

Michael J. Cohen

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Engineering leader with 14+ years building large-scale platform services across distributed systems and cloud infrastructure. Led teams of up to 16 engineers through distributed systems delivery, capacity management, and on-call culture improvements. Background spanning enterprise consulting at Pariveda, VM provisioning at Microsoft Azure, and Kubernetes-based platform engineering at Oracle Cloud.

EXPERIENCE

Senior Software Development Manager | Oracle Cloud Infrastructure | Seattle, WA | Oct 2019 – Present

Team Leadership & Stakeholder Management

- Managed and grew engineering teams up to 16 engineers through hands-on recruiting, interviewing, and hiring.
- Mentored engineers across all career stages, directly guiding promotions and developing next-generation technical leaders; partnered with senior leadership on quarterly planning, staffing priorities, and headcount allocation.
- Led cross-functional program delivery spanning engineering, product, SRE, and security — translating product requirements into engineering roadmaps and breaking complex work into scoped, deliverable execution across multiple teams.

Systems Modernization & Digital Transformation

- Managed teams building Java services for high-availability Kubernetes infrastructure.
- Drove capacity planning and cost optimization across cloud infrastructure, analyzing fault-tolerance and availability gaps to proactively reduce risk and ensure SLA commitments in production environments.

Operational Readiness & Systems Engineering

- Built Node Health and Observability platform allowing for insight in to customer clusters, reducing the time it takes to resolve issues by half.
- Leveraged Python and LLMs to architect automated log analysis pipelines, significantly reducing average ticket resolution time and improving observability across distributed infrastructure.

Software Engineer II | Microsoft — Azure Lab Services | *Redmond, WA | Jan 2016 – Oct 2019*

- Built distributed provisioning infrastructure for Azure Classroom Labs enabling universities to spin up pre-provisioned VM environments with fast resume times.
- Designed student-facing distributed application experiences on Azure cloud infrastructure, reducing onboarding friction and avoiding direct portal exposure through abstraction layers.
- Automated VM image creation and provisioning for SQL IaaS, improving deployment reliability from ~70% to mid-90s through resource orchestration improvements — direct capacity management impact.
- Participated in on-call rotations supporting live, highly available consumer services; analyzed fault-tolerance issues, implemented networking and storage fixes, and drove reliability improvements.
- Added production monitoring and alerting to Azure infrastructure, improving system health visibility and operational readiness for high-availability services.
- Improved Azure Portal workflows allowing customers to update SQL settings without triggering unnecessary redeployments, reducing compute churn and infrastructure costs.

Associate, Full-Stack Application Developer | Pariveda Solutions | *Seattle, WA | Jul 2012 – May 2015*

- Served as consulting development lead on client engagements, owning project delivery from design through launch across distributed systems on AWS and Azure.
- Built full-stack applications and scalable distributed systems across multiple industries, selecting enterprise architectures and cloud platforms appropriate to each project's scale and fault-tolerance requirements.
- Worked directly with clients in agile environments to translate product requirements into engineering work, manage stakeholder tradeoffs, and iterate toward production-ready software.

TECHNOLOGIES

Java, Python, Kubernetes, AWS, Microsoft Azure, Oracle Cloud Infrastructure, Terraform, Distributed Systems, Resource Orchestration, Capacity Management, Cluster Scheduling, Fault-Tolerant Service Design, Observability & Monitoring, Linux (Ubuntu), .NET Core, SQL, Git, Machine Learning Infrastructure

EDUCATION

University of Washington — B.S. Informatics | Seattle, WA | 2008–2012