Chris Blue

Data Engineer (L5) | Cloud & Big Data Solutions | Automation & ML Data Pipelines

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Professional Summary

Highly accomplished **Senior Data Engineer** with 7 years of experience designing, implementing, and optimizing scalable, high-performance data solutions. Proven expertise in building robust data pipelines, managing large-scale data migrations (100+ TBs), and leveraging **AWS cloud services** (S3, CLI, Glue, Redshift, Kinesis, Lambda, Athena). Adept at automating complex workflows and ensuring data quality to support critical reporting, analytics, and ML/AI systems in high-throughput environments.

Technical Skills

- **Programming & Scripting:** Python (Advanced), SQL (Advanced: complex queries, optimization, performance tuning), Bash/Shell Scripting
- Cloud Platforms (AWS): S3, AWS CLI, Glue, EMR, Redshift, Kinesis, Lambda, Athena, CloudFormation, EC2, Iconik/AWS and Qumulo/AWS S3 configurations.
- **Big Data & Data Warehousing:** ETL/ELT Processes, Data Pipeline Development, Data Warehousing, Data Lakes, Data Modeling (Dimensional, Star/Snowflake), Distributed Systems, Real-time Data Processing.
- **Data Management:** Data Migration, Data Archiving, Data Quality, Data Governance, Data Integrity, Performance Tuning, Cost Optimization.
- Automation & Workflow: Python Scripting, Workflow Automation, REST API Design & Usage, CI/CD Concepts.
- ML/AI Data Support: ML/AI Data Pipelines, Feature Engineering Support, ML/GPU Concepts, Data Preparation for ML Models.
- Tools & Methodologies: Git/GitHub, Streamlit, FFMPEG, Agile/Scrum Framework.

Professional Experience

BuzzFeed Inc.

Data Engineer Jul 2023 – Present

- Led the migration of over 100+ TBs of critical media content data across diverse ecosystems (BuzzFeed, Meta, Adobe, First We Feast), including complex Adobe and Lostin/BringMe data migrations, using AWS S3 batch operations, AWS CLI, and Python scripting, improving transfer efficiency by X% and ensuring Y% data reliability.
- Streamlined data migration processes for ML content delivery by designing and building an internal web tool (Streamlit, Python) to automate manifest generation, reducing preparation time by 50% and empowering internal IT teams to independently perform bulk S3 actions.
- Designed and implemented a self-service archiving workflow for the Post Production department, which

- **streamlined BuzzFeed's archiving process**, achieving [quantifiable benefit, e.g., 'X% reduction in manual effort' or 'enabling the archiving of Y TBs of data monthly'].
- Architected and deployed a scalable weekly data backup system on AWS, increasing capacity 5x from 20
 TB/week to 100 TB/week, ensuring high data durability and availability for critical assets and contributing to
 operational excellence.
- Proactively managed disk usage across multiple cloud (AWS) and NAS/SAN storage pools, optimizing resource allocation, reducing storage costs by X%, and preventing service disruptions.
- Configured Iconik/AWS and Qumulo/AWS S3 copy solutions, enhancing data accessibility and storage efficiency for large-scale media assets.
- Orchestrated and delivered large-scale data restores for critical projects (e.g., Filmrise, Hot Ones/Meta), ensuring timely content availability and minimizing business continuity risks.
- Integrated a Restore Costs Calculator Webhook to enhance operational insights and cost management for data recovery processes.
- Developed and implemented automated data workflows using Python scripting to streamline post-production processes, **improving efficiency and data handling for X critical workflows**.

7till8 Wetsuits

Operations Manager

May 2021 – May 2022

- Managed the collection, organization, and integrity of a comprehensive dataset of over 15k customer measurements, ensuring data accuracy and accessibility for pattern makers and seamstresses, directly contributing to improved tailoring accuracy and efficiency.
- Developed and implemented streamlined processes for efficient data input and storage of customer measurement data, **optimizing data management workflows** for the tailoring department.
- Utilized customer measurement data to generate reports and insights, identifying trends for design improvements and better tailoring strategies.

Osk Studio

Associate Data Engineer (Freelance)

Oct 2019 - May 2021

- Assisted in the design and implementation of programming logic for machine learning projects, improving data accessibility by 30% for data scientists and developers.
- Developed and executed robust processes to collect, clean, and transform datasets from various sources for ML model training and analysis, ensuring high-quality data for critical ML initiatives.
- Utilized Python libraries for efficient data manipulation and analysis in support of machine learning models, implementing advanced data cleaning techniques to handle missing values and inconsistencies.

Education

New York University, New York, USA

Bachelor of Fine Arts Aug 2011 – May 2015