Stephen Gontzes

📍 Philadelphia, PA   ✉ gontzess@gmail.com   ↰ stephengontzes.dev   ⦿ gontzess

Experience

Co-Creator, Software Engineer, *Hypha*   2022 – present

Hypha ↗ is an open-source, self-managed observability framework that correlates logs and traces to make debugging distributed systems easier.

- Researched, designed, prototyped, and built an automated, end-to-end telemetry pipeline that sets up distributed tracing, aggregates existing logs, and correlates logs with traces.
- Implemented and automated instrumentation of Node.js applications to emit logs and traces using OpenTelemetry SDK and Agent Collector.
- Containerized and configured backend services including OpenTelemetry Gateway Collector, Jaeger, Grafana Loki, and Grafana using Docker Compose for platform-agnostic deployment.
- Scaled Loki and Jaeger services with read/write/store multi-service deployments using Nginx for service discovery.
- Automated provisioning and teardown of AWS cloud infrastructure via AWS CLI, ECS Fargate, and Docker Compose ECS integration.
- Developed a custom UI powered by Grafana, providing an intuitive and focused debugging interface.
- Collaborated closely with a remote team of 4 engineers, including daily standups and pair programming.
- Co-authored the Hypha technical case study ↗ .

Software Engineer, *Self-Employed*   2020 – 2022

Developed full-stack projects including:

- RekwestBin: RequestBin-like Webhook and HTTP request inspection tool built in Go using Ngrok and MongoDB, deployed on DigitalOcean Droplet, configured with Nginx and PM2.
- Reaction: Trello-like project management tool built using React/Redux, a Node.js/Express RESTful API, MongoDB.
- Tictactoe: Multi-level game optimized with backtracking Negamax algorithm, built in Ruby using Sinatra and PSQL.

Program Manager, *Digital / Tech Agencies, NYC*   2012 – 2020

- Led several multi-year, multi-million dollar digital innovation projects, including global website and iOS/Android mobile app builds for Harley-Davidson, Stanley Black & Decker, and BMW North America.
- Proactively managed workstreams across up to 6 cross-functional teams (Engineering, UX, Design, Product) located in 4 offices and timezones.
- Fostered growth and ownership opportunities for direct reports and other NY office team members.

Skills

Languages
JavaScript, Go, Ruby, SQL, HTML, CSS

Frameworks
Express.js, Handlebars.js, React.js, Redux, Sinatra

Technologies
Git/Github, Docker, Linux, Node.js, HTTP, Webhooks, RESTful APIs, PostgreSQL, MongoDB

Cloud
AWS (EC2, ECS, ECR, Fargate, CloudFormation, CLI), DigitalOcean, Heroku

Education

Launch School, *Capstone Program - Software Engineering* ↗   2020 – 2022

Kenyon College, *Bachelor of Arts - Economics, Mathematics*   2008 – 2012