



Thomas Pical

Lead Data Engineer / PM
Based in Paris - open to full-remote



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Tech Lead at Equancy with over 5 years of experience, I help companies drive their data transformation. I specialize in designing, deploying, and maintaining data platforms—primarily on Google Cloud Platform (GCP)—with a strong focus on the aviation industry.

My recent roles have led me to take on management responsibilities, including team leadership and client-facing project coordination. Today, I'm looking to return to a more hands-on technical expert position, while continuing to lead and mentor tech teams. I'm particularly interested in fast-paced, innovative environments like startups, where impact and agility matter.

Experiences

Data Leader, VINCI Airports | @Equancy

January 2025 – Current position

- **Data strategy leader** for the Smart Data Hub, under the COO supervision.
- **Managing a project team of 8** (recruitment, planning, day-to-day coordination) and 3 direct reports at Equancy as line manager.
- Representing the project across airport stakeholders, **gathering business needs and aligning delivery** timelines.
- **Advising** the Head of Data; accountable for all **GCP expertise and infrastructure** across the project, including oversight of Data Science initiatives.
- Deployed a **GenAI portal** with SSO, user authentication, and microservices architecture – enabling internal LLM for + 2 000 users.
- **Drove a data governance strategic overhaul**, deploying **large-scale monitoring** solutions (1,000+ daily files, 700 data streams), delivering an **80% maintenance reduction** and operations effort while significantly improving operational reliability.
- Project recognized across VINCI Group as a reference project, with visibility at Group level - a strategic project sponsored by VINCI Airports' CEO.

Stack: GCP (BigQuery, Storage, Cloud SQL, Cloud Run, Vertex, IAM, IAP), Airflow 2, Docker, LLM/GenAI, Streamlit, Power BI, Git, Great Expectations, Data Governance

Account Owner & Cloud Engineer, Lisea Mesea - VINCI Concessions | @Equancy

January 2024 – December 2024 – 1 year

- Led weekly client meetings covering **projects follow-up**: operations (MCO), timelines, progress, risks, and decision-making.
- **Monitored project budgets** and handled invoicing processes, **coordinating schedules, milestones**, and action plans across technical and business teams.
- Involved in pre-sales activities: drafted **commercial proposals** based on client needs, including **scoping, objectives, timelines, budget estimates, and staffing**.
- Designed and presented clear and structured project decks for business and IT leadership
- Linking internal teams (delivery, finance, tech) and client stakeholders
- **Responsible for technical decisions**, drafted technical architecture documents.
- **Deployed GCP environments with Terraform (IaC)**, optimized GKE cluster sizing, configured Airflow 2 with KubernetesExecutor and migrated scheduler DB to Cloud SQL for scalability
- Set up SSO on GitLab (OAuth2) and Airflow 2 (SAML2).

Stack: GCP (GKE, Cloud SQL), Terraform, Power BI, Helm, Airflow 2, Docker, K8S, SSO (OAuth2, SAML2), Git, Nginx

Infrastructure and governance audit, CLARINS | @Equancy

Winter 2024

- NEJI platform audit (Elasticsearch, Kibana, Logstash) – a **PoC transitioned to production without clear governance**.
- Conducted stakeholder interviews to clarify ownership disputes between teams reluctant to manage the tool despite being its primary users.
- Delivered an infrastructure map **identifying pain points, provided technical assessment** with cluster sizing recommendations, and **established a governance framework** assigning **clear responsibilities**.

Stack: ELK (Elasticsearch, Logstash, Kibana), Data Governance

Project Manager, Lesieur Cristal, Maroc | @Equancy

Summer 2024

- Led a data-driven promotional **ROI optimization** project for Lesieur Cristal in Morocco
- **managing a 3-person project team** through the full project lifecycle—from budgeting and client engagement to executive-level deliverables.

Stack: Azure, Python, Power BI

Principal Data Engineer, VINCI Airports | @Equancy

January 2021 – December 2023 – 3 years

- **Technical expertise** on the **deployment and maintenance** of the "Smart Data Hub" data lake on Google Cloud Platform, including the management and deployment of **ETL** processes on Airflow.
 - Consideration of business challenges, **scoping of needs, solution design** to meet them and **implementation**.
 - Relation with international teams, management of the technical team, piloting of the technical teams, help to increase the competence of new recruits.
 - Development of **data visualisation** solutions on **Power BI**
- ⇒ [More details](#)

Stack: Python, GCP (BigQuery, Cloud Storage, Composer, Cloud Functions), Airflow, SQL, Terraform, Power BI, Git

Data Analyst, Airbus Helicopters

Internship, summer 2020

Conducted research on customer offerings for planned maintenance and inventory management, analyzed stock data with SAP HANA, cleaned and processed data using R, and developed inventory dashboards in Spotfire.

Stack: SAP HANA, R, Spotfire

Soft skills: English C1, French native, specialisation in aeronautics, team management, client relationship, resourceful, autonomous, ML Fundamentals

Training

Master 2 – Economics: Econometrics, Big Data, Statistics

Aix Marseille School of Economics, Aix-Marseille Université, 2018/2020

US equivalence: MS in Economics with a focus on Data Science

Taught in English. Machine learning, deep learning, neuronal network (tensorflow, keras), R, Python, Methods of reducing information, unstructured database, mongoDB, MapReduce, Hadoop. Advanced econometrics, statistics, SAS, STATA, risk and incentives, applied mathematics, microeconomics, macroeconomics.

Certifications and awards

- **2024 – Teaching Experience** – 2024: Delivered courses on Programming in Python at **Durham University** and **Lancaster University** (UK), and on MLOps principles, implementation, and practice at **ENSAE-ENSAI** Continuing Training (Cepe).
- **2023** – Certification Google Cloud Professional Data Engineer, ID 69328835 (*expired*)
- **2021** – Certification Google Cloud Associate Cloud Engineer, ID 35813644 (*expired*)
- **2020 – Banque de France competition Winner**: Construction of high frequency indicators on international trade and real estate. Developed in Python on the subject of air pollution.
 - [Working paper](#) in collaboration with the Banque de France, presented to the OECD, FED, ECB, BdF.

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