

# Thomas Colin, PhD

## Software & ML engineer

Deep expertise in reinforcement learning and neural networks. A background spanning industry software engineering (4 years) and academic research using ML (10 years). Experienced collaborating across disciplines and communicating complex ideas to varied audiences. French citizen based in Ghent, open to relocation.

 [thomascolin.com](http://thomascolin.com)



## CONTACT

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## EDUCATION

### PhD Cognitive Science

Plymouth University, 2020

### MSc Cognitive AI, cum laude

Utrecht University, 2013

### MSc Software Engineering

Efrei, 2008

## SKILLS

- Python, C++, C#, C, Java, SQL
- TensorFlow, PyTorch, MLflow, TensorBoard, Numpy, Pandas
- Git, Conda, Docker
- Agile methodology
- Interdisciplinary collaboration and communication
- Highly independent, thrives with clear objectives

 Driving license

## LANGUAGES

- English (fluent), French (native)

## OTHER

- Technical alpinism; self-guided expeditions in the Arctic, Patagonia, and the Amazon rainforest.
- Planning, logistics, high-stakes decision-making
- Alone, as team member, as leader

## EXPERIENCE

### Researcher

2020–2025

Ghent University

- ML modeling of brain function: 20+ deep learning and RL models: Using mainly Python, TensorFlow, PyTorch. Statistical analysis, interpretation and communication of results.
- Close interdisciplinary collaboration with experimentalists.
- Publishing, conferences, lecturing, and supervising students.

### Doctoral researcher

2014–2019

Plymouth University

- ML modeling of cognitive processes (creative problem-solving), focused on (deep) RL, using mainly Python, Theano, TensorFlow.
- Research stay at RLAI with Prof. Richard Sutton.

### Software engineer

2013–2014

iOptics

- Agile software development for eye scanners in C++/Qt.
- Improved performance of existing image processing software (-40% and -60% running time for the two scanning modes).

### Researcher (intern)

2011–2012

TNO Soesterberg defense institute

- Design, implementation, testing of a ROS module monitoring the cognitive state of a robot operator.

### Software engineer

2008–2010

EasyDentic

- Software development for IP camera systems, in C# and C. Implementation of new functionalities.

### Internships

2006–2008

- Orange, Neuf Cegetel, Sopra Group, 1 year total
- Software development in Perl, Java/J2EE, scripting, billing systems, and network performance testing