

Contact

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(LinkedIn)

Top Skills

Google Cloud Platform (GCP)

Python

DevOps

Honors-Awards

Person of the Year

Eagle Scout

Blake Cannon

Senior Platform Engineer at Project Canary

Golden, Colorado, United States

Summary

Dynamic and solutions-oriented DevOps Engineer with extensive expertise in Infrastructure as Code (IaC), cloud computing, automated CI/CD pipelines, and advanced networking. Skilled in leveraging tools like Terraform, Python, and Docker to enhance operational efficiencies and drive continuous integration and delivery. Proficient in designing, deploying, and managing scalable, secure network infrastructures across cloud platforms (AWS & GCP) and on-premises environments. Expert in automating network operations and integrating networking best practices into DevOps workflows to ensure high availability, performance, and security (SOC2). With a strong foundation in both application development and network architecture, I excel in optimizing the intersection of software and networking to drive efficiency, resilience, and business value. With a deep understanding of the application development lifecycle, agile methodologies, and security best practices, I am committed to fostering a culture of continuous improvement, innovation, and customer-centricity.

Possessing strong communication skills, I excel in articulating technical concepts to diverse teams, ensuring cohesive collaboration and knowledge sharing. I am passionate about mentoring, documentation, and implementing scalable solutions that align with business values and objectives. A proactive problem-solver and lifelong learner, I thrive in environments that challenge me to grow and contribute to project success through hard work, adaptability, and a focus on delivering exceptional customer experiences.

Prior to making the career change to DevOps, I worked as a design engineer for eleven years and was responsible for creating and presenting design plans to executive staff and global clients. During my career, I designed thousands of square feet through over 15,000 construction drawings on projects ranging from 50,000 to 1 billion dollars on teams of up to 200 people.

Experience

Project Canary

4 years 10 months

Senior Platform Engineer

August 2025 - Present (1 year 1 month)

Denver, CO

- Lead platform engineering across AWS, owning infrastructure, reliability, access management, observability, and deployment workflows for production and non-production environments
- Design and manage Terraform-based infrastructure spanning IAM, networking, ECS services, serverless systems, monitoring, logging, and supporting cloud resources across multiple environments
- Operate and support critical data infrastructure including PostgreSQL and TimescaleDB, with hands-on responsibility for replication, backups, upgrades, performance tuning, storage expansion, and production troubleshooting
- Build and improve engineering systems around CI/CD, operational safety, cloud cost visibility, alerting, and platform standardization to reduce manual work and improve reliability
- Drive improvements across observability, access management, deployment safety, and cloud cost optimization to strengthen platform consistency and reduce operational risk
- Partner across engineering teams to solve high-impact infrastructure and reliability problems, improve deployment confidence, and raise overall operational maturity

Senior DevOps Engineer

September 2022 - August 2025 (3 years)

Denver, Colorado, United States

Responsible for automation of cloud infrastructure as code, providing continuous integration/delivery of software (C#, JavaScript, React, Python), cloud security/compliance, cloud networking, and content delivery.

AWS | Terraform | Docker | Python | Go/Golang | Linux | Bash | GCP

DevOps Engineer

November 2021 - September 2022 (11 months)

Denver, Colorado, United States

Responsible for automation of cloud infrastructure as code, providing continuous integration/delivery of software (C#, JavaScript, React, Python), cloud security/compliance, cloud networking, and content delivery.

AWS | Terraform | Docker | Python | Go/Golang | Linux | Bash | GCP

Real Texas BBQ Rub, Inc

Digital Platform Lead

January 2002 - Present (24 years 8 months)

Greater Houston

- Built and maintain TexasBBQRub.com, the company's primary revenue-generating e-commerce site, using Next.js
- Helped drive a 400% increase in SEO performance through site modernization, improved content structure, and stronger search visibility
- Designed and deployed modern web experiences connecting SEO content, brand trust, and purchase paths into TexasBBQRub.com
- Built and launched Brisket.com as a production content and conversion funnel supporting e-commerce growth
- Built BBQHelp, an AI-powered barbecue assistant available on web, iOS, and Android
- Architected and operated the cloud infrastructure, application stack, and AI retrieval workflow behind BBQHelp
- Managed production launches, environment promotion, and post-launch optimization across multiple customer-facing digital products
- Connected technical execution to business goals including seasonal demand timing, customer acquisition, product discovery, and online sales

IHS Markit

Software Engineer

June 2018 - November 2021 (3 years 6 months)

Englewood, Colorado

Energy and Natural Resources | Product Design and Development

I do DevOps. That means I automate what System Administrators and Operators used to do by hand.

Data Integrate Team. Automation. Infrastructure as code.

General Assembly

Data Science Fellow

September 2017 - December 2017 (4 months)

Greater Denver Area

Training in the framework, tools, and best practices of data science, including the modeling of large and distinct data sets, incorporation statistical methodologies, and getting greater experience and effectiveness in programming. In practicing in a community environment, plenty of interacting and cooperating with others, as well as offering assistance and troubleshooting. All the while, reinforcing presentation skills in order to effectively communicate analyses and interpretations to an audience.

Relevant week-to-week topics include:

- Using Python for data science, especially Pandas, NumPy, and Scikit-Learn.
- Exploratory data analysis.
- Regression
- SQL
- Classification
- Web scraping, APIs, and NLP
- Tree classifiers
- Neural networks
- Unsupervised learning
- Bayesian statistics and inference

Projects completed include:

- Manipulating Python datatypes to produce a framework for player libraries in a theoretical game
- Exploratory data analysis using Kaggle's Titanic training data set
- Regression and classification models to make estimations on pricing and detecting irregularities in home prices in the Ames housing data set.
- Feature selection of a 200,000 record dataset. Reduced to 14 features.
- Predicting a Wikipedia article by using NLP

Engineering, Procurement, & Construction

Process Plant Designer

April 2006 - April 2017 (11 years 1 month)

Houston, TX & Denver, CO

- Worked as a design engineer for eleven years where I was responsible for creating and presenting design plans to executive staff and global clients such as BP, Shell, Exxon, Chevron, Total, Statoil, Anadarko, Noble Energy, and Koch Industries
- Designed chemical plants and refineries. Precision and attention to detail are critical to ensure constructibility, ease of maintenance, and operator safety.
- Designed thousands of square feet through over 15,000 construction drawings on projects ranging from 50,000 to 1 billion dollars on teams of up to 200 people
- Automated tedious tasks to save man-hours and decrease human error.
- Subject matter expert in various 3D design software platforms

Education

University of Colorado Denver

Master of Science (M.Sc.), Global Energy Management & Business Administration

Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi

Bachelor of Business Administration (B.B.A.), Economics/Decision Science

General Assembly

Certificate, Data Science