Angus Pointer — Software Engineer

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Summary

Highly motivated and experienced engineer with a strong background in building, deploying, and maintaining scalable and reliable systems. Proven ability to automate processes, optimize performance, and lead technical initiatives within fast-paced environments. Expertise across a diverse technology stack including Go, Python, C#, Terraform, AWS, and data technologies like Elasticsearch and Redis.

Skills

- **Programming Languages:** Go, C#, Python, Java, Rust, Bash, TypeScript (Backend and Frontend)
- **Cloud and Infrastructure:** AWS (Lambda, ECS, S3, etc.), Terraform, CloudFormation, Docker, Temporal
- **Databases and Data Stores:** MongoDB, DynamoDB, Elasticsearch, Redis, SQL/RDS, Milvus
- **Development Practices:** Version Control (Git), Agile (Jira, Scrum), CI/CD (GitHub Actions, AWS CodePipeline), Unit Testing (pytest, XUnit), Integration Testing (testcontainers), Load Testing (k6)
- **Observability and Monitoring:** Elastic APM, OpenTelemetry, Grafana, Prometheus, Incident.io

Work Experience

Senior Platform Engineer — Dec 2024 — Present
Xapien — *London*

- Designed and implemented CI/CD pipelines with GitHub Actions, integrating automated testing, Terraform validation, semantic release, and infrastructure deployment.
- Architected infrastructure for a microservice-based entity resolution project.
- Developed a content pipeline for web scraping, document conversion, and image processing, optimized to produce LLM-friendly output.
- Founded and led the Code Standards Group, improving code clarity and review efficiency with industry-aligned style guides.
- Served as SME for Temporal, creating extension libraries and optimising production components.
- Implemented Elastic APM and OpenTelemetry logging, developing reusable libraries for streamlined adoption.
- Built extensible ECS container healthcheck libraries to support custom conditions.
- Represented Xapien at Elasticon and Temporal Replay, showcasing expertise and fostering community engagement.
- Led Agile ceremonies, including sprint planning, backlog grooming, and retrospectives.

Systems and Infrastructure Engineer — May 2023 — Dec 2024
Xapien — *London*

- Streamlined deployments by migrating legacy CloudFormation stacks to modular Terraform with independent versioning.
- Deployed and maintained Fluenci™ (our NLP pipeline) using optimized AMIs for GPU and Inferentia models.
- Enhanced Photon, an open-source address parsing service, by migrating from integrated Elasticsearch to external cluster support, optimizing read-only workloads with k6 testing.
- Built a new IDAM system with AWS Cognito and RDS, migrating users from Auth0.
- Rebuilt a high-performance cache access service, achieving over 1M TPM with a low-latency Go API.
- Configured OpsGenie and Incident.io alerting, participating in on-call rotations to triage incidents.

Technical Test Engineer — May 2022 — May 2023
Xapien — *London*

- Automated regression testing using Python and React tools, reducing manual QA effort and streamlining processes.
- Developed CRISPE (Customer Report Indicators Serving Priority Estimation) in C#, enabling Customer Success to effectively prioritize manual report reviews.
- Built a Kibana dashboard for Sales and Customer Success, leveraging an AWS Lambda triggered by an event rule for automated data ingestion to query internal data stores and display key user metrics.

Education

Mathematics MMath (1st Class) — Sep 2017 — Jun 2021
University of Nottingham

- Thesis title: An introduction to algebras and space time block coding.