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Applied AI Engineer, Startups | OpenAI

Cover letter

I call myself a technomancer. I've been talking to computers my whole life, and now they talk back. That still kind of blows my mind. When I was a kid, getting a computer to do something I'd imagined felt like magic. Now I can sit down with a half-formed idea and go a lot further with it than I could on my own. I want to work on the technology that made that possible.

I think some of the engineering work AI displaces will move into research. When it gets easier to build things, the hard part becomes knowing what's worth building, what to test, and when a result is actually good enough to trust. That feels like a really good place to put the human brain. It's the part of engineering I've always liked most: pulling a system apart until I understand why it behaves the way it does.

One of my early clients, NuPrice, needed to turn marketplace data and seller rules into pricing decisions. I built the application, but I also ran billing, support, and the systems behind it. That kept me close to the difference between a feature that worked in a demo and one a customer could depend on. I bring that same mindset to the AI workflows I build now. What draws me to OpenAI's Startups team is the chance to sit next to founders while their ideas are still taking shape, build the first version together, and bring what we learn from putting it in people's hands back to the product team.