

Farouk Ben Fraj – Freelance Tech Lead & CTO-on-demand

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Profile

Seasoned Freelance Tech Lead and CTO-on-demand specializing in MVP and SaaS development, scalable architectures, and AI/Web3 integration. Expert in React, Node.js, PostgreSQL and AWS, with a strong track record of implementing LLM-powered features and driving business impact. Collaborative leader who mentors teams, enforces best practices (CI/CD, testing) and maximizes ROI for B2B clients and startups.

Professional Experience

Technical Lead – Staffdesk (Paris)

March 2024 – Present

- Designed and deployed a scalable multi-tenant SaaS architecture on AWS (EC2, S3, RDS), boosting MRR by 30%.
- Integrated LLMs (OpenAI) for automated HR insights, reducing manual reporting time by 60%.
- Developed Node.js/Express microservices and standardized KPI calculations in PostgreSQL for cross-client consistency.
- Built interactive React/ApexCharts dashboards, accelerating decision-making by 40%.
- Implemented CI/CD pipelines with GitHub Actions, achieving 85%+ test coverage using Jest.
- Mentored a team of 3 developers, led code reviews and Agile (Scrum/Kanban) ceremonies.
- Automated secure REST APIs (JWT, OAuth2) and CSV exports for enterprise integrations.

Freelance Developer – FrajTech (Île-de-France)

April 2022 – Present

- Led end-to-end MVP and SaaS projects using React, Node.js, AWS Lambda, Docker & Kubernetes.

- Architected REST and GraphQL APIs; managed PostgreSQL and MongoDB databases.
- Integrated Web3: developed Solidity smart contracts (Hardhat) and front-end integration via Ethers.js & RainbowKit.
- Established DevOps best practices: automated deployments, Datadog monitoring, 99.9% SLA.
- Authored “CTO-on-demand” documentation and trained client teams for autonomous maintenance.
- Advised on product roadmap, feature prioritization and cloud cost optimization.

Fullstack Tech Lead – RATP Group (Paris)

June 2023 – January 2024

- Led Tech Lead for digital factory project supporting Rugby World Cup 2023 & Paris 2024 Olympics.
- Architected modular backend (Node.js, Sequelize, PostgreSQL) supporting 1 000+ concurrent users.
- Migrated platform to AWS (S3, SQS, RDS) and automated deployments with Kubernetes.
- Implemented end-to-end tests (Cypress) and unit tests (Jest) with 90% coverage.
- Monitored performance via Datadog dashboards to proactively resolve incidents.
- Collaborated with UX/UI designers and PO to reduce churn by 15% and improve user adoption.

Frontend Tech Lead – Raispense (Paris)

Nov 2022 – October 2023

- Developed an Electron desktop app and Chrome extension leveraging OpenAI API for real-time response suggestions.
- Built a modular React design system (hooks, Context API) ensuring consistent UX across platforms.
- Established CI/CD pipelines (GitHub Actions), linting (ESLint, Prettier) and unit tests (Jest).
- Ensured GDPR compliance and AES encryption of user data.
- Optimized front-end performance (code-splitting, lazy-loading) achieving FCP < 1.5 s.
- Iterated rapidly on user feedback using Agile, boosting engagement by 25%.

Fullstack Web3 Developer – Gateway (New York, USA)

May 2022 – November 2022

- Built POC & MVP dApp with Next.js (TypeScript), Material-UI and Solidity smart contracts for NFT minting.
- Developed backend with Node.js, Hasura, Prisma and PostgreSQL on AWS.
- Implemented real-time notifications via NestJS, Redis and AWS SQS (SLA 99.5%).
- Integrated wallets (MetaMask, WalletConnect, RainbowKit) using Ethers.js.
- Authored comprehensive API documentation and supported first adopters.
- Conducted internal security audits on smart contracts.

Back End Developer – Trusk (Saint-Ouen)

October 2020 – January 2022

- Developed RESTful microservices in Express/TypeScript, orchestrated with Docker Compose.
- Implemented RabbitMQ message queues and real-time data streaming.
- Wrote unit and integration tests (Jest) to ensure service robustness.

- Collaborated closely with React front-end team in Agile sprints.
- Automated AWS deployments using Terraform, reducing provisioning time by 70%.

Full Stack Developer – Capgemini (Paris)

December 2018 – September 2020

- Built SEO-optimized static sites with GatsbyJS (React) from headless CMS sources.
- Developed a blockchain-based ad-blocker plugin in Docker for secure, private browsing.
- Created a Python NLP search engine for Institut Pasteur, enabling natural language queries.
- Presented innovations at Demodays, drove cross-functional collaboration and rapid prototyping.

IT Systems Administrator – Ministry of the Interior (Paris)

December 2017 – August 2018

- Managed Active Directory, GPO, GLPI and Exchange for 2 000+ users.
 - Defined and enforced cybersecurity policies (MFA, encryption), reducing vulnerabilities by 25%.
 - Virtualized servers with VMware, improving resilience and reducing downtime.
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Technical Skills

- **Languages & Frameworks:** JavaScript (ES6+), TypeScript, React, Node.js, Express, NestJS, Electron
 - **Databases & Cloud:** PostgreSQL, MongoDB, AWS (EC2, S3, Lambda, SQS), Docker, Kubernetes
 - **AI & Web3:** LLM (OpenAI), Solidity, Ethers.js, RainbowKit, Web3.js
 - **CI/CD & Quality:** Git/GitHub, Jest, ESLint, Prettier, Datadog, GitHub Actions
 - **Architecture & Leadership:** SaaS multi-tenant, microservices, MVP, scalable architecture, CTO-on-demand, Agile (Scrum/Kanban), team mentoring
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Key Achievements

- **SaaS HR Platform (Staffdesk):** +60% HR productivity, +30% MRR via LLM integration and multi-tenant design.
 - **Web3 MVP (Gateway):** End-to-end blockchain dApp adopted by 500+ early adopters.
 - **Event Management App (RATP):** 99% uptime during global sporting events.
 - **AI-Powered Extension (Raisponse):** 50% faster message composition using OpenAI API.
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Education & Certifications

- **Master of Science in Software Engineering** – EPITECH, Paris
- **Bachelor of Science in Computer Science** – University of Paris