

Mr. William Mantly
Backend Engineer & Infrastructure Specialist

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Summary

Backend engineer with 15+ years building internal tools, developer platforms, and infrastructure automation. I've built coding environments from scratch, designed CI/CD pipelines for 100k+ server deployments, and created the kind of internal tooling that makes engineering teams more productive. Native Linux user for over 20 years, comfortable working across the full stack, and happiest when I'm building systems that other developers rely on.

I started my own consulting company in 2017 and have worked with enterprise clients while also taking on senior engineering roles. Now I'm looking for an early-stage startup where I can own backend infrastructure and internal tooling—the kind of place where building the right foundations early actually matters.

Experience

Founder & Technology Consultant for *Theta 42, Inc.*, October 2017 - present

Founded and run a technology consulting practice focused on backend development, infrastructure, and DevOps for startups and enterprise clients.

Consulted on-site for IBM on architecture and deployment strategy for cloud-native applications.

Refactor, deploy and document projects written in NodeJS and Python using Kubernetes and containers to AWS and on-prem servers.

Audit git repos for security vulnerabilities and stability issues.

Create proper staging and development environments by applying containerization and DevOps best practices.

Integrate Google AI Studio into existing chatbot codebases.

Teach intermediate and advanced Python, JavaScript, Linux, Networking and DevOps to individuals and teams.

Build and deploy local LLM infrastructure using Ollama for clients exploring AI integration.

VP of Software Engineering for *JPMorgan Chase & Co.*, June 2019 - August 2023

Designed and implemented a CI/CD pipeline for deploying immutable x86 images, from planning through production.

Led a team of engineers developing automation and analytics solutions using Python and JavaScript.

Provided expert guidance on operations and management for over 100,000 servers running VMware and Linux.

Built internal tooling: scripts and services that other teams depended on for managing infrastructure at scale.

Modernized legacy software to align with current industry standards.

Conducted technical interviews to evaluate candidates across multiple engineering teams.

DevOps Engineer for *Roviant Sciences*, August 2018 - April 2019

Created development and automation tools using Chef, Packer, Terraform and Kubernetes to support internal developers.

Managed AWS environments for production, staging, and development using LXC, Docker and Vagrant.

Support developer needs by helping to plan projects written in Python, NodeJS, R, Ruby, and other languages.

Created a Linux-based development environment and support RPM packages using AWS Workspaces.

Integrated Jenkins with GitHub for automated testing and merge blocking on sub-par PRs.

Plan and conduct training for development and deployments using in-house tools and best practices.

Document everything! Make others document everything!

Lead Software Engineer & Head Instructor for *Byte Academy*, February 2015 - November 2017

Led a 6-person team building ByteDev, an online coding platform with real-time Linux environments.

Architected container provisioning system and wrote a custom C-based code execution server.

Built Django backend and APIs, integrated with GitHub, DigitalOcean, MailChimp, and other services.

Created automated staging environment that deployed changes from Git repos to Digital Ocean.

Managed internal and freelance developers, conducted daily standups and weekly progress meetings.

Instructed courses on Python, JavaScript, OOP, APIs, Testing, Deployment, Linux, and Git. 90% job placement rate.

Managed internal network, VoIP system, Linux and Windows AD Server.

System Administrator for *Unique Systems*, November 2010 - November 2013

Managed internal VoIP/video network including hardware from Tandberg, Polycom, APC, and Dell.
Managed Cisco switches and routers connecting over 140 remote sites.
Managed Windows Server 2000/2003, Windows Active Directory, and Linux servers.
Created an internal application to configure and manage Nagios using PHP and MySQL.
Provide end user support and training on-site, via phone and internal video network.

Skills

Languages: Python, JavaScript/Node.js, Java, C/C++, Bash, PHP, Lua, Perl, Ruby

Infrastructure: Kubernetes, Docker, Terraform, Chef, Packer, AWS, Proxmox, VMware/ESXi, LXC, Vagrant

Databases & Caching: PostgreSQL, MySQL, Redis

Web & APIs: Django, Express.js, Nginx, Apache

Systems: Linux (Red Hat, Ubuntu — 20+ years), Windows Server, ZFS, LDAP, WireGuard, VoIP/SIP

Tools: Git, Cisco networking, Ollama

Projects

ByteDev

An online learning platform to help students learn coding. The back-end uses Django and PostgreSQL for progress tracking and authentication, NodeJS with Socket.io for real-time communication. GitHub OAuth for authentication, GitHub API for storing user code. Created automated staging environment that deployed changes from Git repos to Digital Ocean with Apache and PostgreSQL. Led a team of 5 developers.

Codeland

A supporting project to ByteDev, allowing users to run code in real Linux environments. Modeled after the backend of c9.io. A NodeJS API manages Digital Ocean droplets via their API to spin up LXC containers on-demand and executes code from a custom HTTP server written in C.

SSO Manager

Node.js API and frontend for LDAP/SSO management with enterprise security requirements including user provisioning, group management, and authentication flows.

HomeLab Cluster

Personal 3-node Proxmox cluster running media services, automated backups, surveillance, VPN (WireGuard), and SSO. Used for testing new technologies before client recommendations.

Other: **P2psub** Mesh peer-to-peer JSON Pub/Sub NPM package. **linux-user** NPM package for Linux user management. **jqSPA** Lightweight SPA framework with jQuery.

Education

Byte Academy — FinTech, Python, Web Development

CUNY — Computer Science

R. McKee Technical High School — Cisco Networking Academy

Other

Boy Scouts of America — Adult leader, Tiger Den.

Cisco Academy Award — Honor student

CompTIA A+ — Certified

