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# Konstantin Gredeskoul

## Expertise

CTO, VPE, hands on developer with two decades of experience across Ruby, C/C++, BASH, JavaScript, NodeJS. DevOps, enterprise systems architect, hands-on engineering manager, thought leader, mentor, alpha geek. Musician, DJ, aspiring furniture builder, hardware & electronics inventor, white-water kayaker ☺

### Proficiency

| Industry Expert Level | Advanced Level | Intermediate |
|---|---|---|
| Ruby, Ruby on Rails, RSpec, Sinatra, Capistrano, Devise, Chef, etc. | APPLICATIONS | C++ Objective-C |
| BASH v4 programming using taps for testing | Redis, Nginx, Haproxy, pgBouncer, twemproxy, PostgreSQL, Solr, Memcached, RabbitMQ, Chef, Sidekiq, ElasticSearch, Linux, SmartOS, dTrace, statsd | Modern JS libraries |
| ANSI C, JavaScript (ECMA6) | | React |
| Object oriented design, SOLID design, Java, SQL, services, micro-services, APIs, queues. | 3ᴿᴰ PARTY SERVICES: | Event-driven design |
| Performance tuning code, PostgreSQL tuning. | NewRelic, Boundary, Circonus, PagerDuty, Pingdom, Heroku, Chef, TravisCI, git, github, RubyMine, Atom, TextMate, gitX | AWS, EC2, BeanStalk |
| UNIX & finding bottlenecks in under-performing distributed applications. | | Google Cloud |
| Relational and key-value database schema design, either for increased productivity, or for high performance and scale. | | Docker, Heroku |
| Process improvements: Agile, CI, CD, pairing, TDD, BDD, Retrospectives, Planners, etc. | | |

## Work Experience

### Recent Consulting & Open Source Projects

| Year | Period | Company | Project | Stack |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2017 | March | Open Source | **Sym** — symmetric encryption open source tool (CLI) and Ruby API gem for encrypting application secrets in a seamless way. https://git.io/vyouE | Ruby 2.3.3/2.4.0 RSpec, OpenSSL |
| | January | Open Source | **SimpleFeed** — social activity feed library based on Redis backend and sorted set data type. https://git.io/vyflt | Ruby 2.3.3/2.4.0 RSpec, Redis |
| 2016 | April – September | GoShippo.com | Deployment automation for dockerized application. Automate buiild settings, secrets management, and environment | Ruby 2.3, Docker, Capistrano, RSpec, |

| Year | Month | Company | Description | Technologies |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | management. Sped up deploys from 30mins to 17secs. | OpenSSL, AWS |
| | February — March | Hired.com | Speeding up raw performance of hired.com. *Made 2X improvement.* | Ruby 2, Rails 4, PostgreSQL, Heroku |
| | January | Innit.com | Analysis of the internal and external data models, inception and task breakdown of import app | PostgreSQL, XML, JSON |
| | January — February | GoShippo.com | Tooling for developers to get fully setup with latest dev tools for Python, and a Dockerized application | Python, ruby, bash |
| 2015 | December | TryButter.com | Product inception, estimation, task breakdown, MVP definition and timeline estimation | |

## "Birds Eye View" Employment History

### CTO at Simbi.com
October 2016 — March 2017 (6 months)

### CTO at Wanelo.com
February 2012 – November 2015 (3 years 9 months)

### DOE at ModCloth.com
August 2010 – February 2012 (1 year 7 months)

### CTO at DropInMedia LLC
September 2008 – September 2010 (2 years 1 month)

### CTO at Infectious.com
June 2007  – May 2009  (2 years)

### Principal Web Engineer, Blurb
March 2006– June 2007  (1 year 4 months)

### Senior Software Engineer, RedSeal Systems
September 2005 - March 2006  (6 months)

### Systems Architect, Topica
March 1998 – August 2006

### Software Engineer at National Rails Corp, Australia
April 1995 – June 1996 (1 year 3 months)

### Consultant at CyberSource Pty Ltd (Australia)
November 1994 – November 1995 (1 year 1 month)

## Volunteer Experience

### Mentor at RailsBridge (Women in Technology)
January 2012, 2013

### Mentor, Judge at IncubaUC, Santiago, Chile
September 2015 – Present

## Education

### Monash University, Melbourne, Australia
Honors Degree of Bachelor of Science, with majors in "abstract mathematics" and "statistics"
1992 – 1995

### Kharkiv State University, Ukraine
BSc, Mathematics and Advanced Calculus
1991 – 1992

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# LinkedIn Recommendations

"I have worked with Konstantin and can say he is bar-none the most technically minded CTO and leader I have worked with. He has an amazing depth in system turning, scaling architectures and ruby programming and database tuning.

