Patrick Pei

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EDUCATION

Northwestern University

Master of Science in Computer Engineering, GPA: 4.0/4.0

University of California, San Diego

Bachelor of Science in Computer Engineering, GPA: 3.7/4.0

Evanston, IL

Sep 2020 – Dec 2021 La Jolla, CA

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Sep 2016 - Jun 2020

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EXPERIENCE

Coursera Mountain View, CA

Senior Software Engineer Mar 2024 - Present

- Allowlist Management Platform (P0 Initiative): Led cross-functional P0 project with 4 engineers implementing near real-time data platform for enterprise contracts (10M+ learners), reducing customer onboarding from 2 weeks to under 10 seconds. Architected fault-tolerant Java/gRPC microservice with 99.9% uptime, handling 50K+ concurrent updates.
- Badge Management Platform & Revenue Growth: Spearheaded team of 3 engineers building real-time stream-processing platform for badge issuance across 500+ organizations, directly contributing to over \$10M in contract ACVs. Designed event-driven architecture using Kafka Connect CDC with Amazon MSK, achieving 99.95% data consistency.
- Internal Tooling & Operational Excellence: Launched Retool-based internal management platform reducing engineering operational overhead from 95 minutes to under 5 seconds (99.9% efficiency gain). Architected scalable ETL pipeline processing 100TB+ daily data from AWS RDS Aurora to Snowflake EDW.

Software Engineer II Mar 2023 – Mar 2024

- Clips Management Platform (Large-Scale Distributed Systems): Led team of 3 engineers architecting fault-tolerant distributed system for video clips metadata management serving 100M+ course views globally. Implemented event sourcing with CQRS pattern, achieving 80% faster metadata updates through parallel processing and optimistic locking.
- Performance Engineering & Caching Strategy: Designed and implemented distributed Redis Cluster (20+ nodes) reducing P95/P99 API latency by 80%/92% respectively for 50K+ QPS. Built application-level distributed transactions with saga pattern ensuring ACID properties across 15+ microservices.
- Microservices Architecture & Scalability: Architected Java Spring Boot microservices with hexagonal architecture supporting 1M+ concurrent operations. Implemented circuit breaker patterns, bulkhead isolation, achieving 99.95% availability during 10x traffic spikes.

Software Engineer I Jan 2022 – Mar 2023

- Large-Scale Migration Platform & Technical Leadership: Led critical Contract and User service migrations from Scala to Java affecting 50M+ users, phasing out 12 legacy APIs and eliminating 5K+ lines of technical debt. Architected zero-downtime migration library with automated dual-write/read strategy, deployed across 15 migrations with 99.9% success rate.
- High-Performance gRPC APIs & Service Mesh: Designed and implemented 19 production gRPC microservices handling 3.2K+ QPS with 98% test coverage. Built learner profile service supporting 200+ QPS with sub-50ms P95 latency, integrated with Istio service mesh for observability.
- Distributed Systems Architecture & Data Processing: Architected event-driven microservices ecosystem processing 1B+ events daily with Apache Kafka and Confluent Schema Registry. Implemented eventual consistency patterns and distributed tracing achieving 99.99% data delivery guarantee across 20+ services.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- Languages: Java (Expert), Scala, JavaScript/TypeScript, Python, SQL, C++, GoLang
- Distributed Systems: Apache Kafka, gRPC, GraphQL, Microservices, Event Sourcing, CQRS, Saga Pattern
- Cloud & Infrastructure: AWS (EKS, MSK, RDS Aurora, DynamoDB, Lambda, S3), Kubernetes, Istio, Terraform
- Data & Caching: Redis Cluster, PostgreSQL, MySQL, MongoDB, Snowflake, Apache Airflow, ETL Pipelines
- DevOps & Monitoring: Docker, Jenkins, Jaeger, Prometheus, Grafana, CI/CD, Infrastructure as Code