

James Campbell *Open source focused developer with a passion for systems integration*

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Summary

For more than 15 years I have been working with web technologies and Linux. I developed a long standing interest & love for programming the first time I switched on my Commodore 64 and discovered I could use this to do homework using BASIC. I am a passionate proponent of open source software since discovering Linux when Red Hat was still new and Slackware was the distro of choice for aspiring hackers (these days I use Arch).

Over the years I have constantly looked to further my skills in not just computer science but business process and project & people management . I have a deep interest in pure mathematics and whilst it's often not used directly, it forces my thinking when approaching technical solutions to be more analytical and thorough.

Being a little too young at the time of the last major boom in technology I find the current climate extremely exciting as ubiquitous computing & fully networked systems have rapidly expanded to create so many opportunities for growth.

Experience

Somo Global

LONDON

Technical Architect

May '14 – Current

Responsible for understanding client's infrastructure and requirements, researching, proposing and trialling solutions and providing leadership in technical approaches and solutions. I also provides support to project staff in the definition and implementation of the solutions and acts as one of the last levels of escalation with the technology once it is implemented. I am part of a team that will manage the entire implementation process from project inception to the go live point.

Adjacency Ltd.

LONDON

Director

Jan '14 – Current

Over the years I have had a desire to formally develop my own ideas. I recently chose to incorporate a limited company for this purpose. Presently I am working on a generative art web service called [PhotoBrix](#). This is primarily a Django webapp using Celery for task management and hooks into ImageMagick via a custom CLI. All front and back-end code for these projects is my own.

A further side project was the development of a simple shopping app for Android - with essentially no maintenance at all this brings in enough money monthly to offset some mundane day-to-day flat costs. Finally I am presently writing a book aimed at developers just starting out in their agency careers based on my experiences mentoring juniors and developing process at U-DOX.

U-DOX

HOXTON, LONDON

Technical Lead

Aug '10 – Apr '14

Leading the team, writing software and pushing the technical direction of the company forward is my main remit but I also squeeze in managing our infrastructure, including two full racks of server equipment in-house as well as client systems all over the world. As a full service agency I am involved throughout the entire project lifecycle including creative brainstorming, scoping, costing and project management phases. I also am heavily involved in the actual development work.

Part of my role involves presenting potential solutions and our services to clients as well as acting as a technical consultant on their behalf when dealing with third parties. I take a great deal of pride in maintaining excellent relations with existing clients and aim to exceed expectations when it comes to delivery. I am definitely most happy when the code we develop solves real problems in a cost-effective and, importantly, *maintainable* manner. Something I take very seriously is the mentoring and knowledge transfer between not just developers but other departments. I have put in place processes for our technical development and was a key player in rolling out issue tracking and time logging across the entire agency - not just for code centric projects.

Some of the more recent work I have completed includes a complex bespoke ecommerce platform for Defected Records - this is based on the [Django-Oscar](#) commerce framework and uses AWS S3 & CloudFront for secure media delivery. The entire catalogue system is fully automated through the third party service Fuga. I oversaw the architecture of the solution as well as developing core functionality including the product loading system. For adidas and Vans I developed a social media monitoring platform to

track hashtags and users. This has been developed further internally becoming a viable tool we can offer to clients, massively cutting down on development time required to roll out & support social campaigns.

Mobile development included the optimization of the LBi developed catalogue application in-store at Foot Locker. I implemented local caching, reworked and extended functionality such as on-demand pagination of gridviews and worked with the Foot Locker technical team to improve the API response rate. This was a great success massively improving the user experience and leading to the global rollout of the application. In tandem I developed a semi-native application for collecting sign up data which sourced assets via a custom webservice. As a final part of the project the individual apps were then complemented by a screensaver/launcher allowing each component to be swapped out or updated as needed. This work I completed entirely on my own.

As I have been at U-DOX so long it is hard to list much of the work I have done succinctly. I am happy to give further examples and talk through and demo code, sites & documentation.

Software Developer

Aug '08 – Aug '10

Developing websites and campaigns using a mix of technologies, in particular Django (Python), PHP (CodeIgniter, Limonade) as well as Flash using ActionScript3. My very first project was to migrate an all Flash site into HTML keeping the functionality and look and feel as close as possible to the Flash version. I developed a custom radio player completely in ActionScript which used XML to load in shows as they appeared on the filesystem from editors. The conversion from Flash to HTML was a great success reversing the immediate drop off in users when it had launched.

I created a full stock & report management system for Crooked Tongues and wrote the original Paypal and Google Checkout integration. This was then further developed to create an eBay store automatically from certain marked stock. During 2010 the site had a complete rewrite using Django for which I acted as the lead developer and architect. This saw me managing our internal development team as well as outside consultants brought in at a later stage in the project.

I started using the Django framework during it's infancy, with this forming the basis of a content management system for Vans EMEA. This required the complete migration of content from over 15 different systems into one coherent single database. Scripts and SQL were used to migrate over almost all pre-existing content prior to launch. The CMS proved so successful amongst the marketing managers that it was subsequently rolled out across the APAC and US regions and led to an adoption of Python within Vans at their head office in Los Angeles for later web projects.

