

Christopher Marlon Abastar

Senior Software Engineer · Backend & Systems

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SUMMARY

Backend and systems engineer with 17 years of experience across Linux/FreeBSD, PostgreSQL, and Python. I build and tune high-scalability services — game backends, payment gateways, telecom transaction systems, and complex, high-volume data pipelines that ingest, process, and analyze data at scale — and I'm comfortable in the layers most engineers avoid: kernel tuning, database internals, connection pooling, and replication.

EXPERIENCE

Glimpse — Software Development Engineer

Mar 2019 – Present

Remote (Philippines) · Lead Backend Engineer

Own infrastructure, backend, and security end to end for a consumer-trends discovery platform.

- Built highly scalable data-processing and web-scraping pipelines in Python.
- Run the AWS stack — EC2, ECS/Fargate, RDS (PostgreSQL), Redshift, and ELB — provisioned and deployed with Docker and Ansible on Ubuntu.
- Own security and private network access using VPN and WireGuard.
- Build internal tooling and analytics: Flask frontends, REST APIs, and SQL reporting.

Collabspot — Software Specialist

Jul 2017 – Jan 2019

Remote · Philippines

- Built backend services in Python and Django.
- Owned CRM data-sync services and the consistency guarantees behind them.

XII Braves Pte Ltd — Senior Software Engineer / Technical Lead

May 2015 – Mar 2017

Singapore · Game server for Valiant Force

- Architected the REST/HTTP API on Python 3, Flask, PostgreSQL 9.4, Redis, Celery, and Socket.io, deployed on AWS EC2 (FreeBSD) behind Nginx/Gunicorn.
- Split the platform into microservices for independent, decoupled scaling.
- Tuned the full stack for high traffic — FreeBSD kernel, PostgreSQL (JSONB, GIN indexes, scheduled autovacuum), PgBouncer connection pooling, and HAProxy for WebSocket load balancing.
- Secured game authentication with JWT; automated FreeBSD provisioning with Ansible.

TransferTo — Technical Operations

Jun 2014 – May 2015

Singapore · B2B airtime provider, 300+ telecom operators worldwide

- Maintained 99.9% uptime across servers handling live telco transactions.
- Built a scalable Redis-based promotions system for targeted subscriber marketing, with analytics and reporting in PostgreSQL and Perl.
- Built CGI/HTML accounting reports covering FX, per-country tax rates, discounts, and revenue.
- Built a promo-code system extending the platform from airtime into value-added services.

Gumi Asia Pte Ltd — Server Engineer

May 2013 – Jun 2014

Singapore · Mobile games infrastructure

- Built a scalable multi-platform push-notification service and improved login systems.
- Built a payment gateway (PayPal, Amazon App Store) to expand monetization.
- Designed AWS VPC networking, office VPN, and highly available NAT; ran MongoDB as DBA.
- Tuned the Linux kernel (NAT, TCP/IP) for higher throughput.

zvelo, Inc. — Threat Prevention Engineer → Lead Software Engineer

Feb 2010 – May 2012

United States · Web classification & threat detection

- Built an automated system that expanded the web-classifier to 100+ categories in a new language within three months.
- Built a distributed queueing architecture for threat sensors (including honeypots) on RabbitMQ.
- Grew the English classification system to 144 categories; integrated Google Safe Browsing and AV scanning (ClamAV, ESET, Avira).

Narrasystems Inc — Software Development Engineer

May 2007 – Dec 2009

Silicon Valley startup · Networking test appliances

- Built a multi-threaded C/C++ packet generator and a full TCP/IP routing-protocol test suite (Tcl/Tk).
- Automated router testing with Expect across BGP, OSPF, IS-IS, RIP, PIM-SM, and LDP.

SKILLS

Systems	Linux, FreeBSD, kernel tuning, high availability, networking
Databases	PostgreSQL (design, optimization, replication, scaling), Redshift, Redis, MongoDB
Languages	Python, Perl, C/C++, Tcl/Tk, SQL
Infrastructure	AWS (EC2, ECS/Fargate, RDS, Redshift, VPC, ELB), Docker, Nginx, HAProxy, Celery, RabbitMQ, Ansible, WireGuard, Git, CI/CD
Spoken	English (Professional), Tagalog (Native), Spanish (Elementary)

EDUCATION

B.S. Computer Science — Ateneo de Zamboanga University · *Cum Laude*

2003 – 2007