Ahmad Alhour

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Work Experience

Shopify   *Jan 2022 - Present*
Staff Software Engineer   *Munich, Germany*

- Re-designed the merchant eligibility system and moved signals from batch to real-time which improved the end-to-end latency of product re-indexing by 99.98% (from 48h down to 32s)
- Re-designed existing Shopify Payments signals in Shop, which led to de-risking the marketplace resulting in onboarding 550K new merchants and 20M new products, while taking down 180K suspicious merchants
- Scaled the Product Metadata's Rails infrastructure to process machine-learning classification updates for products in real-time, going from 100K to 140M in 24h (140% improvement)
- Led the Shop Promise project and released it to 2M+ merchants & 100M+ buyers on the Shop app as part of Shopify's Winter 2023 Editions: shopify.com/editions/winter2023
- Led Shop's Merchants Experience Group (7 teams; 40 engineers) to prepare for BFCM 2022 by designing load tests, scalability and fail-over plans which led to handling an anticipated 10x load: 8M+ merchants, 100M+ buyers and $7M+ in GMV
- Mentored my direct engineering teams on writing better system design proposals, monitoring, observability and incident response
- *Full-stack development using RubyOnRails, GraphQL, Python, TypeScript, ReactJS, Sidekiq, Kafka, Kubernetes, Apache Spark, Apache Flink, MySQL, Google Bigtable & GCP*

AutoScout24 (AS24)   *Aug 2020 - Jan 2022*
Engineering Manager   *Munich, Germany*

- Managed a team of 8 senior engineers on making AS24 a more safe and fraud-free marketplace
- Spearheaded the project management & stakeholder alignment for migrating AS24's Identity system to AWS & Okta which increased user growth by 37%, powering 20M+ users on iOS, Android & Web
- Re-designed the car-listings creation flow by incorporating machine learning classifications which decreased fraud listings by 40% and lost leads by 95% which led to increasing sales by 33%
- Mentored my direct team on several topics, such as: software architecture, writing system design proposals, risk management and soft skills

KI labs   *Sep 2019 - Aug 2020*
Data Engineering Lead   *Munich, Germany*

- Led a team of 6 data engineers across planning, architecture, implementation & delivery
- Designed cloud-based big data platforms for Daimler, Lufthansa & JTI on AWS & GCP
- Open-sourced *kaos*, a platform for simplifying Machine Learning deployments on the cloud (AWS & GCP) based on Python, Pachyderm, Docker & Kubernetes: github.com/KI-labs/kaos
- *Full-stack development using Python, Apache Spark & Storm, Terraform, Docker, Kubernetes, AWS & GCP*

TrustYou   *Jan 2016 - Sep 2019*
Tech Lead   *Munich, Germany*

- Led the Data team working on the Analytics Pipelines, processing 7M new user reviews weekly
- Led partnerships work with Glassdoor & Indeed, scaling TY's data platform beyond Hospitality
- Led the Connect team, a SaaS platform for integrating hotel partners with TrustYou
- Increased TY's hotel portfolio from 40K to 400K by integrating big OTAs such as Booking.com, TripAdvisor and Google Places
- *Full-stack involvement using Python, PostgreSQL, Docker, Kubernetes, Hadoop, Spark & Kafka*

CCC, D1G, CommunitiesTech, Freelancing   *Feb 2007 - Dec 2015*
Software Engineer   *Multiple locations*

- Several software engineering roles at different companies and locations. For more information, please refer to my LinkedIn profile: linkedin.com/in/aalhour

Education

B.Sc. Degree *Princess Sumaya University for Technology*
Computer Science *Sep 2007 - Jun 2011*

- *Capstone project: Natural Language Processing & Sentiment Analysis applications for Arabic Twitter.*
- *Participated in the global IEEEXtreme programming competition (9th place worldwide).*
- *Participated in the regional ACM ICPC programming competition.*

Online Training *Google Cloud (Coursera)*
Data Engineering on GCP Specialization *Jan 2020 - Apr 2020*

Side Projects

Business
- **Sa7beh**: A mobile app that allows users to sign up with their social media accounts and participate in a gamified lottery experience to win free gifts, while advertisers benefit from a user base with valuable insights and engagement opportunities. The app was retired as it didn't find product-market fit.

Infrastructure, Data
- **kaos**: A platform for simplifying Machine Learning deployments on the cloud (AWS GCP)based on Python, Pachyderm, Terraform, Docker Kubernetes: github.com/KI-labs/kaos

Web Development
- Cookiecutter template for developing async Web APIs in Python 3 with SQLAlchemy's ORM: github.com/aalhour/cookiecutter-aiohttp-sqlalchemy

Educational
- Portable C# library of 35+ Data Structures and 30+ Algorithms: github.com/aalhour/c-sharp-algorithms
- COOL Language compiler, targeting the MIPS 32-bit architecture: github.com/aalhour/PyCOOLC
- 16-bit machine code assembler for the Hack Assembly language: github.com/aalhour/Assembler.hack
- Various other open source projects and utilities: https://github.com/aalhour

Technical Skills

Programming Languages	Python, Ruby, JavaScript, TypeScript, Java, C#, Kotlin, Scala, Golang
Web Frameworks	RubyOnRails, Spark (Java), Aiohttp, Flask, Django, React.js
Data Frameworks	Apache Spark, Apache Flink
Storage	MySQL, PostgreSQL, Kafka, Hive, HBase, Google BigQuery & Bigtable, MongoDB
Areas of Experties	Web Apps, Data Engineering, Distributed Systems, System Design, Software Architecture