Samuel Wecker

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Objective

A Staff+ Engineering role allowing me to mentor other engineers, provide architectural guidance, streamline (inter|intra)departmental processes, and reduce complexity across the business.

Qualification Summary

Over 10 years of engineering across front-end, full-stack, platform, and devops has given me a veritable breadth of experience, which combined with my talents for learning quickly and grokking complex systems, gives me a unique ability to multiply the efficacy of systems and processes.

Skill Summary

Programming

- **Coding** - Deep knowledge and love for Elixir, Elixir's OTP, and functional programming paradigms like the actor model, along with extensive experience in Python, Ruby, and JavaScript, and a fair familiarity in Shell, PHP, Erlang, Go, and many other languages.

- **Web frameworks and API design** - Expert in Phoenix and Absinthe, proficient with Django, and Rails. A lot of experience with both REST and GraphQL APIs, API Gateways, and Federated GraphQL Schemas.

- **Front-End Web** - Original development roots in pure HTML/CSS/JS, with lots of focus on design, templating, and css preprocessors; but more recent experience using Vue and React.

- **Database Systems** - Very experienced with SQL (mainly Postgres), and relational data models, and a passing proficiency with document-store databases (some Mongo, Cassandra, etc. but mostly Redis and simpler KV stores used for caching).

DevOps

- **Deployment** - Expert with Git and merging strategies (trunk-based, git-flow, etc.), and deployment strategies (blue-green, Canary, etc.). Proficient in build tools like Dockerfiles and Make, custom build scripts, etc.).

- **Infrastructure** - Extensive experience in maintaining resources in AWS, manually for many years, and more recently using Terraform and Kubernetes. Broad experience maintaining other DevOps tools like ArgoCD, Vault, self-hosted action runners, and leading infrastructure concerns such as autoscaling responsiveness and right-sizing resources.

- **Monitoring** - Extensive background in integrating monitoring services like NewRelic and DataDog, as well as implementing standards such as Prometheus, OpenTelemetry, and structured logging, to use with self-hosted services like Grafana, Loki, ELK, etc.

Architecture

- **Software Design** - Broad experience and a deep love for software design patterns and principles such as MVC, Service Layers, and DDD, as well as broader architectural styles like microservices and modular monoliths.

- **Data Engineering** - Extensive experience with queuing systems (SQS, RabbitMQ, Kafka), data consistency, data integrity, and data interoperability. Some experience in data warehouse management, ETL processes, and Business Intelligence tooling.

- **System Thinking** - A profound understanding of the interoperability of large systems and distilling the complexity therein. Not only in complex software and it's development process, but also in the human aspects of engineering, like team topologies and Conway's Law, as well as in the product concerns of translating business needs and user experiences.

Experience Summary

Angel Studios

Staff Software Engineer   Oct 2023 - Apr 2024

- Led efforts to establish a backend chapter to increase collaboration across devops, data, platform, and multiple backend API teams.
- Established a GraphQL Guild and led trainings on cross-team collaboration utilizing our federated GraphQL API

Senior Software Engineer (Platform)   June 2021 - Oct 2023

- Liaised with the DevOps team and mentored the platform team on our tooling and infrastructure.
- Onboarded multiple services, and trained platform team in using Kubernetes
- Implemented a federated GraphQL API, allowing us to combine 15+ disparate APIs

Senior Software Engineer (DevOps)   April 2020 June 2021

- Hired and trained a new DevOps team
- Moved all infrastructure to use IaC (Terraform), all applications to run in K8s (from manually provisioned EC2), while migrating all AWS resources to new AWS accounts
- Lots of autoscaling parameter tuning, stress testing, and benchmarking for large traffic events (1M users within 5 min)

Senior Software Engineer   Mar 2018 - Apr 2020

- Built web pages, content search indices, and ticketing system for local venue events.
- Developed internal tools for merge coordination, code deployment, event streaming, and multi-variant experimentation.

Steal Network

Director of Technology   Jan 2016 - Feb 2018

- Helped the company pivot to a marketplace model; maintained all infrastructure and migrated many of our home-grown systems to vendor services.

Software Engineer   Sep 2013 - Jan 2016

- Developed and maintained all aspects of an e-commerce website. Store pages, admin UI, DB, servers, and many home-grown systems (inventory and purchase order tracking, content catalog, image management, daily deal calendar, etc.)

Infinisource

Technical Support Associate   Feb 2013 - Sep 2013

On-call tech support for time-tracking web application, using IIS and SQL.

Sportz Filmz

Web Application Developer   Jun 2012 - Sep 2012

Prototyped video streaming SPA, using MEAN

Education

Some College

- LDS Business College   -   SLC, UT
- University of Utah   -   SLC, UT
- Dixie State College   -   St. George, UT

High School Diploma

- Dixie High School   -   St. George, UT   -   2006