Walter Grant Ward

Lexington, KY

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Profile

Experienced senior software engineer looking for new challenges in the development world. Proven background in developing backend distributed systems, data engineering and greenfield development. High level Python and Javascript skills and mid level experience developing in PHP and Golang, but always eager to learn and adapt to new technology and methods.

Skills, Technologies, Methodologies

Python, Flask, FastAPI, Django, AWS, Docker, Kubernetes, Terraform, Vault, Nginx, Jenkins, Javascript, Node.js, REST APIs, Bash, Linux, PostgreSQL, MySQL, Snowflake, DynamoDB

Professional History & Experience

WXYZ.dev

Founder and Head of Software Development ❖ January 2023 - Present

Technologies used: Python, FastAPI, SQLite, AWS, Docker

- Architecture and development of a market research focused software application to drive research and results for clients.

Lexcelon

Lead Cloud/DevOps Engineer (Part-time, Contract) ❖ January 2023 - Present

Technologies used: Terraform, Github Actions, AWS, Azure, EC2, RDS, Elastic Beanstalk, Lambda, Route 53, Postgres, Python, Node.JS,

- Maintaining and development of Terraform + CI/CD pipelines across various AWS and Azure applications and accounts for many different clients

LiveRamp

Senior Fullstack Engineer ❖ May 2022 - April 2024

Technologies used: Python, Django, FastAPI, Postgres, BigQuery, Javascript, Jenkins, Docker, Terraform, Terragrunt, Vault

- Contributing to internal facing Django application to improve workflow efficiency for Cross-Screen Advertising Measurement campaigns
- Architected greenfield services + projects using FastAPI and BigQuery to move team's legacy pre-acquisition AWS environment workflows into LiveRamp's GCP environment and expand TV Advertising Measurement solutions
- Leading the maintenance and creation of Terraform modules and new resources as needed for our team

Dynata (formerly known as Critical Mix)

Tech Lead / Senior Software Engineer ❖ January 2021 - April 2022

Technologies used: Python, ECS Fargate, Postgres, TeamCity, Snowflake, Docker, CloudFormation

- Taking new product to integrated external partners via new APIs from planning and greenfield development and in to production
- Helped reduce monthly overhead cost of services and infrastructure from legacy application by 93%
- Design and implement SDKs for internal and external use

Senior Software Engineer ❖ August 2020 - January 2021

Technologies used: PHP, Golang, Javascript, EC2, ECS, MySQL, Jenkins, Snowflake, Docker

- Maintaining legacy PHP app that serves as main integration layer for external market research panels to fill open projects
- Contribute to the design, creation and implementation of moving legacy application to a more modern, extensible modern stack

Senior Big Data Engineer ❖ March 2019 - March 2020

Technologies used: Python3 & Flask, Apache Airflow, Kubernetes, Docker, Terraform, Ansible, Vagrant, MySQL, AWS EKS, S3, Jenkins, Snowflake

- Deployed and managed Apache Airflow on Amazon EKS Cluster, creating ingestion layer for third party data sources for ETL processes
- Brought product from greenfield to production deployments, with abstracted and easy to manage DAGs pulling data into an S3 Data Lake
- Creating the entirety of the stack via Terraform from the ground up

Senior AdTech Engineer ❖ June 2018 - March 2019

Technologies used: Python3 & Flask, Docker, Consul, Terraform, Vagrant, DynamoDB, MySQL, AWS ECS, Aurora, Redshift, Lambda, S3, Git, Nginx + Lua, Pytest, Bamboo

- Architected an Advertising & Brand Lift Measurement product to help clients evaluate the effectiveness of their online advertising dollars
- Maintained the entirety of the stack of this project, from DevOps and infrastructure setup (AWS services w/ Infrastructure as Code using Terraform), Databases and Storage (AWS Aurora MySQL, DynamoDB, Redshift, S3), Backend code (Python + Flask + Docker), Frontend (Vanilla Javascript, HTML) and beyond

BoomTownROI, *Charleston, SC, USA*

Software Engineer - Digital Marketing ❖ February 2016 - May 2018

Technologies used: Python3 & Flask, Angular 1, PostgreSQL, AWS, Docker, Git, REST APIs, OAuth, Google Apps Script, Adwords Script

- Built & maintained a suite of internal digital marketing tools for creating and managing advertising campaigns at scale
- Automating tedious processes via Python services, allowing analysts to focus on improving accounts in other ways.
- Created algorithms that optimize campaign performance by over fifty percent, thus directly impacting client's and Company's bottom line.

SEM Analyst ❖ May 2014 - February 2016

- Managed Adwords accounts and improved advertising return on advertising for over 1000+ real estate customers

Education

University of Kentucky ❖ Lexington, KY

International Studies, focus on International Development in Latin America