

Alex Poulos (PhD)

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SKILLS

I am a seasoned full stack developer with **5 years** of experience in multiple backend languages (**Typescript/JavaScript, Rust, Go, Java**) and frontend frameworks (**Vue.js** and **React**). I have worked with an array of different databases (**DynamoDB, Mongo, and Oracle**) and have deep knowledge of core **AWS** services including **Cloudformation**. I love tackling complex problems that span the entire tech stack. I excel at **mentoring** junior developers and communicating with both technical and non-technical audiences.

RECENT EXPERIENCE

The Washington Post, Washington DC

March 2021 - PRESENT (Full-Time): **Senior Full Stack Engineer**

- Spearheaded a database migration of hundreds of databases in 4 AWS regions into the managed service MongoDB Atlas. This improved uptime and led to six figure annual cost savings in database software licensing fees.
- Streamlined DataDog alerts to reduce false positives for the on-call engineer
- Worked closely with the Product Manager to estimate and prioritize incoming work
- Represented the Video team in cross-team architecture discussions

July 2020 - March 2021 (Full-Time): **Full Stack Engineer**

- Designed and implemented a video metrics ingestion service capable of aggregating and storing hundreds of millions of requests per month (Typescript, Lambda, AWS TimeStream, DynamoDB).
- Built the infrastructure templates and CI pipelines for several new microservices (Cloudformation, Jenkins, Groovy)
- Participated in feature work across the full stack (Spring Boot/Java, React, AngularJS, CloudFormation, MongoDB, Typescript, a broad range of AWS Services including the Elemental Media Services).

Crosscut - Freelance Software Developer

May 2020 - PRESENT (Part-Time)

- Created a proof-of-concept implementation in Rust that led to a 30x improvement in runtime for a custom geospatial segmenting algorithm.
- Participated in feature development across the full extent of the stack (backend and frontend)
- Tech: Vue.js, Node.js, Rust, Go, R, Docker, AWS Lambda, Cloudformation.

University of Maryland, College Park, MD – IT Engineer

July 2019 – July 2020 (Full-Time)

- Planned and executed a tricky containerization and cloud migration of an open-source web application (Grouper) for RBAC. Subsequent major version upgrades took 2 weeks instead of 2 months of engineering work. (Docker, Bash, Oracle)
- Build a flexible and extensible messaging extension for propagating group membership information between multiple systems (Java, SNS, SQS, Node.js, Lambda)
- Designed and built UMD IT's first serverless web app, an internal tool used by developers to create test users across multiple internal systems of record. Self-service test users improved security and enabled developers to easily test their apps across different user profiles (Vue.js, Typescript, API Gateway, Lambda)

EDUCATION

Catholic University of America – MA & PhD (Classics)

May 2019, Washington, DC

North Carolina State University – BS (Computer Science)

May 2012, Raleigh, NC

AWARDS AND CERTIFICATIONS

AWS Solutions Architect, Associate (Dec. 2019 – Present)

Computer Science Senior Award for Achievement in the Humanities (2012)