OGUGUA TOCHUKWU ALPHONSUS

LEAD SOFTWARE ENGINEER | FINTECH, PAYMENTS, CRYPTO & AI-ASSISTED ENGINEERING

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Lead Software Engineer with 9+ years of experience delivering and scaling fintech, payments, crypto, mobile, and web products. Strong hands-on background in Node.js, JavaScript, TypeScript, React and React Native, API design, databases, cloud infrastructure, and CI/CD. Has helped deliver products serving 3,000+ businesses, applications with millions of downloads, and high-volume payment operations. Applies AI-assisted engineering to codebase analysis, debugging, test design, documentation, and refactoring, validating suggestions through engineering judgment, automated tests, and security review. Combines technical leadership with a product and revenue mindset to deliver reliable, measurable business outcomes.

CORE COMPETENCIES

Backend and API Engineering | Fintech and Payment Systems | Crypto and Web3 | Mobile and Web Applications | Cloud Infrastructure | Performance and Reliability | CI/CD and Testing | Technical Leadership | AI-Assisted Development

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Languages: JavaScript, TypeScript, SQL, PHP, Python
Backend and APIs: Node.js, Express, Laravel, AdonisJS, CodeIgniter, REST APIs, GraphQL, Cloud Functions
Frontend and Mobile: React, React Native, Angular, Ionic, Next.js, Vue.js, Redux
Databases and Messaging: PostgreSQL, MySQL, Microsoft SQL Server, MongoDB, Redis, Firestore, SQLite, WebSockets
Cloud and DevOps: Google Cloud Platform (GCP), Firebase, AWS, Docker, Kubernetes, Linux, CI/CD, load balancing
Testing and Methods: Jest, unit testing, load testing, Agile, object-oriented programming, functional programming, MVC
Fintech and Blockchain: Payment integrations, POS systems, virtual accounts and cards, crypto transactions, Web3, Ethereum, Solana, digital assets

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Eversend | Lead Software Engineer | May 2021 - Present | London, UK

Technology: Node.js, TypeScript, React, React Native, PostgreSQL, Firebase, Google Cloud Platform, Jest

- Led development of a B2B fintech platform covering FX, payouts, multi-currency collections, virtual debit cards, and crypto-asset receipts; served 3,000+ businesses and contributed to a company revenue increase of more than 50%.
- Delivered an iOS and Android fintech application that surpassed 3 million downloads and became a primary revenue driver for the business.
- Built a scheduled user-segmentation and retargeting dashboard using cron jobs, enabling targeted email and push campaigns and improving user retention by 20%.
- Improved load balancing and service scaling with Docker, Kubernetes, and GCP to support 500+ concurrent transactions per second while reducing latency and cloud costs.
- Developed Web3-based crypto exchange capabilities powering the company's crypto offering, which contributes approximately 10% of overall company revenue.

Turing | Senior Crypto Engineer | Jan 2021 - Apr 2021 | California, USA

Technology: Node.js, TypeScript, React Native, Firebase, Cloud Functions, Firestore, GCP, Moralis, Web3

- Developed reusable React Native components for crypto transactions, supporting an application that became a primary revenue source for Native.dev.
- Designed resilient serverless APIs with Google Cloud Functions and Firestore to improve application responsiveness and crypto transaction processing.
- Built Web3 asset and NFT trading functionality across Solana and Ethereum for a platform serving 500,000+ users, with a focus on secure transaction flows.

ITEX Integrated Services | Senior Software Engineer | Oct 2018 - Dec 2020 | Lagos, Nigeria

Technology: Node.js, TypeScript, Ionic, React, React Native, Angular, MSSQL, MongoDB, PostgreSQL, Linux

- Refactored database queries and introduced caching strategies, increasing application efficiency by 50% and reducing resource usage by 30%.
- Managed development and maintenance of the PayVice iOS application, which surpassed 1 million downloads.
- Engineered Fast Pay for Access Bank POS agents, streamlining payments and reducing reliance on physical ATM cards; the solution was adopted across millions of POS terminals.
- Led delivery of FirstBank Nigeria's POS monitoring, tracking, merchant onboarding, and settlement platform, supporting instant settlement of POS transactions.
- Automated CI/CD for a high-volume external web application, reducing deployment time by 5x; conducted unit and load testing that contributed to a 34% improvement in PWA stability and scalability.

Optisoft | Software Developer | Apr 2017 - Sep 2018 | Lagos, Nigeria

Technology: Ionic, Angular, React, React Native, Laravel, Node.js, WordPress, AWS

- Built web and mobile applications with React, React Native, Angular, Ionic, and Laravel, integrating RESTful APIs and external services.
- Developed and launched the MyAXA app for AXA Mansard on iOS and Android, achieving 200,000+ downloads and supporting the digital sale and management of insurance, investment, pension, and HMO products.
- Collaborated with business stakeholders to translate requirements into user-focused e-commerce experiences and workflow automation.
- Deployed applications on AWS EC2 and S3 and applied load balancing, improving application efficiency by 30%.

SELECTED PROJECT

SatoSeries Token on Solana | **2021**

- Developed and launched a crypto token on the Solana blockchain, extending hands-on experience beyond production fintech and crypto platforms.

AI-ASSISTED ENGINEERING

- Use LLM-based assistants to accelerate codebase exploration, debugging, refactoring, and technical problem-solving, turning complex requirements into structured implementation steps and reviewable changes.
- Apply AI to generate and refine test scenarios, documentation, and edge-case checks; validate outputs with automated tests, code review, security considerations, and production requirements.
- Treat AI as a copilot rather than an authority: check suggestions against repository patterns, acceptance criteria, test results, and security requirements before merging changes.

EDUCATION

MBA, Finance and Investment (In Progress) | Ahmadu Bello University (ABU), Zaria, Nigeria

B.Sc., Electronics and Computer Technology | University of Calabar, Calabar, Nigeria | Jan 2010 - Apr 2015

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- TypeScript for Professionals - Udemy, July 2022
- Software Development From A to Z: OOP, UML, Agile, and Python - Udemy, December 2022
- Application Security and Secure Coding Training - Cyber Code, July 2021