



Luis de Sousa

DATA AND ANALYTICS CONSULTANT

Johannesburg, South Africa

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Profile

With 16 years of experience in data and analytics consulting, I specialise in designing and building tailored data solutions for large organisations. My expertise spans data warehousing, integration, analysis, visualisation, and deployment in production environments. Additionally, I excel in leading cross-functional teams in dynamic settings. I firmly believe in the power of technology to drive sustainable change and am passionate about problem-solving and fostering collaboration and transparency. I take pride in finding unique and practical solutions to challenges. Outside work, my interests include reading, exercising (CrossFit and running), dancing, exploring note-taking systems, and co-organising user groups.

Work

Syeop

Johannesburg, South Africa

PRINCIPAL CONSULTANT: DATA AND ANALYTICS & DIRECTOR

May, 2007 - Present

- I lead high-impact data and analytics initiatives across diverse sectors such as real estate, food and beverage, and banking. My managerial responsibilities encompass prospecting, negotiating, and overseeing business and project management. Additionally, I contribute to team development by recruiting, training, and mentoring staff. My technical expertise includes market analysis, consolidating financial data on cloud platforms, forecasting, and developing Management Information Systems (MIS) architectures. I have worked with various technologies in these projects, such as the Microsoft Data Platform, MySQL, Google BigQuery, Azure Databricks, and FiveTran. I am proficient in SQL, R, and Python.

Cyest Corporation

Johannesburg, South Africa

SUPPORT & DEVELOPMENT CONSULTANT

August 2004 - April 2007

- Before DevOps emerged, I served as a deployment automation engineer. I designed, developed, and managed a custom SQL replication framework using SSIS in this capacity. My responsibilities also included overseeing system upgrades, providing technical support, and implementing additional integrations. Throughout these projects, I extensively utilised Microsoft Data Platform and Microsoft BizTalk technologies.

Artec Computer Systems

Johannesburg, South Africa

IT PROFESSIONAL CONSULTANT

July 2002 - July 2004

- My role involved providing technical support for applications, desktops, networks, and servers primarily in Microsoft environments. This included working with Microsoft technologies such as Windows 98, NT4, 2000, and 2003, as well as MS SQL Server and Exchange in clustered configurations. Beyond Microsoft technologies, I managed Cisco's LAN, WAN, and VOIP systems, worked with Interactive Voice Response (IVR) technologies, and maintained Dell & EMC hardware.

Consulting Projects

Real Estate

DATA CAPACITY SERVICES

2024

- As a senior data consultant, I created data structures that allowed researchers to analyse South Africa's property markets for the CityMark report. I used MSSQL for data management and R for spatial analysis to generate insights across national and metropolitan areas.

Real Estate

CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL WAREHOUSE

2023

- As part of a two-person senior consulting team, we created and implemented a unified overview of the company's financial performance across all its entities. We used financial systems like Xero, JDE, and LOB applications. For this project, we employed FiveTran for data integration, BigQuery for data storage and analytics, Looker Studio for data visualisation, and Google Sheets for data sharing and collaboration.

International Chain

DATABRICKS PROOF OF VALUE

2023

- As a senior consultant in a two-person team, I co-engineered and implemented a Databricks solution in the cloud for both development and production environments. This project involved using technologies such as Azure Databricks, Azure Data Lake Storage Gen2, Azure DevOps, KeyVault, Data Factory, and PowerBI.

Food and Beverage

FORECASTING CAPABILITY BUILDING 2021-2022

- As the project lead and senior consultant on a two-person team, we developed and implemented an automated statistical forecasting system for SKUs within a valuable supply chain. For this initiative, we used R and Microsoft SQL Server.

Banking - Innovation Division

MIS SOLUTIONS ARCHITECTURE 2010-2020

- As the lead and senior consultant for a five-person team in the innovation business unit, I managed all Management Information. My responsibilities included reporting and analytics for various payment systems like domestic and cross-border remittances, e-wallets, mobile payments, and banking transactions conducted via the Internet, apps, ATMs, and USSD. I also oversaw the integration of third-party systems, point-of-sale devices, prepaid services, and transit products. Our efforts extended to regulatory reporting, fraud analytics, sanctions screening, and performance monitoring. We developed, maintained, and updated a data warehouse utilising the Microsoft Data Platform, employing technologies such as Microsoft SQL Server, Integration Services, Analysis Services, Reporting Services, and R.

Entertainment

SOFTWARE PROJECT LEAD 2007-2010

- I played a crucial role in supporting and revamping a royalty calculation engine. This pivotal project involved developing a C# front-end to manage complex financial processes seamlessly integrated with the SAP ERP system. We utilised the Microsoft Data Platform and leveraged Microsoft BizTalk for seamless integration.

