

# Jason Motylinski

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## SUMMARY

- A strong leader passionate about building and leading great teams
- A full stack software craftsman with over 22 years of software engineering experience.
- Passionate about good development principles such as continuous integration/deployment, SOLID, DRY, YAGNI and Test Driven Development
- Polyglot engineer seeking a challenging, fast paced environment which offers the opportunity to utilize problem solving and leadership skills.

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### **Senior Director of Engineering - Data, VTS.com**

**New York, New York - February 2021 - Present**

Engineering leader responsible for building a data-first culture and delivering products powered by first-party best-in-class data sets.

Responsibilities include:

- Building a data strategy which aligns to business objectives that allows VTS to provide insights internally and externally
- Establish a mission, vision, and objectives for a 35 person cross-functional team that delivers the data strategy.
- Partner with other business units to lead and deliver broad data-driven initiatives that were first-of-their-kind at VTS.
- Establish a modern data stack leveraging AWS, Snowflake, and dbt which enables VTS to process and model data at scale.
- Establish patterns and practices to allow VTS to operate in a federated data ownership model with centralized governance.
- Directly manage engineering and product leaders. Adjusting the data organization structure to deliver faster to meet business objectives.

### **Director, Engineering - AI Labs, BlackRock**

**New York, New York - August 2018 - February 2021**

Founding member of the leadership team within AI Labs, responsible for building the Engineering discipline and creating a collaborative and highly creative culture.

Responsibilities include:

- Hiring, leading, and growing a team of cross functional data and software engineers
- Building an open, collaborative, and innovative team culture
- Establishing a cloud-native vision, strategy, and roadmap that allows AI Labs to rapidly

- deliver machine learning solutions.
- Defining Engineering patterns and best practices for building pipelines, APIs, and web-based applications.
- Managing product squads to develop solutions which enable Data Scientists to be 10x more productive
- Oversee all AWS infrastructure for AI Labs, including data pipelines, backend APIs, and supporting systems.

**Software Engineering Manager - Data, Spotify**  
**New York, New York - March 2017 - August 2018**

Established data engineering practice within new cross-functional Data Mission. Responsible for ensuring unbiased hiring processes and building a high-quality diverse data engineering team. Served as interim Director of Engineering for Data Mission.

Accomplishments include:

- Established a Major/Minor program to help build T-shaped engineers to reduce pigeonholing people into a single specialization. Program is currently being adopted company-wide.
- Established a fair and unbiased method for interviewing and hiring engineers.
- Partnered with engineers to design architectures which allow data to be managed at scale.
- Mentored and coached engineers to establish effective agile delivery processes.
- Managed the professional growth for 5 - 11 engineers by creating a consistent feedback loop and bi-annual professional development plans.
- Established quarterly objectives and key results for managers within the Data Mission to measure success of leadership-driven initiatives.

**Head of Data Engineering, Dow Jones**  
**Minneapolis, MN - June 2014 - March 2017**

Founding member of the Data Science and Engineering team (DS&E). Responsible for partnering with Data Scientists and Product Managers to deliver insights to Dow Jones utilizing a variety of big data tools.

Accomplishments include:

- Built and led rollout of 20+ large-scale data pipelines utilizing a combination of Luigi, Hadoop (EMR), Google BigQuery, Google Cloud Dataflow, and Elasticsearch.
- Delivered multiple C-Suite KPI dashboards utilizing Elasticsearch for analysis and custom Kibana 3 modules for display.
- Partnered with Data Scientists to deliver a Customer Knowledge Engine which provides large scale analysis and modeling of users. The output of the analysis is provided in real time via an API to third parties, specifically advertisers, so they can better target our customers and increase user retention rates.
- Developed a generic real time generic logging service which allows any application to log unstructured events by making a simple HTTP GET request to a tracking API. Solution utilizes the ELK stack.
- Developed a proof-of-concept real time notification system which spans multiple interface types allowing WSJ.com to simultaneously notify a user on the web, in app, and via email.
- Member of the leadership group responsible for defining application, API, quality, and delivery standards for Dow Jones.
- Managed a team of 7 data engineers and multiple parallel product delivery timelines.
- Pioneered the use of Google Cloud Platform and Docker at Dow Jones.

