KISHAN PATEL

Senior DevSecOps / Platform Engineer

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

DevSecOps and platform engineer with 6+ years across AWS, Kubernetes, and cloud security. I run 4 production Amazon EKS clusters end to end in AWS GovCloud under FedRAMP and NIST 800-53 — Terraform, GitOps delivery, CI/CD security gates, monitoring — and cut cluster compute spend ~30% with Karpenter autoscaling. I also build the systems that run on top of the platform, like an AI decision service for an Air Force research program and agent-based tools with real guardrails and test coverage. I use AI tooling heavily in my day-to-day work and write my own where it helps.

US citizen | Secret clearance in progress

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Cloud & Gov: AWS (EKS, EC2, S3, IAM, Lambda, Step Functions, Glue, Redshift, RDS, Athena, SageMaker, CloudWatch), AWS GovCloud, FedRAMP, IL4/IL5, NIST 800-53, FIPS 140-2, Google Cloud (BigQuery, Dataflow, Pub/Sub, Dataproc, Composer, GKE, Cloud Functions), Azure (Synapse, Databricks, Data Lake)

Kubernetes (K8s) & Platform: Amazon EKS (production), Docker, Helm, ArgoCD, Flux (GitOps), Karpenter, Istio, Linkerd, Calico Network Policies, OPA Gatekeeper, Keycloak SSO/OAuth, RBAC

Infrastructure as Code (IaC): Terraform, CloudFormation, Ansible

CI/CD & Security: GitLab CI, Jenkins, CodeCommit, CodeDeploy, CI/CD security gates, SAST, secret detection, SonarQube, shift-left security, SSL/TLS, zero-trust networking

Observability: Prometheus, Grafana, Grafana Tempo, Loki, Grafana Alloy

Data & Big Data: Spark, PySpark, Hadoop, Hive, Sqoop, Impala, Kafka, Trino, Dagster, Airflow/Composer, Looker, SQL, dbt concepts

AI / LLM: Multi-agent orchestration, agent guardrails / approval gates, custom agent skill and plugin development, Claude Code, Anthropic Claude, Ollama, RAG and memory systems, LLM-judge eval harnesses, fail-closed validation

Languages: Python, PySpark, Bash, SQL, JavaScript/TypeScript

Networking & Protocols: TCP/IP, UDP, HTTP, SSL/TLS, DNS, DHCP, ACL, Transit Gateways, VPC Endpoints, ALB/NLB

Methodologies: DevSecOps, GitOps, Shift Left, Policy as Code, Secure SDLC, Agile, TDD

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Senior DevSecOps Engineer, **Rackner Solutions (Remote)** November 2021 – Present

- Built and run the entire Kubernetes backend and DevOps platform for the media team myself, from the EKS clusters and Terraform to GitOps delivery and the monitoring stack, all in AWS GovCloud under FedRAMP, IL4/IL5, and NIST 800-53.
- Architected and operate 4 production Amazon EKS clusters with FIPS 140-2 encryption, private endpoints, and hardened AMI nodes, plus zero-trust networking via service meshes (Istio/Linkerd), Calico Network Policies, and OPA Gatekeeper admission control.
- Designed and shipped an AI decision-advantage service for AFRL (Air Force Research Lab) battle-management exercises: a dual-lane (batch audit + real-time FastAPI hot-path) engine decomposing an 8-function decision model into testable pure functions with fail-closed LLM validation (Ollama).
- Built an operational human-machine-teaming command console (FastAPI, PostgreSQL, React/SolidJS) with doctrine-gated decisions, integrity-violation flagging, full provenance, a scenario-replay validation harness, and a scored closed-loop evaluation harness against ground truth — 2,250+ automated tests across the platform.
- Automated the full EKS lifecycle in Terraform (add-ons, Helm charts, and Karpenter autoscaling) cutting cluster compute spend ~30%, and untangled complex multi-region Terraform state for production environments.
- Implemented GitOps delivery (ArgoCD/Flux) with custom Helm charts and security-audit workflows in CI/CD, keeping configuration consistent across 25 secure namespaces and 18 services.
- Embedded security gates into CI/CD (GitLab SAST, secret detection, SonarQube), shifting vulnerability and secret-leak detection left of deployment.
- Built end-to-end automation with AWS Step Functions and Lambda for security scanning, compliance auditing, and resource provisioning, cutting audit-evidence prep from weeks to days.
- Stood up a full observability stack (Prometheus, Grafana, Tempo, Loki, Alloy) with per-service dashboards across the platform, and deployed scalable Trino for high-performance SQL analytics.
- Hardened the Dagster orchestration platform with RBAC and Keycloak SSO/OAuth, migrating teams off legacy state machines and standardizing SSO/SSL across services.
- Advise executive leadership (CEO, CTO, COO) on architecture and security decisions; drive org-wide DevSecOps and testing practices.

