

# Charles Ouimet - Principal Developer

## WHAT CHARACTERIZES ME

After 25 years of coding, I'm still passionate about diving into the details and tackling complex problems. As a Principal Developer, I focus on building resilient APIs and architectures that strike the right balance between quality, cost, and pragmatism. Using small, collaborative, and iterative cycles, I ensure each release delivers impact—driving success together with the team.

Back-end	TypeScript, viem, ethers, sequelize, zod, AWS (Lambdas, Step Functions, SNS, SQS, S3, API Gateway, Kinesis, CloudWatch, etc), Serverless framework, Redis, Docker, Inversify, express, tsoa, Koa web framework, Middy, OAuth, Ruby + Rails, Python, Java
Tests & CI/CD	GitHub Actions, CircleCI, Buildkite, Jenkins, jest, chai, sinon, mocha, Mockito
Tools/Infra	Claude Code, Cursor, Graphite, GitHub Copilot, ChatGPT, pnpm, npm, changesets, Turborepo, VisualCode, MermaidJS, DataDog, split.io, LaunchDarkly, Metabase, Asana, Notion, Postman, Jira, Confluence, GitLab, Ansible, Kubernetes, Sentry
Server	MySQL, PostgreSQL, YugabyteDB, DynamoDB, Node.js, Maxwell

## WORK EXPERIENCES

*Shopify, fully remote from Montréal*

**Staff Developer**

2025-08 to 2026-05

- Member of shop.app Buyer Acquisition (growth) team, focused on the Shop Cash domain.
- Contribution to the transition of the shop.app ecosystem to YugabyteDB, including ownership of migration for one of the highest QPS tables (top 20).
- Technical design and implementation of an affiliate payout program in partnership with impact.com.
- Use of Claude Code in daily development workflows; building commands to automate repetitive tasks and skills to encode domain-specific knowledge.
- Development of a Claude skill for ATC (Air Traffic Controller) support rotation, leveraging multiple Model Context Protocol (MCP) integrations to collect data and guide decisions based on team runbooks

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*Octav, hybrid from Montréal*

**Principal Developer**

2025-02 to 2025-07

- Dove head down in the crypto and DeFi space to learn as much as I could about L2s, block explorers, smart contracts (ABIs), DEXes, AMMs, liquidity pools, lending, borrowing, staking, rewards on EVM-compatible chains and Solana. (Rugs and scams included! 😞)
- Extended a fork of the SonarWatch Portfolio to support additional protocols, exploring independence from Debank's API for on-chain portfolio data. Peer-reviewed other protocols.
- Decomposed parts of a monolith into independent microservices to improve scalability and reduce resource contention.
- Migrated a standalone npm package repo to a Turborepo monorepo with `changesets`, streamlining dependency and version management.
- Created a centralized GitHub Actions repository to reduce duplication across CI/CD workflows and improve maintainability.
- Introduced structured logging across services, enabling efficient log filtering and analysis via AWS CloudWatch Log Insights.
- Designed CloudWatch custom metrics from structured logs to improve observability and operational insight.
- Developed a reusable npm package to avoid 3rd-party APIs throttling our calls

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*Flexport, fully remote from Montréal (Shopify sold its logistics division to Flexport)*

**Senior Staff Developer**

2023-06 to 2024-10

- Stayed close to the prep team from Deliverr days after the acquisition, while focusing most of my time on work outside the team's core feature set. Continued reviewing designs and PRs to support them.
- Reviewed design documents to help integrate Flexport's freight-forwarding core systems with the newly acquired fulfillment business (known internally as omni-channel).
- Integrated observability-as-code into several services to enhance monitoring and maintainability.
- Let the migration of over 80 microservices to AWS SDK V3 and out of Node.js v16. Developed an abstraction layer to enable seamless transition between the SDK versions.

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*Shopify Logistics, fully remote from Montréal (Shopify acquired Deliverr)*

**Senior Staff Developer**

2022-07 to 2023-06

- Shopify Logistics was a combination of three entities:
  - **Deliverr**: Fulfillment company acquired by Shopify in July 2022
  - **6 River Systems**: Robotics company acquired by Shopify in September 2019
  - **Shopify Fulfillment Network (SFN)**: Established internally at Shopify in June 2019
- After Shopify acquired Deliverr, I continued with the prep team, where I actively coded new features and kept providing the technical direction for our team.
- I was invited to join the **Technical Leadership Community (TLC)**, a select group of 8-10 leaders from across Shopify Logistics' sub-divisions. Our mission was to guide a team of ~300 developers through the acquisition and standardize best practices. I built presentations and video capsules covering patterns like the transactional outbox, sagas (orchestration vs. choreography), and more. The TLC wasn't about enforcing architecture rules; instead, we served as a sounding board, helping teams validate system designs through collaborative discussions.
- Using **EventStorming** and **BPMN**, I facilitated conversations between tech and non-tech stakeholders, ensuring everyone spoke a common language and thought in terms of domain boundaries instead of defaulting to microservice boundaries and API calls.
- As part of a small group, I helped create observability guidelines and led the first implementation. I also built and maintained npm packages to enable **observability-as-code**.

