# Ridley Larsen

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Hello! I'm Ridley. I am passionate about building quality software that sparks joy in its users. Over nearly twelve years, I have developed a depth of domain-specific knowledge that I employ to efficiently build solutions to challenges across the stack.

**Core Technologies**: Python, Django, Kotlin (JVM), React, Angular

**Database & Infrastructure**: PostgreSQL, Docker, RabbitMQ, AWS (EC2, S3, RDS), GitLab CI

**Other**: Accessibility & User Experience (WCAG 2.1), Pytest, Jest, Golang, gRPC

## Professional Experience

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**Senior Software Engineer**, *Fragomen, Bernsen, Del Rey & Lowey LLP*
Salt Lake City, UT | August 2021 - Present

Collaborated with executive leadership and stakeholders to engineer reliable, performance-focused solutions for the SimpleCitizen platform—a service managing complex immigration processes and highly-sensitive user data.

- Provided technical mentorship across all engineering levels, fostering an engineering culture of openness and education. Participated in regular code reviews to maintain code quality and share best practices.
- Optimized critical database queries and restructured Graphene access patterns, reducing user-facing load times across the entire platform by over 60%.
- Refactored a mission-critical Kotlin microservice handling Adobe PDF file generation, reducing monthly application errors by 95%.
- Advocated for colleagues with disabilities, advancing accessibility goals for users and engineers across the firm.
- Owned service deployments and collaborated with DevOps to manage infrastructure using Docker and GitLab CI.
- Improved unit and integration test coverage by over 20% and reduced test suite run time from 12 minutes to 2 minutes.
- Served as subject matter expert during organizational transition, creating comprehensive knowledge transfer documentation and delivering training on 20+ critical system components.

**Full Stack Software Engineer**, *Pop Research / Dynata*
St. George, UT (Remote) | June 2017 - July 2021

Early-stage engineer for the Pop Research Platform. Implemented a high-performance web application facilitating DIY market research using Django and React.

- Built integrations with four external services, including managing large email campaigns and collecting payments.

- Developed a REST API package for internal teams within the firm.
- Collaborated with a future-development team to build the next generation of PopResearch using Go and gRPC.

**Software Engineer**, *Rocketmade (defunct)* — January 2017 - March 2017
Provided development services to help finish a client project involving store security and inventory management using Ruby on Rails.

**Freelance Software Engineer**

St. George, UT — September 2016 - January 2017

Delivered rapid development of custom Django-based web and admin platforms tailored to local business needs. Developed an application for the nonprofit Saint George Children's Museum to secure grant funding by accurately reporting volunteer hours.

**Software Engineer and Principal Curriculum Writer** - *CodeChangers*

St. George, UT — February 2016 - September 2016

Worked with a remote team to help build an online learning management system. Designed, wrote, and edited Computer Science curriculum for after-school programs, self-guided learning, and classroom material for Elementary school teachers. Built interactive coding exercises and learn-to-code games for summer camps.

**Software Engineer** - *Velocity Webworks / Zonos*

St. George, UT — September 2013 - February 2016

Developed custom web applications for a variety of clients from the ground up. Worked as the sole full stack engineer on client projects and reported directly to stakeholders. Wrote the company code style guide for Python & Django.

## Personal Projects

[3DS Save Bank](3DS Save Bank) - An online resource to share save files for games on the Nintendo 3DS. Originally built as an excuse to play with Vue.js, the save bank currently contains several hundred files from users in over a dozen countries.

BWV Library (still in development) - Cataloging publicly accessible resources to listen to as much of the [Bach-Werke-Verzeichnis](Bach-Werke-Verzeichnis) online as possible.

## Education

**Utah Tech University** (formerly Dixie State University)
Associate of Science, Computer Science 2011 - 2016.