

Sean McClure

Kedion · Engagement & Fee Schedule

Most AI failures in the enterprise are not loud. They are silent. A model that is confidently wrong. A pipeline that passes every test while quietly corrupting its own output. A strategy built on a benchmark that does not measure what leadership believes it measures. These defects survive because they require a specific kind of reading: someone who can go down to the numerical behavior of the system and come back up with a sentence an executive can act on.

That is the whole of this practice. Independent technical judgment on AI systems, and the translation of that judgment into terms that hold up in a board room.

ENGAGEMENT MODELS

ENGAGEMENT	FEE
Technical Systems Review Full independent review of an AI or numerical system: code, model behavior, evaluation design, and failure surface. Written findings report with severity ranking, reproduction cases, and remediation guidance. Executive read-out session included. Typical duration 3–5 weeks.	\$48,000 fixed fee
Focused Systems Review Scoped to a single subsystem, model, or decision, such as an evaluation harness, a specific pipeline, or a build-versus-buy question. Written findings and read-out. Typical duration 2 weeks.	\$24,500 fixed fee
Executive Working Session Full-day on-site or remote session for a leadership team. Structured around your actual systems and decisions, not generic AI content. Includes pre-work interviews and a written summary of conclusions reached.	\$18,000 per day
Keynote / Conference Address 45–60 minute address with Q&A, tailored to the audience and organization. Remote or on-site.	\$12,000 per engagement
Standing Technical Advisor Named advisor to a leadership or engineering team. Monthly working session, asynchronous access for judgment calls, and review of material decisions as they arise. Three-month minimum term.	\$9,500 per month
Additional Advisory Time Ad-hoc consultation outside an active engagement, billed in half-hour increments.	\$750 per hour

Fees are quoted in USD and exclusive of travel and expenses, which are billed at cost with prior approval. Multi-engagement and annual arrangements are available on request.

WHAT AN ENGAGEMENT PRODUCES

Every engagement ends in an artifact your organization owns and can circulate internally, not a slide deck of impressions. A review produces a findings document written to two audiences at once: precise enough that your engineers can act on it directly, and clear enough that a non-technical executive can understand what is at stake and decide.

- Ranked findings, each with a reproduction case and an assessment of business consequence
- Explicit statement of what was examined and what was not. Scope is never implied
- Remediation guidance, including the option to do nothing where that is the correct call
- A read-out session with the people who have to make the decision

BASIS OF THE PRACTICE

- PhD in computational chemistry; two decades building and evaluating numerical and machine-learning systems in production settings
- Author of *Discovered, Not Designed* (2024), on reasoning about systems whose internals cannot be traced, which is the core method this practice applies
- Published research on the mathematics of structural analogy and machine intelligence
- Enterprise engagements delivered to Ford and CSX through channel partner Trace3
- Representative work: an independent review of a production codebase carrying 373 passing tests, which surfaced six silent numerical defects, including floating-point mantissa exhaustion and a dynamical system given too short a window to exhibit its defining behavior. Every defect was invisible to the test suite. A redacted version of this review is available under NDA.

TERMS

- Fixed-fee engagements: 50% on execution of the statement of work, 50% on delivery of findings
- Retainers and single-day engagements: invoiced monthly in advance, net 30
- Scope is fixed in writing before work begins; changes are re-quoted rather than absorbed
- Mutual NDA executed before any system access. Client owns all deliverables outright
- Findings are reported as they are found. Independence is the product. No engagement is contingent on a particular conclusion

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Available for engagements in North America and remote worldwide. Scoping conversations are complimentary and carry no obligation.