# Laurens van der Tas

## Senior Cloud Data Platform & MLOps Engineer

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Cloud Data Platforms  |  MLOps  |  Data Engineering  |  Machine Learning & AI

## ▬▬▬ Profile

Senior Data Platform & MLOps Engineer with a track record of building data systems from the ground up and guiding them into fully automated, production-grade platforms. My career began at the intersection of econometrics and software engineering as a freelance developer, progressed into data science and advanced analytics, and has since evolved into leading machine learning and MLOps initiatives at scale.

I bring a unique blend of engineering craftsmanship and quantitative expertise, backed by an MSc with a solid econometric background. Whether designing architectures, operationalizing ML, or mentoring teams, I focus on turning complex data problems into solutions that deliver long-term value.

Academic excellence (both theses graded 9/10) underscores a commitment to precision, while open-source contributions and continuous learning reflect my drive to stay ahead in a rapidly changing field.

# ▬ Experience

**Sep 2024 –**
**Present**
**Senior Cloud Data Platform & MLOps Engineer**, *DELTA Fiber*, Schiedam, Netherlands

Shaping the company's cloud-native data platform as a lead engineer and principal driver of its strategy, embedding modern MLOps practices to ensure scalability, reliability, and long-term value. Operating at the intersection of infrastructure, data engineering, and applied machine learning, I guide teams and stakeholders toward automated, production-ready solutions that deliver tangible impact across the organization.

- Spearheaded the evolution of enterprise-wide data solutions, among which streaming solutions, increasing analytical efficiency and reducing deployment friction.
- Architected and maintained AI-enabled systems, including ML models, APIs, and end-to-end data pipelines, ensuring robustness and operational reliability.
- Implemented MLOps best practices: continuous integration/deployment for ML models, monitoring, alerting, and model lifecycle management to guarantee production stability.
- Led development of scalable scrapers, crawlers, and interactive visualization platforms, expanding data accessibility and enabling faster, data-driven decision-making.

**Nov 2021 –**
**Aug 2024**
**Senior Machine Learning Engineer**, *DELTA Fiber*, Schiedam, Netherlands

Took ownership of the company's machine learning stack, ensuring models were not just experimental prototypes but reliable, monitored, and continuously improving production assets. Collaborated with business units to deliver insights and predictive capabilities that shaped strategic decision-making.

- Led integration of machine learning models into production systems.
- Built and maintained scalable pipelines and automated workflows.
- Supported data-driven decision-making with advanced analytics and visualizations.

**Nov 2018 – Oct 2021**  **Data Scientist/Engineer**, *DELTA Fiber*, Schiedam, Netherlands

Pioneered the company's advanced analytics journey by establishing its first modern data infrastructure and operational machine learning pipelines. Balanced the dual role of data scientist and engineer, laying the groundwork for scalable platforms that later became critical to the business.

- Designed and deployed the first company-wide data warehouse and ETL processes.
- Delivered initial advanced analytics solutions, including predictive models and automated APIs.
- Established CI/CD practices for data science and engineering workflows.
- Created scrapers, crawlers, and BI dashboards to improve operational visibility.

**Sep 2012 – Aug 2018**  **Freelance Developer**, *Private Clients*, Apeldoorn, Netherlands

Independent developer combining econometric modelling with full-stack web solutions for a variety of clients. This role honed my ability to translate mathematical concepts into practical applications and gave me hands-on experience with diverse stacks, architectures, and deployment strategies.

- Built and deployed full-stack web applications and APIs across multiple frameworks.
- Developed econometric modelling solutions to support research and business cases.
- Applied statistical modelling and data analysis in client-focused projects.
- Gained experience with distributed systems, containerization, and automation before moving into large-scale enterprise environments.

**2010 – 2011**  **Commercial Insurance Agent**, *Achmea*, Apeldoorn, Netherlands

- Worked in sales and advisory for commercial insurance products.

# Skills

**Programming**, *Selection of stacks and languages I have worked with:*

○ **Python**, R, **Rust**, Scala, Go, Git *(VCS)*, MATLAB, TypeScript, React, Next.js, NestJS, Svelte, FastAPI, **TensorFlow**, **PyTorch**, Remote/Containerized Development, Asynchronous & Threadsafe Programming, Test & Software Design

**Data Engineering & MLOps**, *Selection of tools and concepts I have worked with:*

○ **Databricks** *(every feature)*, **MLflow**, **dbt**, **Kafka**, **Flink**, PySpark, Polars, **Airflow**, Dagster, DuckDB, *NIX, Bash, SQL/NoSQL, ETL/ELT, APIs *(REST/GraphQL)*, DWH & Data Lakehouse Design

**CI/CD & IaC**, *Selection of solutions I am experienced with:*

○ GitHub Actions, Azure Pipelines, **Kubernetes**, **Docker**, Helm, **Terraform**

**Advanced Analytics**, *Some of my advanced analytics expertise:*

○ **Machine Learning** *(all algorithms)*, **Deep Learning**, Reinforcement Learning, **LLMs** *(fine-tuning, inference & deployment)*, Econometric Modeling, Time Series Analysis, Stata

**Visualization**, *Some visualization and dashboarding tools I have worked with:*

○ **Power BI**, **Grafana**, Plotly, Seaborn, Databricks Dashboards, Matplotlib, ggplot2, **Tableau**

**Communication & Other**, *Some miscellaneous skills that add value:*

○ Effective Communication, Translating Business Requirements to Profitable Solutions, LaTeX, Academic Writing

# Education

**2016 – 2018**  **MSc Banking & Finance**, *Utrecht University*, Utrecht, Netherlands
- Focus on quantitative finance, econometrics, and investment management.
- Thesis on machine learning & econometrics (**graded 9/10**).

**2012 – 2015**  **BSc Economics & Business Economics**, *Utrecht University*, Utrecht, Netherlands
- Customized programme emphasizing econometrics, statistics, and finance.
- Thesis graded **9/10**.

**2011**  **International Business and Management Studies**, *Avans University of Applied Sciences*, Breda, Netherlands
- Propaedeutic obtained **in half a year**.

**2004 – 2010**  **Pre-University Education (VWO)**, *Edison College*, Apeldoorn, Netherlands
- Science & Technology Profile

# Certifications

**2024**  **Dagster & dbt**, *Dagster Labs*
*Dagster Essentials, Dagster & dbt integration*

**2023**  **NestJS Fundamentals & Authentication**, *NestJS*

**2017**  **Applied Data Science (R & Python)**, *DataCamp*
*ARIMA Modelling, Intermediate R & Python, Time Series with xts & zoo*