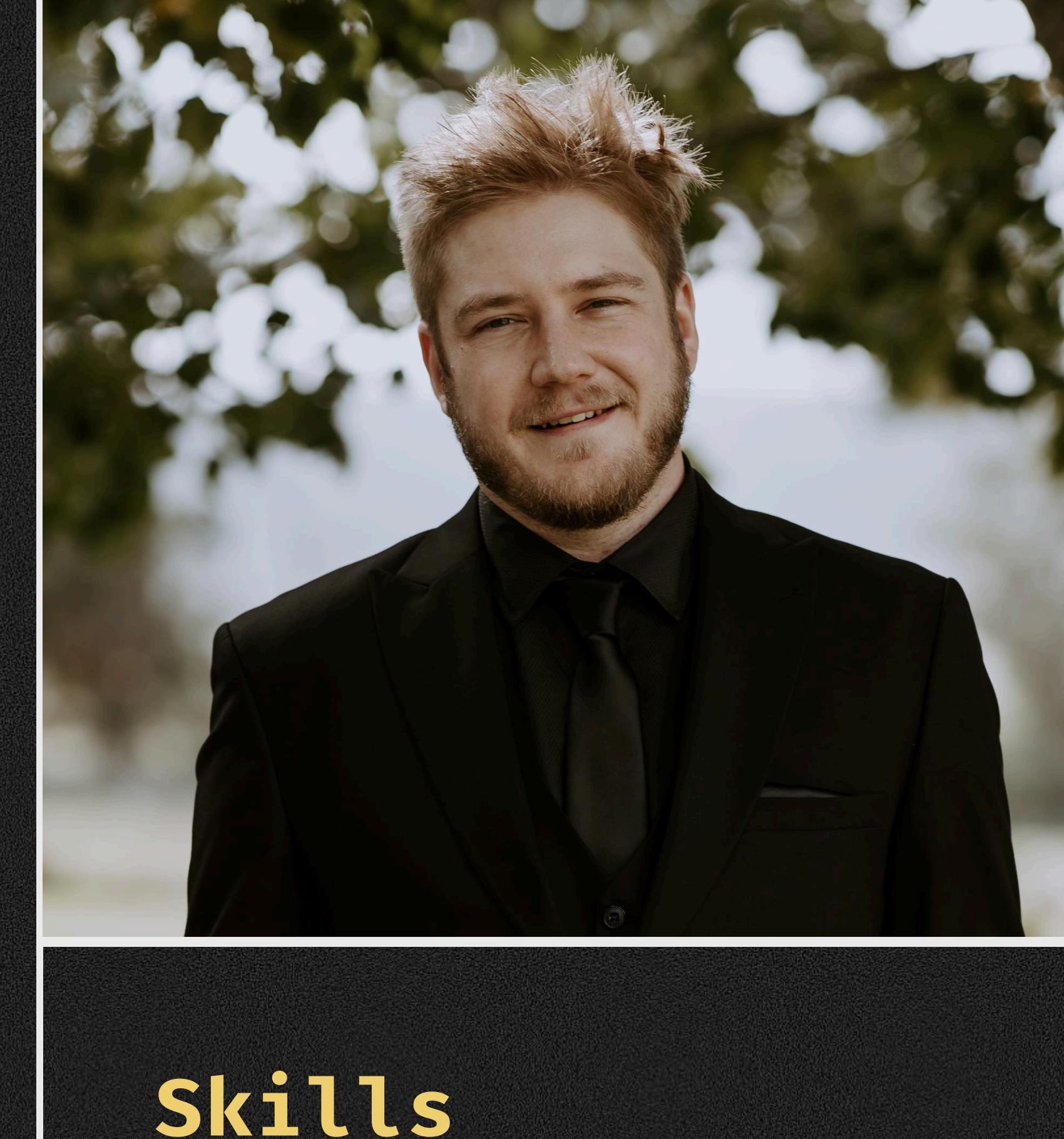


Head of Development at BRAVE



Work Experiences

Brave Digital Head of Development

2021-present

As the Head of Development at Brave Digital, I lead a talented team of developers in delivering cutting-edge software solutions for our diverse clientele. My primary responsibilities include scoping and architecting projects, overseeing developer growth and wellbeing, overseeing the entire development lifecycle, guiding technical strategy, and ensuring that we deliver high-quality products on time and within budget.

