Piran Tata

Principal .NET Developer

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Overview and core competencies

* Overseas experience of having worked in the UK and New Zealand Fintech, banking & online-gaming technology sector.
* Full stack experience of working with front-end, server-side and data-persistence technologies.
* Career experience in working for product teams, start-ups and various software-engineering consultancies.
* Experience of working with and building containerized, cloud based SAAS solutions using Microsoft Azure.
* I enjoy engineering and working on products that are either catered for the web-stack or building large scalable services.
* I am competent at writing unit-tests to validate any code I produce. I have on the job experience of using TDD to drive software development.
* I have also on occasion handled the responsibility of serving as a Team-Lead when requested by management.
* I spend a lot of my downtime on personal open-source projects and learning new technology.

Technology Competency

The following section is only indicative of the tech stack I am most experienced at working with.

* I primarily program using C# and the .NET Core framework.
* I am also proficient at working with Typescript, Nodejs and Angular and Sass/css.
* Experience building solutions with ASP.NET Core, (MVC and REST based API’s). I have also worked with other complimentary technology sets such as XUnit, Nunit, WPF, WCF and MsBuild.
* On the job experience of working with containerization technologies such as docker and kubernetes.
* Extensive experience working with various Microsoft Azure PaaS offerings such as Azure App service, Azure Functions, Azure Key-Vault, Azure SQL, Azure Cosmos DB, Azure AKS, Azure App Insights, Azure Redis, Azure Service Bus, Azure blob storage, Azure CDN, Azure Push-notifications API and Azure AD.
* Competent at using relational databases to build applications, with experience at using MS SQL server and TSQL scripting. I have also used ORM technologies such as MS Entity-Framework and Dapper for creating persistence layers inside of applications.
* Capable of creating enterprise grade HTML5 client UI's with JavaScript and CSS. I have worked with a number of established and open-source front-end frameworks such as Angular 5, Sass, Jasmine, Knockout, Lodash, Kendo, Script#, Purecss, jQuery, Bootstrap. I have also had experience at integrating products with Google Analytics.
* Regularly make use of command-line shell environments such as PowerShell and Bash. I regularly use GIT for version control. I have also used SVN in the past.
* I enjoy producing documentation and am a strong proponent of using Markdown and PlantUML to write technical documentation.

Career Overview

The following sections contain a condensed overview of my previous roles. For detailed descriptions, please refer to my LinkedIn profile.

Vanquis Bank - principal .NET developer (web-platform)

2019 – *Present* Kent (United Kingdom)

www.vanquis.co.uk

Vanquis Bank is a part of the Provident Financial Group and serves as a credit card provider. As a principal web developer, I was engaged to lead the development of its new online web portal, which facilitates a number of key functions such as allowing customers to log-in online and view account, transaction and statement data, as well as facilitating making card payments. The product’s architecture is designed and based on a front end server consuming an ecosystem of micro services, which in turn communicate with on premise legacy systems. All server and API solutions have been built using ASP.NET Core and run as containerized instances inside Kubernetes clusters hosted within Azure, replicated across multiple regions. The front end client GUI was built using Typescript, Angular 5 and Sass. Each solution in turn, consumes a number of Azure PaaS solutions and integrates with VSTS as our CI platform, to build and deploy new images across different environments. Key deliverables I have achieved during my time include:

* Developing a sense of practise around the use of front-end frameworks, focusing on aspects such as modularization, dependency-injection, scaling, performance and unit testing.
* Ensuring product is MVP feature complete to allow it to go live and on board traffic while decommissioning an existing portal.
* Architecting and building a custom inhouse identity solution to enable 2FA authentication.
* Integrating with analytics platforms such as Google Analytics and Azure App Insights. This also involves assisting key stakeholders to consume analytics data, creating App Insight monitoring dashboards and integrating with monitoring platforms such as Text-Local.
* Adding new features and consuming new micro service API endpoints and integrating with new azure PaaS solutions.
* Reacting to FCA regulation changes to make the web portal compliant as part of the Open-Banking initiative.
* Working with infrastructure teams to scale our CI build pipeline in an effort to lower build times.
* Currently working on architecting and building a custom in-house solution to integrate with a new ecommerce ACS provider for all online card transactions.

