

Sam Jones

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Personal Statement

I am a self taught developer, driven by the prospect of learning new architectures and languages, as well as extending my current knowledge enabling me to develop more performant, usable and readable programs. My engineering background has contributed largely to my methodical and component based approach to large projects and has allowed me to automate over half a million pounds of customer bonuses and promotions among my other achievements. I enjoy programming because it allows me to combine the creativity of developing a piece of software/API/webpage, with the analytical challenge of making it as efficient as possible for its specific use case.

Achievements

- Developing a number of cronjobs responsible for handling over half a million pounds of customer bonuses and refunds.
- Developing the full stack, from the database through to the REST API through to the React code, for my first production component at the top of the company home page.
- Achieving a 1st Class Masters of Engineering degree

Education

MEng Ship Science/Offshore Engineering, University of Southampton

- 1st Class Masters Degree
- Runner up in the *Mandles Prize for Hydrofoil Excellence* for our Group Design Project
- Lloyds Register ...

Relevant Modules

- Group Design Project 77
Development of a Hydrofoiling Experimental Research Platform
In this project we took an existing catamaran and retrofitted a hydrofoil and foiling rudders to each hull. Once the initial design phase was complete my roll was in the instrumentation and subsequent processing of the data. This included: interfacing proprietary measurement systems, along with ones developed by the team, with a Raspberry Pi for data logging; processing the raw data to remove anomalous results and infer other metrics; developing a web based data visualiser which allowed us to sync numerous data streams with video feeds to analyse points of interest.
- Maritime Robotics 62
- Systems Design and Computing for Ships 64
- Design and Computing 72

A-Levels, Wallington County Grammar School

- Maths A*
- Further Maths A
- Physics A*
- Design & Technology A

Employment

Smarkets, July 2017 - July 2019

Smarkets is online and mobile betting exchange. The main site is a React app that leverages Redux and websockets to provide live pricing and data feeds. The backend is predominantly Python (Flask) microservices, with core exchange written in C++. I had many different roles at Smarkets based on my team composition changing throughout, some of the projects I worked on, and what they entailed, were:

Creation of promotion handlers.

- Using event data to determine user eligibility
- Interacting with many internal APIs to calculate user bonuses and refund accordingly in users currency.
- Log data for reporting and performance monitoring
- Automatically generating reports shared to the whole company via Slack

Full stack rework of the main marketing banner on the home page.

- Redesigning the database structure and API layer to more closely follow a REST architecture.
- Rewriting the React code for the front-end site.
- Creating an internal admin page for non-tech team members to create, update and schedule banners completely independently.

A complete rework of the promotional and corporate pages.

- Splitting the pages into reusable templates.
- Abstracting the content away to a structured JSON file.
 - This allowed people with very minimal knowledge of Flask to generate new pages and non-tech personnel to edit these pages by simply editing the JSON file, thus reducing developer dependency/workload for these pages.
- Implementing Google Tag Manager and Google Optimize tags to measure page performance and A/B test features.

Hobbies & Interests

- Challenging myself physically, weight training or doing carpentry.
- Coming up with new side projects to extend my knowledge as a developer.
- Cooking & baking to satisfy my near constant hunger.

References

Smarkets

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University

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