James Keane

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SUMMARY

AI Product Engineer with 3.5 years as a founding engineer at a YC-backed startup, owning production systems end to end across LLM pipeline architecture, full-stack platform development, and cloud infrastructure. Built an agentic sales automation framework processing 10,000+ leads before commercial tooling existed.

Rebuilt a developer analytics platform from a broken codebase into a production product serving paying customers. Independently shipped a real-time geopolitical intelligence dashboard and a multi-agent editorial pipeline producing publication-quality analysis.

EXPERIENCE

Unify AI (YC W23) -Founding Engineer

September 2022 - February 2026 | London, Remote | unify.ai

Early hire at a YC-backed AI startup. Owned two major product surfaces end to end and operated as primary engineer across platform development, sales infrastructure, payments, and growth.

AI Sales Automation Platform (2023–2024)

Designed and built the company's sales automation infrastructure from scratch, an agentic outreach system, CRM automation suite, and internal tooling, predating commercial products now solving the same problems. Simultaneously managed all outbound sales, partnerships, and marketing.

- Architected Salesify, a modular Python framework orchestrating multi-stage LLM pipelines across lead enrichment, context synthesis, and hyper-personalised message generation, integrating LinkedIn, Apollo, Phantombuster, and TexAu APIs with prompt versioning, caching, and retry logic.

- Processed 10,000+ leads at 200+ per week sustained, achieving 15%+ conversion to sales calls, opening relationships with engineering leaders at Cash App and Speechify, generating contract discussions exceeding $500k in pipeline value, and running co-branded webinars with industry researchers.

- Evaluated output quality using LLM-as-judge comparison across models and few-shot example banks benchmarked against human-written outputs, iteratively improving personalisation fidelity.

- Built a Chrome extension injecting an AI drafting agent into the Gmail toolbar, pulling live HubSpot CRM data, Fireflies meeting transcripts, and contact history to generate contextually accurate emails without leaving the inbox.

- Deployed a Dockerised post-call enrichment service to GCP as a scheduled cron, parsing Fireflies transcripts via LLMs and writing structured summaries and updated properties back to HubSpot after every sales call.

- Built a suite of HubSpot CRM microservices on GCP Cloud Functions, automated lifecycle tracking, AI-generated follow-up reminders, intent classification for inbound replies, and a bulk email platform generating hundreds of individually tailored messages from CRM data and LLM components.

Developer Analytics Platform - Unify Console (2024–2026)

Inherited a non-functional Next.js codebase and rebuilt it into the primary human interface for a multi-repository agentic platform (Unity, Orchestra, Communication, UniLLM) serving paying customers.

- Led complete frontend rebuild using Next.js 14, TypeScript, Shadcn UI, Zustand, and React Query. Established all component architecture, design tokens, conventions, and documentation from scratch.

- Designed a dynamic tiled grid interface for composable dashboard layouts with heterogeneous data views, tables, plots, chat interfaces, inspection panes, managing complex cross-tile state propagation and dependency resolution.

- Built a recursive log inspection engine rendering arbitrary Python datatypes including nested dicts, lists, JSON, primitives, and live chat completion streams. Implemented performant recursive open/collapse, type-aware display, and inline multi-value diffing for model comparison.

- Rewrote the entire Stripe payments infrastructure after identifying critical vulnerabilities. Implemented idempotency, card verification, challenge flows, aggregated billing, and suspension logic, reducing fraud from ~10 disputes/day to zero within one week and recovering ~$4,500/month.
- Architected a full CI/CD harness using Vitest and Playwright to build unit, integration, and e2e coverage with a CI pipeline spinning up a live backend, pre-commit hooks, TypeScript enforcement, and opt-in test triggering to manage costs.

Ivy ML Framework Open Source

2022–2023 | github.com/ivy-llc/ivy |

- Built property-based testing infrastructure using permutation-based generation to surface edge cases across PyTorch, TensorFlow, JAX, and NumPy backends
- Mentored a Google Summer of Code 2023 student through weekly code reviews and structured project management

PROJECTS

The Briefing
2026 | realpolitikworld.substack.com | github.com/iamjameskeane/the-briefing

A multi-agent editorial pipeline transforming raw geopolitical event streams into structured intelligence briefings. Built on the Realpolitik data layer.

- Designed an 8-phase async pipeline with 8 specialised agents: Editor, Architect, parallel Analysts, Structure, Writer, Stylist, and dual Critics, each with Pydantic schemas, shared pipeline state, and structured retry logic.
- Implemented dual critic loops. ContentCritic for hallucination detection via Chain of Verification, StyleCritic for prose quality with reject-and-recycle authority, alongside PIC Matrix scoring for automated editorial kill decisions, shared PipelineState with async checkpointing, and full audit trails per edition.
- Published 4 editions with output quality independently mistaken for professional intelligence analysis

Realpolitik
2025 | realpolitik.world | github.com/iamjameskeane/realpolitik

Real-time geopolitical intelligence dashboard with a 3D interactive globe and AI analysis. 30–40 daily active users.

- Built full stack solo: Python worker for multi-source ingestion and Gemini enrichment with semantic deduplication, Next.js frontend with Mapbox GL JS globe rendering, deployed on Vercel with Cloudflare R2 and GitHub Actions running every 15 minutes.
- Implemented event clustering, severity-based visualisation, deep-linked shareable URLs with fly-to animations, PWA with push notifications, and three mobile interaction modes (Scanner, Pilot, Analyst) optimised for iOS Safari.

EDUCATION

University of Edinburgh — BSc (Hons) Artificial Intelligence, 2:1 (2019–2023)

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Core: Python, TypeScript, Next.js, React, FastAPI, PostgreSQL, Docker, GCP, Vercel, GitHub Actions, Stripe

AI and ML: LLM Pipeline Architecture, Multi-Agent Systems, Prompt Engineering, RAG, LLM Evaluation