Ben Plotke

Skills

Java, Git, Python, Haskell, SQL, C#, Linux, PHP, C, Test Driven Development

About

I am very passionate about system design and coding practices. I am always pondering and practicing code. How can we design systems to be testable, maintainable, and readable? How can we ensure the code does what we think it does. How do we design systems to allow changes to be tractable and regression free? How do we code such that every time a new dev drops in, they can understand what they are reading without spending days puzzling over the entire code base? Let me use my passion to bring value to your company.

Work Experience

Adaptiva: Backend Dev, 2021-Current
- Developed multiple ORMs for different use cases
- Created an algorithm for peer-to-peer data aggregation and compression
- Created a system for gathering arbitrary state from endpoints, only sending diffs

Microsoft: Bing Backend Dev, 2018-2019
- Generated **Cortana** responses from **big data** sets with **distributed computing**
- Used **NLP** to design triggers for **Cortana** responses
- **Reverse Engineered** technology for which source code and documentation was not available
- Built performant **internal tools** for analyzing and modifying **Cortana** code
- Worked closely with **international teams** including Beijing

HP: Full Stack Developer, 2017 – 2018
- Implemented web pages to match design using **SCSS** and **Razor views**
- Employed **TDD** to insure high quality code
- Tested and explored endpoints with **Postman** before incorporating into code
- Setup and configured web applications on **IIS**
- Wrote **feature tests** using Selenium, headless Chrome, and HttpMock

Conversica: Integrations Intern, 2016 – 2017
- Transitioned integration processes to horizontally **scalable thread pool**. The new system reduced server load, scaled to handle spikes, and allowed us to guarantee customers faster processing times
- Developed and maintained web UIs for customer success team using **Yii**
- Crafted performant **MySql** queries with careful use of indices
- Helped manage over 50 integrations including FTP, SOAP, and REST

Tune: Data Science Intern, Summer 2015
- Used **R** to generate data visualizations for labeling and presentation
- Wrote a **Python** script for automatically fetching data from databases and AWS **S3** with caching to disk to speed fetches in subsequent runs
- Used **R** packages to do robust statistical analysis
- Crafted a **Python** script for queuing and launching pipelined tasks while remaining within memory constraints

North Seattle College: Math/Computer Science Tutor, 2013 – 2014
- Tutored math and computer science in the general tutoring room
- Privately tutored computer science

Education

- **Western Washington University:** BS in Computer Science, 2017