Mark Litwintschik

Date of birth: July 2nd, 1982.
I hold both a British and a Canadian passport.
mark@marksblogg.com

Profile

I am an ambitious, friendly and experienced big data consultant and open source web developer. I'm a strong believer in test-driven development and service-oriented architecture.

Education

University College London
September 2007 - March 2008, London, UK
I completed an Estonian Language course.

Lord Beaverbrook High School
June 2000, Calgary, Canada
Graduated High School with an advanced placement in Computer Sciences.

General Skills

Linguistics

English	Native speaker
German	Good; Spoken for 14 years
Estonian	Basic; Studied at UCL
Russian	Basic; Studied at KCL

Technical Skills

Backend / Frontend / Version Control

Python, Django, Flask	5 Years	Expert
Tornado	3 Years	Expert
HTML 5, CSS 3	21 Years	Expert
CoffeeScript, JADE, SASS, SCSS	1 Year	Good
Yeoman, Grunt, Bower	1 Year	Good
Backbone.js	2 Years	V. Good
AngularJS	2 Years	Good
jQuery, jQuery Mobile	7 Years	Expert
Bash, Coreutils	14 Years	Expert
Git	8 Years	Expert

Data-related

MySQL, MariaDB	15 Years	Expert
Postgres	6 Years	Expert
Redis	6 Years	Expert
Elasticsearch	4 Years	Expert
Solr	1 Year	V. Good
Hadoop	3 Years	Expert
Memcache	8 Years	Expert
Spark	1.5 Years	V. Good
Kinesis	1 Year	Expert
Redshift	1 Year	Expert
Periscope	6 Months	Expert

Testing

Unit Testing, mock, coverage	5 Years	Expert

Message Queues / Job Systems

ZeroMQ (ZMQ)	1 Year	Good
Celery + RabbitMQ	2 Years	V. Good
Amazon SQS	1 Year	V. Good

Continuous Integration / Deployment

Jenkins	3 Years	Expert
Ansible	2 Years	Expert
Fabric	5 Years	Expert
Chef, Vagrant, Capistrano	6 Months	Good

Cloud / Hosting / Deployments / Monitoring

Apache	15 Years	Expert
Nginx	7 Years	Expert
Gunicorn	5 Year	Expert
HAProxy	1 Year	Good
Varnish	1 Year	Good
Amazon AWS inc. S3, EC2, Cloudfront	7 Years	Expert
Google App Engine, Compute Engine	1 Year	Expert
Flume	1 Year	Expert
LXC & Docker	2 Years	Good
PowerMTA	4 Years	V. Good
Postfix	6 Years	V. Good
Nagios	6 Years	V. Good

Work Experience

Big Data Consultant; Python / HTML5 / Cloud Contractor
September 2011 – Present
London, UK and Dublin, Ireland

My clients, end-clients and partners include Bank of America Merrill Lynch, British Telecom, Ford, Google, the Guardian, News International, Nokia, The Royal Mail, TransferWise and Vertu.

I specialise in Hadoop, Spark, Amazon EMR, Kinesis, Kafka, RDS, Redshift, SQS, Machine Learning at scale and a whole host of other big data technologies and frameworks. I've run clusters of 100s of nodes working on petabyte datasets. I've trained models with 97.5% predictive accuracy.

Throughout 2015 I've been working with a client to:

- Tokenise data from a 1.2 petabyte dataset comprised mostly of unstructured and semi-structured data using MRJob on Amazon Elastic MapReduce (EMR)
- Load that data into their Redshift data warehouse
- Load additional data from Amazon Kinesis via S3
- Setup ETL jobs with Airflow (a data pipeline management package that was born at AirBNB)
- Analyse their data (we compared using Looker, Periscope, MicroStrategy and Tableau on top of R- and iPython-based workflows)
- Train models using supervised machine learning algorithms (we compared various algorithm implementations in Spark's MLlib, R, scikit-learn and AmazonML)
- Serve model predictions via a Flask-based API running on EC2 spot instances behind Amazon ELB.

When working hands-on I do test-driven development and subscribe to agile methodologies. Django, Tornado, Flask, Backbone.js, AngularJS and various other frameworks make frequent appearances in my work.

In a 2014 project for Google I setup clusters of machines on Google's Cloud Compute and App Engine platforms to crunch and serve out large amounts of data with Hadoop while centralising logging of all services via Flume to an Elasticsearch and Kibana installation. There is a data pipeline that does enrichment and makes sure data reaches Google's audience in a reliable way by avoiding single points of failure.

Acting Chief Technology Officer
Stickyworld Ltd
April 2013 – April 2014
London, UK / Tallinn, Estonia

I took a year out from contracting to work on a start-up.

I architected the technical upgrade of our core web app, organised the tech team procedures and operations, did hands-on, full-stack development and assisted in the marketing and company communication efforts.

Django, HTML5, Angular.js and Yeoman were the primary technologies I interfaced with.

Senior Developer
Bloomberg
All of 2009 & July 2010 – Sept 2011
London, UK

I was a senior, full-stack developer for bnef.com, I was in charge of delivery of a large volume of transactional emails and I integrated Adobe LiveCycle DRM system into out platform.

Chief Technology Officer
iVoucher
January 2010 – July 2010
London, UK

iVoucher is a VC-funded start-up focused on capturing and marketing systems for retailers by allowing them to distribute discount codes to their customers. I designed and engineered two-way SMS communication systems and web-based vendor-facing tools.

Technology Director
Kieon
September 2008 – January 2009
London, UK / Bangalore, India

I managed 60 developers in Bangalore. We delivered technical solutions for the end-clients of several marketing agencies in London.

Technical Manager / Lead Developer
blue barracuda marketing ltd.
March 2004 – September 2008
London, UK

I delivered several technical solutions for a wide range of end-clients. The LAMP stack was prominent in most of our solutions.

My end-clients included: Angels, Austin Reed, BAA, Barchester, BlackBerry, Buy Cosmetics, Danone, ELC, Fat Face, Financial Times, Goldsmiths, Hamleys, Harrods, ISBA, ITV, Krispy Kreme, Laithwaites, LOVEFiLM, Nectar, NMA, Noble House Media, Novus, Office World, Pizza Hut, PricewaterhouseCoopers, Royal Bank of Scotland, Staples, T-Mobile, TGI Fridays, The Banker, UKTV, Williams Formula 1, Xerox and Visit London.

LAMP Developer
COMBridge AG
September 2002 - March 2004
Bremen / Wolfsburg / Hannover, Germany

I developed web applications for my company to support their SAP projects with Volkswagen and Audi.

Interests

I enjoy photography, travel, Formula 1, mountain biking and learning languages.

References

Available upon request.