

Dirk Strong Van Curan II

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PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

Dynamic and results-driven data engineering professional with a proven track record in designing and implementing scalable data architectures to support organizational objectives. Skilled in building and orchestrating ETL pipelines, optimizing data workflows, and leveraging cloud technologies to enable robust data infrastructure. Known for applying innovative, data-driven solutions to complex challenges and effectively communicating technical concepts and outcomes to both technical and non-technical audiences.

EXPERIENCE

Senior AWS Big Data Engineer

Austin, TX

Summit Human Capital

2022-Present

- Developed within AWS and their cloud services including: Lambda, EMR, ECS, Glue, S3, Dynamo, Athena, Redshift, IAM, Batch, Airflow, and StepFunctions
- Developed complex SQL and Python scripts to execute ETL processes providing clean usable data for the data science team in AWS environment
- Led efforts to implement new development, as well as prototyping, bootstrapping, build and design work
- Designed and developed high volume, low latency applications for mission-critical systems and delivering high availability and performance
- Created documentation for code and processes in Confluence for training and reference for current and future team members
- Leveraged AWS S3 inventory to develop python script to remove or resize files in buckets saving the client 35% in monthly S3 storage costs.

Data Engineer – Solutions Architect – Product Owner

Austin, TX

NexusLeap

2021-2022

- Lead Engineer on high-impact projects from C-Suite of multi-billion-dollar leader in Supply Chain and Logistics
- Migration of distributed data sources from on-prem servers and tabular formats into Cloud/Big Data frameworks
- Orchestration of complex ETL pipelines to automate and streamline enterprise-wide business processes
- Conversion of manual processes to event-driven workflows, cutting processing time by 90%, saving \$250,000 annually
- Build strong business cases through a data-driven approach and align business stakeholders behind key opportunities
- Engage in highly technical dialogue with engineers while effectively communicating delivery timelines, risks, and trade-offs to non-technical stakeholders

Co-Founder

Seattle, WA

Strong & Co. Goods

2016 - Present

- Product research utilizing data driven approach and analysis tools including JungleScout, MerchantWords to determine demand and viability
- Development of sustainable mechanisms and workflows to ensure team could step in to operate the business and rely on existing data pipelines to inform business direction

SKILLS

Languages: Python (3+ years), PySpark (1+ year), SQL (3+ years), HTML (1+ years), CSS (1+years)

Tools:

- AWS: Glue, S3, Redshift, Lambda, SNS, SQS, IAM, Airflow, CodeBuild, CodeDeploy, CodePipeline, Athena
- Cloud Infrastructure: Serverless Framework, Jenkins, CI/CD, CodeBuild, Terraform, Vault
- Data Frameworks: Apache Spark, Apache Hadoop, SparkSQL
- Data Presentation: PowerBI, Tableau
- Relational Databases: SQL (Postgres, MySQL, MSSQL, SSMS, Presto), NoSQL (MongoDB, DynamoDB)
- Data Migration: SSIS (On-Prem to Cloud, Flat file to Cloud, Standard file types to high performance: Parquet, Avro, etc.)

Domain Knowledge:

- Data Engineering (ETLs, Datalakes, Data Warehouses, CI/CD, Dashboarding/Reporting)

- Machine Learning (Regression, Clustering, Decision Trees)
- Data Preprocessing (One-Hot Encoding, Normalization/Standardization, Dimensionality Reduction/PCA)
- Data Visualization (Exploratory Analysis, Geospatial, Temporal, Hierarchical)
- AGILE/SCRUM Methodology

EDUCATION & CERTIFICATIONS

AWS Cloud Practitioner	2021
Data Science Certification, Flatiron School	2019
University of Colorado, Boulder Major: B.A., Comparative Religious Studies	2012

NOTABLE PROJECTS

Football Player Prediction	http://football-player-predictor.herokuapp.com/
Determining football (soccer) player archetypes through machine learning	
King County Housing: Price Predictions	https://dirkstrong1.github.io/jupyter_notebooks/housing_predictions.html
Determining Housing Price through discovery of contributing factors	
Zillow Housing Market Analysis	https://github.com/dirkstrong1/Zillow_Housing_Predictor
Investigating real estate investment markets using time series analysis	