

Dhananjay Balan

📍 Berlin, Germany 📧 mail@dbalan.in

Senior Software Engineer with experience in Security, Infrastructure and Backend Engineering.

WORK HISTORY

Software Team Lead at [Port Zero GmbH](#)

February 2020 – Present

Port Zero is a software consultancy with expertise in security and networking.

- **Team Lead:** Helping the software team with technical decision making, managing the team.
- **API/SDN Layer:** Helped design and develop a Haskell API layer that exposes APIs for network infrastructure to manage authentication, routing and customer management.
- **Infrastructure and Security Lead:** Helped a SaaS provider to set infrastructure strategies & security policies. Worked on with the team to implement them. The focus was on improving security of the platform and reducing development turn-around time.

Software Engineer at [CLIQZ GmbH](#)

July 2016 – December 2019

Cliqz develops a browser with integrated search and tools to protect user privacy on web.

- **Data Platform:** Rewrote system for downloading and processing billions of urls with a focus on simplifying operations and performance. The system processes around a TB of data daily.
- **New Products:** Designed and implemented account backend system for a new software product sold as subscription. Had to incorporate password-less login, reducing user interaction as much as possible.
- **Security Improvements:** Designed tools and strategy to improve overall security and compliance of the platform. This included pushing a platform wide TLS enforcement and enforcing strong TLS ciphers to ensure forward-secrecy.
- **Increasing Developer Productivity:** Built a CI pipeline to build MacOS targets in Linux, reducing overhead of maintaining MacOS build nodes – [link to PR](#).

Infrastructure Software Engineer at [Plivo Inc](#)

October 2013 – February 2016

Plivo is a SaaS company providing APIs to build VoIP systems.

- **Scaling For Traffic:** Rewrote the core business logic for routing calls that are region specific through multiple data-centers with strict latency requirements.
- **Increasing Developer Productivity:** Scaled the infrastructure from hand written scripts to an automatically launched, auto-scaling platform.

OPEN SOURCE WORK & SIDE PROJECTS

- FreeBSD contributor – [link to freebsd.org](#).
- Small patches in the Linux kernel – [link to git.kernel.org](#).
- Worked with Center for Internet and Society, an NGO working in intersection of tech and society. Mapping out internals of budget smartphones to identify the corresponding patents – [link to project write-up](#).
- I run my own personal infrastructure (storage, backups, web servers etc) – [link to blog write-up](#).

SKILLS

- Backend: **Haskell, Go, Python**
- Infrastructure/Platform: **Configuration Management, AWS, Cloudformation, Ansible, Kubernetes, Cryptography, Security Policies**
- Data processing: **Hadoop, Spark, Apache Kafka**

EDUCATION

[Recurse Center](#)

January – March 2019

Recurse center is a self-directed educational retreat for programmers in New York city.

- **Cryptography:** Implemented basic cryptographic systems like RSA, SRP, AES block modes and attacks against them – [code at github](#).
- **Hardware:** Worked on an 80's era HP plotter, figuring out hardware interfaces and writing interfacing software – [featured on hackaday](#).

[College Of Engineering Trivandrum, India](#)

Class of 2013

- Bachelor of Technology in Computer Science and Engineering. GPA 7.9/10 (more is better)

Links

Website <https://dbalan.in> Github <https://github.com/dbalan/>

Blog <https://blog.dbalan.in/> LinkedIn <https://www.linkedin.com/in/dhananjay-balan-68a2b714>

Résumé <https://resume.dbalan.in> PDF <https://resume.dbalan.in/resume.pdf>