Daniel Metz

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Employment

STAFF SOFTWARE ENGINEER @ FIGMA   June 2023 – Present

Storage Platform Team   June 2025 – Present

— Improved safety and reduced toil by automating shadowing during database failover operations (PostgresQL on RDS). Enabled concurrent database upgrades with programmatic traffic ramping, health validation, and teardown. Together these eliminated a class of SEV-0 incidents, eliminated several hours of toil and interrupt per failover, and further reduced failover wall-clock time.
— Mentored senior teammates across technical excellence and organizational success. Started recurring team teach and share meetings. Improved team design and review processes.

Deploys Team Tech Lead   January 2023 – June 2025

— Led design, development, and wide adoption of a new configurable continuous deployment platform that federated deploy ownership to individual teams with automated monitoring, and rollbacks.
— Eliminated a class of SEV-0 incidents by leading the deprecation of blue-green deploys in favor of rolling deployments, reducing deploy complexity and cutting deploy-induced compute costs by 10-15%.

STAFF SOFTWARE ENGINEER @ LYFT   September 2016 – May 2023

Observability Experience Tech Lead   January 2023 – May 2023

— Spun up a new team owning logging, tracing, metrics, dashboards, alerting, and profiling. Authored team vision, charter, and roadmap.
— Extended Kubernetes controller for sidecar injection to consistently ensure arbitrary mutations across fleet resources.

Platform Experiences Group Tech Lead   April 2022 – January 2023

— Partnered with Engineering Manager and Co-Lead on org design. Coached 3 teams on their charters and roadmaps.
— Sped up IDL release process by over 2x (from 60m to 25m) by rearchitecting its deployment.

Deploys Team Tech Lead   June 2018 – April 2022

— Led multi-year effort to develop and drive adoption of safe, automatic production deploys across 90% of services. Identified requirements and collaborated with partner teams to shift culture.
— Defined and implemented SOX compliance for the deployment system.
— Tech lead for cross-functional peak event preparation program.

Education

Pomona College   Fall 2012 – Spring 2016

— B.A. in Mathematics, Computer Science

Side Projects

- personal site: featuring posts like
    - A Guide to Code Review and
    - Advice on Developing Packages

- extended tinyauth to support dynamic ip allowlisting (see proposal discussion)
- recipes app: custom made web app (and it's open source)
- hacker news client designed for offline access (and it's open source)
- settle: a custom dotfiles manager

Awards

- Core Passenger Outstanding Contribution Award for role in company-wide monolith decomposition.
- Inaugural recipient of Shift Left Security Award for exceptional ownership and impact in leading effort toward continuous automatic deploys.

Languages and Technologies

- Go, Python
- PostgreSQL (RDS), DynamoDB, SQS, MongoDB, Redis
- Kubernetes, Docker, Envoy, Temporal