Akiva Levy, Curriculum Vitæ

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Background

My name is Akiva Levy; I'm a full-stack Web developer, software engineer, and consultant. I am an adherent of the Unix philosophy and I am passionate about the crafting of code. I strive for technological minimalism and elegance.

I work in various languages and technologies, including modular JavaScript (both client- and server-side), Ruby, Python, shell scripting, HTML, CSS, TDD, DevOps, User Experience, various databases, protocol design, Git, automation, privacy, cryptography, security, and reverse engineering. I also thoroughly enjoy exploring other fields of engineering, such as electronics and embedded systems, and coding, such as C, Forth, Haskell, Lisp, and Assembly.

I have been requested for speaking engagements on technologies such as HTML5 and CSS3 by various organisations, including W3C and Microsoft.

Proficiency

Web Development

- Full-stack JavaScript: streams, real-time communication, web sockets, P2P, decentralisation, and modularity
- HTML5: responsive, mobile-first, semantic, and accessibility-focused
- CSS
- Applications design and architecture
- Micro-services (and monoliths, too!)
- Test-Driven and Domain-Driven Development
- Build tools (Make, Browserify, Gulp.js, etc.)
- Git
- Interface/UX design
- Databases (relational and non-relational alike)
- Ruby (including Rails and Sinatra)
- Python (including Django and FastAPI)

DevOps and Linux Administration

- Docker containers
- CI/CD pipelines and automation
- Kubernetes
- Linux administration
- Linux process supervision with init systems like runit and systemd
- HTTP servers, proxies, and gateways
- Security and hardening
- Various protocols and protocol design

Tooling

As someone who is fond of the command-line interface, I am proficient in the terminal and love using Vim, tmux, shell (POSIX and Bash) scripting, automation, macros, and containers/virtualisation to achieve an ephemeral, robust, and highly portable developer environment.

Additional skills

Throughout my career, I have held various titles—sole developer, senior developer, team leader, educator, consultant—and each has served as both a learning experience and opportunity to further my abilities beyond the world of programming. Communication skills, both oral and written, have been a must, as much of my career has been spent working remotely. So, too, has time management, self-motivation, innovation, and being a quick learner. Other proficiencies that have proved immensely helpful are analytical thinking, project management, the ability to work independently, and a good sense of humour.

Professional Experience

Web Developer/Software Engineer (freelance): 2007—Present

Working in a contract capacity providing a wide array of skills for clients, from full-stack development to DevOps to reverse engineering.

Highlights include:

- Drone-space flight missions management and planning: real-time tracking of weather conditions, plotting of flight paths on a visual map including notification of possible airspace restrictions, mission team management, and drone maintenance records and alerts
- Parsing and conversion of drone flight logs files in order to extract useful metrics and analytics from flights that would otherwise be unobtainable without third-party services; often requiring the reverse engineering of proprietary and even encrypted binary files
- Assisting teams improve internal process by way of containerised developement environment, writing custom tooling and scripts, and modularizing code
- Implementing micro-services for large, monolithic applications that have outgrown the value or practicality in vertical scaling according to demands
- Migration of legacy systems by way of creating custom API gateways that allowed for opportunistic porting to new end-points and inter-process communication channels
- IoT-space services architecture and planning for companies such as Motorola, Binatone, V-tech and others for tools such as video streaming and monitoring
- Training teams on best testing practices, implementing tests when a project is lacking or improving the coverage and efficiency of present tests
- Education system applications involving resource and asset management, instructor dashboards, online courses for students, and more
- Conference-holder application that scans attendees' ticket QR codes for metrics collection, event validation, and random prize draws
- Increasing efficiency for deployment pipelines implementing advanced cloud- and VPS-hosting DevOps techniques, containerisation, micro-services, and automation
- A drag-and-drop brochure builder with "send-to-printer" functionality
- E-commerce platform solutions enabling easy customisation and modularity for multiple companies

Systems Engineer, Commit: 2020-2021

Development of DevOps infrastructure and systems software, utilising Docker, Kubernetes, and AWS, and creating a suite of internal development tools and processes.

Assisted building a social network platform for developers to share knowledge as well as to discover opportunities with companies looking for remote talent.

Skills required included Linux administration, Docker, Kubernetes, AWS, React, PostgreSQL, node.js, nest.js, express, TypeScript, and more.

Teacher, Thinkful: 2016-2022

Teaching students full-stack JavaScript development at Thinkful how to code with the goal of obtaining full-time employment upon completion.

The subject matter with which I was involved included HTML, CSS, accessibility, semantic Web, JavaScript, React, node.js, testing, streams, Web sockets, Git, MongoDB, PostgreSQL, and more.

Accolades

I have been requested for various speaking engagements for modern technologies, such as CSS3 and HTML5, by organisations and conferences, including the W3C and Microsoft.

My work as a freelance Web developer has won the attention of many Web design showcases, including the Editor's Choice at W3C Sites.