

Austin LaBar

DEVOPS ENGINEER | FULL-STACK DEVELOPER

DevOps Engineer and Full-Stack Developer building production-oriented systems across AWS, Python/Django, containerized workloads, automation, and API-driven integrations. Experienced across the application lifecycle from backend services and database-backed interfaces to cloud infrastructure, health and performance telemetry, troubleshooting, and corrective implementation.

CORE SKILLS

Cloud & DevOps: AWS EC2, Elastic Beanstalk, S3, EventBridge, SQS, Lambda, ECS/Fargate, ECR, RDS, IAM, Secrets Manager, CloudWatch, SNS, API Gateway, VPC; Docker; Git/GitHub; CI/CD workflows.

Full-Stack Development: Python, Django, REST APIs, SQL, PostgreSQL, authentication/authorization, server-rendered applications, internal tools and dashboards.

Frontend with Django: Database-backed template rendering, conditional data interpolation, reusable UI structures, HTML, CSS, SCSS/SASS, Tailwind CSS and DaisyUI.

Observability & Reliability: Health and performance telemetry, CloudWatch RUM and Synthetics, logs, metrics, alarms, dependency checks, root-cause investigation and corrective implementation.

Automation & Integration: Selenium, Scrapy, multiprocessing, adaptive concurrency, background workloads, OAuth2, REST APIs, webhooks, JSON/CSV workflows and platform-agnostic enterprise integrations.

Agile Delivery: Professional Scrum Master II (PSM I & PSM II), Professional Scrum Product Owner I (PSPO I), backlog refinement, sprint planning, Kanban, epics, acceptance criteria, Definition of Done, code review and cross-functional delivery.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Item, Inc. | DevOps Engineer

Feb 2024 - Present

- **DevOps & Cloud Engineering:** Designed and implemented AWS workloads spanning event-driven processing, containerized batch execution, IAM, secrets management, relational persistence, health telemetry, performance monitoring, alerting and production troubleshooting.
- **Full-Stack Development:** Built Python/Django applications with PostgreSQL-backed services, REST APIs, authentication, administrative workflows and server-rendered dashboards.
- **Frontend Implementation:** Rendered backend and database data into Django templates, built conditional UI states and reusable page structures, and implemented responsive presentation with HTML, CSS, SCSS/SASS, Tailwind CSS and DaisyUI.
- **Automation Engineering:** Developed extensible scraper adapters and resource-aware multiprocessing systems for parallel browser automation, including adaptive concurrency, runtime monitoring, graceful shutdown and fault handling.
- **Integration Engineering:** Built API-driven workflows connecting internal applications with external enterprise systems using OAuth2, REST endpoints, webhooks, JSON payloads, scheduled synchronization and structured validation.
- **Observability & Remediation:** Used application logs, synthetic journeys, real-user telemetry, dependency health checks and performance metrics to identify failures, isolate likely causes and guide corrective implementation.
- **Delivery & Quality:** Led code inspection and review sessions, validated changes through functional and performance testing, decomposed engineering work into epics and implementation tickets, and coordinated delivery across technical and business stakeholders.

Charles River Laboratories | Cross-Team Leadership Role

Aug 2020 - Feb 2024

- Coordinated daily and weekly execution across multiple laboratory teams, aligning scientists, technicians and management to keep concurrent studies on schedule and resolve cross-team blockers.
- Improved execution reliability through lightweight retrospectives, clearer handoffs, checklists and visual workflow signals, reinforcing iterative operating principles later applied to software and DevOps work.

SELECTED ENGINEERING PROJECTS

AWS Event-Driven Product Image Pipeline

- Designed an asynchronous S3 -> EventBridge -> SQS -> Lambda -> ECS/Fargate workflow that launches containerized Python processing only when new product assets arrive.
- Built and pushed Docker images to ECR; configured one-off Fargate tasks, CloudWatch logging, IAM/PassRole permissions, Secrets Manager injection, VPC connectivity and PostgreSQL/RDS audit persistence.
- Refactored legacy batch/file-staging logic into exact-record event processing while preserving traceability through execution and image-level audit records.

AWS Health & Performance Telemetry

- Designed application health and performance telemetry using CloudWatch RUM, Synthetics, Logs, Metrics, Alarms, Dashboards, Lambda and EventBridge-based dependency checks.
- Instrumented real-user and synthetic signals for JavaScript failures, network requests, resource loading, Core Web Vitals, critical user journeys, third-party dependencies and service latency.
- Used telemetry, screenshots, HAR artifacts, metrics and logs to diagnose failures, investigate root causes and support corrective changes to application behavior and dependent integrations.

Price Intelligence Platform

- Built a Django-based internal platform combining scheduled enterprise API synchronization, CSV/Excel ingestion, PostgreSQL persistence, REST endpoints, authentication and a server-rendered dashboard.
- Designed a common scraper interface with source-specific adapters, background scrape orchestration, append-only price history, live job monitoring, admin security controls and a no-code scraper configuration studio.
- Implemented Selenium/Scrapy automation and a resource-aware parallel bot engine capable of dynamically scaling worker concurrency against available system resources.

Product / Web Page Enrichment Pipeline

- Built a Python pipeline that scrapes product data, preserves a human validation checkpoint, transforms structured records for API use and enriches content through external system lookups.
- Generated dynamic HTML from structured product data using conditional template logic, then serialized the final content into API-ready payloads for downstream enterprise-system synchronization.

Django Application Development

- Built database-backed Django applications including a knowledge-management platform with secure authentication, rich-text editing, full-text search, PDF text extraction and AI-assisted excerpt generation.
- Developed additional full-stack applications with relational data models, backend business logic, database-to-template rendering, responsive styling and workflow automation.

Automation & Scraper Framework

- Built and refactored Selenium/Scrapy adapters for multiple external sources behind reusable interfaces, with isolation testing, output-contract preservation and documented integration requirements.
- Developed multiprocessing orchestration with dynamic worker spawning, resource monitoring, fault handling and controlled browser-process shutdown.

CERTIFICATIONS & EDUCATION

CERTIFICATIONS

Professional Scrum Master II (PSM I & PSM II)
Professional Scrum Product Owner I (PSPO I)

EDUCATION

Columbia Business School Executive Education
| 2025
Automated Digital Marketing Program
Lake Michigan College | 2016-2017
Computer Science - Accelerated Program

