

# Alexander Lamb

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## Profile

- > Creative software engineer with extensive experience of application design, research, and development for leading businesses.
- > Excellent communication skills: long track record of direct client interaction in a consultancy context. Experience in technical hiring and high-level negotiation.
- > Experience as both an independent researcher/developer on small rapid projects and as a team player in large-scale application development.
- > Strong background in Human-Computer Interaction, innovative GUI design, and Artificial Intelligence.
- > US Citizen, Married.

## Technical Skills

**Expert Knowledge Of:** Java (13 years)

**Extensive Experience With:** Swing (10 years), Actionscript (3 years), Javascript (1.5 years), C (5 years), C++ (3 years), SQL (12 years), MS Office (15 years), Visual Basic (3 years), MS Access (3 years), Lotus Notes (3 years), Prolog (5 years), LATEX (5 years), Pascal (2 years), Hibernate (6 Months), Struts (6 Months), AJAX (6 Months)

**Platforms Developed On:** Windows, Mac OS X, Solaris

**IDEs Employed:** Eclipse, IntelliJ Idea, MS Development Suites, Emacs

## Experience

### **SOFTWARE CONTRACTOR, INSIGHT EXPERIENCE, BOSTON, MA, SEP. 2006 - PRESENT**

Worked as part of small team delivering interactive business simulation software to clients including Cisco, Fidelity Investments, Ford, Caterpillar, Bayer Group, PayPal, eBay, Colgate & Chevron. Software was designed to fully simulate the business leadership experience, including both financials and human impacts—trust, cooperation, conflict, etc. Software required use of Java in both server and desktop contexts along with Tomcat and Swing. Also employed Actionscript for client software, accessed via Flash Remoting.

The work entailed significant exposure to:

- Full software life-cycle over multiple iterations.
- Small-company dynamics and the need to interact both rapidly and flexibly.
- Remote working and the need to operate efficiently in an autonomous context.

### **CONSULTANT, PRAGATI SYNERGETIC RESEARCH, MOUNTAIN VIEW, CA, MAR. 2009 - DEC. 2009**

Worked as lead software engineer for cluster analysis research firm involved in high-profile government defense contracts. Partner organizations included Raytheon and BAE. Client groups included DARPA, US Navy, US Army. Work required rapid familiarization with complex source code, a grasp of both knowledge-based systems and statistical analysis techniques, and capacity to consult on potential leading edge cluster analysis technologies. Undertook development project to extend existing product to add semantic annotation to data points to enable secondary analysis of clustered output. Aided in high-level negotiations of company's role with partner organizations.

**SOFTWARE CONTRACTOR, SELF EMPLOYED, SANTA CRUZ, CA, OCT. 2005 - JUL. 2006**

Worked on Java contracts through Quimbik, a San Francisco based firm specializing in bespoke software development for web applications. Clients included the following:

**Kaiser Permanente:** Developed end-to-end web application components for integrated document management system. Technologies used included: Hibernate, Struts (including JSP, JSTL), Spring, Javascript (including Ajax methodologies), CSS.

**Jacent:** Developed innovative Swing front-end for call-center software for Pizza Hut. System required very rapid user interaction and compatibility with users lacking English skills. Project required knowledge of all Swing components, the creation of complex new components for application-specific tasks, advanced use of Java 2D, and look & feel class development.

**INDEPENDENT CONSULTANT, SELF EMPLOYED, CAMBRIDGE, UK / SANTA CRUZ, CA, MAR. 2001 - OCT. 2005**

Split time between consultancy projects and creative endeavors, including following:

**Awareware:** Founder and CTO of small firm involved in deploying expert knowledge through software and training. Provided product direction and developed Java prototypes.

**University of Norwich Business School:** Developed course materials and ran training workshops for major business clients. Projects included leadership workshops for executives and Improprogramming, a communication skills workshop specifically intended for the software industry.

**British Telecom:** Created and ran improvisation-based workshops for high-end technical sales training, to supplement business-psychology-oriented coursework modules.

**SENIOR SOFTWARE ENGINEER, CITRIX SYSTEMS, CAMBRIDGE, UK, FEB. 1999 - FEB. 2001**

Worked as a Java specialist at the primary research site for the world leading provider of thin-client technology. Responsibilities included:

**Product Development:** Worked on numerous server-based products written in Java for thin-client deployment. Tasks required extensive use of Swing, including creation of a pure-Java desktop environment, and thorough investigation of Javasoft's core UI source code. Conducted analysis and adaptation of Visual C++ legacy code, and used JNI to adapt code to more recent Java-based products.

