

Barak Gila

✉ barak.gila@gmail.com | 🏠 www.barakgila.com | 🌐 barakgila | 🐦 @barakgila

Product- and business-minded, generalist software engineer. I love working on full-stack product teams, where I can also dabble in the product management, analytics, and operations functions. I'm motivated by seeing how my work impacts users, and love teaching and mentoring others. I value integrity, transparency, and ownership.

Work Experience

Sprig, Inc

San Francisco, California

SENIOR ENGINEER, TECH LEAD

May 2021 - present

Sprig is a user research software-as-a-service (SaaS) startup. We make qualitative insights as quick and easy to obtain as quantitative metrics with our in-product survey and concept testing tools.

Languages: Worked full-stack in Typescript and Javascript (Node.js, React/Redux).

- **June 2022 onward:** tech lead of Growth team, one of three product engineering teams at Sprig. As acting manager, owned roadmap, mentored four engineers, and responsible for team deliverables.
 - Built a secure login method so that Sprig staff could troubleshoot customer accounts without using a shared password.
- **May 2021 - May 2022:** key contributor on the SDK and New Initiatives team, which builds the SDK that delivers and renders surveys.
 - Overhauled Sprig's link surveys, reducing the repository size by more than 3/4 by sharing functionality with in-product surveys.
 - Implemented a Segment (data platform) integration that allowed customers to send surveys without ever integrating Sprig directly.
 - Added several question types, including the Consent / Legal question.

Mos, Inc

Remote

SOFTWARE ENGINEER

April 2020 - March 2021

Worked under the CTO as the only full-time engineer. Built functionality into the product end to end and also added infrastructure as needed.

Languages: Worked full-stack in Typescript and Javascript (Node.js, React/Redux).

- Built user-facing aid list that allowed students to add grants and scholarships and track their progress.
- Introduced industry best practices including postmortems, reusable scripts, and JSON-schema-enforced endpoints to the team.

Affirm, Inc

San Francisco, California

SENIOR SOFTWARE ENGINEER

Jan 2017 - April 2020

Worked on Affirm's consumer-facing loan product, which lets users generate a virtual card in the app to use their loan anywhere. Collaborated with my team to build the underlying virtual card platform which powers more than 20% of Affirm loans.

Languages: Primarily worked on the Python backend (frameworks including Luigi, Celery, Flask) with some Javascript and React/Redux.

- Designed a new backend service to allow Affirm to approve or deny credit network transactions in real time (99.99% within 3s).
 - Created a widely-used internal webapp, for example to restrict certain cards to a specific merchant.
- Conceived and led an initiative to give customers control over their card processing, such as requesting a refund when done with the card.
 - This increased loan volume substantially and reduced customer service contacts by as much as 50% for impacted users.
- Developed a take-home interview completed by 1000+ candidates, which better predicted performance and saved interviewing hours.

LEAD, INCLUSION & RETENTION

Feb 2018 - Dec 2018

- Led the Inclusion & Retention group at Affirm within the Diversity & Inclusion program.
- Helped grow our Employee Resource Groups (ERGs) from 5 to 13 groups, and oversaw their budget.

EECS Department, UC Berkeley

Berkeley, California

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT INSTRUCTOR

Aug 2015 - Dec 2016

- Served as three-time teaching assistant (TA) for CS 170, the upper-division algorithms course of 500 students.
- In fall 2016, served as head TA: I managed course logistics and helped hire TAs and readers.
- Led discussion sections, designed course materials, and tutored students.

Airbnb

San Francisco, California

SOFTWARE ENGINEERING INTERN

May 2016 - Aug 2016

Built support for European bank transactions (SEPA) into the company's new payments service, which handled a fifth of host payouts.

Education

University of California, Berkeley

Berkeley, California

B.S. IN ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING AND COMPUTER SCIENCE

Aug 2013 - Dec 2016

- **GPA:** 3.9 **Coursework:** Data Structures; Algorithms (undergrad and grad); Artificial Intelligence; Machine Learning
- **Scholarships:** Regents' Scholarship, Cal Alumni Organization's Leadership Award