



Claude Houle

Software Architect & Technical Leader

claude.houle@gmail.com | Montreal, QC | choule99.github.io/me

PROFILE

Software architect with 21+ years of hands-on experience designing and delivering systems across backend, mobile, and web. Proven leadership in solution architecture, team transformation, mentorship, and cross-functional collaboration. Combines deep technical breadth with a product-minded approach to align engineering with business outcomes.

KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Transformed an 8-person iOS team into a high-performing unit — crash-free rate to 99.999%, deployments from 1/week to 4/day, build speeds improved 50%
- Onboarded and integrated 20 Sri Lankan developers — designed training curriculum and built collaborative culture across time zones, productive within 3 months
- Architected CAE's pilot training platform end-to-end: Spring backend, Angular frontend, and native iOS client
- Delivered the Accovia Ibiza platform rebuild on time and on budget after a critical client recovery — as a member of the core Architecture Team

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Architecture

Solution Architecture API Design System Integration Data Modeling Distributed Systems

Leadership

Team Mentorship Code Reviews Technical Discovery Cross-functional Collaboration Onboarding

Languages

Java Swift Kotlin TypeScript SQL Python

Backend

Spring Boot Hibernate Node.js PostgreSQL MySQL Docker

Mobile/Web

iOS SDK visionOS SDK SwiftUI UIKit Android SDK Angular

DevOps

CI/CD Pipelines GitHub Actions Fastlane Sentry LaunchDarkly Claude Code

Additional

Objective-C Oracle DB2

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Poka Inc. Architect, Lead iOS, Lead VisionOS

Oct 2021 — Present

Connected worker platform — 200,000+ DAU, 450,000-line Swift codebase, 99.999% crash-free.

- Inherited a fragile codebase with frequent crashes; introduced internal tools, reusable libraries, and standardized practices that raised the crash-free rate to 99.999%
- Needed to scale the team fast; onboarded 20 Sri Lankan developers with a custom training curriculum and cross-timezone code reviews, making them productive within 3 months
- Bridged gaps between engineering, Product Management, and UX Design; established collaboration workflows that aligned technical solutions with business goals
- Faced slow, manual releases; automated App Store deployments end-to-end, increasing cadence from 1/week to 4/day and improving CI build speeds by 50%
- Tackled low test coverage (30%); drove incremental testing alongside architectural modernization, reaching 60% over four years

Mobile development studio — led iOS team across 15+ client projects.

- Found duplicated effort across 15+ client projects; designed a shared iOS framework that standardized patterns, reduced duplication, and improved time-to-market
- Identified communication gaps between teams; established processes and collaboration tools that improved alignment with product management and UX design
- Invested in team growth through mentorship and knowledge-sharing sessions, developing junior engineers into independent contributors

Custom software agency — responsible for initial architecture and evolving it with client requirements.

- Owned solution architecture for client engagements; led requirements analysis, technical discovery, and produced API contracts, data models, and integration strategies that guided development teams
- CAE PreStudy: designed end-to-end architecture spanning Spring backend, Angular frontend, and iOS client for an aviation pilot training platform
- Produced architecture artifacts covering security considerations, scalability approaches, and deployment topologies for each engagement
- Defined engineering standards and mentored developers across multiple project teams, raising overall code quality
- Acosta SLTouch: architected a hybrid mobile framework for retail analytics using BackboneJS and Node.js

Software and hardware for bike-sharing and automated parking — pioneering urban mobility solutions.

- Started on the backend Java team for the Solstice bike-sharing suite; transitioned to iOS, bringing backend expertise that bridged system architecture across layers
- Faced challenging connectivity and performance constraints; engineered solutions for city-wide deployments in London and New York City
- Pioneered the first-ever Augmented Reality bike-sharing finder by combining live camera feed with Core Location data

- Joined the core Architecture Team on the Ibiza Project after a critical client recovery; helped rebuild the platform from the ground up with Java, Spring, and Hibernate, delivering on time and on budget
- Contributed to performance optimization and service orchestration across the backend layer

- Assigned to the Libra project to migrate legacy mainframe systems to Java services on Linux within stringent financial compliance requirements; coordinated within a globally distributed team across New York, Budapest, Tokyo, and Vancouver

- Joined the Software Infrastructure team; built core services and reusable components adopted by multiple e-commerce product teams

EDUCATION

Three-year practice-oriented diploma covering C, C++, Java, SQL, Linux, and applied computing — comparable to a U.S. associate degree in computer science.