Safa Demirkan

Renton, WA | +1-773-543-7409 | demirkan@safadev.app | LinkedIn | GitHub | portfolio

SUMMARY

Software Engineer with 9+ years of experience in test automation, CI/CD, and software quality, now transitioning into full-stack development. Recently built production-ready applications using Go, React, PostgreSQL, and Docker. Strong foundation in system architecture, debugging, and automated testing, with a proven track record of improving release quality and reducing manual effort through tooling and frameworks.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- **Languages:** GO, TypeScript, JavaScript, Java, Kotlin, SQL
- **Frontend:** React, Next.js, TanStack Router, TanStack Query, Tailwind CSS, Vite
- **Backend & Database:** Go (Chi, pgx), REST APIs, PostgreSQL, Node.js, Docker, Nginx
- **Testing / QA:** Playwright, Selenium Webdriver, Appium, Cucumber, JUnit, Espresso, TestNG, Jest
- **CI/CD & DevOps:** GitHub Actions, Jenkins, Gitlab CI/CD, AWS, Docker, Kubernetes, Linux, Git
- **Mobile:** Android, iOS, Xcode, Android Studio, real-device testing

TECHNICAL PROJECTS

Interactive Todo Application | https://interactive-todo.safadev.app/   Nov 2025
- *Full-stack Team Task Manager – Go, React, PostgreSQL, TypeScript, TanStack Router/Query, Playwright, Docker, Nginx*
- Designed and implemented a secure REST API in Go (Chi, pgx) with JWT access/refresh tokens and refresh-token rotation.
- Implemented team management, task assignment, status transitions, and reminder logic backed by PostgreSQL with proper indexing.
- Developed a modern React SPA using TanStack Router and TanStack Query for data-fetching, caching, and optimistic UI updates.
- Created an end-to-end Playwright test suite for API and core flows, enabling repeatable regression checks and CI validation.
- Containerized the app with Docker and deployed behind Nginx on DigitalOcean, using domain routing and HTTPS termination.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Wizards of the Coast | *Software Development Engineer in Test*   Jan 2019 - May 2025
Enhanced the Companion App for Magic:The Gathering by streamlining both digital and in-person gameplay experiences, collaborating with cross-functional teams to integrate seamless event management features.
- Implemented a test automation framework using Java and Kotlin, which improved testing efficiency and reduced manual testing efforts
- Integrated automated tests with CI/CD tools like Jenkins and GitLab, ensuring robust pipeline maintenance and high-quality releases.
- Developed automation tests for Android/iOS apps using Appium, increasing test coverage by 40% in 6 months while supporting consumer-facing interfaces.
- Formulated a BDD framework with Cucumber, Selenium, and Appium, reducing defects by 25% within one year through improved testing strategies.
- Utilized AWS, Docker, and Kubernetes to build scalable test environments, enabling efficient deployments and reinforcing system reliability.
- Implemented web automation with Playwright to boost test efficiency by 40% in 6 months, ensuring consistent performance across web applications.
- Built internal automation tools and REST-based utilities that reduced repetitive manual QA tasks

Providence Health Services | *Software Development Engineer in Test*   Jul 2018 - Jan 2019
Enhanced the Providence Health Connect mobile application to support digital healthcare management, directly improving the patient experience.
- Developed an automation framework for Android/iOS/Web apps using Java, JUnit, and JavaScript, increasing test coverage by 50% within 4 months and ensuring feature reliability.
- Streamlined mobile app testing by automating deep linking and parallel tests, which optimized performance on consumer-facing platforms.
- Directed Agile test strategies using CI/CD via Bitrise and conducted comprehensive root cause analyses, resulting in a 30% reduction in system downtime and improved overall stability.

Sempra Energy | *Software Development Engineer in Test*   Nov 2017 - May 2018
The ADP Migration project involved transitioning Sempra Energy's legacy human resources and payroll systems to ADP's cloud-based platform. The migration included employee data consolidation, payroll processing, benefits administration, and compliance reporting, aimed at improving operational efficiency and standardizing HR processes across the organization.
- Handled the change of the requirements and features set using Agile scrum environment.
- Participated in grooming sessions, sprint planning, daily stand up and retrospective meetings.
- Automated tests with WebDriver and Cucumber, increasing test coverage by 40% within 3 months.

Hilton | *Software Development Engineer in Test/Test Lead Engineer*   Mar 2017 - Nov 2017
- Led test strategy with CI/CD via Jenkins, ensuring quality for iOS/Android apps through real device testing.
- Built automated test scripts for web/mobile apps using Selenium and Appium, enhancing coverage by 60%.

American Express | *Software Development Engineer in Test*   Nov 2015 - Jan 2017
Project(s): UK chip and pin, Japan migration and uplift, Japan AML, and UK Eligibility checker.
- Drove user story analysis and elaboration, designed and developed software applications, and tested and built an automation tool, improving development efficiency and reducing manual testing efforts
- Created and maintained automated tests utilizing Selenium WebDriver in a continuous integration environment with Jenkins, enhancing test coverage and reliability of software releases

EDUCATION

Northwestern University | *MS, Biomedical Engineering* (GPA: 3.5)   Jan 2013 - Jan 2015
Yeditepe University | *BS, Biomedical Engineering* (GPA: 3.6)   Sep 2007 - 2011