

Konstantin Gredeskoul

Summary

Highly effective CTO/VPE/senior engineering leader, with a decade-long leadership experience across four VC-funded startups, and a passionate coder, an active open source contributor to Ruby, C/C++, CMake, Bash, and Arduino ecosystems.

Enterprise systems architect with a love for DevOps and full automation. Mentor. Pair programmer. TDDer. JetBrains IDEs FTW.

Aspiring electronic music producer (as PolyGroovers), a DJ, a furniture builder, a hardware tinkerer, and a white-water kayaker.

Proficiency

Industry Expert Areas where I spend most of my time...	In-depth Understanding of the following open source tech:	Intermediate [read: rusty]
<p>Ruby, Ruby on Rails, RSpec, Sinatra, Capistrano, Devise, Chef, TDD</p> <p>BASH v4 programming using taps for testing</p> <p>ANSI C, JavaScript (ECMA6)</p> <p>Object oriented design, SOLID design, Java, SQL, services, micro-services, APIs, queues</p> <p>Performance tuning code, architecture, database (PostgreSQL) tuning</p> <p>UNIX systems development, troubleshooting performance issues in distributed applications</p> <p>Relational and key-value database schema design, either for increased productivity, or for high performance and scale</p> <p>Process: Agile, CI, CD, pairing, TDD, BDD, Retrospectives, Planners, etc</p>	<p>Applications</p> <p>Redis, Nginx, Haproxy, pgBouncer, twemproxy, PostgreSQL, Solr, Memcached, RabbitMQ, Chef, Sidekiq, Elasticsearch, Linux, SmartOS, dTrace, statsd</p> <p>3RD Party Applications & Services</p> <p>NewRelic, Boundary, Circonus, PagerDuty, Pingdom, Heroku, Chef, TravisCI, git, github, RubyMine, CLion, WebStorm, DataGrid, Atom, TextMate, gitX</p>	<p>C++</p> <p>Objective-C</p> <p>Modern JS libraries</p> <p>React</p> <p>Event-driven design</p> <p>AWS, EC2, BeanStalk</p> <p>Google Cloud</p> <p>Docker, Heroku</p>

Work Experience

Recent Consulting & Open Source Projects

NOTE: Short-term projects were performed via the consulting arm "ReinventONE"

Year	Period	Company	Project	Stack
2017	July— September	JoinHomeBase.com	Critical performance and stability work on a monolith Rails application faced with rapidly increasing traffic. Worked on areas related to PostgreSQL, SQL queries, caching, test suite speed, Operational dashboards and actionable Ops alerts.	Ruby 2.2.3, Rails 4.0, AWS, RDS, CircleCI, TravisCI, BASH
	May— July	Returnly.com	Built a ruby-based listener for AWS Kinesis streams, as a plug-n-play component for a generic webhook delivery application.	Ruby 2.4, RSpec, AWS API v2, Kinesis, Threads
	March— April	Wanelo.com	Upgraded micro-services and several related gems to bring services to ruby 2.4.1 compat. Created a test CLI tool.	Ruby 2.4, RSpec, Sequel, Sinatra, sharding.

	February – March	Open Source	SimpleFeed — social activity feed library based on Redis backend and sorted set data type. https://git.io/vyflt	Ruby 2.3.3/2.4.0 RSpec, Redis
	January	Open Source	Sym — symmetric encryption open source tool (CLI) and Ruby API gem for encrypting application secrets in a seamless way. https://git.io/vyouE	Ruby 2.3.3/2.4.0 RSpec, OpenSSL
2016	April – September	GoShippo.com	Deployment automation for dockerized application. Automate build settings, secrets management, and environment management. Sped up deploys from 30mins to 17secs.	Ruby 2.3, Docker, Capistrano, RSpec, OpenSSL, AWS
	February – March	Hired.com	Speeding up raw performance of hired.com. <i>Made 2X improvement.</i>	Ruby 2, Rails 4, PostgreSQL, Heroku
	January	Innit.com	Analysis of the internal and external data models, inception and task breakdown of import app	PostgreSQL, XML, JSON
	January – February	GoShippo.com	Tooling for developers to get fully setup with latest dev tools for Python, and a Dockerized application	Python, ruby, bash
2015	December	TryButter.com	Product inception, estimation, task breakdown, MVP definition and timeline estimation	

“Birds Eye View” Employment History (see pages 3-5 for details)

CTO at Simbi.com

October 2016 – March 2017 (6 months)

CTO at Wanelo.com

February 2012 – November 2015 (4 years)

DOE at ModCloth.com

August 2010 – February 2012 (1 year 7 months)

CTO at DropInMedia LLC

September 2008 – September 2010 (2 years 1 month)

CTO at Infectious.com

June 2007 – May 2009 (2 years)

Principal Web Engineer, Blurb

March 2006 – June 2007 (1 year 4 months)

