

Brandon Harper

Pragmatic Software Engineer

<http://bharper.com>

EXPERIENCE & GOALS SUMMARY

- 10 years of professional Software Engineering experience as a pragmatic, seasoned developer in a variety of environments with a Computer Science background
- 7+ years of experience with building, scaling, and maintaining heterogeneous enterprise applications.
- Self-motivated, passionate, driven, self-teaching professional who is able to learn and adapt to new technologies very quickly, and keeps current with new technology as a hobby as well as a career
- Excellent liaison between software engineers and systems administrators
- Great verbal and written communication skills; communicates well with clients, colleagues and executives.

EDUCATION AND PUBLICATIONS

EDUCATION: *Computer Science Undergraduate.* Regis University, Denver Colorado. Junior, 2nd semester. Completed areas include Software Engineering, Java, C, UML, Unix, OS Theory, Computation Theory, and OO Analysis & Design.

EDITORIAL REVIEW BOARD: *ColdFusion Developers Journal.* 2006-2007

TECHNICAL EDITOR: Inside ColdFusion MX, New Riders Publishing. ISBN: 0735713049. Published in August, 2002.

AUTHOR: Java Developers Journal and ColdFusion Developers Journal, print & online editions. <http://urltea.com/1v4p>

TECHNICAL SKILLS SUMMARY

PRIMARY LANGUAGES AND OPERATING SYSTEMS: Java, ColdFusion, Linux, OS X, and FreeBSD

SECONDARY LANGUAGES AND OPERATING SYSTEMS: Python and Windows

OTHER VARIOUS EXPERIENCE: C, C++, x86 Assembler, Ruby, PHP, Hibernate, Spring, Maven, Ant, Apache Axis, Apache Wicket, Ruby On Rails, Django, MySQL, PostgreSQL, Oracle, MS SQL Server, UML, JDBC, JVM issues & tuning, Apache Tomcat, Jetty, JBoss, JRun, Jabber XCP, XMPP, EJB3, Apache HTTPD, Microsoft IIS, Adobe Flex, Flash, Eclipse, RedHat ES, Performance & Scalability issues, load balancers, SSL accelerators, capacity planning, enterprise migrations, network & systems architecture, enterprise security issues.

RECENT INDUSTRY WORK EXPERIENCE

SOFTWARE ENGINEER: Me.dium, Boulder, CO. 02/07-02/08 Me.dium is a well funded, high visibility start-up dedicated to exposing the people dimension of the internet by recommending sites, people, and chat topics to it's users. I was hired as part of a team of founding engineers to build and scale various parts of Me.dium's infrastructure using Agile methodology during the seeding phase of financing which resulted in a very successful infusion of venture capital.

- Rewrote our chat server implementation using a Java NIO based library which reduced our thread usage per server by 100%, thereby increasing our horizontal scalability potential per server by 100%.
- Ported our main Java server product from Jetty to Apache Tomcat 6 using the new NIO connectors which cut our CPU usage by over 50 percent, and vastly improved the stability of our flagship product
- Co-architected a new Java based public website for Me.dium which is powered by various services within our SOA, as well as JBoss, Apache Wicket, Spring 2, Maven, and Hibernate. Built from scratch and completed in only two months using a small team and Agile methodology to replace a fragile PHP based website.
- Mavenized & automated the website development environment, setup, configured & tuned an n-tier application cluster running RedHat, JBoss, Apache 2 for the website, and mentored Junior developers.
- Created and maintained several core services used across the Me.dium enterprise.
- Refactored / converted a POJO based service architecture to EJB3 with Spring Injection and Hibernate3 running on JBoss 4.2 to move from a "siloeed" architecture to more of an SOA based approach.
- Part of a self-driven skunkworks team who created a new product concept based on Java, Flash, Flex, and Actionscript which helped question and push the direction of the company.

SENIOR SOFTWARE DEVELOPER: Acxiom, Broomfield Colorado. 9/05-2/07. Acxiom was a NASDAQ traded, 1.5 billion dollar company with locations all over the globe. I worked in the Acxiom Risk division which provided various risk mitigation and screening services for a diverse client base of small to Fortune 500 companies and government agencies.

