

# SAMUEL SWANKE

skswanke@gmail.com ♦ samswanke.com

## EXPERIENCE

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### HelloPrenup Chief Technology Officer

Dec 2024 - Present New York, NY

As Chief Technology Officer at HelloPrenup, I balance hands-on technical leadership with building and scaling a high-performing engineering team from 1 to 5 engineers. I architected and led the migration from a no-code platform to a distributed microservices architecture on AWS, designing scalable RESTful web services with flexible ORM layers that handle over 6 million production requests with 130ms average response times and zero outages post-launch. I established comprehensive CI/CD pipelines with automated testing practices, driving significant improvements in code quality and deployment velocity while maintaining production reliability. As both technical leader and people manager, I mentor engineers through code reviews, debugging sessions, and career development conversations, creating a culture focused on technical excellence, ownership, and continuous learning. I designed reusable infrastructure-as-code components and frameworks that provide leverage across the platform, implementing object-oriented design patterns that enable maintainability and extensibility as business requirements evolve. Working closely with cross-functional partners including legal, customer success, and operations teams, I navigate ambiguous requirements and provide clear technical direction while balancing long-term architectural vision with immediate business needs. I built robust monitoring and observability systems to support production operations, established agile sprint planning processes with clear prioritization frameworks, and created comprehensive engineering SOPs that define workflows, escalation paths, and quality standards. My technical judgment and ability to make pragmatic engineering decisions while scaling both systems and teams have positioned HelloPrenup's platform for sustainable growth, transforming engineering from a bottleneck into a predictable, high-velocity organization capable of supporting the company's ambitious growth targets.

### Amazon Software Development Manager

May 2022 - Present New York, NY

As a Software Development Manager at Amazon, I lead a team of 5 Engineers, driving innovation and operational excellence in large-scale, complex AWS full-stack applications. I played a pivotal role in designing and implementing Amazon Bridge, an application supporting the Amazon Community Together program, automating workflows with AWS Step Functions, serverless infrastructure, and React-based front-end systems. Under my leadership, the application delivered critical features, scaled to **support 750+ charities and 30,000+ annual cases**, and enhanced user experience with intuitive, responsive UX standards. I transitioned seamlessly into the managerial role by earning trust through hands-on contributions, and mentorship. With over 400+ code reviews, driving unit test coverage from 5% to 40%, and **reducing weekly on-call tickets by over 50%**. I have successfully coached team members through promotions, championed design/code reviews, and implemented mechanisms to improve team growth and delivery quality. Additionally, I led the handover and successful launch of InsurGuide within 4 weeks, driving technical handoff, risk mitigation, and prioritization of mission-critical tasks, while ensuring production readiness through metrics and monitoring systems, InsurGuide saw the procurement of over nine figures in insurance contracts. My ability to manage ambiguity, influence technical and product strategies, and foster customer-centric solutions reflects my experience delivering exceptional products and building high-performing engineering teams.

### Amazon SDE II

Aug 2021 - May 2022 New York, NY

Led in the design, implementation and deployment of the large-scale application, Amazon Bridge. Designed services using **cutting edge AWS serverless architecture**. Lead front-end development on the team, introducing code quality patterns such as typescript, redux and component design. Learned and established best practices for DynamoDB table design. Created critical step function workflows for the

application. Earned trust on the team and became known for being a mentor and mediator, which opened the opportunity to take on management responsibility.

### **Feather Senior Software Engineer**

Dec 2019 - Present New York, NY

Led and created an internal service tool to manage trip and operational logistics. Collaborated with design stakeholders to componentize the design system for the eCommerce site, LiveFeather.com. Maintained a flexible React code library and drove site efficiencies. Established the foundational pillars for the company's headless CMS. Adjusted code to **render images 30% faster**, resulting in faster load-time for users. Mentored junior team members to drive the company's mission: to encourage furniture rental, reuse, and refurbishment. Code and digital product development ultimately contributed to keeping furniture out of landfills and promoted the circular economy for home furniture rentals.

### **CALA Full-Stack Software Engineer**

Aug 2018 - Dec 2019 New York, NY

Ignited the fashion-tech company by being brought-in as engineer #2. During tenure, grew the team to 4 engineers. Built a digital platform that made it easy to design, produce, and deliver custom fashion products. Led development on scalable systems in TypeScript with NodeJS, React and Redux. Partnered with designers and non-technical teams to create a delightful digital-product experience. Created industry leading fashion management software that is used for generating production timeline tracking.

### **Dealer.com Software Engineer**

Jul 2017 - Aug 2018 Burlington, VT

Created graph traversal library to canonicalize messy user data. Led development of maintainable front-end applications with React & Webpack. Educated team by giving talks on React, as the front-end specialist. Grew the company's mission to be the premier digital marketing solution and partner within the automotive industry. Leveraged advanced digital technology and data for projects.

### **Dealer.com Software Engineering Intern**

May 2016 - May 2017 Burlington, VT

Maintained & enhanced existing Java & Angular applications.

### **Cosechando Felicidad Inc Front-End Developer**

Aug 2015 - Present Williston, VT

Sole Developer for HarvestingHappiness.org, a non-profit serving vulnerable community members. Volunteered for 4 weeks in Guatemala to build stoves and deliver medicine.

### **Intersil Corporation Web Development Intern**

Summer 2015 Palm Bay, FL

Re-designed legacy Google Search Appliance XSLT using modern web standards.

### **University of Vermont Web Developer**

Oct 2014 - May 2016 Burlington, VT

Within the College of Engineering, enabled automated QA by writing a multithreaded Python web crawler integrated with Slack.

## **EDUCATION**

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### **University of Vermont**

May 2017

Bachelor of Science in Computer Science & Minor in Mathematics

## **TECHNICAL STRENGTHS**

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Programming Languages

JavaScript, Java, Python, C/C++

Frameworks

React, Redux, NodeJS, Terraform, Spring

Databases

PostgreSQL, MySQL, DynamoDB