

Simon Picard

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French: native | English: fluent | Dutch: basic | Spanish: basic

Skills

Machine learning, Time series analysis, NLP, Optimization, Reinforcement learning, Leadership, Problem solving, Entrepreneurship, Strategy, Agile, Cloud computing, Software engineering, Python, SQL, Spark, GCP, C++, Kedro

Experience

Wequity, Chief Technical Officer, Belgium

Oct 21 – Sep 22

- > Built and scaled the startup's core product as its **first employee**: an **ESG NLP data pipeline**, fetching news and social media posts then extracting insights using ML, evolving it agilely according to the maturity of the product, eventually using **Python** and **Apache Beam** on **GCP** with Dataflow, **Terraform** and **dbt**
- > Grew the **Engineering team** by identifying needs, writing job descriptions, defining sourcing strategy and interviewing process while optimizing in-house vs. outsource tradeoff for short and long term horizons. Eventually **recruiting** junior and senior **colleagues**, for ML, data and web oriented roles
- > Ensured sustainable software development by implementing **CI/CD** pipelines to establish strong code quality, test coverage, non-breaking changes etc. using **GitHub Actions**, **SonarQube**, **Shortcut** & **Docker**
- > Enabled **informed decision-making** and forecasting by setting various automated dashboard such as overall cloud and API cost tracking, recruitment funnel, data pipeline usage and availability on **Grafana** and **Datastudio** based on various tabular data

McKinsey & Company, Lead data scientist, Belgium

Sep 18 – Oct 21

- > Increased the overall profit from 5% to 15% of several manufacturing plants **through yield, throughput and quality optimization**, leading data scientist teams to recommend plants parameters with supervised learning based on sensor data, using **Python** and **agile** development
- > **Built capabilities** to tech savvy persons covering overall data science use case approach and in depth technical methods as well as **educating senior business profiles** on the value and implementation of advanced analytics
- > Reduced the set-up cost of batch process manufacturing optimization projects by 80% through to the assetization of a **Python library** for standard data engineering, visualisation and modelling functions
- > **Defined the strategy** for different manufacturing players in several functions such as operations and supply chain via running several 2 to 4 weeks diagnostics, **identifying advanced analytics use cases** and prioritising them using impact and feasibility
- > Decreased unplanned down-time of blood-cell analysers by 9% through predictive maintenance trained on its tests outputs and alarms developed in **Python** and **Spark** on **Cloudera** as technical lead for three data scientists
- > Accelerated the estimation of residual values for a car leasing company from weeks to hours via implementing a machine learning based valuation engine trained on used auto market and third-party data coded in **Python**

Devoteam — Google Cloud Partner, Data scientist, Belgium

Dec 17 – Jul 18

- > Onboarding several customers to **GCP**, e.g. by migrating large scale BI batch data pipeline or building ML PoC such as machine learning generated customer segments based on social demographic data using **Python**

Certifications & Award

Google Cloud certified — Professional Data Engineer and Associate Cloud Engineer

Jun 18

1st place at McKinsey Analytics' **on-site hackathon**, predicting drug effectiveness, 109 participants

Mar 18

Education

MSc Management, Universidad Carlos III de Madrid, Magna cum laude, Spain

Sep 16 – Jun 17

- > Master thesis: business plan for a private parking spot sharing and renting app

MSc Computer Science, Université Libre de Bruxelles, Magna cum laude, Belgium

Sep 14 – Jun 16

- > Master thesis: schedulability test for mixed criticality systems by automaton exploration

BSc Computer Science, Université Libre de Bruxelles, Cum laude, Belgium

Sep 11 – Jun 14