Keith R. Petersen

keithrpetersen.com GitHub | LinkedIn

Summary

Experienced software engineer with interests in Python, infrastructure as code, and distributed systems. I care about simplicity, automation, resiliency, and reliability. I enjoy automating processes to increase the efficiency of others.

Languages and Technologies

- Languages: Python, JavaScript/TypeScript, HCL, SQL
- Technologies: AWS, Terraform, Docker, k8s, Flask, React, Postgres, GitHub Actions, Jenkins
- Other: 12-factor app and CI/CD principles, automated testing

Experience

Sabbatical Nov 2023 – present

Preparing for the AWS Solutions Architect Professional exam

Senior DevOps Engineer Dexian

Feb 2023 - Oct 2023

- Built a self-service automation platform in Python around GitHub and other tools
 - Replaced basic, buggy logging with structured logging
 - Refactored base http connections to use httpx instead of 3 different libraries
- Deployed and managed apps on OpenShift (RedHat-flavored Kubernetes)

Sabbatical Jun 2022 – Feb 2023

- Took time off to build projects with Python and AWS
- Created project showing how to run the latest versions of Python in AWS Lambda
- Created project demonstrating use of GitHub Actions, Terraform, FastAPI on AWS Lambda

Production Engineer

Very Good Security

May 2021 – May 2022

- Handled production issues with logs, metrics, and transferring multi-GB files with Airflow
- Wrote Python code to increase reliability of large file processing
- Migrated over 30 apps and services from unsupported k8s / EKS versions to latest
- Standardized Helm charts with annotations
- Used Terraform with Terragrunt to manage AWS resources
- Configured logging and metrics with fluentd / fluentbit and Grafana, Prometheus / Cortex
- Updated, tested and deployed over 20 Docker base images
- Closed over 40 open security tickets that had been backlogged for months, modified IAM roles

Senior SRE

Lean TECHniques

Jan 2021 - May 2021

- Responsible for monitoring and observability across distributed systems that process machine and agronomic data at John Deere ISG
- Set up Grafana and Prometheus metrics for Java / Scala services on Amazon ECS
- Taught 3 other team members how to use Terraform to manage AWS resources

Sr. Software Engineer

Lean TECHniques

Feb 2019 - Dec 2020

- Worked on a distributed system for John Deere ISG that sends machine alerts and other notifications to dealers and customers worldwide
- Improved the admin UI so dealers could manage multiple machines and techs per customer
- Replaced a bunch of high-maintenance Python / Node.js scripts with Terraform

• Technologies:

AWS: SQS, SNS, S3, Kinesis, EC2, ECS / Fargate, Lambda, RDS / Aurora, Beanstalk

App: Postgres, Scala, Java, and Node.js / TypeScript / React

Monitoring: Cloudwatch, ELK stack

CI/CD: GitHub, Jenkins, Drone.io, Docker, Terraform, CloudFormation, bash and Python

Sr. Software Engineer

Granular

Sep 2016 – Jan 2019

- Took the initiative to track down all unhandled exceptions in the nitrogen app backend. Triaged, prioritized, and helped fix them, for which I was recognized with an MVP cash award at the July 2018 all-hands meeting
- Built a feature flags SaaS app using Python, Flask, Terraform, Docker, Kubernetes, DynamoDB, and other AWS services. Distributed across multiple AWS regions, used by all Encirca apps
- Maintained and enhanced NSIM, a SaaS distributed system for running nitrogen simulations using AWS EC2 Spot Fleet, Lambda, Step Functions, CloudFormation, S3

Sr. Software Developer

DuPont Pioneer

2015 - 2016

• Developed tools to manage vast amounts of plant breeding data. Used Angular.js and the NPM toolchain, C#, ASP.Net Web API, and Entity Framework. Maintained legacy WPF apps.

Software Developer

DuPont Pioneer

2012 - 2015

- Wrote new "fencepost" marker selection algorithm for soybean researchers
- Developed new WPF application for managing soybean Trait Integration projects

Associate Web Developer

Polk County Government

2008 - 2012

• Full stack web development with C# / .net framework

Education

B.A., Central College, Pella, Iowa, magna cum laude

2006

Major: English; Minor: Philosophy

Volunteer Experience

JUMP (Johnston Youth Mentoring Program)

2015 – present

• I spend about an hour a week with a student, playing board games, sports, cooking, etc. The purpose is to be a positive male role model and another caring adult in the student's life, but a little bit more like a friend than an authority figure.

dsm Hack 2020

• I was part of a team that made improvements to the Des Moines Heritage Trust web sites, photo albums, and information management.