Donald Westland
Front End, Full Stack and AI Developer
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Professional Summary

Results-oriented Full-stack and AI Developer proficient in modern technologies including React, Next.js, JavaScript, Python, and AI frameworks (RAG, LLM, OpenAI API). Demonstrated ability to architect and build high-performance web applications and innovative AI solutions. Seeking to leverage expertise in front end, full-stack, and AI development to contribute to impactful projects.

Skills

Front End: Next.js 15 (Server Actions & App Router), TypeScript, React (Functional Hooks & Classes), React Native, Microservices, JavaScript, Redux (Redux-Toolkit, Saga), React Query, Jest, RegEx, HTML, SCSS
Backend: Node, Express, SSR, Python (Django, Flask), Nginx, Authentication, Database Administration (Postgres, MySQL, SQLite, MongoDB), SQL Scripting, ORMs (Prisma, Pg, Sequelize, Mongoose), PM2, bash scripting
DevOps: Docker, AWS, EC2, RDS, S3, CloudFront, Cloudflare, Linux security & administration
Team: Team Lead, Jira, Gitflow, Scrum, Agile, code reviews

AI Skills: Retrieval-Augmented Generation (RAG) with Large Language Model (LLM). Cursor, GitHub Copilot, OpenAI API, Advanced Prompt Engineering, Vector Databases (Pinecone, ChromaDB), LangChain, Python, Jupyter Notebook, Colab, Hugging Face

Experience

Full-Stack & AI Engineering   June 2024 to Present
Resume Bueno, Marina del Rey, CA

- Designed and built Resume Bueno, a startup offering an AI-powered resume optimization platform. The application features resume matching, job evaluation, and cover letter generation based on job descriptions.

- Architected a full-stack application using Next.js 15 with server actions, Prisma, PostgreSQL, and NextAuth 5 server sessions. Implemented SQL-driven AI resume matching, job evaluation, and cover letter generation with Stripe payment processing.
- Deployed scalable cloud infrastructures, including integrating AWS (S3, EC2, CloudFront), PostgreSQL, Vercel, Linode VM and Cloudflare CDN.
- Created an AI content detection system for a startup application, incorporating GPT-2-based LLM analysis to detect various types of AI-generated content.
- Developed an application prototype using Python, Flask, and LangChain to implement a retrieval-augmented generation (RAG) architecture. Integrated a vector database with Pinecone and created embeddings from chunked audio clips, video content, and PDF documents.
- Modernized MyBeachCams.com with Next.js server-side rendering, a database-driven architecture, Open Street Maps and an automated backend dashboard, reducing manual operations by 80% while increasing website traffic by 40% using modern SEO techniques.
- Developed a chatbot system with SQL-based knowledge augmentation, implementing pre-prompting to deliver personalized, accurate responses based on client data.
- Created automated content creation pipelines for an AI newsletter, combining AI-powered content aggregation, image generation, and publishing workflows.
- Founded "Learn AI LA", a community initiative to facilitate knowledge sharing and AI technology adoption.

Technologies used: LLMs, RAG, LangChain, OpenAI API, Vector Databases (ChromaDB, Pinecone), Advanced Prompt Engineering, React, Next.js, next-auth, Python, Postgres, SQLite, Cloudflare

Senior Developer   Oct 2023 to June 2024
Cognizant (DirecTV), El Segundo, CA

- Architected and led development of enterprise-scale Next.js applications serving millions of DirecTV users, implementing advanced SSR optimization techniques that reduced page load times by 30%.
- Designed and implemented a distributed API gateway system to route traffic between legacy services and modern microservices, enabling seamless migration of customer support infrastructure.
- Engineered a comprehensive API middleware layer incorporating rate limiting and data transformation pipelines to enforce security protocols across the enterprise platform.
- Spearheaded adoption of TypeScript and established code quality standards, resulting in 60% reduction in production bugs and improved developer velocity.
- Led cross-functional teams across multiple time zones to resolve critical performance bottlenecks, implementing caching strategies and performance monitoring that improved system reliability.

Technologies used: React, TypeScript, Next.js, Redux-Toolkit, Material UI, JavaScript, TypeScript, AWS, Jenkins, CodeCloud, REST, Jest, SEO

Front End Developer   Oct 2017 to May 2023
Internet Brands - WebMD, El Segundo, CA

- Developed HIPAA-compliant telemedicine applications using microservices for secure physician-patient communication and intuitive medical dashboards.
- Spearheaded front-end re-architecture of a major medical application (greenfield project), enhancing features, maintainability, scalability, and performance.
- Modernized legacy front-end codebases by transitioning to functional React components, improving code maintainability and developer velocity.
- Architected and implemented a unified front-end platform (Next.js hybrid, Tailwind CSS) across 7 medical brands, standardizing UX and streamlining development.
- Mentored junior developers and championed code reviews, elevating code quality and team collaboration.
- Utilized Postgres and SQL expertise to automate email templates and implement SQL automation processes, improving operational efficiency.

Technologies Used: React, Node (Express & Fastify) Next.js, Redux, Tailwind CSS, SQL, JavaScript, Microservices, SASS, CoffeeScript, Postgres, REST, GraphQL, Webpack, GitLab, Jest, Linux, Docker

Developer   Aug 2015 to Oct 2017
IRS Express LLC, Beverly Hills, CA

- Led full-stack development of a legal services application for IRS debt reduction, encompassing front-end and back-end functionalities.
- Engineered a Python/Django algorithmic engine for dynamic tax strategy calculation based on taxpayer demographics and expenses.
- Implemented automated IRS PDF form generation, streamlining the tax filing process and ensuring compliance.
- Developed marketing websites for IRS Express and legal services using WordPress and AngularJS, including UI design and graphic assets.

Technologies used: Python (Django, Flask), Postgres, AWS, (EC2, RDS, S3), PHP, Angular, JavaScript, jQuery, Gulp, Linux, Wordpress, Premiere Pro, Photoshop

Education

Santa Monica College / AA Business Administration