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www.linkedin.com/in/robertfocke
(LinkedIn)
shinroo.github.io (Personal)

Top Skills

Go (Programming Language)
Amazon Web Services (AWS)
Back-End Web Development

Languages

German (Professional Working)
English (Native or Bilingual)
Afrikaans (Native or Bilingual)

Certifications

NETHOPE Virtual Global Summit
2020 Delegate
Deutsche Sprachprüfung für den
Hochschulzugang

Honors-Awards

3rd Place, Mobile Application
Development Challenge
Information Technology Subject
Prize
Gold Medalist - South African Open
(Table Tennis)

Robert Focke

Backend Chapter Lead @ Muzz (YC S17)
Ballito, KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa

Summary

Senior Software Engineer specialising in Backend Web
Development. Experience in NGOs, public sector research,
corporate software R&D, consumer and sales tech.

Work experience across Germany, the UK and South Africa.

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Experience

Muzz
2 years 4 months

Backend Chapter Lead
May 2024 - Present (5 months)
Ballito, KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa

Leading the backend chapter working on Muzz social, aiming to make it the
best social network for Muslims the world over.

Relevant technologies: Neptune, DynamoDB, OpenSearch, Go, Terraform

Senior Backend Engineer
January 2024 - Present (9 months)
Ballito, KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa

Developing and scaling a new social network

Relevant technologies: Neptune, DynamoDB, OpenSearch, Go, Terraform

Senior Backend Engineer
January 2023 - January 2024 (1 year 1 month)
Berlin, Berlin, Germany

Building the backend of the new Muzz Social feature, a fully fledged social
network that promises to take Muzz to the next level!
- Lead a team of backend engineers developing the social network from the
ground up
- Successfully launched the social network to 10M Muzz members worldwide,
with 0 downtime

Relevant technologies: Neptune, DynamoDB, OpenSearch, Go, Terraform

Senior Backend Engineer
June 2022 - December 2022 (7 months)
Berlin, Berlin, Germany

Working alongside more senior colleagues rearchitecting a legacy PHP
monolith into Go microservices
- Introduced new best practices for working with Go, onboardin more junior
colleagues
- Mapping out legacy features, planning and implementing their replacements

Relevant technologies: Terraform, Go, AWS

Ballito Software Lab
Self Employed
January 2024 - Present (9 months)
Ballito, KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa

Software development on a contract basis, alongside in-house product
development.

Mesg.ai
Backend Platform Engineer
December 2021 - June 2022 (7 months)
Berlin, Berlin, Germany

First backend hire at a VC-based salestech startup (Antler).

Backend development working on a sales outreach platform which automates
the prospect research process.

Development and operation of services written in Golang, Python and Node.js.

Relevant technologies: Go, AWS, Terraform, Python, Node.js

Norwegian Refugee Council
2 years 10 months

Backend Developer
October 2021 - December 2021 (3 months)
Berlin, Berlin, Germany

Software development/data engineering working on a private-donor management system, including setting up data pipelines, analytics and managing a data warehouse.

Relevant technologies: Python, Snowflake, SQL, Salesforce API, Google Analytics API, Facebook API, Azure Machine Learning, Jupyter Notebooks, Twilio

Full Stack Developer
January 2020 - October 2021 (1 year 10 months)
Berlin, Germany

Software development working on an open-source beneficiary and service management tool.

Relevant technologies: Go, Javascript, RxJS, MongoDB

Junior Software Developer
April 2019 - December 2019 (9 months)
Berlin Area, Germany

Software development working on Salesforce Incident Management and Programme Cycle Managment tools, and various ETL integrations

Relevant technologies: Salesforce Admin, Visualforce, Python, Airflow, Lightning Web Components, BASH, Azure Data Factory

Freelance Software Developer
March 2019 - April 2019 (2 months)
Johannesburg Area, South Africa

Freelancing work on an ETL project connecting Unit4 Business World and Salesforce.

Relevant technologies: NiFi, Unit4 Business World, Salesforce API, BASH

Deutsches Institut für Menschenrechte
1 year 1 month

Data Engineer
February 2020 - October 2020 (9 months)
Berlin Area, Germany

Productionising web scraping and data ingestion pipelines and delivering a visualisation tool for the international human rights politics department.

Relevant technologies: Kubernetes, Scrapy, BeautifulSoup4, Tweepy, Docker, Metabase, SQL, DigitalOcean

Volunteer Data Engineer
October 2019 - January 2020 (4 months)
Berlin Area, Germany

Volunteer data work with the international human rights politics department at the institute.

Proof of concept web scraping work collecting textual data from news articles.

Relevant technologies: Kubernetes, Scrapy, BeautifulSoup4, Tweepy, Docker, Metabase, SQL, DigitalOcean

SAP
1 year 9 months

Knowledge Manager
January 2018 - September 2018 (9 months)
Berlin Area, Germany

Knowledge management & product testing internship position with the SAP innovation centre network.

Refactored CLI tool documentation generation to enable independent translations of help text, names and descriptions by other knowledge managers.

Relevant technologies: SwaggerUI, YAML, Python, Cobra, Golang

Machine Learning Software Engineer
January 2017 - December 2017 (1 year)
Berlin Area, Germany

Internship in the SAP Innovation Centre Network, working on a machine learning platform. Software engineering tasks in an agile environment.

Built proof of concept web services using python and cloud foundry, exposing functionality provided by SAP partners Google and Abbyy

Relevant technologies: CloudFoundry, Kubernetes, Python, C++, Docker, Jenkins, Bazel

HomeToGo

System Administrator
February 2016 - July 2016 (6 months)
Berlin Area, Germany

System Administration and IT Support working student position.

Relevant tech and responsibilities: Juniper Switches, Raspberry Pi, Google
Analytics, BASH, IT Support, Inventory Management

Education

University of London
Bachelor of Science - BSc, Computer Science · (March 2021 - March 2025)

Technische Universität Berlin
Computer Engineering · (2015 - 2018)

Pretoria Boys High School
National Senior Certificate, IEB AP Mathematics, High School/Secondary
Diplomas and Certificates · (2010 - 2014)