




# Nikolai Klassen

living in the bay area of berlin

 reach out via linkedin  mail not public  [www.github.com/Nikolaikl](https://www.github.com/Nikolaikl)

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## Experience

### Deutsche Rentenversicherung

Data Scientist / Machine Learning Engineer

Berlin, Germany

Nov. 2024 – Ongoing

- **Spearheaded the deployment of a multilingual generative AI platform** on AWS, enabling the development of LLM workflows across multiple teams and enhancing cross-functional collaboration aimed at serving 20.000 user requests an hour.
- **Designed and implemented scalable Retrieval-Augmented Generation (RAG) pipelines**, optimizing the processing and retrieval of insights from large-scale text datasets, significantly improving and automating data processing pipelines for unstructured data.
- **Collaborated with Architects to shape the generative AI setup**, integrating cloud technologies into both AWS and on-premise solutions, ensuring a seamless hybrid infrastructure and integration.
- **Led the usage of Request for Comments (RFCs) and Architectural Decision Records (ADRs) for Generative AI projects**, driving the adoption of innovative practices in software development processes.
- **Mentored and guided junior data scientists in both LLM and classical ML projects**, fostering their technical skills and professional growth through structured feedback and collaborative problem solving, leading to improved project results and greater confidence.

### Billie

Data Engineer / Data Scientist

Berlin, Germany

Oct. 2022 – Oct. 2024

- **Developed and maintained backend services** in accordance with **MLOps best practices**, achieving 99% availability for 20,000 daily orders.
- **Designed CI/CD pipelines** to ensure reliable testing and deployment of **ML-powered systems** utilizing **GitHub Actions, Kubernetes, and Jenkins**.
- **Collaborated with stakeholders** to gather both **technical** and **non-technical requirements** for new **ML services** and features.
- **Enhanced ML models for classification**, resulting in a **20% reduction** in defaults and fraud through improved data processing techniques.
- **Implemented real-time pipelines** to process semi-structured business events from multiple sources using **Apache Kafka** and **Apache Flink**.
- **Maintained and conducted code reviews** for the **data platform feature store**, providing support to multiple teams.

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## Skills

**Programming Languages:** Python, SQL, JavaScript, Typescript, Java, Kotlin, Go, HCL

**Software:** Apache Kafka, Apache Flink, Python ML Stack (TensorFlow, PyTorch, Scikit-learn, XGBoost, Pandas, ...), Python Frameworks (uv, ruff, pytest, fastapi), AWS (DynamoDB, EC2, Lambda, RDS, Redshift, S3, SQS, Bedrock, IAM), , ArgoCD, Kubernetes, Snowflake, Jenkins, ELK Stack

**Skills:** Machine Learning, LLMOps / MLOps, Test Driven Development, DevOps, Data Engineering, Architecture Design

**Languages:** German (Native), Russian (Native), English (C2), Italian (B1), Spanish (B1)

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## Education

Eberhard Karls University of Tübingen

M.Sc. Data Science (NC: 1.7)

University of Bayreuth

B.A. Economics

Tübingen, Germany

Oct. 2019 – Oct. 2022

Bayreuth, Germany

Oct. 2014 – Oct. 2018