

Ata Halicioğlu

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Backend engineer with 2+ years of production experience building event-driven, distributed systems in Go and Java. Specialized in fintech and B2C SaaS infrastructure — designing resilient, high-throughput services with Kafka, Redis, and PostgreSQL. Strong foundation in microservices, cloud-native architecture, and reliability engineering across high-velocity startup environments.

EDUCATION

Koc University – with Scholarship – GPA: 3.72 / 4.0

Electrical and Electronics Engineering & Double Major with Computer Engineering.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Midas, Software Engineer

June 2025 – Present

- Contributed to authentication and session management infrastructure serving ~100,000 daily logins, implementing JWT-based auth flows and secure session handling across a distributed, multi-service environment.
- Optimized critical database queries reducing response times from ~500ms to ~20ms (96% improvement), directly improving user-facing latency under production load.
- Built an LLM-based document verification pipeline for KYC, replacing manual processing with an automated system featuring third-party integrations and fallback mechanisms for reliability.
- Owned backend development for multiple user onboarding flows, designing and delivering the API layer and business logic that drives new user activation in a B2C fintech product with a large (~3 million) user base.
- Worked across ~20 microservices in a high-velocity fintech environment, applying resilience patterns including circuit breakers, exponential backoff, and idempotent operations.

Logica Blue, Backend & AI Engineer

October 2024 – May 2025

- Built RAG-based AI products from scratch including a customer support bot, document search engine, and internal knowledge base system, serving ~100 customers including 2 enterprise clients.
- Proposed and led development of 2 new products adopted by the company, taking them from idea to production in a fast-moving B2B2C startup environment.
- Designed and implemented serverless backend architecture on AWS using Lambda and other cloud services, ensuring scalability and performance across all products.
- Built and maintained CI/CD pipelines with AWS CDK, streamlining deployment across multiple environments.
- Implemented semantic search capabilities using TypeSense, improving document retrieval accuracy and response quality for AI workflows.

Koc University GGLab, NLP Research Intern (Part-time)

June 2024 – February 2025

- Researched and developed a lightweight Dialogue State Tracking (DST) pipeline using BERT, integrating Natural Language Inference to improve coreference resolution while achieving faster inference than larger baseline models.
- Contributed to internal research on dialogue understanding systems, gaining deep hands-on experience with pretrained transformer models and NLP pipeline design.

Siemens, Software Engineer

February 2024 – October 2024

- Developed and maintained backend services for an industrial IoT platform using Java (Spring Boot), Node.js, and Go, implementing RESTful APIs, background jobs, and database migrations for member, tenant, and factory management.
- Built a UI component library from scratch, delivering a reusable set of frontend components adopted across the product.
- Deployed and operated services on AWS with Kubernetes, managing isolated pod environments for multi-tenant infrastructure.
- Monitored and debugged production applications using Amazon CloudWatch, supporting reliable builds and deployments through CI/CD pipelines.

Turkish Technology (Subsidiary of Turkish Airlines), Platform Engineering *October 2023 – January 2024*

- Developed and applied Ansible automation scripts for server configuration and deployment, introducing infrastructure-as-code practices in a traditionally manual operations environment.
- Gained hands-on experience with API gateway configuration (Ocelot), service discovery (Consul), and load balancing concepts across enterprise-scale server infrastructure.

Devolveo, Machine Learning Engineer Intern *July 2023 – April 2024*

- Researched, implemented, and fine-tuned NLP and LLM-based models using Python, PyTorch, and Hugging Face for task-specific applications, gaining deep hands-on experience with transformer architectures.
- Designed and ran model evaluation pipelines, testing performance across multiple ML tasks and iterating on model configurations to meet task requirements.

Devexperts, Java Software Development Intern *October 2022 – April 2023*

- Gained foundational exposure to financial trading systems and fintech infrastructure at a leading trading technology company, informing later work in production fintech environments.
- Developed backend services using Java and Spring Boot as part of a structured internship program, building RESTful APIs and working with MySQL and MongoDB in an Agile team environment.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- **Languages:** Go, Java, Python, JavaScript, C, C#
- **Backend Frameworks:** Spring Boot, Gin, Node.js, Django, Flask, .NET
- **Frontend:** React, Next.js, Angular
- **Databases:** PostgreSQL, MySQL, MongoDB, DynamoDB, SQLite
- **Messaging & Caching:** Kafka, RabbitMQ, Redis, Elasticsearch
- **Cloud & Infrastructure:** AWS (Lambda, CloudWatch, CDK), Azure, GCP, Kubernetes, Ansible
- **AI & ML:** PyTorch, Hugging Face, RAG systems, LLM integration, NLP
- **APIs & Architecture:** REST, GraphQL, gRPC, WebSocket, Microservices, Event-driven
- **DevOps & Tools:** GitHub Actions, GitLab CI, TeamCity, Docker, Jira

OTHER EXPERIENCES

- **Fikret Yuksel Foundation, IT Committee** — March 2022 – June 2024 Volunteered as part of the IT committee for the FRC Robotics Competition, developing and maintaining the competition website and hosting platform serving robotics enthusiasts across Turkey.
- **Rotary International, Bostanlı Interact Club** — September 2016 – June 2020 Active member contributing to community development initiatives in Izmir.