ **Software:** Apache, Bind, Cassandra, Chef, Consul, Docker, Elasticsearch, Ganglia, Git, Graphite, Haproxy, Jenkins, Kafka, Logstash, Memcached, Mysql, Nagios, Nginx, Nomad, Postfix, PostgreSQL, Puppet, Rabbitmq, Redis, Rsyslog, Solr, Terraform, Vagrant, Varnish, Vault, Zookeeper
- ◇ **AWS:** Auto Scaling, CloudFormation, CloudWatch, Cloudfront, EBS, EC2, ElastiCache, Elastic Load Balancing, Glacier, IAM, RDS, Route 53, S3, SNS, VPC

## COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- ◇ **Organizer**, DevOpsDays Nashville
- ◇ **Speaker**, Local meetups, PyTennessee, PyOhio, LISA
- ◇ **Github**, <https://github.com/sciurus/>
- ◇ **Server Fault**, <http://serverfault.com/users/71515/sciurus>
- ◇ **Blog**, <https://www.polibyte.com>

## WORK EXPERIENCE

- ◇ **Senior Systems Engineer**, Eventbrite (5/2016-5/present)  
**Systems Engineer**, Eventbrite (2/2015-5/2016)  
Part of a team responsible for the complex infrastructure of one of the world's largest ticketing platforms. Assist developers in Nashville, San Francisco, and Mendoza in designing and deploying new products and features while maintaining stability and capacity to handle traffic for high-demand events. Example projects include:
  - Helping plan our VPC architecture, adapt our tooling for it, and migrate EC2 instances to it.
  - Migrating [www.queueapp.com](http://www.queueapp.com) from Engineyard and numerous third-party services to Eventbrite's infrastructure.
  - Scaling graphite to provide redundancy and handle 4 million writes per minute.
  - Evaluating APM products and leading adoption of Datadog.
  - Upgrading our puppet infrastructure from 2.x to 3.x.
  - Assisting with development of a mysql binlog and kafka based change data capture system and its consumers.
  - Partnering with development teams introducing new technologies, such as Elasticsearch and Node.js.
  - Collaborating in an effort to rework our use of Varnish and dramatically increase cache hit rates.
  - Contributing and reviewing code to internal libraries and tools for instrumentation, builds, dev environments, monitoring, provisioning, etc.
  - Facilitating biweekly company-wide Ops Q&A sessions.
- ◇ **Web Operations Engineer**, Lonely Planet (5/2014-2/2015)  
Work with developers in Nashville, London, and Melbourne to ensure that [lonelyplanet.com](http://lonelyplanet.com) can efficiently deliver a stable and fast product to travelers. Practice infrastructure as code and test driven development at all layers of our stack, from Fastly config to individual chef cookbooks.

- ◇ **Systems Administrator**, University of Missouri (6/2013-3/2014)  
Responsible for research computing resources in the Computer Science department, Informatics Institute, and Digital Humanities Commons; this included systems for interactive and batch computation, visualization, and web hosting. Focused heavily on building rapport with the users I supported. Supervised part-time junior sysadmins.
- ◇ **Systems Engineer**, Voxeo Labs (6/2012-5/2013)  
Part of the DevOps team managing a cloud communications platform. Handled product releases, testing them, deploying them, monitoring them, upgrading them, or rolling them back. And most of all, automating them! Worked at a startup's pace with coworkers distributed across three continents.
- ◇ **Associate Systems Administrator**, EuPathDB Bioinformatics Resource Center (8/2009-6/2012)  
Administered servers and SANs in Georgia and Pennsylvania. Lead implementation of virtualization, monitoring, and configuration management. Helped maintain development, integration, and production web environments. Assisted DBAs and developers by packaging software, automating tasks, and troubleshooting.
- ◇ **Staff Volunteer**, Free IT Athens (6/2007-6/2012)  
Coordinated efforts of volunteers and partner organizations to refurbish computers, make them available at low cost to individuals and non-profit organizations, and provide training and technical support.
- ◇ **Systems Administrator and Web Developer**, Freelance (5/2008-8/2009)  
Contract work focused on administering web and database servers, creating custom web applications, and extending open source software.
- ◇ **Assistant Systems Administrator**, Emory University Libraries (9/2006-7/2007)  
Performed system administration duties for several digital library projects. Developed software dealing with data gathering, classification, and visualization.
- ◇ **Deputy Director of Information Technology**, Emory Wheel (8/2005-8/2006)  
Administered servers and workstations. Provided technical support for the business office and newsroom.

EDUCATION

- ◇ **University of Georgia**, Athens, GA  
M.A. in Political Science, May 2010  
Master's Thesis: *Understanding Googlearchy*
- ◇ **Emory University**, Atlanta, GA  
B.A. in Political Science, May 2007  
Minor: Computer Science