Senior Software Engineer, RedSeal Systems

September 2005 – March 2006 (6 months)

Systems Architect, Topica

March 1998 – August 2006 (7 years)

Software Engineer at National Rails Corp, Australia

April 1995 – June 1996 (1 year 3 months)

Consultant at CyberSource Pty Ltd (Australia)

November 1994 – November 1995 (1 year 1 month)

Volunteer Experience

Mentor at RailsBridge, San Francisco

January 2012, 2013

Mentor, Judge at IncubaUC, Santiago, Chile

September 2015 – Present

Education

Monash University, Melbourne, Australia

Honors Degree of Bachelor of Science, with majors in “abstract mathematics” and “statistics”

1992 – 1995

Kharkiv State University, Ukraine

BSc, Mathematics and Advanced Calculus

1991 – 1992

Detailed Work Experience

CTO at Simbi.com

October 2016 - March 2017 (5 months)

Simbi is building a symbiotic economy marketplace, where you can find, use and learn the quirkiest and unusual things.

I joined the company shortly after their YC round of financing and focused on streamlining and formalizing product development process. We were able to reduce friction by switching to Pivotal Tracker, improve code quality with more attention on automated testing and continuous integration. I helped guide the team towards a more modular software architecture while personally focusing on increasing operational transparency of the production environment through real-time monitoring and intelligent alerting.

I contributed an open source library that supported the "Activity Feeds" feature on the site — where the relevant events are shown in a chronological order. The library is based on Redis, and ensures constant access time for reading and rendering the feeds.

I managed the team with 1-1s, and hired talented engineer(s) into the team, while striving to create a truly collaborative engineering culture despite cultural and time-zone differences with an outsourced dev team.

CTO at Wanelo.com

February 2012 - November 2015 (3 years 9 months)

I joined Wanelo right after Deena's (CEO, and a Founder) initial seed round. Working at two jobs for a couple of weeks, I jumped into fixing site's continuous outages caused by its own popularity and lack of performance-oriented thinking in the first prototype codebase. After applying sufficient amount of "duct tape" allowed the company a few months of breathing room, I focused on establishing high-performance engineering practices within the newly formed team. Closely following the Pivotal Process, my team agreed to try full-time pair-programming, in addition to more familiar practices of continuous integration, daily deployments, and TDD. In just under two months that followed, with the team of six, we replaced the old

Java app – 90K lines of code, no tests – with a compact Rails app – 10K LOC including tests. We then brought live the new application, migrated data from MySQL to PostgreSQL, and swapped Cloud vendors all at the same time. With just one hour of planned maintenance. Full story: <http://bit.ly/ONeXPb>

From the very beginning our cloud infrastructure is 100% automated with Chef (enterprise), and most of the software is covered by the automated tests. These two practices, introduced from the beginning enabled the company to avoid having to hire a dedicated Operations or QA teams. Cloud and CDN resources are now provisioned and configured by the developers, across a range of technologies and vendors. See the following presentation at RubyConf Australia 2015:

<http://www.slideshare.net/kigster/dev-ops-without-the-ops>

Ruby, jRuby, Rails, PostgreSQL, Redis, the proxy, Nginx, haproxy, ElasticSearch, Solr, Memcached, Chef, Capistrano, Joyent Cloud, SmartOS, dTrace, Objective-C, iOS, Android, scaling, automation.

Director of Engineering at ModCloth.com

August 2010 - February 2012 (1 year 6 months)

ModCloth.com is an online clothing, accessories, and decor retailer recently featured as #2 fastest growing American company in the Inc 500 magazine

<http://bit.ly/8ZGrur>

My role combined both technical leadership as well as management of a 20+ person development team.

Additionally, responsible for directing the company from monolithic application towards SOA, helping the team adopt Solr search engine, automate deployment, and many other higher level initiatives such as test driven development with continuous integration, paired programming, short and frequent release cycles, migration to the cloud, and zero downtime releases.

RoR, MySQL, PostgreSQL, Capistrano, Redis, Memcached, RSpec, SmartOS/Solaris

CTO & Founder at Drop In Media LLC

September 2008 - September 2010 (2 years)

Industry: SMS/MMS, billing, premium messaging, carrier relations, carrier application development.

In-house developed enterprise platform supported high volume SMS/MMS messaging, plug-in architecture for business logic, as well as billing and routing functionality similar to that of an SMS aggregator.

Bootstrapped company part time in 2004, later transitioned into a full-time CTO role. In charge of all internal IT, Operations, Development, QA, technical integrations, evaluations, as well as hiring and managing an internationally distributed team of developers for a company of about 10 people.

Java 1.6, Hibernate, Spring, JUnit, Linux, PostgreSQL 8 and 9

CTO at Infectious.com

June 2007 - May 2009 (2 years)

Infectious is an art community plus an online store, with a crowd-sourced content model built around modern art printed on adhesive vinyl. All aspects of technology, from operations, IT, engineering and hiring.

