[rishi kothari]

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Hey, I'm Rishi: a software engineer and hacker at heart.

After discovering a whole new world when I learned to code 8 years ago, I've been focused on building tools for the next generation of makers to build their best at places like Hack Club, Replit, Kobra and Hack the North. I've been professionally programming for 4 years.

I'm intensely interested in using Web3, blockchains and cognitive infrastructure to build for the future: I believe that careful creation can lead to *exponential* ideation.

[selected experiences]

PetCode (petcodeusa.com) ● Founding Team & Chief Technology Officer ● *May 2020 to Present*

- Scaling to **25K active users**, negotiating partnerships with **15 key shelters** in the Bay Area, and continuing relationships with proprietary network of **6000+ shelters** across the United States, raising **current round of 125K**
- Guided **9-person development team** through fully-funded Kickstarter phase (crowdsourcing >**$14k with 200+ backers**), earning us featured spots in ABC, Forbes, Yahoo! News, and NBC and acceptance into Replit Ventures (<1.5% admissions rate)
- Developed internal tools to drive **paid conversion rates to >50%,** analyzed usage statistics with Amplitude and Hotjar to bring total growth to >**20% WoW**
- Developed horizontally scaling backend capable of handling **2k+ concurrent requests**, using batched responses in NestJS and Postgres, running on dual-cluster system with Kubernetes and a custom fork of CapRover with <5s average deploy times.

Hack Club (hackclub.com) ● Engineering Intern & Community Developer ● *June 2021 - Present*

- Helped organize the Hacker Zephyr (github.com/hackclub/the-hacker-zephyr)—the world's **longest** hackathon on land, chartering 3 trains across the country from Burlington, VT to SpaceX HQ in Los Angeles, CA, funded with >$300K put towards the project
- Built infrastructure to support **530** student projects over the **10-day, 3500-mile long journey** with the **ZephyrNET**: a ProxMox-based virtualized deployment and development platform written in C, Node.js and Rust that's now being released to the wider community of **15000+ students** globally
- Wrote infrastructure for **1300+ clubs** worldwide and hundreds of thousands of student leaders and hackers, including new workshops, community development tools, paradigms for leadership, and staff interactions, alongside large-scale partnerships with organizations like the Dogecoin Foundation

Kobra (kobra.dev) ● Growth Lead ● *July 2021 - Present*

- Scaling the first block-based machine learning platform to thousands of users, alongside our **5-person team** from across the world; writing open-source GraphQL APIs in Typescript and Prisma, focusing on deployment and **developer experience**.
- Building in centralized tracking tools and custom **Amplitude-compatible analytics**; analysis led to incrementally increasing user growth rate by **5% WoW** & making it to the top of Product Hunt and Hacker News

Team Study (teamstudy.com) ● Lead Mobile Developer Intern ● *June 2019 - September 2019*

- Designed, prototyped & built new native interface for the Team Study platform in SwiftUI, helped migrate to a microservices backend architecture and redesigned services based on AWS RDS & ElasticSearch to boost average speeds by 25%
- Helped support partnerships with UofT for initial launch to 2k+ DAU during TeamStudy's 2.0 launch, diagnosing bugs and keeping development work streamlined

[formal education]

Turner Fenton Secondary School

IB Diploma & OSSD Honours ● C/O '23 ● 99% GPA

Running TurnerHacks **V3 & V4**, the **largest** high school hackathon in the province, with **500+ signups/year** and TFSS Hack Club, a YC-like experience with **dozens** of world-class talks, workshops and chats for **hundreds** of STEM hackers at school throughout the year.

[skills]

{Skill}: {time professionally used}

React.js/Next.js/Theme UI: 4 years

Ethereum/Truffle/Hardhat/Web3: 2 years

Cosmos SDK/IBC/Web3 + Go: 1 year

Angular 2+/RxJS: 4 years

NestJS/Express/GraphQL: 2 years

Rust/Solana: <1 year