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Work History

United Masters   **Staff Software Engineer**
03/2021 - 12/2024
- Formalized incident management procedures.
- Primary participant in yearly technical planning for platform team.
- Created plumbing for application level metrics, created first application level metrics with this plumbing, and introduced metrics system into the larger organization.
- Reverse engineered broken artist subscriptions system (Stripe, Google Play, IAP), and wrote core business rules. Created detailed plan for fixing the subscription system, including measuring impact of repairs. Located developers to work on system. Oversaw project, reviewed changes, and performed code review. Delivered on time. Work performed in parallel with primary job duties.
- Successfully championed Python 2 -> 3 transition project. Was not able to lead project due to commitment to subscription project.
- Designed and implemented capabilities system for new business line. Delivered on time and meeting desired functionality.
- Instituted nightly MongoDB cluster backups with monthly restore tests and consistency verifications.
- Analysis and tuning of upload system. Determined that upload system needs to be rewritten.
- Maintained and extended custom deployment software. Build infrastructure using both Cloud Formation and Terraform. Regularized infrastructure tagging to facilitate removing hard-coding from Terraform scripts.
- Lots of code reviews.
- Managed Lunch & Learns.

Repl.it   **Software Developer**
04/2020 - 05/2020
- Designed, built, deployed, and maintained a distributed Linux NAT table for a dynamically allocated fleet of GCP instances (200-500 instances depending upon time of day.) Tables were stored in Redis, and used for abuse detection and mapping between host-level networks and GCP flow logs.
- Turned several one-off instances and applications from pets to cattle using in-house tools combining slack, Repl.it jobs, Ansible, and GCP scripting.
- Added prometheus instrumentation for two internal security applications.
- Implemented cross fleet docker-instance file scanning to detect phishing.
- Implemented a variety of small changes remediating shares edges responsible for human error.

Raisin GmbH   **DevOps Lead**
11/2017 - 04/2020
- Built and managed a team of five engineers with experience levels ranging from entry to senior.
- Mentored engineers across the organization.
- Designed and established developer on-call procedures and practices.
- Championed and demonstrate the use of detailed design documents with realistic estimates.
- Performed effective trainings, and gave numerous tech-talks.
- Designed and rolled out database migrations for the primary product using Liquibase. This covered the entire product lifecycle from development to production. We ensured smooth adoption through a well planned training program. I was careful to ensure that the Jr. developer who worked with me on this project received the majority of the accolades.
- Migrated CI infrastructure from single hand tuned system to auto-allocated agents on image-launched EC2 instances built by Packer from Ansible scripts.
- Built out monitoring for farm of 700+ development and CI instances.
- Introduced company to incident management and alerting software.
- Guided the orderly dissolution of the DevOps group by devolving duties to the wider development organization. (You build it, you run it.)

7/2015 - 11/2017   **Software Engineer**

- The company's first full time back-end developer, jack of all technical trades.
- Established practice of code reviews.
- Worked for six months as release manager for primary application, and establishing formal processes for doing so going forward.
- Created programming challenges that are still used as in the hiring process.
- Hired and mentored junior developers.
- Split single back-end system across multiple machines to comply with regulatory requirements.
- Brought leased development infrastructure in-house.
- Migrated internal development infrastructure to AWS.
- Acted as technical advisor to analytics group.

SoundCloud Ltd   Infrastructure Engineer
7/2014 - 2/2015

- Co-wrote a Linux container execution system based on libcontainer.

Google   Software Engineer (SWE3)
9/2010 - 3/2014

- Back-end engineer on YouTube Video Analytics, a team producing analytics from a data stream of many tens of gigarows per day.
- Shortened testing and experimentation cycle time from hours to less than two minutes.
- Led, designed, and implemented integration and testing environment for a large multi-pipeline system with complex inputs and outputs. All inputs and outputs were specified as code and verified using a C++ DSL, and tests were executed within developers' normal unit testing framework.

Slide   Tools & Infrastructure Engineer
3/2010 - 9/2010

- Moved inventory management for main product (Superpoke Pets) from code to database.
- Created and deployed dependency-based execution system for nasty web of interdependent batch jobs.
- Wrote legal compliance system for image repository.
- Software archeology: Analyzed and identified changes necessary to de-tangle a snake-den of inclusions within a large Python code base.
- Produced various usage metrics.
- Threaded new logging sources across multiple systems.

Team Patent, Inc.   Back-end Engineer
9/2008 - 2/2010

- Developed the back end of a multi-user semantically aware web-based editor.

Data Pipes, Inc.   Chief Developer
4/2007 - 8/2008

- Architected, designed, and coded a three-tier release-management application in Java and Python using TDD and other agile practices.
- Consulted for clients including extensive Bugzilla customization. This hurt.

APress Publications   Author
7/2007 - 6/2008

- Foundations of Agile Python Development

Ofoto Inc.   Senior Software Developer
4/2006 - 4/2007

- Initiated, architected, and co-managed project to automate deployments from hardware provisioning to servicing customer requests.
- Wrote storage management software in Java and Perl using test-driven development techniques. The application managed resources on an array of several hundred storage servers.
- Measured and analyzed performance of software releases.

Ofoto Inc.   **Release Engineer**
5/2003 - 4/2006
- Wrote and maintained deployment system in Python and JavaScript.
- Developed requirements for deployment system.
- Performed software archeology.

MDL Information Systems   **Senior System Administrator (retainer)**
12/2002 - 4/2003
- Solved complex problems as needed.

Inktomi Corporation   **Toolsmith**
7/2000 - 4/2002
- Wrote data analysis and presentation tools.
- Wrote monitoring for network hardware and production systems.

MDL Information Systems   **Senior System Administrator (part time)**
7/2000 - 12/2001
- Maintained monitoring systems.
- Designed and deployed OSPF routing for entire corporation.
- Extended role to address interesting network issues (e.g. isolating reachability issues due to bugs in Alcatel's spanning tree implementation.)

MDL Information Systems   **System Administrator**
8/1996 - 7/2000
- Administered Unix systems: primarily Solaris and IRIX, including some AIX, HP, and Digital Unix.
- Did evil things with printers.
- Selected, tested, designed, and implemented the corporation's second-generation firewalls.

University of Houston High Performance Computing Center   **System Administrator**
9/1992 - 9/1996
- Administered a heterogeneous Unix computing environment.
- Managed department-level recovery from a security compromise that affected all machines of the department.

Skills

- Python, C++ (Google flavor), Go, Java
- AWS, GCP, Terraform, Ansible, Packer
- Distributed systems technologies.
- Hiring and evaluations.
- Good writing skills
- Care and feeding of developers.
- Excellent technical mentor.
- Container systems technologies.
- Strong familiarity with agile development practices
- Passable UNIX administration skills
- Distributed systems monitoring
- Understanding of TCP/IP and its interactions with underlying transports
- German (B-1 Prüfung, unofficial B-2)
- Can perform rudimentary recombinant DNA work. (Transformation, Isolation of genetic material, and analysis)

Publications

2010   *Linear algebra in 5 minutes*
Noisebridge, 5 Minutes of Fame (flash lecture)

2008   *Foundations of Agile Python Development*
http://www.apress.com/book/view/1590599810
Apress

2007   *PyMock: A Python mock object framework*
PyCon 2007

Education

University of Houston
Mathematics and biochemistry   1990 - 1996