Infectious.com Inc employed about 10 people.

RoR, PostgreSQL, RSpec, Capistrano, Linux

Principal Engineer, Web Development at Blurb.com

March 2006 - June 2007 (1 year 3 months)

Lead Blurb's web team (four-five people team) in launching one of the first e-commerce applications on Ruby on Rails in 2006, in under four months, including data migration from the prototype.

Learned Ruby on Rails and Ruby together with my team, and decided to never build another web-app in Java. Kept the promise as of 2017 ☺

Blurb.com received a Webby Award in 2007.

RoR, PostgreSQL, Java 1.6, Hibernate, Spring

Senior Software Developer at RedSeal Systems Inc

September 2005 - March 2006 (6 months)

RedSeal Systems builds network modelling and risk measurement, vulnerability software.

Designed two-tier plug-in framework to support a variety of devices and communication protocols (SSH, FTP, SCP), as well as the threat reference library related features.

Java, Hibernate, PostgreSQL, Spring Framework, RMI, Client/server, Swing, XML/XSD.

Systems Architect at Topica.com

April 1998 - August 2005 (7 years 4 months)

Industry: email list management software, marking automation, ESP (email service provider).

Built a very large distributed application running across 50+nodes (owned hardware), on top of a sharded multi-database architecture, with a web GUI based on Apache/mod_perl and perl5.

Topica was responsible for sending over 200M email messages **per day** in 2001, which at the time represented nearly 1% of all daily Internet email.

Oracle 8i, BEA Tuxedo, Perl5, Perl/XS, C, Apache, mod_perl, XML, Java, Hibernate, Verity, gcc, gdb, make, Linux.

Software Engineer, National Rail, Australia

April 1995 - June 1996 (1 year 2 months)

Engineer on a distributed network component of the larger control system software rewrite at the largest commercial rail company in Australia. Automatic scanners installed across the nation registered trains, cars and individual containers as they were passing, and reported in real time location of each component to the central system.

BEA Tuxedo, C (daemons under AIX/UNIX), Oracle Pro*C, SQL, Pipes.

LinkedIn Recommendations

"I have worked with Konstantin and can say he is bar-none the most technically minded CTO and leader I have worked with. He has an amazing depth in system turning, scaling architectures and ruby programming and database tuning.

His biggest contribution though was building a super well-oiled engineering team that is the dictionary definition of efficient, lean and driving a fully automated deployment infrastructure and enforcing best practices such as TDD in a pairing environment. Overall Konstantin is a super passionate and creating technologist and leader and would be a great asset to any team that wants to build an amazing tech org. I would fully work with him again in a heartbeat. "

**Matthew Camuto, Sr.
Software Engineer,
Wanelo.com.**

"Over and over, I've seen Konstantin focus not only on technical architecture & excellence, but on growing the people on his team. He continually works to hone his team's best practices, with the goal of making his team & company an incredible place to work. Whether it's carefully preparing to deliver actionable feedback, or charting next steps on career paths, or matching

passions & skills with projects, Konstantin is relentlessly striving to help his team grow, and his company thrive."

**Marcy Swenson, Executive Coach,
StartupHappiness.com, was
an executive coach to
Konstantin.**

"Codes faster than lightning. I feel extremely lucky to work with Konstantin at Drop in Media. His skill with software architecture, development and team leadership is invaluable. He has a keen mind and a sharp intellect which he proves time and again while tackling difficult problems. His most valuable asset is his motivation and drive which is an inspiration and ensures the job gets finished."

**Tony Rose, CEO & Co-
Founder at Drop In Media
LLC.**

"It goes without saying that Konstantin is a talented engineer with deep expertise in a broad range of technologies. He built the foundation of Infectious and did everything technical we needed. He was a swiss army knife CTO who was hands on and great at getting stuff done. But he is more than a great technologist. He has incredibly good product sensibility, an eye for well-designed UI and passion

for creating quality. He contributed heavily to the strategy with a very pragmatic approach, balancing business needs and technical vision. Konstantin is a solid leader and I look forward to working with him again in the future."

**Tim Roberts, CEO &
Founder, Infectious.com,
Inc.**

"There are those people who you work with that will forever be a positive influence on your professional life. Konstantin is one of those people. Not only is he the must have person you want on your team when tackling the Big Problem, but he makes it seem easy and does it with grace. His skill in technology is only matched by his skill as a musician. A leader for the digital renaissance age."

**Matt Levy, Senior Software
Engineer, Topica, Inc.**

"Konstantin is a brilliant systems architect. He always found the fastest and most elegant approach to solve our technical challenges. He was a pillar at Topica and fundamental to many of our achievements. I hope I get to work with Konstantin again in the future..."

**Ariel Poler, CEO & Founder,
Topica, Inc**