Steven Xu

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Professional Experience

Google, Mountain View, CA

Software Engineer **2015–**

Building, launching, and maintaining local and directions features on Google Search.

Tatcha LLC., San Francisco, CA

Lead Software Engineer **2014–2015**

As the first in-house engineering hire, transitioned *www.tatcha.com* from external consultants to an in-house engineering team focused on scalability, performance, and product excellence, driving $4MM in direct revenue on 250% Y/Y growth.

Implemented an in-place desktop redesign and mobile responsive site redesign.

Rosetta Stone, Inc., San Francisco, CA; Harrisonburg, VA

Software Engineer **2011–2014**

Architected and led development on an Internet audio/video-conferencing SDK and platform that facilitated all Rosetta Stone TOTALe and ReFLEX online live classroom instruction and Rosetta World interactive games.

Delivered and deployed high-quality, customer-facing backend platform and frontend web software to production to back Rosetta Stone's flagship online products. Achievement award: *Stela Award (2013)*

Researcher **2010, 2011**

Developed a new tool for extensible language acquisition and nativeness training research and the Labs Shelf, an internal research portal.

Freelance Web Developer, Toronto, ON **2008–2011**

Worked for a variety of clients in specifying, building, and deploying desktop and mobile websites and web services, including APIs; developed and trained clients and subcontractors on issue-tracking, collaboration, and time estimation processes.

Technology Focus

- **Web frontent client development**: Responsive HTML5/CSS3. Javascript, jQuery, Angular.js. Grunt and Rails asset pipelines. Selenium WebDriver integration testing. Modern build and deploy pipelines.
- **Web server-side development**: HTML web backends and HTTP web services, in particular Ruby on Rails and PHP. Distributed systems, environment management, and deployment practices. MySQL and PostgreSQL. Maintainer on the open-source devise_ldap_authenticatable gem, with 325k downloads.
- **Real-time Internet applications**: XMPP. RTMP, RTMFP and other TCP- and UDP-based protocols. Client design in Javascript and Flex.
- **Workflow methodologies**: Git, SVN, Atlassian, and GitHub, including issue tracking, continuous integration, and agile release management.

Education

B.A. with distinction, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY