Elon Zito, Principal Software Engineer

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LINKS

CLICK HERE - Portfolio Site, Coding Repos on GitHub, KidCash - Founder, Stack Overflow Profile (3k reputation - 2.2m reach), Logo Portfolio on Dribbble, JavaScript and CSS Portfolio on Codepen

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY



Machine learning and engineering leader who takes generative AI systems from architecture to production in regulated enterprise environments. Most recently led a distributed team delivering two AI platforms for a Fortune 200 utility's treasury organization: a governed system of record replacing spreadsheet tracking of multi-billion-dollar credit portfolios, and an AI-powered diligence engine that delivers reliable, source-backed answers across complex deal documents. Brings 15 years of experience spanning full-stack development, cloud architecture (AWS, GCP, Terraform), UX and visual design, technical presentations, and engineering mentorship. Consistently turns manual, error-prone processes into intuitive, measurable, and auditable systems.

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Jul 2025 — Aug 2026

Lead AI Solutions Architect, PeakActivity

Remote - Delray, FL

- Led engineering and executive-facing delivery for **NextEra Energy Treasury's** platform modernization — taking two AI products from early concepts to production while coordinating ~10 engineers in NextEra-governed **AWS** and **GCP** environments.
- Led **technical demos and presentations for senior business and technology stakeholders**, turning complex AI concepts into clear business value, explaining key tradeoffs, gathering executive feedback, and building confidence in the products and their readiness for launch.
- Replaced **Excel workbooks** tracking **billions of dollars** in project finance, revolvers, term loans, and letters of credit with **C3 Treasury**, a governed source of truth — then used that data to create live dashboards for liquidity and upcoming maturities, replacing time-consuming quarterly reporting.
- Built and demonstrated an **LLM analyst** that lets Treasury users ask questions about the live portfolio and receive answers with charts. The solution used **Claude on AWS Bedrock** with access controls and also automated **market intelligence** by turning daily bank research emails into reports used to inform rate and spread assumptions.
- Architected and presented the **NEA Diligence Portal**, reducing M&A due diligence from days to minutes — analysts can ask questions directly in **Salesforce** and receive answers with supporting citations across **~3,000 documents per deal room**.
- Built the portal's **hybrid retrieval stack**, combining AI-based document understanding with traditional keyword search so users could find accurate answers even in complex contracts and scanned documents. The system used **Pixtral**, **Gecko**/**pgvector**, and **Reciprocal Rank Fusion** while applying **source-authority re-ranking** to prioritize trusted documents and track amendments so outdated contract language was never presented as current.
- Designed a **multi-agent consensus** process in which multiple AI models independently answered the same question and compared results. An **LLM-as-judge** reviewed disagreements, facts were matched to their original citations, uncertain results were flagged for human review, and confidence was calibrated against answers verified by subject-matter experts.
- Built the **LLM evaluation and governance** program, using various measures to test how consistently the system judged answers, checking for model bias, and creating a controlled process for improving prompts. Production changes had to pass objective tests on unseen deal data; the AI evaluator could recommend a release but could not approve one on its own.
- **Additionally at Hotwire Communications:** built and demonstrated a multi-agent service (-**TypeScript**/**Node**) that reviews architectural plans to validate WiFi infrastructure support tickets. The system uses **Claude Vision**, **Pixtral**, and **Qwen** through **OpenRouter** to read floor plans and extract rooms, dimensions, and fixtures. It integrates with **ServiceNow** and **Jira**, sends uncertain cases to the appropriate Sales, Engineering, or Architecture team, and tracks costs to keep typical analyses between $0.04 and $0.06.

May 2024 — Jun 2025

Senior Product Engineer (R+D), Innovative Solutions

Remote - Rochester, NY

- Architected and shipped **multi-tenant AI platform "Tailwinds"** (**Python** + **FastAPI**, **Next.js, AWS Amplify**) with **Auth0**-based SSO**,** custom user-management **microservice**, and **RAG**--powered **data-scraping** workflow—cut onboarding time and enabled white-label deployments for Fortune-500 pilots.
- Drove **full DevOps automation**: wrote reusable **Terraform** modules for **ECS/Fargate** clusters, **ALB**/NLB, **Route 53**, and **ACM**; built **CI/CD** pipelines that promote **Docker** images from **ECR** to prod in <10 min with zero downtime.
- Led **WatsonX, Amazon Q, and Langfuse integrations**, exposing generative-AI chatflows as pluggable **APIs**; delivered Proof-of-Concepts that unlocked two six-figure sales conversations.

