

# Paul Brabban

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## Objective

Having worked with analytics, marketing, machine learning, as well as my core of software development, I'm flexible enough to help you.

I'm looking for contract, consulting or freelance engagements that will challenge me and expand my experience. My ideal client is a small company where I can help in different areas, but I'm also happy to work with a narrow focus in a large company.

## Experience

Jun 2018 – **Contract Data Engineer**, *Dunnhumby*, Manchester.

now Research into streaming products and services.

- Kicking off a short project to build a proof of concept of a new client facing service.
- Built a proof of concept for dashboard based on real time transaction data.
- Worked with an intern to add a simple machine learning model for comparison with expected sales.
- Wrote custom tooling to replay historical data for demos.

## Experience

Sep 2017 – **Backend Developer**, *LookerHQ*, Manchester.

May 2018 Took over development and operation of our app backend services, implemented novel features whilst bringing data-driven and analytical elements to product development.

- Implementing fixes and features on our API backend services using NodeJS, Heroku, PostgreSQL and RabbitMQ.
- Brainstorming with the team to create novel features, such as a characteristics-based recommender and a machine vision-based clothing tag scanner.
- Working quickly, delivering fixes in minutes and features in hours to days, to help explore the product-market fit as quickly as possible.
- Promoting and implementing data-driven product development, providing insight into problems and opportunities in acquisition and retention.
- Integrate services like Elasticsearch, Firebase, Branch.io and getstream.io behind our APIs.
- Improving security and regulatory compliance in our product and practices, including preparation for GDPR.
- Advice, coaching, brainstorming and other tasks as an experienced member of a four-person company.

38 Chapman Close – Sheffield S6 5BX – United Kingdom

☎ +44 (0) 773 4652295 • ✉ paul@tempered.works • in paulbrabban

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- Mar 2016 – **Principal Developer, Sky Betting and Gaming, Sheffield.**
- Aug 2017 Joined, and subsequently led, a team implementing a novel event sourced data warehousing and integration system in Clojure, primarily using AWS Lambda.
- Delivered solutions primarily for data science, analytics and marketing staff based in Rome, Italy.
  - Improved team practises by working with an agile coach, increasing reliability, then team performance.
  - Advised and coached within the team and beyond on good AWS practices.
  - Qualified as an AWS Associate Solutions Architect and encouraging others to do the same.
  - Presented on AWS-related topics at a local devops meetup
  - Wrote Crucible on my own time, an open source library, to help the Clojure-skilled team adopt AWS CloudFormation infrastructure-as-code
  - This integration system used a variety of technologies, including AWS Kinesis, DynamoDB, RDS, CloudFormation, Segment.io, Adform and Intercom
- Sep 2014 – **Senior Software Developer, Wakelet Ltd., Manchester.**
- Feb 2016 Implementing server-side technology to support the Wakelet product with Java and NodeJS on the AWS cloud platform.
- Quickly designing and creating backend services providing HTTP-based APIs to mobile apps, browser extensions and a website.
  - Learnt NodeJS to increase collaboration with frontend developers and enable full-stack development.
  - Proposing and executing transitions from traditional server hosting to use cloud solutions via AWS.
  - Proposing and implementing transitions from monolithic to a more microservices-based architecture where justified.
  - Implemented CloudFormation and CLI automation to deploy and run our applications and infrastructure.
  - Worked with executives to improve communication and practices, find potential sales opportunities and control risks.
- Jan – Sep 2014 **Software Development Specialist, HSBC, London.**
- Leading a development team that supports global trading data reconciliation, reporting and internal monitoring for one of the largest financial institutions in the world.
- Initiating and leading a transition to agile practices with rapid and significant improvement in feedback on external perception.
  - Identified technical problems and implemented solutions, such as improved software expressivity and diagnostics for both developers and end users, design changes improving testability, and elimination of performance and reliability problems.
  - Introduced test-driven techniques to help measure progress, disambiguate details in business descriptions and identify regressions in the future.

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2009 – 2013 **Chief Technical Specialist, HSBC, Sheffield.**

Leading an agile development team in implementing solutions to support data centre and service management activities for a large and global organisation.

- Devised a means of automatically determining the data centres hosting a business or technology service in near real time, using a custom machine learning approach based on hypothesis testing. Invention successfully patented under United Kingdom Patent GB2489198.
- Founded the current development team, taking responsibility for understanding what had to be delivered and identifying appropriate methodologies, tooling and training.
- Worked with customers from around the globe and delivered alongside colleagues in a peer team in Hong Kong.
- Implemented team-wide build and unit/integration test automation using Maven, JUnit and Apache Tomcat.
- Completed a part-time MSc. in Advanced Computer Science at the University of Manchester whilst working full time in this role.

2001–2009 **Historical employment available on request.**

## Competencies

Agile Methodologies	Scrum and Kanban practices, as a team member, scrum master and product owner. JIRA, Trello
Devops	Infrastructure as code, Continuous Integration, Continuous Deployment
Languages	Java, NodeJS (functional style with ES6 and Ramda), Clojure. Python, Haskell and Scala as a hobbyist. Able to learn new languages quickly
RDBMS	PostgreSQL, MySQL, MS SQL Server
NoSQL	DynamoDB, Elasticsearch
Development	Git, TravisCI, HerokuCI, CircleCI, Codeship
Docker	Docker and Docker-Compose for production systems and test harnesses
AWS	Lambda, Kinesis, DynamoDB, RDS, CloudFront, S3, VPC, IAM, CloudFormation and others
GCS	Firebase, Cloud Storage, Cloud Vision, Deployment Manager, Beam/DataFlow, App Engine
Integrations	Segment, Branch, getstream, Intercom, Salesforce, Adform, MailChimp, Mixpanel, Slack and others

## Education

- 2016 **AWS Associate Solutions Architect, Certification.**
- 2009–2013 **MSc. Advanced Computer Science, University of Manchester.**
- 1996–2000 **BSc. Theoretical Physics, University of Sheffield.**

## Natural Languages

English Native Speaker

## References

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☎ +44 (0) 773 4652295 • ✉ [paul@tempered.works](mailto:paul@tempered.works) • in [paulbrabban](#)  
🐦 [brabster](#) • 🌐 [brabster](#)

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