Net Root

FULHAM, LONDON

Software Developer

Feb '06 – May '08

During my tenure at Net Root I developed ecommerce solutions for clients such as Jane Asher as well as content management systems for hedge funds and property service companies. The majority of this work was done using PHP though it also included maintenance of legacy codebases in ASP VB and .NET. I developed a ticketing system for internal use to manage engineer call outs and to provide snapshots of recurrent problems and their solutions - acting as a central knowledge base for support staff.

Support Technician

Feb '06 – May '08

My time at Net Root was split roughly 50-50 between development and support. This ranged from simple front line phone support for companies via VNC - typical sysadmin and user tasks - to the setup and deployment of Microsoft Exchange servers and Linux firewalls. This was also when I learned how to build racks and wire up blade servers neatly. Dealing with non-technical users all the way from the reception desk to the boardroom I learned the importance of explaining things clearly and without unnecessary complexity.

Bedeezee, Matelsom

CLERKENWELL, LONDON

Software Developer

Jul '04 – Oct '04

During a summer between University I worked on the launch of an online bed store. Code was developed using ASP.NET and I worked with the programmers in France to implement a wizard style system to recommend the appropriate mattress. On top of development work I prepared the majority of the retail graphics in Photoshop, doing routine touchup as well as more complex masking and cut out work.

Nortel Networks

BELFAST, NORTHERN IRELAND

Software Developer (Intern)

Jun '01 – Sept '01

Part of their internship programme; I worked over the summer out of the offices in Belfast developing a Perl/TK desktop tool which interfaced to hardware multiplexers. This was also my first exposure to the Solaris operating system.

Please refer to my [Linkedin profile](#) for further detail and recommendations from past colleagues.

Education

- Open University MILTON KEYNES, UK
BSc. Mathematics 2011 – 2017 (expected)
Courses include pure mathematics, data modelling, artificial intelligence and analysis. I am currently making my way through Group Theory. Doing such a degree part time has helped me to further develop strong time management and organizational skills.
- Imperial College LONDON, UK
BSc. Information Systems Engineering 2001 – 2005
Courses included operating systems, circuit design, control systems, graphics and signal processing. As a final end of degree project I worked on the development of an automatic music tabulation system using harmonic analysis. ([link](#))
- Abbey CBS Grammar NEWRY, NORTHERN IRELAND
Secondary School 1994 – 2001
11 GCSEs including English, Mathematics and Double Award Science. Computing (A), Physics (A), Technology (A) and Mathematics (A) at A-Level. I was a leading member of the Technology Club which saw me working on a number of electronics projects exhibiting at a national level in both Ireland and the UK.
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Awards and accreditations

- ACGI: Associateship of the City & Guilds Institute** 2005
- Gold Crest Award (BSA)** 1999
Awarded for the development of a camping safety system using ultrasound.
- Young Engineers Northern Ireland (2nd in Senior Level)** 1998
- Aer Lingus Young Scientist of the Year (1st in Junior Level)** 1996
For a report studying mutations of dogwhelks due to TBT pollution in costal areas in Down.
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Core Skills

Technical specialties: Languages include Python (various frameworks and libraries such as Django, Scipy, Numpy, Matplotlib), Java (including the Android SDK), Ruby (Rails in particular) and the standard gamut of core web languages (HTML/CSS/Javascript). Source control using Git, SVN, technical writing and documentation (including typesetting with \LaTeX). Mobile frameworks Phonegap & Titanium (awareness of Xamarin). Tools include shell (Bash) scripting and heavy use of command line utilities according to the UNIX philosophy.

Server setup and configuration on Linux (RHEL, CentOS, Ubuntu, Arch) and Windows Server. Database management (in particular Postgresql and, to a lesser extent, MySQL) including stack components such as databases and HTTP servers (nginx & apache but some working knowledge of IIS). Cloud platforms (AWS and Rackspace Cloud) for hosting as well as content delivery. Various social media APIs (essentially anything offering a REST/SOAP interface), techniques such as HMAC.

Code Samples: Available on Github ([jaymzcd](#)). Additional samples of more complex code and demos can be arranged by request.

Technical writing and documentation: [Server documentation](#) example. I am capable with office suites such as Microsoft Office and LibreOffice and have familiarity with scripting through VBA macros.

Natural languages: English (*mother tongue*), Spanish (*beginner*)

Interests

Non-exhaustive and in alphabetical order: Cooking large quantities of pulled pork, homebrewing ale and heavy metal. I have an interest in graphic design using tools such as Blender for 3D work and generative art using Processing.org in Java. Reading HackerNews daily and books about Quantum Theory - the last of which was *The Mathematical Universe* by Max Tegmark, I highly recommend it.

Some time ago I was a moderator and writer for NewOrder.box.sk - one of the formative computer security sites during the wild west days of the Internet (this is actually how I got my first full time development role at Net Root).