- Designed and maintained container strategy for **DarcyAI**—converting monolith to micro-containers, slashing **EC2** completely and optimizing to use no more resources than necessary
- Implemented **IBM App Connect enterprise flows** linking Salesforce, bespoke **ERP**, and Tailwinds AI; reduced manual data-sync effort by 20 hrs/week and maintained **SLA** compliance of 99.9 %.
- Orchestrated **vulnerability-remediation program** across eight repos (Renovatebot/Dependabot), closing high/critical CVEs within 24 hrs and passing external **SOC2**/Vanta penetration audit with zero blockers.
- Acted as **technical mentor & force-multiplier**—ran weekly ECS/Docker workshops, pair-programmed on tricky bugs, and presented DarcyAI features at company all-hands.
- Tooling & stack: **Python 3**, **FastAPI**, **Node.js**, **Next.js 14**, **AWS** (**ECR, ECS, EC2, Lambda, API Gateway, Amplify**), **Terraform**/HCL, **Docker**, **Linux**, **WatsonX**, **Amazon Q**, **Langfuse**, **Auth0**, Flowise, IBM App Connect, **BeautifulSoup**, **Bash scripting**.

Jan 2022 — Jun 2024 SENIOR SOFTWARE ENGINEER, uShip Remote - Austin, TX

- Architected enterprise-scale **GenAI** solutions leveraging **Document Loaders, Text Embeddings, RAG**, **vector stores** (**Pinecone**, **Weaviate**), and **Agentic** frameworks using models from **Amazon Bedrock**, **WatsonX**, and **OpenAI**. Created plugins for **Amazon Q**. Orchestrated **Flowise** deployment for users to create production **ML/NLP** applications
- Led development of **AI-powered** products using **OpenAI** Vision API, **Python**, **BeautifulSoup-**, **FastAPI**, **Flask** and custom **PyTorch** models, implementing advanced prompt engineering techniques for **chatbots**, **voice assistants**, and **computer vision** applications
- Heavy focus on **accessibility (a11y)** by ensuring compliance with **WCAG 2.1 AA standards**, performing accessibility audits, implementing semantic HTML, ARIA roles, proper color contrast, and keyboard navigation, and leveraging tools like **Axe and Lighthouse** to build inclusive and user-friendly interfaces compatible with assistive technologies.
- Designed and maintained full-stack applications using **Next.js**, **Node.js** while implementing **microservices** architecture serving 100K+ daily requests with **Auth0** authentication. Developed integrations with **Stripe**, **Shopify**, **eBay** for **eCommerce** functionality, and enterprise systems including **Salesforce** and **IBM AppConnect**
- Built and maintained containerized deployment architecture using **Docker**, **Kubernetes**, and **IaC** tools (**Terraform**, **AWS CDK**, **CloudFormation**), supporting seamless scaling of AI workloads across AWS services (**Lambda**, **API Gateway**, **ECR**, **ECS**, **EC2, Amplify**) with **Linux** and **shell scripting**
- Developed and optimized legacy **C#** monolithic systems with **Snowflake** and **MSSQL** integrations while transitioning to modern **microservices** architecture, implementing **CI/CD** pipelines and containerization using **CodeCommit** and **CodePipelineDesigned, developed, and maintained full-stack applications** using **Next.js**, prioritizing **accessibility (a11y)** by ensuring compliance with **WCAG 2.1 AA standards**, performing accessibility audits, implementing semantic HTML, ARIA roles, proper color contrast, and keyboard navigation, and leveraging tools like **Axe and Lighthouse** to build inclusive and user-friendly interfaces compatible with assistive technologies.
- Led **Agile development** teams through **scrum ceremonies** including grooming, planning, and retrospectives, managing project workflows in **Jira** while maintaining high-quality deliverables and meeting sprint goals consistently

