Yechiel Kalmenson

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I was born and raised in Brooklyn. Got my rabbinical training in Israel and spent a few years teaching both children and adults. After a brief stint in tech support, I found my next calling and went on to study software engineering.

When I'm not writing code, I'm busy advocating for more conversations around ethics in the world of tech via my blog, weekly newsletter, and conference talks.

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

VMware - Pivotal Software Inc.

Software Engineer, *November 2018 - Present*

- Got to work on many parts of the Tanzu/CloudFoundry product using Kotlin, Go, Ruby, Python, and C++
- Worked on Tanzu's Kubernetes Database Service (Postgres and MySQL)
- Maintained Davos, an internal tool that keeps track of CVEs and security vulnerabilities and integrated it with various external scanning services like Black Duck, Trivy, and others
- Collected telemetry and insights into the use of our products to improve support by teams in the field
- Contributed a Windows implementation for Envoy Proxy
- Ensured pragmatic feature parity for Cloud Foundry users on Windows

Newtek Business Services

Full-Stack Developer, *January 2018 - November 2018*

- Maintained the company's legacy PHP applications, triaged and fixed bug reports and new feature requests
- Got rid of security holes in some of the older parts of the code

Fidelity Payment Services

FinTech Integration Specialist, *December 2016 - January 2018*

Technical Support, *June 2015 - December 2016*

- Wrote a React/Rails app to help the Integrations Department keep track of incoming integration requests
- Researched and provided solutions to integrate merchants' gateways and shopping-carts with our payment processing

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Technical experience: Go, Kotlin, Ruby/Rails, Python, C++, PHP, JavaScript/React, SQL, Kubernetes.

Interpersonal experience: Pair Programming, TDD, Code Review, XP methodologies, technical writing.

TALKS - WRITING

Torah && Tech
Weekly Newsletter/Book - Website
Torah && Tech is a weekly newsletter published by two rabbis-turned-programmers with discussions on the intersection of Torah, ethics, technology, teamwork, mentorship, ethical tech, AI, and many more. The first year's worth of newsletters have been collected and printed in the book **Torah && Tech; Discussions at the Intersection of Torah and Technology.**

The Algorithm Ate My Homework
RubyConf 2021 - Video
Am I My Algorithm's Keeper? If I write an AI that then goes on to make unethical decisions, whose responsibility is it?
In this Talmudic-styled discussion, I delve into ancient case laws to try and find legal and ethical parallels to modern-day questions.

Talmudic Gems For Rails Developers
RailsConf 2021 - Video
More than two thousand years ago conversations on central questions of human ethics were enshrined in one of the primary ancient wisdom texts, the Talmud. In this talk, I shared the lessons I've learned from a lifetime of Talmudic study that helped me in my growth as a developer.

Porting Envoy To Windows
KubeCon 2019 - Video | Slides
Envoy is an open source edge and service proxy, designed for cloud-native applications. For a half a year I joined Pivotal's effort to contribute a Windows implementation. In this talk, I, together with my pair William Rowe provided a progress report on where the work was holding, and what still had to be done.

Technical Blog
DEV.to profile - YechielK
Most of my technical posts, including tutorials, answers to popular interview questions, code-alongs, conference talks, career tips, and more.

Rabbi On Rails
Blog - RabbiOnRails.io
My blog where I pontificate on matters related to Judaism, tech, career, and more.