Benaia Banda

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Portfolio: https://benaia-portfolio.vercel.app/

Professional Summary

Results-driven Fullstack Engineer with 6 years of experience in software development, data analysis, and IT systems support. Demonstrated success in designing scalable web applications, building robust backend APIs, crafting responsive UIs, and interpreting data to drive business decisions. Known for combining strong technical skills with business acumen to solve real-world problems. Fluent in English and French, with a deep understanding of modern cloud-based architectures, DevOps, and secure systems engineering.

Technical Skills

Frontend: React.js, Vue.js, Angular, JavaScript (ES6+), HTML5, CSS3, Tailwind, Bootstrap
Backend: Django, Node.js, Express.js, Python, PHP, Java, REST & GraphQL
Databases: PostgreSQL, MySQL, MongoDB, Firebase
Data Analytics: Python (Pandas, NumPy), Excel, SQL, Power BI, Jupyter Notebooks
DevOps & Tools: Git, Docker, Jenkins, AWS, Azure, Vercel, Heroku, GitHub Actions
Security: OAuth2, JWT, SSL, Firewalls, Pen Testing (Jr)
Other: Agile/Scrum, API Integrations, Microservices, WebSockets, CI/CD

Professional Experience

Senior Fullstack Developer

Just Ask Digital Solutions – Cape Town, SA | Jan 2022 – Present

- Designed and maintained scalable fullstack systems using React, Django, and PostgreSQL.
- Led 3 junior developers and conducted regular code reviews and training sessions.
- Optimized frontend performance by 45%, improving Lighthouse scores across projects.
- Integrated APIs for payments (Stripe), location services, WhatsApp, and SMS notifications.
- Architected and launched KwikCash, a multilingual remittance platform serving SA and DRC.
- Developed a PWA with offline support and responsive design for mobile accessibility.
- Implemented role-based access control and secure user management using JWT.

Backend Developer
Global Teck Innovations – Johannesburg, SA | Jun 2020 – Dec 2021

- Built robust RESTful APIs using Django and Node.js to handle 15K+ monthly users.
- Refactored monolith into Dockerized microservices deployed on AWS EC2 and RDS.
- Led backend integration for mobile and web platforms, enabling real-time data sync.
- Implemented authentication with JWT and OAuth2 to improve API security.
- Improved system latency by 35% via asynchronous processing and DB indexing.
- Collaborated with QA team to introduce automated integration testing with Postman.
- Wrote and maintained API documentation using Swagger and OpenAPI standards.

Frontend Developer
Naomi K's Couture (E-commerce Project) – Remote | Mar 2019 – May 2020

- Developed modern, mobile-responsive UI using React, Tailwind CSS, and Styled Components.
- Integrated Stripe API for secure online payments and checkout flow.
- Optimized image loading and applied code-splitting to reduce page load time by 40%.
- Worked with designers to create pixel-perfect UI and custom animations.
- Set up version control workflows using Git and GitHub for solo and collaborative releases.
- Deployed and maintained frontend using Vercel with continuous deployment pipeline.
- Implemented SEO improvements and performance analytics using Google Lighthouse.

Data Analyst & Visualization Intern
Digital Solution – Johannesburg, SA | Jan 2018 – Feb 2019

- - Collected, cleaned, and analyzed data using Python (Pandas, NumPy) and SQL.
- - Built interactive dashboards in Power BI for sales, churn, and financial metrics.
- - Created predictive models to estimate customer lifetime value and churn risk.
- - Automated Excel-based reporting, saving 10+ hours per week in manual effort.
- - Prepared executive summaries with visual insights to support strategic decisions.
- - Worked cross-functionally with IT and marketing to identify data gaps and KPIs.
- - Documented all scripts and workflows for reproducibility and audit purposes.

IT Technician & Support Specialist
Kwik IT Support Services – Cape Town, SA | Jan 2017 – Dec 2017

- Provided desktop, network, and hardware support to over 100 users weekly.
- Configured routers, printers, and user accounts across Windows and Linux systems.
- Conducted preventative maintenance and daily system health checks.
- Delivered one-on-one training to non-technical staff on IT best practices.
- Managed helpdesk tickets and resolved 95% of issues within SLA.
- Assisted in migrating office to cloud-based storage and file sharing system.

- Performed security audits and recommended firewall and antivirus upgrades.

Education

Vaal University of Technology

Diploma in Information Technology

Certifications
- Certified React Developer
- Certified Django Developer
- JavaScript Algorithms and Data Structures
- Legacy Responsive Web Design
- Data Analysis with R
- Big Data Emerging Technologies
- Introduction to Artificial Intelligence
- IBM Cybersecurity Analyst
- Junior Penetration Tester

Languages

English – Fluent

French – Fluent