

Elena Klein

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SUMMARY

Senior backend engineer with more than five years building Java services, **distributed systems**, and search platforms for large information environments. Career growth moved from application search and data processing into ownership of scalable indexing workflows, query optimization, AWS services, Kafka event streams, and production reliability. Recent work has connected search architecture with practical business needs, including better document retrieval, dependable cloud services, and clearer technical decisions during delivery. Code reviews, design discussions, performance investigations, and guidance for fellow engineers have remained part of daily contribution. Work across OpenSearch, **semantic search**, **AI enabled retrieval** concepts, backend APIs, and monitoring supports thoughtful platform improvements. Brings steady technical judgment, collaborative delivery, and a strong focus on making **search experiences** faster, more reliable, and easier for customers and engineering teams to trust.

EXPERIENCE

Senior Software Engineer, Search Platforms

February 2023 - Present

Summit Data Platforms

Austin, Texas

Owns backend search services for enterprise information platforms, guiding Java architecture, indexing workflows, AWS delivery, Kafka integration, **reliability** work, and technical reviews. Partners with product and engineering leaders on search capabilities that improve retrieval quality and platform trust.

- Designed **Java** search services with distributed patterns, improving retrieval across enterprise information platforms.
- Reworked **indexing** workflows and query strategies for large document collections and smoother retrieval.
- Built AWS services with **Kafka** streams, connecting search updates with dependable event processing.
- Investigated production **performance issues** through monitoring and debugging, restoring reliable service behavior.
- Reviewed code contributions and guided engineers through practical design and quality decisions.
- Partnered with product teams on search capabilities that connected platform work with customer needs.

Software Engineer, Backend Search

July 2020 - January 2023

Blue Horizon Applications

Dallas, Texas

Developed Java **backend services**, APIs, search features, and cloud deployments for application platforms. Supported relevance analysis, production troubleshooting, technical documentation, and peer reviews while building judgment for later ownership of distributed search systems.

- Developed Java services for application search and data processing, strengthening backend platform capability.
- Implemented backend APIs and scalable components that supported dependable application workflows.
- Analyzed search relevance issues and adjusted query processing for clearer result behavior.
- Supported cloud deployments and production troubleshooting during application delivery cycles.
- Documented technical designs and development practices, giving teams a shared implementation reference.
- Participated in engineering reviews that improved maintainability and clarified implementation tradeoffs.

PROJECTS

Semantic Retrieval Service 📅 2025

Built a search focused service concept around semantic retrieval, indexing decisions, query behavior, and cloud delivery. Work connected AI search concepts with practical information access needs and reliable backend design.

Event Driven Indexing Pipeline 📅 2024

Created an event streaming project using Kafka patterns for indexing updates and backend processing. Focus centered on dependable data movement, searchable content freshness, and clearer operational diagnosis.

LEADERSHIP & AWARDS

- Recognized by engineering leadership for dependable search platform ownership and thoughtful production problem solving.
- Selected by peers as a trusted reviewer for Java services, query behavior, and maintainable backend design.

EDUCATION

Bachelor's Degree in Computer Science

University of Texas at Arlington GPA: 4.0

2020

Arlington, Texas

Coursework: Distributed systems, Database systems, Software engineering, Cloud computing

CERTIFICATIONS

- AWS Certified Developer Associate 📅 2025
- Cloud Computing Foundations Certificate 📅 2024

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- **Java Development:** Java, JVM languages, backend services
- **Search Technologies:** OpenSearch, search platforms, intelligent retrieval
- **AWS Services:** AWS, cloud infrastructure, cloud deployments
- **Event Streaming:** Kafka, event streams, event driven processing
- **Distributed Systems:** Distributed systems, scalable services, large datasets
- **Search Indexing:** Indexing strategies, indexing workflows, document retrieval
- **Query Engineering:** Query optimization, query processing, search relevance
- **Backend APIs:** Backend APIs, service design, application components
- **AI Search:** Semantic search, AI search concepts, AI enabled retrieval
- **Software Quality:** Code review, technical reviews, maintainability

SKILLS

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|--------------|-----------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| • Java | • Distributed systems | • Semantic search | • Schema design |
| • AWS | • Indexing | • AI search concepts | • JVM languages |
| • Kafka | • Query optimization | • Code review | • Event streaming |
| • OpenSearch | • Backend services | • Search platforms | |

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- Association for Computing Machinery member, with continued engagement in software engineering practices.
- Austin technology community participant, exchanging ideas on cloud services, search systems, and backend development.

LANGUAGES

- English (Native)
- German (Intermediate)

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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

REFERENCES

AVAILABLE ON REQUEST