

Steven Paul Jacobs

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Dear Sir/Madame,

I am a passionate full-stack application developer with several years experience creating a diverse set of web apps and software for various companies and clients, as well as teaching how to program, problem solve and practice the core principles of software development. In addition to my formal education and professional background, I continuously pursue self-improvement to refine my software development skills and deepen my knowledge of computer science, including the latest advancements such as AI and web3. Prior to software developing I worked in finance and technology auditing, though unlisted here.

My journey into software development was sparked by a profound interest in technology, following successful years in finance. I ventured into web3 developments, delving into blockchain technology through auditing and consulting web3 startups/projects. This experience led me to complete a Solidity coding course and ignited my passion for software development due to its problem-solving nature and technological challenges. I further honed my skills by using Solidity and PineScript to automate investment strategies for myself and clients. Eventually, I enrolled in rigorous software development courses, in Harvard University's CS50x program and Mosh Coding School, providing me with a strong foundation in computer science and enabling me to gain further hands-on experience building software for various clients and companies.

Over the past several years, I have successfully delivered technological solutions to clients and collaborated within companies to enhance products, websites and applications. My expertise lie in using technologies such as Javascript (React and Next.js), Java, Node.js, REST APIs, SQL, NoSQL, HTML, CSS/SCSS, Cypress/Jest, and Git. My current position involves Java backend development, with a React frontend, as well as teaching at a university provided coding bootcamp. I have also embraced test-driven development and gained proficiency in Cypress for end-to-end testing and Jest for unit testing. I am also familiar with other languages like Python and C, mainly through educational exposure and small projects.

Being proficient in both frontend and backend development, I find joy in blending creativity with algorithmic thinking. This enables me to excel in both aesthetic design and functional user experience, alongside handling behind-the-scenes data manipulation and robust frameworks. Whether collaborating with a team or working independently, I communicate my ideas and problem-solving approaches clearly and effectively.

I am eager to contribute my skills and make a lasting impact as a valuable member of your team. I welcome the opportunity to discuss any potential roles with you further. Please find examples of my work below.

Thank you for considering my application.

Sincerely,

Steven Paul Jacobs

Skills:

- JavaScript / TypeScript
- React.js / Next.js
- Java (Spring/Maven)
- HTML / CSS & SCSS
- Node.js
- REST APIs
- SQL (Postgres & MySQL) / NoSQL (MongoDB)
- Python
- Solidity
- Git

Languages:

English: Native
Portuguese: B-Grade

Portfolio: <https://www.stevenjacobs-portfolio.com/>

Work Experience

Java & React Developer, BlockArch April 2023 – Present

Our product operates as a consultation service for tech startups, matching users to optimal tech solutions through a series of inputs and algorithmic database interactions. I am involved in all levels of development here. Key features of this implementation include:

- Web app front-end: design and interface, presenting a professional UI & UX (Javascript/React)
- Backend: coordinating inputs with algorithmic database outcomes (Java/Spring/Maven)
- SQL database: writing queries, storing and accessing data in a computationally optimal way (Postgres)

Full Stack & Front End Instructional Specialist, EdX University Bootcamps October 2023 – Present

Tutor university provided bootcamp student by aiding in their learning of various programming languages, frameworks and concepts. Key responsibilities include:

- Teaching problem solving, rationalising solutions and exercising core programming principles.
- Preparing students for a career in software developing through practising TTD, OOP, Agile, SCRUM etc.
- JavaScript, React, SQL, NoSQL, Jest, NodeJS, Git, Hosting, REST APIs.

Full Stack developer, BurgerBox Nov 2022 – April 2023

Built a Full Stack restaurant management system, for the company BurgerBox, to replace and emulate the current ordering system such as Deliveroo, using Next.js. Key features of this implementation included:

- Frontend UI/UX, backend dataflow management (JavaScript/ReactJS/NextJS/NodeJS)
- Live order notifications & client ordering and payment management (Websocket & Stripe)
- Orders / Menu options / Delivery and collection management (MongoDB)
- Live order receipt printing (Epson SDK)

Full Stack developer, Freelance Aug 2022 – Oct 2022

Developed a Web3 enabled NFT minting, and exclusive hosting platform. The NFT platform was built using React.js. Key features of this implementation included:

- Blockchain interaction capabilities (Ethers.js) for minting
- Crypto wallet connection
- NFT paywall for exclusive, limited content

Blockchain developer, Freelance May 2022 - July 2022

Constructed various Blockchain Token Smart Contracts. Mainly innovative investment tokens, for Binance Smart Chain, Polygon and Ethereum, in Solidity. Key features of this implementation included:

- Tokens with bespoke mechanisms for DeFi and NFT investing
- Investment ready and secure smart contracts
- Smart Contract auditing

Front-end development and design, Chainwork Aug 2021 – May 2022

Designing and implementing the UI/UX for the launch website of a Web3 recruitment platform. Key features of this implementation included:

- UI design utilising Figma
- Front-end functional UX development, with React.js
- Styled with Bootstrap and CSS

Education

CS50x Harvard University

6-month study program

Jul 2021 – Jan 2022

Completed an in-depth 6-month computer science study program, focused on learning the fundamentals of computer science theory & software development, taught through lectures and basic projects. From this course, I gained a fundamental understanding of computer science, including:

- Essential algorithms, data structures and design patterns
- A history of computer science and its evolution
- A basic understanding of languages such as C, Python, SQL, HTML, CSS & Javascript

Mosh Coding School, <https://codewithmosh.com>

3-month intensive program

Sept 2021 – Dec 2021

Completed a comprehensive 3-month intensive training program, focused on mastering the essentials of software development by building various basic projects and learning best practices, design patterns, and data structures. Through this program, I gained proficiency in a range of programming languages and technologies, including:

- JavaScript, TypeScript, ReactJS, HTML, CSS, NoSQL
- NodeJS, Python, Django, Java, and Git
- Accumulated over 200 hours of hands-on experience in these technologies

University of Manchester

Political Economy MA

Completed a dissertation on critiquing methodologies for studying global economic and social phenomena, providing a thorough analysis of existing research techniques, and identifying areas for improvement and further study - Merit.

Aston University, Birmingham

Economics

Specialised in econometrics, statistics, financial economics, agglomeration, and macro-economic policy, during my studies, I gained a deep understanding of the tools and techniques used to analyse and understand global economic and social phenomena - First Class Honours.

Further Skills

President, Aston University Trading & Investing society

In this role I organised and hosted networking events, with hosts from many national institutes and companies. This led to recruitment opportunities for my alumni, and also for continued professional development opportunities such as placement years within their study.

Blockchain Investor & Article Writer / Moderator

Applying macro-economic theory and knowledge of current affairs to create manual and automated PineScript trading strategies applied to investments in stocks, forex and crypto currencies. Key achievements include:

- Draw sustainable and impressive ROI through variegated investments, with a proven track record over an extended period of time, in a variety of financial markets.
- The development and publishing of a popular blog that provided technical overviews, aiming to bridge the gap between developers and investors.