

ALAN GARDNER

Principal Software Engineer

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I am a seasoned software engineer with over two decades of experience, spanning companies from early-stage startups to tech unicorns and Fortune 50 corporations. My diverse technical expertise includes full-stack web development, AI application development, and DevOps, combined with a deep understanding of agile and lean methodologies. I am passionate about delivering high-quality software that drives business growth and enhances user experiences. Having collaborated with cross-functional teams across industries, I am adept at leading technical initiatives from concept to deployment, ensuring that the end user remains at the heart of the process.

EXPERIENCE

Product Engineer

Narrativium Mar 24 - Present

In March 2024, I decided to focus on learning more about Artificial Intelligence and its impact on my career. I initially spent time studying LLMs, neural networks, and machine learning. I then collaborated with local professionals to identify opportunities where generative AI could enhance existing processes, using this as a further learning opportunity.

I am now working on various client contracts, utilizing what I've learned to enhance my existing offerings and offer new services related to building AI-assisted applications.

Python, Jupyter Notebooks, NumPy, Pandas, Matplotlib, Seaborn, SciKitLearn, LangChain, Streamlit, Flask, FastAPI, ChatGPT, Claude, Llama, Mixtral, Ollama, Cursor, Hugging Face

Principal Software Engineer / Engineering Manager

TXI Oct 22 - Mar 24

In October 2022, an opportunity arose to join the TXI team full-time and add an Engineering Manager aspect to my role. I took on four direct reports from across the engineering team, helping them to identify and achieve their goals.

I was initially engaged as a Lead Engineer on a project to move one of TXI's oldest clients from our internal Kubernetes cluster to a cluster that we built for them from the ground up. Then, in March 2023, I had the opportunity to lead a team again with the same client. I oversaw a team of developers building a bespoke application in Elixir/Phoenix and VueJS. The client was looking for a tool that would help them place IoT monitoring devices for area mapping studies. These locations could be as small as a refrigeration unit or as large as an entire warehouse. The backend for this application was written in Elixir, and the frontend in VueJS, with the Konva library providing HTML canvas support for interacting with schematics and floorplans. The application was deployed to the Kubernetes cluster I had helped to build on my previous engagement. During this engagement, I was promoted to Principal Engineer.

Elixir, Phoenix, JavaScript, Vue.js, Konva, Ruby, Rails, Amazon Web Services (AWS), Kubernetes, Docker, Terraform, GitHub Actions, Dependency Management, PostgreSQL, Technical Leadership, Engineering Management

Technical Lead (Contract)

TXI Mar 20 - Sep 22

In March 2020, I took a contract with TXI, then Table XI, to lead a team of developers working on a Python and React application to help predict clinical trials. TXI's client was a Fortune 100 pharmaceutical company whose goal was to make their clinical trials more predictable. We worked closely with their data science team to run statistical and machine learning models and present the results to users.

Python, Flask, Pandas, Jupyter, JavaScript, React.js, Amazon Web Services (AWS), Kubernetes, Terraform, Microsoft Azure, GitHub Actions, Dependency Management, Technical Leadership

Staff Engineer

Deliveroo Aug 19 - Feb 20

In August 2019, Cultivate was acquired by Deliveroo, and we became part of their expanding Payments team. Our remit was to provide an excellent payout experience for restaurants on the Deliveroo platform. We built back-end services in Ruby and Go utilizing the underlying Kafka event-based architecture to implement a ledger system and associated reporting and invoicing tool. These services handled millions of transactions to formulate invoices and payouts to thousands of restaurants across multiple countries and markets.

Ruby, Rails, Go, Kafka, Protobuf, PostgreSQL, Redis, Technical Leadership

More experience can be found on my LinkedIn profile

SKILLS

Engineering

Python, Flask, FastAPI

Ruby, Rails

JavaScript, Node.js, React, VueJS

HTML, CSS/SCSS, Bootstrap

Elixir, Phoenix, OTP

Elm

Go

PostgreSQL, MySQL, Redis

Docker, Kubernetes, Terraform

AWS, GCP, Azure

Git

Process

Extreme Programming (XP)

Scrum

Lean

Leadership

Empathetic team leader

Effective communicator

Strong collaborator

EDUCATION

BSc Hons (1st) Computer Science

Robert Gordon University

2005-2009

INTERESTS

Gaming (board, TTRPG, video)

Hiking

Learning