

## CONTACT

### EMAIL

thorben.woelk@gmail.com

### WEB

<http://twoelk.codeandheart.com/>

### CITY

Hamburg, Germany

## EDUCATION

**Rheinische Friedrich-Wilhelms-Universität Bonn** 2014 – 2017

*Master of Science in Economics*

Focus on Behavioral Economics. Thesis on "Diffusion of Responsibility".

**Christian-Albrechts-Universität zu Kiel** 2010 – 2013

*Bachelor of Science in Business Administration*

**Fernuniversität in Hagen** 2012 - 2019

*Bachelor of Arts in Psychology*

**Université Paris I Panthéon-Sorbonne** 2013 - 2014

*Erasmus Exchange in Economics*

## CERTIFICATIONS

**Neural Networks and Deep Learning — DeepLearning.AI** Dec 2025

*(Course Certificate)*

**Agentic AI — DeepLearning.AI** Dec 2025

*(Course Certificate)*

**Agile Coach** July 2021

*Beratung Judith Andresen*

**AWS Certified Solutions Architect – Associate** 2020

## SKILLS

### PROGRAMMING LANGUAGES

Python, SQL, JavaScript/TypeScript, Rust

### CLOUD PLATFORMS

Google Cloud Platform (GCP), Amazon Web Services (AWS)

### DATA TECHNOLOGIES

Databricks, BigQuery, dbt core, dbt platform/cloud, Apache Spark, PySpark, PostgreSQL, SurrealDB, Pub/Sub, Kafka, Redshift, Looker, Neo4j Cypher, Google Dataflow

### MACHINE LEARNING AND AI

AWS Sagemaker, Vertex AI, sklearn, pytorch, pydantic-ai, pydantic-logfire, ADK, langgraph, crew-ai, deepagents, strands, haystack, ollama, Claude Code, Cursor, Codex, Open Web UI

### DEVOPS, CI/CD

Kubernetes, Docker, GitHub Actions, Terraform, ansible, cdk, CloudFormation, Grafana

### METHODS

Agile Coaching, User Story Mapping, Test Driven Development (TDD)

## LANGUAGES

German (Native), English (Fluent), Spanish (Good working knowledge), French (Basic)

# Thorben Wölk

DATA & AI ENGINEER

## SUMMARY

Senior Data & AI Engineer. Combining technical engineering expertise with an agile mindset to develop data-driven solutions. Focusing on data pipelines, platform architecture, agentic AI applications, and DataOps.

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCES

**ZEIT ONLINE - Head of Data Platform**

May 2023 – Aug 2025

- Leading data platform strategy and development for a major online news publisher
- Managing a team of 5+ data engineers, analytics engineers, and tracking experts
- Implementing user story mapping, a Kanban process, and release management

**ZEIT ONLINE - Software Engineer Big Data**

Oct 2021 – Apr 2023

- Designed and built a scalable analytics and data science platform leveraging Google Cloud, Kubernetes, dbt Cloud, and Looker
- Developed Python apps for batch and streaming data ingestion on event-driven and pipeline architectures
- Onboarded tools and experts to the data platform in collaboration with my manager
- Implemented IaC using Terraform as well as branching concepts, CI/CD workflows, and coding best practices

**EOS Group - Software Engineer**

Jan 2019 – Sep 2021

- Full redesign of a fintech machine learning platform
- Migrated legacy Scala monolith to microservice architecture on Kubernetes
- AWS-backed MLOps using AWS Sagemaker, Lambda, Redshift
- Automated infrastructure and ML model deployment using ansible, cdk, CloudFormation, and Jenkins

**Forward3D - Junior PPC Analyst**

Sep 2017 – Nov 2018

- Analyzed and optimized pay-per-click campaigns for retail clients
- Automated daily and weekly reportings with Python and SQL

**briq - Institute on Behavior and Inequality - Research Assistant**

Apr 2016 – May 2017

- Conducted data analysis with Python and R for economic research
- Contributed to publications on neuroeconomics and moral reasoning

## PUBLICATIONS

"*Spreading inequality: neural computations underlying paying-it-forward reciprocity*"

2018

Social Cognitive and Affective Neuroscience