

Raul Acevedo

http://www.cantara.com • raul@cantara.com
360 Guerrero Street Apt 301 • San Francisco, CA 94103 • (415) 730-3402

Professional Summary

Software Engineer specializing in Java and web services. MIT graduate with over 30 years of experience writing software. Experience includes website development, web services, e-commerce, concurrency, scalability and performance.

Education

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Cambridge, MA • June 1992

Bachelor of Science in Computer Science and Engineering. Concentration in East Asian Religion. Related course work includes Software Design, Artificial Intelligence, Computer Architecture, Computation Theory, and Compiler Design.

Open Source

BreezeHttpClient

<https://github.com/LendingClub/breeze-http-client>

An extensible, easy to use HTTP/REST client interface with multiple pluggable implementations. Its simple fluent and extensible API handles JSON object mapping, logging, error handling, retries, web forms, and HTTP requests with ease; implementations can be written in less than a day and require a single configuration change to use, without having to change existing client code.

Employment

Lending Club

Java, REST Web Services, Encryption, AWS, Oracle, Aurora, JSON, Spring, Netflix Hystrix

Finance

San Francisco, CA • September 2015 – Present

Principal Engineer on Lending Club's Core Services and Infrastructure teams, which own several key backend web services for Lending Club's lending platform, as well as maintaining key software libraries used throughout the company.

- Wrote a new REST service communication library to replace the RESTEasy client library. The new library is easier to use than any existing REST library, has a pluggable backend architecture so we can migrate to any future library easily, and supports Graphite metrics, automatic retries, and Hystrix integration. It was soon adopted as the standard REST library for the whole company and was open sourced in 2018 as BreezeHttpClient.
- Led the effort to encrypt all personal information in Lending Club's next generation user management service.
- Designed and created or extended several services to synchronize user data between Lending Club's legacy user database and the new AWS microservice for user management.
- Designed and implemented a new version of Lending Club's cryptography library. The new library presents a far simpler developer API, enables transparent encryption key rotation for any data field in case encryption keys are compromised, and allows dynamic switching of encryption key providers in case of future KMS vendor migration.

Expedia

Java, REST Web Services, AWS, MongoDB, Node.js, ElastiCache, Redis, JSON, Spring

Travel

San Francisco, CA • February 2014 – August 2015

Technical Lead for Expedia's User Reviews Service, a REST web service providing customer reviews for all Expedia travel sites across the world, processing nearly 120 million customer and backend API requests per day.

- Provided technical leadership for the development and QA teams in San Francisco, Bellevue and India.
- Redesigned the core AWS Java/MongoDB architecture, introducing Node.js, ElastiCache and a refactor of the MongoDB database to provide greater throughput, higher performance, global data locality for customers, and cross-regional disaster recovery and backup, all at significantly lower cost.
- Designed a smart caching layer based on the AWS ElastiCache Redis API and SQS, using a simple but efficient pre-fetch algorithm that minimizes cache misses.

BlackRock

Java, Concurrency, JBoss, Spring, Hibernate, PL/SQL, i18n, REST, Sybase, Solaris

Finance

San Francisco, CA • July 2008 – September 2012

Technical Lead for BlackRock's iShares international websites on Exchange Traded Funds.

- Led the technical redesign and rewrite of the iShares Canada website to replace a traditional PL/SQL stored procedure database interface with a modern REST API. Led the front and backend teams in San Francisco and India, and responsible for technical design, project schedule, testing, and coordination with database and business teams.
- Designed and implemented a multithreaded, extensible LRU cache with transparent disk persistence, ability to run websites during database outages, tolerance of database or disk failures, cache preloading, and a web management console.
- Performed extensive refactoring and efficiency enhancements throughout the iShares code base to lower memory footprint, decrease session replication overhead, and increase overall performance, resulting in a 50% improvement in page response.

Nokia*Community Web Services for Online Gaming***Java, SOAP Web Services, JBoss, Axis, Spring, Torque, Oracle, Linux***San Francisco, CA • July 2007 – July 2008*

Technical Lead of the web services team for N-Gage, Nokia's gaming platform for its high-end smartphones:

- Managed the web services team for N-Gage, Nokia's community gaming platform for high end phones. N-Gage is a complex platform comprising the N-Gage community website, friends and player ratings, sophisticated score rankings, online chat, discussion forums, game store, customer service, and multi-player features.
- Responsible for the web services architecture of N-Gage. Worked with product management, QA and development teams across the world, including Finland, Germany and Canada. Steered the team through all technical decisions including feature development, bug fixing, performance and scalability, monitoring, and integration with other systems.
- Led the team through several key releases including a marketing pre-launch website in August 2007, an initial "beta" release in January 2008 and then the final production release in April 2008.

