

Zana Salimi

Senior Software Engineer | Full-Stack & AI Systems

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SUMMARY

Senior software engineer with eight years of production web work, mostly in TypeScript, React and Next.js, with backend services in Node.js (NestJS), Go and PostgreSQL. Since 2025, independent contractor for several clients in parallel. Most recently the main engineer on an AI-visibility audit SaaS, where the work was making LLM-based scoring accurate, deterministic and covered by tests. Background in product design, which helps on projects where the screens and flows are not designed yet.

EXPERIENCE

Independent Contract Engineer (part-time contracts, several clients in parallel) Sep 2025 - Present | Remote

ConnectMyTech, Victoria, BC - Software Engineer, AI Systems & Full-Stack Mar 2026 - Present

SaaS that audits how often ChatGPT, Gemini, Perplexity and Google AI Overview recommend a business.

- Main engineer on the product. Shipped the paid offering: a \$97 automated audit, a \$250 consultation flow with Stripe checkout, and a public agency API. 332 audits run so far, 220 of them paid.
- Designed and built 2 of the engine's 10 scoring modules, which query real ChatGPT, Gemini and Google AI Overview answers and write answer copy grounded in the client's own site, at about \$0.07 per audit.
- Checked 6 client reports claim by claim against the live sites, found about 130 false or contradictory claims, fixed the causes in every module, and pinned each rule with a regression test.
- Made scoring deterministic (one site moved between 80 and 85 on back-to-back runs) and failure-aware, so checks that fail to fetch are left out of the score instead of counted as zero. A per-run engine version fingerprint stopped a false "+23 points" jump from being reported to a client as their own improvement.
- Built the agency API, now used by 3 agencies: hashed keys, rate limits, a monthly cap enforced atomically in Postgres (the old design let 60 parallel requests pass a cap of 10), HMAC-signed webhooks and OpenAPI 3.1 docs.
- Grew the test suite to 128 test files and about 1,150 tests.

Tech: Next.js, React, TypeScript, Supabase (PostgreSQL, RLS), Trigger.dev, OpenRouter, DataForSEO, Stripe, Vercel

Leveraged Mining - Full-Stack Engineer Sep 2025 - Oct 2026

- Joined on the frontend and moved to full-stack when the backend developer left. Stabilized the half-built Go API and shipped v1 in three months.
- Built the client portal for about 200 clients, the admin console, and a partner platform that calculates commissions from CRM deals. Put all calls to the mining pool behind timeouts, retries and a circuit breaker, and moved admin rights out of the web app so a stolen browser session cannot grant them.
- Led v2 work: desktop layouts, logging templates, an earnings page and CSV exports for accountants.

Tech: Go, Fiber, GORM, PostgreSQL, Supabase, React, Next.js, TypeScript

Trellion - Lead Engineer (Full-Stack) Nov 2025 - May 2026

- Built an AI interview platform as its only engineer in six months, from the Next.js app to the NestJS/GraphQL API, PostgreSQL and Redis. Delivered the MVP with 48 screens in production; 10 companies ran more than 37 interviews on it during the pilot.
- Modeled interviews as editable graphs that an AI video agent runs, and stored each AI score with the prompt version and model that produced it, so scores stay comparable when prompts or models change.
- Built the recruiter copilot, job description and application generators, interview scoring and AI usage metering.

Tech: Next.js, React, TypeScript, NestJS, GraphQL, PostgreSQL, Redis, Clerk, LLM APIs

Frontend Lead, PlanIt (product studio building VC-backed Web3 projects) Aug 2023 - May 2025 | Remote

- Promoted from frontend developer to lead of a three-person frontend team. Handled code review and one-to-ones, worked directly with founders and clients on scope, and kept writing code.
- Ran hiring for the studio: interviewed more than 100 candidates and helped grow the team from 3 to about 25 people across game development, design, frontend and backend.
- Shipped in three months the frontend of a VC-backed Web3 product whose smart contract held \$1M in funds and reached more than 150 users, including wallet and smart contract integration.

Tech: React, Next.js, TypeScript, wagmi, viem, ethers.js

Frontend Developer, Abroadin (study-abroad platform) Nov 2020 - Jul 2023 | Remote

- Led the migration from Vue to React and Next.js in two months, including a student panel of more than 25 pages for applications and admission estimates.
- Rebuilt the frontend through a full product redesign. Key user flows became about twice as fast, measured with Lighthouse and tracking data.
- Built the frontend of an AI university matching feature. Created a design system of about 20 components with the designers and set up the CI/CD pipelines.

Frontend Engineer, Ava Cinema Mar 2019 - Oct 2020 | Remote

- Sole frontend engineer in a two-person team. Built a streaming platform's frontend from scratch to production, including the component library.
- Built a custom HLS video player for licensed content: streaming-only playback to protect copyright, quality switching, subtitles, playback speed and ad breaks at set points in the video.

Frontend Developer, Freelance Mar 2018 - Feb 2019 | Remote

- Built web interfaces for a range of clients, including the music player, user panel and subscription packages for a music website with about one million daily visits.

PROJECTS

Wisp (co-founder, with a partner, Jul 2026 - Present) - Frontend lead and backend contributor on a USDC payment gateway with public on-chain settlement and a private zero-knowledge payment mode. Phase one complete on testnet. Three independent idempotency layers before money moves, and no floating-point math near amounts. Next.js, TypeScript, Go, PostgreSQL, gRPC.

sift (github.com/zanasalimi/sift) - AI research agent for crypto markets that keeps score of its own accuracy. Each call is stored with the price at the time and graded against the real price three days later, with a public track record. About \$0.003 per analysis.

embertoast (github.com/zanasalimi/ember-toast) - Headless-first, accessible React toast library with no runtime dependencies and RTL support. Published on npm, about 180 downloads a month. 65 tests.

Cofield - Real-time collaborative whiteboard built on Yjs (CRDT) that keeps working offline. The server only relays edits and never resolves conflicts. 63 tests.

SKILLS

Languages: TypeScript, JavaScript, SQL, Go

Frontend: React, Next.js, Tailwind CSS, shadcn/ui, design systems, accessibility, web performance

Backend: Node.js, NestJS, Express, REST APIs, OpenAPI, GraphQL, WebSockets, webhooks, Go (Fiber, GORM)

Data: PostgreSQL (incl. row-level security), Supabase, Redis, Prisma

AI: LLM integration, OpenRouter, OpenAI, Anthropic, Gemini, Vercel AI SDK, structured output (Zod), LLM evaluation, AEO

Web3: wagmi, viem, ethers.js

Quality & Delivery: Vitest, Playwright, regression testing, Docker, GitHub Actions, CI/CD, Vercel, Sentry, Stripe

Product & Design: Product design, Figma, UX flows

EDUCATION & LANGUAGES

BSc, Computer Software Engineering, Technical and Vocational University

2022 - 2026

English: IELTS 7.5