His biggest contribution though was building a super well-oiled engineering team that is the dictionary definition of efficient, lean and driving a fully automated deployment infrastructure and enforcing best practices such as TDD in a pairing environment. Overall Konstantin is a super passionate and creating technologist and leader and would be a great asset to any team that wants to build an amazing tech org. I would fully work with him again in a heartbeat. "

**Matthew Camuto, Sr. Software Engineer, Wanelo.com.**

"Over and over, I've seen Konstantin focus not only on technical architecture & excellence, but on growing the people on his team. He continually works to hone his team's best practices, with the goal of making his team & company an incredible place to work. Whether it's carefully preparing to deliver actionable feedback, or charting next steps on career paths, or matching passions & skills with projects, Konstantin is relentlessly striving to help his team grow, and his company thrive."

**Marcy Swenson, Executive Coach, StartupHappiness.com, was an executive coach to Konstantin.**

"Codes faster than lightning. I feel extremely lucky to work with Konstantin at Drop in Media. His skill with software architecture, development and team leadership is invaluable. He has a keen mind and a sharp intellect which he proves time and again while tackling difficult problems. His most valuable asset is his motivation and drive which is an inspiration and ensures the job gets finished."

**Tony Rose, CEO & Co-Founder at Drop In Media LLC.**

"It goes without saying that Konstantin is a talented engineer with deep expertise in a broad range of technologies. He built the foundation of Infectious and did everything technical we needed. He was a swiss army knife CTO who was hands on and great at getting stuff done. But he is more than a great technologist. He has incredibly good product sensibility, an eye for well-designed UI and passion for creating quality. He contributed heavily to the strategy with a very pragmatic approach, balancing business needs and technical vision. Konstantin is a solid leader and I look forward to working with him again in the future."

**Tim Roberts, CEO & Founder, Infectious.com, Inc.**

"There are those people who you work with that will forever be a positive influence on your professional life. Konstantin is one of those people. Not only is he the must have person you want on your team when tackling the Big Problem, but he makes it seem easy and does it with grace. His skill in technology is only matched by his skill as a musician. A leader for the digital renaissance age."

**Matt Levy, Senior Software Engineer, Topica, Inc.**

"Konstantin is a brilliant systems architect. He always found the fastest and most elegant approach to solve our technical challenges. He was a pilar at Topica and fundamental to many of our achievements. I hope I get to work with Konstantin again in the future..."

**Ariel Poler, CEO & Founder, Topica, Inc**

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# Detailed Work Experience

**CTO at Simbi.com**

*October 2016 - March 2017 (5 months)*

Simbi is building a symbiotic economy marketplace, where you can find, use and learn the most quirky andunusual things.

I joined the company shortly after their YC round of financing and focused on streamlining and formalizing product development process. We were able to reduce friction by switching to Pivotal Tracker, improve code quality with more attention on automated testing and continuous integration. I helped guide the team towards a more modular software architecture while personally focusing on increasing operational transparency of the production environment through real-time monitoring and intelligent alerting.

I contributed an open source library that supported the "Activity Feeds" feature on the site — where the relevant events are shown in a chronological order. The library is based on Redis, and ensures constant access time for reading and rendering the feeds.

I managed the team with 1-1s, and hired talented engineer(s) into the team, while striving to create a truly collaborative engineering culture despite cultural and time-zone differences with an outsourced dev team.

**CTO at Wanelo.com**

*February 2012 - November 2015 (3 years 9 months)*

I joined Wanelo right after Deena's (CEO, and a Founder) initial seed round. Working at two jobs for a couple of weeks, I jumped into fixing site's continuous outages caused by its own popularity and lack of performance-oriented thinking in the first prototype codebase. After applying sufficient amount of "duck tape" allowed the company a few months of breathing room, I focused on establishing high-performance engineering practices within the newly formed team. Closely following the Pivotal Process, my team agreed to try full-time pair-programming, in addition to more familiar practices of continuous integration, daily deployments, and TDD. In just under two months that followed, with the team of six, we replaced the old

Java app – 90K lines of code, no tests – with a compact Rails app – 10K LOC including tests. We

then brought live the new application, migrated data from MySQL to PostgreSQL, and swapped Cloud vendors all at the same time. With just one hour of planned maintenance. Full story: http://bit.ly/ONeXPb

