

Leonid Sopov

Senior Backend Engineer | Go, Python, Perl

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Languages: Russian (Native), English (Intermediate)

Permanently based in Serbia — no relocation or work permit sponsorship required.

SUMMARY

Software Engineer with 20+ years of backend experience across Go, Python, and Perl.

At [MY.GAMES](#), working on secure payment infrastructure under PCI DSS, GDPR, and DORA compliance requirements.

At [Acronis](#), held multiple engineering roles over 16 years — from Perl Developer to Head of Web Dev Team, Senior Architect, Perl Team Lead, and Go Backend Engineer. Drove legacy modernization, managed infrastructure at scale, and led backend teams.

EXPERIENCE

Senior Backend Engineer

[MY.GAMES](#) — Payment Solutions Department (Mar 2024 – Now //2 yrs)

Working on secure payment infrastructure under PCI DSS, GDPR, DORA, and internal security policy requirements.

- Maintained and refactored legacy Perl payment services for security, stability, and testability.
- Integrated new payment acquirers (Payermax, Stripe, Adyen), implementing 3DS authorization flows, IBAN/country code validation, and anti-fraud system hooks.
- Built unit, E2E, and pytest-based integration tests for payment acquirer flows.
- Maintained versioned database migrations using Alembic (Python) across multiple service databases.
- Established Docker security standards across the team: read-only containers, capability dropping, resource limits.
- Migrated services from Docker Compose to Kubernetes.
- Built and maintained the team's shared development environment: reverse proxy, uptime monitoring, mock API services, and Docker orchestration.
- Optimized stage deployment pipeline from ~9 minutes to 14 seconds: replaced git attribute filters with direct text substitution, optimized startup scripts, and added git caching.
- Implemented Git-based SSH access management with automated provisioning and account expiration.
- Fixed security vulnerabilities in payment processing code and automated secret rotation across service configuration files.

Senior Go & Python Developer

Acronis — Platform Department (Jul 2020 – Jan 2024 //4 yrs)

Worked on backend services and tooling with a focus on legacy migration, API development, and automation.

- Rewrote the Serial Number parsing service from Perl (with C++ XS bindings) into a standalone Go REST API, eliminating the C++ build dependency.
- Extended the Go Account Server: migrated API endpoints from the Python backend and resolved critical production issues.
- Migrated AMQP client library from `streadway/amqp` to `amqp091-go`, modernizing async messaging across services.
- Extended and maintained the Reporting Service: replaced DELETE-based retention with DROP PARTITION for performance, added support for new offering items, and resolved critical production incidents.
- Built a configuration parser converting multi-sheet XLSX files into structured YAML for license chain management, deployed across cloud and on-premise environments.
- Implemented E2E tests using Gherkin and Python across multiple services.

Lead of Perl Development Team

Acronis – Perl Applications Department (Nov 2019 – Jul 2021 //2 yrs)

Led the Perl backend team at Acronis (with the company since 2008), managing up to 6 developers, responsible for core internal services and infrastructure tools.

- Mentored and supported a team of two developers, ensuring professional growth and effective collaboration.
- Oversaw code quality, implemented unit testing standards, and maintained internal documentation (including POD).
- Acted as Release Manager, coordinating deployments and system updates.
- Wrote detailed design documentation and clarified undocumented system internals.
- Introduced and enforced code review practices and Perl Best Practices.
- Migrated a 122,000-line Perl codebase and containerized services using Docker.
- Served as the single point of contact for all cross-team requests and technical queries related to the Perl backend.

Senior Perl Developer

Acronis — Web Development Department (Jul 2014 – Nov 2019 //5 yrs)

Maintained and developed core internal backend services. Also covered web systems administration responsibilities when the department had no dedicated sysadmin.

- Maintained and extended internal backend services: access management, licensing, and reporting systems.
- Built an access management system handling ~12,000 transactions per day.
- Replaced internal authorization with Active Directory integration, serving 1,500+ employees daily.
- Improved XML parsing performance 10x by migrating from a DOM-based parser to a custom SAX-based implementation.
- Managed infrastructure of 70+ Linux servers and 3 MySQL (MariaDB) clusters (acting sysadmin role).

