ASHLEIGH DORRIAN

Backend Software Engineer

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PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

Backend engineer with 7+ years working on cloud systems, APIs, and microservices. Pretty comfortable with GraphQL, REST, CI/CD pipelines, and infrastructure. Started in QA which taught me what breaks in production. These days mostly write JavaScript/TypeScript and Node.js, though I've done plenty of C# and .NET work. Past year using AI tools (Copilot, Claude, local models) to speed up boring parts and catch issues early. Based in Madrid.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Backend & Languages
Node.js • TypeScript • JavaScript (ES6+) • Python • C# • .NET Core

Frameworks & APIs
Express.js • Next.js 14 • GraphQL (Apollo) • REST APIs • ASP.NET Core • Angular

Databases
MongoDB • PostgreSQL • MySQL • SQL Server • Redis • Azure Cosmos DB • Blob Storage

Cloud & Infrastructure
Azure • AWS • Docker • Kubernetes • Helm • Terraform • Nginx

DevOps & CI/CD
Azure DevOps • GitHub Actions • Jenkins • Release Pipelines • IaC

Testing
Jest • Mocha • Chai • Selenium • SpecFlow • Integration • Unit Testing

AI & Automation
GitHub Copilot • Claude • ChatGPT • Gemini • Ollama (Llama 3) • Stable Diffusion

Other
WebSockets • Socket.io • Git • Linux • Raspberry Pi • Self-hosted services

WORK EXPERIENCE

Backend Web Developer | One Beyond, Madrid

March 2020 – Present

Working on backend services for enterprise clients, mostly microservices on Azure. Team handles design, deployment, monitoring.

- Built GraphQL service using DataLoader that cut retrieval times 50%. Batching helped.
- Set up Redis caching behind Nginx to avoid hammering downstream services for same data.
- Created content model to clean up publication metadata for reliable web platform inputs.
- Added dedicated database writer service to stop data sync issues between systems.
- Write Node.js services handling data transformation and APIs, processing ~10k requests daily.
- Tuned MongoDB indexes and queries for stability. Use Copilot/AI to bash out boilerplate faster.
- Handle Kubernetes deployments with Helm charts. Set up Azure Key Vault for secrets.
- Helped three junior devs learn backend patterns, testing, deployment pipeline.
- Maintain Terraform configs for infrastructure.

QA Engineer & DevOps Engineer | Visma Labs Iberia, Madrid

June 2017 – February 2020

Started as QA, picked up DevOps. Helped teams automate releases and reduce production issues.

- Built Azure release pipelines for 3 business-critical systems with different needs.
- Set up CI/CD cutting manual steps. Saved Friday evening panics.
- Major part moving on-premise systems to Azure cloud (legacy products, third-party integrations).
- Got AppDynamics monitoring running to see production issues.
- Wrote SQL scripts for data fixes and migrations. Worked with dev teams on test automation (Selenium, SpecFlow).

AI DEVELOPMENT PRACTICES

Use AI tools heavily to speed work and catch issues. Not replacing coding skills - more like having a smart assistant that knows patterns.

- **Development:** Write AI prompts in markdown to generate boilerplate with Copilot, clean up with Claude/Gemini. Built tool using Claude CLI analyzing repos to determine engineer level. Created context files helping AI understand projects better.
- **Testing:** Set up AI workflows writing unit, integration, E2E tests (Jest/Playwright) alongside features. Have AI review code for security issues before deployment. Fewer production bugs since comprehensive tests written automatically.
- **Tools:** GitHub Copilot, Claude API, ChatGPT, Gemini, Ollama with Llama 3, Stable Diffusion

KEY PROJECTS

Code Analysis & Career Profiling Tool

Python • Ollama (Local AI) • GitHub API • SQLite • Click CLI

Privacy-focused tool analyzing code repos for honest skill assessments. Prefers local AI but falls back to cloud if hardware can't handle it.

- Uses Ollama with CodeLlama locally - no sending code to external APIs. Modular setup supports multiple AI backends (Claude, GPT-4).
- Indexes local files and GitHub repos with GitPython. Analyzes code patterns, tech stack, commit history to estimate experience.
- Reviews PRs/branches for code quality. Generates reports (JSON, HTML, text) comparing skills to industry standards.
- SQLite caches results, tracks career progression. Used it analyzing 50+ projects to find skill gaps.

Healthcare Platform (In Development)

Next.js • Node.js • TypeScript • PostgreSQL • WebRTC

Health platform for video consultations between doctors/patients. Started as practice but gotten serious.

- Backend: Node.js/Express handling auth, scheduling, patient records. WebRTC for video, Socket.io for messaging.
- JWT authentication with role-based access. Running on Azure via Railway.app with Cloudflare. Working on HIPAA compliance.

AI Video Pipeline

Python • FastAPI • Google Cloud Platform • YouTube API • Stable Diffusion

Automated YouTube upload system generating images, descriptions, uploading content.

- Python/FastAPI backend running as Windows service. Uses GCP for YouTube API (OAuth, API keys).
- Stable Diffusion generates thumbnails. Local Llama 3 writes video descriptions from markdown files.

Home Infrastructure

Raspberry Pi • Linux • Docker • Self-hosted Services

- Self-hosted setup: Plex/Jellyfin for family media, Pi-hole for network-wide ad blocking, NAS for photo/video backups. Everything in Docker on Raspberry Pi 4 and old laptop.

EDUCATION & CERTIFICATIONS

BSc (Honours) Software Engineering

John Moore's University, Liverpool (2013–2016)

Edexcel Diploma in Software Development

SERC, Downpatrick (2010–2012)

Professional Certifications

- CompTIA A+ Certification (WIP)
- Linux Foundation Certified System Administrator (LFCS) (WIP)

INTERESTS

Outside work: snowboard (picked up couple years back), dive when possible, tinker with tech projects. Follow Network Chuck and The Cyber Mentor for cybersecurity - ethical hacking and system security interest me. Usually have side project on Raspberry Pi or spare laptop.