David Schäfer

Curriculum Vitae

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Profile

Data Scientist with experience in developing machine learning solutions and supporting their deployment in enterprise environments. Strong background in building reusable Python tooling, improving CI/CD workflows, and contributing to scalable data science platforms on Databricks and Azure DevOps. Experienced with Python, SQL, Databricks, Azure DevOps, PyTorch, Docker, Kubernetes, Bash scripting, and Microsoft Power Platform.

Education

2021–2024 **B.Sc. Business Informatics - Data Science**, *DHBW Mannheim*.

Bachelor's degree in Business Informatics completed as a dual study program, combining university studies with three-month alternating practical phases at a company. The curriculum had a strong data science focus, particularly in machine learning, artificial intelligence, big data, data management, programming, and analytics, which was also reflected in the bachelor's thesis and two additional scientific papers.

2018–2021 **B.Sc. Business Psychology**, *Rheinische Fachhochschule Köln*.

Work Experience

HUGO BOSS

Oct 2024 – Present **Data Scientist**, *Metzingen, Germany*.

Developed and enhanced a modular machine learning pipeline for forecasting sales of new products based on historical data from similar items. Built solutions for both regression and classification use cases, enabling predictions of exact sales volumes as well as product categories such as bestseller, mid-seller, and low-seller. Worked with a broad range of model architectures, including classical machine learning methods and transformer-based deep learning models, and adapted the iTransformer to combine time series data with static features.

In parallel, took on MLOps engineering responsibilities to improve the productivity and scalability of the data science team. Maintained and extended CI/CD pipelines in Azure DevOps for provisioning and managing Databricks resources such as clusters and jobs. Contributed to the development of an internal Python package providing reusable functionality across projects, and supported the ongoing improvement of Kubernetes-hosted development environments through image customization and automated setup scripts. Represented the team in discussions around security-related topics and the scheduling of data science workflows via Control-M. Additionally, I implemented an automated process for requesting new data science use cases using Microsoft Power Platform.

Oct 2021 – Sep 2024 **Dual Student**, *Metzingen, Germany*.

Worked across multiple data science placements on demand forecasting, pricing, and retail optimization use cases. Contributed to machine learning solutions for sales forecasting, discount optimization, stock transfers between stores, and demand prediction for non-seasonal products, using both R and Python-based workflows. Also researched and implemented modern long-term time series forecasting models, benchmarked them against existing approaches, and drove project that translated sales forecasts into business-relevant product classes. In addition, contributed to the design of an AI-driven system for automated ambience adjustment in stationary retail.

Michael Prothmann Consulting Group (MPCG)

Mar 2021 – **Junior Consultant**, *Cologne, Germany*.
Aug 2021 Worked on strategic business development, client communication, and performance marketing, including business plan creation, improvement analysis, and the management of SEO/SEA campaigns using tools such as Google Analytics, Google Ads, and Google Tag Manager.

Mar 2020 – **Working Student**, *Cologne, Germany*.
Feb 2021 Worked as a Working Student on operational process improvement and digital business support, including Microsoft Office administration, LinkedIn-based client acquisition automation, analytics and reporting, Excel VBA automation, and WordPress-based optimization of online customer acquisition.

Feb 2020 – **Internship**, *Cologne, Germany*.
Mar 2020 Authored a whitepaper that established the foundation for a new consulting competency focused on personnel consulting in the context of digital transformation.

OBI Group Holding

May 2019 – **Working Student**, *Cologne, Germany*.
Feb 2020 Supported project management and process optimization through the maintenance and transformation of large Excel databases, VBA-based automation, dashboard creation, presentation development, translation of internal materials, and coordination with national and international stakeholders.

Various Employers

2016 – 2019 Different part-time jobs in Germany and abroad.