

TL;DR: Technical leader with experience as a researcher, developer, architect, product and program manager. Proven ability to take ambiguity and translate it into crisp and effective action. Reputation as a bar-raiser who cultivates a culture of excellence in teams. Expertise in high-performance and distributed computing, AI/ML, big data, and developer experience.

Education → 2012, Ph.D., Computer Science, Cardiff University, Cardiff, Wales, U.K.¹

Uber Technologies

June 2021 - current

Head of Strategic Initiatives

May 2024 - current

Founded a new and unique group focused on driving high-impact and long-term technical investments and strategy through 'Special Projects.' Programs and investments span across Uber and have VP+ (incl. C-level) sponsorship and visibility.

- Charter focuses on hard-to-solve, strategic, and high-impact problems that cross organizational boundaries. Programs include 0→1 initiatives, are often ambiguous, have extremely high ROIs, and are typically under NDA.
- Lead a small, diverse, and focused team of program managers, data analysts and data scientists.
- Continue to lead/co-lead several company-wide strategic AI/ML efforts with Director+ membership, including the Data Science Machine Learning Council and the Generative AI Steering Committee.

Head of TPM & ML/AI Strategy

June 2021 - May 2024

Strategic leader for UberAI, which includes Uber's ML Platform Michelangelo. Counterpart to Product + Engineering directors, co-shaping the vision, roadmap, and strategy for Uber's ML investments and platform.

- Led or co-led most of Uber's company-wide strategic AI/ML-related groups, including the Data Science Machine Learning Council, the Generative AI Steering Committee, and Uber's Responsible AI and ML Governance initiatives.
- Co-responsible (w/Sr. Dir. of Eng.) for overseeing Uber's Generative AI investments and their associated \$MM budget. Includes prioritization, contracts, hardware investments, and vendor contracts (e.g., Azure, OpenAI, Google).
- Chartered and ran the Search and Personalization Architecture Forum, with >80 members from across 7 orgs. Initiated a new cross-Uber architecture group focused on information discovery and the Northstar of search.
- Led creation of Uber's GPU strategy, including our cloud migration to OCI and GCP, SKU evaluation, capacity estimates and planning, contract negotiations and terms, and cross-Uber product partner team requests.
- Managed the TPM team supporting ML engineers & data scientists across the company, from platform capabilities to applied research. Included initiatives in reliability, optimization, UX, platform investments, and LLMs/GenAI.

SAP

2019 - 2021

Senior Director, Product Management, Data & AI Platform

Lead strategy and product for the Data Science, Data Platform, and AI Services pillars of SAP's Intelligent Spend Group, a critical component to SAP's Intelligent Enterprise, a multi-hundred million dollar business.

- Owned a portfolio of platform services, including (1) a matching service that leverages ML, (2) a graph database that supports time-series data, and (3) data quality and reconciliation services that fix and backfill data.
- Led a team of PMs, each of whom was embedded in an engineering team. Set org goals & OKRs (>80 SWE FTEs).
- Directly managed a Data Science team, leading collaborations with other research teams across SAP.

Highlights:

- Presented two talks and ran two workshops at SAP's premier conference: SAP TechEd (2019).
- Initiated and launched SAP's highly-visible Disruption Exposure Report, a free offering to our customers to help them predict supply chain issues and navigate disruptions during COVID-19.
- Created and released a new ML-based data matching and quality scoring system, which was a modular system that used similarity models to establish relationships between large-scale heterogeneous data.

Electronic Arts

2017 - 2019

Director, Developer Experience

Created and led Developer Experience for EADP (EA Digital Platform), a central CTO-led organization that builds the core technologies that power EA's AAA-level video games.

- Owned strategy and roadmaps for the Player & Developer Experience (PDE) organization (>100 SWE FTEs), which included presenting to the CTO (my skip-level manager), CIO and other executives.

¹ Data management in dynamic distributed computing environments <http://orca.cf.ac.uk/44477>

- Envisioned and launched the EA Console, an extensible Web portal framework for managing EA's game development technologies (similar in concept to the AWS Console).
- Accountable for EADP's efforts towards standardization (e.g., REST, gRPC, Envoy) and platform interoperability (i.e., identity, entitlements, service mesh, API gateways).
- Directly managed a diverse team that included PMs, UX designers, developers and technical writers; Set and oversaw work of engineering teams and technical directors.

Vybrant

2016 - 2017

Chief Technology Officer

Co-founded a big data startup, which focused on product development and consulting for large-scale data processing systems (Hadoop, Spark, Hive, AWS, Cassandra, Kafka). Grew company from three co-founders to a team of >15 FTEs and >\$1M of revenue in the first six months of operation.

Amazon

2015 - 2017

Technical Program Manager, Catalog Quality (AI/ML)

Responsible for strategy and execution of initiatives to detect and mitigate duplicate items in Amazon's retail catalog, which contains billions of items and tens of millions of quality defects.

- Accountable for 4 S-Team (SVP level) company-wide goals, across all 11 global marketplaces.
- Successful in designing, proposing to my VP a "6 pager" for launching Amazon's first seller-facing crowdsourcing experience, which allows sellers to fix problems in Amazon's catalog.
- Developed and drove strategy for >30 engineers and >100 Ops personnel, who used Machine Learning models, >500 EC2 nodes, Hadoop and EML to detect duplicate products.
- Collaborated with and acted as a primary point-of-contact for a diverse set of stakeholders, including leadership from all of Amazon's core retail business units.

T-Mobile (through Crystal BI)

2015 - 2016

Consultant, Enterprise Big Data Architecture & Security

Evangelized big data ecosystems, evaluated large-scale Hadoop and Teradata deployments, recommended courses of action for system usage and cost savings. Drove Hadoop and Teradata security compliance, both technical and policy.

eSage Group

2014 - 2015

Senior Software Architect & Data Scientist

Consulted with businesses (e.g., Disney, T-Mobile) and helped them build new cloud-based data analysis pipelines and infrastructures. Coded in Java, Perl, and Bash. Used AWS, EC2, S3, EMR, Hadoop, HDP 2.x, Spark, Cron, Oozie, Hive, Hue.

University of Washington

2014 - 2014

Research Consultant

Big data researcher and developer. Coded in Python, Scala, and Java. Used Spark and Hadoop. Setup compute clusters.

Building Information Systems

2009 - 2013

Solutions Engineer

Built software for Fortune 500 companies and government agencies. Coded in C# and VB and SQL.

Cardiff University

2007 - 2012

Postdoctoral Research Fellow

Ran \$MM multinational research projects in distributed computing. Led dev. teams. Coded in Java. >20 research papers.

Louisiana State University

2003 - 2008

Researcher

Led many high-performance (HPC) & Grid infrastructure initiatives. Team lead. Coded in Java and C and Perl.

Max Planck Institute for Gravitational Physics

1999 - 2004

Scientific Software Developer

Researcher and software engineer in high-performance-computing (HPC). Coded in Java and C and Perl.