- Designed and maintained deployment pipelines and release processes.

Senior Architect

Acronis — Web Development Department (Aug 2012 – Jul 2014 //2 yrs)

Responsible for system design, reverse engineering of legacy systems, and cross-team technical migrations.

- Designed system architectures for internal backend services.
- Performed reverse engineering of undocumented legacy systems.
- Drove technical migrations and infrastructure improvements across teams.

Head of Web Development Team

Acronis — Web Development Department (Dec 2010 – Aug 2012 //2 yrs)

Led the Web Development team, responsible for backend services, team processes, and cross-team coordination.

- Managed a team of 6 engineers.
- Introduced Agile methodology and deployed JIRA for project tracking.
- Maintained technical documentation and participated in cross-functional planning.

Perl Developer

Acronis — Web Development Department (Feb 2008 – Dec 2010 //3 yrs)

Joined Acronis as a Junior Perl Developer and progressed to Senior Perl Developer within 18 months. Developed and maintained internal backend services and automation tooling.

- Developed internal web applications, reporting tools, and administrative interfaces.
- Built automation scripts and internal tooling to support operations and content teams.
- Promoted: Junior Perl Developer (Feb 2008) → Perl Developer (Aug 2008) → Senior Perl Developer (Aug 2009) → Head of Web Dev Team (Dec 2010).

Freelance Web Developer

Campus Crusade for Christ (Dec 2006 – Feb 2008 //1 yr)

Development of websites using CGI/Perl.

Perl Developer

Metadesign (Feb 2005 – Dec 2006 //2 yrs)

Web development using Perl at a web studio.

- Developed code for most of the websites managed by the studio (~20 websites over 2 years).
- Built a search engine: indexing robot, morphology-based search, and incremental page updates.
- Designed an advertising system serving over 1.5 million banners daily.
- Organized live internet broadcasting of Drag Racing events.

Founder & Solo Engineer

[Bible Online Project](#) — only.bible · bibleonline.ru · bible.ru (Oct 2003 – Now //23 yrs)

Solo-built and operated for 20+ years. Full ownership: architecture, development, deployment, monitoring, and incident response.

- Platform serving 2M+ unique users and 10M+ page views per year. Multilingual Bible reading and study platform: text reading, side-by-side translation comparison, audio, video, reading plans, Q&A.
- Perl backend (Apache mod_perl2 + HTML::Mason) handling all content delivery across multiple websites.
- Full-text search in Russian, English, and German via Sphinx Search with custom dictionaries and morphology.
- Developed a Go caching reverse proxy deployed in Russia, providing access for users in restricted regions: hybrid SQLite + filesystem cache, content transformation pipeline (URL rewriting, header manipulation, banner injection), Python-generated config system for 35+ domains.
- Developed a Go microservice for parsing and normalizing Bible references (bble.ru): multi-language input (Russian, English), Unicode normalization, prefix book matching, chapter/verse range optimization, QR code API with custom SVG generation.
- Developed a public REST API for Bible texts (api.bibleonline.ru), documented and used by external developers.
- Infrastructure: 100+ Docker containers on a dedicated server with VPS, DNS, and proxy redundancy; custom Nginx compiled from source with optimized module set.
- Operates community across VK (68K+ subscribers), Facebook (7.5K+ likes), and other platforms.

EDUCATION

Mathematics and Informatics

Siberian Federal University — Krasnoyarsk (Sept 2001 – Jun 2004 //3 yrs)

Technical Specialist — Automated Control Systems

College of Space Machine Building — Krasnoyarsk (Sept 1997 – Jun 2001 //4 yrs)

SKILLS

Programming languages: Go, Python, Perl, JavaScript, SQL, bash, JSON, YAML, XML, REST API, RAML, Swagger

Technologies: Docker, Docker Compose, Kubernetes, RabbitMQ, Nginx, Traefik, DNS, Jenkins, macOS, Linux

Compliance & Regulations: PCI DSS, GDPR, DORA, Corporate InfoSec Policies

Databases: MySQL, MariaDB, SQLite, Memcached

Cyber Security: OWASP, SQL Injection, Script Injection, XXE, XSS, [CTF](#)

IDEs/Services: JetBrains, Goland, PyCharm