Brandon Willett

Education

UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER

- ♦ Graduated in 2018
- ♦ B.S. in Computer Science (3.82)
- ♦ B.A. in Mathematics (3.80)

Skills

BACKEND

- ♦ Go, Python, Java, Scala
- Message queues (Kafka, RabbitMQ)
- ♦ DAG pipelines (Airflow, Luigi)
- ♦ Transactional databases (Postgres, Cass)
- Analytical / columnar databases
- Caches (in-memory, Redis)
- ♦ Database sharding

PLATFORM

- Version Control (git)
- ♦ CI/CD (GitHub Actions, Gitlab)
- ♦ Telemetry (Prometheus, Datadog)
- ♦ Containerization (Docker, containerd)
- ♦ Build tools (Rake, Bazel)
- Infra as code (Cloudformation, Terraform)
- ♦ Reverse proxies (nginx, HAProxy)
- ♦ Load balancers (L4, L7)
- Service Discovery (DNS, Consul, Envoy)

CLOUD

- AWS (ALB, NLB, EC2, RDS, S3, Lambda)
- ♦ GCP (GLB, GCE, GCS, Cloud SQL)
- ♦ Azure (ALB, VMSS, ABS)
- ♦ Kubernetes (ask me about any resource)

A young New-York-based developer with experience in platform dev. Always believing that any problem can be overcome with kind communication, a good sense of humor, and just persisting everything to S3.

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Experience

ACTIONIQ

New York, NY

Distributed Systems Engineer

Jun 18 - Present

- Designed, advocated for, and implemented the AIQ strategy for autoscaling query execution on EC2, reducing our AWS bill by more than 50%
- Drove scalability improvement to the open-source job scheduling platform Luigi, and contributed some of that back upstream
- Maintained the Prometheus cluster (later, DataDog) and led internal talks and workshops on best practices around metrics & observability
- Enabled dynamic configuration and artifact discovery (Ansible, Consul)
- Brought some of the first Terraform modules to AIQ, used them to build the first version of our streaming ingest platform using IaC

EDU.CHAT

New York, NY

Software Engineering Intern

Jun 17 – Aug 17

- Worked closely with a team of three other engineers, using JIRA and Git, to create a chat bot which classified and answered student questions
- Developed, refined, tested and integrated the new NLP question-matching model with the overall Edu.Chat platform
- Learned Python implementations for message passing, parallelization and task queue systems to distribute the workload (like Celery and Redis)

UR CHEMICAL ENGINEERING DEPT

Rochester, NY

Research Assistant

Sep 16 – May 18

- Created and iterated upon a web app with rapidly-changing requirements, performing Markov chain statistic analyses on time-series datasets
- ♦ Hosted on EC2, using Flask with NumPy and Pandas for data visualization

UR EVENT & CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT

Rochester, NY

Student Supervisor

Sep 14 - May 18

- Trained, managed, and communicated with the large student staff
- Created and self-hosted several small web-based tools to help students log and visualize phone call data – these are still in use now