

Luke Da Cruz

Full Stack Engineer

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Full Stack Engineer with 3 years of experience building scalable web applications and data-heavy dashboards for financial risk management. Expertise in React, Next.js, TypeScript and JavaScript for frontend development, and Golang, Python, Docker, and PostgreSQL for backend systems. Strong focus on performance optimisation, maintainability, and full-stack ownership from UI to database. Fluent in English and French.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- Built and owned the Interest Rate Dashboard and Liquidity at Risk Dashboard, delivering full-stack features for financial risk management.
- Reduced load times by 30% by migrating React projects to Next.js with SSR at Atos.
- Saved £10k/year by replacing Google Analytics with an open-source solution (Chart.js).
- Developed a maintenance-free web app using Go and HTMX, eliminating third-party dependencies.
- Introduced a scalable theme system using CSS variables, improving maintainability and performance across a platform with 3+ apps.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Frontend Engineer – Validus Risk Management | London, UK, Dec 2025 – Aug 2026

Tech: React, TypeScript, TanStack Query, Zustand, Python, MySQL, React Router, EmotionCSS

- Delivered features and fixes across 3 financial risk management applications (PortfolioView, TradeView, RiskView) in a React/TypeScript monorepo, enabling clients to manage portfolios, trades, and risk exposure in real time.
- Improved developer experience, performance, and codebase consistency by establishing systematic code review and strict TypeScript practices within a frontend team of 5, through continuous refactoring.
- Improved UI consistency and development velocity across 3 applications by redesigning 8 shared components to modern React/TypeScript standards.
- Eliminated CSS maintenance debt (hardcoded styles → 100% consistency via design tokens) by introducing a CSS-variable-based theme system across 3 applications, laying the groundwork for a faster, full redesign.
- Built the Liquidity At Risk Dashboard (interactive currency/percentage graphs, filterable tables) within TradeView, enabling clients to monitor risk exposure in real time.
- Owned end-to-end development of the Interest Rate Dashboard (frontend + backend integrations), delivering charts and tables for portfolio reporting, presented to internal sales teams ahead of launch.
- Migrated HandsonTable from its legacy version to React, improving load times, UX, and maintainability of data tables.
- Designed and delivered a new layout (side navigation bar) for the platform redesign, in collaboration with the product team.
- Reduced perceived load times on the most data-heavy applications by implementing prefetching with TanStack Query (React Query).
- Achieved 100% adoption of an AI-powered (LLM) feature that extracts and auto-fills structured data from credit facility PDF documents in production, saving approximately 10 minutes of manual data entry per document.

Full Stack Engineer – Atos | London, UK, Sep 2023 – Dec 2025

Tech: React, Next.js, Golang, Docker, Postgres, HTMX

- Delivered client-facing applications using React and Next.js, improving performance with SSR (30% faster load times).
- Eliminated third-party dependencies by building a maintenance-free fixture scheduling web app in Go/HTMX and Golang/gRPC microservices.
- Saved £10k/year by replacing Google Analytics with an open-source charting solution (Chart.js).
- Ensured code quality by establishing ESLint, Prettier, and a testing stack (Cypress, React Testing Library, Go Testing) across projects.
- Built scalable backend systems (Golang, Docker, Postgres) designed to support high-traffic applications.
- Reduced fixture schedule generation time from 10 minutes to 30 seconds by delivering a full-stack application (Go + HTMX, zero third-party dependencies) for the English Football League.

- Automated fixture generation for 20 clubs × 38 matches across the top 4 divisions by implementing a rules engine handling league-wide constraints (home/away run limits, full rotation before mid-season) and club-specific rules (geographical clash prevention), including manual swaps and team-level reporting.
- Built Golang/gRPC microservices and RESTful/GraphQL APIs supporting 3 dynamic frontend applications, pairing closely with the backend team.
- Developed interfaces with Next.js, TypeScript, and TailwindCSS for 5 features of the internal application.
- Independently resolved complex bugs, contributing to system reliability in a production environment.
- Collaborated in an agile team environment with pair programming and shared problem-solving.

Freelance Web Developer | Jun 2023 – Sep 2023

Tech: Next.js, TypeScript, TailwindCSS, Vercel

- Designed and developed a website for a tutoring academy, using Next.js and TailwindCSS, deployed on Vercel.
- Managed the client relationship end to end (requirements gathering, progress calls, delivery), fully autonomously on the project.
- Handled domain name, hosting, and SEO, beyond development.
- Provided ongoing maintenance and updates at the client's request following the initial delivery.
- Result: a 40% increase in client inquiries and improved user engagement following launch.

EDUCATION

Royal Holloway University of London

BSc Computer Science (First Class) | Sep 2020 – Jun 2023

- Final Year Project: Freelancer Marketplace Platform built with Next.js and Firebase to connect freelancers and clients.

PROJECTS

Portfolio Website | lukedacruz.dev

- Built with Next.js and TailwindCSS, achieving 95+ Lighthouse scores for performance and accessibility. Showcases projects and experience with a clean design and fast load times.

SKILLS

Frontend: React, Next.js, TypeScript, JavaScript, TailwindCSS, TanStack Query, React Router, Zustand, HTMX, Remix, Astro.js, Alpine.js, React Native (self-taught)

Backend: Golang, Python, gRPC, PostgreSQL, Docker

Styling: CSS, Tailwind CSS, Emotion CSS

Testing: React Testing Library, Jest, Cypress

DevOps / Build Tools: Docker, Vercel, GCP, Git, Vite

AI & Tooling: Claude Code (custom skills, MCP integrations), agentic spec-driven development, Copilot

Languages: English (Native), French (Native), Danish (Intermediate), Spanish (Intermediate)

INTERESTS

Running, Cooking, Reading, Coffee