Pay By Touch*Biometric Payments***Java, Concurrency, SOAP Web Services, Axis, Spring***San Francisco, CA • November 2006 – June 2007*

Senior Java Software Engineer for Pay By Touch's biometric payment authentication system:

- Led the technical design and implementation of the upgrade component of a biometric authentication server. Coordinated with various teams on business requirements, technical specifications, and testing.
- Part of team working on writing a new web services SOAP API to an existing proprietary protocol for biometric payments and authentication. Developed WSDL and schema and wrote most of the web service handlers.

The Gap*Retail Website***Java, WebSphere, EJB, XML, Oracle***San Francisco, CA • March 2006 – November 2006*

Senior Java Software Engineer for The Gap, providing support and development for their high transaction website:

- Implemented several new features on the website and provided support for debugging many existing problems.
- Provided on-call support for backend website issues regarding complex XML imports among various backend systems.

Hotwire.com*Internet, Travel***Java, EJB, WebLogic, SOAP Web Services, PKI, XML, MQSeries, Oracle***San Francisco, CA • January 2002 – March 2006*

Technical Lead supervising all finance related code. Worked closely with the Director of Finance, business owners, and third party technical contacts. Also part of a team of Java support engineers responding to live website issues. Led the following projects, including technical design and implementation:

- Added PayPal as a new payment method using SOAP, web services and PKI (public/private keys, certificates, and digital signatures). Cleanly abstracted a different payment model originally designed for simpler "mom & pop" online shops.
- SOAP integration with a new web service from JPMorgan Chase offering real-time credit card authorization controls. This was Hotwire's first SOAP implementation, thus requiring research into SOAP APIs, PKI, and WSDL/XML.
- Fraud prevention via complex fraud detection rules, able to either block a live purchase or computing a fraud risk score used in later manual review of high risk transactions by the Finance business team.
- Designed and implemented the complex search algorithm for our package product, involving asynchronous, simultaneous searches across various products with elaborate callback semantics between our JSP and EJB tiers.
- Designed and implemented the real-time migration of customers from our first generation website to our fully redesigned second generation website. This involved a gradual migration of customer data over a period of several weeks, operating both sites simultaneously, and transparently transferring customers between the two sites.

Support.com*Internet, Technical Support***Java, WebLogic, WebSphere, XML, Oracle, DB2, iPlanet, Apache***Redwood City, CA • March 2001 – July 2001*

Java Software Developer aiding with Solaris/WebLogic/Oracle and AIX/WebSphere/DB2 customer deployments, and configuring the Unix development environment under all platforms.

- Customized customer deployments of Solaris/WebLogic/Oracle implementations.
- Created AIX/WebSphere/DB2 development environment, keeping it consistent with Solaris/WebLogic/Oracle.
- Wrote simplified Java database API, focusing on simplicity for ASP developers transitioning to JSP.

In 2000, I moved from Boston to San Francisco to join zipRealty.com as Software Architect.

zipRealty.com*Internet, Real Estate***Java, J2EE, XML, Servlets, Octane, Oracle, Apache, Linux***Berkeley, CA • February 2000 – January 2001*

Software Architect in charge of company's overall software technology architecture.

- Led the technical design and implementation of the company's website, a complex project completed under intense time pressure and coordinated with a separate team implementing the company's Octane customer service platform.
- Designed and implemented most core Java functionality, including the basic database layer, XML infrastructure, and JSPs.
- Worked directly with product development, I/S, QA, and Executive Team in coordinating the company's software direction.
- Led engineering team of Java and Perl developers, supervising technical tasks and ensuring a common, coherent architecture.

From November 1995 to December 1999 I worked as an independent contractor.

Pharmatrak

Internet, Healthcare

Java, XML, UML, PHP, Apache, Linux

Boston, MA • April 1999 – December 1999

Designed and implemented interactive websites and tools for web tracking, analysis, and configuration.

- Designed and implemented portal website providing timely and relevant pharmaceutical information for doctors.
- Wrote tools to validate code errors in client web pages and administrative front end for web tracking analysis tools.

Thomson & Thomson

Internet, Copyright & Trademark

Java, Perl, Netscape Publishing Xpert, Oracle, Unix

Quincy, MA • April 1998 – April 1999

Developer for website providing on-line access to Thomson & Thomson's trademark and copyright database.

- Designed an end user pricing server supporting a wide range of product billing models.
- Improved billing process and performed significant data integrity and revenue recovery against billing database.

