

BRANDON TATE

Software Engineer · Generative AI Developer

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SUMMARY

Software engineer specializing in generative AI — designing and shipping RAG pipelines, agentic workflows, and Model Context Protocol (MCP) integrations that move LLMs from demo to production. Drawn to neurosymbolic design: pairing the fuzzy, probabilistic strengths of LLMs with deterministic, ground-truth verification so AI systems stay accurate and trustworthy. Backed by enterprise experience building distributed, event-driven microservices on AWS, with a focus on reliability, contract-driven design, and AI-assisted developer tooling that speeds up engineering teams.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Generative AI & LLMs: RAG pipelines, agentic workflows, MCP server development, neurosymbolic systems, best-of-N sampling & LLM verifiers, Anthropic & OpenAI APIs

Agentic Dev (Claude Code): Custom skills, subagents, hooks, slash commands, and plugin development; designing agent loops and AI-assisted engineering workflows

Vector & ML: ChromaDB, Pinecone, FAISS, embedding models, PyTorch, Hugging Face Transformers

Cloud, Edge & DevOps: AWS (EKS, Kubernetes, Docker, Terraform, ArgoCD, Jenkins, CI/CD), Cloudflare Workers & edge computing; Dynatrace, Splunk, Zipkin, Okta

Languages: Kotlin, Python, Java, TypeScript, JavaScript

Backend & Data: Spring Boot, Spring MVC, FastAPI, Kafka, RabbitMQ, PostgreSQL, Redis, Databricks, ETL, event-driven architecture

Frontend: Next.js, React, React Native, Tailwind CSS

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Software Engineer

Apr 2023 – Present

Travelers · Hartford, CT (Hybrid)

- Build and maintain distributed, event-driven microservices in Kotlin and Spring on AWS (EKS / Kubernetes), using Kafka for messaging and PostgreSQL and Redis for persistence across high-throughput insurance platforms — shipping through CI/CD pipelines in an Agile environment.
- Designed and built an automated, agentic production-readiness checkout for APIs — running unit and integration tests, verifying schema and contract compliance, generating architecture diagrams, and producing the documentation required at each deployment stage.
- Built and maintain the team's Claude Code plugin marketplace, authoring ~90% of the plugins used for AI-assisted development.
- Authored the team's standards and best practices for AI use, guiding adoption of AI-assisted development workflows across the group.

Founder & Web Developer

Sep 2021 – 2023

Pixalier · North Canton, OH

- Founded and ran a B2B web design studio — built responsive JavaScript sites and managed digital assets for a range of clients.

Deputy Sheriff

2017 – 2021

Summit County Sheriff's Office · Akron, OH

- Made high-stakes decisions under pressure, documented incidents in precise reports used in legal proceedings, and coordinated multi-agency responses — a foundation in critical thinking, clear communication, and composure.

GENERATIVE AI PROJECTS

Grounded Signal Extraction — Pre-investment analysis tool pairing best-of-N LLM sampling with external API verifiers (GitHub, DeFiLlama); a reconciler majority-votes model outputs and defers to ground-truth facts on any disagreement — a neurosymbolic design for verifiable signals.

RAG Pipeline & Vector Search — Production-ready retrieval and Q&A: chunking, embedding generation, and vector similarity search across ChromaDB and Pinecone, with re-ranking and context enrichment to lift retrieval accuracy.

Agentic Systems & MCP Tooling — Custom Model Context Protocol servers that extend LLMs with external tools and data, wired into multi-agent workflows with tool-calling, memory management, and decision branching for multi-step task automation.

CERTIFICATIONS & EDUCATION

AWS Cloud Certified

Tech Elevator — Java Web Application Development (Full-Stack Bootcamp)

2022

Kent State University — B.A., Psychology

2020