

WESLEY SPIKES

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SUMMARY

A backend-leaning software engineer who excels at tackling complex problems across the entire stack. I handle ambiguous and fluid situations well, break down hairy problems into creative solutions with actionable tasks, and turn challenges into opportunities for growth.

TECHNICAL STRENGTHS

Computer Languages	Go, Python, Bash, SQL, \LaTeX
Operating Systems	Linux (CentOS, Gentoo, Ubuntu), OS X

EXPERIENCE

Health Break

- Spent the last few months spinning back up; family health matters fully resolved
- Current Go project is launch-control, a goroutine tracker and ordered shutdown manager
- Learning/refreshing knowledge on: React, Go's runtime internals, websockets, Python, Rust, and a smattering of other things

Squarespace

Remote

Senior Software Engineer

December 2017 – March 2020

- Successfully kept services online during a 3,000% spike in traffic (really) from our Super Bowl ad, fewer than 3 months into the job (February 2018); gathered requirements from all teams, built a specialized front site cache, and coordinated testing of functionality across all engineering teams (Python)
- Architected and built a black box caching system for all customer websites; increased responsiveness from the CMS and reduced the number of requests to the application by 60%, resulting in the reduction of hardware requirements to run the platform (Go, Python, Perl)
- Built a Varnish module to offload security operations onto the cache layer (C)
- Designed and built a system ensuring reliable broadcast of cache invalidation requests to all cache nodes; 98% of invalidation requests were processed by all cache nodes within 1.2 seconds (Go, Java)
- Built a robust Database User and Role Management; tooling had a full load, plan, request approval, then apply lifecycle; generated change plans were shipped to a central source for compliance and auditing (Python)
- Managed the sunseting of early TLS support, including communication with stakeholders (Java)

DreamHost

Los Angeles, CA

Senior/Lead Software Engineer

October 2014 – August 2016

- Leadership and Mentoring: Managed two direct reports; involved in technical hiring
- Architecture: Technical lead on the API2, Malware Remover, VPS-SSD, DreamPress 2 projects
- Infrastructure: Automated system configuration for 50K machines using Chef and an in-house system
- Core Dev: Major contributions to the foundations and billing of an old codebase (1997)
- Security: Post-exploit incident response; reported several notable issues

Software Engineer

January 2011 – October 2014

- Projects: Dedicated Servers, CafeCommerce
- Testing and CI: Created testing framework and practices, along with supporting CI processes
- Git Transition: Significant contributor in the transition from subversion to git
- Research and Documentation: Created documentation detailing the intricacies of the fraud detection systems

Technical Support

November 2009 – January 2011

At the time, DreamHost only hired graduates from Harvey Mudd College for roles on the development teams. I joined the Support team with the goal of eventually joining the dev teams, with the full support of the VP of Support (I was open and honest about this goal in the interview process). Within 6 months, I was writing utilities for the support teams. A few months later, I was working 50% of the time with the dev team.