Charles Oraegbu

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Senior Backend Engineer

SUMMARY

Backend engineer with 7+ years of production work, now leading a team of six that builds AI products at SearchAtlas.

SKILLS

- **Languages and tools:** Python, Go, SQL, TypeScript, Java, Bash, AI coding assistants
- **Backend:** FastAPI, Django, Django REST Framework, Flask, Spring Boot, REST APIs, microservices, Celery, RabbitMQ
- **Infrastructure:** AWS (Lambda, SQS, SNS, DynamoDB), GCP, Azure, Kubernetes (kubectl), Docker, Terraform, CI/CD
- **Data and LLM:** PostgreSQL (pgvector), Redis, retrieval-augmented generation, MCP, Langfuse, OpenTelemetry, Prometheus, Grafana, Sentry

EXPERIENCE

Lead Engineer, SearchAtlas — Remote (USA), Jan 2026 – Present

Senior Backend Engineer, SearchAtlas — Remote (USA), Apr 2025 – Dec 2025

- Lead six engineers who own the core backend for 1,000+ customers and 190K+ projects.
- Scaled AI article generation to 50K+ articles a month within 6 months of launch.
- Built a knowledge-retrieval and publishing system that serves 400K+ AI queries a month across 10 CMS platforms, including Shopify and Webflow.
- Cut AI article failures from 16% to under 0.5%, and truncated articles from 13.5% to 4.3%.
- Built the AI agent platform customers use to create and edit articles by chat, on Kubernetes.
- Cut LLM cost by removing unused tools from agent prompts: planning prompts 76% smaller, long chats 30%+ cheaper per call.
- Fixed a 100% CPU overload on a 1.3TB PostgreSQL (pgvector) table, cutting its key query from over 25 seconds to 1 ms.
- Cut article research time from 86.5s to 2.5s.
- Built a Go analytics service that shows customers which AI bots visit their sites.

Backend Engineer, Wowzi — Nairobi, Kenya, May 2023 – May 2026

- Built a creator payments platform with wallets, cards and cross-border bank and mobile-money payouts, designed to improve cash flow, on a ledger that keeps every balance auditable.
- Built payouts that convert USD-funded campaigns into local currencies, batched to minimise provider fees, and led market integrations with payment providers.
- Owned and maintained the Spring Boot backend API for campaigns and the marketplace.
- Designed the AWS serverless infrastructure and an infrastructure-as-code template for new services.

Data Engineer (Consultant), Kobo360 — Lagos, Nigeria, Jan 2023 – Jun 2023

Senior Data Engineer, Kobo360 — Lagos, Nigeria, Aug 2022 – Jan 2023

Python Engineer, Kobo360 — Lagos, Nigeria, Sep 2021 – Aug 2022

- Built Python and Prefect pipelines that load logistics and financial data into the warehouse, and automated recurring client reports.
- Trained and mentored junior data engineers.

Software Engineer (Contract), Konstellation / Vegax Holdings — South Korea, Jun 2022 – Dec 2022

- Built a headless CMS on Wagtail that replaced the research team's third-party services.
- Shipped four production microservices and led 60% of a PHP to Python and FastAPI migration.

Software Engineer (Contract), Weekendlabs / hiring.io — Bangalore, India, Feb 2021 – Oct 2021

- Built web pages that raised website leads by 15%.

Full-stack Engineer, Independent Consultant — Remote, Feb 2018 – Feb 2021

- Built and ran backend and full-stack applications for clients.

PROJECTS

SubSentry — solo AI app for bank statements, pre-launch · insights.subsentry.io

- Built an AI agent that answers questions about Nigerian bank statements, using only figures computed in code.
- Names and account numbers become placeholders before any AI model sees them.

EDUCATION

- Bachelor of Computer Science, University of Lagos, Nigeria (Dec 2017 – Aug 2024)
- National Diploma, Computer Science, Yaba College of Technology, Nigeria (Oct 2015 – Feb 2018)

CERTIFICATIONS

- Introduction to Artificial Intelligence (with Honors)
- Python Bootcamp (Paradigm Initiative)
- ChatGPT Prompt Engineering for Developers
- Programming Languages, Part A
- Computational Thinking for Problem Solving (Coursera)