José Hiram Soltren

Synopsis

Staff/Principal Software Engineer. Instrument Rated Commercial Pilot. MIT Alum. Seeking Firmware, Quant Dev, Algo Trading, Scientific Computing, Infra roles. Expert in C, C++, systems, Linux, device drivers, hardware accelerators.

EXPERIENCE

Founder Soltren Consulting LLC, Cedar Park, TX

Jan 2016 - Present

- Early research and design work for a certified IFR navigation device compliant with RTCA DO-160, DO-178 and DO-254.
- Implemented support for a novel deep learning inference accelerator for PyTorch and ONNX backends in C++11 and Python.
- Hardware and firmware development for computer keyboards in C, C++, and some Rust under "XMIT Keyboards" brand.

Team Lead/Manager, Build and Release Roku

Jan 2023 - Sep 2023

- Responsible for official build, release, and CI infrastructure.
- \bullet Led team of four to implement self-service efforts, reducing ticket counts by 30% while improving turnaround time and throughput.
- Co-led pre merge CI for Roku firmware. Presented at IEEE ICST 2023.

Senior Software Engineer, Roku Players Roku

Jun 2020 - Dec 2022

- Software lead for YouTube certification for three generations of player platforms.
- Software lead and hardware co-lead for Roku Streaming Stick 4K. Solved numerous hardware and software issues to unblock 20M unit program.
- C++20 based firmware development with a special focus on video decode.
- Authored a video capture tool widely used by external vendors and internal QA.

Deep Learning Software Engineer Nervana / Intel Corp. Aug 2017 - Feb 2019

- Driver development for "Lake Crest". 10 MLOC multithreaded templated C++11.
- Ran comparisons, benchmarks, and projections for different numerical formats on novel hardware accelerator for AI deep learning training, e.g. ResNet.
- Focus on hardware and software to run GEMM and convolution as fast as possible.
- Designed an algorithm for all-to-all data transfers on our hardware that beat the Bruck Algorithm, the fastest general purpose algorithm.
- Wrote accelerator kernels for matrix multiplication and multi-chip communication.
- Implemented support for running multiple jobs on a single chip.
- Consolidated HW initialization and management for increased perf and simpler code.

Software Engineer Cloudera, Inc.

May 2016 - Aug 2017

• Hacking on Apache Spark, a big data computation framework written in Scala.

Senior System Software Engineer NVIDIA Corporation May 2011 - Apr 2016

- Software dev on 50 MLOC multithreaded C99/C++98 graphics/OpenGL driver.
- Video decode and post-processing technical lead. Added H.265/HEVC decode support to VDPAU. Wrote stream parser for H.265/HEVC video streams.
- Fixed hundreds of bugs, including a GPU crash when playing certain videos, and a race condition in the driver when initializing multiple GPUs.
- Wrote a custom debugger to use hardware watch points to catch data races without perturbing timing.

FLYING

Commercial Pilot, Instrument Rating, ASEL

2012 - Present

- Co-owner of a 1978 PA-32RT-300 Piper Lance II. Single engine, high performance, complex airplane.
- Manage annual inspections and equipment upgrades for the aircraft.
- Participate in owner-assisted maintenance and upgrades, such as LED lighting.
- 238.7 hours in type as of 2023-11-08.
- 407 hours total time as of 2023-11-08.
- Instrument current as of this writing.
- Working toward Certificated Flight Instructor (CFI).
- FAA First Class Medical.

COMMUNITY

President

Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA) 1607, Lago Vista, TX Jun 2023 - Present • Coordinate and organize chapter events.

Weekend Residential Faculty

Eastside College Preparatory School, East Palo Alto, CA Aug 2012 - Jul 2013

• Operated weekend dormitory program for high school students.

Big Brother

Big Brothers and Big Sisters of the Bay Area, Milpitas, CA Jan 2011 - Dec 2012

• Served as friend and mentor to a young man through his formative years.

Trip Leader

Bike & Build, Inc., Brooklyn, NY and Philadelphia, PA Jan 2006 - Aug 2008
• Planned, led, and completed two cross-USA charity bicycle tours for young adults.

EDUCATION

Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA

Master of Engineering and S.B., Electrical Engineering and Computer Science Grad level operating systems course. Build a kernel and hypervisor in C. Lab assistant for undergraduate microcontroller/firmware course.

CITIZENSHIP

United States