

JONAS-TAHA EL SESIY

PRINCIPAL ENGINEER

Location: Sunnyvale, CA
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Principal Software Engineer with 10+ years designing and operating large-scale distributed systems. Technical leader for 20+ platform engineering team, with organizational impact spanning 1000+ engineers. Proven track record of building and scaling multi-cloud platform infrastructure that serves millions of users. Go-focused architect who has led strategic initiatives across Azure, GCP, and AWS, establishing engineering standards and driving technical direction. Passionate about engineering culture, mentorship, and building systems that balance reliability, security, and developer velocity. 80+ technical interviews; open source contributions to Apache Polaris (Iceberg catalog).

SKILLS

- Go (primary), Java
- Python, Bash, SQL
- Rust, Zig (learning)
- Kubernetes, Istio/Envoy, Calico, Helm
- Terraform, OpenTofu, Pulumi
- Azure, GCP, AWS
- Prometheus, Grafana, OpenTelemetry
- Distributed systems design
- CI/CD & GitFlow workflows
- Zero-trust security architecture
- Agile/Scrum leadership

EXPERIENCE

Snowflake Computing Inc., Menlo Park, CA Jan. 2020 – Present

Principal Software Engineer

Led platform engineering strategy for a multi-cloud, multi-tenant container platform serving enterprise customers. Defined technical roadmap, mentored senior engineers, and influenced infrastructure decisions across the Platform Infrastructure Engineering organization.

- Launched Apache Polaris (Iceberg catalog) and played key role in the Crunchy Data (acquired) integration and Snowflake Postgres launch.
- Designed and implemented container vulnerability management program enabling FedRAMP High certification.
- Built internal GitHub Codespaces equivalent now used by entire engineering organization, significantly improving developer satisfaction and time-to-market.
- Designed, implemented and operated scalable Kubernetes-based container platform on Azure, GCP, and AWS including traffic layer, observability & PKI/secrets management.
- Rearchitected cluster tenancy model to align with compliance and security requirements while isolating failure domains.
- Designed and implemented customer-facing API for allowing Snowflake traffic to customer cloud resources.
- Introduced cloud-agnostic DNS naming scheme and ACME-based TLS automation; built custom Kubernetes controllers with Pulumi & Go for fully automated deployments.
- Established CI/CD standards and GitFlow workflows, improving deployment frequency from weekly to multiple times daily.
- Collaborated cross-functionally with research scientists and ML engineers to support training and inferencing workloads on the platform, now supporting all Snowflake AI features.
- Designed and implemented cost optimization and bin-packing efficiency initiatives, significantly reducing cloud infrastructure spend.
- Conducted 50+ technical interviews for platform engineering team.

Mercedes-Benz R&D North America, Inc., Sunnyvale, CA

Mar. 2018 – Jan. 2020

Staff Software Engineer

Defined technical strategy for vehicle data platform serving high-volume, high-throughput data pipelines. Led architecture decisions and mentored team of 8 engineers on cloud-native practices.

- Designed and operated Kubernetes platform on Azure with AAD integration for SSO, processing vehicle telemetry from 500K+ connected cars.
- Established observability standards by deploying Prometheus, Grafana, and EFK stack across all services.
- Built CI/CD infrastructure using Jenkins and GitFlow, reducing deployment time from hours to minutes.
- Implemented ISO-compliant REST APIs for selling near-real-time vehicle data to external enterprise customers.
- Led GDPR-compliant microservices initiative in Go, enabling fine-grained customer consent management.
- Re-architected Car Data Hub pipelines, reducing processing latency by 60% for China, Germany, and US teams.
- Established cloud migration strategy for on-prem vehicle backend to Azure.
- Created internal training program on CI/CD and Kubernetes, educating 50+ engineers across departments.
- Conducted 30+ technical interviews and participated in career fairs for recruiting.

Reluelta Dev GbR, Klein Rogahn, GERMANY

Aug. 2014 – Dec. 2019

Founder

Built and operated multiple web and mobile applications for arts industry clients using modern technologies.

- Implemented iOS and Android news apps using Flutter and Dart.
- Developed custom CMS components to automate content creation workflows.

IBM, Various cities, GERMANY

Oct. 2011 – Mar. 2018

Software Architect & Principal Consultant | Oct. 2016 - Mar. 2018

Led technical direction for white-label mobile platform serving major German insurance companies. Defined architecture standards and led team of 6 engineers on cloud-native practices.

- Built CI/CD and deployment infrastructure using Jenkins, Docker, Kubernetes, Nexus and GitHub for back-end services serving Signal Iduna, Allianz, and other major insurers.
- Designed and developed Java microservices for insurance customer portals, push notifications, and personal data management.
- Created native iOS and Android SDKs via Cordova plugins in Swift and Java, enabling hybrid app architecture.
- Established security architecture patterns and code review standards for the team.

Mobile Architect & Consultant | Oct. 2014 - Sep. 2016

Led Android development and security architecture for a major German food store chain. Mentored team members and established mobile engineering standards.

EDUCATION

Master of Science, Service Management & Engineering

Mar. 2015 – Dec. 2016

Karlsruhe Institute of Technology, Karlsruhe, GERMANY

- Master thesis on "Streamlining Logistics Processes with Blockchain Technology": Implemented prototype on Ethereum to track physical assets in the context of supply chain management for the second-largest food store chain.
- Executive Masters program sponsored by IBM due to outstanding achievements in undergraduate studies.

Bachelor of Science, Computer Science & Economics (Study Abroad Semester)

Sep. 2013 – Dec. 2013

UC Santa Barbara, Santa Barbara, CA GPA: 4.0/4.0

Bachelor of Science, Business Information Systems

Oct. 2011 – Sep. 2014

Berlin School of Economics and Law, Berlin, GERMANY

Bachelor thesis on "Sales support by sales performance analyses": Analyzed and evaluated current sales data to support better allocation of resources and improve decision-making processes.