Oct 2019 — Dec 2021 PRINCIPAL SOFTWARE ENGINEER, Ambrose Health Deerfield, FL

- Architected and implemented **distributed microservices architecture** using **AWS** services, incorporating **API gateway** patterns, **caching strategies**, and horizontal scaling to handle high-throughput workloads across multiple business domains while **managing a team** of four engineers.
- Designed and built mission-critical integration platforms connecting diverse systems including **ShipEngine**, **PrintNode**, **Zoho CRM**, **FreshSales**, and custom e-signature solutions, implementing real-time **WebSocket** communications and **JWT-based authentication**
- Established robust **CI/CD pipelines** with **blue/green deployment** strategies, **Docker container orchestration via ECS** and **automated testing**, resulting in zero-downtime deployments improving system reliability
- Developed scalable **REST APIs** handling complex workflows including document processing, healthcare verification, multi-carrier shipping operations, and **CRM integrations**, with comprehensive error handling and retry mechanisms
- Created modular frontend applications using **React**, **Angular**, and **Vue**, implementing centralized state management, reusable component architecture, and **TypeScript** for enhanced code reliability
- Spearheaded **DevOps** transformation by implementing infrastructure-as-code using **Serverless Framework**, establishing monitoring and alerting systems, and automating disaster recovery procedures across multiple environments
- Created and maintained a **React Native** mobile app leveraging **Expo** as a build, deployment, and submission tool -- for health monitoring, syncing EHR record using HL7 and FIHR protocols

Jan 2013 — Oct 2019

SOFTWARE ENGINEER, Extreme Reach

Remote - Needham, MA

- Led development of high-traffic media platforms for **ABC & Fox News** using **AngularJS** and **.NET/C#**, handling significant user traffic and implementing scalable video encoding solutions with **JW Player** integration across **AWS** and **GCP** environments
- Architected and optimized cross-platform infrastructure using configuration management tools (**Ansible**, **Chef**), **Symfony** (**PHP**), and modern **CI** practices to improve deployment efficiency across development environments
- Developed automated testing and web scraping solutions using **Puppeteer** for quality assurance and content aggregation, integrating **Twitter APIs** and **RSS** feeds with custom **C#** data parsing algorithms
- Built scalable database architecture using **MySQL** and **MS SQL Server**, implementing optimized queries and caching strategies using **Entity Framework 6** and **LINQ** to handle increasing concurrent users
- Managed version control migration from **SVN** to **Git**, implementing branching strategies and automated workflows that improved team collaboration while maintaining legacy codebase compatibility
- Created responsive and performant landing pages for Source Creative using **Angular** and **React**, focusing on mobile compatibility and page load optimization through modern frontend techniques

Feb 2019 — Oct 2019

SENIOR FRONTEND DEVELOPER, Adopt-a-Pet

Contract - Claremont, CA

- Architected and developed high-performance search engine using **Vue.js**, **Vuex**, **Apollo GraphQL**, **Hasura**, and **PostgreSQL**, implementing responsive UI/UX design patterns and material design principles, resulting in 40% faster search results and 65% increase in user engagement
- Led **mobile-first** redesign of web platform with device-specific optimizations and progressive enhancement, implementing **responsive UI components** and **custom breakpoints** for diverse device types, reducing bounce rate by 25% and increasing mobile conversion by 35%
- Established comprehensive testing strategy using **Cypress** for **E2E testing**, **Selenium** for cross-browser automation, and **Jest** for unit testing, achieving 90% test coverage and reducing post-deployment issues by 75%
- Implemented robust **CI/CD** pipeline using **Jenkins**, enabling **automated testing**, build optimization, and seamless deployment across development, staging, and production environments, reducing deployment time from hours to minutes
- Enhanced **search algorithm efficiency** through implementation of advanced filtering, fuzzy matching with **Elastic Search**, and personalized recommendations, leading to 1.5x growth in successful pet adoption matches and 70% improvement in search relevancy scores

Aug 2018 — Feb 2019

SENIOR FRONT END DEVELOPER, Basic Fun!

