ADRON HALL

Principal Engineer & Technical Product Lead | Gen AI & Agentic Delivery | API, Data & Cloud Platforms

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Principal-level engineer and technical product lead with 25+ years across cloud, API, data, and Gen AI platforms. Today, as a self-employed principal software engineer, I lead cross-functional teams building agentic processes and controls for Gen AI tools (Claude, Cursor, Copilot, Codex) and set up best practices for AI/LLM software factories and the SDLC. Before that I led order-fulfillment engineering at Starbucks, ran a Data Fabric modernization at PNC Bank that cut backend operating cost by millions annually, built product practice at Hasura and AWS, and architected an Apache Cassandra DBaaS at DataStax.

CORE COMPETENCIES

- **Technical product ownership:** Intake, triage, prioritization, and escalation; owning backlogs from features and epics down to acceptance criteria, and building that practice where none exists.
- **Gen AI & agentic delivery:** Agentic processes and controls for Claude, Cursor, Copilot, and Codex across teams and organizations; AI/LLM software factory and SDLC best practices for speed, accuracy, and output quality.
- **API & data platform modernization:** API-first Data Fabric design, REST and GraphQL APIs, event-driven systems, and legacy-to-modern migrations with a measured ROI case.
- **Team building & leadership:** Hiring and building teams, founding Communities of Practice, and aligning teams to measurable outcomes, backed by SRE and principal engineering depth.

EXPERIENCE

CTC — Principal Software Engineer **Mar 2026 – Present**
Seattle, WA — Remote

- Leading cross-functional teams in developing agentic processes and controls for Generative AI systems (Claude, Cursor, Copilot, Codex, etc.) used across team and organizational structures.
- Setting up best practices for AI/LLM Software Factories and the SDLC, streamlining effort to improve speed, accuracy, and efficiency, and managing the quality of process output.
- Scoped and managed projects to align with core business needs and product focus, from individual features to full strategic capabilities and entire products, ensuring effective resource allocation in this new Gen AI world.
- Collaborated closely with stakeholders to drive innovation and maintain focus on business objectives.

Tooling: .NET, Java + Spring Boot, iOS, Web (React/JavaScript, Node.js, and related server tech), Python (generally for AI and pipelines), Go (pipelines, infrastructure, distributed systems), a minor bit of Rust, and a wide range of databases: PostgreSQL, SQL Server, MySQL, Apache Cassandra, DynamoDB, Supabase (PostgreSQL w/ APIs), and others.

Starbucks — Principal Engineering Lead / Technical Product Lead, Order Fulfillment **2024 – Mar 2026**
Seattle, WA

- Built and led the engineering team delivering QR-based drink tracking, integrating Scandit scanning into existing .NET-backed Angular and React applications to replace estimated wait times with real-time fulfillment state; contributed to a 20–35% reduction in customer wait time and a 5–8% throughput improvement.
- Established a reusable computer vision platform for POS timing, queue detection, and drive-thru analytics.
- Sequenced a phased store rollout across store systems, mobile, and backend teams, validating releases against order accuracy, fulfillment latency, and throughput per store.

PNC Bank (via CTC) — Principal Engineer & Product Lead, Data Fabric Modernization **Feb 2023 – 2024**
Redmond, WA — Remote

Other CTC clients in this period: Tata Communications, Kaleyra, Vaco, and Incedo.

- Led the move from fragmented enterprise systems to an API-first Data Fabric, owning the roadmap, buy-vs-build evaluation, and measured ROI case.

- Reduced backend operating cost by millions annually through system consolidation and architectural standardization.
- Designed integration patterns for a multi-million-dollar white-label credit card platform.
- Founded GraphQL and Java Spring Boot Communities of Practice that grew from roughly a dozen to 80+ members in four months.
- Built a Java Spring Boot SMS spam detection service on AWS with Terraform and GitHub Actions for a telecommunications client.

Hasura — Principal Product Manager **Apr 2022 – Feb 2023**
Seattle, WA — Remote

- Founding member of a new product management team; built intake, discovery, prioritization, and an agreed definition of done, and synchronized Productboard and Jira across product and engineering.
- Shipped Instant GraphQL for Amazon Athena and for Snowflake, from customer discovery through launch.

Amazon Web Services — Senior Technical Project Manager **Nov 2021 – Apr 2022**
Seattle, WA — Remote

- Reference implementations, schema models, and production-grade CI/CD examples for AppSync, Amplify, GraphQL, and DynamoDB, plus developer guidance including “How to connect your GraphQL API to AWS data sources”.

Hasura — Principal Developer Advocate **Sep 2020 – Oct 2021**
Seattle, WA — Remote

- Ran the feedback loop between customers, community, and internal product and engineering, while building reference architectures and GraphQL applications across major clouds and producing Hasura’s streaming shows and video shorts.

DataStax — Principal Cloud Architect / Principal Developer Advocate **Jun 2018 – Aug 2020**
Seattle, WA — Remote

- Architected key components of the Apache Cassandra DBaaS, AstraDB, across AWS, GCP, and Azure, and built reference application designs for large-scale microservice-based enterprise applications.

Home Depot — Principal Software Engineer, SRE & Open Source Ethnographer **2015 – 2016**
Orchards, WA — Hybrid

- Migrated from OpenStack to Google Cloud Platform and re-architected from vertical to horizontal scaling with Terraform and Packer; led the move to open source development practice, presented at the O’Reilly Software Architecture Conference in London.

Earlier Experience **1999 – 2017**

- **Startups & consulting:** Co-founder and CTO at Deconstructed (2013–2015), taking a distributed profile and business-rules engine on AWS from zero to MVP; Principal Software Engineer at Composite Thrashing Code / Pelotech (2016–2017) on e-commerce and IoT engagements.
- **Enterprise & platform roles:** Russell Investments, CDK Global, Code Fellows, New Relic, Basho, Tier 3, Logic20/20, Webtrends, Bank of America (lead developer and Six Sigma team lead), Citigroup, Fidelity, Allstate, Corillian, and Lockheed Martin with NASA. See the full resume for details.

TECHNICAL DEPTH

Architecture & integration: REST and GraphQL API design, event-driven and streaming systems (Kafka, Flink), microservices, distributed systems, legacy-to-modern migration.

Cloud & platform: AWS, Azure, GCP, Kubernetes, Docker, Terraform, CloudFormation, CI/CD and GitHub Actions, observability and SRE practice.

Languages & data: Go, Java, Python, JavaScript/TypeScript, C#, SQL; PostgreSQL, SQL Server, Oracle, MySQL, MongoDB, Apache Cassandra, Snowflake, Amazon Athena.

Gen AI & agentic: Claude, Cursor, Copilot, and Codex; AI/LLM software factories, LLM-assisted SDLC, agentic processes and controls, agent orchestration, evaluation and quality gates.

EDUCATION & CERTIFICATIONS

- **Six Sigma Green Belt / DFSS** (2004): Grade A, top 1% of class.
- **A.S. Computer Science,** Pearl River Community College (1996–1999): 3.7 GPA; Computer Science and InfoSec coursework audited at Louisiana State University (1996–1998).