

J (JAMES) MAUNSELL

Pronouns: they | them | theirs

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Goals

- Design robust backend architecture that enables empathetic user workflows
- Build software for an enterprise that helps people connect with and understand each other

Skills

- Fluent in Java, Go, Python, and Scala; familiarity with C and C++
- Fluent in French
- Spark, Kubernetes, YARN, Linux, macOS
- Software deployment within a microservice architecture
- Compilers and code execution infrastructure
- Systems design including distributed networks and operating systems
- Building approachable user workflows with clean visual design

Education

B.S. in Computer Science & Engineering / MIT Class of 2019

Graduated from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (GPA 4.8/5.0) with a concentration in French.

- Took graduate courses on computer systems engineering:
 - Built a Linux-style operating system in C from a thin skeleton
 - Wrote a Raft distributed key-value store in Go from the ground up
 - Designed and built a Bluetooth mesh network iOS messaging app using Swift
- Focused on compiler design, including:
 - Led a team to build and optimize a C-style compiler from scratch in Scala for a project class
 - Designed a cross-compiler from an actor-based Scala derivative to C, as part of a resource project with the MIT Programming Languages group
- Pursued political science from an analytical perspective, with specific interests in technology policy and in the role of race in crime politics
- Elected president (Sept. 2016-Sept. 2017) of a dormitory under transition, working closely with administration to advocate for a community largely comprised of students from underrepresented groups
- Elected Treasurer of the MIT Bitcoin Club (Sept. 2016-May 2017), collaborating with the MIT Digital Currency Initiative

Experience

Palantir Technologies

Software Engineer / Sept. 2019 – May 2022

Worked (Oct. 2021-May 2022) in the Production Infrastructure group.

- Wrote software to deploy software artifacts to air-gapped networks
- Wrote software to orchestrate software deployment to Kubernetes clusters under security constraints

Worked (Sept. 2019-Oct. 2021) in the Foundry Analytics group on a coding environment for data scientists.

Projects included:

- Optimizing the product's distributed Spark execution framework
- Implementing Git-style merge functions on software objects
- Expanding support for native R object types
- Integrating with an adjacent programming environment to record software environment history

Software Engineer Intern / June-Aug. 2018

Interned on the Build Infrastructure team for the Gotham platform.

- Refactored a build system for hundreds of Java plugins
- As a Hack Week project, wrote a simpler replacement plugin build system that is still in use today

Nutanix Inc.

Software Engineer Intern / June-Aug. 2017

- Designed and implemented a Python library for visually comparing time series data across bundles of low-level performance statistics
- Supplemented library with a command-line tool for generating sets of plots

Nebulous Labs Inc.

Software Engineer Intern / May-Aug. 2016

- Expanded test coverage for the core modules, API and command-line tool of a blockchain-based distributed cloud storage platform
- Built and operated a Linux host server to monitor platform performance

Service

Interviewer

Interviewed 34 candidates for the system decomposition facet for the Palantir Foundry group (Feb.-Oct. 2021).

- Trained two engineers to conduct interviews
- Scoped potential DEI improvements that helped form the basis for a working group

Mentoring

Examples of mentoring include:

- Mentored an intern with limited technical experience but strong capacity for growth (June-Sept 2021):
“Shoutout James for being the best mentor-- extremely supportive, always patient, and full of wisdom! I seriously learned so much from him this summer and had a blast working together.”
- Mentored a coworker in a non-software engineering role with strong engineering experience to join the engineering team (Jul. 2021-Mar. 2022)
- Mentored a new hire with limited technical background, working with them to build problem-solving skills and showcase their strengths (Jan.-Mar. 2022)
- Ramped up a new hire via intensive pair-programming (Nov. 2020-Feb. 2021)

Affinity Group Coordinator

Served (July 2021-May 2022) as global coordinator of the Palantir transgender affinity group and New York coordinator of the Palantir LGBTQIA+ affinity group. Responsibilities are self-driven and include:

- Direct mentorship of affinity group members, particularly those undergoing gender transition
- Collaboration with the DEI group to ensure affinity group members feel safe and supported
- Organization of community events, including an intersectional speaker series