**Product Research:** Conducted research into feasibility of new technologies and production of prototype thin-client application development systems.

**Recruitment:** Advanced skills in social dynamics led to a role as primary interviewer for development staff, including one-to-one assessments for both technical ability and personality fit.

**INDEPENDENT CONSULTANT, SELF EMPLOYED, BATH, UK, OCT. 1997 - JAN. 1999**

Split time between consultancy projects and creative endeavors, projects included:

**The Real Adventure:** Provided Java games development and strategic technical consulting for rapidly growing advertising firm. Work included assessment of existing IT staff and methods, and resulted in a complete change of company technical strategy.

**Agenda 21:** Provided strategic direction and product advice for technical recruiting firm involved in both the placement of SAP experts and the development of knowledge-based change-management software.

**ANALYST/PROGRAMMER, OXFORD HEALTH PLANS, NEW YORK, USA, JUL. 1996 - SEP. 1997**

Worked as primary Java specialist as part of in-house Artificial Intelligence team. Designed and developed cutting-edge expert-systems application to operate over intranet company-wide. Had primary responsibility for both application architecture and management of knowledge acquisition. Interacted directly with wide range of staff to gather expertise, including doctors and legal and technical specialists.

**ANALYST/PROGRAMMER, BANK OF AMERICA, LONDON, UK, SEP. 1994 - FEB. 1996**

Developed earnings-at-risk and deal capture systems in Visual Basic for bank branches world-wide. Extensive experience in cooperating with traders on financial models and software projects. Role involved travel and remote work at international offices.

**CONSULTANT PROGRAMMER , ARTHUR ANDERSEN, LONDON, UK, MAR. 1993 - AUG. 1994**

Acted as one-man team on high-profile RAD projects. Work involved extensive use of VB, Excel and data analysis tools. Required extensive interaction with clients as both a consultant and trainer. Received Andersen's training in business and accounting skills.

**PROGRAMMER, BACON AND WOODROW ACTUARIES, LONDON, UK, NOV. 1992 - MAR. 1993**

In-house expert in Artificial Intelligence programming in Prolog. Responsible for development of frames-based knowledge system to support actuarial calculations.

## Undergraduate Positions

**FUJITSU LABORATORIES, TOKYO, JAPAN, SUMMER 1991**

Worked in Fujitsu's Linguistic Systems Laboratory. Improved the capabilities of their prototype speech synthesis technology using neural-net based techniques.

**DIGITAL EQUIPMENT CO., READING, UK, SUMMER 1990**

Worked in Digital's Advanced Development Laboratory. Developed new interface capabilities to enhance Digital's prototype multimedia executive desktop system.

**ORACLE, BRISTOL, UK, SUMMER 1989**

Worked as a database programmer using Oracle's application development tools. Work ranged from internal application development to troubleshooting on customer projects.

## Education

Masters in Artificial Intelligence and Computer Science, Edinburgh University, Scotland. (Edinburgh is regarded as the premier Artificial Intelligence research establishment in Europe.)

## Other Skills

**Creative Director for Theater Companies:** Founder of three improvised theater companies including Amazing Spectacles, the UK's foremost 'long-form improv' theater troupe. Role required extensive leadership and marketing skills and resulted in extensive involvement with television and print media. Inventor of Archetypal Improv—a methodology for story building now used by improvisers, trainers, screenwriters, novelists and comedians widespread throughout both the UK and US.

**Science Fiction Author:** Author of three science fiction novels and many short stories. Graduate of prestigious Clarion West writers' workshop. Attendee of Milford writers' workshop. Currently in print with Wheatland and Small Beer Press. Most recent novel currently in negotiation with Tor Books, the nation's largest science-fiction publisher.

**Communication Skills Trainer:** Have used improvisation techniques to teach CEOs, high school students, sales professionals, astrophysicists, doctors, world-class athletes, and graduate students. Was a speaker at the ASTD International Conference in 2008—the largest business training conference in the world. Recent focus on empowerment training for women in science and minority student groups in collaboration with UC Santa Cruz. Expert on human status interactions.

**Digital Physics Researcher:** Speaker at JOURNAL international workshop on simulating physics using algorithms. Speaker at the NKS Midwest Conference in 2008 on work simulating quantum particles using set-based algorithms on densely-connected directed graphs. Papers covering recent work to appear shortly in the scientific journal Complex Systems. New work covers attempts to model relativistic effects, quantum mechanics, and creation of spatial geometry using algorithmic techniques applied to very large networks.

## Other Interests

Hiking, photography, painting, swimming, cartooning, cycling, volcano climbing.