Peter West PhD

Full-Stack Software Engineer

London, UK

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Ten years experience as a full-stack software engineer with expertise in React, TypeScript/JS, node.js, Postgres. Experienced in cross-team roles, particularly facilitating collaboration between users, scientists, and engineers. PhD focused on healthcare information design and impact of consumer health tech in clinical settings.

Experience

Full-Stack Software Engineer *Synthace*   *2020-present*

- Building React UI for automating liquid handling in drug discovery contexts, backed by GraphQL server (node.js, Apollo, Postgres) and compiler written in Go.
- Led team of designers and engineers to restructure the most high-traffic UI around a new organisation of user data.
- Rebuilt visualisation of liquid handling with new API design.
- Facilitating cross-team communication between scientists and engineers.
- Experience in working on operational products and strict code review.
- Led introduction of E2E testing platform to the team.

Tech Lead *Pinch Medical Systems Ltd*   *2015-2020*

- Led team of developers and clinicians to develop mobile app for heart failure patients informed by my PhD
- Focus on UX for elderly and multi-language support (i18next).
- Led transition of Angular to React.
- Implemented encrypted REST health record server (Typescript, Node.js, PostgreSQL).
- Adapted to rapidly changing requirements of hospitals and funders.

Digital Policy Advisor *Cabinet Office, UK Government*   *2018*

- Advisor to the Open Innovation Team on policy around web technologies and eHealth.
- Learned to quickly adapt to deep-dive projects around unfamiliar topics.
- Communicated advanced technological topics to laypeople.
- Gained understanding of policy-making, inner workings of government, effective task management, and succinct communication with officials. CTC clearance.

Education

Health Science PhD *Web Science Institute, University of Southampton*   *2013-present*

- *Research topic*: Can consumer wearables (e.g. Fitbit, Apple Watch) help doctors and patients manage chronic health conditions?
- Interviewed UK/US doctors to understand barriers to using such data and co-designed a tool for visualising and analysing data.

- Contributed recommendations for designing clinical tools for using health data.
- Presented at Royal Society in London and National Supercomputing Centre in Wuxi, China.
- *Selected publication*: West P, Giordano R, Van Kleek M, and Shadbolt N (2016). The Quantified Patient in the Doctor's Office. The Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (awarded honorable mention).

Software Engineering MEng (first, hons) *University of Southampton*   *2009-2013*

- Interests in human-computer interaction, web technologies, computer graphics.
- Developed leadership and communication skills, with exciting group projects and public engagement talks. Class Representative at Student-Staff Liaison Committee.

Open Source

BibTeX Tidy   *github.com/FlamingTempura/bibtex-tidy*

Online/CLI tool for prettifying BibTeX bibliographies. Comprises parser and rules for reconstructing the file. Written while working on my thesis, published open source, now widely used within academia.

BlazeByte   *blazebyte.org*

Sole developer of open source web-based operating system for Sony PSP. Amassed over 1m downloads. Launched and maintained an associated forum with 5k active users.

Interests

Regular parkrunner. Travel when I can and am taking a Spanish language course. Hobbyist of digital electronics, participator in game jams, and contributor to open source projects.

References

Available on request.