

JULIAN MERCER

DATA ENGINEER

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Data Engineer with 8+ years building reliable batch and streaming platforms for product, finance, and operations teams. Creates observable pipelines, well-modeled warehouse layers, and cost-aware infrastructure that make high-volume data trustworthy and usable.

CORE SKILLS

Python | SQL | Apache Spark | Kafka | Airflow | Databricks | Snowflake | Data modeling | ETL pipelines | Streaming systems | Data contracts | dbt | AWS | Data quality | Observability

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Senior Data Engineer Netflix, Los Gatos, CA

Jul 2022 - Present

- Designed Spark pipelines processing 18TB daily for content analytics, improving data availability from six hours after close to 48 minutes.
- Built Kafka ingestion with schema enforcement and replay controls, reducing malformed-event incidents 82% across 26 producers.
- Repartitioned high-cost jobs and introduced workload tagging, lowering annual Databricks spend \$1.7M at unchanged SLAs.
- Implemented lineage, ownership, and freshness alerts for 420 datasets, raising critical-table SLA attainment from 91% to 99%.
- Led migration of 70 workflows to declarative orchestration with no missed downstream business reporting deadlines.

Data Engineer Lyft, San Francisco, CA

May 2019 - Jun 2022

- Developed real-time trip pipelines handling 2.4M events per minute, supporting marketplace decisions with under-90-second freshness.
- Modeled dimensional warehouse tables for pricing and incentives, reducing analyst query complexity and duplicated logic 39%.
- Added data contracts and integration tests for 33 source systems, cutting breaking schema changes 61% year over year.
- Created backfill tooling with idempotent checkpoints, reducing recovery time for failed partitions from 11 hours to 95 minutes.
- Partnered with Privacy on retention and deletion workflows covering 14 regulated data domains.

Analytics Engineer Square, San Francisco, CA

Aug 2016 - Apr 2019

- Built SQL transformation layers for seller activation and payments, standardizing 58 measures across Finance and Product.
- Automated source reconciliation and anomaly checks, reducing monthly reporting corrections 44%.
- Documented warehouse models and query patterns used to onboard 25 analysts and analytics partners.

EDUCATION

B.S. in Computer Science, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, Champaign, IL

CERTIFICATIONS

Databricks Data Engineer Professional | AWS Certified Data Engineer – Associate