**Senior Software Engineer/Technical Lead, Dow Jones**  
**Minneapolis, MN - February 2013 - June 2014**

Founded and grew an engineering team responsible for creating real time analysis products and recommendation engines for the Wall Street Journal ([WSJ.com](http://WSJ.com)) and [MarketWatch.com](http://MarketWatch.com). The cloud-based solutions used a combination of Apache Storm, LogStash, and Elasticsearch to process large volumes of data in real time.

Accomplishments include:

- Built a recommendation engine web service which provided personalized article recommendations to users based on their previous reading behavior and, topics. Solution utilized message queuing, Apache Storm, and AWS CloudSearch to provide recommendations. Version 2 replaced AWS CloudSearch with Elasticsearch.
- Built a real time analytics system named News Helm, similar to ChartBeat, for WSJ.com which provides journalists a real time view of user behavior on the website. With the immediate feedback provided by News Helm journalists are able to react quickly to increase traffic to their articles. The solution utilized the ELK stack to provide real time data collection, storage, and reporting.
- Pioneered infrastructure as code for deploying and managing cloud infrastructure in Amazon Web Services
- Grew team from a single engineer to a team of 5

### **Senior Software Engineer/Technical Lead, Thomson Reuters St. Paul, MN - July 2010 - February 2013**

Implemented an MVC-based web application (PUBS) for managing document creation and approval process workflow. PUBS guides sales specialists through the creation of a contract. The contract is used when negotiating sales opportunities with customers. The application is responsible for managing the submission of the contract for various approvals within Thomson Reuters. Upon successful approval the application is responsible for provisioning customer accounts for access to the DataScope Select system.

Accomplishments include:

- Used Autofac and MVC to create a highly composable web application, allowing objects to have a single responsibility and a high level of testability. PUBS has over 85% of code covered by unit tests.
- Implemented ZeroMq to decouple communication between the web application and Windows service. ZeroMq allowed us to easily implement request/response And publish/subscribe messaging patterns.
- Implemented an event store for tracking data and state changes to important domain objects, such as contract and user information. An event store allowed the product owners to understand the state of an entity at any given moment along its timeline.
- Used a combination of CoffeeScript, jQuery, and jQuery-UI to create a browser-based calculator which provides the sales specialists the ability to construct a contract. By pushing the logic to the browser the sales specialists are able to create a contract quicker and easier.
- Implemented Microsoft Data Services and OAuth for integration PUBS data and authentication with external applications. Microsoft Data Services allowed us to quickly expose data with little code scaffolding. OAuth will allow us to centralize authentication and authorization across multiple applications with the DataScope Select technology group.
- Spearheaded the transition to a quicker, more responsive development and release cycle. Using a combination of tools to solve technical hurdles and user stories for collecting requirements we have been able to double the amount of releases done within a given year from 3 to 6. In 2012 we are attempting to increase releases to once a month by working with the business to create a product backlog and sprints.

- Researched and POC'ed PUBS on various cloud offerings and NoSQL databases including AppHarbor, Azure, MongoDB, and Cassandra.

**Senior Software Engineer/ Team Lead, XATA Corporation**  
**Eden Prairie, MN - July 2009 – May 2010**

Designed and implemented a GIS-based sensor observation repository loosely based on the Open GeoSpatial standards for capturing and communicating data from thousands of loosely coupled physical sensor devices.

Accomplishments include:

- Designed and developed a sensor observation repository system comprised of a SQL Server 2008 database, a layered application stack for interfacing with the database, and a RESTful WCF service for integrating with devices and other applications. The sensor system was architected to receive and store millions of sensor observation data points per month.
- Spearheaded the integration of NHibernate as a framework for reducing the amount of code required in the data access layer. Utilized T4 templates to help expedite the creation of code. Business logic also was consolidated using a Service pattern.
- Successfully helped drive adoption of an agile process for developing and delivering solutions to meet the increased release schedules mandated by the sales cycle and market demand.
- Using an agile process, the team was able to deliver a sellable sensor system to the marketplace within 9 months from inception.

**Pre-2009 work history provided upon request**

## **EDUCATION**

**University of Wisconsin**  
**River Falls, WI - 1996 – 1998**

Credits toward a Management Information Systems Degree