Dian Kalaydzhiev
Full Stack Software Engineer

Versatile and driven professional with expertise as a skilled **full-stack engineer** and a **lecturer**, adeptly combining **teaching**, **learning**, and innovative **problem-solving** abilities. Possesses **dual citizenship** in the **United States** and **Bulgaria**, enhancing global adaptability and **cross-cultural** communication.

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💼 WORK EXPERIENCE

Full Stack Engineer
DevPunks, Turin/Italy

11/2023 - Present   *Remote*

Achievements/Tasks

- **Architected** a Neo4j **graph database** powering a **travel app**, creating a structure **optimized for finding the best paths** and making recommendations.
- Tackled the complex challenge of **implementing an offline mode** that provides **full app functionality** as if users were online. My involvement spans **every part of the project**, from **database design** to **backend development**, **data scraping**, **mobile development**, **web development** and **AI integration**.
- Introduced a **faster** and **more cost-efficient solution** for our **RAG** (Retrieval-Augmented Generation) and **NER** (Named Entity Recognition) processes using Groq.
- Additionally, I **led live coding sessions** where I programmed while others observed, recording them for ongoing **team learning**.

Technical Trainer/Lecturer
SoftUni, Sofia/Bulgaria

09/2022 - Present   *Sofia/Remote*

Achievements

- **Lecturer**, imparting knowledge in various courses, including **JavaScript**, **C++**, **Python OOP**, **Python Advanced**, **Postgres, SQL**, and **Django**. I have successfully taught and **mentored** approximately **5000 students**.
- Taking a proactive approach to enhance the learning experience, I **introduced theory tests** after each lecture and **integrated practical exercises** to explore supplementary concepts, effectively enriching the student's understanding of the subjects.
- Links to some of the courses I teach:
- Python OOP
- Python Advanced
- Django ORM
- Postgres
- Django Basics
- Django Advanced
- C++ Fundamentals

🏆 HONOR AWARDS

Top 100 most influential IT professionals in Bulgaria 2024
CarrerShow

SKILLS

Python   JavaScript

TypeScript   Django   React

Experss   SQL   Postgres

MySQL   Azure   Heroku

PROJECTS

MarkIt

- A **HackAUBG 6.0 winning project**. MarkIt streamlines the often time-consuming and subjective process of **analyzing interview data** in **marketing research**. This innovative solution provides comprehensive **analyses of interviews** and data-driven recommendations, **optimizing your research workflow** and leading to more secure and **strategic decision-making.**
- Project presentation
- Link to winning ceremony

Emotion Talk

- Emotion Talk is a personal project I **developed from scratch**, featuring a web app built with **Django REST** for the backend and **React** for the frontend. The application leverages AI and utilizes libraries like **Librosa** to accurately **recognize emotions from speech**, providing users with an interactive platform to better understand and express their emotions.
- Link to Front-End
- Link to Back-End

WORK EXPERIENCE

Lecturer
New Bulgarian University, Sofia/Bulgaria

10/2023 - Present   *Sofia/On-site*

Achievements/Tasks

- **Teaching C++** programming to groups of up to **200 students**, both **online** and **on-site**, at New Bulgarian University.
- Developed and delivered comprehensive **C++** course content, fostering an **interactive learning**.
- Introduced a **Python script** for students **solutions scraping** saving **dozens of hours**.

Full Stack Engineer
Gentle & Rose, Varna/Bulgaria

11/2022 - 11/2023   *Remote*

Achievements

- During my work as a Full Stack Engineer at Gentle & Rose, I successfully contributed to the development of **2 Shopify web applications**.
- "Thunder Page Speed Optimizer," significantly enhanced the SEO performance of Shopify stores. As a key accomplishment, I **independently designed and implemented a new React frontend** from scratch within a few months, resulting in the app gaining **several thousand users** within **3 months.**
- "Customizable Sliding Cart" project - Demonstrated **strong initiative** by thoroughly **refactoring the codebase** and **optimizing the development** process. **Introduced a novel method** for rendering a preview cart at the shop, leading to a substantial improvement in efficiency and user experience. By **reducing** the average save time from **15 seconds to just 2 seconds.**

Content Developer
SoftUni, Sofia/Bulgaria

06/2022 - 11/2022   *Remote*

Achievements

- Made **significant contributions** to the educational resources. Specifically, I have designed and developed **4 exams and 10 exercises**, which remain integral components of the curriculum, **benefiting around 500 students monthly.**
- **Developed a web application** used as an example and practice tool for students during each edition of the course.

EDUCATION

Bachelor's degree in Computer Science
New Bulgarian University, Sofia/Bulgaria

10/2022 - Present   *Sofia/Bulgaria*

Courses

- Extensive range of mathematics courses, including **Discrete Math**, **Linear Algebra**, and **Analytic Geometry**. Additionally, I dedicated a year to mastering **C++** through comprehensive courses, further expanding my programming expertise and problem-solving skills.

Professional Qualification Full Stack Engineer
Software University (SoftUni), Sofia/Bulgaria

10/2020 - 06/2022   *GPA: 4*

Courses

- **2 years** to completing the comprehensive **Full Stack Python** roadmap. Throughout my journey, I successfully completed courses in **Python OOP**, **Django**, **JavaScript**, **React**, and more, achieving the highest scores in my graduating class and ranking in the **top 1%** of the course participants.

PROJECTS

EnergyDrinkGPT
- A Java-based Android application that utilizes GROQ for creating custom GPT models tailored for different users. The app features energy drink scanning and image recognition capabilities.
- Link to Repo

Quiz Master
- Quiz Master is a **Django-based web app** with vanilla **JS**, employing **PostgreSQL** for the database and incorporating **Redis** and **Celery**. It enables users to create and solve quizzes on a wide range of topics.
- Link to app

DaDay
- A **hackathon project** with **Django REST Framework** backend and **React** frontend, serving as a social network for kids and parents. As a **full-stack engineer**, I played a pivotal role in **data processing**, **API management**, and **bug fixing**, ensuring a seamless and **user-friendly experience**. The app also offers parents **analytics** on their kid's emotions as they write privately in a diary within the application.
- Link to the app