

Taylor Dickson

DATA ENGINEER · IT & SYSTEMS PROFESSIONAL

Toronto, Canada

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Summary

Experienced Data Engineer and Team Lead with 7+ years of progressive experience in software implementation, data engineering, and technical team management. With a proven track record of leading cross-functional teams, implementing enterprise solutions, and aligning technology with business objectives across multiple Ontario Public Service Ministries.

Skills

Leadership Team Management, Project Management, Stakeholder Communication, Vendor Relations

Front-end JavaScript, Vue, HTML, CSS

Back-end Python, Django, Flask, Go Lang, Node, Express, REST API

DevOps Docker, Shell Scripting (BASH), Linux Administration

Data Python, DBT, Azure Data Factory, Databricks, SQL

Experience

Data Engineer

Toronto, Canada

ONTARIO PUBLIC SERVICE — ATTORNEY GENERAL

2024 — Present

- Working in a high security environment with sensitive data, ensuring compliance with data protection standards
- Led the implementation of Data Build Tool (DBT) for data transformation and modelling, enhancing data quality and consistency across multiple data sources
- Designed and implemented dimensional model of data warehouse using Kimball methodology, improving data accessibility and reporting capabilities
- Collaborated with cross-functional teams to define data requirements, ensuring alignment with business objectives and enhancing data-driven decision-making processes
- Managed performance tuning and optimization of existing ETL processes, resulting in improved data processing times and reduced resource consumption
- Developed comprehensive documentation for data models, ETL processes, and system architecture to facilitate knowledge transfer and ensure maintainability of solutions
- Created and maintained project gantt charts and timelines, coordinating tasks and deliverables to ensure meeting production deadlines

Data Engineer/Team Lead

Toronto, Canada

ONTARIO PUBLIC SERVICE — TREASURY BOARD SECRETARIAT

2019 — 2024

- Led the division's data overhaul project, modernizing and enhancing digital data infrastructure. Utilized Python and Pandas for local data processing, uploading data from Excel inputs to an Azure cloud database using SQLAlchemy, and building robust data models to support advanced analytics.
- Directed a team of 5 in data pipeline development, orchestrating ETL processes, data warehousing solutions, and real-time data streaming to improve data accessibility and analytics capabilities.
- Managed the procurement and implementation of advanced data engineering tools and technologies, including Azure Data Factory, Azure SQL Server, and Azure PowerApps, leading to over \$100k in cost savings.
- Suggested and implemented tools such as GitHub for version control and CMSs for content management, improving collaboration and workflow efficiency.
- Supervised the hiring, onboarding, and mentorship of co-op students and new staff, assigned tasks, managed pull requests, git repositories, and branches, fostering a collaborative and productive team environment.
- Conducted regular team meetings, acted as a manager, and provided leadership in project planning and execution, ensuring alignment with organizational goals.
- Coordinated with cross-functional teams to design robust software architectures, define technical requirements, and ensure seamless integration of data engineering solutions across various platforms.
- Conducted regular code reviews, provided technical guidance on data modelling, data integration, and pipeline optimization, promoting high-quality and maintainable code.
- Developed internal data cleaning and transformation tools using RESTful API design with Flask/Django/Node, and Vue.js, connected to an Azure database, enhancing data quality and consistency.
- Tackled significant challenges in name entity recognition using Levenshtein distances and the NLTK library in Python, improving data accuracy and processing efficiency.

Workforce Analyst

Toronto, Canada

ONTARIO PUBLIC SERVICE — MINISTRY OF GOVERNMENT & CONSUMER SERVICES

2017 — 2019

- Utilized SQL, MS Access, Excel, VBA, and Python for data management, reporting, visualization, and process automation, supporting business operations with timely and accurate data insights.
- Automated the generation and distribution of over 7000 customized documents, significantly reducing manual labor and enabling directors to quickly access and analyze their staff information.
- Created and optimized reports comparing content across multiple documents, improving efficiency and accuracy in data reporting and reducing manual workload.
- Ensured data integrity across multiple systems through regular data quality checks and recommended enhancements to data management processes to improve overall data reliability.

Linux System Administrator

Toronto, Canada

SONO VFX

2016 — 2017

- Upgraded the render farm by setting up, installing, and configuring new servers, resulting in improved performance and reduced rendering times for large-scale visual effects projects.
- Automated repetitive tasks, upgraded software, and optimized systems to provide efficient technical support, saving significant time and ensuring high system performance.
- Recognized for outstanding contributions as a Systems Administrator in the production of the movie Logan (2017).
- Performed routine maintenance and troubleshooting of hardware and software, ensuring smooth operation and minimal downtime, which was crucial for meeting production deadlines.