

Stefan Kudev

✉ Email: stefan.yanchev.kudev@gmail.com | 📞 Phone: — | 📍 Location: Dudley, UK
🌐 LinkedIn: linkedin.com/in/stefankudev | 🌐 Website: stefan-ku.dev

I am a high-impact senior engineer with expertise in product architecture, cloud native development, financial services (FCA/SOX) compliance, cloud governance, and technical leadership. I specialize in architecting and delivering domain-driven microservice architectures, focusing on high availability, security, and cost efficiency. I leverage Infrastructure as Code to define clear service boundaries, avoid resource drift, and align with the AWS Well-Architected Framework.

Delivering quality products with a clear impact is one of the prime motivators for my career in tech - let's define the future together.

FRONTEND	BACKEND	DEVOPS	TOOLING
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Languages: TypeScript / JavaScript ES6+• Frameworks: React / Next.js / Vue.js• State Management: React Context / Redux / Pinia• Component Thinking: Library Architecture / Design Systems• Component Development in Isolation: Storybook / Styleguidist• Accessibility Testing: WCAG 2.1, Auditing Frameworks• Testing Frameworks: Jest / Vitest / Cypress / Playwright	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Languages: TypeScript / JavaScript / Node.js / C#• Frameworks: Hono / Express.js / .NET / Entity Framework• Design Patterns: Domain-Driven Design (DDD) / API-First Approach & REST / CQRS / REPR• Architecture: Microservices / Event-Driven Architecture (EDA)• Asynchronous Messaging: SQS / SNS• Authentication: OAuth 2.0 / JWT• SQL: MySQL / PostgreSQL / MSSQL• NoSQL: MongoDB / DynamoDB• Caching Strategies: Redis / Memcached	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Infrastructure as Code (IaC): AWS CDK / Terraform• Cloud Architecture: AWS (Serverless / Lambda / SQS/SNS), Azure, GCP• CI/CD Automation: GitLab CI / Azure DevOps / GitHub Actions / Bitbucket Pipelines• Pipeline Performance and Optimization: Caching / Parallelization / Custom Rules• DevSecOps / Governance: SAST/DAST Integrations / Security Scanning• Containerization: Docker / Kubernetes (K8S)• Scripting: Bash Scripting / PowerShell Scripting	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Source Control: GitHub / BitBucket / GitLab / Harness• API Tooling: Postman / Bruno / OpenAPI / Swagger• Project Management: Atlassian (Jira / Trello / Confluence)• Design Tooling: Figma / Miro / Adobe XD• Observability: AWS CloudWatch / AWS CloudTrail / Datadog / Sentry• Product Analytics: Hotjar / Mixpanel• Agentic Coding: OpenCode Go, Claude Code, Gemini CLI, Codex



Are you interested in a skill or technology which isn't listed above?
Let's talk - it's likely in my repertoire!

Experience

Software Engineer (Role Level IV) - Hargreaves Lansdown

Remote | May 2023 - Present

- Architected and led the cross-functional delivery of two major financial products (New Pension Calculator and Advanced Investments), successfully navigating front-end, back-end, and infrastructure requirements.
- Drove modernization efforts by reverse-engineering a legacy pension forecast system and creating a detailed specification to rebuild it with modern, modular, domain-driven microservice boundaries.
- Engineered a high-performance, low-cost backend with AWS Lambda for complex pension projection calculations, allowing the deprecation of a legacy on-prem service.
- Strengthened governance and DevSecOps practices by implementing SAST, DAST, and licence scanning, and artefact storage policies within CI/CD pipelines; ensured a clear audit trail and early vulnerability mitigation.
- Ensured continuous regulatory adherence (FCA/COBS) for key financial products by implementing stringent data validation, audit logging, and immutability standards across all relevant products.
- Implemented robust, multi-layer caching strategies (e.g., Redis, in-memory) to improve API response times by 50%+ and reduce database read load and operational costs for high-traffic client eligibility services.
- Demonstrated technical leadership by presenting optimization strategies and findings in company-wide forums, driving adoption of AWS infrastructure best practices across multiple teams.
- Accelerated team onboarding and development lifecycle by guiding the cross-team adoption of Cloud Development Environments (CDEs) and creating custom project startup scripts.
- Mentored junior developers in test-driven development (TDD) using TypeScript, championed clean code practices, and actively contributed to the internal component design system.

Senior Full Stack Developer - Kingsbridge Group

Hybrid | Sep 2021 - May 2023

As part of Kingsbridge Contractor Insurance (BAU) team:

- Engineered core business logic and managed the operation of 4 mid-to-large scale insurance platforms, leveraging TypeScript across Vue.js, React, Node.js, and Adonis.js.
- Authored and maintained insurance rating engines for PI/PL and flexible policies, ensuring the accuracy and performance of core financial calculations via extensive integration testing.
- Enforced platform compliance with financial regulatory standards, specifically Sarbanes-Oxley (SOX).

As part of Kingsbridge Elements (Startup) team:

- Owned the ground-up design and development for a greenfield insurance platform, [Kingsbridge Elements](#).
- Championed and implemented a Test-Driven Development (TDD) approach for Front End development using Jest and Cypress, increasing initial test coverage from 45% to 82%.
- Drove CI/CD efficiency and cost savings by leading the migration of legacy pipelines from Bitbucket to Azure DevOps, resulting in a quantifiable 20% reduction in build and deployment times.
- Designed and implemented secure integrations with core external service providers (e.g., Data8, TrustID, Zinc) crucial for platform functionality and regulatory verification.
- Led technical governance for the greenfield platform on Azure Cloud, utilizing Terraform (IaC) to define architecture and ensuring adherence to compliance and security best practices.
- Provided mentorship by creating upskilling plans and actively mentoring junior developers during the platform development and launch.

Full Stack Developer - Internal

Remote | Jan 2021 - Sep 2021

- Optimized application performance and reduced build times by ~20% via a project-wide refactor, minimising external dependencies and introducing clean coding practices (KISS/DRY).
- Delivered platform-wide features across the full application stack (MongoDB, Node.js, React.js).
- Leveraged technologies like Storybook and Cypress for component development in isolation and testing.
- Collaborated with the marketing department to empower data-driven feature development, implementing and A/B testing new features using Hotjar and Mixpanel.
- Developed an internal content management tool for the marketing department, hosted in Google Cloud Platform, enabling faster content delivery and automated monthly stats reporting.
- Created a proof-of-concept Google Assistant integration to explore new platform interaction touchpoints.

See my full work history and endorsements on  [LinkedIn](#)

Education

BA Media and Communication (New Media)

Birmingham City University | 2015 – 2018

First Class Honours;
Heavily participated in

Qualifications

AWS

2024

AWS DVA-C02 Certified Developer Associate

Adobe

2017

Adobe Certified Associate (ACA) for all products in the Adobe Creative Cloud family

Testimonials and References

Read all testimonials over on [my website](#), or contact me to request a reference