Wellington Management

Finance

C++, Visual Basic, Oracle, Windows NT

Boston, MA • September 1997 – April 1998

Developer aiding in maintenance and enhancements to existing financial analysis tools and critical client/server applications.

Worked on a wide range of technologies, focusing on platform migration and performance.

Thomson & Thomson

Internet, Copyright & Trademark

Perl, Netscape Publishing System, Oracle, Java, Unix

Quincy, MA • May 1997 – August 1997

Developer on website providing access to company's trademark and copyright database. Redesigned backend billing algorithm to facilitate error handling, dynamic updating, and upgradability.

BBN Planet

Internet, Law, Consulting

Perl, Netscape Publishing System, Oracle, JavaScript, Unix

Cambridge, MA • January 1997 – April 1997

Developer for website providing news, moderated discussion forums, and searchable library archives for lawyers.

- Wrote CGI modules allowing site members to create and manage private user areas.
- Wrote Perl SQL library querying the Oracle backend database.
- In charge of designing and implementing access control extensions, billing, and reporting.

Fidelity Investments

Finance

C++, Oracle, SQL, Perl, Unix

Boston, MA • July 1996 – December 1996

Developer for a client/server application gathering and manipulating corporate action information.

- Performed extensive debugging and enhancements to the C++ and Oracle SQL backend.
- Designed and implemented module for matching corporate action payouts to existing data.
- Designed test engine generically grouping tests into hierarchical categories for flexibility in exercising particular test suites.

Teradyne

Hardware

C++, X Window System, Unix, C, PostScript, Automated Testing

Boston, MA • November 1995 – June 1996

Extended an X Window System application for creating and editing hardware schematics.

- Designed and implemented an algorithm thoroughly analyzing and verifying the structure of the schematic.
- Added new user interface elements and functionality, including a C++ PostScript print driver.
- Designed and implemented generic C and C++ window API for use by main application and related products.

After finishing MIT in 1992, I worked full-time at Sapient and GCC Technologies, receiving promotions to Lead Developer and Engineering Manager respectively.

Sapient

Public Utility, Consulting

PowerBuilder, Oracle, SQL, Visual Basic, SQLWindows

Cambridge, MA • October 1994 – October 1995

Software Engineer using PowerBuilder and Oracle SQL on Unix to help implement an automatic dispatching and order tracking system for a large gas service company. Interacted heavily with clients and was responsible for design and development of significant portions of the system.

- Iteratively worked with clients on designing entire business subprocesses essential to overall functionality.
 - Primarily responsible for entire reporting portion, including design, test, and client approval.
- Promoted to Lead Developer for assignment on subsequent projects.

GCC Technologies*Printers, Embedded Systems***C, Perl, Unix, PostScript, Embedded Systems***Bedford, MA • August 1992 – October 1994*

Software Engineer for embedded, multi-tasking operating system driving sophisticated PostScript printers.

- Wrote Perl source code control system providing individual sandboxes, project-specific rules, and full system logging.
- Wrote parallel build system allowing multiple network hosts to be used simultaneously for a single build.
- In charge of important software port contract with large distribution company in Korea. Solely responsible for porting design and implementation, and the primary technical contact for the Korean distributor.
- Received GCC Engineering Recognition Award for outstanding effort in Korean porting project.
- Promoted to Engineering Manager in charge of GCC's Core Engineering team.

Before graduating from MIT, I had several key internships in research and private industry.

Digital Equipment Corporation*Hardware***C++, X Window System (Xlib, Xaw), Unix***Littleton, MA • June 1991 – August 1991*

Redesigned and extended the functionality of flow graph viewer produced by a machine code translator.

MIT Artificial Intelligence Laboratory*Artificial Intelligence***Common Lisp***Cambridge, MA • September 1989 – April 1990*

Implemented and designed a Lisp checkpoint facility for portably saving and restoring the current Lisp environment.

Naval Air Development Center*Research***Common Lisp***Warminster, PA • June 1989 – August 1989*

Designed and implemented a Lisp Machine prototype serial blackboard expert system developed to study target recognition and situation assessment algorithms and methods.

Temple University Hospital*Medical***BASIC, x86 Assembler***Philadelphia, PA • June 1985 – August 1985*

Designed and implemented a radiological physics flashcard test program for medical students. Used a hybrid approach embedding fast graphic assembler routines into the core BASIC code.

Personal

Born in San Juan, Puerto Rico; fluent in English and Spanish. Interests include sushi, chocolate, martial arts, yoga, fitness, music by Asura, Vangelis, Dead Can Dance and Nine Inch Nails, and Bi-Rite Salted Caramel ice cream.