Curtis Hovey

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Profile

Senior engineer with decades of experience creating distributed applications for cloud and enterprise seeks interesting problems to solve with code.

Objective

To work with an agile team designing and building robust, scalable services that meet the needs of businesses and users.

Experience

2007–2017, Canonical Ltd, London UK: Senior Cloud Engineer

I led several remote teams of developers working on Juju cloud orchestration tools and launchpad.net. We used agile development practices to organize work. Most of my work involved cloud applications and web services.

For Juju, my team built the charm reporting and management site. We later became the QA and release team responsible for building and managing continuous integration of Juju with clouds and its ecosystem of tools. QA tests 29 combinations of OS, architecture, and cloud/container/substrate. The team wrote the functional tests that instrument conditions in the target cloud. As the Juju Release Manager, I built the tools that package Juju for Ubuntu, Windows, Centos, and OS X and publish the cloud agents for AWS, Google Compute Engine, Azure, Rackspace, Joyent, vSphere, Openstack, MAAS, and LXD. I managed 40 machines on average as a devops.

For Launchpad, I led development of the user and project management features. I am one of the few engineers to have worked on all aspects of the site, including bug and code management, software translations, community question and answers, and package building. I wrote the second implementation of Lp's OpenID and led the re-engineering of commercial projects. We solved hundreds of performance issues, reducing page rendering times from 30 seconds to 5 seconds.

I wrote applications with Python, Pyramid, Zope, Jenkins, PostgreSQL, MongoDB, Grafana, Prometheus, InfluxDB, ElasticSearch, Apache2, Squid, HAProxy, Git, Bazaar, XML, HTML, CSS, and JavaScript. My applications ran on Ubuntu via MAAS, LXD, and cloud.

2004–2007, Hanley Wood LLC, Washington DC: Manager of Web/Application Development

I designed the architecture, planned the releases, and managed the development staff. We maintained more than two dozen sites for the Business Media division. There were four classes of site: brochures, magazines, catalogs, and stores.

I introduced agile methodologies and TDD to the development process. I added CI for the QA team and automated releases. We created a .Net framework to power the sites. It provided feature configuration and presentation customization, allowing Hanley Wood to create and deploy a website in 3 weeks. Business owners could register URIs to matching content, user, and presentation rules to generate pages on demand.

The websites, desktop applications, and supporting jobs were written in C#, ASP, VB, SQL, JavaScript, SOAP, XML, XSLT, HTML, and CSS. The sites ran on Windows, IIS, and MS-SQL Server.

2000–2004, Time Life Inc, Alexandria VA: Senior Systems Analyst

I managed a team of developers. I designed the architecture for e-commerce sites. Agile methodologies were used to build and maintain the sites. I created the content and site management system after writing the business case for building it in house.

The two e-commerce sites were built in J2EE. The sites connected to the inventory and order-taking system through batch and real-time interfaces as needed. The content tools provided product and merchandising management, web and e-mail marketing campaign management, and affiliates tracking. We built ad hoc reporting, user tracking, and analytics reporting.

The website, applications, and supporting jobs were written in Java, J2EE, C, SQL, Bash, PERL, Python, JavaScript, CSS, SOAP, XML, XSLT, HTML, and SMIL. We used Netscape web servers, Oracle, and Solaris.

1999–2000, ThePOP.com, McLean VA: Programmer and Business Analyst

I designed and built a multilingual content management system that fed a peer-to-peer content publishing tool. I wrote marketing and business strategies for peer-to-peer e-commerce, publishing, and portal products.

The backend used Java, XML, XSLT, HTTP, and FTP to mine various forms of data (weather, almanacs, news) and aggregate them in MS-SQL Server database. The frontend was built in ASP, HTML, VB, and JavaScript that accessed the database.

1996–1999, National Geographic Society, Washington DC: Webmaster/Programmer

I managed a team of programmers. I wrote the programming guidelines and reviewed all implementations. I met with outside developers to ensure that all requirements were met.

I was responsible for planning and integrating with the second e-commerce site. I led the re-engineering of ngtraveler.com and nationalgeographic.com to address scaling and usability concerns. I created the search application, a bridge to the National Geographic Library database, and more than two dozen small applications that provided user interactivity. I integrated and managed the ad server.

The applications were written in C, PERL, Python, JavaScript, HTML, XML, and ColdFusion. All applications ran on Solaris backed by Oracle.

1994–1996, National Geographic Society, Gaithersburg MD: Business Analyst

I was the business analyst on a billing collection project. The mail order system required changes to print the bills for millions of customers. I wrote the test plans and performed the audits. I automated the correction of misprinted bills.

I located hundreds of fraudulent orders owing more than $100,000. I wrote the procedures to locate fraud in the system and to prevent additional fraudulent orders from being accepted.

Education

1989–1991, Frostburg State University, Frostburg MD: BS, Non-Western History

Skills

Operating Systems: Linux (Ubuntu, Fedora, Centos), OS X, Solaris, Windows.
Databases: PostgreSQL, MySQL, MongoDB, ElasticSearch, InfluxDB, Prometheus, Oracle, MS SQL Server.
Languages: Python, JavaScript, SQL, C, C#, C++, Go, Java, PERL, PHP, Ruby.
APIs: Pyramid, Zope, Django, Jenkins, .NET, GNOME, AJAX, EJB, Servlet, JSP, SOA, ReST
Formats: YAML, JSON, HTML, XML, XSLT, SOAP, RDF, MIME, SMIL, CSS
Methodologies: Agile, XP, Lean, TDD, user-centered design

References

Available on request.
Francis Lacoste, Deryck Hodge, Chris Ward, Brad Crittenden, Torsten Baumann