

Top Skills

Elastic Stack (ELK)

Python (Programming Language)

Ansible

Elasticsearch SME /Full Stack Senior Engineer
Drymen, Scotland, United Kingdom

Summary

An Elasticsearch SME , with over 6 years hands on cluster and consultancy experience. I've managed a number of large scale , commercial data sets , securing and tuning them to the clients specifications.

Alongside this , I also have over 16 years experience Java software engineering experience, across banking, both investment and retail , media and energy markets. I'm always keen to learn new technologies, working with a variety of different teams and methodologies, from waterfall to fully agile processes, incorporating TDD practices which have provided a well rounded approach to software development across the whole lifecycle.

Experience

BJSS

Elasticsearch SME /Full Stack Senior Engineer
December 2020 - Present (3 years 7 months)

Remote

My current role requires me to work with a broad range of technologies across 2 international teams. I was taken on as an Elasticsearch SME , initially to secure their existing clusters, and going forward to manage its upgrade. I've recently been involved in developing some new strategies to tune their use of data in Elastic to optimise the performance of their solutions, along with extending usage across the stack. I'm currently looking at opportunities within the AWS cloud architecture to increase both failover capabilities and extensibility by employing some strategies I made use of in my role in the BBC.

Alongside my Elasticsearch work , I'm also involved across the teams , working with the Java spring boot server side solutions, and extending my reach into their client side technologies. As it stands I have also been using my skills to support their current set of requirements that relate to monitoring

and performance, setting up dashboards and metrics that allow the team to analyse the current application stack status at a glance.

Tesco Bank

Senior Java Software Engineer

August 2018 - December 2020 (2 years 5 months)

Edinburgh, Scotland, United Kingdom

Senior developer working in the General Insurance space.

Responsible for maintenance and extension of both the home and Motor web quote and buy products. Both products were built on Java 8 , Spring boot applications , with an Oracle / hibernate persistence layer , as well as making use of a redis stack as a state management solution. Both products also used a mix of front end Javascript technologies, including React , JQuery and a number of node libraries. I was heading a small team with an existing backlog of technical debt and product improvement tickets. I was brought in to help involve the dev teams with our extended dev ops team, and help integrate the two areas more closely. This involved both the CI layer using Jenkins and AWS to host and extended our capabilities across multiple environments. Integration of these technologies included development of a number of bash utility scripts to facilitate the CI pipeline. We used a combination of Elasticsearch , Logstash and Kibana to monitor our logs across our environments, along with Cloud watch to monitor our applications. Our code deployments, that are driven but custom built jenkins jobs, are also facilitated by AWS Lambdas that allow our binaries to be moved from s3 to nexus , or other s3 buckets on receipt of the completed build pipelines

I was also heavily involved in architecting a new internal colleague tool , that needed to be integrated into an existing dashboard solution. The intention for this was to develop an isomorphic Javascript solution using Node on the server side and React for the client side, to allow this fall into line with the company's current technical direction.

In line with my position as a Senior developer, my responsibilities also extended to coaching junior developers when they joined the team. I took them through our working practises and code bases to allow them to get up to speed, and then acted as their mentor for their time within the organisation.

BBC

Full Stack Developer / Elasticsearch SME

February 2018 - July 2018 (6 months)

Glasgow, Scotland, United Kingdom

Full stack developer leading Elasticsearch integration , incorporating an existing Javascript (Node) application , and java microservices. I worked as part of an Agile team, who concentrated on small , focused releases that were automated through their CI pipeline. My responsibilities included upgrading and securing an AWS hosted Elasticsearch cluster to extend the applications current capabilities.

Elastic search Upgrade / Security

Re-architect existing cluster to make use of AWS Auto scaling and load balancers

Automate node installation to be added to existing GoCD pipeline

Allows creation of an AMI for reuse in an Autoscaling model

Corporate CA signed node specific client certificates added at build time to enforce security requirements with X-pack

Secure javascript (Node) application

Existing Node js / Elasticsearch module to support SSL with Corporate signed certificates

Extend cloudformation templates to include the new Elasticseach architecture

Reed Business Information

Senior Java Engineer / Elasticsearch SME

August 2017 - February 2018 (7 months)

London, United Kingdom

Senior Java developer leading development on green field, Compliance related ,

microservice based project, with hosted and installed solutions. The hosted solution makes

full use of AWS in multiple regions. As a new project, it also has dependencies on some

existing applications which also require re-factoring and re-architecting

- Elastic search development and integration (Elasticsearch, Search Guard, Java)
- Designed and implemented new schemas to support compliance data
- Integrated search guard to secure both versions of the applications
- Microservice development (Java)
- Designed new microservices (spring boot) using JWT authentication with existing services to extend functionality
- Migration of existing relational databases to Elasticsearch
- Leading a development stream to migrate multiple relational database instances (maria db, oracle and sql server) to elasticsearch to streamline the application's footprint.
- Re-design the existing applications gold standards to ensure backwards compatibility
- Migrate existing Solr installed instances to Elasticsearch.

Clydesdale Bank

LeadJava Software Engineer / Elasticsearch developer

January 2014 - July 2017 (3 years 7 months)

Glasgow, Scotland

LeadJava developer across a number of projects , incorporating a wide range of technologies. Lead roles in key projects within the bank , extending its current capabilities to make use of new technologies to the bank , namely elastic search and its associated utilities.

- Lead Elastic search development and integration (Elasticsearch, Shield, Java API)
- Lead Development of Transaction / Customer synchronisation applications (Java / Spring batch / Elasticsearch)
- Lead Mortgage Transformation Process widgets team (Spring [WebFlow, MVC, Security] Jquery, Apache CXF and JAXB)
- Leads Enquiry application (Spring (WebFlow, MVC, Security), Jquery, Apache CXF and JAXB)

Barclays Wealth and Investment Management

Build / Environment / Release Manager

July 2011 - December 2013 (2 years 6 months)

Glasgow, United Kingdom

- Designed, Implemented and lead the continuous integration architecture and established an automated development pipeline for 2 software projects (Java web app and C# desktop app)
- Created integration test suites with cucumber and selenium,for the java web application
- Responsible for build integrity and consistency, making use of maven , nexus and team city support these requirements
- Worked with a tight , agile development team , and maintained very close working relationships with our auxiliary teams, across operation, testing and deployment.

JPMorgan

Software Engineer

July 2005 - July 2011 (6 years 1 month)

- Lead developer within the Equities Group Division (EGD) , across multiple lines of business , namely Masterswap, Credit Prime Brokerage (Exotics and Hybrids) and EquitySwap
- Masterswap, as a batch reporting application made use of Java and Sybase as its key technologies. Originally ran as EJB's on Web logic it was migrated to a spring based application on tomcat, utilising the the company's newly developed internal stack know as Tigger.
- Designed and migrated Equity Swap portal from a legacy microsoft access database , to a fully functional java portal with batch processing and reporting
- Developed a low latency , high performing multi-threaded FIFO pnl engine for the Masterswap project, working closely with the business to refine and test all the requirements
- On-boarded a Custom Basket application that interfaced with Bloomberg , in our UK operations.
- 3rd Line 'follow the sun ' support responsibilities for our team's full suite of applications.

Clarion Events

Database Administrator / Lead Technical Web Developer

September 2003 - August 2005 (2 years)

ATE

Database Administrator / Web Developer

2003 - 2005 (2 years)