

Sy-Dar Steven Liou

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📍 Boston, MA

SUMMARY

I'm a software engineer with a passion for observing, analyzing, and solving problems. Recently, I built Tailslide, an open source feature flag framework with automatic circuit breaking. I've developed applications with Go, JavaScript, Python, and Ruby, and I'm always excited to learn new technologies and collaborate with other software engineers.

TECHNICAL EXPERIENCE

Capstone Project - Tailslide <https://tailslide-io.github.io>

May 2022 - Present

Co-Creator Software Engineer

Tailslide is an open-source feature flag framework with circuit breaking that simplifies software release for companies with microservices infrastructure.

- Architected a feature release toggle framework for backend microservices with automatic circuit-breaking capability using NATS JetStream and RedisTimeSeries.
- Constructed an Express backend for handling feature flag requests from microservices clients, a Postgres database for storing feature flag data, and a React dashboard for feature flag management.
- Solved challenges related to horizontal scaling of microservices, such as consistency and availability, and load, on the feature flag framework to handle multiple applications and their duplicate instances.
- Led implementation of circuit-breaking with automated circuit-recovery logic by coordinating the communications among Express backend, NATS JetStream, RedisTimeSeries, and a Node.js application.
- Developed server-side SDKs for accessing feature flags data for various languages, Go, JavaScript, Python, and Ruby.
- Contributed to deployment automation of feature flag framework with Docker.
- Authored a comprehensive technical case study [on feature flag as a deployment strategy](#), architecture of a feature release toggle with automatic circuit breaking, and design decisions for such implementation.
- Collaborated remotely with a team of 4 software engineers across the US and Canada.

Launch School - Software Engineering Student

April 2020 - May 2022

Launch School is a full-stack web development program with a focus on mastery of software engineering fundamentals. Notable projects completed include:

- Trellolog: A Trello inspired collaboration app built using Node.js, Express, React/Redux, and MongoDB.
- Spaceball: A request bin app for inspecting webhook payloads, built using Node.js, Express, React, and PostgreSQL.
- Taskanini: A todo list, event planning app built using Ruby Sinatra and PostgreSQL.

SKILLS

| Languages & Frameworks | Cloud | Other Technologies |
|--|---|---|
| JavaScript, Go, Python, Ruby, SQL, HTML, CSS, Express, React, Redux, Handlebars, Jest, Rails | AWS: Lambda, SQS, SNS, S3, CDK, DigitalOcean (Droplets), Heroku | HTTP, REST APIs, MVC, Docker, PostgreSQL, Nginx, MongoDB, Git |

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Alnylam Pharmaceuticals - Senior Associate Scientist

June 2018 - May 2022

- Performed computer modeling and simulation for various siRNA drugs in nonclinical and clinical development, for drug safety, efficacy, and first-in-human dose projection.
- Researched on novel siRNA drug modeling in liver, CNS, and the eye.
- Analyzed histology slides with computer AI software for quantifying pathology findings.

EDUCATION

Launch School: Software Engineering & Full-stack Web Development

2020 - 2022

University of Pennsylvania: MSE in Biomedical Engineering

2013 - 2015

University of Virginia: BSE in Biomedical Engineering

2009 - 2013