Zach Azar

Entrepreneur and Principal Software Engineer

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B.S. and M.S. in Computer Science

Summary

- Driven principal engineer and technical leader with startup and management experience.
- Versatile full stack skill set with a strong, academic foundation in Computer Science.
- Self-motivated contributor who takes initiative and can work with teams to solve any problem.

Technologies and Languages

- Backend: Node.js, MongoDB, TypeScript, Express, Fastify, AWS, Redis, REST APIs, Elasticsearch, Postgres
- Frontend: React, Next.js, Tailwind CSS, Redux, Vercel, D3, Bootstrap, JavaScript, HTML, CSS, SASS
- Other tools: Git, npm, Stripe, Jira, Asana, Figma, Agile and Scrum, Sentry, DataDog, PagerDuty, Slack Automation, Object-Oriented Design, Responsive Web Design, Software Architecture, Distributed Systems

Work Experience   10+ years in software engineering starting in 2009

Good Software Studio, Albuquerque, NM - goodsoftware.studio

Founder and Principal Engineer, August 2022 - Present

- Backlit Comics: Collaborated with comic book publishing co-founder to define an MVP, design, and then fully build out an eCommerce platform for reading and selling digital comic books. Used React, Next.js, Node.js, TypeScript, MongoDB, Tailwind CSS, AWS, Vercel, Stripe. Link to Case Study

Autodesk, Remote

Principal Engineer, Data Platforms and Insights, October 2020 – May 2022

On the software side:

- Similar to a software architect, I consulted multiple internal teams across different countries on scaling their web applications, building robust monitoring, improving coding patterns, and integrating CI/CD.
- Laid out technical foundations for projects and engineered alongside the teams using various technologies including AWS, Postgres, React, Node.js, Python, and TypeScript.

On the data side:

- Identified issues and developed solutions for automating, monitoring, and testing aging data pipelines.
- Improved coding patterns for repositories using Spark, Python, Oozie, Jenkins, PySpark, S3, and Qubole.

Principal Engineer and Team Lead, Backend Platform Team, July 2019 – October 2020

- Drove initiatives to secure and scale our backend infrastructure and coding patterns.
- Consulted feature teams on advanced topics in Node.js, Heroku, and MongoDB.
- At times, I also lead our team of 6 and thus focused on people management and strategic planning.

BuildingConnected, San Francisco, CA (Acquired by Autodesk in January 2019)

Engineering Manager, June 2018 – July 2019

- Lead engineering initiatives for our subcontractor product (Bid Board).
- Coached team leads for two full-stack feature teams and one growth team.

Engineering Lead, September 2017 – June 2018

- Assisted the team by unblocking team members, reviewing production code, and collaborating with Product and Design to break down large problems into parallelizable tasks.

Full-Stack Engineer, September 2016 – September 2017

- Implemented technical solutions including a denormalization engine to power materialized views in MongoDB, a standalone printing service, and BE/FE features for our paid subcontractor product.
- Specialized mostly in backend systems, complex data models, and migrations in Node.js and MongoDB.

Lever Insights, LLC, Seattle, WA

Co-Founder and Lead Engineer, February – July 2016

- Designed a full-stack solution for a data visualization web application for the restaurant industry.
- Developed the single-page application using Node.js, Express, AngularJS, D3, Bootstrap, and Sass.