

Brian Agnew, OOPS Consultancy Ltd

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Profile:

A senior developer / team lead / architect with a proven record in designing and developing successful projects using OO and functional technologies. Able to work on own initiative and leading / mentoring teams within Agile/Scrum structures. First-class analytical, design and problem solving skills. Well-versed in current and new technologies. Strongly focused on a test-driven procedure of development. Written widely used open source tools. Published author, with articles available on established technical websites. Contributing author for the book *Java Power Tools* (O'Reilly, March 2008). Recognised as a leading (top 200 worldwide) contributor to the programmers' resource stackoverflow.com.

Qualifications:

Degree:

B.Eng. Electronic Engineering (1st Class Hons)
Sheffield University

Professional:

Certificate in Quantitative Finance (Wilmott CQF) with Distinction 2009

Skills:

Java (15+ years), Scala (5+ years), Linux/Unix development + administration (10+ years), former background and experience in C/C++. Scripting tools (10+ years). Various distributed technologies. Experience in design patterns and designing / architecting systems (all commercial experience)

Experience:

T Rowe Price November 2019 to present (permanent):

Running a team of developers to develop the strategic analytics platform data storage platform (DARk) and running a proof-of-concept project focused on Databricks and Spark. Leading the team using an agile/sprint-based process and managing requirements and deliverables as part of the wider analytics platform tooling. Liaising with development teams, portfolio managers, quants and business users. Technologies used include Java 11, Amazon Web Services (ECS/EC2 and Postgres RDS instances) deployed using an in-house Gitlab/Terraform platform, and various client-facing Python solutions. Front ends developed using Typescript + Angular.

Bank of America Merrill Lynch May 2017 to November 2019:

Returned to the equity derivatives development team (formerly 2013). Worked on server-side components and services supporting the front office trade entry systems, and APIs for use with teams downstream. Provided design, development, support and mentoring to the team across regions. Tools and techniques include Java 8 REST/EMS-based servers and microservices deployed on Linux and developed within a test-focused (JUnit + Mockito) agile environment

HSBC / Phi Partnership January to April 2017:

Engaged by Phi Partnership in a review of HSBC's valuation service architecture and implementation (based around Java services, DataSynapse grids and Coherence), to identify issues, concerns, commonalities and potential performance improvements across all business areas. I was primarily concerned with performance analysis across the grid. Responsibilities included liaising with multiple teams within HSBC, technical analysis, performance testing and subsequent recommendations in the form of technical reports.

Barclays Investment Bank April 2015 to December 2016:

Recruited as part of a new team aligned with the Strategic Market Risk group. Designed and built a greenfield risk aggregation process on the bank's strategic Cloudera platform, using Hadoop/Spark/Scala. I was engaged in all aspects of the team duties, including design and architectural recommendations, liaising with customers and the Barclays cluster architectural teams, providing solutions, and advising on good development and test practises to junior team members. The team operated in an agile fashion, held regular scrums and work undertaken and delivered in 2-week sprints.

Bank of America Merrill Lynch April 2013 to April 2015:

I was engaged with the equity derivatives development effort. Provided design and development effort to the trading booking tool, together with business facing support. Tools and techniques include commonly used Java frameworks (Spring etc.) and C# for the front-end work. From December 2013 I was seconded to the equity swaps team, providing design expertise, mentoring and forensic analysis surrounding a troubled legacy codebase incorporating many different frameworks (Spring/AspectJ/J2EE). Working within an agile environment.

Trafigura November 2009 to March 2013 (permanent):

I led an Agile development team building a trade management component for Trafigura's strategic trading platform (Titan), developing using Scala and C# using Agile practises. I was hired initially as a developer but quickly was promoted to a technical lead/team lead position. I led the initial Titan

development, determining technologies to use, performing path finding and feasibility studies to understand the suitability of technologies recommended, and refining or replacing where required. I liaised with the customers, project managers and other teams within Trafigura to build and deliver systems, services and microservices for trade management on an iterative basis.

Dresdner Kleinwort March 2007 to March 2009:

I provided architectural and development expertise and mentoring to the Hybrids front office IT team. I specified, developed and provided support for both the traders and the quantitative analysts, and direction and integration skills to peer and downstream teams, handling a wide variety of business data including structured trades, credit and commodities. Solutions designed and developed included overnight grid-based batches, funding report generation, web-based charting and analytic library integration. Technologies include Java Spring + servlets, DataSynapse, Hibernate and XML/XSD technologies.

Barclays Capital July 2006 - January 2007:

I performed a development, architecture and mentoring role in the Equity Derivatives Technology (EDT) group, specifically for straight-through-processing (STP) and sales/trading entry systems. This role encompassed working with a wide variety of Java technologies (including J2EE and Spring) and a range of customers, from production support through to front-office traders and salespeople.

