John-Franklin Anusiem

Lead Software Engineer

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SUMMARY

Lead software engineer with 5+ years of experience building and running production systems in fintech and AI. Currently leads engineering on a suite of AI products, including an agent orchestration platform that lets non-technical staff deploy AI agents without writing code, and single-handedly runs the company's DevOps and infrastructure. Previously led delivery of a USSD loan service on a financial platform serving 16 million customers in six countries. Specializes in Golang, Rust and Python backends, multi-agent systems, Linux infrastructure and CI/CD.

EXPERIENCE

Lead Software Engineer

03/2024 - Present

DGRS Labs - AI studio behind CoNexus ↗

AI products & engineering

- Lead a team of three engineers across DGRS Labs' AI product suite (CoNexus, Loom, Buckt and an in-house AI model service), owning architecture, technical direction and production delivery.
- Architected and built Loom, the agent orchestration platform that powers CoNexus. It coordinates six specialized AI agents that generate stories and reader choices, then turn each scene into prompts for visuals, atmosphere, VFX and sound effects.
- Designed Loom's plugin architecture to connect agents to external generation tools such as Meshy for 3D assets, and built a no-code admin interface so non-technical staff can create, configure and deploy new agents without engineering support.
- Built CoNexus's in-house AI model service on open-source models, cutting operating costs by 30% by reducing reliance on third-party AI providers.
- Created Buckt, a media management service that organizes the platform's asset library and lowers storage and operational costs.
- Moved 15,000 media assets out of the frontend bundle into dedicated NGINX-served storage, cutting average page load time from 4.5s to 1.1s.
- Optimized PostgreSQL queries and added caching, reducing database reads by 40% and API response times from 1.2s to 600ms.

DevOps & infrastructure (sole owner since 2024)

- Built and run the company's entire infrastructure single-handedly: provisioning and configuring Linux servers, deploying the platform and routing traffic through Cloudflare.
- Set up separate development, staging and production environments, and defined the deployment rules and release process the whole team follows.
- Built GitHub Actions CI/CD pipelines across five repositories, cutting deployment time by 80% and ending manual SSH deployments.
- Designed a backup and disaster-recovery system with scripts that pull the latest code and backups and restore the full stack automatically, keeping downtime to a minimum.
- Introduced an AI-assisted generator–reviewer workflow (Claude + Codex) with production-like Docker test environments, catching defects before deployment.

Senior Backend Developer

08/2021 - 04/2024

Equity Group Holdings ↗

- Led a team of four engineers delivering a USSD loan service from development to production on a financial services platform serving 16 million customers and handling over 1 million loan requests per month.
- Owned delivery, testing, deployment and production support through international rollouts across six countries.
- Built reusable USSD framework components in Python and Rust, and guided engineers on service integration and business logic.

- Led a FastAPI proof of concept that showed it was a viable alternative to Django for the loan service.
- Containerized services with Docker, deployed them via Azure Pipelines and Kubernetes, and used Redis to support performance and reliability in production.

EDUCATION

Computer Science 06/2026 - Present
University of Sunderland - Master's Degree
Research interest: AI for accessibility, with a particular focus on supporting people with keratoconus.

Computer Science 12/2019 - 12/2023
University of Calabar - Bachelor's Degree

SKILLS

Languages

Golang
Python
Rust
Javascript/Typescript

Backend and Data

FastAPI
Django
Postgresql
Redis
API Design
Query Optimisation

DevOps & Infrastructure

Linux server administration
Docker
Cloudflare
Github Actions
NGINX
Kubernetes
Azure Pipelines
Backup & Disaster recovery

A.I Systems

Agent Orchestration
Open-source model deployment
Multi-agent Pipelines
Open-source LLM Deployment
AI-assisted Development (Claude, Codex)

Engineering Leadership

Technical Direction
System Architecture
Team Leadership
Code Review
Production Delivery

LANGUAGES

English Native
Igbo Fluent
Chinese Basic