Derivco - senior .NET developer

2016 – 2018 Ipswich (United Kingdom)

www.derivco.com

Derivco is one of the largest multinational suppliers of online sports-betting and casino gaming technology. The Ipswich division is focused on the development of an online HTML5 sports-betting and casino lobby product that is used across the UK and European markets. Owing to its very early origins (7+ years), the client has been built using Script#, a translation layer which converts .NET OO constructs to JavaScript. The client architecture derives from the PureMVC framework in an effort to create loosely coupled UI, service and in-memory persistence layers, all of which communicate via an event-based broadcast notification pattern. During my time with the company I have worked with several different client teams, contributing to key product areas such as:

* Improving SEO rankings by pre-rendering and caching client data server-side during initial requests to facilitate semi-isomorphic binding by the client framework.
* Improving site capacity during peak loads, via introducing a custom in-memory caching for redundant API calls and pausing API traffic upon detecting user-inactivity.
* Building proof-of concept Casino lobby implementations in collaboration with our development teams based overseas.
* Re-designing the client casino game launch pipeline to incorporate the ability to launch third party games in different formats (external/navigation, embedded, native etc.).
* Adding client features to enable compliance with regional gambling legislation changes when rolling out to various markets.
* Improving developer experience by assisting all client teams with migrating our DVS from SVN to Git (hosted on BitBucket).

Xero - senior .NET developer

2015 – 2016 Auckland (New Zealand)

www.xero.com

Xero is a cloud-based accounting software company that offers a suite of SaaS accounting solutions. I worked in the engineering team tasked with maintaining its subscription, billing and pricing platform. Internally, a lot of the product eco-system was organized using a micro service architecture, separating business capabilities such as billing, discount-coupons, product buy-flows, payment etc. A majority of the solutions were built using ASP.NET MVC and ASP.NET Web-API interfacing with a MS-SQL backend DB for persistence using Dapper as the micro-ORM. I contributed to key product areas such as:

* Migrating product buy-flow to become PCI compliant when accepting online credit-card payments.
* Adding features to the invoicing system to address changes in the business model.
* Engineering support for Xero’s customer support and BI teams to resolve subscription related call escalations and publish any reports/statistics on request.
* Created a custom solution (via an internal hackathon) using TSQL scripting and T4 templates to assist with migrating product pricing plans when entering new markets.
* Educating new starters on the data model design and participating in interviewing potential candidates.

Little Lot - senior .NET developer

2014 – 2015 Auckland (New Zealand)

www.facebook.com/LittleLotNZ

Little Lot was a startup that created an advertising platform capable of serving a daily set of branded wallpapers, with a model aimed at donating a percentage of the advertising revenue to a charity of the user’s choice. I was the first hire and worked as the sole platform developer, during which time I contributed to the following project areas:

* The platform was cloud-hosted in Azure. I worked with setting up a number of the services such as Azure Web Applications, Azure Web jobs, Azure SQL DB, Azure Blob storage, Azure CDN and the Azure Push notifications hub.
* Developed the advertising REST API using ASP.NET Web-Api 2, Ninject (for DI), and Entity Framework 6 (as the ORM) and using open-source libraries such as Refit for making calls to google-analytics.
* Created a new responsive, platform-specific website using ASP.NET MVC 5.1 alongside front-end libraries such as lodash, purecss, jquery and fullpage.js.
* Created an administrative portal for managing content, subscriptions, and ad-campaigns, built using ASP.NET MVC 5.1 and other front-end libraries such as Knockout and flatlab.
* Created a custom offline emailing system (triggered and run via azure web-jobs) with templating support using markdown syntax for managing email campaigns. Built using components such as MarkdownSharp, Handlebars.js, T4MVC and Mailtrap (used for testing).
* Adding unit-test coverage across the solution using frameworks such as NUnit and Moq.

