

Maria Lazar

SC Cleared

Focus:

cloud migrations, data migrations, data management solutions, microservices: APIs (GraphQL / REST), event driven solutions

Skills

Cloud: AWS, Azure

Modeling tools: Archimate, draw.io, LucidCharts

Tools: ServiceNow, Microsoft O365, Jira, Confluence,

IaC: Ansible, Terraform, CDK, packer

CI/CD: Jenkins, Gitlab CI/CD, GoCD, AWS CodeBuild, AWS CodeDeploy, SemaphoreCI

Operational:,, ELK, Kibana, Kafka, Git,

OS: Linux (Ubuntu, CentOS)

Containers: Docker, Vagrant

Databases: MySQL, PL/SQL, Cassandra, PostgreSQL & NoSQL (CouchDB)

Agile: Scrum, Kanban, Mentoring, Pair Programming

Languages:

TypeScript, JavaScript, Python, PHP

Java (Android)

Contact

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Summary:

Architect with over 10 years of hands-on engineering experience with designing and developing data driven products. Proven track record of jumping into challenging projects, solving tensions between teams, mentoring and managing internal and external stakeholders

Strong government experience (nearly 5 years) in digital transformations particularly in HMPO, HMRC and GRO particularly with a focus on data management solutions and data migrations. Proven track record of delivering on time and on budget, managing clients expectations

Technical Architect, HM Passport Office

Contract; London — July 2021 - Present

Responsibilities:

- Conducted technical workshops, presenting technical solutions in front of highly technical forums and getting approval, through peer review process, preparing architecture guidelines and technical strategy documents
- Contributed to the transition strategy from on premises to on cloud
- Worked with business stakeholder to turn desirable business outcomes into technical products delivered on time and on budget
- Translating architecture roadmaps into packages of work that allow frequent incremental delivery of value
- Provide the business with cost estimation to aid with financial year planning
- Identified, validated and mapped business needs & requirements into technical designs and ensured alignment with business by expressing complex concepts in plain language
- Pro-actively engaged and collaborated with product owners & delivery teams, release managers, policy, business senior stakeholders and consumers to ensure solutions enable the required business functionality / capabilities, comply with standards and policies and re-use existing functionality when appropriate
- Defined, created and maintained architecture models (C4 diagrams), high level design (arc42), roadmaps, standards and outcomes, using architecture strategies to ensure alignment to the HMPO principles and standards
- Fostered and driven automation from security point of view / chaos testing (non functional testing) / TDD to be part of the deployment pipelines
- Worked closely with the Security Forum to ensure that the solutions meet the security guidelines provided
- Supported releases of new product versions
- Monitor/support the live product; Managed production incidents

Data management Product:

- Design & maintain the architecture for a data management solution - Java backend
- Acting as solution design authority throughout the complete Solution Delivery Lifecycle

Event Driven Product:

- Lead strategic discovery across multiple departments

DevOps Engineer, HMRC

Contract; London — April 2021 - June 2021

Responsibilities:

- Helped to prepare solution proposal, option analysis, estimate cost, and prepare business cases for replacing Splunk, considering infrastructure, licenses, development and support
- Upgraded Ubuntu & terraform

DevOps Engineer, HM Passport Office

Contract; London — Oct 2019 - March 2021

Responsibilities:

- Been part of the architecture of a new greenfield project which will handle 1 mil+ transactions
- Implement using CDK the required design (IAM, VPC, Lambdas, ECS, CodeBuild, CodePipeline, S3, SecretManager, Cloudwatch, Macie, GuardDuty, Access Analyzer and so on etc)
- Paired & Mentored our QA to help automate the performance testing
- Proposed and initiated a successful “dev sync” meeting between app and devops engineers instead of just the leads, to iron out the miscommunication and reduce the silos

DevOps Engineer, HMRC

Contract; London — July 2019 - Sept 2019

Responsibilities:

- Been part of the SRE team and supported with urgent ad-hoc tasks
- Implemented TDD for IaC using molecule & testinfra to improve the confidence of the delivery
- Worked in developing a reliable CI / CD pipeline to speed up the delivery process
- Refactored and split monolith playbooks using ansible code 2.2 enforcing best practices
- Reversed engineered the AMI images using packer & ansible to create like for like docker images for testing purposes
- Created roles & playbook to provision two different versions of gitlab runner with all the required compatible requirements

