Slava Varda

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SUMMARY

Senior Backend Developer with 9+ years building reliable web applications for **SaaS** and **Media** platforms using **Node.js**, **TypeScript**, and **FastAPI**. Proficient in **API Design**, **PostgreSQL Optimization**, and **Cloud Infrastructure (AWS/Railway)**. Proven track record of reducing infrastructure costs by **18%** and query times by **40%**, focusing on clean, maintainable code and seamless data flow for product teams.

SKILLS

Backend & Database: Node.js, TypeScript, Python, FastAPI, Laravel, PostgreSQL, SQL, NoSQL, Redis, RESTful APIs, Microservices.

DevOps & Cloud: AWS (EC2, S3, RDS), Docker, CI/CD (GitHub Actions), Railway, Linux.

Professional: System Design, API Architecture, Agile Leadership, Technical Mentoring, BDD/TDD, Security Compliance.

EXPERIENCE

Senior Backend Engineer (Contract) | REFACTOR CODE LIMITED | England, United Kingdom · Remote | November 2025 - Present
- Engineered a high-throughput, polyglot backend using **FastAPI (Python)** and **Node.js (TypeScript)** for an AI-driven auditing tool, collaborating with Product Owners to map **100% of Gherkin-syntax stories** directly to executable code.
- Developed the real-time communication layer, connecting Telegram bots to Cursor workspaces via **Server-Sent Events (SSE)**, which optimized server load and ensured instant message delivery for mobile users on the move.
- Architected an automated **Natural Language Processing (NLP)** pipeline to validate test coverage against business requirements, establishing a **single source of truth** between documentation and active codebases to effectively prevent data drift.
- Democratized project visibility by optimizing backend data reporting on **Railway**, automating complex data aggregation for real-time dashboards shared with **non-technical stakeholders**, which reduced manual compliance verification time by **50%**.
- Implemented secure, containerized deployments using **Docker** and **Railway**, ensuring complete parity between development and production stages to eliminate environment-specific bugs and reducing configuration time by **30%**.
- Designed robust, self-documenting API endpoints with strict **Pydantic** data validation logic, ensuring type safety and preventing runtime errors to facilitate seamless integration for distributed engineering teams.

Senior Backend Developer | Webrectrix | Los Angeles County, California, United States · Remote | September 2017 - December 2025
- Introduced new schema designs and indexing methods using **SQL** and **PostgreSQL** to streamline data flows, enabling improved query performance for backend operational modules.
- Partnered with Frontend teams to architect scalable server-side systems using **Node.js** and **TypeScript**, optimizing API payloads and implementing response caching to reduce server response times by **25%**.
- Modernized the team's CI/CD capabilities by implementing pipelines with **GitHub Actions** and **Docker**, eliminating integration bottlenecks and accelerating deployment cycles for **cross-functional product squads**.
- Implemented scalable authentication flows leveraging **JWT** and **Passport.js**, which boosted platform interoperability and enabled secure support for **five additional client system integrations**.
- Tripled automated backend test coverage within 12 months using **Jest**, reducing post-release defects across Node.js microservices by **40%** and ensuring greater stability for downstream teams.
- Mentored **3+ junior developers** on strict typing, API design patterns, and database normalization using **TypeScript** and **PostgreSQL**, accelerating new hire onboarding by 30% while increasing code review throughput by 18% over a 12-month period.

Backend Developer | REFACTOR CODE LIMITED | England, United Kingdom · Remote | February 2016 - September 2017
- Deployed and maintained scalable web applications on **AWS (EC2/S3)**, systematically optimizing instance sizing and storage policies to decrease infrastructure costs by **18%** while significantly increasing deployment reliability for the operations team.
- Collaborated closely with mobile and web frontend teams to define strict **RESTful API contracts**, utilizing **Laravel** middleware to enforce secure authentication flows and implement efficient data caching mechanisms to reduce latency.
- Engineered robust data integration layers to connect distributed microservices, enhancing overall data flow efficiency and ensuring seamless connectivity between third-party APIs and internal user interfaces.
- Integrated comprehensive server-side monitoring and error tracking solutions—including **Sentry** and custom logging pipelines—enabling real-time diagnosis of production issues and facilitating rapid bug resolution to maintain high system availability.
- Mitigated security vulnerabilities by **45%** by auditing and updating backend dependencies, ensuring strict compatibility with ecosystem standards to maintain stability for mission-critical **production AWS environments**.
- Facilitated technical knowledge transfer to **3+ junior developers** and optimized sprint planning processes using **Scrum** methodologies, which directly resulted in increasing deliverable throughput by **20%** within a 9-month period.

EDUCATION

Foundation degree, Computer Science | State University of Nizhni Novgorod named after N.I. Lobachevsky (UNN) | 2013