Intergen - intermediate .NET developer

2012 – 2014 Auckland (New Zealand)

www.intergen.co.nz

Intergen is a software consultancy that specialises in applying Microsoft technology. I was based in the External Applications team and worked on a wide range of external client-facing projects:

* Built a demo application client used by Microsoft to demonstrate new SQL Azure features for the 2013 Worldwide Partner Conference using WPF and Telerik WPF controls.
* Maintaining a custom ERP solution for a major steel manufacturer using Windows Forms, .NET 3.5 & SQL Server 2008.
* Develop a health management portal for a NZ vendor using ASP.NET MVC, Telerik Kendo.js and SQL server 2012.
* Extend a custom web-portal designed to assist district-councils with conducting property valuations using ASP.NET 3.5 WebForms, JavaScript, CSS, jQuery and SQL Server 2008.

BECA Applied Technologies - intermediate .NET developer

2010 – 2012 Auckland (New Zealand)

www.beca.com

Beca is a multi-disciplined engineering consultancy operating in the Asia-Pacific region. I worked for the applied technologies division where I helped develop a number of internal LOB applications and tools to compliment organisation and engineering practises across other divisions. Some projects I worked on include:

* Building internal web applications using ASP.NET MVC 3, Entity Framework 4.0 (ORM layer), SQL server 2008, jQuery and bootstrap.
* Silverlight 4 client applications, designed to integrate with SharePoint 2010 using frameworks like Microsoft Prism, Entity Framework 4.0.
* SSRS and TSQL reporting to aide in year ending Remuneration reporting for GM's and Section managers.

Orion Health - junior performance test engineer

2009 – 2010 Auckland (New Zealand)

www.orionhealth.com

Orion Health specializes in developing world-leading healthcare software platforms used globally by clinicians and hospitals. I was based in the Performance testing team, responsible for evaluating a range of healthcare products, using technologies and tools like Java, Apache JMeter, and Ruby (used by some of the test automation tools).

Fishpond - junior developer

2009 Auckland (New Zealand)

www.fishpond.co.nz

I worked for Fishpond, a NZ based online retailer, as a junior web developer. All development on the online shopping portal was done using PHP 5.0 and MySQL 5.1, while several offline stock-processing services scripted using Python.

Open-Source projects

Personal Content Publishing Platform – “*Bog*”

In my spare time, I enjoy experimenting and indulging in art and design. As a side project, I decided to undertake building my own content publishing platform, to amalgamate and share my ideas/work on technology, sketching and thinking of design concepts etc. I intend to deploy it in the future as the basis of my personal blogging platform. The core concept behind the platform revolves around an ecosystem of REST based services and lightweight CLI clients that provide an experience of producing content using the Markdown mark-up language.

The platform is comprised of a number of sub-component projects such as a HTTP REST API (ASP.NET core) which forms the base engine of the platform, a Nodejs API which leverages open source libraries to translate Markdown mark-up and leveraging custom rules to produce content, a lightweight CLI client (.NET Core) used to edit, manage and publish articles and content, an edge UI Layer (ASP.NET core + AngularJs) which interfaces with the platform and consumes the content. All REST API services built so far can run in Docker containers and leverage numerous Azure Pass offerings to host and persist the content. I also leverage GitHub CLI to produce minor NuGet packages and docker container images to facilitate hosting this on Azure. These projects can be viewed on my GitHub profile.

Qualifications

Masters of Engineering - Hons (Software Engineering)

The University of Auckland - 2009

Bachelor of Engineering - Hons (Software Engineering)

The University of Auckland – 2008

Awards

University of Auckland Part-4 Industrial Prize – Best Intelligent System

The University of Auckland – 2007

I was awarded the engineering prize for my final year project, designing a system using Artificial Intelligence to automate Forex Currency Trading.