

Alexander Moore-Niemi

Software Engineer

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Objective

Gain further experience with large scale distributed systems.

Keywords

Fluent in Ruby
Proficient in Javascript, Java, Groovy, Haskell
Learning Go, Rust
Frameworks Ruby on Rails, Grails, Sinatra, Node.js, Ember
Practices TDD, SOA, Microservices, Serverless, Pair programming, Functional programming, Kanban, Scrum, Agile

Professional Experience

- 2016 – **Software Developer**, RAIZLABS, Boston.
Building web APIs to serve custom built mobile apps.
- 2017 Backend for frontend in Rails, coalescing highly normalized REST API with a SOAP API and a Postgres database, serving iOS and Android apps used by nurses across the US.
- 2017 Serverless backend (AWS Lambda, API Gateway, SES, Cloudfront, S3) supporting the 2nd most popular rich media iOS app in China.
- 2016-2017 Node.js and Ember mobile web app that helps users drink less alcohol by community and coaching tools.
- 2016 Rails API for iOS healthcare app. Increased performance while reducing LOC on key indexing actions from 800ms down to 250 ms. Check out my blog post "Refactoring away from statements in Ruby" for a similar piece of refactoring that's open sourced.
- 2014 – 2016 **Software Engineer**, ZIPCAR, Boston.
Used Ruby and Java to build distributed systems with a REST architecture. On call and release engineer.
- 2016 "workerbee" project: A JRuby gem wrapping a Java microservices framework (using RabbitMQ as ESB). Included a cli tool that made it extremely easy for devs to create and deploy new services that ran in Java, with a Java framework, but were written from the dev's perspective entirely in Ruby..
- 2016 "Fleet API" project: An experimental API design exposing views rather than models. A surprising success that allowed both mobile and web frontends. Not appropriate for all cases, but ask me about it—it's a unique case study.
- 2016 "New platform" project: SOA implementation of microservices on Java/Go PaaS via contributions to core inhouse framework and individual services. Authored a User service and an i18n service (based on gettext), both in Java.

- 2015 "Instant Drive" project: adding a new service and rebuilding parts of the core platform to support unlocking vehicles from our mobile phone app. Some work with Cassandra NoSQL, which taught me how not to use Cassandra.
- 2015 "Core API" project: transition away from shared models via gem to an ActiveRecord-like pattern, loosening coupling to database. Preparatory work on monolithic architecture for decomposition into services. Our goal was to improve CI experience for devs, and we succeeded.
- 2014 "Pooling" project: extending "fleetsharing" with Avis cars while also improving vehicle availability. Required extensive redesign of original Zipcar data model, and was implemented as a Ruby on Rails API. A great example of tradeoffs in building a service instead of adding to a monolith.
- 2013 – 2014 **Junior Software Engineer**, PROMOBXXX, Boston.
Development on front end and back end services in Ruby on Rails and Javascript integration.
- 2012 – 2013 **Marketing Automation**, WORLDONE INTERACTIVE, Boston.
Scripting and data analysis for the marketing team.
- 2012 Used R for NLP to identify discussions in need of moderation. Patented use of NLP to identify physician discussions about pharmaceutical treatments.

Open Source

- graph_function a Ruby gem to generate graphs of asymptotic performance
- array_collapse a Ruby C extension to add Array#collapse, a method that allows blocks to be passed in to flatten, improving asymptotic performance by "piggy-backing" on traversal
- proc_compose a Ruby C extension to add Proc#compose (until it is added to Ruby core, which is on its way), a method for composing procs so that they can be passed in as a single block to any mapping operation
- figtree a Ruby gem for parsing ini_files using parslet DSL

Publications

- 2016 **Developer Testing: Building Quality into Software**, *Addison-Wesley Signature Series*, A sidebar on how to think about types as a way of extending design by contract.

Volunteering

- 2012 – Now **Transbucket.com**, *Web Developer*, Migrated site from PHP to Ruby on Rails and implemented many new features. The premiere site for transgender surgery photos, with 90k users (1k active uniques per month).

Education

- 2012 **Certificate: Computation and Algorithms**, MIT, Boston.
- 2004–2009 **BFA Media Production**, Emerson College, Boston, Graduated with honors.