

Akila Dananjaya

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Professional Profile

Proactive and energetic software engineer with **over six years of experience** in Full Stack Development. I have contributed significantly to fast paced international startups, and as a founding engineer at Skillfully, I lead a team of three developers. I am known for strong leadership, excellent stakeholder communication, and the ability to take on responsibility while consistently delivering high quality software solutions.

Experience

Lead Full Stack Engineer, Skillfully – San Francisco, CA – (Remote) July 2023 – Present

- Building hirednow.ai, an innovative recruitment platform now serving over **90,000 active users**.
- Collaborate closely with founders to build key product features, contributing to a successful **\$2.5M** fundraising round.
- Architect and manage AWS infrastructure.
- Develop and optimize high-performance PostgreSQL schemas while writing advanced queries to efficiently manage datasets exceeding **one million rows**.
- Lead a team of three developers, providing technical direction and resolving complex technical issues.
- Perform end-to-end testing with Cypress to ensure application stability and functionality.
- Migrated the infrastructure of skillful.ly from manual AWS EC2 instances to AWS ECS, significantly improving reliability, scalability, and deployment efficiency.

Software Developer, Diwala – Norway – (Remote) June 2021 – Sep 2023

- Engineered scalable infrastructure for diwala.io using Terraform, supporting over **5,000 active users**.
- Conducted PostgreSQL migrations maintaining data integrity and uninterrupted user access.
- Built a template engine based on React.js, which generates PDF documents with automatic content adjustments.
- Built a robust worker system to dynamically generate OpenGraph images, automating social media previews.

Associate Software Engineer, Atlas Labs – Sri Lanka Aug 2020 – April 2021

- Revamped legacy software for cash flow management, improving project health from critical to stable.
- Conducted workshops on Bash scripting best practices, enhancing team capability and code quality in the Embedded Engineering department.

Trainee Software Engineer, Fidenz Technologies – Sri Lanka Dec 2019 – July 2020

- Developed pixel perfect, responsive websites using React.js

Freelance Developer, Fiverr – Remote Oct 2017 – Oct 2019

- Diagnosed and corrected UI and functional issues across HTML, CSS, and PHP codebases.

Education

Wrexham University, Bachelor of Science (Hons) in Computing

- Graduated with First Class honors, achieving **top of class** recognition
- **Coursework:** Object Oriented Analysis & Design , Data Structures and Algorithms, Distributed Data & Data Analytics

Personal Projects

Primebio

producthunt.com/primeb-io

- Co-founded a video monetization platform, responsible for the technical development and architecture of intuitive link-in-bio for content creators to house paid videos.
- Ranked **#8 on Product Hunt** on launch day
- Technologies Used: Stripe Connect, Redis, AWS S3, AWS Cognito

PDF Charts

producthunt.com/pdf-charts

- Developed a PDF generation platform with charts including an intuitive drag-and-drop interface and API for dynamic PDF creation
- Featured on Product Hunt
- Technologies Used: Paddle Payments, AWS Lambda, AWS SQS, AWS Beanstalk

Writing Portfolio & Learning Journey

- youtube.com/@akilacodes
- medium.com/@hddananjaya
- hddananjaya.wordpress.com (archived blog from early years)

Tech Stack

Languages: JavaScript, TypeScript, SQL

Databases: PostgreSQL, Redis

Frameworks : Nx, Next.js, Nest.js

Libraries : Prisma, Kysely, TanStack, TailwindCSS, Shadcn/ui, Zustand

AWS : ECS (Elastic Container Service), Lambda, Step Functions, Amplify, Cognito, EventBridge, SQS (Simple Queue Service)

Tools: Git, Docker, GitHub Actions

References

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