

Annette Spyker Mechelke

<https://annette.mechelke.us/>

PROFILE

Software engineer with over 10 years of experience, primarily developing web services. Passionate about building quality software as part of a high performing team. Demonstrated leader and mentor. Strong sense of ownership, thrives in a start up environment. Enjoy being part of all aspects of the development life cycle. Believes in understanding business needs and building the right solution for the problem at hand.

SKILLS

Languages & Frameworks: Java, Spring, SpringBatch, NodeJS, Python, Flask, SQL, Javascript, Ansible

Technologies & Tools: Git, GitHub Actions, Postgres, MongoDB, MySQL, AWS (Lambda, SQS, SNS, ElasticBeanstalk), Redis, Elasticsearch, Apache Solr, Latex

Process & Methodology: Jira, Scrum, Kanban, CICD

EXPERIENCE

Grow Therapy

Remote

Mental healthcare start up. Tech stack: Python, GraphQL, GitHub Actions, AWS.

Staff Software Engineer, Team Lead

October 2022 - Present

Error Handling Improvements: Led initiative to revamp usage of Sentry for error handling. Established processes for issue assignment. Established SLA for handling issues.

Team Lead: Led newly created team of 4 engineers and one product manager. Guided team through establishing team processes.

Staff Software Engineer

March 2022 - October 2022

Project Lead: Led project to create a new Client Portal application to allow clients to complete administrative actions. Project necessitate significant data model changes.

Performance Improvements: Introduced pattern for adding tracing details. Debugged performance issues.

Fetch Rewards

Madison, WI

Joined as early engineer with thousands of users. Integral part of the development team as we grew to 10M users and 500 employees.

Engineering Manager

Aug. 2021 - Feb. 2022

Direct Reports: Managed 7 direct reports. Conducted one on ones. Gathered and evaluated feedback for quarterly reviews, and ad hoc as needed.

Engineer Education: Led multiple initiatives supporting continuing education in technology department: implemented Udemy Business, developed technical interviewing curriculum, semi-annual hackathon, and backend engineering group discussions.

Staff Engineer

Feb. 2020 - Aug. 2021

Onboarding Initiative: Created employee onboarding initiative for technology department as it grew to over 150 employees. Curated content for a dozen technical information sessions. Established and executed successful hackathon events for technology and product departments.

Apprenticeship Manager: Managed apprenticeship participants. Conducted weekly one on ones. Collected feedback. Made decisions regarding hiring and conversion to full time engineers.

Senior Software Engineer - Team Lead

June 2019 - Feb. 2020

Team Lead: Lead first new team in transition from single development team to many small product focused teams

Process Improvement: Worked with team to establish team metrics; automated metric collection process to report on metrics at monthly retrospective. Collaborated with product and project manager to revamp work stream ingestion process.

Senior Software Engineer

Dec. 2014 - June 2019

Major System Refactors: Refactored numerous business critical systems. Points (in app currency) accounting system, Shopping Lists, Pricing, and Offers/Coupons. Each time replaced existing, fragile code based with a focus on increasing maintainability and extensibility, while still completing the refactor in a timely fashion.

Production Support: Played integral role in creation of production support rotation. Implemented numerous improvements to increase supportability of our applications. Set up a Logstash/ElasticSearch/Kibana (ELK) stack to allow ingestion of logs from remote devices and app servers.

Process & Team Development: Established and facilitated weekly technical seminar for development team. Identified need for mentor program, mentored two junior developers. Played key role in transitioning from sprints to kanban workflow.

Shophop, an Amazon subsidiary

Software Development Engineer

Madison, WI

July 2012 - Nov 2014

Tech Stack: Java, Spring, Tomcat, Maven, Apache Solr, Oracle, Git, Javascript, JQuery, Java Swing, Memcached, RabbitMQ, Jira

Java Web Services: Part of a team that developed and supported numerous Java web services. Implemented numerous small improvements, interacting with business users to ensure satisfactory results. Worked across teams to coordinate larger website feature changes, such as expanding search functionality to allow faceted navigation.

Scrum Master: Served as Scrum Master for team of 8 people, helped establish agile development practices, created documentation to facilitate rotation of Scrum Master position.

Novashield Inc.

Application Developer, Lead for Malware Lab

Madison, WI

Jan 2010 - June 2012

Tech Stack: Java, MySQL, Python, Batch script, Bash script, VMWare, Linux firewalls

Infrastructure Management: Managed VMWare servers. Used VM networks and Linux and Cisco firewalls to ensure a safe network for executing malware. Maintained a MySQL database, tracking over 8 million samples.

Java Test Framework: Maintained and improved extensive in-house testing software, written in Java.

Task Automation: Created automation scripts in a variety of languages: Windows batch, bash, and Python.

OUTSIDE EXPERIENCE

Codecinella, Co-organizer: Codecinella is a Madison, WI based group of women software developers, students and professionals, looking to strengthen our community, and to encourage more women to become involved in the technology field. As an organizer, I plan and coordinate events from technical talks to hands on workshops. I have also given presentations and facilitated workshops, listed below.

Presentations: I presented “A CraSSH Course In SSH” at Women Who Code Connect Recharge 2022. As a Codecinella organizer I presented longer talks on: Git, unit testing, lightning talks, and 12 Factor Apps. I have also presented shorter talks on Conway’s Game Of Life and functional programming. (Slides for all available on my website.)

DevFest WI Conference, Co-organizer. 2022 & 2023: Solicited talks and reviewed submissions. Coordinated speaker communications. Facilitated day of logistics.

EDUCATION

University of Wisconsin

Master of Arts, Mathematics; Certificate in Computer Science

Madison, WI

2008

Arizona State University, Barrett Honors College

Bachelor of Science, Mathematics; Summa cum laude GPA of 4.0

Tempe, AZ

2006