

Joel Isaac Stewart Kitching

Ex-Google software engineer with 20 years of experience

CONTACT

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EDUCATION

University of
British Columbia
Bsc Computer Science
Vancouver, Canada
2007–2012

PERSONAL PROJECT

GNOME extension

Took over maintenance of [Soft Brightness Plus](#) extension, and created [x11docker-gnome](#) for testing across different GNOME versions

Nov 2022–present

INTERESTS

Command-line
enthusiast (fish, fzf,
ripgrep, fd, entr)
Kombucha brewing
Mandarin, Hokkien
Stable Diffusion art
Hacker News
Yoga

EXPERIENCE

Melio

Taipei, Taiwan Sep–Dec 2021

- Developed Node.js backend of Melio, a service to help consumers make climate-friendly shopping decisions
- Set up priority queue to unify batch and realtime Amazon product scraping, pushing 1M entities per month into local database
- Used complex PostgreSQL queries and text similarity heuristics to de-duplicate product and company database, crucial for accurately matching carbon footprint data and corporate climate commitments
- Implemented product filtering by translating from a Google-style search grammar into ORM queries, enabling non-technical users to annotate climate data

Node.js Mocha/Chai Docker Kubernetes

Google

Taipei, Taiwan 2014–2021

- Led a 4-person team to rewrite Chromebook firmware UI, unifying user experience for tablets and clamshells
- Drove a project to enable dual-boot Chromebooks running Windows, heavily modifying coreboot verified boot flow
- Wrote a C++ daemon to validate detachable keyboard bases and perform reliable firmware updates
- Built a distributed Kafka-style event streaming engine to collect Chromebook manufacturing line data, transmit to Google corp servers, and perform aggregate analysis via a flexible plugin system

Embedded C C++ Python Makefiles Gerrit Portage

Amazon (intern)

Seattle, USA 2011

- Authored an internal Ruby on Rails tool for performing large-scale analysis of Amazon Prime impression data using Hadoop

Tasktop (intern)

Vancouver, Canada 2010

- Based on input from Nokia, created a Kanban board for Eclipse written in Java, which later became the base of Tasktop's graphical planning suite

Smallthought Systems (intern)

Vancouver, Canada 2009

- Created Smalltalk-80 library for Stripe payment processing