

Aaron D. Gonzalez

LEAD DATA ENGINEER

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Experience

People, Inc.

New York, New York

LEAD DATA ENGINEER

Feb. 2025 - Present

SENIOR DATA ENGINEER - 2

Oct. 2023 - Feb. 2025

- Project managed the DataOps roll out of CICD pipelines.
 - Collaborated with stakeholders to ensure each team's acceptance criteria were included in the resulting pipelines.
 - Maintained and implemented new tests to increase code quality and accuracy.
 - Evaluated emerging data engineering technologies, frameworks, and best practices, and adopted their use.
 - * Reduced Jenkins build times by 87%.
- Principal technical owner of our dbt platform migration off dbt Cloud.
 - Successfully migrated approx. 500 dbt models & tests to dbt core.
 - Led educational sessions on how to develop with the dbt CLI.
 - Identified inefficiencies in BigQuery queries and implemented optimizations.
 - * Reduced data scanned by 81%, cutting cost and improving performance.
- Optimized data orchestration workflows.
 - Investigated and planned migration of legacy DAGs from cron schedules to event-based Dataset schedules.
 - Fine-tuned DAG configurations dependent on Serverless technologies to prioritize cost savings.
- Focused on Platform Engineering features to allow for increased self-service.
 - Deployment of dev dbt Airflow DAGs.
- Offered technical leadership by supervising direct reports & mentoring junior developers.
 - Hosted an ongoing Lunch & Learn to encourage peer-led team learning for technical & non-technical audiences.
 - Due to my comprehensive understanding of our codebase, I was tasked with mentoring and/or pair programming with new hires.

Density

New York, New York

SENIOR DATA ENGINEER

Jul. 2022 - Oct. 2023

- Designed and implemented data pipelines to ingest into our data lake and warehouses.
 - Configured Fivetran connectors & wrote Python ELT pipelines to our data warehouse.
 - Securely containerized pipelines; deployed on Amazon ECS and GCP Cloud Run.
 - Set up AWS' CloudWatch metric alarms and SNS to add a level of data observability that was previously missing prior to my joining the team.
 - Advocated to adopt usage of a more robust Data Orchestration option; single-handedly ported legacy repos to use Prefect 2.0.
 - Wrote robust CI/CD workflows for our pipeline Git repositories.
- Managed our team's GCP project.
 - Designed and deployed our Data Analytics and Engineering team's data infrastructure.
 - With security in mind, configured custom IAM roles to adhere to the principle of least privilege.
- Owned and maintained the Data Analytics and Engineering team's dbt project.
 - Increased visibility of data lineage by securely hosting dbt docs for our organization.
 - Utilized data modeling strategies dependent on end use cases (e.g., Kimball dimensional vs Inmon normalized models).
- Contributed to our OpenAI integration to develop a self-service data analytics feature for our customers.

Dotdash Meredith

New York, New York

SENIOR DATA ENGINEER

Dec. 2021 - Jul. 2022

DATA ENGINEER

Dec. 2017 - Dec. 2021

- Interfaced with end users (e.g., Data Science, Performance Marketing, etc.) to implement custom data pipeline solutions to address requirements.
- Conducted design and code reviews with an emphasis on teaching junior members.
- Maintained, optimized, and developed new data integrations to curate our Presto & BigQuery data lake.
 - Optimistic Partition Adder reduced task execution time from >20 hours to a number of seconds.
 - Refactored a legacy PySpark job, resulting in a 92% reduction in execution time.
- Decreased the introduction of tech debt in key repos by leveraging previously unused Git hooks.

Skills

Cloud Providers

Amazon Web Services, Google Cloud Platform

Technologies

Python, SQL, bash, Rust, git, dbt, Docker, Airflow, Prefect, Kubernetes, Fivetran, Looker, CI/CD, Github Actions, Jenkins Pipeline, Terraform, PySpark, Apache Beam, Hive

Certifications

GCP Professional Data Engineer, AWS Certified Developer, dbt Analytics Engineering

Education

Cornell University

Ithaca, New York

B.A., AMERICAN STUDIES

Brooklyn College, The City University of New York

New York, New York

M.S., EDUCATION

Hunter College, The City University of New York

New York, New York

M.S.W