Jakub Kot

Senior / Staff Software Engineer

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Software engineer with eight years of remote experience in early-stage companies. I've led a team of around eight engineers and owned architecture, infrastructure, releases, and incident response. I work across backend and frontend, build open-source Bitcoin and Lightning tools, and work with coding agents in isolated environments.

Experience

Staff Software Engineer · Musqet — May 2025 – present
Remote; cooperation paused pending funding

- Owned architecture, infrastructure, and releases for a Bitcoin commerce platform with five payment rails in production (on-chain, LND, Cashu, NWC, custodial)
- Authored the Lightning payment handler spec for the Universal Commerce Protocol (UCP), enabling AI agents to pay over Lightning
- Migrated production from Vercel and Fly.io to self-hosted Dokploy/Docker Swarm on a fixed-price VPS, replacing per-seat platform fees; built deployment pipelines on self-hosted GitHub Actions runners and added metrics, logs, and dashboards with Prometheus, Loki, and Grafana
- Led a codebase-wide refactor, introduced engineering standards and a test suite for a team of five, and handled production incidents

Paternity Leave & Open Source — Jan 2024 – Apr 2025

- Built and shipped Stack Orange (send bitcoin by email or SMS), Lofextra (local-first expense tracker), and Lofik (local-first app toolkit)
- Contributed to SeedSigner and LNbits; learned Rust through transaction construction, a node handshake, and Lnrecc for recurring Lightning payments

Senior Fullstack Engineer · Momence — Jul 2021 – Dec 2023
Remote

- Built Inbox, a real-time multichannel messaging product, with Zoom, Google Calendar, Gmail, and Gympass integrations
- Took core features from design to production and maintained them while company ARR grew from $500k to over $5M in under two years

Software Engineer → Lead Software Engineer · OAK'S LAB — Mar 2020 – Jun 2021
Remote

- Promoted to lead the company's largest team (around eight engineers); owned delivery practices, mentoring, code review, and collaboration with product
- Built the platform behind Crave Delivery from scratch to launch on a tight deadline; shipped order bundling and Klaviyo and Tookan integrations

Full Stack Developer · Qusion — Jul 2019 – Feb 2020
Internal CMS for clients using Next.js, Node.js, TypeScript, GraphQL, PostgreSQL, and Prisma; mentored juniors

Web Developer (React) · Qest automation — Jul 2018 – Dec 2018
React, TypeScript, and Redux frontends in a Scrum team

IT Infrastructure Specialist · ALS Czech Republic — 2017 – 2018
Workstations, servers, and infrastructure projects

Projects & Writing

Skorpik	Side project (2026): Slack-based workplace sports prediction league. Built the product and infrastructure, including self-serve onboarding, email-domain joining, and annual company billing; also handled initial sales.
Dev tooling	Built a multi-agent PR reviewer with isolated devcontainers, restricted Git permissions, and human-controlled merges, used for personal and client work. Built NixOS/Home Manager configurations and devcontainer launchers for these environments.
Unbeholden	Technical writing and open-source projects on self-hosting, Linux, agent tooling, Bitcoin, and Lightning. Built with Astro and self-hosted.
Homelab	Manage Proxmox/LXC and VPS infrastructure with Ansible, with OpenTofu for VM provisioning and Flux for Kubernetes workloads on Talos. Run a git server, email, VPN, and observability stack.
Lightning tools	lnurl-server (Go, LND gRPC), Btceed (HD wallet overview), Nostraut (Nostr automation), LN Jukebox (pay-to-queue jukebox).

Skills

Languages	TypeScript/JavaScript, Go, Rust
Backend	Node.js, PostgreSQL, REST, GraphQL, gRPC, WebSockets
Frontend	React, Next.js, Svelte, Astro
Infrastructure	Docker Swarm, Ansible, Proxmox, GitHub Actions, Prometheus, Grafana, Loki
AI tooling	Coding agents, automated code review, LLM APIs, MCP
Spoken	Czech (native), English (fluent), Spanish and Russian (conversational)

Education

MSc Information Systems and Technology · University of Economics, Prague 2017 – 2019
Minor: Data Engineering. Erasmus+ at Tallinn University of Technology (2019).

BSc Finance and Accounting · University of Economics, Prague 2014 – 2017