

Ryan Case

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Education

University of Colorado, Boulder - BA Economics and BA Political Science

December 2008

Programming Experience

Ruby: 2 Years

I fell in love with Ruby several years ago, after spending time with a variety of languages, Python and Java in particular, and haven't looked back. I have an advanced knowledge of Ruby specific features, including Ruby metaprogramming techniques. For examples, please see my Project Euler solutions on Github.

Rails: 1 Year

I've used Rails and followed its developments off and on for several years. I think it's a fantastic tool and has a terrific community behind it. My goal is to apply what I've learned thus far to a major rails app, and to keep expanding my knowledge of the whole Rails ecosystem.

HTML/CSS/Haml/SASS: 1 Year

I've worked extensively with HTML and CSS, including HTML5 and CSS3. I have a strong working knowledge of both and am actively learning more. On top of that, I've built sites using HAML and SASS, I love the efficiency they add to your workflow, especially when combined with the asset pipeline in Rails.

Javascript / jQuery: < 1 Year

I came late to the JavaScript party, but in the past year I've made it a goal of mine to delve into client side scripting. jQuery in particular is an absolute pleasure to code in, and CoffeeScript improves on that even more, giving the whole thing a very Rubyesque feel. While I would still consider myself intermediate in terms of JavaScript I've found the programmatic concepts in jQuery very intuitive and I feel confident that with a little research and trial and error I could get through any JavaScript challenge.

SQL: 1 Year

I worked with SQL databases to analyze loan portfolios at Global Financial Review. I would consider myself intermediate in relational databases: I can put together queries, I understand the syntax, and I know the basics of database design, but the abstraction that Rails allows means I haven't spent as much time interacting directly with a database.

RSpec: 1 Year

I've used RSpec for both TDD and BDD in Rails, along with Capybara and Shoulda. I am comfortable with testing all areas of a Rails application. I have exposure to Cucumber, but I have not used it extensively.

Other Languages and Concepts

Exposure to different programming languages has been something of an obsession of mine. I started with Python before moving to Java, then continued on my tour of compiled languages with C++ and C. Thanks to the *Structure and Interpretation of Computer Programs* I spent a while learning Lisp/Scheme and experimented with an early version of Clojure. This is a short list, one that I include only as evidence of my insatiable curiosity and ability to learn. I may not know every component in your stack but given the opportunity I am more than capable of learning, and I would relish the opportunity to expand my skill set.

Additional Skills

Statistics / Econometrics

Advanced statistical analysis as well as econometric regression analysis. A deeper understanding of statistics and randomness has been one of the most useful things I've ever studied, and has been applicable in nearly every area of my personal and professional life. In fact, it was the study of randomness in the wake of the subprime crisis that led me to pursue programming.

Leadership

Throughout my life I've held a number of leadership positions, some of which I sought out and others that were thrust upon me, managing a huge range of different people. This diversity of leadership experiences has made me very versatile when it comes to working with other people, even when not in leadership position.

People Skills

Working on a cruise ship seven days a week, 10+ hours a day was trying in a number of ways, but nothing was more challenging or more important than maintaining a sunny demeanor at all times and under every circumstance. It was an invaluable lesson in people skills and customer service.

Strategy

Military strategy, business strategy, salesmanship, politics, game theory, etc. If it has a strategic element then odds are I've studied it at some point. While not specifically CS related, I've found it to be a useful skill in a wide range of jobs.

Selected Work Experience

Norwegian Cruise Lines | Norwegian Spirit

Oct 2011 - Mar 2012

Photo Gallery Manager

- Managed a diverse team of photographers with widely varying age, experience and nationalities
- Oversaw promotions and public relations for one of the ship's primary revenue centers
- Officer position entailed additional responsibilities relating to crisis management and disaster response

Global Financial Review | Denver, CO

Feb 2010 - May 2010

Analyst

- Analyzed loan portfolios as well as performing due diligence on individual loans
- Worked with IT on larger projects programming VB scripts to synthesize large data sets
- Maintained a highly flexible approach in a job that required solutions to a variety of problems

Freelance Programming | Denver, CO

Dec 2008 - Present

Programmer

- Initial programming focus was on statistical and economic modeling
- Branched out into web development and web design

Northwestern Mutual | Denver, CO

Aug 2007 - Oct 2007

NMFN Representative Program

- Pursued leads and developed my own client base
- Gained additional exposure to retail finance and alternative investments

Smith Barney: Chicago Mercantile Exchange | Chicago, IL

Jun 2007 - Aug 2007

Financial Advisor Intern

- Spearheaded a branch-wide analytical project aimed at improving efficiency under the direction of the branch manager
- Working with a team of financial advisors, I performed an in-depth analysis of their current investments to identify under-performers and made recommendations for alternatives.