Vishal Sakaria - Curriculum Vitae

Through years of diverse experiences and continuous learning, my thinking has matured into a tapestry of nuanced insights and discerning judgments. Throughout my career, I have relentlessly pursued innovative solutions to elevate both the UX and DX, consistently unveiling creative strategies that resonate deeply with our customers. Amidst my diverse experiences, I have refined a distinctive talent for influential communication in the business world I also strive to communicate concisely & clearly, and I love discussing new solutions as a team. It is difficult to encapsulate my personality, however, people would describe me as fun, creative, generous, confident, enthusiastic, and curious. I love to travel and recently have been to Costa Rica and Vietnam. I also enjoy art and music as well as socialising and keeping fit.

Portfolio: vishalscreations.com
Code Samples are available on GitHub: https://github.com/vsakaria
React best practices seeder project: https://github.com/vsakaria/react-accelerator
More snippets at: https://gist.github.com/vsakaria

Side Projects / Self Learning

Topics	To
Next JS 13 API routes AI idea generation / Conversational AI / Prompts engineering, leaking, injection. Vector embeddings / Fine tuning / Supabase pgvector Hugging face open source models. Langchain - Retrieval Augmented Generation Caching Strategies - Time based vs On demand revalidation Content and Imaging Optimisation E-commerce selling and marketing online.	End of time

Employment Experience:

Responsibilities & Achievements	Employee
Sales Engineer - Solutions Architect - AI Lead - Next JS, Saas. I helpped project manage the introduction of a SaaS product to market, meticulously identifying and rectifying technical issues and design flaws. I actively contributed to the documentation and developer experience (DX) tooling, ensuring a seamless and intuitive user experience. My hands-on approach led me to demo the product to early adopters, garnering valuable insights and adjustments. Furthermore, I contributed to demo projects using Next JS and developed a blur image optimiser to cater to SEO requirements. Working with Vercel I crafted a integration into our product as well as a partnership strategy to better serve our customers. Attending our weekly sales meetings I supported the process by offering use cases, strategy as well as delivering Sales demos and compleing RFPs. My outbound relationship building led the UK region to host an AI conference along side parnters which was spare headed by myself. This included a solution for exact match content based on the new Googles search generative expereince SEO.	**Magnolia - CMS** 11/2021 - current. DXP/CMS
Senior software developer - Micro frontends, Typescript, React, Redux, Flexbox, Node.js. Working on a time pressure banking application. I made a responsive form driven by APIs using React, Redux Saga, Flexbox and other CSS techniques. I tested the app React testing library by creating user journey test suits that run heedlessly. After the main bulk of work was underway myself and the team moved towards architectural decisions and with my past experience of Micro Front End we decided to use this method. I lead the decision making with MFE using Single Spa, developing features such as System.js, import maps, event listeners across MFEs, environment variables for production builds, layout and routing configuration as well as integrating TS into builds. I also looked into Webpack module federation and compare the two techniques presenting best fit solutions.	**Waracle - Virgin Money** 02/21 - 08/2021 Banking
Lead Developer - Staff Engineer - Typescript, React, Redux, Node.js. Joining a team that needed modernisation I created weekly Front end technical refinement sessions to improve quality, reliability and the performance of complex stories. Firstly I lead with spitting stories into manageable points, after this we were able to explore way of improving the architecture of the code with an eye to improve UX. We were able to reduce http request in many cases and move code to middleware. Many repo were slow to deliver due to complexity of code. I introduce complex checks through linting and pre commits. Then supported devs to reduces complexity using functional techniques such as currying and pure functions promoting the benefits of snapshot testing. Introducing hooks and reusable custom hooks with comprehensive testing with React Testing Library. I also consulted on the creation of a design system using pure presentation components as the building blocks of the platforms brand and UX guidelines.	**Medidata** 07/20 - 02/2021 Health Care
Lead Developer - Engineering Transformation - Typescript, React, Redux. Working as a subject matter specialist, I create a seed project for 10+ distributed teams to use. This involved strategic decisions to prompt great Developer Experience (DX), support fast delivery and achieve high test coverage. Functional composition, currying, a higher order ErrorBoundary component & React Hooks were used to achieve this. The testing strategy was based on a mixture of black box snapshot testing for pure non state components and React Testing Library for white boxing. The use of Typescript allowed us to push up the testing pyramid with more integration tests. Middleware was used to POST errors to an API and deal with internal Redux errors. The result was fast delivery and 96% test coverage. Drawing on my past teaching experience I took the lead in creating high quality training material for less experienced devs as well as mentoring them too. Other worked focused on Engineering Transformation this included managing the creation of Micro Frontends with a legacy system. Managing the vertical alignment of user stories for fast feedback loops. Setting up communication software over a restricted secure network, laying out team expectations and assign responsibilities to teams members. Planning the architecture of integrating React into legacy systems and micro frontends as well as implementation. I am currently working on a Node mock API.	**Wipro Digital** 07/19 - 05/2020 Lloyds Commercial Banking

