

Elmaz Nikšić, Software Engineer

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Software Engineer with 7+ years of experience delivering scalable web applications, developer tooling, and AI-powered product features with React, TypeScript, Node.js, and cloud platforms. Currently engineering AI agent experiences on Microsoft's AI for Science program, where I integrate and deploy production AI/LLM models, drive accessibility compliance, expand automated test coverage, and review and approve pull requests as part of technical decision-making. Experienced in owning features end to end, raising engineering quality standards, and translating research and business requirements into reliable, accessible, production-ready software.

WORK EXPERIENCE

May 2026 — Present

SOFTWARE ENGINEER, MICROSOFT (VENDOR VIA AKVELON)

- Engineer on the AI for Science initiative, building and shipping agent-powered developer tooling inside a Visual Studio Code-based research environment used by scientific and machine learning teams.
- Integrated and deployed production AI/LLM models and agents into the IDE workflow, designing prompt and tool-calling pipelines, wiring model endpoints through Azure AI services, and instrumenting evaluation and telemetry for accuracy, latency, and cost.
- Led accessibility engineering across the product surface, remediating WCAG 2.1 AA defects across keyboard navigation, focus management, ARIA semantics, and screen reader support ahead of release milestones.
- Designed and automated new unit, integration, and end-to-end test cases that expanded regression coverage of agent workflows and reduced escaped defects across release cycles.
- Diagnosed and fixed cross-cutting issues spanning the extension host, backend services, and model integration layer, improving reliability and responsiveness of agent-assisted workflows.
- Contributed to architectural decision-making and design reviews, and served as a code reviewer and pull request approver enforcing engineering standards and secure coding practices across repositories.
- Partnered with applied scientists, product managers, and QA across distributed time zones to scope requirements and ship on a continuous release cadence.

May 2026 — Present

FULL STACK ENGINEER, AKVELON, INC.

- Delivering full-stack engineering for Microsoft as a vendor engineer on the AI for Science program, owning features end to end from technical design through deployment and post-release support.
- Built and maintained TypeScript and React front-end surfaces backed by Node.js services that power AI agent experiences, prioritizing performance, modularity, and long-term maintainability.
- Deployed and operated AI model integrations through CI/CD pipelines (Azure DevOps and GitHub Actions), including containerized services, staged rollouts, feature flags, and automated quality gates.
- Improved accessibility and UX consistency across client-facing components, expanded automated test coverage, and triaged production issues to reduce regression risk in a high-frequency release cycle.
- Collaborated with client stakeholders and distributed US and EU teams on estimation, technical trade-offs, and sprint planning, and reviewed and approved peer pull requests.

Jun 2025 — May 2026

SOFTWARE ENGINEER, YOUTESTME

- Developed and optimized scalable web applications with React, Node.js, and PostgreSQL, increasing platform performance by 30% and improving user engagement.
- Developed scalable software modules that improved application reliability and reduced system downtime.
- Enhanced code quality through rigorous testing and debugging, ensuring compliance with industry standards.
- Collaborated with cross-functional teams to align technical solutions with customer requirements, improving user satisfaction.
- Optimized existing algorithms to increase processing speed and reduce resource consumption, and documented workflows to accelerate onboarding of new team members.

Feb 2023 — Feb 2025

SOFTWARE ENGINEER, TRANSPERFECT

- Developed a secure, scalable Translation Memory Cloud platform for enterprise-level Translation Unit management.
- Built and maintained Puzzle, a team-wide Storybook UI component library, and contributed to Dispatcher, a custom state management tool.
- Implemented automated testing with Jest and Cypress, increasing code quality and reducing defect rates during release cycles.
- Optimized system performance through code refactoring and database query tuning, and worked closely with QA testers and backend engineers to ensure seamless integration and robust testing.
- Tech stack: React (class components), TypeScript, Node.js, Express.js, Jest, Cypress. Projects: Team Cloud, Puzzle.

Jun 2021 — Nov 2023

SOFTWARE ENGINEER, REMEMBERME.APP

- Developed a highly secure, scalable, and user-friendly social network using React Native and Firebase.
- Built and maintained cross-platform mobile features, ensuring seamless performance on iOS and Android.
- Developed and optimized scalable backend services and APIs, improving data retrieval speed by 30% and user engagement through seamless integration with front-end applications.
- Collaborated with backend engineers, QA testers, and designers, and conducted code reviews to enforce best practices and consistent architecture across projects.
- Tech stack: React Native, TypeScript, Redux, Node.js, Express, Firebase. Project: RememberMe-App (published on Google Play Store and App Store).

