Nikhil Thota
Engineer // Creator

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EXPERIENCE

WhatsApp
Software Engineer

Jul. 2021 to Pres.
Remote

Graph Infrastructure [Erlang, C++, Distributed Systems]
· Scaling group messaging infrastrcutre to support > 4 billion users for end-to-end encryption in Messenger
· Implementing cutting-edge cryptography research to augment WhatsApp's server capabilities

Facebook
Software Engineer

Aug. 2019 to Jun. 2021
San Francisco, CA

Marketplace Integrity [React, React-Native, PHP, SQL]
· Built distribution channels to increase Marketplace shipped seller ratings by over 500%
· Spearheaded Safety efforts on Marketplace C2C and created "Share Meeting Plan" feature to improve the experience of meeting up with strangers. This project was showcased by Zuck in a PR campaign
· Created tools, products, and experiences for sellers and buyers of B2C and C2C Marketplace products to make informed purchase decisions such as badges, seller ratings / reviews

Facebook
Software Engineer Intern

Fall 2018
Seattle, WA

Realtime Rageshake [Java, Android, C++]
· Messenger RTC Media - building infrastructure for ~1 billion minutes of calls daily
· Built a tool exposed to employees that allows for bug reporting within the context of an audio/video call
· Created infra for debug logging, saving state, interfacing with C++ engine, and uploading to reporting API

Indiegogo
Kleiner Perkins Engineering Fellow // Software Engineer Intern

Summer 2018
San Francisco, CA

Revamped Referral Tool [Vue.js, Ruby on Rails, Redshift, Redis]
· Revamped the referral tool for entrepreneurs to give more insights into referral programs and also provide easier generation of referral programs with a custom modal
· 20% gogofactor - around 20% of repeat campaign purchases are run through the referral tool

Kleiner Perkins
· Chosen as one of 52 engineering fellows from 3000+ applicants for Kleiner Perkin's fellows program

Drawbridge (*acquired by LinkedIn*)
Data Engineer Intern

Summer 2017
San Francisco, CA

Click Fraud Prevention [Java, Hadoop, Hive, Python]
· Built a system to blacklist IP addresses over a certain threshold of click-through rate to prevent fraud within the ads platform equaling around $20,000 per month

University of Florida
Teaching Assistant

Fall 2016 & Spring 2017
Gainesville, FL

COP3530 (Data Structures & Algorithms) [C++]
· Served at a TA for the core undergrad CS course at UF, Data Structures and Algorithms
· Led discussion classes, held office hours, proctored / graded exams, and created homework assignments

CodePath iOS Bootcamp [Swift]
· Ran bi-weekly 2 hour classes with 26 students and taught basic iOS concepts using CodePath tutorials to learn iOS, find bugs, and provide feedback to CodePath founders for maximal experience

SwampHacks
Director of Technology

Jan. 2016 to Jan. 2018
Gainesville, FL

· Led a team of 4 developers for UF's hackathon to build the website (JS), native mobile apps (iOS & Android), backend (Firebase), slackbot (Python), & demoing / judging platforms (standalone webapps)
· Built a scalable platform for 500+ hackers with a QR scanner, calendar, announcements & push notifications

EDUCATION

University of Florida, Gainesville FL
Computer Science & Music Performance

Graduation May 2019
GPA 3.67

Universidad Carlos III, Madrid Spain
Computer Science // Engineering

Exchange Program Spring 2018

TECHNICAL SKILLS

{advanced} React.js / React Native, SQL

{proficient} Erlang, Distributed Systems, Rust, Javascript, PHP // Hack, Python, Go, Vim, UNIX

{prev. exp.} Hive, Java // Android, iOS // Swift

FUN STUFF

Intellectual Interests
  Cognition — I am fascinated by the brain, consciousness, and how we can build tools to think and live better.
  Health — My friends know me as an avid biohacker / longevity geek.

Writing
  Blog posts about technology, health, knowledge management, and living a meaningful life.
  I also dabble with a newsletter and post silly things on Twitter (sometimes).

Podcasting
  Co-creator of "Tuna Pasta", a podcast of recorded conversations across America.

Music
  I played bassoon for ~10 years and am learning piano, singing, and music theory for when I eventually build a music studio.

Language Learning
  English was my third language (after Telugu and Hindi) and I am learning Spanish.
  I hope to eventually become a *hyperpolyglot*.