Akshat Mahajan

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(backend, systems, infra)

akshatm.com

CURRENT

Brown University

Masters of Science, Computer Science

Providence, RI Jan. 2020 - Dec. 2021

- Distributed Systems Research: Forked gRPC and protocol buffers to have data flow assertions, preventing sensitive information leaks across microservices
- Distributed Systems Research: Created a prototype service mesh proxy capable of coordinating distributed sagas, simplifying monolith to microservice migrations

EXPERIENCE

Cloudflare

Remote (Boston, MA)

Software Engineer Intern, Argo Smart Routing

5/2021 - 8/2021

- Prototyping reachability improvements to proprietary Internet-wide packet routing algorithms using Go, reaching a 2% improvement in global connectivity
- Developed automated experimentation pipeline that identified candidate routes, performed canary-based rollouts to an edge network fleet, and analyzed data

$\textbf{PlanGrid} \rightarrow \textbf{Autodesk (acquisition)}$

Site Reliability Engineer

San Francisco, CA 9/2017 - 7/2019

- Developed and operated self-hosted Kubernetes clusters; managed networking, routing and platform reliability for over 100+ services across 2 intl. data centers
- Implemented a 97.9% improvement in disaster recovery objectives of multi-TB Postgres databases through architecture overhaul
- Built infrastructure-as-a-service with Salt, Cloudformation and Terraform; undertook VPC design and Postgres load balancing for new Australia datacenter
- Automation tooling development with Python, Docker, bash e.g. network circuit breakers, DNS failover with healthchecks, diff generation for production changes.

BrightEdge Technologies

San Mateo, CA

Distributed Systems Engineer

7/2016 - 9/2017

- Sole maintainer of distributed data ingestion pipeline on HDFS/Hbase; managed Yarn-based batch processing for 30-40 million requests weekly.
- Slashed database monitoring latency by 96% by implementing priority queueing that "remembers" slow queries and diverts them to specialised channels.

PERSONAL PROJECTS Open Source

CHR, a pure-Python consistent hash ring implementation designed for pedagogical purposes, implemented completely from scratch with no advanced builtins.

caprice, a Go client for RANDOM.org's API, capable of generating truly random non-deterministic data for cryptographic purposes. (unmaintained)

wildcard-import-fixer, a command-line refactoring utility to automatically find and fix wildcard imports from Python code

Contributor to Netflix's Spinnaker, allowing developers to add custom Datadog tags as first-class feature in its monitoring ecosystem

Contributor to Hashicorp's Packer, allowing developers to attach multiple temporary security groups in AWS AMI builds

More projects available at https://github.com/AkshatM

EDUCATION

University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA)

Los Angeles, CA July 2012 - June 2016

Bachelor of Science, Physics, cum Laude with College Honours

DISTINCTIONS

8K+ Reputation, Stack Overflow

2016-Present

Top Writer 2016 and 2017, Quora

2016-2017

2015 Sharpe Fellow, University of California, Los Angeles

October 2014

NASA Planetary Data System Fellowship, NASA/UCLA

2013-2015