AARON COUCH

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Creator of DKAN, the open source open data catalog. 5+ years of experience as Product Manager and Principle Architect.

EDUCATION

JUNE 2001

BACHELOR OF ARTS IN ENGLISH, UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

Winner of first place for best fiction and best critical review by an undergrad

SUMMARY OF SKILLS

- Creator of DKAN
- 5+ years managing DKAN product roadmap
- Architected and built react libraries for data visualization and data cataloging

- GIS tools like Carto, PostgreSQL, and Geoserver
- PM tools like Jira, Airtable, Trello
- Experience managing devs
- Linux server, Docker, and AWS
- Drupal core contributor

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

PRODUCT MANAGEMENT EXPERIENCE

- **DKAN**
  - Created DKAN open data catalog in 2012
  - Lead Developer and architect for open data catalogs for 6 years
  - Managed DKAN product roadmap
  - Curated personas for DKAN and open data projects
  - Managed contributions to open source product through individual projects
  - Spoke at numerous conferences on open data
  - Worked with sales teams to sell open data products and tools
  - Delivered demos and prototypes to potential clients

LEAD DEVELOPER AND ARCHITECTURAL EXPERIENCE

- Lead Developer on over a dozen projects
- Created project plans and network architecture designs
- Lead discovery sprints to initiate projects
- Create tickets and manage backlogs for client projects
- Wrote sales materials for products and potential projects

JAVASCRIPT EXPERIENCE

- **Javascript / NodeJS**
  - Created node webservers using Express and HapiJS
  - Experience with webpack, testing tools like Jest and Mocha
  - Created GraphQL API for data visualizations
- **React**
  - Built Interra Catalog, an Open Data catalog with a React front-end
  - Helped develop React Dash for creating data visualization dashboards
- **Data Visualization**
  - Created numerous data visualizations
  - Created tool for creating charts and graphs using public data
  - Helped author React Dash data dashboard tool
  - Experience with D3, NVD3, Plotly, and other data viz tools
- **Other front-end tools**
  - Understanding of HTML 5 semantic elements, HTML 5 APIs (LocalStorage, Web Workers), CSS compilers (Sass, LESS, etc), and accessibility tools: WAI-ARIA, Section 508 and WCAG

BACKEND EXPERIENCE

- **Databases**
  - Created and supported MySQL clusters with master/slave replication and load balancing
  - Experience using and standing up PostgreSQL and MongoDB databases
- **Linux Server**
  - Managed LAMP stacks on Linux servers since Ubuntu 10.04
- **Configuration Management**
  - Created and deployed Puppet manifests and Ansible playbooks for production LAMP stacks
- **Devops**
  - Created and managed local development environments for 10 devs
  - Setup Jenkins, NewRelic, PagerDuty, Splunk and other tools
  - Setup testing workflows on TravisCI, CircleCI and Gitlab

LANGUAGE AND FRAMEWORK EXPERIENCE SUMMARY

- **PHP**
  - Experience customizing and building with Drupal and Wordpress, testing using PHP Unit and Behat, PHP libraries with Compser and Symfony
- **Python**
  - Experience creating command line scripts and tests
  - Helped write CKAN extension for City of Chicago
- **Ruby**
  - Experience creating command line scripts

TRAINING, WRITING AND SPEAKING

- Trainer as part of public trainings of up to 40 students
- Designed and put on dozens of trainings for organizations such as Verizon, State of New York, City of Washington DC and others
- Spoke at numerous DrupalCamps and DrupalCon

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

MARCH 2018 – PRESENT
PRODUCT MANAGER / LEAD DEVELOPER, CivicActions

- Engineer and architect on Open Data team
- Product Manager for open data products and emerging products
- Worked with support, engineering and sales teams to develop product backlogs
- Worked on DKAN and CKAN projects including healthdata.gov and data.gov
- Created Python and PHP-based ETL pipelines
- Architected and developed React front-end for open data catalogs

JANUARY 2017 – FEBRUARY 2018
SENIOR ENGINEER, Accenture (Bristol Myers Squibb)

- Support internal DKAN portal adding many new features such as enhanced search and license workflow
- Create data visualization apps in React using "create-react-app" as a base
- Oversee work of three offshore developers
- Managed AWS resources including services such as Cloud Formation, SQS, Data Pipeline, Route 53, API Gateway, EC2, S3, Elastic Load Balancing, Code Deploy, Auto Scaling, and others

DECEMBER 2015 – JANUARY 2017
PRODUCT OWNER / SENIOR DEVELOPER, GovDelivery / Granicus

- Created product roadmap and backlog for DKAN
- Tasked with managing team taking on biggest problem with productizing DKAN:
  - cost of client customization
  - cost of deploying updates and new instances
- Reduced technical debt due to client customizations, cost of hosting, and cost of deployment
- Managed CircleCI testing infrastructure on AWS drastically reducing test time and cost

JUNE 2012 – DECEMBER 2015
DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING, NuCivic

- Created DKAN Open Data catalog which is now used in over 30 countries
- Served as Lead Developer and Product Owner
- Managed a team of up to 9 developers
- As a co-owner helped build start-up from 3 to over 20 employees
- Wrote blog posts, gave presentations and trainings and managed projects
- Managed Docker local development environments

JULY 2008 – JUNE 2012
PROJECT MANAGER / DEVELOPER, Zivtech

- First employee of company that grew to over thirty
- Played role as Project Manager, Developer, Trainer, and "Jack of all trades"