Blaise Watson

Senior Software Engineer

San Diego, CA
+1 (203) 505-5878
http://blaise.gg
dblaisewatson@gmail.com
https://www.linkedin.com/in/davidbwatson/

EXPERIENCE

Google, Mountain View, CA — *Senior Software Engineer*

July 2014 - September 2023

I was a member of the Datacenter Software team within Google Cloud. My team's job was to manage the health of Google's many production machines. Specifically, I helped build and maintain systems to monitor, repair, upgrade, and commission/decommission physical server hardware. I was promoted twice during my employment. I had many roles on several different teams during this time:

- Project lead for a multi year project that was replacing the entirety of the machine repair workflows. I managed work across 10+ teams and 50+ engineers, managed timelines, and designed replacements for the existing workflows (mainly the upgrade workflow).
- Engineer and later team lead for a 7 person team tasked with managing the workflows that controlled the repair, commissioning, decommissioning, and upgrade processes for machines. These workflows handled $XM worth of hardware repairs per day.
- Lead of a team that owned systems to intelligently reuse parts. We built machine learning models to predict whether parts would be reusable, saving $XX M per year.
- Engineer building systems to instruct humans how to fix broken hardware. We successfully completed a ground-up rebuild of the system resulting in significant gains in the ability to direct work, particularly for complex interconnected ML systems.
- Engineer building hardware problem detection systems in C++. Worked in a large legacy C++ codebase that handled petabytes of machine diagnostic data. I implemented many new rules for detecting hardware faults and configuration mismatches.

Chegg Inc., Sunnyvale, CA — *Software Engineering Intern*

June 2013 - August 2013

Johns Hopkins Student Jobs, Baltimore, MD — *Various*

September 2010 - September 2014

PROJECTS

SKILLS

Software Engineering - Python, C++, Java (and good at learning new languages)

Project Leadership

Backend Software

Data Analysis

System Migrations

AWARDS

Google Thanks - Recipient of 30 peer-nominated bonuses for going above and beyond.

Google Postmortem of the Month - Best postmortem within my organization for the month.

Google Perfy Award - Won for performance improvements that dramatically improved the speed of our service.

KPCB Engineering Fellow '13 - Member of a select group of students chosen to represent Kleiner Perkins.

Dean's List - 4 times (Spring 2011, Spring 2012, Fall 2012, Spring 2013)

You Autocomplete Me — *link*, *github*

HTML/Javascript/Python Google autocomplete guessing game.

Japanese/English Translation —*link*, *github*

Python/Pytorch Japanese to English Transformer based translation.

Chess Detection — *link*, *github*

HTML/Javascript/OpenCV chessboard/chess piece detection.

EDUCATION

Recurse Center, NYC —*Participant*

Nov 2023 - Feb 2024

Studied machine learning, did Advent of Code, and many projects (see above).

Johns Hopkins, Baltimore — *Bachelors in Computer Science*

August 2010 - May 2014

Selected coursework includes: natural language processing, compilers and interpreters, declarative methods