Contract - Boca Raton, FL

- Architected and developed brand-focused web platforms using **React** with custom hooks and context management for basicfun.com, implementing headless CMS integration with **Prismic** and **Wordpress** for dynamic content management.
- Built scalable multi-brand infrastructure using **Laravel PHP** with repository pattern and service layer architecture, managing content for major brands including Lite-Brite, K'NEX, Pound Puppies, and Star Wars Science
- Created and optimized responsive email campaigns using **Adobe Creative Suite** (**Photoshop**, **Illustrator**, **InDesign**), implementing mobile-first design principles and cross-client compatibility.
- Developed custom **Prismic CMS** and **Wordpress** components and slices with dynamic previews, enabling marketing teams to manage multilingual content across 12+ brand websites while maintaining brand-specific style guides and content hierarchies
- Implemented **SEO**-optimized content strategy through technical copywriting and metadata optimization, resulting in increases in organic traffic and improved SERP rankings for key product terms across all brand properties
- Established design system using **Figma** and **Adobe XD** for consistent brand expression across web and email, creating reusable component libraries and style guides that reduced design-to-development time while maintaining brand integrity for My Little Pony, Koosh, and Strawberry Shortcake properties

Jun 2017 — Jul 2018

LEAD DEVELOPER, Core Data

Contract - Nicosia, Cyprus

- **Led a team of 5 developers** as Technical Team Lead for cryptocurrency and gaming platforms, implementing **Agile** best practices, conducting code reviews, and establishing development standards while **architecting** sophisticated applications using **React**, **Redux**, and **WebSocket** integration
- Designed and built custom **eCommerce** platform from ground up using **PHP**, implementing secure **cryptocurrency payment processing**, **wallet integrations**, **inventory management**, **shopping cart logic**, and **order fulfillment** systems while ensuring PCI compliance and transaction security
- **Mentored junior developers** through complex implementations, introducing modern development

practices and design patterns while overseeing the development of backend services in **PHP** and **Python** for transaction processing and game mechanics
- Spearheaded **UX/UI** initiatives across multiple projects, leveraging **Adobe Creative Suite** and **Figma** to create comprehensive design systems, while managing resource allocation and sprint planning for concurrent project deliveries
- Managed **sprint ceremonies** and **technical debt reduction** initiatives, **leading daily standups** and retrospectives, while implementing improved code review processes that strengthened team collaboration and code quality
- Established and enforced **development best practices** including **documentation** requirements, branching strategies, and deployment procedures, while personally designing **responsive UI** components and animation systems using **modern CSS** architecture and libraries like **three.js** and **GSAP**

Apr 2017 — Jun 2017

DATA ENGINEER, MJ Freeway

Contract - Denver, CO

- Engineered a robust **data recovery system** to process severely corrupted files following a targeted corporate espionage incident, achieving high restoration rates through custom **regex patterns** and advanced **string manipulation** algorithms
- Architected and implemented an automated **database restoration pipeline** to handle hundreds of thousands of **SQL** backups, reducing manual processing time by over 80% while maintaining data integrity
- Led the development of a high-performance **data processing system** using **Lumen** (**PHP**) and **Python**, significantly improving throughput while maintaining data accuracy
- Spearheaded **database optimization** initiatives that reduced query response times and improved system uptime, while successfully recovering thousands of **fragmented database** instances
- Developed sophisticated **data forensics tools** to trace and document the extent of database corruption, supporting legal proceedings while ensuring business continuity
- Implemented comprehensive **data validation** and **integrity checks** across restored databases, establishing new security protocols to prevent future unauthorized access
- Created automated **monitoring systems** using **Python** to detect and flag suspicious database activities, significantly enhancing security posture

