Chris Hopkins

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Professional Experience

2019-today

BBC, London, Associate Software Engineer

I currently work on the BBC News website serving 50 million users a day. I've been a core part of my team developing a highly concurrent, fault-tolerant service written in Elixir. Our team also maintains a highly scalable chain of microservices written in Ruby. Including building the CI and AWS infrastructure upon which they rest. Among other achievements while there I have:

- Played an instrumental role in the production and deployment of our smart circuit breaker. This dramatically increase the resiliency of all BBC products, while ensuring users have fresh pages even when an origin is almost fully unavailable.
- Cut our load test setup time by at least 50% with a service I personally created, while allowing integration with AWS Codebuild and Jenkins. This data informs decisions about features and their impact on our performance.
- Performed deep analysis on our downstream HTTP pool workers to uncover irregularities in our response times under heavy load and increased downstream latency. This analysis resulted in overhauling our worker configuration to mitigate response latency in conjunction with integrating pool worker analytics into our existing metrics.
- Created a service that replays realistic traffic in near real-time as high as 12,000 requests per second. Through this, we discovered irregularities which I promptly fixed, enabling us to achieve a near-perfect score in BBC system-wide load tests.

2018 | Smart Technology Solutions, London, Intern

STS licenses their software to retailers to handle their customer's card payments. While there I independently developed a prototype using Spring Boot. Which demonstrated how they could integrate their existing invoice API with a payment collection company platform.

Education

2017–2020 BSc in Computer Science (first class), Swansea University, UK

2010–2017 | Bishop Luffa School, Chichester, UK

Advanced Levels: Maths - B, Physics - B, Religious Studies - B

Personal and Interpersonal Skills

2018–2019 | Treasurer of Swansea University Jiu-jitsu Club

I was treasurer of the Swansea University Jiu-jitsu Club. Not only was I responsible and liable for thousands of pounds but had to plan and budget local and national events, all while keeping track of attendance and cash flow.