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Engineering Lead & Full Stack Engineer

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Summary

Engineering leader with 20 years of experience building products, teams, and culture. I've shipped everything from AI-powered contract analysis pipelines to peer-to-peer texting platforms used in national campaigns, and I care just as much about how a team works together as what it ships. I go deep technically (still writing code, still architecting systems) while keeping an eye on the bigger picture: product direction, team growth, and building the kind of environment where people do their best work. I lead with curiosity, build with purpose, and believe great engineering is as much about people as it is about code.

Experience

Recital Software Remote

Senior Director of Engineering Feb, 2024 - Present

Part architect, part team lead — building AI pipelines for contract intelligence and a team culture that keeps getting better.

- Built the AI-powered pipelines that turn raw contracts into structured, searchable data — making it possible to surface insights through reports instead of reading every page.
- Built integrations in both directions — inbound support for more document sources, and outbound MCP servers so LLMs can pull data directly from our system.
- Created internal tooling for rapid LLM evaluation and benchmarking, helping the team make faster, more informed decisions on model and tool selection.
- Helped shape the product roadmap and project management, while building a team habit of looking back at what we can do better and looking forward to simplify what's next.
- Championed a team culture of retrospection and continuous improvement across a small, high-output engineering team.

Politics Rewired Remote

Head of Engineering Feb, 2022 - Nov, 2023

Led the Spoke product team by building right alongside it. Spoke is a peer-to-peer texting platform that lets campaigns send millions of messages and have real one-on-one follow-ups with supporters.

- Owned product direction while building alongside the team — shipping features, fixing problems, and setting the bar by doing the work.
- Introduced sprint planning and retrospectives, giving the team a rhythm for async planning and a habit of getting better each cycle.
- Reworked release planning and QA to make releases cyclical and predictable — cutting deployment overhead and reducing change failure rate in production.
- Mentored and upskilled the team, building a culture where people grew alongside the product.

Freelance Consultant Remote

Feb, 2022 - Nov, 2023

Took on a mix of contract work, side projects, and a business — because staying curious means building in every direction.

- **ScaleToWin:** Partnered with Bernie Alumni Organizers to build the tech behind ScaleToWin on Spoke. Set up deployment pipelines with Terraform & Serverless, added support for multiple messaging services per campaign, sped up CSV ingestions, and single-handedly scaled the infra to handle millions of interactions per day.

Experience

Freelance Consultant Remote
Apr, 2020 - Feb, 2022

- Continued contract work with OPEN, finishing up Identity CRM transition work for remaining organizations.
- Built a pluggable mailing service interface in Elixir, letting organizations swap between backends like AWS SES and MailChimp without changing their frontend — high bandwidth, zero disruption.
- Started and ran a keyboard parts store in India, making custom parts and accessories available locally. Self-managed everything: marketing, customer service, supply chain, and logistics. ~$200k revenue over 3 years.

Lead Engineer Remote
The OPEN Jan, 2017 - March, 2020
Worked with 20+ digital grassroots organizing groups across multiple countries, helping them scale their tech and adopt shared tools.

- Helped organizations adopt and localize Identity CRM (built by 38 Degrees) across different countries, each with their own rules and data policies.
- Balanced technical leadership with hands-on engineering across a distributed, mission-driven team.
- Helped organize the yearly Tech Summit, bringing together organizers and technologists from around the world, including folks from MoveOn, GetUp, and more. Also planned and ran team summits and retreats.
- Coached smaller organizations to upskill their tech, helping them move off limiting SaaS platforms to in-house tools. Hired, trained, and upskilled tech and tech-adjacent team members.

bidPress Remote
VP of Engineering Jan, 2015 - Dec, 2016
Led engineering for a custom print marketplace connecting buyers with the best prices on printed merchandise nationwide.

- Architected and automated the full server infrastructure: Chef-based AMI creation, auto-scaling, and CI/CD deployment pipelines.
- Built and shipped the core web application powering the bidPress platform.
- Built a microservice in Phoenix (Elixir) to pull data from third-party shipping services — took response times from 3 seconds down to 250ms, a 10x improvement.
- Defined the product planning process using Agile — retros, sprint planning, and async updates to keep the team aligned.

Earlier Roles & Open Source Bangalore & Remote
2006 - 2014
Started programming at 10, went professional by 16. A mix of consulting, co-founding, open source, and freelance work that built the foundation for everything since.

- **Software Architect, Multunus (2014):** Shipped multiple products in a consulting environment — an Android screen recording library for UX testing, a high-performance MDM app in Rails for medical offices, and a proof-of-concept PowerPoint plugin using MQTT for live audience polling.
- **Device Management Engineer, Ninetology (2013):** Part of the core Android development team, leading device support for new ROM deployments and implementing automated nightly releases with Jenkins.

Experience

Earlier Roles & Open Source — Bangalore & Remote, 2006 - 2014

- **Co-Founder, Mobule (2013–2014):** Built an Android app for classroom digitization — real-time chat, device control for teachers, and parent access for tutoring, powered by RabbitMQ for low-bandwidth reliability.
- **Core Developer, LiquidSmooth ROMs (2012–2013):** Contributed to the Android ROM base including kernel work, and built an auto-commit bot to pull upstream code and create GitHub PRs.
- **Fedora Project (2009–2011):** Packager, developer, and ambassador. Contributed packages, built the LXDE menu for Security Spin, and redesigned the Spins website.
- **Freelance Software Engineer (2006–2013):** Built web apps, managed infrastructure with Puppet, Chef, and Jenkins, and shipped everything from gaming community sites to call center frontends and student portals.

Education

Oxford College of Engineering, Bengaluru — Bachelor of Engineering
Civil Engineering — Bangalore, India • 2009 – 2010

Dropped out in my sophomore year. Self-taught software engineer from there on.

St Pauls English School — 12th Grade
High School

Professional Skills

Product Lead
Product roadmapping, project management, team mentoring, cross-functional collaboration, retrospectives & continuous improvement, sales engineering liaison, strategic planning, process development, engineering culture building

Technical Skills

AI Powered Products
AI-powered pipelines, LLM evaluation tooling, MCP integrations, prompt engineering, document processing & structured data extraction

Infrastructure
AWS (Lambda, EC2), Google Cloud, Heroku, Terraform, Ansible, Docker, Kubernetes, Chef, Puppet, CI/CD, Linux Systems

Web Frameworks
Ruby on Rails, Python, JavaScript/TypeScript, Express/NodeJS, Phoenix/Elixir, Java, PHP, HTML/CSS/SCSS, React, VueJS

Data Management
PostgreSQL, MariaDB, Redis, Sidekiq, GraphQL, REST

Projects

Homelab Cluster
Running a 4-node cluster at home — three mini PCs (i5-9500T, 32GB RAM each) and a 2U rack server (24 cores, 384GB RAM) all on Talos Linux and Kubernetes, fully git-managed with Renovate for automated image updates. A separate NAS on Proxmox manages 50TB of storage, with automated backups on intervals (longest being 2 hours), kept as both local and remote copies.

Local LLM Evaluation
Running and testing different LLMs locally, evaluating them for various tasks — building on the same muscle I use professionally for model and tool selection at Recital.

Document Classifier
Building an AI-powered document classifier to automatically organize documents and images. Extracts structured data from documents, making them searchable — so finding a receipt or warranty info is a query, not a hunt. Designed to work with either a local LLM on the user's machine or a remote LLM, letting users choose their own tradeoff between privacy and accuracy.