Leonidas Villeneuve

Lead Software Engineer

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Software Engineer with 8+ years of experience with cross-functional teams, including remote async teams in different timezones and continents. Have successfully led the architecture, implementation, deployment, observability/monitoring and debug of critical systems over the span of my career, ranging from small startups to companies with more than 1,500 employees.

Skills

Languages & Frameworks

Go | Node.js | Python | Kotlin | Typescript | Javascript | React | Next.js | Django | LangChain

Databases & DevOps

SQL | NoSQL | Postgres | MongoDB | Redis | Elasticsearch | GCP | AWS | Docker | CI/CD

APIs & Messaging

REST | GraphQL | gRPC | Protobuf | JWT | Kafka | PubSub | Microservices | Event-Driven | Sagas

Leadership

Mentoring | Code Review | Hiring | Technical Strategy | Planning | Stakeholder communication

Software Architecture

Domain-Driven Design | Clean & Hexagonal Architecture | Monorepo | API Design | Domain Modelling

Professional Experience

Senior III Software Engineer, Back-end Tech Lead

Daki/JOKR Group | Apr 2023 — Present

Daki/JOKR is an online grocery unicorn startup, offering grocery deliveries in 15 minutes.

- Developed an AI Agent for grocery shopping using ChatGPT API and LangChain framework
  - Product search implemented via **RAG with Word Embeddings**, allowing contextual queries
- Architected and led implementation of a new Warehouse Management System
  - Achieved over **25%+ efficiency improvement** across distribution centres
  - **Led a team of 6 engineers** across 4 microservices and 2 external systems
  - Designed to autoscale to handle up to 20x the normal demand

- ○ Replaced the legacy low code solution, eliminating many data concurrency issues
- During the final phase of the corporate merge, **lead the handover of JOKR back-end services from the Global Team to the Brazilian Team**, helping integrate them with Daki's existing services
- Mentored 3 engineers in back-end development with Go and assisted 5 others in learning the language

Senior Software Engineer Tech. Lead, Founding Team
Hubla | Oct 2020 — Mar 2023

Hubla is a passion economy startup, selected for Y Combinator's S20 batch. Hubla helps creators monetize their audience via exclusive mentorships, group chats and courses.

- Lead the implementation of a new Checkout System
  - Reduced checkout **p95 load times from 30s to 5s**
  - Creators saw an increase from **20% up to 200% in conversion rates**
  - **Eliminated downtimes** and checkout abandonment caused by gateway issues
  - Designed to handle traffic spikes of **1,000+ transactions per second**
  - Reported directly to the **Principal Engineer and the Head of Technology**
  - Leveraged Optimistic Locking and Transactional Outbox patterns for **data integrity**
- Worked on **a cross-team initiative** called DevEx (Developer Experience), aimed at improving codebase quality and productivity across the company.
  - Wrote code & architecture style guides, installed monitoring tools and **coached a team of 10+ engineers into using and improving them**

Senior Software Engineer
Loggi | Mar 2019 — Oct 2020

Loggi is a logistics unicorn startup that offers a logistics as a service platform that can provide any individual or company fast, cheap and trackable deliveries.

- Led implementation of a Package Redispatching system
  - Delivered initial solution in <24 hours, under a critical emergency
  - Guaranteed timely delivery of thousands of packages
  - Led 3 engineers into improving the initial solution, which later became a **new product in Loggi's offerings**
- Was recognized for my ability to **quickly debug and propose solutions to production issues** including race conditions, distributed locking and resource exhaustion
- Became **"code owner" of many projects**, being responsible for code quality and stability
- Conducted hiring interviews for Software Engineering positions in Brazil and overseas

Technical Co-founder
Loopin & Justy | May 2017 — May 2019

Loopin started as a cloud storage startup, later pivoted into Justy, a *lawtech* startup aimed at making document management easier for lawyers and attorneys.

- Deployed self-healing storage clusters on bare-metal servers leveraging Ceph Storage, achieving a **unit cost of less than $0.01/month per stored GB** (with redundant copies)
- Startup selected for acceleration by the Brazilian National Development Bank (BNDES)

Developer, SysAdmin & Journalist
Spotniks | Aug 2014 — Jul 2016

Spotniks is a news media website focused on politics, society, and economics.

- Reduced **infrastructure spending by half** while supporting 3 million pageviews/month by leveraging Varnish HTTP Cache
- Developed a crowdfunding system (back-end and front-end) for readers to support the publication in exchange for some perks

Languages

Portuguese
Native

English
Proficient (C2)

Certificates & Projects

EF SET English Certificate (C2 Proficiency)
EF SET

2022

Personal blog
Link: leonidasv.com

Personal website where I write about technical stuff. Featured on YC Hacker News front page twice.