

Benjamin Kats

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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Software Engineer 2 | American Express | New York, NY

August 2021- Present

Software Engineer 3 | American Express | New York, NY

January 2020 - August 2021

- Created and modified Java REST and SOAP APIs with JAX-RS / JAX-WS which connected numerous internal and external APIs, which integrated into the React UI servicing portal used by customer care professionals as part of the Acquisition team.
- Developed and owned a catalog of reusable / modular services and components which enabled other teams to quickly stitch together submission-to-decision flows for various finance products across numerous global markets.
- Brought scalable applications into production which receive tens of thousands of daily interactions.
- Wrote Shell scripts to automate the workspace, environment and VPN setup process, which shortened onboarding time from 1 day to under 4 minutes; effectively removing the extra workload from Senior Engineers and Tech Leads.
- Mentored, trained and guided interns / new hires through constructive code review; empowering them to bring unique insight.
- Refactored and ported code from the legacy PEGA codebase into a new open source / stack Java-centric codebase.

Full-Stack Software Engineer Intern | MVI Systems | Brooklyn, NY

November 2018 - March 2019

- Automated testing of IOS, Android and Web applications through Appium / Selenium with a Ruby backend, effectively eliminating all manual, physical testing of MVI software.
- Implemented front-end bug fixes of client, admin and dealer web portals using React.js which stabilized the product and improved user experience.

Web Developer | Drive Rite Academy | Brooklyn, NY

November 2015 - November 2018

- Modernized the company website from a static “listed services page” into a user friendly, modern website, increasing web traffic and search ranking through technical SEO strategies, successfully listing D.R.A as the top result for varied search queries on Yelp.
- Integrated the Appointy API into the website which allowed for ecommerce, resulting in a 150% increase in profit in the first 3 months.

TECHNICAL PROJECTS

NetBrew

August 2020

- Built a web application that provided a frictionless means of scheduling coffee chats between the entire directory of AMEX employees with a React frontend, Java backend and Jooby framework.

Let's Eat

November 2019

- Constructed a Fullstack application deployed on AWS, containerized with Docker, built with React.js and Spring Boot following Microservice Architecture guidelines which allows a user to find recipes based on individual ingredients found in their kitchen.

Spillit

October 2019

- Programmed a “Reddit-like” monolithic application with core Reddit functionalities of signup, login, create post / comment with a RESTful API using Spring Boot as the backend, Postgres for the database, and HTML, CSS and Vanilla JavaScript for the front end.

InstaHandle

May 2019

- Developed a web scraper in Python that quickly identified unique and available Instagram usernames by parsing the HTML of Instagram's website.
- Designed an algorithm to detect and pass Instagram's bot checking protocols by generating a new user agent for the active session and retrieving authentication codes sent by email.

TECHNICAL SKILLS & COMPETENCIES

Skills: Java, Python, JavaScript, React.js, Bash, C++, Swift, Ruby, HTML, XML, CSS, PostgreSQL, Couchbase, MongoDB, Test Automation, Git, Spring Framework, JBoss, Jooby, REST API, SOAP API, GraphQL, SVN

Tools / Apps: AWS, Maven, IntelliJ, Terminal, Postman, Docker, Visual Studio Code, Sublime, Sketch, Mac OS X, Linux, Windows (XP – 11), Microsoft Suites, Google Suites, Adobe Photoshop, Illustrator, Jira, Rally

Languages: English: Native | Russian: Bilingual | Spanish: Intermediate

EDUCATION

City University of New York - Brooklyn College (Engineering Honors College)

August 2015 - December 2019

Bachelor of Science in Computer Science with a Mathematics Minor, In-Major GPA: 3.8 | Dean's List

- Coursework: Algorithms, Data Structures, Design & Implementation of Web Applications, Databases, Operating Systems, Computer Architecture, Linear Algebra, Differential Equations