

Connor J. Ludwig

Senior Staff Software Engineer

Chicago, IL, US

[Website](#) | [GitHub](#) | [LinkedIn](#)

Summary

Senior Staff Software Engineer with over 9 years building and leading scalable systems for startups and Fortune 500 companies. Comfortable across the stack, from event-driven backends and cloud infrastructure to the internal tools and frontends teams depend on. Leads by modernizing engineering practices, mentoring engineers, and working with cross-functional partners to land the right solution rather than the obvious one. Picks up new technologies quickly to fit the problem at hand. Domain experience spans fintech, construction lending, precision agriculture, and enterprise data platforms.

Professional Experience

Senior Staff Software Engineer

Built Technologies – Nashville, TN (Remote)

01/2025 – Present

- Founded AI Agents Platform, establishing evaluation frameworks, safety guardrails, observability patterns, and MCP integration standards
- Led AI document extraction experimentation with benchmark-driven evaluation and regression protection
- Co-founded AI Guild, driving measurable AI tooling adoption increases across 100+ engineers
- Unblocked over \$1M ARR by delivering complex loan compliance calculations for enterprise clients
- Identified PII exposure risk in a cross-team design, authored corrective RFC, and aligned stakeholders
- Built Data Streaming team from scratch, hiring senior engineers and establishing team practices
- Led 5+ P1 incidents as incident commander, restoring platform stability during critical regressions
- Drove financial precision initiative, improving calculation accuracy to 14 decimal digits
- Led org-wide documentation initiative across 100+ engineers, building AI-ready knowledge base
- Mentored staff and senior engineers while ranking 100th percentile in code review contributions

Staff Software Engineer

Built Technologies – Nashville, TN (Remote)

01/2024 – 01/2025

- Led architecture of high-throughput, event-driven financial systems in a FinTech startup environment
- Delivered core data consistency project, unlocking over \$5 million in ARR
- Built real-time financial processing pipeline using Flink, accelerating key customer adoption
- Decreased eventing failure rate by 90% through advanced observability tooling
- Elevated system resiliency to achieve a 99.999% SLA
- Cut infrastructure costs by 30% by identifying and resolving key inefficiencies
- Authored technical documents and architectural proposals adopted by 100+ engineers across the organization

Full-stack Staff Software Engineer

Deere & Company – Chicago, IL

09/2022 – 01/2024

- Architected novel licensing API platform that facilitated \$10 billion in recurring revenue
- Technical lead for team of 10 developers, mentoring junior engineers on technical development and career growth
- Created suite of APIs used by customer-facing apps supporting 1,000+ requests per second
- Built fraud prevention and detection systems leveraging IoT eventing and telemetry

- Championed trust and safety in financial transactions, ensuring compliance with privacy regulations
- Modernized engineering best practices and workflows, doubling team delivery velocity
- Consulted on staffing decisions for an organization of 30+ engineers

Backend Senior Software Engineer

Deere & Company – Urbandale, IA

09/2021 – 09/2022

- Launched distributed API web service supporting 100,000+ IoT devices annually
- Improved license delivery performance by 4x through optimization and infrastructure enhancements
- Spearheaded secure cryptographic processes to protect billions of dollars in company revenue
- Guided 20+ cross-functional stakeholders in product definition and development
- Built ETL data pipelines for digital sales department with 10,000+ users
- Deployed serverless monitoring and logging for over 20 microservices
- Established CI/CD processes, reducing deployment times by over 30%

Full-stack Software Engineer

Deere & Company – Moline, IL

09/2017 – 09/2021

- Managed petabyte-scale enterprise data lake platform fronted with Databricks, serving 2,000+ customers
- Built data governance web app using React & Node.js for 1,000+ datasets
- Automated data discovery within enterprise data platform, streamlining metadata management
- Consulted over 100 customers to identify optimal data analytics solutions based on use cases
- Enhanced wide range of HR applications including SAP and Java apps used by 50,000+ employees
- Defined and enforced UI/UX development standards, improving code quality and reducing defects
- Optimized cloud architecture for large-scale data ingestion and egress

Software Engineer Internships

Deere & Company – Moline, IL

05/2015 – 08/2017

- Established models for securing cloud data access for 2,000+ engineers

Boston Scientific – Arden Hills, MN

05/2016 – 08/2016

- Developed a suite of 50+ automated regression tests for mobile sales application using Selenium

Key Projects

ReReadme: AI-Powered Doc Refresh CLI

01/2026 – Present

Published open-source CLI (@cjlludwig/rereadme) that runs an AI agent workflow to regenerate README documentation and detect drift over time through CI, targeting the token cost of stale docs in agentic development. Built AI-native: committed Agent settings, repo context files, and validation hooks make dev agents first-class contributors. Two-layer quality strategy — Jest unit tests for deterministic behavior and DeepEval E2E evals with golden READMEs and LLM-as-a-judge grading. **Stack:** Claude Code, OpenAI Agents SDK, TypeScript, Node.js, Zod, DeepEval, Jest, Google ZX, GitHub Actions

AI Agents Platform

08/2025 – Present

Founding member building enterprise AI agent platform supporting both deterministic workflows and autonomous agents. Delivered intelligent document processing for unstructured financial documents, enabling automated data

ingestion. Pioneered AI product ideation and thought leadership across organization.

