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Umar Farooqi

[Personal Website](#)
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A full-stack software engineer passionate about building applications in a user-friendly and developer-friendly way. Enthusiastic about learning new technologies and streamlining processes through automation and documentation.

Skills

- **Languages:** JavaScript/Typescript (React.js, Next.js, Node.js), CSS (styled-components, Tailwind), Python, Java, Fortran
- **Infra & Tools:** AWS (Lambda, CloudFront, R53), Jenkins, Cypress, Playwright, Docker, Git, Logz.io, NewRelic
- **Certifications:** AWS Certified Cloud Practitioner

Work Experience

Software Development Engineer	**Capital One**	*Sept 2021 – Present*
Acquisitions web team	Nottingham	

Member of core team developing on Capital One homepage and credit card acquisition journey serving over a million visitors per month. Main technologies are React.js, Next.js, AWS (Lambda, CloudFront, Route53, S3), Cypress & Playwright for end-to-end testing, Jenkins & Docker for CI/CD.

- Led implementation of ASOS-branded version of the acquisition journey web apps. Refined and planned stories. Collaborated with designers to implement designs with React. Worked with team to set up CloudFront, R53, and WAF infrastructure to route traffic for ASOS journey. Presented progress to stakeholders and department.
- Drove improvements to enhance both user and developer experience. Creating a PoC to demonstrate SEO and performance benefits of SSR features of Next.js with Fargate. Migrated acquisition journey apps to TypeScript individually and through collaboration in hackathons. Championed usage of Vite and Vitest for non-Next.js apps.
- Seconded to an SRE team consisting of new hires to onboard them to our apps and processes. Enabled them to work self-sufficiently by conducting regular knowledge transfer sessions and demonstrating deployment/testing processes.
- Migrated homepage redirects from Lambda@Edge to a CloudFront Function, saving 6x the cost per invocation.
- Set up dashboards and logging with Logz.io and NewRelic to enable measurement of user activity and errors.
- Worked cross-team to migrate web apps from on-prem to cloud and decommission on-prem infrastructure.
- Improved our documentation, writing guides and cheatsheets for developing on our apps, new starter guides for the web domain to standardise and accelerate the onboarding of new hires.
- Rotated through multiple teams as part of graduate scheme. Worked on Java backend services, DevOps, eventually settling into a web team.
- Coached interns and graduates through a project-based initiative and one-to-one mentoring.

Scientific Software Engineer Placement	**Met Office**	*July 2019 – June 2020*
Weather Science IT team	Exeter	

- Used Tensorflow with Python, C++, and Fortran to enable compilation and integration of machine learning models into the Met Office weather model.
- Used Python and Fortran in an object-oriented fashion to develop components for efficient consumption of thousands of weather data fields in the Met Office's next-generation weather model. Presented progress to the wider Weather Science department.
- Extensive use of Git and SVN for version control whilst working in a Linux environment.
- Adopted Agile methodologies while working with JIRA and Trac for project management and documentation.
- Worked on multiple projects concurrently, efficiently utilising time while delivering on objectives for each of them with minimal supervision.
- Represented the company at a student careers fair at the University of Nottingham.

Education

BEng Computer Science with Year in Industry, University of York   *2017–2021*

- Final year dissertation on the accuracy of transfer learning neural networks for recognising physical activities measured by wearable devices. Used Python with Tensorflow to build, train, and test this model on data from smartphone/smartwatch gyrometers.

Projects & Volunteering

- **Mansfield Cat Rescue** - fostering cats to get them ready for adoption. Currently developing a website (React, Next.js, Vercel, Redis) to advertise the rescue and display cats ready for adoption. Connected it to the Pawlytics GraphQL API to fetch data on adoption-ready animals to be displayed on the website. Experimenting with various features offered by Vercel, Next.js, and React to optimise delivery of content to users.
- **Personal Website** - built a personal website, using it as a platform to learn various features of technologies like React, Next.js, Tailwind CSS for styling, Payload CMS for storing and serving blog posts.

Interests

- Rock Climbing
- Music (playing guitar, bass, drums)
- Motorsport
- Cats