Fernando J. Soto

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Technical Skills

- Programing Languages: C#, Python, Java, JavaScript, PHP
- Web Development: HTML, CSS, ASP.NET Core, React
- Databases: SQL, MongoDB
- Source Control & Scripting: Git, Bash
- Automation: Cypress, Selenium

Work Experience

Paylocity — Chicago, IL (Remote)
Software Engineer — August 2024 - Present

- Optimized the performance of a critical API endpoint, achieving a throughput of 3,000 requests per second by leveraging code profiling, schema analysis, and strategic business logic improvements. Reduced SQL queries by 8x, resulting in a 7.5x reduction in P95 latency, significantly enhancing system responsiveness and scalability.
- Migrated Selenium automation to Cypress, enhancing readability, reusability, and stability. This transition reduced flakiness and accelerated automation development time, improving overall testing efficiency.
- Investigated and resolved pipeline build failures caused by unit test timeouts, implementing a lazy loading strategy that improved build times by 7x and reduced build failures by 43%, enhancing CI/CD pipeline efficiency and reliability.

Paylocity — Chicago, IL (Remote)
Associate Software Engineer — July 2022 – August 2024

- Diagnosed and resolved a complex, browser-specific bug that impacted the company's culture support initiative, affecting 18% of the user base and hindering critical application functionality. This fix restored key features and improved platform reliability for international users.
- Developed automation coverage for a key product suite used by ~22.5% of the user base, improving test reliability and addressing flakiness. This effort reduced team alert fatigue and increased overall confidence in automation.
- Contributed to company initiative to improve mobile application experience by integrating deep linking functionality across the product suite. This involved collaborating with the mobile development team to align on technical approach and ensure a seamless implementation.

Paylocity — Dominican University
Software Engineer Intern — May 2021 – August 2021

- Implemented a streamlined application tracking process using Google Analytics, enabling more efficient data collection and actionable user insights, providing actionable insights into user activity and facilitating data-driven decision-making.
- Identified and resolved two crucial bugs, leading to a 15% improvement in page load times, significantly enhancing site performance and user experience.

Education

Bachelor of Science in Computer Science and Mathematics — Dominican University
August 2019 – May 2021

Projects

Personal Lending Tracker
Full-Stack Application | SQL, C#, RESTful API, React

- Developed a financial education tool to help siblings learn about loans and credit, evolving it from a database-driven system to a full-stack application.
- Designed and implemented a SQL database with stored procedures and triggers to manage loans, people, and transactions, ensuring data consistency and integrity.
- Built a Windows Form application to improve usability, enabling intuitive tracking and management of loans, payments, and transaction history.
- Transitioned to an API-first approach, developing a RESTful API to expose data and support future integrations, following service layer and DAO design patterns.
- Created a React-based front end to provide a modern, interactive user interface, implementing pagination, error handling, and responsive design.