# James Sumners

Specialties: JavaScript, Linux  
*A software engineer with a background in Linux administration*  
<https://james.sumners.info/>

## Open Source

In my personal time, I am a prolific contributor to open source projects, particularly in the JavaScript ecosystem. Listed here are a few of the major projects that I work on.

**Pino**

*Core Maintainer, September 2016 - Present*

<https://github.com/pinojs/pino>

Pino is a logging library for applications built with JavaScript on Node.js. It prioritizes speed and machine parsebility over anything else.

**Fastify**

*Core Maintainer, September 2017 - Present*

<https://github.com/fastify/fastify>

Fastify is an HTTP framework for applications built with JavaScript on Node.js, an alternative to the well known Express framework.

**LDAPjs**

*Lead Maintainer, August 2019 - Present*

<https://github.com/ldapjs/node-ldapjs>

LDAPjs provides a framework for building LDAP servers, and a client to interact with standard LDAP servers, for applications built with JavaScript on Node.js.

## Experience

**Mezmo**

*Software Engineer III, May 2022 - January 2023*

I was a backend software engineer on the ecosystem team. My work involved maintaining open source modules for client usage, implementing new customer centric features, and getting an API gateway ready for use:

* Designed and implemented a Kong plugin to block requests (Lua)
* Added sliding window support to the in-house developed Kong rate limiting plugin (Lua)
* Maintained the Mezmo OpenTelemetry exporter module (Go)
* Designed and implemented AWS Lamba job to email customers about API token expiration, and expire outdated tokens in the MongoDB database (JavaScript)
* Designed and implemented an API for customers to query their data usage in relation to their billing (JavaScript)
* Improved feature parity in the the company’s open source Terraform provider module (Go)
* Managed deployments of my work to the company’s Kubernetes environments
* Worked to improve documentation, with a particular focus on documentation that benefits new hires

**Knock**

*Senior Software Engineer, May 2020 – March 2022*

*Software Engineer, May 2018 – May 2020*

I was a backend software engineer specializing in Node.js based development with JavaScript. In this position I:

* Built and maintained the frameworks the backend services were built upon
* Built and maintained internal tooling to make developers’s day-to-day easier
* Built and maintained tooling to run audits against all Git repositories maintained by the organization
* Worked with project managers, designers, and frontend engineers to build RESTful services to solve business needs, including modeling data to be stored in MySQL databases
* Stayed abreast of changes in the technology stack to keep it updated with the latest security advisories
* Provided guidance to our devops for the requirements our backend systems needed for deployment
* Developed and maintained the Docker images used for deploying services
* Built RESTful services to integrate internal and third party data
* Built a resilent webhook ingestion system atop Fastify, AWS SQS, and AWS Lambda with Go
* Implemented eventing between services with AWS Lambda and AWS SQS
* Lead a weekly cross team open meeting that gave backend engineers space to discuss their work and discovered challenges
* Mentored junior engineers and peers
* Assisted with interviewing to hire new backend engineers that would be a culture and talent fit for the team
* Lead initiatives around open source, including informing the crafting of a company open source contribution policy

**Clayton State University (Technology Infrastructure)**

*Linux System Administrator, November 2014 – April 2018*

I was the lead system administrator for all Linux systems used by Clayton State University. In this position, some of my various duties included:

* Implementing SSL termination and load balancing for campus websites using HAProxy and UCarp
* Primary administrator for all Linux based servers (50+)
* Maintained and packaged Red Hat RPMs
* Setup and administered Red Hat Satellite
* Used Ansible to manage configuration
* Developed campus student web portal

**Clayton State University (Enterprise Applications)**

*Database Developer/Linux Administrator, March 2009 - November 2014*

In this position I was a web developer, database developer, and Linux system administrator. Some of my accomplishments in this position include:

* Developed a replacement SSO connector for Ellucian’s Luminis 4 web portal
* Wrote and maintained Oracle PL/SQL packages to facilitate backend operations, e.g. scheduled emails with inline attachments and data integration between systems
* Maintained all Linux systems powering the campus Student Information System (Banner)
* Developed a two-factor authentication add-on for the campus’s Luminis 4 implementation
* Developed REST based web APIs for data integration between systems like the Student Information System and the campus web portal

**Platypus Web Productions**

*Lead Web Developer, April 2009 – December 2009*

*Platypus Web Productions* was a short lived independent web design and development firm established by me and a partner. In my role as the web developer I:

* Developed a simple PHP templating engine for use in client projects
* Worked with the lead designer to devise workable web site designs
* Implemented web site designs from lead designer in PHP, HTML, and CSS
* Implemented dynamic functionality of designs using JavaScript and jQuery

## Skill Set Summary

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Node.js | JavaScript | Fastify |
| Docker | AWS Lambda | AWS SQS |
| MySQL | Git | Mentorship |
| Effective Communication | Open Source | Go |
| Kubernetes |  |  |

## Education

**B.Sc., Mathematics**; Clayton State University (Morrow, GA)

## References

*Available upon request*

[james.sumners@gmail.com](mailto:james.sumners@gmail.com) • (404) 939 – 3576