Sept 2015 — Apr 2016

UI ENGINEER, 4th Down Software

Remote - Martinsville, NJ

- Led end-to-end design and development of enterprise mobile applications, creating comprehensive **UI/UX workflows** and **high-fidelity prototypes** using **Adobe Creative Suite** and **Sketch** for seamless design handoff
- Architected and developed a custom **iPad** application framework that served as a container for web-based casino games, seamlessly bridging **native iOS** functionality with web technologies through **UIWebView** integration
- Created an extensive library of Vegas-style games using **React** and **Redux**, integrating with custom **Meteor**/**Node.js** and **Python** backends while maintaining strict gaming industry compliance standards and real-time data synchronization
- Designed and implemented responsive web applications optimized for tablet displays, focusing on **touch interactions** and native-like performance using **HTML5**, **JavaScript**, and **CSS3** animations
- Established core design systems and component libraries in **React**, using thorough documentation to ensure consistent user experience across multiple game titles and platform versions
- Developed custom **analytics** and **monitoring solutions** to track user behavior and application performance, enabling data-driven optimizations for game mechanics
- Implemented comprehensive **testing strategies** using **Mocha** and **Selenium**, ensuring reliable deployment across multiple casino properties and devices
- Created robust **offline functionality** and **state management** systems to handle intermittent connectivity in convention environments while maintaining game integrity

Jun 2012 — Jan 2013

WEB DESIGNER, J&R Marketing

Onsite - Deerfield Beach, FL

- Led comprehensive **UI/UX design** initiatives across web and mobile platforms, creating cohesive user experiences from initial **wireframes** to final implementation using **Sketch** and **Adobe Creative Suite**
- Designed and managed **high-converting email marketing campaigns** and **landing pages-** , producing all graphic assets and maintaining brand consistency across digital touchpoints
- Overhauled the **eCommerce** experience with **mobile-first design** principles, resulting in significant increases in mobile traffic and conversion rates
- Created and maintained a **unified design system** for marketing materials, product pages, and promotional content while ensuring cross-browser compatibility through **PHP** and **JavaScript**
- Spearheaded the development of responsive landing pages and promotional **microsites**, incorporating dynamic content and interactive elements to drive user engagement

- Developed and optimized the visual merchandising **strategy** for the eCommerce platform, including **product photography** direction, banner design, and seasonal **campaign materials**

Jul 2011 — Jun 2012

WEB DEVELOPER, PhoneGuard

Onsite - Boca Raton, FL

- Led development of a high-profile mobile campaign featuring Justin Bieber as brand spokesperson, creating interactive experiences across **Android** (Gingerbread/Ice Cream Sandwich), web, and social platforms
- Built rich media experiences using **jQuery** Mobile and **HTML5** Canvas, optimizing performance for smartphones and tablets running Android 2.3-4.0
- Developed scalable **.NET** solutions integrating with Facebook **Open Graph API** and Twitter REST API for social sharing and campaign virality
- Created engaging **Flash** animations and interactive features using **ActionScript 3.0**, with graceful fallbacks for mobile devices
- Utilized **Adobe Creative Suite** to design and slice PSDs for **cross-browser compatibility**, ensuring consistent display in IE7-9, Firefox, and early **Chrome** versions
- Implemented responsive layouts using CSS2/3 and media queries, supporting the emerging mobile web standards
- Built **WordPress** and **Chrome extensions** to support production of marketing material.
- Collaborated with cross-functional teams to optimize the web application for both desktop and **Android** experiences, dealing with fragmentation across different screen sizes and OS versions

Jan 2011 — Jun 2011

CREATIVE DIRECTOR, Strategic Marketing

Onsite - Palm Beach Gardens, FL

- Directed comprehensive brand identity projects from concept to execution, including **print collateral**, **packaging**, **logo design**, and complete **visual style guides** for diverse clients
- Spearheaded **UI/UX** design for **eCommerce** platforms, creating intuitive user journeys and responsive designs that enhanced conversion rates while maintaining brand integrity
- Conceptualized and executed multi-channel **marketing campaigns**, designing cohesive assets across **email**, social media, **landing pages**, and **print** materials
- Created custom **illustrations**, **infographics**, and **data visualizations** to effectively communicate complex information across digital and print mediums
- Managed the full design cycle of email marketing campaigns, including template design, **A/B testing**, and responsive layouts that drove engagement
- Developed print materials including product catalogs, annual reports, trade show displays, and retail signage using **Adobe Creative Suite**
- Designed and maintained **eCommerce** visual merchandising strategies, including **product photography** direction, promotional banners, and seasonal campaign materials
- Crafted compelling **visual narratives** through creative storytelling, combining **typography-**, **illustration**, and **photography** to enhance **brand messaging**

