Sam Havens

CTO

Contact

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Skills

Machine Learning Engineering Python, Jupyter, scikit-learn, fastai, TensorFlow, Keras, AWS SageMaker

Web Development Node.js, Express, React, Hapi, Flask

SRE AWS (Elastic Beanstalk, Neptune, Lambda, RDS, Kinesis), Docker, Kubernetes, Jenkins

Other Programming Languages Elixir, Mathematica, PHP

Management Growing engineering teams, performance & career coaching, budgeting, pursuing investment

Work Experience

2016-06-01 till today

CTO at CarLabs:

I make sure the engineering team is functioning efficiently and realizing business goals. In addition to fundraising, growing and maintaining the team, and technical sales work, I still write software. I do analysis using machine learning tools like fastai, scikit-learn, and Keras (my focus has been on NLP). I make front-ends with React and Redux and backends with Node.js (or Elixir or Python). I try to automate as much as possible with Jenkins, ElasticBeanstalk, Docker, and the like.

- Grew tech team from 2 to 18 full-time members.
- Frequently met with the board, investors, and clients.
- Led transition to Agile/DevOps methodologies.
- Fostered a culture of continuous improvement with technical "Lunch and Learns" on functional JavaScript, Elixir, and Machine Learning.
- Ran the "San Fernando Valley Practical Deep Learning For Coders" Meetup.

2014-04-01 till 2016-05-31

Full Stack Developer at CarLabs:

I was all over the stack: backend (Node.js, PHP), front-end (React, Redux), and design (Sketch).

- Improved front-end build process to use Webpack and ES2015.
- Designed and built a mobile web app using Node.js, React, and Webpack.
- Pitched product design which became the focus of the company.

2013-04-01 till 2014-04-01

Full Stack Developer at RevMaker:

I wrote PHP scripts for data processing, lead validation, and submitting leads in real time. I worked on an MVC web app, written in Yii, for lead generation, and did some front-end work, mainly CSS, jQuery, and d3.js.

- Built a lead-scrubbing tool using PHP and MySQL that scored leads using a statistical model.
- Made a research tool using Yii, MySQL, jQuery and d3.js that updates charts in realtime in response to user input.

Board Member at Topanga Mountain School:

As a board member, I work to increase employee retention, automate processes for teachers and administrators, and find new sources of funding for innovative programs. Previously, I was a full-time math and science teacher from 2007-2013. I trained new hires, designed curricula, and constantly improved my methods by incorporating new strategies and technologies.

- Introduced new technology early: Khan Academy in 2009, and Duolingo in 2012.
- Ran the programming club, which regularly had attendance of over 10% of the student body.
- Brought programming into the math program.
- Modernized the focus of the statistics unit by utilizing Google Sheets and Tuva Labs.
- Researched and implemented new employee benefits program.

EDUCATION

2011-08-01 TILL 2013-05-21

California State University-Northridge

- Master of Science: *Mathematics (4.0)*

2002-09-01 TILL 2006-06-15

University of California, Santa Barbara

- Bachelor's Degree: *Physics (3.1)*

AWARDS

BIANCHI OUTSTANDING GRADUATE STUDENT
2012-05-21

California State University Northridge

- Awarded to one graduate student per year in the College of Science for outstanding academic and research performance.

IRIS FELLOW
2012-09-01

Interdisciplinary Research Institute for the Sciences at CSUN

- For research in mathematical physics.

LANGUAGES

English	Native Speaker
Spanish	Intermediate
French	Beginner