

CAREER PROFILE

Ten years connecting Earth observation data to environmental impact - from a carbon sequestration thesis to production ML pipelines to climate AI. Active open-source contributor to GDAL's Zarr v3 driver. Previously built GeoZarr pipelines for ESA's Earth Observation Processing Framework at DevelopmentSeed, and spent five years as Product Architect at Space Intelligence, where I co-designed the technical architecture that scaled from a five-person startup to a sixty-person company shipping global land cover and biomass products.

EXPERIENCES

Data Engineer / Senior Research Advisor 2026
IVADO, Montréal, Canada

Drive data engineering in AI applications related to climate change, sustainability and biodiversity.

EO Data Engineer Autumn 2025
DevelopmentSeed, Contractor, Remote

Open-source contributions to GeoZarr data pipelines and data models for the ESA Copernicus [Earth Observation Processing Framework](#) (EOPF). Also contributed to the platform's Kubernetes/FluxCD deployment infrastructure.

Product Architect 2020 - 2025
Space Intelligence, Edinburgh, UK

Co-authored the standardized project template and Python library powering all land cover and biomass map products. Designed ML pipelines (Random Forest, LightGBM) on Dask/Zarr/COG with Azure and AWS infrastructure (Terraform). Scaled the technical architecture as the team grew from five to over sixty.

Project Highlight: Developed land cover and biomass data for [Apple's Restore Fund](#). Presented our [CarbonMapper biomass product](#) at Apple's ML conference in Cupertino, CA (2023).

GIS Specialist 2016 - 2020
Nelen & Schuurmans, Utrecht, Netherlands

Technical lead in multiple international development projects establishing data integration flows for operational information services.

For example, I connected soil moisture data from VanDerSat - acquired by Planet in 2021 - into a mobile app for pepper farmers in SpiceUp Indonesia.

Led an internal group of developer-oriented consultants to gain foundational software and data engineering skills.

OPEN SOURCE CONTRIBUTIONS

[GDAL](#) - Contributions to the Zarr v3 driver: parallel shard I/O, string data types, coordinate caching, and CI improvements (2026).

[EOPF Explorer](#) - GeoZarr data pipelines and data model for ESA's Copernicus Earth Observation Processing Framework. Contributions to data-pipeline and data-model (2025).

[SciPy 2024 Xarray tutorial](#) - Co-organized 4-hour workshop during SciPy 2024, where I led the session on the Xarray ecosystem.

[odc-geo](#) - Added Azure extension to save Cloud-Optimized Geotiffs in a dask-optimized manner in the odc-geo Python library (2024).

[pystac-client](#) - FOSS4G sprint contribution enabling formatted search urls in python client to query STAC APIs (2022).

[dask-geomodeling](#) - On-the-fly operations on geographical maps (2020).

SKILLS & PROFICIENCY

Geospatial Python Xarray Rasterio GeoPandas STAC

Data Engineering Pandas NumPy Dask PostgreSQL/PostGIS

Machine Learning LightGBM scikit-learn XGBoost

Cloud & Infra AWS Azure GCP Terraform Docker

Desktop GIS QGIS ArcGIS

AI-assisted development Claude GitHub Copilot



Wietze Suijker

Geospatial Data Engineer

✉️ wietze.suijker@gmail.com

📞 +447432325986 / +14389312304

🌐 Dutch

⌚ EST Timezone

🌐 <https://wietzesuijker.github.io/>

linkedin wietze-suijker

github wietzesuijker

EDUCATION

MSc in Geo-Information Science

Joint degree at four Dutch Universities; Wageningen (WUR), Delft, Utrecht and Twente (ITC)

2014 - 2016

Thesis: Characterising Forest Gain and Related Carbon Sequestration

BSc in Human Geography and Planning

University of Utrecht, Netherlands
2011 - 2014

Specializations: GIS & Sustainable Development

COMMITTEES

Co-organized weekly education sessions at Space Intelligence (2025)

Founding member of Space Intelligence's Social Committee (2021-2023)

LANGUAGES

Dutch (Native)

English (Professional)

French (Intermediate)

German (Intermediate)

INTERESTS

Hiking

Running

Climbing