

Rahul Jain

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Summary

I am a technical leader with over 20 years of experience in leading teams with a focus on Data and Analytics engineering. My core expertise lies in building scalable data platforms rooted in sound engineering principles. With my skills in software engineering, data and management, I provide value to both Business as well as Operational intelligence in growing organizations. I get things done.

Over the past few years, I have successfully led several **large scale data platform migrations**, established domain driven data modeling strategies and modernized data stacks towards governance-first architectures.

As the Head of BI at Beat Mobility, I lead the Analytics Engineering and Data Engineering teams in building a robust data and analytics foundation for our ride-sharing business in Europe and Latin America.

Key milestones from recent work:

- a. Identified the need for a **tech strategy to help change Beat's central data architecture from service-based to systems-based**. Created and implemented the architecture in accordance with the principles of domain-driven data modeling, governance and data-as-a-product.
- b. Revamped our existing data platform from a monolithic, data lake centric platform into a modern data stack built on Snowflake, dbt and Airflow. This revamping effort is **estimated to save Beat over USD 500,000 in cloud cost** and increase the productivity of data teams.
- c. Established an **org-wide data governance strategy** which included data quality, access control, data privacy, data cataloging, documentation and compute resource isolation.
- d. **Headed the Data Leadership chapter** at Beat, closely collaborating with other data leaders on setting up an org-wide Data Mesh.

- e. **Built, grew and retained high performing teams** of Analytics Engineers and Data Engineers. Cultivated a self-driven, inclusive culture with a focus on autonomous decision making and continuous improvement.
- f. **Developed the next generation of team leads** via delegation, continuous mentoring and empathetic leadership.
- g. As a **member of the extended leadership team at Beat**, I closely worked with Product, Tech and Operations on the company's roadmap and business objectives.

Although my current role does not require me to write code, I am hands-on with technology, software engineering and coding and actively contribute to our code at Beat (**over 1000 code commits in 2022**). Not only does this help me keep my skills up-to-date, it also allows me to develop a deeper understanding of the day-to-day challenges that my teams are facing. I also occasionally contribute to open source communities in the data space.

Outside of work, I am passionate about mentoring engineers, analysts and tech managers. As an active member of [The Mentoring Club](#) in Berlin, I have offered several hours of free online mentoring to people all over the world. Occasionally, I also provide paid consultation to clients in Europe and Asia on their data and analytics engineering setups.

I write frequently on data strategy, engineering and leadership on my [blog](#), [Twitter](#) and [LinkedIn](#).

Recent writings

Headless-BI 101 Ghost wrote a long form article on Headless BI architecture with an in-depth evaluation of existing tools in this space.

Modern Data Stack 101 Ghost wrote an article on the Modern Data stack and a framework for choosing the right tools.

Data Build Tool - The Beat story An article on introducing dbt as a data transformation tool at Beat

16 fundamental principles for transforming data in a warehouse Some basic principles for data transformation and data modeling.

Migrating a data warehouse across Cloud providers My experience and approach as I led my team to migrate our entire data warehouse from Redshift to BigQuery.

Work Experience

Beat Mobility

ATHENS, AMSTERDAM AND REMOTE

Head of BI, Analytics Engineering and Data Engineering *July 2021 – Dec 2022 (1 year 6 months)*

Leading the Analytics Engineering and Data Engineering functions, responsible for building a robust data and analytics engineering foundation for our ride-sharing business in Europe and Latin America.

See [summary section](#) for current roles and responsibilities.

Omio (formerly GoEuro)

BERLIN, GERMANY

Principal Engineering Manager, BI

Nov 2017 – Jun 2021 (3 years 8 months)

Responsibilities included:

- Providing technical leadership to my team with respect to system design and architecture, managing tech debt and future planning and prototyping to keep our engineering systems up-to-date.
- Working with multiple stakeholders including BI analysts, data scientists and other business functions to provide data for their rapidly growing needs.
- Working with the engineering leadership to establish technical best practices in the area of data engineering
- Growing a motivated team with regular feedback cycles and participation in their career development.
- Managing data governance around privacy (GDPR), meta-data management and data quality management.

Key accomplishments:

- Evolved the data engineering architecture from an early stage batch heavy system to a state of the art data platform based on **real time streaming systems**.
- Stabilized the data pipelines from an MTBF of 10 days to 90 days.
- Significantly improved timeliness, quality and reliability of analytics data.
- Led the development of self serve, **real-time data ingestion platform based on Kafka and Apache Spark** that enabled any team at Omio to setup their own ETL pipeline to send data to warehouse.
- Grew the BI engineering team from 4 members to 10.
- Executed a **complex data warehouse migration project to move from Redshift to BigQuery**. This migration resulted in an annual saving of \$200K in cloud cost.

Thoughtworks

BANGALORE & BOSTON

Lead Consultant and Technical Lead

Oct 2012 – Nov 2017 (5 years 3 months)

Key responsibilities included:

- Technical Project Lead on Thoughtworks projects.
- Responsible for end to end delivery of product features.
- Architecture and Design of software systems.
- Implementing agile technical practices and processes
- Agile Consulting

Credit Suisse

SINGAPORE

Senior Analyst and Java Development Lead

Jul 2007 - Sep 2012 (5 years 3 months)

Responsible for developing multiple java/j2ee based ETL jobs used for ingesting large volumes of financial market data (balance sheets, stock prices, earnings estimates etc.) into Credit Suisse's data products.

Infosys

BANGALORE, HYDERABAD AND BOSTON

Software Developer & Project Lead

Jan 2000 - Jun 2007 (7 years 6 months)

Worked on various projects as a senior Java programmer and later as a project lead.

Education

altMBA

ONLINE

3 months intensive workshop on empathic Leadership and Decision making

2021

Cohort based intensive workshop covering various aspects of leadership including goal-setting, business modeling, decision making and critical thinking.

Indian Institute of Technology (ISM)

INDIA

Bachelor of Technology, Mining and Mineral Engineering

1995 – 1999

Main project on creating a simulation model of the grinding efficiency of a [ball-mill](#) based on feed properties.

Skills

Technical expertise:

- Modern Data platforms and tools
- Data collection and ingestion systems - including both batch and real-time
- Data transformation and modeling - Techniques, practices and tools (e.g., dbt)
- Data governance architecture and tooling. Metadata management systems
- Analytical Data storage formats and systems, including data lakes (Parquet.Orc on S3) and cloud data warehouses - Snowflake, Bigquery and Redshift
- Advanced data modeling techniques including domain driven design of data
- Setting up and operating Reporting and Dashboarding tools such as Tableau and Looker
- Reverse ETL techniques and processes for operationalizing data
- Engineering Leadership, strategy, planning and execution
- Agile software development processes
- Software design principles and enterprise integration patterns
- Microservices and service-oriented architecture
- Data engineering principles and DataOps
- CI/CD pipelines and modern software release processes
- Programming languages - Python, Scala, Java
- Distributed processing and storage systems - Kafka, ElasticSearch, Apache Spark
- Cloud platforms - AWS and GCP
- ETL orchestration frameworks like Airflow and Argo
- DevOps Toolchain - Virtualization, Containers (Docker) and Kubernetes