

Ruben Christopher Arevalo

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SUMMARY

Full-stack software engineer and founder building production AI systems, from RAG pipelines and agentic architectures to the platforms that ship them. Specializes in LLM-powered tooling (Groq, OpenAI, Pinecone, Anthropic SDK) across Python, React, and Next.js, with a track record of taking systems from architecture to deployment independently. Writing on AI and engineering featured on HackerNoon.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Founder & Software Engineer | Ruben Arevalo AI & Software Studio | McAllen, Texas | *March 2026 - Present*

- Architect Benny, a FastAPI lead automation service with mixed model routing (Groq, OpenAI), Pinecone vector search, and a MySQL/Redis stack for session persistence, targeting public launch August 2026.
- Design J.A.L.E., an internal HR, payroll, and project management platform with a 10-table MySQL schema, SOW generation, Firebase Auth role based access control, and an agentic timesheet monitor flagging irregular shifts.
- Build and ship the studio's own web presence end-to-end (Next.js, structured data/JSON-LD, technical SEO), driving Google Ads conversion within 24 hours of campaign launch.
- Write and publish original AI and engineering opinion pieces, cross-posted to dev.to, HashNode, HackerNoon, and Medium; one piece picked up and featured by HackerNoon.

Software Developer (Programmer) | Del Valle Pest Control | Edinburg, Texas | *February 2025 - Present*

- Build and maintain a vehicle maintenance and gas receipt tracking system, cutting overhead by ~10-15%.
- Develop a Python-based inventory tracking prototype with a team of 3+, reducing manual stock reconciliation time and improving tracking accuracy across warehouse workflows by 15%.
- Mentor 3+ junior developers through code reviews and pair programming sessions, accelerating team onboarding and improving sprint delivery consistency.

Headstarter AI, Software Engineer Fellow | Remote | *July 2024 - September 2024*

- Shipped 5 production AI applications in 8 weeks using React, Next.js, Firebase, Clerk, and Vercel, integrating CI/CD pipelines for automated deployment and testing, improving system reliability.
- Led a 3-person team to build and deploy a SaaS flashcard generator powered by the OpenAI API with instant personalized study plans.
- Implemented a RAG-based information retrieval system with a team of 3 using OpenAI API and Pinecone.

PROJECTS

B.E.N.N.Y. Lead Agent, *June 2026 - Present*: Lead automation service combining Pinecone, mixed model LLM routing, and MySQL/Redis stack for session persistence. Public launch targeted August 2026.

J.A.L.E., *March 2026 - Present*: An HR + payroll + PM platform with Statements of Work (SOW) generation and a real time agentic timesheet monitor.

IncludiTrip, Headstarter Fellowship, *August 2024*: Accessibility focused travel app with Groq-powered, budget and date personalized recommendations.

EDUCATION

University of Texas Rio Grande Valley | Edinburg, Texas | *August 2019 - May 2023*

Bachelor of Science in Computer Engineering

South Texas College | McAllen, Texas | *August 2015 - May 2019*

Associate of Science in Computer Science

SKILLS

Programming Languages: Python, TypeScript, JavaScript, SQL, PHP

Web Development & API: React.js, Next.js, FastAPI, Flask, Express.js, CSS, HTML

AI/LLM: Anthropic SDK, OpenAI API, Groq, Pinecone, RAG architecture, agentic systems

Databases: MySQL, PostgreSQL, Redis, Google Firebase/Firestore

Cloud / DevOps: CI/CD, Git, AWS (Lambda, S3)