John Melesky *resume@phaedrusdeinus.org*

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Summary

An experienced programmer and DBA interested in applying his skills to new and interesting problems, alongside fellow skilled professionals.

John has worked with the internet since its earliest days. His career has centered around two things: pulling knowledge from data, and providing technical leadership. He has written many reporting frameworks, and worked with a number of different machine learning techniques. And he is repeatedly put into leadership positions, even when he'd prefer to stay out of them.

John excels at picking up on the nuances of a new business domain. Combined with his ability to understand and assess new applications, this allows him to foresee both problems and opportunities that might otherwise be invisible. He is capable of both tactical and strategic thought, and has proven capability to communicate his ideas both to his teammates and business stakeholders. He enjoys mentoring, and knows how and when to use delegation as a teaching tool. He is comfortable working onsite or remotely.

Though partial to Python and SML, John is fluent in a number of programming languages, and capable of picking up new frameworks and environments quickly.

Experience

Rentrak, Inc
PORTLAND, OR

Senior Database Administrator/Team Lead, Data Team *July '13 – present*

During my tenure, I managed PostgreSQL databases greater than 20TB in size, wrote tools to help manage hundreds of databases, greatly increased cooperation between the DBAs and developers, and organized and led several key research efforts to ensure our ability to continue serving ever-increasing data at reasonable speeds.

Interim Director of IT *April '15 – May '15*

The Director of IT took an extended two-month leave of absence, during which I took over primary duties. While in this position, I put together cost and schedule plans for building out a European datacenter, mediated several significant intra-team disputes, and restarted two key, multi-month projects which had stalled.

Janrain, Inc
PORTLAND, OR

Team Lead, Analytics *July '11 – July '13*

In this position, I both supported several disconnected, aging, reporting systems, while designing and building a new, integrated, loosely-coupled, scalable infrastructure. My team created a high-traffic event tracking server, new storage scheme, new summarization process, and new dynamic reporting server, all while developing strategies to deal with the variability of i/o response on AWS.

Juju, Inc
REMOTE

Senior Software Developer *July '09 – July '11*

I researched and developed improvements to a lucene/solr search engine, created framework for generic concurrent consumption of work queues, helped with transition from bespoke management tools in a data center to chef in AWS, and prototyped a web-speed recommendation engine and classifier.

Independent Consultant
VARIED LOCATIONS

Principal *March '07 – present*

I worked both solo and with existing teams, on-site and remote, in varying roles. I offered consultation on topics such as software architecture and development management. I frequently worked in machine learning, including textual analysis, statistical natural language processing, classification, and category discovery.

Seethroo (defunct)
REMOTE

Lead Engineer *March '07 – July '09*

I was the primary research and developer for this ad targeting platform centered on user-generated content. While working with them, I evaluated a number of different classification algorithms, implemented a multiple-independent-model system, lifting categorization accuracy from 70% to 92%.

LiveText   LA GRANGE, IL
Technology Manager   *April '06 – March '07*
I was responsible for taking the development team of a long-time startup-mode company into a more operational and sustainable process. In this role, I built a new technology team, created standards for project estimation and status, and successfully scoped and delivered two major releases.

Performics/DoubleClick   CHICAGO, IL
Software Architect   *July '04 – February '06*
I was responsible for the stability, expansion, and scalability of a large (approximately 500kloc), web-based application. I reimplemented, from database to front-end, the entire reporting infrastructure, ultimately rivaling our custom-built data warehouse in performance and flexibility, coordinated software design among several separated development group, and created a four-year development plan to adapt the application to expected growth.

Senior Perl Developer   *August '00 – July '04*
In addition to single-handedly maintaining a legacy application during a protracted rewrite, I engaged in lengthy requirements gathering for complex fee agreements, and designed models to handle them, implemented frameworks for online and offline processing, including tools to keep them in sync, and mediated several developer conflicts.

Smallflower   CHICAGO, IL
Lead Developer   *October '99 – August '00*
As the sole technology staff at a small internet startup, I engaged in a major rewrite effort with a very aggressive timeline, implemented substantial internal applications to help customer service and order fulfillment, handled ongoing site maintenance and expansion, including security and scalability issues, and ensured the application remained viable for years after my departure.

Tripod/Lycos   WILLIAMSTOWN, MA
Lead Developer, Search & Directory Group   *August '98 – September '99*
I was responsible for the design, implementation, and maintenance of the member directory and classification tools. In that capacity, I significantly improved integration of member search with Lycos search tools, designed and implemented new "associative" directory system, and built tools to aid in manual categorization of member sites.

Resarch and Development Intern   *April '98 – August '98*
I designed and implemented several data-gathering spiders, and the tools to analyze the data retrieved, in an effort to help determine the abstract makeup of Tripod member pages.

Policy Analysis, Inc.   BROOKLINE, MA
Programmer   *September '96 – August '97*
I designed and implemented interactive models of financial and quality-of-life simulations, for use by pharmaceuticals companies in external presentations. I also created a framework for generating further interactive models with minimal programmer involvement.

You may also refer to my Linkedin profile for my list of work experience along with recommendations.

Education

Williams College   WILLIAMSTOWN, MA
Work towards Bachelor of Arts in Computer Science   *1994-1998*

Skills

Technical specialties: Supervised machine learning techniques for classification and category discovery; Textual analysis techniques including sentiment analysis and entity extraction; Data management, analysis, and presentation, including reporting systems
Data platforms: PostgreSQL, redis, lucene/solr, DB2, Oracle, MySQL, Riak
Programming languages (non-exhaustive): Python, Ruby, Haskell, Javascript, SML, Ocaml, Perl

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Interests

Non-exhaustive and in alphabetical order: Baking, computer-aided composition, computer-generated music, gaming, reading, self-education