**Sean Kim**

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**Summary**

Backend Developer with hands-on experience designing and optimizing scalable REST APIs in Python and Java. Contributed to early-stage startup backends built from scratch using Django and Spring Boot. Passionate about responsible code, backend architecture, and solving real-world problems at scale.

**Experiences**

**ProPal Inc.** Full time | Backend DeveloperNov 2023 - July 2024

Java, Python, Spring Boot, Django, AWS, Neo4j, Git, Docker

**Mobile app that utilizes personal contacts to recommend home service providers trusted by friends**

* Developed and deployed REST API servers using Django, Spring Boot and AWS, contributing to a production-ready MVP in a fast-paced startup.
* Improved contact sync performance by leveraging Java asynchronous APIs, reducing processing time for 1,000+ contacts from over 5 minutes to under 1 minute.
* Contributed to Neo4j schema design and mitigated Spring Data Neo4j’s performance issues by implementing custom Cypher queries.
* Utilized Docker to run a local Neo4j instance, enabling comprehensive unit tests on custom Cypher queries and simulating API behavior.
* Implemented JWT security filters across Python and Java microservices to authenticate requests and enable user-specific data access based on request identity.
* Collaborated with the team to implement scheduled user notifications via cron jobs on AWS EC2 and Firebase SDK within the Django backend and mobile app.
* Integrated OTP-based phone number authentication for new user onboarding with third-party APIs.
* Integrated OpenAI Assistant APIs into Django for conversational recommendations and designed SQL schema for robust AI response with persistent logging.
* Configured AWS Load Balancer and AWS Certificate Manager with SSL certificates to enable HTTPS connectivity for REST API servers.

**Projects**

**Hwarang International** Fullstack DeveloperJuly 2024 - Present

Javascript, Wix Velo, AWS, MySQL, Node.js, Git

**Web and app for receiving payments and verifying community service hours**

* Integrated REST API backend and Wix’s payment API into an existing website for streamlined member management and payment processing.
* Enabled image upload to AWS S3 from the Wix website by base64-encoding images and manually constructing HTTP multipart request bodies to work around Wix’s lack of native support.
* Maintained secure server deployment and enabled HTTPS communication.
* Added comprehensive logging and parameter validation across Node.js routes.
* Oversee onboarding and payment workflows, diagnosing and resolving bugs and user issues to ensure smooth user experience.

**Skills**

* **Languages:** Java, Python, C++, Javascript
* **Frameworks:** Spring Boot, Django, Velo
* **Databases:** MySQL, Amazon RDS, Neo4j
* **DevOps/Tools:** Docker, Git, Linux

**Education**

**Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute,** B.S. in Mathematics May 2023