

# Yurii Rochniak

> Berlin, Germany

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Blog: <https://grem1.in>



## Bio

An engineer, who's doing a little bit of everything, when it comes to building platforms with emphasis on reliability and scalability. My strengths lay in AWS, Kubernetes, and building CI/CD flows.

When it comes to code, I prefer Go, but I can live with Python, if necessary - at the end of the day,

it's almost always comes down to Bash.

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## Technologies

Tools and languages I interact with on a regular basis, in no particular order:

Go, Python, Bash, TypeScript, AWS, Kubernetes, Jenkins, Groovy, GitHub / GitHub Actions, PostgreSQL, Helm, Terraform, Atlantis.

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## Career Path

**March 2024 - present:** [Preply](#) (A global language learning platform) - Senior Cloud Platform Engineer

- Revamped the **RFC** process for decision-making in the company by updating the template and leading the "RFC of the Month" initiative internally.
- Led the final stages of the migration of the **GraphQL** API gateway based on Apollo Gateway to **Apollo Router**.
- Enabled the ML team to create Databricks workspaces on their own with just about 5 lines of code by providing a **Terraform** module.
- Improved the predictability of the configuration changes in **Kubernetes** by introducing **Helm Unittest** into the company.
- Leading the initiative to apply customer-journey-based **SLOs** in our systems.
- Active contributor to the engineering culture within the company as a member of the Engineering Excellency Group.
- Active interviewer of the new talent for the company.

**July 2019 - March 2024:** [N26](#) (Online bank) - Lead SRE

- Improved the predictability of the team's deliverables by managing team priorities according to the **OKR** framework
- Helped to scale the platform team to more than 20 engineers by participating in the interview process
- Improved the visibility of some **Kubernetes** components' reliability by introducing **SLOs**
- Decreased the lead time to create a full-functional **Kubernetes** cluster to ~30 minutes and a single command by creating a CLI cluster-management tool in **Go**
- Reduced operational burden for product engineers by abstracting lower-level configuration with Kubernetes operators
- Reduced the footprint of internal tests for **Helm** charts to a couple lines of code per test by creating an internal library to test charts with **Go** and **Terratest**
- Introduced highly available setup for a legacy deploy sub-system as well as decreased MTTR for this sub-system to ~5 minutes using **AWS EFS**
- Ensured compliance of the infrastructure by upgrading OS version as well as **Saltstack** version in use. This change also required an upgrade of some internal scripts from Python 2 to **Python 3**

**January 2018 - June 2019: [Preply](#) (A global language learning platform) - CloudOps Engineer**

- Decreased the deployment time of a monolith application from 30 to 10 minutes by a migration from AWS Elastic Beanstalk to **Kubernetes**
- Increased time to market for the new features from 1 deploy in a few days to a couple of deploys a day by implementing a CI/CD platform based on **Jenkins** and implementing dynamic feature environments for product engineers in Kubernetes
- Improved the infrastructure operations by adopting IaC approach with **Terraform**
- Increased MTTR by adopting **DataDog** as an observability solution
- Reduced infrastructure costs by adopting AWS Spot instances for Jenkins agents and non-production Kubernetes nodes
- Increased team's throughput by adopting **Kanban** methodology
- Pioneered the incident management process including the culture of post-mortems

**September 2016 - January 2018: [Adobe Advertising Cloud \(ex-TubeMogul\)](#) (Demand-side platform for online advertising) - Systems Engineer**

- Improved the automation of the existing infrastructure in **AWS** and **OpenStack** using **Terraform** and **Puppet**
- Ensured the stability of internal systems by providing operational and oncall support using Nagios and **Sensu**
- Improved monitoring of various subsystems by writing native Sensu monitors in **Ruby**

**October 2014 - September 2015: [VolPlatinum](#) (International VoIP provider) - Support Engineer**

- Reduced MTTR of the internal office network from several minutes to a few seconds by implementing a router with automated failover to the secondary ISP based on a Linux machine
- Helped to scale the business as well as reduce costs by switching from a proprietary solution to **FreeSWITCH** and **OpenSIPS**
- Reduced infrastructure footprint as well as improved cost to efficiency ratio by implementing virtualization on top of corporate servers using **QEMU** and **KVM**

**January 2014 - October 2014:** [LuckyNet](#) (Internet service provider) - Support Engineer

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### Personal Projects

- [AWS VPC Peering Terraform Module](#) that people actually use in production.
  - [AWS Cost Exporter](#) - a tool to export AWS Cost Explorer data in Prometheus format. Potentially extensible to other formats and cloud providers.
  - [S3bc](#) - just an experiment of writing a CLI tool in Go with Cobra and Viper.
  - Telegram channel about DevOps: <https://t.me/catops>.
  - [Public talks](#).
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### Education

#### September 2013 - June 2015 - Master studies

National Technical University of Ukraine "Kyiv Polytechnic Institute." [Institute of Telecommunication Systems](#)

Master's degree in telecommunication systems and networks

#### September 2009 - June 2013 - Bachelor studies

National Technical University of Ukraine "Kyiv Polytechnic Institute." [Institute of Telecommunication Systems](#)

Bachelor's degree in telecommunications

### Courses

- 2018 - Lean Kanban University ["Team Kanban Practitioner"](#)
  - 2018 - Udemy "Scalable Microservices with Kubernetes"
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### Volunteering

- 2016: Teacher in IT Arts educational project. Subject: cloud technologies
- 2012 - 2015: Student magazine "KPIshnik". Editor-in-chief / columnist
- 2010 - 2011: "Provider Turboty" charity project. We have created a computer class in "Otchiy Dim" near Kyiv and taught computer basics to the children there for half a year.