

FELIX KWASI SARPONG

Backend Software Engineer | Python (FastAPI) + Java (Spring Boot) | AWS | Distributed Systems

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SUMMARY

Software Engineer with 5+ years building backend and distributed systems in Java/Spring Boot and Python/FastAPI. Shipped event-driven microservices with Kafka for high-volume payments flows (1M+ tx/day; 20M+ tx/month), improved MTTR by 35% using Prometheus/Grafana, and reduced API latency ~25% via SQL tuning and Redis caching (p95 ~140ms). Supported steady delivery (2–3 deploys/week) and production support (~10 incidents/month). Strong in AWS deployments, secure APIs (OAuth2/JWT), and reliability patterns (timeouts/retries/idempotency).

CORE SKILLS

Backend: Java, Spring Boot, Spring Security (OAuth2/JWT, RBAC), Python, FastAPI, REST, Microservices, OpenAPI

Cloud/DevOps: AWS (ECS/Fargate, Lambda, SQS/SNS, RDS, S3, CloudWatch/IAM), Docker, Terraform, CI/CD (GitHub Actions)

Data/Obs/Testing: Kafka, Redis, PostgreSQL/Oracle/MySQL, Micrometer, Prometheus, Grafana, JUnit5/Mockito, Pytest

Delivery/Operations: Agile/Kanban, stakeholder communication, production support, SLAs, runbooks, PR reviews, incident/change management

Payments/Integrations: ISO 8583, tokenization/encryption/TLS, SOAP/XML, Temenos T24, performance tuning, SLOs/alerting

EXPERIENCE

Senior Software Engineer — FIDO (U.S.-facing Global Fintech, Remote) | Spring Boot • FastAPI • Kafka • Redis • AWS

Jan 2024 – Dec 2024

- Shipped Spring Boot + FastAPI services processing 1M+ transactions/day via Kafka/JMS → improved resilience during traffic spikes with Resilience4j + idempotency → reduced MTTR by 35% using Prometheus/Grafana dashboards and alerts.
- Optimized hot-path SQL, Redis caching, and connection pools → improved p95 latency to ~140ms → reduced API latency ~25% for transaction APIs under peak load.
- Owned production support (~10 incidents/month; 1–2/week) and runbooks → improved incident response quality → sustained delivery cadence of 2–3 deploys/week with safer releases.

Software Engineer — EFT Corporation (Payments Platform) | Spring Boot • Redis • PostgreSQL/Oracle • AWS

Aug 2021 – Dec 2023

- Owned prepaid card platform handling 20M+ transactions/month → reduced processing latency 15–25% via Redis caching + SQL/JDBC tuning → sustained stability during peak payment volumes.
- Implemented OAuth2/JWT RBAC and PCI-aligned controls (tokenization, encryption, TLS) → strengthened security and compliance → supported Visa/Mastercard/Verve certification and ISO 8583 cutovers.
- Coordinated delivery across distributed teams (India/Africa) using Agile/Kanban → improved release execution → led PR reviews, design walkthroughs, and onboarding.

Software Engineer (Integration) — Republic Bank (Core Banking) | Laravel • SOAP/XML • Temenos T24

Oct 2020 – Jul 2021

- Built Temenos T24 integration APIs via SOAP (WSDL)/XML supporting ~7M transactions/month → improved reliability with validation + error handling → reduced operational escalations through clearer logs and runbooks.
- Automated reconciliation and reporting → reduced manual effort by 50% → enabled faster end-of-day close and fewer back-office delays.

Backend Developer (Contract) — Passmall (E-commerce) | Python • FastAPI • PostgreSQL

Dec 2019 – Aug 2021

- Developed Python/FastAPI APIs for catalog, seller onboarding, and checkout/payment workflows → improved API consistency with validation and standard error handling → supported smoother partner integrations.
- Improved deployment reliability by containerizing services and tightening CI checks → reduced release risk → faster iteration on backend features.

PROJECTS

Fraud Detection Microservice — Spring Boot, Kafka, Redis, AWS, AWS (ECS + Terraform)

- Event-driven fraud detection on Kafka with Redis velocity/rules and AWS alerting (SNS→SQS→Lambda); designed audit-grade decision storage in PostgreSQL and production dashboards.

AI Tutor Platform — Python/FastAPI, PostgreSQL, Docker, AWS (ECS + Terraform)

- Built ingestion/retrieval APIs with Postgres + Alembic migrations; deployed containerized services to AWS ECS using Terraform for repeatable environments.

EDUCATION

M.S. Computer Science — Texas Tech University (USA) | 2024 – 2025

B.S. Computer Science — KNUST | 2016 – 2020