

Joshua Bourton

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

First Class Computer Science graduate (Durham University) with a transformer-based NLP dissertation, contributing to the development of frontier LLMs and agentic coding systems through adversarial weakness testing and benchmark design. Placement year as Technical Project Manager at P&G, owning the full project lifecycle from Azure architecture and Databricks data pipelines to secure, automated CI/CD workflows.

EXPERIENCE

AI Model Evaluation Contractor | DataAnnotation | Remote, Jul 2026 - Present

- Contributed to the development of frontier LLMs and agentic coding systems through meticulous adversarial weakness testing, designing SWE-bench-style tasks on open-source Python codebases and empirically verifying every failure mode across multi-trial agent runs.
- Built reproducible evaluation environments with Docker, Harbor, WSL 2 (Linux) and VS Code Dev Containers, using Pytest, Bash and Python to write deterministic verifiers.
- Analysed agent trajectories from CLI coding harnesses including Claude Code and OpenCode, producing structured rate-and-review feedback on tool use, reasoning and error recovery.
- Graded A/B LLM responses and designed instruction sets using rubric-based assessment of correctness, instruction following and code quality.

Technical Project Manager (Intern) | Procter & Gamble (P&G) | Newcastle, UK Jul 2024 - Jun 2025

- Served as Product Manager for a 6-figure data reporting project, defining technical requirements, leading cross-disciplinary developers and aligning delivery with R&D and cloud infrastructure teams.
- Recovered and delivered the project within a 4-month fiscal window, redesigning scope and team structure to slash reporting time from ~2 weeks to 5 minutes (99% faster), saving an estimated 3-5 FTEs annually and securing additional funding.
- Designed and implemented a complete set of CI/CD pipelines using GitHub Actions, Docker, and Azure App Service, automating the build and deployment process to improve developer efficiency.
- Architected and constructed an automated vulnerability scanning process within the CI/CD pipelines to identify threats pre-deployment and eliminate the need for manual security reviews.

Private Tutor, Maths & Computer Science | Tutorchase | Remote, Dec 2021 - Jun 2025

- Tutored 30+ students (13-18) in Maths & Computer Science; 90% client retention after 3 months.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- Languages:** Python, Java, C#, JavaScript (Node.js), SQL, Bash
- AI & Machine Learning:** LLM Evaluation, Benchmark Design, NLP, Transformer Models, Deep Learning, Prompt Engineering, AI Agents
- Developer Tools:** Git, Linux/WSL 2, Pytest, Claude Code, OpenCode, Harbor, Dev Containers
- Cloud & DevOps:** Azure (App Service, SQL DB, Databricks), GitHub Actions, Docker, Architecture Diagrams, Resource Provisioning & Management, Governance & Policy Compliance
- Data & Analytics:** ETL Design, Pandas, Streamlit, Power BI
- Security:** Snyk, SonarQube

EDUCATION

Durham University | Durham, UK, Oct 2022 - Jun 2026

BSc (Hons) Computer Science with Placement Year, First Class

- Dissertation:** Built a transformer-based NLP model to quantify authoritarianism in UK party manifestos, targeting rhetoric that shapes surveillance and counter-terrorism law.
- Key Modules:** Reinforcement Learning, Deep Learning, Bias & Ethics in AI, Distributed Systems.

PROJECTS & INTERESTS

Hackathons & CyberStart competitor; Arete Fellow (Effective Altruism Technology); Volunteer IT Technician for Youth Club; Solo backpacking (1 year across South America & Asia); Studying Spanish (B2 target).