Senior Software Engineer, Veeva

Contract; London — May 2018 - May 2019

Responsibilities:

- Designed the architecture for the microservices & the UI based on the business requirements with CTO
- Used packer & ansible to create a custom AMI and docker images (ubuntu, alpine) for the microservices to be deployed using AWS Codebuild & AWS CodeDeploy (CI/CD)
- Implemented a basic multi region terraform infrastructure to be deployed in AWS using the s3 backend, with ansible controlling the variables per environment
- Designed and implemented custom logic in ansible for the deployment of the older monolith and new microservices codebases, allowing both code bases to be deployed in parallel
- Helped drive the split of the monolith to microservices approach, focussing on quality of code and testability
- Implemented code quality tools to improve the quality of the codebase and move towards a more CI approach
- Rewrote frontend application to a React based system with testing suite as well as the monolith in the required microservices (Symfony 4).
- Mentored 3 members of the team how to use ansible and terraform to speed up the deployment process

DevOps Engineer, iProov

Contract; London — June 2017 - May 2018

Responsibilities:

- Designed and implemented the architecture of the onboarding platform based on the business requirements provided by the CEO
- Designed and implemented the ansible playbooks and relevant roles to reliably deploy a microservices PHP/React Application into both Azure (using ClearDB) and Vagrant for local development using CentOS images, with secrets encrypted with Ansible Vault to improve deployment times.
- Architected the subsequent layer using API gateways, evaluating options such as Kong and Express Gateway
- Evaluated various pipeline deployment software, including Jenkins pipelines and then subsequently implemented various GoCD deployment pipelines (itself deployed with ansible) to enforce the CI/CD approach of the system.
- Reviewed and provided code quality feedback on the ansible deployment playbooks, packer images and Jenkins jobs for the companies python/node applications
- Wrote the PHP microservices reporting directly to the CTO and CEO

- Building the infrastructure and NodeJS development of a Azure serverless onboarding app for a major bank with local docker environment with MakeFiles for simple deployments.
- The serverless application used a Azure Database for SQL Server meaning there was only a VM for the PFSense instance used for both intrusion detection and as a HAProxy (deployed from an Azure Marketplace Image).
- Wrote custom ansible modules in python for managing CSR Requests in Azure Keyvault.
- Deployment pipelines using VSTS and test running in Semaphore CI
- Mentored & Guided the migration from the bash scripts to ansible of the entire team (3 people)

Senior Software Engineer, Sainsbury's

Contract; London — Dec 2015 - Apr 2017

Responsibilities:

- Wrote the ansible playbooks for my teams nodejs and php microservices (ubuntu based) with tests and integrating it with the ELK stack for monitoring
- Implemented from scratch an ETL (extract from the kafka queue, transform, load) microservice to generate complex reports
- Extracted the common API logic like auth / rate limiting by researching and writing the ansible playbook to deploy an API Gateway (KONG) for the existing microservices
- Worked in a cross functional team to scale the Smartshop app across multiple stores

Senior Web Developer, CampaignAmp

Contract; London — Dec 2014 - Dec 2015

Responsibilities:

- Designed service oriented architecture for processing and displaying complex data from 40+ third-party APIs as graphs as well as excel, pdf & xml reports
- Implemented a report template editor (similar to mailchimp) & a Chrome Extension for capturing different types of data

Android Developer, Snack Media

Contract; London — Oct 2014 - Nov 2014

Android Developer, Snack Media

Contract; London — Oct 2014 - Nov 2014

Android & Web Developer, Tesseract

Permanent; Bucharest, — Sept 2013 - Sept 2014

Web Developer, Atelier de Web

Permanent; Bucharest — Sept 2012 - Sept 2013

Founder & CEO, Komorabi

Hobby London 2018 - present

- Developed volunteering app
- Lead remotely a team of 9 people developing immersive volunteering experiences (events & mobile app), directly pitching to interested parties and gathering feedback from customers