- Senior Developer & Architect in a multi-tiered, clustered, 24x7x365 enterprise environment for a public company with multi-terabyte databases on varying application servers, database platforms, and operating systems all within the full SDLC
- Key Architect and developer for a core enterprise service platform implemented in Java which powered and managed several multi-million dollar products. Implemented in Oracle, Java, JBoss, JDBC, and JMX.
- Project leader and Server Architect for a turn-key migration of 30+ new J2EE application servers to the

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- Acxiom datacenter for 15+ products. Technologies and skills used included JVM Tuning, Load Testing, Network and Server analysis, Code Reviews, etc.
- Architect for the application framework of Acxiom InsightCollect v3, the flagship product for our \$85M per year division. Technologies used included Java, Oracle, ColdFusion MX 7, and MS SQL Server
- Designed complex and proprietary scoring algorithms such as abstractly linking large pools of people together and finding abstract similarities (which helped high level law enforcement detect crime rings)
- Architect/lead developer for an enterprise reporting service platform which used proprietary algorithms to determine relationships between people and within groups/fraud & crime rings of people utilizing Java, Oracle, ColdFusion, MS SQL Server, and PostgreSQL.
- Enterprise ColdFusion Subject Expert. I worked with various groups within Acxiom and assisted them with everything from JVM & server tuning advice to questions about best practices in software development. I also served as an informal mentor for a team of twelve developers in my division.

SENIOR SOFTWARE DEVELOPER: InsightAmerica, Broomfield Colorado. 02/03-9/05 InsightAmerica was a startup company which grew from 40 employees to over 100 during my tenure, which was then acquired by Acxiom in September of 2005. InsightAmerica provided a wide range of industry leading risk mitigation and screening services for a diverse client base including Fortune 500 companies, federal and state agencies, and medium to small businesses.

- Configured, tuned, load tested, and maintained our clustered JRun Application Servers running Java 1.4, worked with Systems Architects & DBA's to design and implement scalable, enterprise level hosting solutions for new and existing products, and assist/mentored other developers with ColdFusion questions and issues
- Architect and lead developer for an enterprise reporting platform which used Java, ColdFusion MX 7, SQL Server, and Omnidex to generate standardized, scored reports on individuals for law enforcement use.
- Designed complex scoring algorithms to determine statistics such as most likely current address, likelihood of collecting debts from a subject, and many others.
- Architect and lead developer of a Python application used to automate the nightly processing of bankruptcy records. Software used in production and used by many of the top credit card banks in the US.
- Architect and lead developer for a customer facing, enterprise reporting platform for Equifax to help consumers learn more about what information was available about them, as well as if they were a victim of identity theft. Built using Java, ColdFusion, Webservices, Omnidex, XML, and MS SQL Server.
- Key Architect and lead developer for a centralized platform which managed security, searching, user management, accounting, and billing for ColdFusion applications within the InsightAmerica enterprise. Technologies used included Java, ColdFusion, MS SQL Server, and Omnidex.

SENIOR DEVELOPER: Mallfinder Network, Denver Colorado. 10/01-2/03 Mallfinder Network is a service provider for websites and other retail management solutions for over 140 malls across the US using a unified, highly scalable application architecture. I was the employee of the month in March, 2002.

LEAD DEVELOPER: Tesser, Boulder Colorado. 11/99-9/01. Worked on high-traffic, high visibility web sites such as netidentity.com (which was recently acquired by Tucows). Wrote and maintained a CMS used on all Tesser sites.

SOFTWARE DEVELOPER / SYSTEMS ADMINISTRATOR: Online Marketing Network, Loveland Colorado. 5/98-11/99.

WEBMASTER / ASSISTANT SYSTEMS ADMINISTRATOR: University of Northern Colorado, Greeley Colorado. 1/98-5/98.

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES, ACCOMPLISHMENTS & INTERESTS

Software Engineering News Source & Community Involvement - My personal website's content is aggregated by sites such as the Adobe News Aggregator, Java Blogs, etc. My blog has also reached large audiences by being featured on popular sites such as Slashdot, Digg, the O'Reilly Hacks Blog, the Indeed blog, and del.icio.us/popular.

High Profile Product - Medium has been featured in national publications such as USA Today, CNet, Forbes, and Yahoo! Finance. Featured download on CNet, microsoft.com, and Flock. Launch partner with Microsoft for IE 9.

Employee Of The Month - *Mallfinder Network*, March 2002. *InsightAmerica*, June 2003.

ACTIVITIES / ORGANIZATIONS / INTERESTS

- Open Source Software:** I write about solutions to "gotchas" on my blog, and have contributed time to troubleshoot/fix bugs in projects such as JBoss, Spring, AmaroK, and others.
- Academic Interests:** Distributed Systems & Networks, Threading, Dynamically Typed Languages, Scheduling Algorithms, Security, Software Engineering, and Server Virtualization.
- Geek Interests:** EFF, Ubuntu Linux, FreeBSD, Mac OS X, and Open Source Software.
- General Interests:** Cars, motorcycles, political & social issues, independent music, bicycling, travel, dining, dogs, digital SLR photography, and cooking.

References and other information available at: <http://linkedin.com/in/devnullled>