Paremus January 2004 - February 2006:

I provided development and architecture consultancy for Paremus' product development, comprising Grid and Java / Jini / Javaspaces technologies. I architected, designed and managed machine monitoring solutions (Linux / Solaris / Win32), the security infrastructure (LDAP) + core Java and Jini infrastructure architecture and development work for Paremus' Infiniflow product. I contributed to their development standards, automated build (Ant) and test environments (JUnit) and the development cycle.

I managed, architected and delivered a variety of product evaluations of Infiniflow for potential customers (including tier 1 investment banks). This has included integrating Infiniflow with 3rd party Java/C++/scripted applications (using JNI / SOAP) and working within tight timeframes.

Royal Bank of Scotland June 2003 – December 2003:

I provided development and design expertise for the front office development group, building Java servers to interface to GUIs using web services. The servers generated information related to fixed income instruments and their derivatives, including credit derivative trades and positions / generated yield curves etc., both via web services and real time updates (Java / Tibco Rendezvous). Development was in conjunction with front office staff and quantitative analysts.

UBS Warburg January 2001 – April 2003:

I chaired the Java Special Interest Group (JSIG). The JSIG provided a focal point for the bank's Java developers worldwide. I looked after coordinating demonstrations and evaluations of Java technology, advising on developers' issues, introducing new Java technologies and techniques and guiding development management on Java-related issues.

My design / development work was split into an assortment of projects:

- i) Building core infrastructural components for the UBS implementation of IBM's WebSphere. This incorporated servlet, bean and JMX technologies, together with JUnit and Log4j toolsets.
- ii) Graphite, a web-based directed-graph rendering package. The development made use of a wide variety of Java-based technologies, including servlets, XML toolsets (SAX/DOM + SVG) and Swing.
- iii) Account management systems for the bank-wide set of system logins. This was a J2EE / JBoss / WebSphere-based solution, integrating with Oracle (8i) databases and LDAP repositories.

Saudi International Bank: November 1997 – July 2000:

I was a senior developer / architect contributing to the development of a new bank wide infrastructure based upon Java and CORBA. The role encompassed collecting of user requirements and their documentation, and the design, development, deployment and support of the solutions. We used UML for the capturing of requirements and the design of services (use cases, class diagrams, sequence diagrams). I build user interfaces using DHTML and servlets / CGI scripts. Platforms included Solaris (back-end) and NT (front-end).

Because this project required the introduction of Java, CORBA and web technologies to the bank, I designed and developed a complete set of development and documentation procedures from scratch, including the building and maintaining of the developers' tools and web site, using Perl, Apache, CGI, DHTML and a wide variety of public domain tools.

Previous roles:

Ministry of Defence, Philips Consumer Electronics, Salomon Brothers, JP Morgan

Technology and Tools:**Operating Systems:**

Linux and Unix (various) / Windows / MacOSX

Languages:

Java - Experienced in all SDK up to 11.0. Exposure to more current versions.
Considerable commercial Scala experience. Some Groovy exposure
Most J2EE technologies including JDBC / Servlets / JNDI / JSP / DropWizard
Experienced with a huge variety of Java APIs including Spring / JMX / Swing
Strong skills in using Maven / Gradle / JUnit / Mockito / Spock and other common Java tools

C# / C++ / C / bash / Perl / Python / Excel VBA / various other scripting languages

Databases:

SQL / Postgres / Oracle / JavaDb (IBM Derby) / MS-SQL / Sybase

Web and Network Technologies:

RESTful / GRPC / Servlets / AJAX / JavaScript / Typescript / JSON / XML

Other Tools and technologies:

Unix shells and tools / Git / ClearCase / Subversion / Perforce

Networking and Administration:

I have knowledge of a range of networking technologies including TCP / UDP, HTTP, NNTP and SNMP

Additional Work:

OOPS Consultancy Ltd. designs and maintains *XMLTask*, a widely used and recognised XML transformation plug-in for the Ant build tool. See <http://www.oopsconsultancy.com/software/xmltask>

I contribute regularly to StackOverflow (the recognised programmers' resource) and have a StackOverflow reputation of 260,000 points (March 2022), putting me in the top 200 of contributors across all technologies worldwide.

Publications:

"Java Object Query Using XPath" - <http://today.java.net/pub/a/today/2006/08/03/java-object-querying-using-jxpath.html> - August 2006.

"XML Manipulation using XMLTask" - <http://today.java.net/pub/a/today/2006/11/01/xml-manipulation-using-xmltask.html> - November 2006

Contributed to O'Reilly's "Java Power Tools" book, published in March 2008.
ISBN-13 : 978-0596527938

CV Updates:

An up to date copy of this CV can be found at <http://www.oopsconsultancy.com/brianagnew.doc>