

David Simons

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Key Technical Proficiencies

- Java**
 - Over 7 years' experience with Java and the ecosystem including Spring (MVC, Data, Kafka), build tools (Maven, Gradle) and testing (JUnit, Mockito).
 - Strong understanding of object-oriented and functional principles.
- Data Technologies**
 - Implementing, deploying and supporting streaming platforms (Kafka) and message queues (ActiveMQ). Developing applications using these tools.
 - Advocating and integrating with a range of SQL and NoSQL databases including MongoDB and Elasticsearch. Certified Neo4j engineer and trainer.
- Other Languages**
 - Over 5 years' professional experience in JavaScript, both front-end and back-end (with Node.js). Familiarity with front-end tools (React, AngularJS) and testing frameworks (Jasmine, Selenium, Cucumber).
 - Experience using Python and Scala on real-world projects.
- System Design & Deployment**
 - Design and implementation of distributed microservice architectures, using a range of architectural patterns (CQRS, Event Sourcing). Driving this through the capturing of functional and non-functional requirements of end users.
 - Deployment of systems to production using containerisation (Docker), cloud hosting (AWS, GCP) and automated build pipelines (Concourse, Jenkins).
- Leadership**
 - Growing and hiring into geographically distributed teams. Setting up ways of working (Agile/Scrum) and running ceremonies to support these (Story Planning, Refinement, Retros).
 - Designing and delivering training courses, both internally and externally. Speaking at a wide range of technical conferences.

Work History

June 2018 -
Current

Data Engineer / Technical Lead, Citibank

Technologies include Kafka, Google Cloud/BigQuery, Python, Java, Docker

Delivering a multi-tenant Kafka cluster to centralise the handling of real-time data across 50+ teams/1000+ data sets. Role evolved from being the sole developer to the technical lead on a geographically distributed team of nine developers. Implementing key features such as security/ACLs, integration with GCP and high availability. Defining and overseeing our approach to support and monitoring. Collaborating with clients to gather functional and capacity requirements and using these to inform staffing and infrastructure growth strategies.

Oct 2017 -
June 2018

Senior Developer, Mettle/RBS (Contract via 11:FS)

Technologies include Java 8 & Scala, Spring, Kafka, AWS Lambda, PostgreSQL

Part of the initial technical team creating a new challenger bank targeting SMEs. Implementing an automated onboarding flow using serverless architecture (AWS Lambda) and an event-sourcing pattern (based on Apache Kafka). Working with compliance specialists to ensure this met financial regulations, and providing a light-weight web UI for ongoing support, monitoring and auditing of this process. As the technical team grew, establishing approaches for best practice across the team.

- Aug 2016 - Aug 2017** **Senior Developer, Ministry of Justice (Contract via SopraSteria)**
Technologies include (Back-End) Java 8, JavaEE, PostgreSQL, ActiveMQ, JUnit, (Front-End) JavaScript inc. ES6, AngularJS, Protractor, Jasmine, Node.js
 Developing a common platform to streamline data flows through the criminal justice system. Developing APIs with distributed Java microservices using the CQRS pattern. Creating AngularJS web components to integrate with them.
- Apr 2016 - Aug 2016** **Senior Consultant, GraphAware (Direct Contract)**
 Helping clients adopt graph databases (Neo4j). Projects included data modelling, design/delivery of training and development of open-source tooling.
- Selected Project:**
Cablevisión (Argentina): Training development and operations staff in Neo4j. Delivery of proof of concepts for recommendation engines and failure diagnosis.
- Sep 2014 - Apr 2016** **Technical Lead, Softwire**
Technologies include (Back-end) Java, Spring, NodeJS inc. Express, (Front-end) JavaScript, Thymeleaf, JUnit, Selenium, Cucumber
 Leading technical project delivery teams (typically 4-6 people). Accountable for quality of architecture and code. Supporting agile ceremonies and peer review. Working with non-technical stakeholders to deliver projects to production.
- Selected Project:**
“Stress Testing” Tool: Developing a web application for banks to visualise how correlations in market indices expose client balance sheets to risk.
Graduate Trainer: Trained our newest developer intake, specialising in Java web applications. Delivered an internal monitoring tool for BBC Playlister.
- Aug 2012 - Sep 2014** **Software Developer, Softwire**
Technologies include Java/Spring, JavaScript, .NET and SQL
 Working in agile teams to deliver user stories on a range of projects. Ensuring high quality software through automated testing and OO principles.

Other Technical Experience

- Conference Speaker. Selected Talks include:
 - **“Choosing the Right Database”** at NDC London, BrisTech and on .NET Rocks podcast
 - **“Introduction to Microservices”** at APIStrat Berlin and { develop : BBC }
- Technical Editor for Packt Publishing
 - Editor of **“Learning Node.JS for .NET Developers”** by Harry Cummings
- Open-source Contributor (Github: **SwamWithTurtles**)

Education

- 2008 - 2012** **Trinity College, University of Oxford**
MMath in Mathematics and Statistics (2.i)
 Including modules in data analysis, data mining, simulation and inference. Producing a dissertation on graphical data modelling.