Ryan Opel

ryan.a.opel@gmail.com
linkedin.com/in/ryanopel
San Diego, CA

$ whoami

I am passionate about building and improving **tools and platforms** that people love to use, teaching and communicating information to **broad audiences**, and designing **elegant solutions**. I have experience with:

Languages:	Go, Java / Kotlin, Python, Bash, R, JavaScript
Tools:	Kubernetes, Terraform, Postgres, AWS, Azure, Kafka, Redis, Helm, Argo
Practices:	Distributed Systems, Site Reliability Engineering, Developer Tools & Workflows

$ jobs

New Relic Jan 2021 – Present

Lead (Staff) Software Engineer Jun 2025 – Present

- Extended the NRDB (New Relic Database) At-Rest Processing platform to ship Automatic Indexing as a net-new capability now running against all production traffic – skips ~60% of events via automated secondary indexing and cuts query latency by 47%
- Designed and built a batch-import product (Java, Postgres, SQS) for ingesting customer data into NRDB, enabling customers to correlate external cost data with their application-performance telemetry

Senior Software Engineer Jun 2021 – Jun 2025

- Team lead for NRDB Cloud Engineering platform team
- Architected NRDB's batch data-at-rest processing system for data aggregation and secondary indexing (Java, Kafka, Postgres, SQS) – the foundation later extended into full production-scale Auto Indexing
- Developed a Java / gRPC client-server application for accessing datastores to support cloud rearchitecture and improvements to the underlying databases without downtime
- Implemented event-driven autoscaling for the stateful applications responsible for persistence and query in NRDB via Kubernetes operators in Go, which resulted in a 40% cost reduction and increased reliability

Software Engineer Jan 2021 – Jun 2021

- Supported the migration from the datacenter to a multi-cloud, multi-region deployment model

Software Engineer, Cloudbolt Software Jan 2019 – Dec 2020

- Developed the product's first REST API, enabling the shift from Django rendered templates to a separate front- and back-end model
- Improved CI/CD pipelines and build-artifact storage, cutting build times and shipping five consecutive releases with fewer customer-reported bugs

Research Asst., Portland VA Research Foundation Aug 2015 – Jan 2019

- Served as primary developer and statistician for grant proposals, helping secure over $3M in funding

$ history

M.S. Computer Science, OHSU (GPA 4.0, DNF) Sep 2017 – Jun 2019

B.S. Pharmacology, UC Santa Barbara Sep 2011 – Jun 2015

Last updated: 2026-09-11