ALEX TONG

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EXPERIENCE

Full-Stack Software Engineer —*Access & Messaging Systems* at The New York Times **October 2023 - Present**

- Built an AI-assisted XML→Go/YAML migration toolkit (7K+ LOC CLI, tracking registry, docs) that ported 190 paywall rules across 8 verticals; automated dependency analysis, test orchestration, and data-quality assertions, plus Claude prompt packs for conversion/testing, cutting per-rule migration time ~4x.
- Centralized paywall access rules into a single source of truth (SSOT) across News, Cooking, and The Athletic; refactored News rule files to match SSOT, reducing recurring bugs and tech debt while laying the foundation for the Meter Rules Rewrite.
- Owned end-to-end Statsig integration for NYT's paywall experimentation platform (9 PRs; ~7K LOC), delivering a production-grade Go wrapper with privacy-safe user IDs, deterministic request-level override precedence, and experiment/gate evaluation with BigQuery exposure logging, enabling dual-engine A/B routing across product verticals.
- Led Spelling Bee's paywall migration onto NYT's shared Onsite Messaging platform, replacing ~1.5K LOC of fragmented gating logic with a single declarative unit and adding support for anonymous subscribers, cutting campaign lead time from days → hours and shifting launches from engineering → marketing.
- Designed event schemas + idempotent impression tracking for Cooking regiwall surfaces (user-offer-session IDs), increasing experimentation throughput to 15+ tests/quarter (from 2-3) and preventing ~$2M/yr in bad exposures and incorrect targeting.
- Built shared end-screen units for 8 NYT Games titles (Wordle, Connections, Crossword, Strands, Sudoku, Tiles, Letter Boxed), replacing per-game congrats logic with declarative campaign configs and reusable components; cut A/B experiment setup from 2 days → 2 hours and freed ~4 engineering-weeks/quarter.
- Shipped Meter rules powering Watch Tab launch across web + apps, and integrated Meter with AthletiRAPTORS (ML-driven subscription growth for The Athletic), delivering ahead of schedule.
- Brought The Athletic's paywall rules into Meter post-acquisition by translating the full access rule set into meter-go with a 250+ scenario test suite, achieving zero-downtime cutover and consistent entitlements across NYT + The Athletic.

Technologies: Claude Code, TypeScript/JavaScript, Datadog, React, Go, Ruby on Rails, GCP, AWS

Full-Stack Software Engineer — vMOX **May 2023 - October 2023**

- Shipped cost-optimization features in a monolithic platform used by 200+ enterprises, reducing mobile inventory management time 18%.

Technologies: JavaScript, Ruby on Rails, ColdFusion

Back-end Software Development Engineer I —*Alexa News* at Amazon **September 2021 - January 2023**

- Owned a production metrics and alerting platform (AWS CDK + TypeScript) that surfaced KPIs in CloudWatch/Grafana and orchestrated Redshift pipelines across 100+ tables via EventBridge for real-time anomaly detection, protecting ~$32M in ad revenue (2022).
- Led expansion of a North America-only reporting service into Europe/Asia by onboarding 20+ providers; re-architected the Java service for geo-aware data access, cutting query latency 11x and driving $2M+ in new revenue; authored the launch playbook and operational runbooks.
- Built a Python remediation tool to lock down public S3 buckets by routing access through authenticated CloudFront, eliminating security risk without disrupting internal workflows.

Technologies: AWS, Python, JavaScript, TypeScript, Java

FEATURED PROJECTS

noteworthy **alextong.me/webdev-solo/noteworthy**

- Built a full-stack note-taking app with real-time autosave and secure authentication — Ruby on Rails, PostgreSQL, React, Redux.

EDUCATION & TRAINING

Software Engineering Immersive — App Academy **2020**