Education

Wits Johannesburg, South Africa

MASTER OF ENGINEERING (MENG) IN SOFTWARE AND INFORMATION ENGINEERING 2015

- Investigation Report: Using agile principles during software procurement in build versus buy decision-making.

Community

Johannesburg R User Group Johannesburg, South Africa

CO ORGANISER 2018 to current

- This group serves as a platform for sharing knowledge, networking, and promoting the use of R in various statistical, data analysis, and programming endeavors within the Johannesburg area. <https://www.rusergroup.co.za>

PyData Johannesburg Johannesburg, South Africa

CO ORGANISER Starting Feb 2023

- This local chapter of an international initiative focuses on nurturing community growth and engagement through Python and data science topics tailored to Johannesburg. <https://www.pydata.co.za>

Open Source

Aerial Mzansi Johannesburg, South Africa

AUTHOR 2022 to current

- A proof of concept project, open-source, aimed at highlighting the beauty of South Africa. This endeavour utilises various technologies, including Quarto, GitHub Actions, AzureStor, and mapbotverse. <https://www.aerialmzansi.com/>

Accreditation Courses

| | | |
|------|---|----------------|
| 2024 | Talend Data Health Explorer | Talend |
| 2024 | Solutions Architect Essentials | Databricks |
| 2023 | Generative AI Fundamentals | Databricks |
| 2023 | Azure Databricks Platform Architect | Databricks |
| 2023 | Databricks Platform Administrator | Databricks |
| 2023 | Databricks Lakehouse Fundamentals | Databricks |
| 2019 | RStudio Professional Administrator Certification | R Studio |
| 2018 | R Software Fundamentals with Applications to Statistical Analyses and Modelling | Wits |
| 2009 | Introduction to CMMI V1.2 | ISACA |
| 2009 | TOGAF 9 Foundation and Certified (Level 1 and 2) | The Open Group |
| 2004 | Implementing Data Protection on Dell Storage - IDPDS | Dell |
| 2004 | Implementing Dell Enterprise Storage Solutions - IDESS | Dell |
| 2004 | ITIL Foundation Course (IT Service Management) | ITSM |

Certifications

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|------|--|--------------|
| 2024 | Microsoft Certified: Fabric Analytics Engineer Associate | Microsoft |
| 2023 | Databricks Certified Data Engineer Associate | Databricks |
| 2023 | Databricks Certified Data Analyst Associate | Databricks |
| 2022 | Microsoft Certified: Azure Data Engineer Associate | Microsoft |
| 2022 | Microsoft Certified: Power BI Data Analyst Associate | Microsoft |
| 2022 | Microsoft Certified: Dynamics 365 Fundamentals (ERP) | Microsoft |
| 2022 | Microsoft 365 Certified: Fundamentals | Microsoft |
| 2021 | Microsoft Certified: Power Platform Fundamentals | Microsoft |
| 2021 | Microsoft Certified: Azure Fundamentals | Microsoft |
| 2021 | Microsoft Certified: Security, Compliance, and Identity Fundamentals | Microsoft |
| 2021 | Microsoft Certified: Dynamics 365 Fundamentals (CRM) | Microsoft |
| 2021 | Microsoft Office Specialist: Expert (Office 2019) | Microsoft |
| 2021 | Microsoft Office Specialist: Microsoft Excel Expert (Office 2019) | Microsoft |
| 2021 | Microsoft Office Specialist: Microsoft Word Expert (Office 2019) | Microsoft |
| 2021 | Microsoft Office Specialist: Associate (Office 2019) | Microsoft |
| 2021 | Microsoft Office Specialist: PowerPoint Associate (Office 2019) | Microsoft |
| 2021 | Microsoft Office Specialist: Excel Associate (Office 2019) | Microsoft |
| 2021 | Microsoft Office Specialist: Word Associate (Office 2019) | Microsoft |
| 2021 | Microsoft Certified: Azure AI Fundamentals | Microsoft |
| 2021 | Microsoft Certified: Azure Data Fundamentals | Microsoft |
| 2017 | Microsoft Certified Professional | Microsoft |
| 2017 | SAFe Agilist (SA) | Scaled Agile |
| 2011 | IASA Architect CITA-F (Foundation) Core | IASA Global |
| 2006 | CompTIA CTT+ Classroom Trainer | CompTIA |
| 2006 | Microsoft Certified Trainer - MCT | Microsoft |
| 2005 | LPI (Linux Professional Institute) 101 | LPI |
| 2003 | ICDL (International Computer Drivers Licence) | ICDL |
| 2002 | CompTIA Network Infrastructure Professional – CNIP Stackable Certification | CompTIA |
| 2002 | CompTIA Server+ | CompTIA |
| 2002 | CompTIA IT Operations Specialist – CIOS Stackable Certification | CompTIA |
| 2002 | CompTIA Network+ | CompTIA |
| 2002 | CompTIA A+ | CompTIA |