Derek M. Reedy

Cambridge, MA · derek.m.reedy@gmail.com · linkedin.com/in/dereedy · github.com/dmreedy · (908) 285-4320

Senior software engineer with a decade shipping production AI systems at IBM Watson, specializing in the parts that make AI work in production: evaluation harnesses, benchmarking, CI/CD, and cloud infrastructure. Comfortable in high-communication, high-ownership roles on large, complex products and small, fast-moving teams alike.

Experience

Writer · Self-Employed Cambridge, MA · 2023–present

- Wrote an 80,000-word draft of a speculative science fiction novel; currently in revision.
- Built a custom novel-writing environment and publishing system, extending `vim` with LaTeX typesetting and git-backed revision.
- Built a Kanban-style shared job application tracker using Claude Code, featuring automatic job-posting parsing, deduplication, posting "aging", and metrics tracking (github.com/dmreedy/job-board).

Lead Software Engineer · IBM Conveyor AI Cambridge, MA · 2021–2023

- Designed, and led a five-engineer team to build, a low-code platform for composing AI models, ML components, and business logic into production workflows with generated APIs, running as a distributed orchestration service on multiple platforms, including IBM Cloud (Kubernetes) and AWS (ECS).
- Built agentic tool-use loops and retrieval-augmented QA on the platform as reference applications.
- Took the product through IBM's new-product launch process, meeting enterprise security, code-quality, and compliance gates.
- Ran pilots and bespoke demos for internal and external customers, including a talk at Digimarcon 2022.

Advisory Software Engineer · IBM Watson Natural Language Classifier Cambridge, MA · 2015–2021

- Owned a production natural language intent classification cloud service, and led two years of its development, project management, and release, including new feature delivery, GDPR and HIPAA compliance, and security/vulnerability mitigation.
- Designed and implemented CI/CD infrastructure for a portfolio of connected Kubernetes-based cloud services, coordinating the work of four internal component development teams through automation, and bringing the iteration time for releases down from a week to days.
- Built a load-testing and benchmarking framework that cut delivery of experimental algorithm features from months to weeks.
- Partnered with IBM Research to harden research models and application code for production.

Software Engineer · IBM Watson Littleton, MA · 2013–2015

- Built out an evaluation harness for components of a multi-stage, multi-language DeepQA question-answering pipeline, covering natural language processing algorithms, information retrieval systems, and machine learning algorithms.
- Collaborated with IBM Research and the original *Jeopardy!* Watson team to move features from research into product.
- Built a noisy-channel spellchecker service, evaluated against an automatically generated corpus of millions of paired spelling mistakes and corrections, scraped from Wikipedia edits.
- Built test-history visualization tooling that cut daily test review from an hour to a glance.

Skills

AI Engineering: Claude/Claude Code, LLM tool use, agentic loops, RAG, evaluation design, Lucene/Solr
Languages: Python, Java, TypeScript (Node.js), Elixir
Infrastructure: Kubernetes, Docker/Podman, AWS, Terraform, Vault, CI/CD (Jenkins, GitHub Actions)
Data: PostgreSQL, Redis, Kafka, Pandas

Education

B.S. Computer Science and Cognitive and Brain Science · Tufts University Medford, MA · 2012

Coursework emphasizing artificial intelligence, linguistics, machine learning, natural language processing, neuroscience, programming languages, and theory of mind.