Thorben Wölk
Head of Data Platform

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SUMMARY

Experienced Data Platform Lead and Cloud Engineer focusing on big data, microservices, and serverless architectures. Combining technical expertise with leadership skills to develop and implement data-driven solutions. Particularly interested in clean code, agile leadership, and AI-based efficiency improvements.

EXPERIENCE

ZEIT ONLINE - Head of Data Platform
May 2023 – Present
- Leading data platform strategy and development for a major online news publisher
- Implementing user story mapping and data warehousing solutions
- Managing a team of data engineers, analytics engineers, and tracking experts

ZEIT ONLINE - Software Engineer Big Data
Oct 2021 – Apr 2023
- Redesigned and built a scalable data platform leveraging Google Cloud
- Developed batch and streaming data ingestion with Python and SQL
- Implemented and managed GCP solutions and optimized data processing

EOS Group - Software Engineer
Jan 2019 – Sep 2021
- Designed and operated Kubernetes-based systems for microservices
- Implemented AWS solutions including serverless architecture
- Automated infrastructure and ML model deployment processes

Forward3D - Junior PPC Analyst
Sep 2017 – Nov 2018
- Analyzed and optimized pay-per-click campaigns for retail clients
- Automated daily reporting processes with Python

briq - Research Assistant
Apr 2016 – May 2017
- Conducted data analysis with Python and R for economic research
- Contributed to publications on neuroeconomics and moral reasoning

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

SKILLS

Programming
Python, SQL, JavaScript

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

Data Technologies
dbt, BigQuery, PostgreSQL, Dataflow, PySpark, Redshift, Pub/Sub, Kafka

DevOps
Kubernetes, Docker, CI/CD, Grafana

Methods
Agile Coaching, User Story Mapping, Test Driven Development

LANGUAGES

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

CERTIFICATIONS

Agile Coach   2021
Beratung Judith Andresen

AWS Certified Solutions Architect – Associate   2020

PUBLICATIONS

"Spreading inequality: neural computations underlying paying-it-forward reciprocity"   2018
Social Cognitive and Affective Neuroscience

PROJECTS

Photography Portfolio
A website showcasing photography work. Built with Svelte and Google Cloud Run.

Data Ingestion Framework
OOP batch ingestion framework built with Python on Kubernetes and GCP.

Jira Assistant
AI-based assistant for JIRA workflow optimization.