

Scott Allman

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SUMMARY

Senior software testing professional with 30+ years of experience across startups, enterprise companies, and independent consulting. Deep expertise in test design, automation, risk assessment, and team leadership. Currently implementing AI tools — including Claude and ChatGPT — into professional testing workflows, while maintaining the human judgment that AI cannot replace. Invited speaker at the international conference of the Association for Software Testing. Past President of SQUAD, the Boulder-area software quality professionals group. MA in Philosophy with thesis on software testing; former adjunct professor at University of Colorado Boulder.

EXPERIENCE

GridVisibility, Inc.

Jan 2025 – Present

Software Quality and Testing — Contractor

- Plan, design and execute automated unit and integration tests for this innovative startup
- Applying AI-assisted testing strategies and mentoring developers.

Gridmetrics, Inc.

Jan 2021 – November 2024

Senior Software Tester

Designing, coding, and running tests for a startup in the energy monitoring space. Worked closely with development and marketing to build an extensive automated regression suite.

- Implemented AI tools (Claude, ChatGPT, Gemini) into the testing practice — using AI to generate unit tests from code structure, eliminating low-value hand-coding.
- Developed programs and tools to leverage AI capabilities without exposing proprietary code.
- Technologies: Python 3, PyTest, Google Cloud Platform (GCP), Pandas, SQL.

NetApp, Inc.

Oct 2018 – Oct 2020

Senior Software Engineer in Test

Contributed deep testing and Python development expertise across three strategic projects. Active leader in NetApp's efforts to build community among software testers.

- Refactored a large legacy Python test suite — improving quality and significantly reducing issues found in production.
- Designed and implemented an innovative Selenium architecture to flexibly test a web-based product; coded the prototype and presented to the Boulder office.
- Authored a test plan for a flagship product that received praise across all levels of the business.
- Taught internal classes on test design: Given/When/Then methodology and Selenium.
- Active contributor to in-house tester community: book club, forums, presentations, mentoring.

Complex Systems Management

Sep 2009 – Oct 2018

Independent Contractor — Software Tester and Developer

Delivered testing and development solutions for multiple companies in the cable television industry. Applied rapid-learning and strong communication skills to solve urgent technical problems under pressure.

- Architected and built an automation framework to measure Wi-Fi (IEEE 802.11ac) performance — verified and ruled out multiple product designs quickly under tight deadlines.
- While testing audience measurement systems, built a lightweight dev-ops tool that helped several cable operators capture critical data during content license renegotiations.
- Managed testing strategy for a complex industry-standard library — first in the industry to achieve certification.
- On short-term engagements wrote test plans, evaluated tools, and prototyped test suites to reduce risk as teams explored emerging technologies.

Vidiom Systems

Mar 2004 – Sep 2009

Director of Software Quality

Recruited, mentored, and led a team of 25 software testers across three offices to test embedded system libraries, scaling the QA organization in step with rapid product development.

- Grew the testing organization from a single engineer to a full division with multiple teams.
- Architected testing solutions for sophisticated embedded hardware systems.
- Designed and helped bring to market products that sold testing services to external clients.
- Coached and stabilized a remote office through a period of organizational disruption, keeping key projects on track.

Consultant

Mar 1994 – Feb 2004

Software Testing Consultant — Digital Globe, Royal Observatory Hong Kong, CableLabs

- Digital Globe (Longmont, CO) — Director of Quality. Led testing of ground systems supporting satellite imagery sales and photo archive estimation.
- Royal Observatory, Hong Kong — Designed and wrote tests for a state-of-the-art foul weather detection system for Hong Kong's new international airport. Mentored local engineering team.
- CableLabs (Louisville, CO) — Multiple projects across data science for audience measurement, advanced networking, and adaptive video streaming.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Languages	Python, Unix shells, Java, C
Test frameworks	PyTest, Selenium, Playwright
Cloud & data	Google Cloud Platform (GCP), Pandas, SQL, MySQL
Test techniques	Unit, white-box, risk-based, integration, system, stress, exploratory
Embedded systems	Extensive testing of cable set-top boxes and embedded Unix systems
Web & API	Playwright, Python requests, REST
AI tools	Claude, ChatGPT, Gemini, home grown RAGs — active use in testing workflows
Leadership	Team building, interviewing, Agile mentoring, test planning

CERTIFICATIONS & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- Certified Quality Analyst — Quality Assurance Institute (since 1999)
- Certified Scrum Master
- Sun Certified Java Programmer
- Association for Software Testing — teacher, student, and invited conference speaker
- Associate of Cem Kaner, pioneer of exploratory testing methodology

PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY

- Invited speaker — Association for Software Testing international conference (2023)
- Past President — SQUAD (Software Quality Assurance of Denver), 1,400-member professional society
- GitHub portfolio available on request

EDUCATION

University of Colorado

Master of Arts, Philosophy — Thesis on Software Testing

Thesis examined the philosophical foundations of software testing methodology.

Indiana University

Bachelor of Arts, Philosophy

University of Colorado Boulder

Adjunct Professor — Department of Computer Science

Taught computer science courses at the university level.

Summary

Scott Allman is a senior Software Test Engineer with decades of experience in software testing, automation, and software development. Over the past three years, he has enriched his practice by applying artificial intelligence to software testing. Using tools such as ChatGPT and Claude, he rapidly develops unit tests, integration tests, and custom Python programs for analysis and debugging.

Scott brings the mindset of a career software tester. He combines deep technical skills with a practical focus on software quality. His expertise includes Python, Java, JavaScript, Linux, and modern testing frameworks such as PyTest, Playwright, and Jest.

Scott earned a Master's degree from the University of Colorado. His thesis focused on software testing. His committee included faculty from Computer Science, Philosophy of Science, and Philosophy of Mind, reflecting the analytical approach he brings to every project.

A natural teacher, Scott has taught courses on designing tests, quality assurance, and even creating your own RAGs. He is the mentor you want working with your developers and testers.