Stack: AWS Strands, AWS Agentcore, OpenAI, Claude, Knowledge Bases, Temporal, Python, LLMs, React

Real-time Calculation Processing

06/2024 – 07/2025

Built event-driven system to handle complex financial calculations with a focus on accuracy and low latency. Delivered within a one-month turnaround to meet tight product release timeline.

Stack: AWS, PyFlink, SQL, Terraform, Kafka, Lambda

License Management Data Pipeline

04/2023 – 05/2023

Developed hackathon concept to address critical business need for exposing production licensing and purchasing data. Enabled internal key metrics tracking, reporting, and customer incentive engines. Won ISG Hackathon “Tools & Infrastructure” award.

Stack: AWS, Apache Spark, PySpark, Python, REST APIs, Databricks

Recurring Revenue Licensing Service

09/2021 – 12/2023

Created novel licensing API platform for seamless embedded technology ordering. Included IoT license delivery, enhanced data collection, telemetry, and expanded product marketing options. Extended platform from display-only to all connected controllers using hub-and-spoke delivery system with enhanced data structures for improved security.

Stack: AWS, Terraform, API Gateway, DynamoDB, S3, IoT, Lambda, Node.js, Protobuf, C++, Linux, QT, MQTT

Enterprise Data Catalog

09/2019 – 09/2021

Developed modern web application to enable data discovery, governance, and metadata management for Deere’s enterprise data lake. Managed thousands of datasets with various API integrations.

Stack: React, Next.js, Spark, AWS, CloudFormation, EC2, DynamoDB, API Gateway, Lambda

Technical Skills

Languages & Frameworks: JavaScript, TypeScript, Node.js, Java, Python, Scala, C++, C#, HTML, CSS, Sass, React, Express.js, Next.js, D3.js, Enzyme, QT

Cloud & Infrastructure: AWS, AWS IoT, AWS SAM, Terraform, CloudFormation, Docker, Kubernetes, GitHub Actions, Jenkins, Datadog, OpenSSL, Linux

Data & Analytics: SQL, MongoDB, Apache Spark, PySpark, PyFlink, Flink, Kafka, Snowflake, Jupyter, Pandas, Databricks, MQTT

AI & Machine Learning: Claude, OpenAI, Gemini, Cursor, GitHub Copilot, Strands, AI Agents, Prompt Engineering, RAG, Evaluation Frameworks, Document Extraction

Tools & Practices: Git, REST APIs, OAuth, TDD, Unit Testing, E2E Testing, Integration Testing, Selenium, Code Reviews, Agile, UX Design, Protobuf, Redis, CI/CD, Microservices, Analytics, IaC, Mentoring, System Architecture, Product Management

Domain Expertise: FinTech, Construction Lending, Real Estate, Asset Management, Precision Agriculture, Ag Tech, Embedded Systems, SaaS Licensing, Data Engineering

Certifications & Awards

- AWS Developer Associate (Certified)

- **AWS Solutions Architect Associate** (Certified)
 - **Python for Data Science** (Certified)
 - **Blue River Machine Learning & AI** (Certified)
 - **Built Impact Award Winner** (2025)
 - **ISG Hackathon “Tools & Infrastructure” Winner** (2023)
 - **Deere Embedded Solutions “Exceptional Collaborator Award”** (2022)
 - **Deere Chicago Tech MeetUp Technical Evaluator** (2022)
 - **Big 12 Career Fair Representative** (2022)
 - **Databricks Data & AI Summit “Data Team Innovation Award” Winner** (2021)
 - **John Deere DeepRacer AI & ML Challenge Champion** (2020)
 - **New and Experienced Organizational Network (NEON ERG)** – Chair, Social Networking Lead, Intern Lead (2018-2021)
 - **Bettendorf High School Computer Science Course Mentor** (2019)
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Education

Iowa State University – Ames, IA

Bachelor of Science – Cum Laude

Majors: Management Information Systems, Supply Chain Management

Minor: Computer Science

08/2013 – 12/2017
