ÁLVARO FIEIRA WACHTENDORFF

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alvarofieira.github.io/portfolio

I am a **Data Engineer** with experience in building cloud-native data solutions, working on AI-driven projects, and delivering results that meet client needs. I specialise in scoping data projects, designing data pipelines, and integrating ETL processes. My hands-on experience includes **SQL**, **Python**, **C#**, and **Microsoft Azure**. I have a proven track record in consulting and client interactions, helping organisations transition to modern, scalable data solutions while maximising business insights and decision-making.

DATA ENGINEER, PLINC (FORMERLY PLANNING-INC.), Oct 2021 – Present

- **Promoted** from Junior Data Engineer to Data Engineer after only one and a half years at Plinc, where I am responsible for delivering data projects and analytics solutions for prominent retail, automotive and restaurant clients across the UK and Europe.
- Project Scoping & Execution: Scoped out and delivered projects exceeding £150k (A\$295k) in 2024, leveraging data engineering expertise to create impactful data pipelines that improve customer insights and enhance client decision-making. Some examples include:
 - o **Browse Data Integration:** Designed and deployed a large-scale ETL integration of GA4 browse data into the database of a major UK automotive retailer, managing **1M+** daily views and enabling data-driven marketing by connecting browsing data to customer profiles via cookie IDs.
 - Autocentre Real-Time Pipeline: Transitioned the client's autocentre data from daily file uploads to a real-time data stream, enabling real-time customer interactions across 540+ UK locations while maintaining customer matching levels to accurately link transactions to existing customer profiles.
- Cloud Migration: Played a crucial role in migrating 7M+ customer records and the entire transaction history for a large UK restaurant chain from on-premises systems to Azure. This involved establishing cloud databases, setting up ingestion jobs, and configuring Azure Data Factory pipelines.
- Technical Skills:
 - o **SQL**: Used daily for ETL and complex data transformations.
 - o **C#:** Developed backend systems and APIs to support client interfaces.
 - o **React**: Created an interface for client tools, including campaign analysers.
 - Client Interaction: Regularly participate in client meetings, discussing project feasibility and tailoring solutions to their needs.

AI AMBASSADOR, PLINC (FORMERLY PLANNING-INC.), July 2024 – Present

- Advocated for the adoption of AI technologies to streamline workflows.
- Developed a C# chatbot that enables clients to inquire directly about their own data, retrieving real-time counts and insights through backend database queries.

NEAR-EARTH OBJECTS (NEO) DATA PIPELINE, github.com/AlvaroFieira/NASA Asteroid Tracker

- Built a data pipeline system to process, classify, and visualise Near-Earth Object data from NASA's NEO API:
 - o Utilised Python and Kafka for real-time data ingestion and processing.
 - o Applied machine learning models with **PySpark** to classify NEOs based on characteristics.
 - O Developed a **Flask**-based web dashboard for interactive data visualisation.

RESTAURANT BOOKING AI CHATBOT, github.com/AlvaroFieira/Restaurant AI Chatbot

- Built an AI chatbot to manage restaurant information, bookings, and cancellations:
 - o Designed with **C#** and **Semantic Kernel** to leverage generative **AI** for user-friendly interactions.
 - o Integrated booking and cancellation features, enhancing user experience through streamlined and automated processes.

Sept 2017 - June 2021

MEng AERONAUTICAL ENGINEERING WITH SPACECRAFT ENGINERING

IMPERIAL COLLEGE LONDON

- Earned a First-Class Honours degree through a four-year integrated master's program.
- Became an Aeronautics Student Researcher (Aug Oct 2020) and led a group of PhD students in designing a laboratory experiment for future Aeronautics students.

AWARDS

- Aeronautics Student Centenary Award: Recognised for my excellence in a Group Design Project for reusable rocket propulsion systems.
- Applications Award: Granted to the team that produced the best Aerospace Vehicle Design Project.

PROJECTS

- **Final Year Project:** Developed a UAV designed specifically for Venus's exploration. Utilised MATLAB for algorithm development and ISIGHT for blade optimisation, incorporating evolutionary genetic algorithms to enhance performance and efficiency.
- **Design and leadership:** Successfully led various CAD projects, demonstrating strong leadership and project management skills. Additionally, completed a flight test course at Cranfield University, furthering my practical knowledge.

CO-FOUNDER, ASTRON SYSTEMS LTD., April 2021 – July 2022

- Co-founded a start-up focused on reusable launcher technologies suitable to the small satellite market.
- Developed investor relations and secured the Wescott Research Grant for prototype development.

CUSTOMER SERVICES ROLES, JOE AND THE JUICE, Oct 2018 – June 2019

- Managed operations as a Barista at Joe and the Juice, London, showcasing teamwork, leadership, and adaptability.
- Took charge of store during opening and closing and worked under pressure in a team of up to six during peak times.

CANTERBURY SCHOOL OF GRAN CANARIA, CANARY ISLANDS, SPAIN, Sept 2002 - June 2017

SCHOOL ACTIVITIES:

- Sixth Form Deputy Head Boy: Delivered speeches at major events and coordinated student activities.
- **Duke of Edinburgh's International Award:** Completed fundraising and awareness initiatives, including a film project on forest fires.
- Exchange programme: Participated in a two-week academic exchange in Philadelphia, USA.

SCHOOL QUALIFICATIONS:

- A Levels: 5 A*, 1 A including Physics, Further Mathematics, Chemistry, English, Spanish and French.
- IGCSEs: Highest Mark in Spain in Physics and Geography and Highest Mark in Europe in Further Mathematics.

LANGUAGES:

Spanish (Native), English (Fluent), French (Intermediate)

PROGRAMMING LANGUAGES:

Python, C#, SQL, HTML, CSS, JavaScript, React, MATLAB

DATA ENGINEERING TOOLS:

Microsoft Azure, Azure Data Factory, Azure DevOps, SSMS, SSIS, Git, PySpark, Kafka, Flask, Jira

OTHER SKILLS:

Full British Driving License, Leadership, Teamwork, Communication, Organisation