

Daniel Metz

danielmmetz@gmail.com

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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