

Shahbaz Raza

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Summary Senior Backend Engineer (Python/Django) with 5 years of building and scaling cloud-native services on AWS/GCP. Deep experience with Django/DRF, PostgreSQL (query tuning, indexing, JSONB/CTEs), and Kubernetes (EKS/GKE). Led migration from monolith to microservices, designed event-driven systems (SNS/SQS/Kafka), and built CI/CD + IaC (GitHub Actions/Terraform). Focused on performance (p95 latency, throughput), observability (Datadog), and security (KMS, TLS, RBAC).

Skills

- **Languages & Frameworks:** Django/DRF, FastAPI, Flask, Celery, typing/pytest
- **Backend Architectures:** Microservices, Event-Driven Systems, SNS/SQS, Celery, REST APIs
- **Databases:** PostgreSQL, MySQL, Redis, Elasticsearch
- **DevOps & Cloud:** AWS (EKS, RDS Postgres, Lambda, IAM, KMS), GKE; Docker, Helm, Terraform, GitHub Actions
- **Security:** AWS KMS, Secrets Manager/SSM, TLS, OAuth2/JWT, RBAC.

Experience

Software Engineer at Motive, remote USA

04/2023 – Present

- Orchestrated migration from monolith app to Kubernetes (AWS EKS), containerizing legacy python apps and reducing downtime by 30% while improving service scalability and reliability.
- Collaborated with the DevOps team to architect CI/CD pipelines and Terraform-based IaC to integrate the test coverage, linting, and canary deployments into CI/CD pipelines, which cut failed rollouts by 35%.
- Engineered and optimized Django/DRF APIs with custom serializers, throttling, and permission classes integrated with Celery for async tasks and background job orchestration.
- Integrate Datadog for alerts, monitoring metrics and logging to enhance the cluster visibility.
- Elevated monitoring capabilities by integrating Datadog tracing, dashboards, and set up monitors to generate alerts, reducing incident debugging time and increasing MTTR efficiency.
- Deployed secret rotation mechanisms with AWS SSM, enforced TLS across services, and applied Django security middleware (CSP, HSTS), ensuring compliance with internal data protection policies.
- Orchestrated a reusable cloud-agnostic Python SDK (Hexagonal Architecture, 13 design patterns) for AWS integrations (S3, SQS, IoT, Secrets Manager). Adopted by multiple teams, it eliminated 35% of duplicate infra code, accelerated service delivery by 60%, and improved production reliability with features like STS auto-refresh, context manager, and fault-tolerant decorators.
- Partnered cross-functionally with frontend, QA, and platform teams to ensure seamless system integration, improving delivery speed by 20%. Authored onboarding documentation and SDK usage guides to accelerate new team member ramp-up.

Software Developer at Ibisdev, Paris,FR

06/2022 – 12/2023

- Designed a high-performance knowledge ingestion AI pipeline that vectorizes uploaded knowledge base into RAG per sidekick, leveraging vector store for fast, context-aware retrieval during chat interactions.
- Architected GitHub Actions pipelines with parallelized test matrix, caching layers, and blue/green deployment strategy, which reduced CI time and rollout risk by 40%.
- Slashed p95 latency of ingestion APIs from 800ms to 320ms under 1K RPS by tuning Django ORM queries and introducing async views, which scaled to process 10M+ events/day with consistent <350ms response times.
- Constructed real-time backend APIs to serve ML/NLP models for text-to-speech and classification use cases, with response times under 1.5 seconds per request.

Software Engineer at Blueeast, lahore, PK

01/2021 – 05/2022

- Constructed and maintained 30+ web crawlers using Django, Scrapy, and Selenium, automating dataset management pipelines that processed 50K+ records in under 25 minutes per batch.
- Enhanced PostgreSQL queries with JSONB indexes and CTEs, accelerating query response times from 1.2s to 250ms on analytics endpoints, significantly boosting dashboard performance.
- Accelerated page load times on internal dashboards by 75% through Django ORM query optimization and the introduction of pagination on heavy resource views.

Education

National University of Computer & Emerging Sciences (NUCES) | Lahore, PK
Bachelor of Computer Science

2015 – 2020