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*Deliverr, fully remote from Montréal*

**Senior Developer**

2021-12 to 2022-07

- As a founding member of the prep team, I helped launch key features within an existing microservice to test market adoption. These features were later spun off into a standalone domain/service through a seamless data and code migration, using the strangler pattern and event-driven architecture (EDA).
- Led the team in adopting domain-driven design (DDD) and finite state machines over traditional CRUD-based REST APIs. I introduced eventstorming and BPMN diagrams to document workflows and guided the team in writing concise, effective technical design documents for feature planning.
- Authored the original specification for integration events in our distributed ecosystem, ensuring a robust foundation for inter-service communication.
- Developed and maintained a suite of private npm packages to standardize reusable functionality across projects, including packages for the transactional outbox pattern, integration events, TSOA, CDC pipelines, and serverless components.
- Regularly reviewed PRs and technical design documents across teams.

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*SSENSE, Montréal*

**Tech Lead**

2020-08 to 2021-12

- Member of *Technical Architecture Group* (6-10 persons). With the architects, Staff & Principal Engineers, we established the departments' tech standards. Oversaw the projects of 3 other teams to ensure they followed the established standards while still applying best practices to reach the targeted software \*ilities.

- Complete BPMN documentation of our orders' lifecycle by reverse-engineering the existing code to identify the optimal way(s) to peel-off the order management system (OMS) from a monolith.
- Design of the OMS peel-off (DDD context maps and bounded contexts, serverless approach, integration into our existing event-driven architecture, openAPI specs, data modeling, etc.).
- Lead implementation of the OMS peel-off (DDD concepts, SOLID principles, hexagonal architecture, CQRS). Code + supervise the most complex parts.
- Design and implementation of the OMS' Distributed Order Management component.
- Design and implementation of a purely serverless system to manage customs (CBSA) export declarations (C4 diagrams, data flows, integration with a 3rd-party API, etc.)
- Training other teams on serverless technologies

**Senior Developer**

2019-10 to 2020-08

- Contribution to the Product Information Management (PIM) system (Python back-end)
- Contribution to the purchase orders (PO) platform (React + Redux front-end)
- Improvements to micro-services in a trunk-based development with the use of feature flags
- Winner of Hackathon 2019 to improve the onboarding experience of new developers

*Zola, Montréal*

**Senior Developer**

2019-01 to 2019-10

- Contribution to the Paper Products Division of the e-comm platform
- Improvements to micro-services (mainly REST APIs), maintaining backwards-compatibility in a trunk-based development with the use of feature flags
- Technos: Java, Hibernate, Guice, Mockito, AWS

*AFS Technologies Inc., Montréal*

**Architect & Scrum Master**

2014-09 to 2018-12

- Long-term vision for the evolution of a SaaS REST application
- Standardization of private and public APIs (payloads + URL consistency, versioning, etc)
- Rigorous code reviews and training of team members in this craft
- Technos: Java, Hibernate, Spring, Mockito, Jenkins, Artifactory, SQL Server, SSAS, OLAP, ETL

**Senior Developer**

2011-11 to 2014-09

- Full stack contributions to a SaaS REST application
- Supervision and code review of offshore team (up to 9 people in India)

*Vidéotron Ltée, Montréal*

**Senior Developer**

2011-04 to 2011-10

- Architectural guidance, selection of third-party libraries, analysis and code review
- XML subject matter expert and technical reference in the department

**Developer**

2006-07 to 2011-04

- Needs assessments and prototype presentations
- Standardization of exchange formats between layers of the system (XML)

*Markzware Software, Santa Ana, California*

**Senior Developer**

2001-03 to 2006-06

- Functional analysis and implementation; API maintenance and extension

- Supervision of developers located in Europe and the United States

Chair of [CIP4](#)'s preflight sub-committee (2002 – 2005)

## **CREDENTIALS**

- Certified Cloud Practitioner – AWS (2019)
- Professional Scrum Master I – Scrum Alliance (2013)
- Bachelor Degree in Computer Science - Université du Québec à Montréal (2001)

## **NOMINATIONS**

- *Canada's 50 Most Influential People in Graphic Communications* – PrintAction Magazine (July 2005)