

Akshay Goel

Staff Software Engineer

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SUMMARY

Staff Software Engineer with 6+ years of experience at Meta, specializing in building large-scale AI and backend product experiences. Proven track record of leading multiple large cross-functional teams to develop cutting-edge AI features, optimize performance, and drive global product expansions. Known for technical leadership, strong communication skills, and a passion for mentoring other engineers.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Instagram - Staff Software Engineer

February 2023 - Current

Menlo Park, CA

- Currently driving the development of a critical new feature for Meta AI, leading the project across 8 teams, several directors, and direct input from Mark Zuckerberg.
- Directed the international expansion of Meta AI on Instagram and Messenger, successfully launching in over 105 countries and 30+ languages, including the EU, UK, India, and other regions worldwide.
- Led the integration of multimodal capabilities of Llama 3 into the Meta AI product experience on Instagram, achieving state-of-the-art performance and latency, surpassing industry competitors by 30% in inference speed. This was a key highlight at Meta Connect, presented by Mark Zuckerberg.
- Technical lead for integrating search with Google functionality into Meta AI, overseeing engineering, evaluations, and relevant testing.
- Technical lead for building out the core architecture for AI characters on Instagram AI Studio, now contributing to millions of messages per day.
- Helped build and scale the foundational messaging infrastructure on Instagram to support non-human owned profiles enabling us to launch Meta AI, an LLM based on Llama at Meta Connect in 2023. Also developed several new features powered by Generative AI, such as AI Stickers & AI Themes.
- Saved the company 3 million dollars in capacity costs by optimizing multiple areas across the codebase.

Meta - Senior Software Engineer

April 2019 - Feb 2023

Menlo Park, CA

- Created the algorithm used by Meta to identify hyperlocal Facebook Groups, including building all pipelines and APIs for tagging groups with predicted locations. This technique remains the foundational method used at Facebook today and earned internal recognition and awards.
- Identified, developed, and contributed to several key user growth levers and strategies for increasing daily active users on Facebook Groups, increasing total DAU into local groups by over 40%.
- Technical lead for the backend engineering team building Facebook Neighborhoods, a brand new 0->1 product designed to connect users within their local community. Scaled it to millions of users and was responsible for all of the launches into the US and Canada.
- Secured a patent for the algorithm that geo-bounds communities and hyperlocal neighborhoods.
- Contributed to the backend development of Facebook Campus and Facebook Events, delivering new user experiences globally to billions of users.

Microsoft - Software Engineering Intern

May 2018 - August 2018

Redmond, WA

- Redesigned Microsoft Azure's in-memory Hekaton SQL engine to support efficient reads from secondary machines within master-slave cluster architectures.

Facebook - Software Engineering Intern

January 2018 - April 2018

Menlo Park, CA

- Developed a framework to reduce the launch time of features related to elections by 99%, bringing it down from 8 hours to 5 minutes using Hack, XHP and EntSchema.
- Created an interactive bot on Facebook Messenger that periodically announces live election results, scalable to millions of chat threads.

EDUCATION

Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University

BS, Computer Science

3.97 GPA

Summa Cum Laude, Honors & Dean's List

SKILLS

Technical

PHP, Django (Python), C++, Java

HTML, CSS, Javascript, React, Node.js

REST, GraphQL, SQL, MQTT

AWS, Git

Spoken Languages

English (Native)

Hindi (Native)

Japanese (Professional)