From the very beginning our cloud infrastructure is 100% automated with Chef (enterprise), and most of the software is covered by the automated tests. These two practices, introduced from the beginning enabled the company to avoid having to hire a dedicated Operations or QA teams. Cloud and CDN resources are now provisioned and configured by the developers, across a range of technologies and vendors. See the following presentation at RubyConf Australia 2015:

http://www.slideshare.net/kigster/dev-ops-without-the-ops

```
Ruby, jRuby, Rails, PostgreSQL, Redis, the
proxy, Nginx, haproxy, ElasticSearch, Solr,
Memcached, Chef, Capistrano, Joyent Cloud,
SmartOS, dTrace, Objective-C, iOS, Android,
scaling, automation.
```

**Director of Engineering at ModCloth.com**

*August 2010 - February 2012 (1 year 6 months)*

ModCloth.com is an online clothing, accessories, and decor retailer recently featured as #2 fastest growing American company in the Inc 500 magazine http://bit.ly/8ZGrur

My role combined both technical leadership as well as management of a 20+ person development team.

Additionally, responsible for directing the company from monolithic application towards SOA, helping the team adopt Solr search engine, automate deployment, and many other higher level initiatives such as test driven development with continuous integration, paired programming, short and frequent release cycles, migration to the cloud, and zero downtime releases.

```
RoR, MySQL, PostgreSQL, Capistrano, Redis,
Memcached, RSpec, SmartOS/Solaris
```

**CTO & Founder at Drop In Media LLC**

*September 2008 - September 2010 (2 years)*

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Industry: SMS/MMS, billing, premium messaging, carrier relations, carrier application development.

In-house developed enterprise platform supported high volume SMS/MMS messaging, plug-in architecture for business logic, as well as billing and routing functionality similar to that of an SMS aggregator.

Bootstrapped company part time in 2004, later transitioned into a full-time CTO role. In charge of all internal IT, Operations, Development, QA, technical integrations, evaluations, support for business development and marketing initiatives, as well as hiring and managing an internationally distributed team of developers for a company of about 10 people.

```
Java 1.6, Hibernate, Spring, JUnit, Linux,
PostgreSQL 8 and 9
```

### CTO at Infectious.com, Inc

*June 2007 - May 2009 (1 year 11 months)*

Infectious is an art community plus an online store, with a crowd-sourced content model built around modern art printed on adhesive vinyl. All aspects of technology, from operations, IT, engineering and hiring.

Infectious.com Inc employed about 10 people.

```
RoR, PostgreSQL, RSpec, Capistrano, Linux
```

### Principal Engineer, Web Development at Blurb, Inc

*March 2006 - June 2007 (1 year 3 months)*

Lead Blurb's web team (four-five people team) in launching one of the first e-commerce applications on Ruby on Rails in 2006, in under four months, including data migration from the prototype.

Learned Ruby on Rails and Ruby together with my team, and decided to never build another web-app in Java. Kept the promise.

Blurb.com received a Webby Award in 2007.

```
RoR, PostgreSQL, Java 1.6, Hibernate, Spring
```

### Senior Software Developer at RedSeal Systems Inc

*September 2005 - March 2006 (6 months)*

RedSeal Systems builds network modelling and risk measurement, vulnerability software.

Designed two-tier plug-in framework to support a variety of devices and communication protocols (SSH, FTP, SCP), as well as the threat reference library related features.

```
Java, Hibernate, PostgreSQL, Spring Framework,
RMI, Client/server, Swing, XML/XSD.
```

### Systems Architect at Topica, Inc

*April 1998 - August 2005 (7 years 4 months)*

Industry: email list management software, marking automation, ESP (email service provider).

Built a very large distributed application running across 50+nodes (owned hardware), on top of a sharded mutli-database architecture, with a web GUI based on Apache/mod_perl and perl5.

Topica was responsible for sending over 200M email messages **per day** in 2001, which at the time represented nearly 1% of all daily Internet email.

```
Oracle 8i, BEA Tuxedo, Perl5, Perl/XS, C,
Apache, mod_perl, XML, Java, Hibernate,
Verity, gcc, gdb, make, Linux.
```

### Software Engineer, National Rail, Australia

*April 1995 - June 1996 (1 year 2 months)*

Engineer on a distributed network component of the larger control system software rewrite at the largest commercial rail company in Australia. Automatic scanners installed across the nation registered trains, cars and individual containers as they were passing, and reported in real time location of each component to the central system.

```
BEA Tuxedo, C (daemons under AIX/UNIX), Oracle
Pro*C, SQL, Pipes.
```

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