

André Albuquerque

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Summary

Geek at heart, thoroughly enjoys learning new skills and writing quality code to solve interesting challenges. Likes to think about software engineering as a collaborative process to solve specific problems in a reliable and future-proof way.

Had his first contact with a computer, a ZX Spectrum+, at the age of three (1990) and wrote his first lines of code at the age of nine to change the GORILLA.BAS game bundled with MS-DOS 5, on the 486 computer he got as a birthday present. Knew from an early age that he wanted to work with computers, graduated at the age of 22 with a MSc degree in Information Systems and Computer Engineering from the best engineering school in Portugal.

He is an engineering technical lead at Remote, after working 5 years for two startups. Previously, he

worked on the banking industry for 7 years. During this banking detour he obtained a MSc degree in Economics. He is currently helping to develop the Remote product using mostly Elixir and learning every day about how companies can thrive if the right mix of collaboration, openness, consistency, goodwill and sound development practices are applied to every endeavour, big or small.

He co-authored a book on Elixir on 2018, [Mastering Elixir](#), that takes the reader in a journey to develop and deploy on the cloud a Dropbox-like application, while illustrating intermediate to advanced concepts like metaprogramming, parallel data processing with back-pressure and deploying the application to a Kubernetes cluster.

Experience

Remote

Senior Staff Backend Engineer

LISBON, PORTUGAL (FULLY REMOTE POSITION)

Apr '24 – present

Working within our Fintech product area, currently more focused on the interactions between Pricing and other sub-domains like Billing and Payments.

- Gave a talk at AlchemyConf '25 about Remote's Elixir monolith

Remote

Staff Backend Engineer

LISBON, PORTUGAL (FULLY REMOTE POSITION)

Sep '22 – Mar '24

Worked with our Payments teams to deliver robust and compliant payment solutions to our customers across the world.

- Built payment flows allowing multi-currency, different providers and multiple payment methods in record time.
- Worked at the intersection of three teams: Payments Core, Employee Payments and Contractor Payments.

Remote

Engineering Technical Lead

LISBON, PORTUGAL (FULLY REMOTE POSITION)

Aug '21 – Aug '22

Led the Developer Platform team, whose mission is to allow any partner to easily integrate the Remote suite of products, and to foster and help Remote product teams to expose their features through the Remote API.

- The main product is the Remote API, through which we expose several features related with the employee lifecycle: onboarding, offboarding, time-off and employee details management, etc. by the Remote API.
- Built an OAuth-based mechanism to allow any Remote user to allow its data to be accessed by a Remote API integration.
- Built a flexible rate-limiting system depending on the type of API client (partner, internal, customer). to allow its data to be accessed by a Remote API integration.
- Collaborated closely with our partners to ensure the Remote API catered to their requirements, and adapted it when needed.
- The team is composed by four frontend and backend engineers, a product manager and a designer.

Remote

Staff Backend Engineer

LISBON, PORTUGAL (FULLY REMOTE POSITION)

May '21 – Aug '21

My first goal was to create a public API from scratch, that we'll use to expose our product to other parties who want to programmatically use it.

- Devised the authentication mechanism, how the API is deployed and exposed.

- Designed the API interaction with simplicity in mind, while abstracting the internal details of the underlying set of features.
- After an initial effort with only two engineers, we created a full-fledged team (with product, design, frontend and backend capabilities) and I assumed its technical leadership.
- Proposed and implemented a JSON Schema based solution to validate the different payloads received through the API, allowing clients to perform the same data validations we do.

Hopin

LISBON, PORTUGAL (FULLY REMOTE POSITION)

Staff Software Engineer

Set '19 – May '21

Core Services team, a Platform team responsible for cross-cutting concerns like authentication, authorization, how to manage users data inside events, and big monolith refactors touching other pods areas. Assumed Pod Lead responsibilities during a quarter.

- Implemented a roles and permissions system to enable event organisers to assign different permissions to event or organization administrators.
- Contributed to the planning and development of the user data-segregation project, ensuring every piece of user data produced by an attendee inside an event is scoped by event.

Onfido

LISBON, PORTUGAL

Senior Software Engineer - Team Lead

Aug '19 – Set '20

Team Lead of the Operations Tech team, whose mission is to improve all internal systems to better enable the business for the rapid growth phase we're experiencing.

- Started with a complete revamp of the billing system, by removing the existing billing logic from our Rails monolith and creating two new Elixir microservices. The billing system is now event-based and region agnostic using Amazon's SNS and SQS infrastructure.
- Deliver a new internal system for account management, replacing the legacy experience and automating all the information queries by interfacing with Salesforce.
- Use this opportunity to refactor a big chunk of the Rails monolith, improving the user experience of our internal users and significantly reducing tech debt.

Senior Software Engineer

Aug '18 – Aug '19

Software engineer on the Distributed Identity team, exploring new ways of providing Identity-based services to our customers. Analysing different identity solutions and implementing prototypes to better understand the technologies under scrutiny.

- Implemented an identity credentialing system based on [Uport](#) solution, that integrated with Onfido identity verification platform.
- Implemented an identity credentialing system using [Evernym](#), that integrated with Onfido identity verification platform.

