

Sam Lee

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EXPERIENCE

Software Engineer

December 2023 - Current

University of Kansas | Lawrence, KS

- Engineered a speech-to-text feature with AWS Transcribe and React, empowering 25,000+ students with disabilities to complete online assessments
- Led a small team, using agile methodologies, to develop a curriculum visualization tool with React, Express.js, and PostgreSQL
- Developed a scalable authentication system with AWS Cognito to secure access for 7,000+ educators
- Architected a reporting feature, using React and TypeScript, which tracks key performance metrics on test evaluators, enabling companies to effectively analyze and enhance grading performance
- Utilized Jenkins for deploying applications to production to ensure smooth and efficient release cycles

Technical Support Technician

July 2023 - October 2023

ASM Enterprise | Chicago, IL

- Solutioned poor rendering performance by refactoring redundant code and integrating cache strategies, resulting in cutting load times by 60%
- Revamped the SEO strategy by optimizing meta tags and removing dead links, driving a surge of sessions by 235% and new users by 285%
- Analyzed user pain points and implemented software improvements, reducing observed issues
- Followed documentation protocols, ensuring consistency in system updates and software processes

PERSONAL PROJECTS

Beachhead | Next.js, TypeScript, Supabase, OpenAI, Claude (Anthropic), Puppeteer, Vercel, Zustand, React Query, PostHog
AI-powered business discovery and validation platform for indie hackers and solo founders to generate, remix, and evaluate niche startup ideas based on real profitable products.

- Engineered Beachhead Score, a two-stage evaluation system that combines AI scoring with real-world signal analysis from Reddit and Google Trends
- Automated product scraping from IndieHackers using Puppeteer, storing and indexing over 500+ real SaaS businesses into a searchable database
- Implemented JWT-based auth system with Supabase, supporting OAuth (Google, GitHub) and persistent sessions via HTTP-only cookies
- Tracked user engagement and UX behavior using PostHog, informing design iterations and feature prioritization

Happs | React Native, TypeScript, NestJS, Neon PostgreSQL, AWS

Building a community-driven event discovery app where users and businesses share and engage with local experiences in their area.

- Designed and built a JWT-based authentication system for secure user sessions and persistent logins
- Optimized media uploads and retrieval using AWS S3 presigned URLs, reducing latency and improving efficiency for high-volume media handling
- Optimized state management with Zustand and React Query, improving API performance
- Improved rendering performance by optimizing React state management with TypeScript to reduce re-renders and implementing lazy-loading for assets

EDUCATION

Flatiron School

November 2022 – February 2023

Software Engineering Bootcamp | Remote

University of Illinois Urbana Champaign | Urbana, IL

August 2018 – May 2022

Bachelor of Arts in Communications

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Languages: JavaScript, TypeScript,

Frameworks: React, Node.js, React Native, Redux, Express.js, NestJS

Database: PostgreSQL, Prisma, Flyway