

Pieter O'Hearn

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Summary

Senior Full-Stack Engineer specialising in identity and digital services platforms. Experienced in designing and scaling cross-platform solutions across Java/Spring, Node.js, and React Native ecosystems. Proven record of leading digital transformation initiatives in both public and private sectors, combining deep technical expertise with user-centric design. Passionate about observability, security-by-design, and clean architecture to deliver reliable, privacy-preserving digital products.

Experience

Datakeeper , Senior Full-Stack Engineer	Utrecht, Netherlands Sep 2024 – Present
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Implemented end-to-end observability with OpenTelemetry across the Spring Boot and Node.js back-ends for unified tracing and metrics.Re-architected the web scraping service for issuing verifiable credentials, improving resilience, privacy, and adaptability to external systems.Defining scalable back-end architectures in Spring and Node.js through close collaboration with product and compliance teams.Improved developer experience through clean architecture, modularisation, and automated testing.	
Service NSW , Senior Full-Stack Engineer Mobile App Team	Sydney, Australia Dec 2003 – Sep 2024
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Specialised in React Native mobile development across Android and iOS, maintaining and improving an app serving five million active users.Developed a component library, ensuring accessibility (WCAG 2.2 AA standard) and design consistency across all product teams, in close collaboration with UX and design.Implemented new citizen-facing features, such as a secure digital notification inbox and native transaction experiences, improving engagement and reducing friction.Designed and built a scalable Grants Service, integrating back-end APIs and mobile UI to help citizens apply for and track grants during crisis periods, increasing accessibility and reliability under high load.Partnered with designers, policy specialists, and engineers in a fast-moving, product-driven environment focused on impact, not process.	
Service NSW , Full-Stack Engineer Digital Notifications Platform	Sydney, Australia Mar 2022 – Dec 2023
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Re-architected a legacy monolith into microservices, introducing asynchronous queues and auto-scaling to ensure high availability during surges in message volume.Applied observability and performance monitoring tools, allowing the team to cut production incidents and improving API latency by 40–60Led a proof-of-concept database redesign, producing detailed ERDs and validating schema improvements through rigorous testing.Adopted the Backend-for-Frontend (BFF) pattern to deliver dynamically populated, data-driven front-end views that optimised the citizen experience.	
Service NSW , Junior Full-Stack Engineer Digital Notifications Platform	Sydney, Australia Jun 2021 – Mar 2022
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Developed and rigorously tested back-end APIs for a high-traffic notifications platform, facilitating communication between state agencies and over 8 million NSW citizens.Supported the design and deployment of front-end pages, focusing on improving user experience and accessibility.	

Education

The University of Sydney, Computer Science

Feb 2016 – Jul 2021

- Acquired a solid foundation in computer science theory, including computational complexity, operating systems, and computer architecture, providing a deep understanding of how software interacts with hardware.
- Developed practical skills in programming languages (e.g., Java, Python, C), databases, and web technologies, enabling me to build robust and versatile applications across various platforms.

The University of Sydney, Software Engineering Honours

Feb 2017 – Jul 2022

- Gained comprehensive knowledge in software engineering principles, including software development lifecycle, systems engineering, and project management, equipping me with the skills to lead and manage complex software projects.
- Specialised in advanced topics such as algorithms, data structures, and software design patterns, enhancing my ability to develop efficient, maintainable, and scalable software solutions.

Projects

AI Code Reviewing CLI Tool

github.com/codekoala 

- Runs on-device AI to review git diffs, produce structured commit messages, and suggest code improvements.
- Tools Used: Python, CLI, Ollama (local LLM)

Technical Skills

- Java; Kotlin; Spring Boot; Node.js; TypeScript; React; React Native; Angular; Python
- AWS; Docker; Terraform; CI/CD; Git;
- OpenTelemetry; Observability; Tracing; Sentry
- PostgreSQL; MongoDB; DynamoDB; Redis
- TDD; Clean Architecture; Agile/Scrum; Microservices; REST APIs