Alongside this I perform the bulk of the DevOps work in managing our web servers, cloud infrastructure, and app deployment and submission process.

I also still get involved in development work, tackling different components of all the products as a senior developer and solutions architect to push projects forwards, hit budgets and deadlines, and help the team where they are struggling most.

Brave Digital Full-Stack Developer

2015-2021

At Brave Digital, I gained expertise in full-stack software development using Laravel, NodeJS, Vue, and React, as well as mobile app development with Flutter, React Native, Cordova, and Swift. These projects involved a host of complex software solutions for startups and corporate clients, with challenging and advanced front-ends.

Alongside this I developed experimental projects that included working with Unity and VR. I collaborated with a diverse team, contributing to the entire software development life cycle, from planning to deployment.

My experience at Brave Digital honed my technical skills, problem-solving abilities, and collaboration techniques, making me a valuable asset to any team.

Freelance

2014-present

Consultant / Developer

As a freelance developer and consultant, I take on a variety of projects outside of my normal responsibilities that allow me to expand my skillset and grow as a professional. I proactively seek out opportunities that challenge me to learn new technologies and frameworks, ensuring that I stay current with industry trends. This focus on continuous learning enables me to deliver expert solutions to my clients while growing my knowledge and expertise in both web and mobile app development.

By working on diverse projects with clients from different industries, I hone my adaptability, communication, and time management skills, further enhancing my value as a versatile and resourceful developer.

Education

University of Pretoria

BIS Multimedia

2011 - 2016

I deeply value my degree and the theoretical and technical knowledge I received while at the university. Knowledge of design patterns, deep understanding of languages and compilers, and mathematics really helped define me as a programmer.

The multimedia degree also includes a strong focus on interface design and user experience design, which enables me to better execute the vision of designers, and also provides me with the knowledge to improvise and extend designs as necessary.

My final year subjects I chose included: Game Development, Operating Systems and Artificial Intelligence as choice subjects.

Additional Achievements

Voortrekkers President Verkenner

2007

A President's Verkenner is a high achievement award within the Voortrekkers organization in South Africa. This award requires the member to complete a series of activities, skills, and community projects to demonstrate leadership, dedication, and a high level of involvement with the Voortrekkers. My time in the Voortrekkers was really formative and alongside the survival skills, developed a set of intrapersonal skills and strong leadership skills.

The University of Pretoria Engineering Degree

2009-2011

When I signed up for university it was originally for a Mechanical Engineering degree, before I discovered that my true passion was in Software Development and Information Technology. Although I shifted my focus, the skills and knowledge acquired during my engineering studies have significantly benefited my professional career. Engineering concepts, such as problem-solving, critical thinking, and attention to detail, have translated seamlessly into my work as a software developer. Additionally, the strong foundation in mathematics and logic has allowed me to excel in designing efficient algorithms and understanding complex data structures. The interdisciplinary nature of my background has made me a well-rounded and resourceful developer.

Skills

- Web Development
- Software Development
- Software Engineering
- Solution Architecture
- Mobile App Development
- Server Architecture and Maintenance
- Development Operations
- AI Training

Tools

- Git
- Docker
- Amazon Web Services
- Google Cloud Platform
- Gemini Developer API
- OpenAI Platform
- Apache
- Nginx
- MySQL
- PostgreSQL
- Linux
- Unity
- Bitbucket Pipelines

Languages

- HTML
- CSS
- JavaScript
- TypeScript
- Dart
- SQL
- Python
- Java
- C#
- PHP

Frameworks

- Node
- Laravel
- Vue
- Flutter
- SASS
- Material
- Bootstrap
- Tailwind
- React Native
- WordPress

Example Code

Code Wars: FJLessing

GitHub: FJLessing