

Ali Myers

Lead QA Automation Engineer

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STRENGTHS

- 🛠️ **Framework Leadership**
Built reusable pytest foundations for difficult network scenarios; engineers gained dependable fixtures, clearer reviews, and steadier releases.
- 🔍 **Network Diagnosis**
When failures crossed device and service boundaries, packet captures and logs turned confusion into actionable engineering evidence.
- 💚 **Continuous Testing**
Connected API, backend, system, and regression checks with CI pipelines, giving release teams earlier signals and fewer surprises.
- 👥 **Mentoring**
Six QA engineers received practical guidance on Python standards and defect isolation; peers began seeking advice on tough failures.
- 💡 **AI-Assisted Quality**
Test-generation tools widened exploratory coverage, yet human review kept assertions traceable and confidence grounded in evidence.

SKILLS

Python Test automation
CI/CD pipelines API testing
Backend testing
Linux administration
Bash scripting TCP/IP networking
Routing and switching
Firewall validation Playwright
Selenium AI-assisted testing
Test strategy Defect investigation

SUMMARY

Lead QA Automation Engineer with 13 years building **Python**-based quality systems for enterprise networking, security, telecom, and infrastructure products. Career growth reflects hands-on ownership of **custom automation frameworks**, API and backend validation, **Linux administration**, Bash scripting, and continuous testing across complex release environments. Recent work connects Playwright, Selenium, Java, packet analysis, TCP/IP troubleshooting, routing, switching, firewall validation, and AI-assisted testing with practical quality strategy. Leads distributed engineering collaboration, turns difficult defects into actionable findings, mentors QA engineers, and establishes standards that support reliable delivery. Brings a thoughtful, evidence-based approach to **test design**, regression coverage, system validation, and release decisions. Ready to help Northstar Edge Systems strengthen automation, accelerate feedback, and improve confidence across networking and security products.

EXPERIENCE

Lead QA Automation Engineer

Cobalt Network Security 📅 June 2024 - Present 📍 Austin, Texas

Directs automation strategy for cloud-managed firewall and secure gateway releases, guiding Python framework development, network validation, CI/CD quality gates, AI-assisted testing, defect investigation, and mentoring across distributed engineering groups.

- Directed Python automation strategy for firewall releases, aligning coverage with architecture risks and quarterly delivery plans.
- Extended **pytest** with topology models, reusable fixtures, API clients, and parallel execution for multi-device validation.
- Embedded API, backend, system, feature, and regression suites into **GitHub Actions** and Jenkins release pipelines.
- Applied **Playwright**, Selenium, and **AI-assisted tools** with reviewed assertions for broader exploratory test coverage.
- Correlated packet captures, service logs, **Bash** diagnostics, and CI evidence to isolate networking defects.
- Mentored six QA engineers on **test design**, Python standards, defect isolation, and maintainable framework practices

Senior QA Automation Engineer

HarborPoint Communications 📅 June 2021 - May 2024 📍 Denver, Colorado

Owned quality automation for telecom edge appliances and network orchestration services, connecting Python and Java libraries with REST validation, Linux diagnostics, browser testing, CI delivery, and cross-functional defect triage.

- Owned automation for telecom appliances and orchestration services across **REST APIs**, Linux daemons, and web consoles.
- Reworked Python and Java libraries with service fixtures, configuration builders, and topology-aware setup components.
- Added API and backend validation to **GitLab CI** with provisioning, artifacts, reruns, and failure diagnostics.
- Designed **routing**, VLAN, firewall, authentication, and upgrade coverage using **packet analysis** and controlled fault injection.
- Used **Selenium**, Playwright, and **AI-assisted tools** for locator suggestions, test data, and failure summaries.
- Facilitated defect triage with product, firmware, and software engineers, producing prioritized release recommendations

LANGUAGES



MY CAREER



- Lead QA Automation Engineer at Cobalt Network Security (2.2 Years)
- Senior QA Automation Engineer at HarborPoint Communications (2.9 Years)
- QA Automation Engineer at Redwood Systems Group (2.9 Years)
- QA Engineer at BlueMesa Technology Services (2.9 Years)
- QA Analyst at Summit Digital Labs (1.9 Years)

QA Automation Engineer

Redwood Systems Group 📅 June 2018 - May 2021 📍 Raleigh, North Carolina

Built automation for enterprise network controllers, combining Python, Bash, pytest, REST validation, Selenium workflows, Linux laboratories, and Jenkins delivery to improve system reliability and maintenance-release confidence.

