

Suraj Zala

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SKILLS

I am proficient in Python, have experience in building and maintaining complex systems, working with teams spread out across the globe, for building both custom solutions or expanding product capabilities. I am open to learning new tools and languages, thrive while working in small teams with clear goals, and enjoy exploring and debugging all kinds of systems.

EXPERIENCE

Senior Software Developer, Cognida.ai — Feb 2024 - Jan 2025

- Worked on building PoCs on top of Zuno.Assist using LLM-based design patterns and custom integrations for B2B customers, e.g. GraphRAG, DOCX processing, etc
- Worked on a B2B product offering, an Agentic Automation Platform, including designing the system, implementing integrations and features involving external services and maintaining documentation and process for the team

Tools & Technologies: FastAPI, Temporal, Socket.IO, PostgreSQL, CouchDB, Redis, Docker, Kubernetes, Grafana, Azure, OpenAI

Participant, Recurse Center — Sep 2023 - Dec 2023

- Took a professional sabbatical, attending a self-directed educational retreat.

Software Engineer, smartSense Solutions — (Feb 2021 - Sep 2023)

- Helped design architecture for Foster, a smartSense product.
- Collaborated with the data science team to upgrade tools and train new joiners for a more rounded-out team structure
- Wrote first release for coding standards documentation for the Python team
- Worked as part of a team conducting software development workshops as well as recruitment drives for universities
- BASF ReCoBo/CoSSBot (Client)
 - Redesigned and rebuilt a data connector pipeline system for ingesting data into their search engine, using Python and Argo Workflows, cutting down indexing runtime by 10x, parallelizing multiple indexing runs, adding scheduling options, and reducing human effort from days to hours for a formerly completely manual process
- Teamworks (Contract)
 - Worked on building out a News Feed module as well as debugging the existing Forms modules
 - Cleared up performance hotspots in their core monolithic service, refactoring and optimizing DB calls
- CapitalFloat/Axio (Contract)
 - Worked on the Decision Engine service responsible for processing customer info as part of credit allocation/disbursal
 - Implemented new credit products, data features
 - Optimized execution to fit with other services achieve SLOs set by product team for ideal customer experience

Tools & Technologies: Flask, Django, FastAPI, BentoML, GraphQL, MongoDB, MariaDB, PostgreSQL, Redis, Celery, Kafka, Docker, Kubernetes, Grafana, Datadog, Argo Workflows, AWS, Azure

Software Developer, RheoDigital — Jul 2018 - Nov 2020

- Took the core code from MVP to stable, reducing manual effort in customer deployment time to practically zero
- Wrote backend service and APIs for the core product, a social feed and chat automation tool with CRM features and calendar integrations
- Worked on architecture redesign to build complex real-time chat features and a PWA-based mobile app for Admin users

Tools & Technologies: Flask, Django, MongoDB, Postgres, Heroku, DialogFlow, GCP, SocketIO

EDUCATION

Gujarat Technological University, BE in Information Technology, 2014-2018