Aug 2009 — Aug 2010

iMAC LAB TECHNICIAN, Palm Beach State College

Onsite - Lake Worth, FL

- Served as lead lab technician for the university's Digital Arts facility, providing expert guidance to students on **Adobe Creative Suite**, **digital illustration**, and **design principles**
- Managed daily operations of the print lab, including maintenance and troubleshooting of professional-grade equipment like the **Epson Stylus Pro 880** and **large format printers**
- Designed and produced comprehensive marketing materials for the Humanities department's events and programs, including **exhibition catalogs**, **conference materials**, and **promotional campaigns**
- Trained students on proper **file preparation**, **color management**, and various **printing techniques** across different media types
- Implemented **inventory management system** for print supplies and materials, reducing waste and ensuring continuous lab operation
- Created and maintained documentation for lab procedures, equipment usage, and **troubleshooting guides** for common printing issues
- Collaborated with faculty to develop **print specifications** for course projects, ensuring optimal output quality while managing tight academic deadlines
- Oversaw **quality control** for all printed materials, maintaining **color accuracy** and **print consistency** across multiple printing systems

EDUCATION

Jan 2007 — Jan 2009 | **AA Network Administration, PALM BEACH STATE COLLEGE** | Boca Raton, FL

GPA of 3.65

Apr 2009 — Nov 2009 | **College Credit Certificate in Information Technology, Palm Beach State College** | Boca Raton, FL

SKILLS

JavaScript, Node.js, React, Vue, Svelte, Next.js, MongoDB	Expert	AngularJS, Angular, GraphQL, Ionic Framework	Experienced
Python, Generative AI, LLMs, RAG, Vector DBs	Experienced	Hybrid Retrieval, Re-ranking, Embeddings, Multimodal Parsing	Expert
AWS Bedrock, Vertex AI, GCP Cloud Run, BigQuery	Expert	Kotlin, Flutter, Dart, Android	Beginner
LLM Evals, Judge Calibration, Prompt Governance, Agentic Tool Use	Expert	CRM, Salesforce, Zoho, FreshSales	Expert
React Native, Expo, iOS	Expert	Python, Django, Flask, Elixir, DRF, pgvector	Skillful
.NET, C#, MSSQL, .NET Core	Expert	Adobe Creative Suite	Expert
PHP, MySQL, Laravel - LAMP	Expert	WordPress, WooCommerce	Expert
AWS, Serverless, Docker, Kubernetes, Terraform	Expert	DevOps, Heroku, Digital Ocean, Vercel, Linux, Supabase, VPC	Expert

LANGUAGES

English	Native speaker	Portuguese	Working knowledge
Spanish	Very good command		

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

2018 — Present | **Coding Mentor, Yoyo Code** | Syracuse

Working with friends, family, acquaintances, and colleagues to help them along their path to becoming a successful programmer, primarily useing the freeCodeCamp.org curriculum. Worked with the local library to provide a free resource for individuals in the community with a desire to learn programming.

HOBBIES

Singing, Guitar/Piano, Snowboarding, Programming, Mentoring

PRO BONO

2014 — 2018 | **Worthy of Love** | Los Angeles

Manage a charitable organization's entire donation and eCommerce web application. WordPress, PHP, PayPal integration, DevOps.

https://www.worthyoflovela.org/

STARTUPS

Jan 2026 — Present | **Founder - KidCash** | Syracuse, NY

The most fully featured allowance tracker app on the market. https://kidcashapp.com/ios

Feb 2023 — Present | **Founder - TouchGuides** | Syracuse, NY

"Everything you need to host! TouchGuides allows hosts to create personalized recommendations for their guests, ensuring a unique and memorable stay." https://touchguides.com/

REFERENCES

References available upon request

ADDITIONAL LINKS

Top 100 in the App Store Family Category

https://apkcombo.com/cutetitos-match-game/com.basicfun.cutetitos/

https://appadvice.com/app/cutetitos-stickers/1436535267

COURSES

May 2024 — Generative AI with Large Language Models, Coursera