Aug 2020 — Jun 2021

FULL STACK DEVELOPER, SRB-DEV

- Developed and maintained a high-performance DNA research system, ensuring scalability and reliability with React, Redux, AWS, and Firebase.
- Contributed to multiple projects using React, Angular, and React Native, collaborating with cross-functional teams to enhance functionality and user experience.
- Optimized backend services to reduce latency and automated testing procedures to ensure code quality and accelerate deployment cycles.
- Tech stack: React, TypeScript, Redux, Angular, React Native, AWS, Firebase. Project: Netgenomics.life.

Aug 2019 — Oct 2019

SOFTWARE DEVELOPER – MAGENTO, ATELI DEVELOPMENT, S.R.O.

- Developed and maintained features for multiple e-commerce platforms across several international domains.
- Optimized and automated existing code to enhance performance, page load times, and maintainability.
- Implemented security best practices within Magento environments to safeguard customer data and ensure compliance with industry standards.
- Tech stack: PHP (OOP and procedural), Magento, MySQL. Projects: PoštovnéZDARMA.cz, ShipGratis (.com, .eu, .rs, .ba, .hr, .ru, .hu).

Mar 2019 — Apr 2019

SOFTWARE DEVELOPER – MOODLE, THE NAMERS

- Developed and optimized a high-performance, secure Moodle Learning Management System for Zühlke Group.
- Modified existing features and developed custom plugins to extend LMS functionality and streamline course management workflows.
- Optimized database queries to enhance platform performance, resulting in faster load times and improved user experience.
- Tech stack: PHP (OOP and procedural), MySQL, Moodle framework. Project: Zühlke Group LMS.

Jan 2018 — Feb 2018

WEB DEVELOPER, PHPMAILER

- Contributed to PHPMailer by fixing bugs and optimizing existing functionality, improving stability and performance.
- Developed a more efficient method for integrating HTML templates, enhancing usability.
- Automated parts of the existing codebase, reducing manual effort and improving maintainability.
- Tech stack: PHP (procedural).

Jun 2017 — Jul 2017

WEB DESIGNER, HAIRFOR2 DEUTSCHLAND

- Redesigned and modernized a company webshop, improving UI/UX, responsiveness, and performance.
- Developed and optimized the front end with HTML, CSS, and JavaScript, while handling backend functionality with PHP (procedural) and MySQL.
- Delivered a fully functional and visually enhanced e-commerce platform for the .rs domain.

EDUCATION

IT SPECIALIST IN COMPUTER INFORMATION SYSTEMS AND PROGRAMMING,
TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL - NOVI PAZAR

CERTIFICATE FOR PHP & MYSQL DEVELOPMENT (3 MONTHS WORKSHOP WITH
FINAL EXAM), POSLOVNA SAVRSENOST - OBUKE I KURSEVI (BELGRADE)

SKILLS	JavaScript	Advanced	TypeScript	Advanced
	React	Advanced	Next.js	Advanced
	Node.js	Advanced	Express.js	Advanced
	Python	Advanced	RESTful APIs	Advanced
	AI agent development	Advanced	LLM integration	Advanced
	Prompt engineering	Advanced	RAG pipelines	Advanced
	Azure AI / Azure OpenAI	Advanced	AI model deployment	Advanced
	Model Context Protocol (MCP)	Advanced	TensorFlow	Advanced
	AI developer tooling	Advanced	VS Code extensions	Advanced
	Web accessibility (WCAG 2.1)	Advanced	ARIA & screen readers	Advanced
	Automated testing (Jest/Cypress)	Advanced	End-to-end testing	Advanced
	Code review & PR approval	Advanced	Technical decision-making	Advanced
	CI/CD (GitHub Actions)	Advanced	Docker	Advanced
	Git & version control	Advanced	Agile / Scrum	Advanced
	Complex system scalability	Advanced	Microservices architecture	Advanced
	Database management	Advanced	SQL	Advanced
	PostgreSQL	Advanced	MongoDB	Advanced
	MySQL	Advanced	Firebase	Advanced
	AWS	Advanced	API development	Advanced
	React Native	Advanced	Redux	Advanced
	Responsive design	Advanced	Storybook / design systems	Advanced
	PHP	Advanced	Laravel development	Advanced
	Magento development	Advanced	Moodle development	Advanced
	WordPress	Advanced	WebRTC / MediaSoup streaming	Advanced

COURSES

-	Improved skills of html and css , Udemy
-	THE COMPLETE JAVASCRIPT COURSE 2018: BUILD REAL PROJECTS! , Udemy
-	LARAVEL, THE COMPLETE GUIDE WITH REAL WORLD PROJECTS , Udemy
-	React Native , Udemy
-	Complete React Developer in 2021 (w/ Redux, Hooks, GraphQL) , Udemy
-	MERN Stack Front To Back: Full Stack React, Redux & Node.js , Udemy

LANGUAGES	German	AI Basics	English	professional speaker
	Serbian	native language		

HOBBIES

Art
Book reading
Travelling
Car driving
Volunteering
Formula F1
Photography
Sports
Online games
Coffee addict