Claude Houle

Senior Java Developer & Backend Architect

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

PROFILE

Backend developer with 23+ years of experience building enterprise Java systems, microservices architectures, and high-throughput data platforms. Deep expertise in Spring ecosystem, database optimization, and distributed systems. Proven track record delivering mission-critical backends for financial services, travel, and manufacturing — with a focus on reliability, scalability, and team leadership.

KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Architected and delivered the Ibiza travel platform rebuild at Accovia — Java/Spring/Hibernate backend serving major travel operators, delivered on time after critical client recovery

- Built backend services for 8D Technologies' Solstice platform — Java system processing real-time events from Bixi bike-sharing kiosks deployed across cities worldwide

- Designed backend architecture for CAE's pilot training platform at Spiria — Spring Boot APIs, data modeling, and integration strategies supporting aviation compliance requirements

- Built core infrastructure services at Mediagrif adopted across multiple e-commerce product teams — reusable data access layers, service components, and API patterns

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Backend Expertise

Languages	Java (expert) Kotlin SQL TypeScript Python
Frameworks	Spring Boot Spring Security Hibernate/JPA REST APIs Microservices
Data	PostgreSQL MySQL Oracle DB2 Redis ActiveMQ

Architecture & DevOps

Architecture	Domain-Driven Design CQRS Event Sourcing API Design System Integration
CI/CD	Docker Kubernetes Jenkins GitLab CI GitHub Actions
Testing	JUnit Mockito Integration Testing TDD Contract Testing
Gen AI	Claude integration (code & test acceleration)

Leadership & Methodologies

Leadership	Mentorship Code Reviews Technical Documentation Onboarding
Methods	Agile (Scrum/Kanban) TDD Continuous Integration
Spoken	French and English (fully bilingual)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Poka Inc. *Architect, Lead iOS, Lead VisionOS*   2021 — Present

Technical architect for a connected worker platform serving 200,000+ DAU. Designing backend integrations, API contracts, and data synchronization strategies for mobile clients.

- API Design: Designed API contracts and data synchronization strategies between mobile clients and backend services — ensuring reliability at scale

- Engineering Standards: Established code review practices and engineering standards across the development team, improving quality and consistency

- Backend Collaboration: Collaborated with backend teams on service architecture decisions, bringing mobile perspective to API design

- Team Onboarding: Trained 20 developers with custom curriculum covering architecture patterns and best practices — operational within 3 months

Appcom *Lead Mobile Developer*   2019 — 2021

Led technical architecture and API integration across 15+ client projects in healthcare, media, and retail sectors.

- Component Libraries: Designed shared component libraries and architectural patterns adopted across multiple project teams

- API Integration: Led integration efforts with various backend systems — established patterns for error handling, caching, and offline support

- Technical Mentorship: Coached developers through code reviews and knowledge-sharing sessions on architecture and design patterns

Spiria Digital *Software Architect, Senior Developer*   2013 — 2019

Solution architect for enterprise client engagements. Led backend architecture design, API contracts, and data modeling for complex multi-tier systems.

- CAE PreStudy: Designed backend architecture with Spring Boot, RESTful APIs, and data persistence layer for aviation pilot training

- Acosta SLTouch: Architected Node.js backend services and data aggregation pipelines for retail analytics platform

- Skillable: Delivered backend services for Progressive Web App micro-learning platform using TypeScript and Node.js

- Solution Architecture: Translated business requirements into API contracts, data models, and integration strategies

8D Technologies *Back-End Java Developer → iOS Developer*   2009 — 2013

Backend engineer for urban mobility systems (Bixi). Built Java services processing real-time events from bike-sharing kiosks deployed across major cities.

- Backend Services: Built Java services for Solstice bike-sharing — transaction processing, station management, real-time availability APIs

- Data Pipelines: Designed pipelines handling high-volume telemetry from solar-powered POS stations across London and NYC deployments

- Full-Stack Transition: Transitioned to iOS development, bringing backend expertise that bridged system layers and improved API design

Accovia *Back-End Java Developer — Architecture Team*   2007 — 2009

- Platform Rebuild: Rebuilt Ibiza travel platform with Java/Spring/Hibernate after critical client recovery — service architecture, data access patterns

Compuware Montreal *Java Consultant (Morgan Stanley)*   2005 — 2007

- Mainframe Migration: Libra project — migrated mainframe to Java/DB2 under financial compliance requirements; globally distributed team

Mediagrif *Java Developer — Infrastructure Team*   2003 — 2005

- Core Services: Built core backend services and shared infrastructure patterns adopted by multiple e-commerce product teams

EDUCATION

Computer Science Technology *Cégep Édouard-Montpetit, Longueuil, QC*   2003

Three-year practice-oriented diploma covering C, C++, Java, SQL, Linux, and applied computing.

Capstone project: End-to-end development of an e-commerce website for an SMB.