

John Grubbs

Senior Full-Stack Software Engineer

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SUMMARY

Lead Full-Stack Engineer designing and delivering scalable, secure, API-first web applications and data platforms that support millions of users and cut operating costs. Proven track record: Supported 4M+ subscribers, eliminated \$750K/year in vendor costs, and increased message throughput 50x, enabling 800% YoY revenue growth. Expert in Python (Flask, FastAPI), Celery, RabbitMQ, Node.js/React, PostgreSQL/MySQL, Docker, and AWS; effective technical leader focused on architecture, CI/CD, observability, and mentoring teams to improve reliability, performance, and developer velocity.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- **Python, Backend & Async Processing:** Python, FastAPI, Flask, Celery, RabbitMQ, Airflow
- **Frontend & JavaScript/TypeScript:** JavaScript, TypeScript, React, Node.js
- **Databases & Caching:** SQL, PostgreSQL, MySQL, MS SQL, Redis
- **Cloud, DevOps & Infrastructure:** AWS, Docker, Linux, GitHub, GitHub Actions
- **Payment Processors:** Braintree, Stripe

PROJECTS

Scrappy - Full-Stack AI RAG Document Workspace; Repo: [github](#), Website: [Scrappy](#)

- Developed a full-stack document workspace enabling authenticated users to upload, manage, process, and query files through AI-assisted chat conversations.
- Built a React, Vite, and Tailwind CSS frontend with protected routes, file-store workflows, document chat, conversation history, and role-aware admin navigation.
- Designed and implemented a FastAPI backend with versioned REST APIs, SQLAlchemy models, Alembic migrations, PostgreSQL/pgvector persistence, Redis caching, and MinIO-s3-compatible object storage.
- Integrated file ingestion workflows with metadata tracking, per-user storage buckets, processing states, background job publishing, and retrieval-ready document chunking.
- Implemented AI chat infrastructure using OpenAI conversation/response integrations, Server-Sent Events streaming, persisted message history, and document-context retrieval from selected files.
- Containerized the application with Docker and Docker Compose, orchestrating frontend, backend, PostgreSQL, and Redis services for consistent local development and deployment workflows.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Lead Full-Stack Engineer, Pop Acta Media; Fort Collins, CO Jan 2021 - Present

- Led design and automation of large-scale reporting pipelines serving 4M+ subscribers using Python, Celery, and RabbitMQ to improve reliability, throughput, and operational scalability.
- Architected an internal API orchestration platform (React, TypeScript, Flask/FastAPI) to integrate multiple external email providers, eliminating redundant vendors and reducing annual costs by \$750K.
- Designed and scaled a high-throughput SMS/MMS delivery system (Python, relational databases), optimizing persistence and processing to achieve 50x message throughput and support 800% YoY revenue growth.
- Owned application infrastructure, API integrations, database schema design, and deployment workflows across AWS-hosted internal tools and client-facing services, improving scalability, reliability, and maintainability.
- Designed secure full-stack application architecture with user authentication, data-level permissions, CI/CD automation, and cloud monitoring to support reliable delivery of messaging, reporting, and content-distribution platforms.
- Led post-merger modernization by migrating legacy PHP ETL workflows to Python, improving maintainability, developer velocity, and long-term platform alignment.
- Delivered two internal content-authoring platforms (Flask) enabling non-technical teams to create and distribute newsletters at scale, increasing operational efficiency for marketing and editorial teams.

Senior Software Engineer, Down to Earth Cloud Solutions; Houston, TX Jun 2024 - Present

- Led end-to-end development of cloud-native software solutions and infrastructure automation, integrating secure, scalable applications tailored to diverse business requirements.
- Designed and implemented API-first architectures, driving system interoperability across internal platforms and third-party services to support reliable data exchange and extensibility.
- Built and maintained high-availability cloud services using modern best practices, ensuring robust performance, fault tolerance, and seamless deployment workflows.

- Partnered with cross-functional stakeholders to translate product vision into technical execution while maintaining alignment with long-term architectural goals and quality standards.

Full-Stack Software Engineer, DXC Technology; New Orleans, LA *Feb 2019 - Sept 2020*

- Designed and delivered a desktop application for deterministic comparison of PDF and text datasets, producing auditable reports used for data validation and operational decision-making.
- Developed frontend data-processing components to parse, normalize, and compare heterogeneous document inputs, enabling consistent analysis across unstructured sources.
- Built a Salesforce-based asset-tracking application for enterprise car rental operations, integrating QR code workflows to improve asset visibility and accuracy.

EDUCATION

Full-Stack Software Engineering Program, Flatiron School *Sept 2018 - Jan 2019*

Immersive, industry-aligned program comprising FE (HTML/CSS, JS, React) and BE development (Ruby/Rails, Node)

- Built multiple production-style projects showcasing API design, relational database/schema modeling (SQL), query optimization, backend integration, and test-driven development.