Web Developer - Typescript, React, Redux, Node.js. Being a leading face in the development of the commercial banking platform I introduced technical refinement sessions to aid in the Agile process as well as training junior developers, business analysts and QE's. Writing high quality semantic code I achieved test coverage of 95% using Typescript. Typescript interfaces, types, return types and guard clauses are a comfortable part of my practice. I introduced deconstructing, spread operators, forwarding refs, React Fragments, the use of Context API, strict TS interfaces, hot module reloading and husky hooks to the other developers. As well as writing a mock server in Node.js and Express I completed a number of complex validation scenarios with foresight into future changes. I contributed to structuring the projects as the code based scaled out. During the growth period of the project Redux actions were decoupled into small 'Lego' size actions that were composed around the project	**Wipro Digital** 08/18 - 07/19 Lloyds Commercial Banking
UI Developer — React, Redux. I used Redux CRUD and React-Redux-Forms.	**CognitionX** 04/18 - 05/18
UI Developer — React, Redux, Vanilla JavaScript, SASS. I used React and Redux to build a new quote process using presentation and container components. All the components were tested using expect.js, Enzyme and Mocha. I implemented Hot Module Reloading as well as Redux DevTools middleware to make the development process more streamline. Redux-Thunks were used as well as Dan Abramov's action interceptors to track Http calls. Thunks were tested using redux-mock-store and nock. Stores were also tested. React Router was used and I added in editor ESlinting and Webpack source maps. I worked on with SiteCore CMS to build a fully responsive payment gateway using a bespoke framework in pure JavaScript and SASS. I introduced Babel and ES6 to the project and dealt with high order functions, function binding, Pub Sub design patterns. To improve the build process I brought in Husky pre commits, Jasmine testing and JSlint. I also contributed to UX designs decisions for the checkout.	**ValTech UK-** 03/17 - 03/18 Bupa Global - ecommerce & Global Health Insurance
UI Developer — React Building reusable React.js components into an internally managed npm repo. ES7 async and await. Ultra clean git history with git fixup, autosquah and rebasing.	**Thomson Reuters** 01/17 - 03/17
Frontend Developer JavaScript SASS I initiated the use of Angular 2, ES6 and Typescript for a greenfield project. I introduced Angular Reactive Forms for the checkout process bringing in custom Validators, using the FormBuilder. This included tooling with Webpack to set up the test and build process. I lead the design of component architecture incorporating one level event emission. In addition, I researched and brought in RxJS for HTTP requests and component communication using Subjects. I continued to use Jasmine BDD on both a service, using RxJS (Reactive Extentions) and component level using fixtures. Using Node JS I created a mock data server for the development environment. I achieved 92% - 100% test coverage. Other skills included SASS, Grunt, NPM, UX and design.	**Lloyd's online Doctor** 01/16 - 11/16 Health Care & eCommerce
UI Developer Backbone, Vanilla JavaScript, SASS Working on rolling out the responsive checkout app using Backbone.js, Jasmine, Text internationalisation, complex in-validation, Building grunt tasks & building and managing Jenkins pipelines with unit test coverage & JSlinting. Additional working on the main product, Hotels. I created adverts using APIs, Hotel locations on Google Maps,	**Lastminute.com** 07/14 - 12/15 Travel eCommerce
ICT Teacher Deputy head of ICT & Head of e-learning	**Parliament Hill School**

Education, Evening Classes and Qualifications

Eduction, evening training & extra courses.	From/To
Generative AI Masterclass AI in work and business through hands-on prototyping and cutting-edge research	01 / 24
Selling for Software Engineers The "Art and Science" of technical selling	11 / 23
Management Mastery - Communicate with Influence 8 critical skills for effective compelling communication in the workplace	07 / 23
Create & publish custom React hooks - egghead.io workshop Deeper dive into hooks and custom hooks as well as the process of publishing the hooks onto npm.	09 / 19
React Academy - Advanced React Higher order component, render props, compound components, cloneElement, React.Map, context api, hooks & effects, styled-components, function composition and closure.	07 / 19
Makers Academy - OO JavaScript/JQuery/Jasmine Writing solid, reusable OO JavaScript libraries using techniques such as prototype functions, function callbacks, closures, hoisting and getting rid of global variables. BDD/TDD I love testing because I believe in the benefits of it as a source of documentation, as a method for improving the way I write clean compact code using agile, and (to quote Uncle Bob) "Because of the tests, software becomes soft again".	02 / 13 06 / 13
Central St Martins - UAL - Graphic Design Typography Layout and Image-making	04 / 16 06 / 16
Advanced Next level JS Performance, memory profiling - JavaScript Testing Jasmine, Karma, Q-unit	03 / 17 Evening

Advanced UX Designing for Multiple Devices Understanding Information Architecture E-commerce Workshop: Understanding the What, Why & How of Online Retail	05 / 17 Evening
Kings College London - Post Graduate Cert. In Education in ICT (11 -18 year old) Teacher training for KS3, KS4 and KS5	09 / 06 05 / 06

London Guildhall University - BSc Computing Information Systems with Marketing - 2.1   09 / 00   07 / 03

Advanced Java Programming	1st
Java Programming	1st
Software Engineering (SDLC)	1st
Computer Graphics in Java	2.1
Final Project: Web site for mobile phones in Java	2.1

Other Information:

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