

Milo Johnston

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SUMMARY

Early career full stack software engineer with more than one year of professional experience building user facing **AI products** across React and TypeScript interfaces, Python services, APIs, **relational data models**, search workflows, and **model integrations**. Turns unclear product ideas into prototypes, then uses usage data, production telemetry, and structured evaluations to improve product quality. Built retrieval augmented generation workflows with tool use, agent patterns, source metadata, and validation steps. Ships **production code** through Docker and AWS, with attention to latency, reliability, observability, and staged delivery. Works closely with designers, product leads, and research partners, making practical architecture decisions across frontend and backend boundaries. Public technical work and shipped products demonstrate sound product judgment, steady learning, and care for useful customer experiences.

EXPERIENCE

Software Engineer, AI Products

June 2025 - Present

Northstar Labs

Oakland, CA

Owns customer facing research workspace development across React, TypeScript, Python, PostgreSQL, Redis, Docker, and AWS. Partners with design and product leaders on prototypes, architecture choices, production delivery, and post release quality.

- Shipped React and **TypeScript** research workspace features, giving customers clearer paths through complex evidence.
- Built Python **APIs** with PostgreSQL models, supporting dependable workflows across user facing research tools.
- Created retrieval workflows with LLM tool calls, source metadata, and structured evaluation cases for trust.
- Turned loose product ideas into **prototypes**, then used telemetry and usage analysis for production decisions.
- Added Redis caching after API profiling, reducing repeated context assembly during model powered requests.
- Deployed Docker **services** on AWS with automated tests, staged releases, monitoring, and post release checks.
- Reviewed latency and **reliability** findings with **designers**, product leads, and research partners during delivery.

PROJECTS

Evidence Search Assistant 📅 2026

Built a public technical prototype that combines retrieval, source metadata, tool use, and structured evaluations for research workflows. Focused on clear interactions, useful responses, and observable model behavior.

Agent Workflow Evaluation Kit 📅 2025

Created a technical project for comparing agent responses across repeatable cases, tool calls, and retrieval contexts. Used results to guide product choices and identify reliability gaps.

LEADERSHIP & AWARDS

- University Software Showcase Finalist, 2025
- Dean's List, California State University, East Bay, 2024
- Campus AI Product Hackathon Mentor, 2026

EDUCATION

Bachelor's Degree in Computer Science

2025

California State University, East Bay GPA: 3.8

Hayward, CA

Coursework: Software Engineering, Database Systems, Artificial Intelligence, Web Application Development

CERTIFICATIONS

- AWS Academy Cloud Foundations 📅 2025
- DeepLearning.AI Building Systems with the ChatGPT API 📅 2026

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- **Frontend Development:** React, TypeScript, Next.js
- **Backend Development:** Python, Go, REST APIs
- **Relational Databases:** PostgreSQL, relational modeling, SQL

- **Caching Systems:** Redis, cache design, request caching
- **Cloud Platforms:** AWS, cloud deployment, AWS services
- **Containerization:** Docker, container images, service packaging
- **AI Model Integration:** LLMs, ChatGPT API, model integrations
- **Retrieval Systems:** RAG, retrieval, source metadata
- **Agent Engineering:** AI agents, tool use, agent workflows
- **Evaluation Methods:** Structured evals, evaluation cases, response testing
- **Product Development:** Prototyping, product analytics, usage analysis
- **Software Quality:** Automated tests, code review, direct inspection
- **Production Operations:** Staged rollouts, monitoring, observability
- **Performance Engineering:** Latency optimization, API profiling, database profiling
- **Application Architecture:** Services, APIs, data models

SKILLS

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|--------------|--------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| • React | • Go | • Relational modeling | • RAG |
| • Next.js | • PostgreSQL | • Docker | • Agents |
| • TypeScript | • Redis | • AWS | • Evaluation design |
| • Python | • REST APIs | • LLM orchestration | |

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- Open Source Student Developers Group, contributor and peer collaborator, 2024 to 2025
- Campus AI Product Hackathon, mentor supporting student product teams, 2026

LANGUAGES

- English (Native)
- Spanish (Intermediate)

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Work Status : Authorized to work in United States. No sponsorship required.

REFERENCES

AVAILABLE ON REQUEST