

David Z. Ye

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About me: Software engineer with an eye towards user-centric design, excited by teams with a socially-driven mission.

Experience

- **Silver Needle Software LLC** **San Francisco, CA**
2023 - Present
Founder, Principal Engineer
 - Founded software consultancy helping early-stage startups maintain implementation velocity while keeping their engineering team lean.
 - Past clients include startups working in healthcare, web3, and AI-based social media.
 - Deliverables have included building out analytics pipelines, fixing cloud performance issues, spinning up new customer-facing services and feature development.
 - Particularly interested in working with social good startups - feel free to reach out!
 - **Privy.io** **San Francisco, CA**
2021 - 2023
Founding Engineer
 - 2nd hire at Sequoia-backed startup building privacy-preserving infrastructure for web3 companies.
 - Engineering responsibilities included design and implementation of initial API for user data storage and retrieval, fixing performance bottlenecks, creating demos and docs, and building the initial team.
 - Product responsibilities included doing market research, prototyping, and user design as part of the company's successful pivot into the authentication space.
 - Full-stack software development using Golang for backend and Typescript for the Node and browser packages shipped to developers.
 - **Aurora Innovation** **Palo Alto, CA**
2018 - 2020
Software Engineer, Perception
 - Early engineer on the Perception team working on vision and data infrastructure.
 - Led redesign of labeling pipeline to accommodate new target capabilities including long-range perception and right-on-red maneuvers, integration of new camera inputs, handling camera occlusion and more.
 - **Google X Robotics** **Mountain View, CA**
2017 - 2018
Software Engineer
 - Worked on 10 person software team within a stealth robotics startup in X on robotic planning and simulation.
 - **Gmail Ads** **Mountain View, CA**
2016 - 2017
Software Engineer
 - Worked on ML models for ads targeting based on Gmail data.
 - Projects involved analyzing ad performance metrics, training, evaluating, and refining models.
 - Led the "Similar Audiences" project for targeting an ads audience similar to an input set of audiences.
 - **Twitter User Modeling** **San Francisco, CA**
2015 - 2016
Software Engineer
 - Built and maintained machine learning models for user modeling, focused on tuning models to match Nielson data.
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Education / Teaching

- **Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)** **Cambridge, MA**
2011 - 2015
B.S. in Electrical Engineering and Computer Science
 - **GPA: 5.0/5.0**
 - **Teaching Engagements** **Various locations**
2015 - Ongoing
Instructor
 - Teaching has been a passion of mine since college and a culture of education in the workplace is important to me
 - Took a sabbatical from writing software in 2021 to teach English in Spanish secondary schools, taught programming classes as part of Stanford's Code-in-Place program, and was a teaching assistant for the Microcomputer Project Lab (6.115) at MIT.
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Skills/Awards

Programming/Software: C++, Golang, Python, Typescript/React

Awards: Two-time qualifier for United States American Math Olympiads (USAMO), IEEE PES (Power Electrical Society) Scholar, Intel International Science and Engineering Fair finalist