Emil Sayahi

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Systems programmer & web developer, obsessed with product engineering, with experience in startups & commercial open‑source software. Interested in making reliable, scalable, memory‑safe software that people want.

Skills

Languages:	Rust, TypeScript, JavaScript, C#, Python, Java, PHP, C, C++, Kotlin
Technologies:	Linux, Bun, Deno, PNPM, Node.js, Git, GitHub Workflows, PostgreSQL, MySQL, GraphQL, MongoDB, Docker, HTML, CSS
Frameworks & Platforms:	React, Expo, Express.js, Next.js, TailwindCSS, Vercel, Grafana, OpenTelemetry, Logfire, Pydantic
Techniques & Methodologies:	OIDC, Agile, Scrum, unit testing, end‑to‑end (E2E) testing

Experience

Firebender (YC W24)   San Francisco, CA
Founding Engineer   August 2025 - Present
- First hire at seed‑stage startup building a coding agent for IntelliJ IDEs
- Shipped features that took us from $500K to $1M in annually recurring revenue (ARR) within my first month of joining
- Iterated on product with our enterprise customers at OpenAI, Block, Adobe, Tinder, Zillow, and more

Planisphere (YC S25)   San Francisco, CA
Co‑Founder & CTO   July 2025 - August 2025
- Co‑founded seed‑stage startup automating the acquisitions pipeline for real estate private equity firms
- Built product and scaled from zero to $3K in monthly recurring revenue (MRR) within 1 month

Garden Computing   San Francisco, CA
Full‑Stack Software Engineer   February 2025 - July 2025
- Architected & led development of a high‑performance user management platform using Node.js (product TBA)
- Developed & maintained APIs for permission management and authentication for the Jazz framework
- Supported ~20 commercial adopters and 600+ open‑source users of the Jazz framework, hosted hackathons, and engaged with community members at conferences

Contractor   Remote
Full‑Stack Software Engineer   August 2024 - February 2025
- Maintained Rust modules related to LLMs in fork of Android Open‑Source Project (AOSP); details covered by NDA
- Developed WebKit‑based browser project integrating NLnet‑funded technologies into GNOME software ecosystem

Protiviti   Boston, MA
Technology Consulting Intern   May 2024 - August 2024
- Aided 2 senior consultants for automotive client concerned with regulatory compliance requiring business platform transformation (BPT) after $340m acquisition
- Developed SAP BusinessObjects reports and universes in Web Intelligence and Information Design Tool as part of reimplementing a major client dashboard
- Discovered & resolved recurring data loss among consulting team by introducing version‑control procedures
- Automated creation of certain client deliverables with Python scripts, eliminating 4+ hours of deliverable creation & validation

HCLSoftware   Remote
Software Engineer Intern   May 2023 - August 2023
- Identified & resolved bugs, and designed & built UI elements, as developer in 10‑person core team for HCL Accelerate and IBM UrbanCode Velocity products
- Transitioned product from Docker Compose V1 to V2. Migrated portions of React frontend from class components to function components.
- Developed frontend of new major customer‑facing feature that had previously been delayed by 3+ months

Miami University, IT Services   Oxford, OH
Software Engineer Intern   May 2022 - May 2024
- Developed integrations with applications in Miami University's IT Service Management ecosystems using TeamDynamix iPaaS and Python scripts
- Created internal tool to manage data associated with 62+ university‑owned buildings, eliminating the need to purchase updates for facility management software & 2+ weeks of manual database changes every 16 weeks
- Created internal tool to manage university‑owned hardware, improving record‑keeping & accountability
- Authored documentation of best practices, internal procedures, and technical standards; onboarded new engineers
- Presented at the 2023 Ohio Higher Education Computing Council (OHECC) Conference at Wright State University on ITSM best practices for higher education

Projects & Presentations

Introduction to Quantum Machine Learning   November 2023
Lecture given at the Miami University Physics Department seminar on introductory quantum computing, machine learning, and the intersection of the two fields.

Oku   May 2023 - Present
Open‑source web browser, peer‑to‑peer protocol, & social bookmarking system with 500+ users and 160+ GitHub stars. Recipient of €5 000 NLnet NGI0 Entrust grant as part of the European Commission's Next Generation Internet initiative.

Automation in IT Service Management   May 2023
Talk at the 2023 Ohio Higher Education Computing Council conference detailing technical & administrative best practices for ITSM automation in higher education.

Analysis of Potential Malicious Strategies toward Bit‑Exchange with IPFS   April 2022 - August 2022
Research project investigating attack vectors in a private IPFS network, funded through Miami University's Undergraduate Summer Scholars Program.

Education

Miami University   Oxford, OH
Bachelor of Science in *Computer Science* — GPA: 3.81 (magna cum laude)   August 2021 - May 2024

Awards & Certifications

Intellectual and Cultural Leadership	May 2024
Commendation in Undergraduate Research	May 2023
Dean's List	Fall 2023, Fall 2022, Spring 2022, Fall 2021
Choose Ohio First Machine Learning Scholarship	August 2023, August 2022, August 2021
Bertelsmann Technology Scholarship Program	December 2021