Software Engineer

Oct '16 – Aug '18

Software engineer on the Identify and later Biometrics team, maintaining our current provider integrations living in our Ruby on Rails monolith platform and creating new integrations/migrating old ones to new microservices in Ruby and Elixir.

- Created a [new S3 document storage microservice](#), using Elixir processes to implement a caching mechanism and performing the encryption/decryption tasks. Its usage reduced the network bandwidth of our document processing pipeline from 20 Mbps to 300Kbps.
- Implemented the mechanism in Elixir that calls all the algorithms developed in-house and our external providers in parallel and later aggregates the different results.
- Extracted several provider integrations from our monolith to new microservices written in Ruby.
- Used an AWS API Gateway + Lambda to create a secure callback mechanism, allowing an external provider to asynchronously reply to us.

Bank of Portugal, Payment Systems Department

LISBON, PORTUGAL

IT Expert, Advisor

Sept '14 – Sept '16

Overseer on the Payment Systems Department, advising and providing insights on IT subjects: SWIFT Continuity, Cyber security in FMIs, digital currencies, online payment solutions, development of new information systems. Represented the central bank on the ECB Oversight Group assessing the SEPA Direct Debit Scheme compliance.

- Wrote a comprehensive study on blockchain technology (82 pages), virtual currencies and their possible risks and impact on the financial system.

Bank of Portugal, Information Systems and Technology Department

LISBON, PORTUGAL

Team Leader

Jan '11 – Sept '14

Team leader on the IT Department, performed requirements analysis, improved and maintained some of our legacy systems. Defined the architecture of new projects and routinely supported the deployment of new versions to production environments.

- Developed several Web Services interfaces (using an ESB as a proxy when needed) within different applications to fetch the ECB's machine lists. XSD, WSDL, SOAP, ASP.NET Web Services, TLS/SSL certificates.
- Did the maintenance and new developments of the eligible assets database application, a Java web application. Spring Framework (MVC, IoC, Security – using LDAP –, JPA), Hibernate 3, MySQL, SVN.
- Contributed to the requirements analysis, defined the architecture and further development of two ASP.NET MVC web applications, allowing the banks to report information via extranet and its subsequent analysis using an intranet web app. ASP.NET MVC 3, NUnit, Microsoft SQL Server, jQuery, TFS.
- Did the maintenance, new developments (as well as support and on-call tasks) of our most critical system, TARGET2-PT, our integration with the European real-time gross settlement system. ASP.NET Web Forms, Microsoft SQL Server, Sybase, WebSphere MQ, SourceSafe.

BOLD International

LISBON, PORTUGAL

IT Consultant

Oct '10 – Jan '11

Developed a web application to support and enhance the Technical Support Front Office of the main Portuguese Telco. ExtJS, Spring Framework (MVC, IoC, Security), Java EE (EJB 3.0, HornetQ, JPA), Oracle DB, JBoss 5.1, BPM.

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LISBON, PORTUGAL

Consultant

Sept '09 – Sept '10

Performed the functional certification of the software developed in-house in a medium-sized Portuguese bank. AS/400 (IBM System i), DB2.

Please refer to André's [LinkedIn profile](#) for a more complete list of work experience along with recommendations.

Education

School of Economics & Management —Univ. de Lisboa

LISBON, PORTUGAL

MSc in Monetary and Financial Economics

Sept '14 – Oct '16

Master thesis on the determinants of sovereign ratings using Stata. You can find a working paper based on my dissertation [here](#).

Coursework: Macroeconomics; Microeconomics; Econometrics; Monetary Policy; Behavioral Finance; Public Finance; Macroeconomics and Monetary Theory; Financial Economics; Financial Markets.

Instituto Superior Técnico —Univ. de Lisboa

LISBON, PORTUGAL

MSc in Information Systems and Computer Engineering, 15/ 20

Sept '07 – Oct '09

Major in Distributed Systems, minor in Software Engineering.

Coursework: Software Architecture; Software Quality; Virtual Execution Environments; Mobile Computing; Network and Computers Security; Parallel and Distributed Computing.

BSc in Information Systems and Computer Engineering, 15/ 20

Sept '04 – Jul '07

Coursework: Software Engineering; Operating Systems; Databases; Computer Architecture; Analysis and Synthesis of Algorithms; Artificial Intelligence; Compilers; Computer Networks; Physics; Calculus; Algebra.

Skills

Technical expertise: Likes to collaborate closely with Product, using continuous delivery whenever possible (knowledgeable about Gitlab CI, Jenkins and Travis CI). Likes functional programming, enjoys working with Elixir/Ruby/Python/C# and Node.js. Experienced with Phoenix and Rails web frameworks, virtualization, containers (Docker, Kubernetes and several AWS services) and DevOps (Terraform). Linux and vim user. Loves Git.

Natural languages: Portuguese (*mother tongue*) and English (*full professional proficiency*).

Interests

Non-exhaustive and in alphabetical order: basketball, gymnastics, behavioral economics, embedded programming, custom and vintage keyboards, music, philosophy, privacy in the age of internet, running, travel, vim.