

Chris Dempewolf

chris@chrisdempewolf.com | chrisdempewolf.com | 479-301-0763 | Fort Smith, AR 72908

Senior Backend Engineer - 9 YOY - AWS Cloud - Distributed Systems - API Design

Experience

Founder and Software Engineer - Dempewolf LLC - Fort Smith, AR

2023 - Present

- Founded software development company focused on educational mobile apps
- Designed a serverless backend on AWS (API Gateway, Lambda, DynamoDB, S3, CloudFront)
- Implemented secure Apple in-app purchase verification (App Store Server API v2 JWS/JWT), webhooks, and receipt storage in DynamoDB
- Built CI/CD with GitHub Actions and infrastructure as code with AWS SAM/CloudFormation; automated deploys and rollbacks
- Added reliability and observability: structured logging, CloudWatch alarms, idempotency, and retries with SQS/SNS

Senior Data Engineer - Octimine/Dennemeyer - Munich, Germany

2021 - 2022

- Replaced weekly batch job with real-time data processing pipeline in Apache Kafka, reducing batch latency from 7 days to real time
- Improved company culture by opening up chats and adding/organizing documentation
- Designed peer-reviewed CI/CD pipeline for Elasticsearch schema updates, improving developer collaboration, reducing conflicts, and enabling faster, safer deployments
- Automated everything that I could by setting up CI/CD pipelines

English Teacher - Mexico

2019 - 2021

- Taught English to underserved communities, developed cross-cultural communication, mentoring skills

Software Engineer II - SimplyMeasured/Sprout Social - Seattle, WA

2015 - 2018

- Centralized auth, rate limiting, request transforms for microservices via API gateway
- Designed, implemented HBase map/reduce jobs to generate social media analytics
- Integrated Instagram and Pinterest APIs, enriching dashboard used by over 20 sales reps

Software Engineer - DataRank - Fayetteville, AR

2013 - 2015

- Architected, built, and deployed company data ingestion, allowing us to process, normalize, and store data from external APIs and websites into a canonical model

- Onboarded and mentored two junior developers to help with data ingestion
- Cut development costs for new data sources by generically handling API rate limiting, token pools, and persistence

Certifications

- **AWS Certified Developer - Associate** (2024)

Skills

- **Languages:** Java, Kotlin, Python, JavaScript, TypeScript, PHP, SQL, HTML, CSS, Ruby
- **Frameworks:** Spring Boot, Hibernate, JPA, Laravel, React Native
- **Cloud:** AWS (EC2, Lambda, S3, CloudFront, RDS, DynamoDB, API Gateway, SNS, SQS)
- **Tools:** Docker, Git, GitHub Actions, Jenkins, Maven, Ansible, SAM, CloudFormation
- **Databases:** PostgreSQL, MySQL, Elasticsearch, SQLite, DynamoDB, RDS, HBase, Redis

Projects

- **Athena Math:** Mental math training app
- **Scabbard:** Declarative static site generation for Laravel apps
- **Pinterest SDK:** First public Pinterest SDK for the JVM, released on [Maven Central](#)
- **Markdown for Anki:** Python add-on enabling seamless Markdown input for Anki flashcards
- **Cellular automata:** 256 simple 8-bit cellular automata demonstrate emergent complexity

Education

- **University of Arkansas, Fayetteville:** B.S., Computer Science, Cum Laude - 2013

Publications

- **Identification of Glycosaminoglycan Binding Proteins:** Lead author of IEEE paper determining a protein's heparin binding potential - 2013