Cloud Data Engineer & Architect, **Accenture (Remote)** May 2020 – November 2021

- Architected cloud migration to Azure Synapse Analytics, Blob Storage, Spark, SQL Pool, and Databricks.
- Increased Hadoop data lake and warehouse performance 10x, saving roughly $100K/year in storage costs.
- Migrated Python 2.x to 3.x and upgraded the database to a new Cloudera version.
- Transformed unstructured and semi-structured data into structured formats with Spark/PySpark, tuning Hive and MapReduce for performance.
- Built GitLab CI/CD pipelines with GitLab Runner for version management and automated delivery.
- Ingested on-prem and GCS data into GCP using Cloud Functions to dynamically trigger jobs, and developed ETL pipelines with Dataproc orchestrated by Cloud Composer, integrating TensorFlow Enterprise ML workflows.
- Created Looker dashboards for business insight and visualization.

Big Data Engineer, **Cigna (Remote)** June 2019 – May 2020

- Led design and development of Hadoop application solutions, optimizing ETL transformations and automating business reporting.
- Built data visualization and analytics solutions to capture current and future business needs.
- Applied Test-Driven Development for unit testing of all production solutions.
- Created Docker images to automate essential production business reporting.
- Monitored performance and optimized SQL queries for maximum efficiency.

Data Engineer, **Levo International — Storrs, CT** January 2018 – June 2019

- Architected and led the full AWS data architecture for an international hydroponics business.
- Engineered ETL processes in AWS using Redshift and MySQL, integrating relational and big-data workloads.
- Built and exposed a MySQL database across multiple countries with secure remote access for distributed operations.
- Delivered stakeholder insight via Tableau dashboards and Python analytics, and built linear models that supported increased hydroponics system sales.
- Created a JavaScript web interface and SQL views for fast, user-friendly data access.

KEY PROJECTS

PSA / DASH Decision-Advantage Platform (AFRL battle management)
Python, FastAPI, Dagster, PostgreSQL, React/SolidJS, Ollama, Docker

– Multi-repo system: an 8-function decision engine, an operator command console, a deterministic adversarial data generator, and a 9-manager orchestrator mock with synthetic and recorded-exercise replay modes.
– 2,250+ automated tests across the ecosystem — 876 decision-engine, 512 console, 870 evaluation-harness; doctrine-gated decisions and fail-closed LLM validation throughout.

Jig — GitOps Engine for Repository Governance
Go, GitHub API, declarative Blueprints/Policies, YAML, Web UI + CLI

– Extended and own a fork of a PR-based GitOps engine (~10,800 lines of Go, 213 tests) that enforces standardized files, branch protection, linters, and Terraform module versions across an entire GitHub organization at thousands-of-repos scale.
– Implemented an Argo-style architecture separating reusable Blueprints from per-repo Policies, with five resource types (managed files, linters, branch protection, repo settings, Terraform modules, AI guardrails), surgical managed-block edits that never touch user content, and per-repo drift detection with detailed diffs.

FleetAI — AI Business Operations Platform
Python, Anthropic Claude, Playwright, PostgreSQL, Telegram, multi-agent orchestration

– Built a multi-agent platform that runs operations for service businesses, coordinating five role-scoped AI agents (executive assistant, admin, lead response, customer experience, marketing) as deterministic planners where safety-critical decisions are Python, not the LLM.
– Engineered a defense-in-depth safety architecture: a single tool-call chokepoint enforcing least-privilege per-agent toolboxes, a permanent human-approval gate for money/trust actions, and a full CLEARED/HELD/BLOCKED audit log.
– Built an owner "second brain" chat assistant over a four-tier memory router with all financial math in Python, quality-tracked by an end-to-end LLM-judge eval scoring 18-19/20 across 180+ test files.

Algorithmic Trading & Research Systems (personal)
Python, SEC EDGAR / Finnhub / FMP APIs, Alpaca / Tastytrade / Polymarket / Kalshi APIs, PostgreSQL, PyArrow, APScheduler, LLM (Claude/Qwen/Ollama)

– Equity/options research engine that surfaces revenue-inflection candidates via an emergence/acceleration signal pipeline, valuation scoring, options P&L modeling, and a backtester — every figure computed in Python so the LLM phrases findings but never invents a number.
– Multi-market trading bots: a Polymarket bot running three strategies (LLM brain with Kelly sizing, multi-whale copy, whale-convergence detection) in dual-brain A/B mode, an intraday equity bot with a seven-gate entry funnel, a Tastytrade options wheel bot with a live-money guard (150+ tests), and a Kalshi prediction-market trader.

EDUCATION

Master of Science, Business Analytics and Project Management — University of Connecticut, Hartford, CT | June 2020
Bachelor of Science, Management Information Systems (Minor: Psychology) — University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT | May 2019

CERTIFICATIONS

Certified Kubernetes Administrator (CKA) — February 2025
Google Cloud Professional Data Engineer — November 2021
SnowPro Core — August 2021
AWS Certified Cloud Practitioner — June 2021