Christian **Bernhard**

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Summary

AI Engineer & Consultant with experience across multiple industries including automotive, public sector, defense, and SaaS. Specialized in Generative AI (LLMs, RAG, Agents, multi-agent systems), with strong expertise in AI solution design, fine-tuning, evaluation, governance, and end-to-end deployment on cloud and on-prem environments. Proven track record in leading technical teams, engaging with C-level stakeholders, and delivering enterprise-grade AI systems from proof of concept to production in highly confidential and regulated settings, while also driving pre-sales engagements and client workshops.

Education

M. Sc. Computer Science - Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München   2022 – 2024
• Thesis at BMW: Fine-Tuning Retriever and Generator Components in RAG: A Cross Domain-Study (1.4)

B. Sc. Business Informatics – University of Applied Sciences München   2018 - 2022
• Bachelor thesis: Natural Language Processing – Effort Estimation in Agile Projects (1.8)

Skills

Languages: Python, Javascript
Technologies: LangChain, LangGraph, HuggingFace, Transformers, PyTorch, FastAPI, Evaluation (LangSmith, RAGAS, DeepEval), IBM Watsonxai Orchestrate, Nvidia NIMs, Git, Azure, AzureAI, Docker, Kubernetes

Work Experience

AI Engineer/AI Consultant – Cancom   05/2025 – now
• Designing, developing and delivering enterprise-grade AI solutions (LLMs, RAG, Agents) across diverse industries - e.g. supported public sector and defense clients in highly confidential environments (SÜ2).
• Conceptualized and held various AI Discovery Workshop with executives and directors to identify pain points, define AI use cases, and implement MVPs. Acted as technical pre-sales consultant, advising C-Suite stakeholders and translating business requirements into technical AI roadmaps.
• User enablement of our clients for the effective use of our AI solutions e.g. German federal ministries.
• Conduct technical interviews and recruited AI Talent

AI Researcher – BMW   10/2024 – 05/2025
• LoRA-based fine-tuning on small and large language models (e.g. LLaMA -3.1-8b, LLaMA-3.3.70b)
• Finetuning embedding models to enhance retrieval quality
• Evaluated end-to-end RAG systems using custom fine-tuned retrievers and LLMs
• Integrated LLM-as-a-Judge metrics and developed evaluation pipelines for automated quality scoring
• Leveraged state-of-the-art AI accelerator infrastructure (NVIDIA H100, DGX Cluster) with TensorRT-LLM for efficient training and inference

Head of Operations – Aqarios   04/2023 – 04/2025
• started as backend developer, developing different backend microservices
• led a team of 10+ software engineers and managed the development of the Luna Platform — a SaaS solution that enables businesses to seamlessly integrate with quantum computing backends and accelerates quantum application development: www.docs.aqarios.com

• lead our go to market strategy in 2024 and supervise our Marketing and HR department
• take part of conventions, represent the company, lead technical demos for our clients and partners like SAP, BASF, Siemens, BMW, etc.
• Conducted technical interviews and recruited software engineers

Founder – AInleuchtend   09/2023 – now
• As part of my self-employment as an AI consultant, I advise companies on AI projects, develop individual AI software and hold training courses on AI throughout Germany.
• My clients include municipalities and public institutions, global companies such as Expedia, as well as private individuals – including former German President Christian Wulff.
• For more information: https://www.ainleuchtend.de/

Software Engineer – Adesso SE   09/2020 – 03/2023
• Developing a deep learning project; Developing and launching the iPadOS app "wryte" from scratch
• Team Leader for an international team, responsible for the App Store launch and updates
• appearance on the german tv-version of shark tank, temporary rank 1 Appstore in the education section, over 100k downloads

Engineering Fellow – Tech4Germany Fellowship Program (Berlin)   08/2022 – 11/2022
• 3 months fellowship program in Berlin - 32 talents develop prototypes for concrete digital projects of the federal administration
• Developed a web-app dashboard for the Federal Ministry of Finance

Business Intelligence - Swiss Life   04/2020 – 09/2020
• SQL test scripts, Data Warehousing

Datamanagement for Machine Learning – ProSiebenSat. 1   08/2019 – 12/2019
• Supporting the agile development team in various data technology projects

Further Programming Expertise

Courses
I dedicate time daily to learning, primarily through hands-on projects in private repositories, thousands of hours of YouTube study, and my personal Obsidian knowledge base. Alongside this, I've completed 20+ AI certifications on Coursera and DeepLearning.AI, covering LLMs, RAG, Agents, Evaluation, LangChain, LangGraph, and MCP. Certificates: christian-bernhard.com/certificates

Furthermore
• Participated in the HackaTUM 2023 in Munich from the Technical University of Munich
• Participated in the Kaggle Challenge: Computer Vision Hacking the Human Vasculature
• LLM Implementation: Programmed LLaMA-2 from scratch in Python for research purposes

Languages: German (Native), English (Fluent), Spanish (Beginner), Mandarin (Beginner)