- Built **Python** tests for configuration APIs, policy synchronization, device onboarding, and service recovery across Linux hosts.
- Created Bash utilities and pytest fixtures for topology setup, log collection, process checks, and laboratory cleanup.
- Integrated REST, backend, and UI checks into **Jenkins** pipelines with actionable results for release teams.
- Tested **TCP/IP** behavior, routing changes, **switching** configurations, firewall rules, and negative cases with packet captures.
- Expanded Selenium coverage for administrative workflows while pairing browser checks with direct service validation.
- Investigated escaped defects through reproducible scenarios, source-log correlation, and targeted retesting for maintenance releases

QA Engineer

BlueMesa Technology Services 📅 June 2015 - May 2018 📍 Phoenix, Arizona

Delivered functional and regression quality work for network monitoring and security management software, progressing from scenario design into Python automation, Linux environment ownership, API validation, and developer partnership.

- Delivered functional and **regression testing** for network monitoring software while assuming **Python** automation ownership.
- Developed API clients, data builders, and assertion helpers for authentication, inventory, alerts, and policy workflows.
- Maintained Linux environments and Bash scripts for service control, checks, log packaging, and repeatable setup.
- Validated REST services and web interfaces with Selenium, documenting evidence for permissions and persistence defects.
- Executed **TCP/IP**, routing, firewall, and service-recovery scenarios across network and security management workflows.
- Partnered with developers during reviews and triage, converting recurring manual checks into maintainable automated tests

QA Analyst

Summit Digital Labs 📅 June 2013 - May 2015 📍 Tempe, Arizona

Executed functional, integration, and regression testing for infrastructure management tools while developing foundational Python, Linux, networking, Selenium, API validation, and release **communication** capabilities.

- Executed functional, integration, and regression tests for web-based infrastructure management tools across release cycles.
- Authored **Python** scripts for API smoke checks, test data preparation, access validation, and device workflows.
- Used Bash commands, service logs, and packet analysis to separate environment issues from product defects.
- Created scenarios for **TCP/IP** connectivity, routing configuration, firewall behavior, and browser administration features.
- Maintained Selenium checks for high-use workflows and recorded reproducible evidence in defect-tracking systems.
- Presented release findings during QA reviews, clarified risks, and supported targeted retesting after fixes

PROJECTS

AI-Assisted Network Regression Program 📅 2025

Partnered with QA and engineering peers to evaluate AI-assisted test creation, data generation, and failure summaries. Human review kept assertions traceable while the team expanded exploratory coverage across firewall and gateway workflows.

Topology-Aware API Validation Lab 📅 2022

Worked with platform engineers to build repeatable service fixtures and network topology setup for REST and backend testing. Shared diagnostics helped teammates reproduce failures faster across telecom appliance environments.

Continuous Testing Quality Gates 📅 2020

Collaborated with developers and release managers to connect API, UI, and regression checks with Jenkins. Clear artifacts and failure evidence gave each group a practical view of release risk.

LEADERSHIP & AWARDS

- Cobalt Network Security Engineering Recognition, awarded for mentoring QA engineers and improving enterprise automation standards.
- HarborPoint Communications Quality Leadership Award, recognized for cross-functional defect triage and release-readiness guidance.
- Led peer learning sessions on Python test design, Linux diagnostics, networking validation, and maintainable automation.

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Science in Computer Science

Arizona State University 🎓 GPA: 3.5 📅 2013 📍 Tempe, Arizona

Coursework: *Software Engineering, Computer Networks, Operating Systems, Database Systems*

CERTIFICATIONS

- ISTQB Certified Tester - Foundation Level 📅 2016
- Linux Foundation Certified System Administrator 📅 2018
- Python Institute PCAP - Certified Associate in Python Programming 📅 2019

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- **Python Testing:** Python, pytest, Python test libraries
- **Browser Automation:** Playwright, Selenium, browser workflows
- **CI/CD Platforms:** Jenkins, GitHub Actions, GitLab CI
- **API Technologies:** REST APIs, API clients, backend services
- **Linux Tooling:** Linux administration, Bash, Shell scripting
- **Network Foundations:** TCP/IP, routing, switching
- **Network Security:** Firewalls, firewall policies, security gateways
- **Network Analysis:** Packet captures, protocol analysis, fault injection
- **Test Coverage:** Regression testing, system testing, feature testing
- **Programming Languages:** Java, Python, Bash
- **AI Testing Tools:** AI-assisted development, test generation, failure summarization
- **Automation Architecture:** Custom automation frameworks, reusable fixtures, topology models

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- Association for Software Testing member, sharing practical ideas on test strategy, investigation, and quality leadership.
- Python Software Foundation community participant, following testing practices and contributing perspective from infrastructure quality work.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Work Status : Authorized to work in United States. No sponsorship required.

REFERENCES

AVAILABLE ON REQUEST