

Alex Mercer

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Professional Summary

Results-oriented Senior Full Stack Developer with 8+ years of experience designing, developing, and deploying scalable web applications and cloud-native solutions. Proven track record of leading cross-functional teams, architectural decision-making, and migrating legacy monoliths to microservices. Expert in the JavaScript ecosystem (React, Node.js) and Python, with deep proficiency in AWS infrastructure and DevOps practices. Passionate about clean code, performance optimization, and developer mentorship.

Technical Skills

- **Languages:** JavaScript (ES6+), TypeScript, Python, Go, SQL, HTML5, CSS3/Sass.
- **Frontend:** React.js, Next.js, Redux Toolkit, Vue.js, Tailwind CSS, Material UI, Webpack, Jest, Cypress.
- **Backend:** Node.js, Express, NestJS, Django, FastAPI, GraphQL, RESTful APIs, gRPC, WebSockets.
- **Databases:** PostgreSQL, MongoDB, Redis, DynamoDB, Elasticsearch.
- **Cloud & DevOps:** AWS (EC2, Lambda, S3, RDS, ECS/EKS), Docker, Kubernetes, Terraform, Jenkins, GitHub Actions, Linux Administration.
- **Tools & Methodologies:** Git, Jira, Agile/Scrum, TDD/BDD, Microservices Architecture, OAuth2, JWT.

Professional Experience

Senior Full Stack Engineer (Team Lead)

CloudScale Solutions | San Francisco, CA Oct 2021 – Present

- **Architecture & Leadership:** Lead a team of 6 engineers in re-architecting a legacy PHP monolith into a distributed microservices system using **Node.js (NestJS)** and **Go**, resulting in a **40% reduction in server response time**.
- **Frontend Modernization:** Spearheaded the migration of the client-facing dashboard from jQuery to **React 18** and **TypeScript**, implementing a component library that improved development velocity by **30%**.

- **Cloud Infrastructure:** Designed and provisioned infrastructure as code using **Terraform** on **AWS**, implementing auto-scaling groups and load balancers to handle peak loads of **100k+ concurrent users**.
- **Database Optimization:** Optimized complex SQL queries in **PostgreSQL** and implemented **Redis** caching strategies, reducing database load by **50%**.
- **CI/CD:** Established a robust CI/CD pipeline using **GitHub Actions** and **Docker**, cutting deployment time from 1 hour to 10 minutes and enabling daily production releases.
- **Mentorship:** Conducted code reviews and weekly technical workshops, helping two junior developers advance to mid-level roles.

Full Stack Developer

Nexus Fintech | Austin, TX June 2018 – Sept 2021

- **Product Development:** Built a real-time fraud detection dashboard using **Python (FastAPI)** and **React**, integrating machine learning models to flag suspicious transactions in under 200ms.
- **API Design:** Developed and maintained secure RESTful APIs for mobile and web clients, handling sensitive financial data in compliance with PCI-DSS standards.
- **State Management:** Implemented **Redux** for complex state management across the application, ensuring data consistency for high-frequency trading interfaces.
- **Testing:** Introduced a TDD approach, increasing test coverage from 15% to **85%** using **Jest** and **PyTest**, significantly reducing critical bugs in production.
- **Collaboration:** Collaborated closely with Product Managers and UX Designers to translate wireframes into responsive, accessible (WCAG 2.1) user interfaces.

Web Developer

Creative Orbit Agency | Chicago, IL May 2016 – May 2018

- Developed custom e-commerce solutions for mid-sized clients using the **MERN Stack (MongoDB, Express, React, Node)**.
- Integrated third-party payment gateways (Stripe, PayPal) and shipping APIs.
- Optimized frontend performance, achieving Lighthouse scores of 90+ through lazy loading, image optimization, and code splitting.
- Managed deployment and server maintenance on **DigitalOcean** droplets using Nginx.

Projects

TaskFlow (Open Source)

- A collaborative project management tool built with **Next.js**, **Prisma**, and **PostgreSQL**.
- Features real-time updates via **WebSockets (Socket.io)** and drag-and-drop Kanban boards.
- Deployed on Vercel with serverless functions.

Kube-Monitor

- A lightweight monitoring dashboard for Kubernetes clusters developed in **Go** and **Vue.js**.
- Visualizes pod health, CPU usage, and memory consumption in real-time.

Education

Bachelor of Science in Computer Science *University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign | Graduated 2016*

Certifications

- **AWS Certified Solutions Architect – Associate** (2023)
- **Certified Kubernetes Administrator (CKA)** (2022)
- **MongoDB Certified Developer Associate** (2020)