

Firat Sivrikaya

Staff Software Engineer at ESL FACEIT Group

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Experience

ESL FACEIT Group

Staff Software Engineer

Berlin, Germany (remote)

Nov 2022 - present

- Tech Lead for a squad of Senior Engineers, overseeing the technical roadmap and architecture for 20+ high-traffic microservices in Go and Java, ensuring high availability and low latency targets for game platform integrations.
- Architected and spearheaded the "Community Integrity" suite, implementing automated Smurf detection, Anti-toxicity moderation systems, and KYC (Know Your Customer) frameworks to ensure fair play and regulatory compliance for millions of users.
- Directed the architectural design of enterprise consent management and system maintenance solutions, ensuring full compliance with global data privacy regulations (GDPR/CCPA).
- Optimized development workflows by integrating Generative AI and Agentic patterns, resulting in a 20% increase in coding efficiency and reduced operational risk during R&D phases.
- Led cross-functional engineering initiatives across multiple teams to achieve company OKRs, delivering complex system synchronizations on schedule.
- Scaled engineering excellence by presenting technical deep-dives at Backend Collectives and developing shared internal libraries adopted by 10+ engineering teams.

Tenera (BCG Digital Ventures Startup)

Senior Software Engineer

Berlin, Germany

Aug 2021 - Nov 2022

- Engineered an event-driven construction platform consisting of 10+ microservices using Kotlin, Java, and Spring Boot, deployed on AWS via Kubernetes.
- Boosted developer productivity by designing a custom Gradle plugin and automation scripts, significantly reducing microservice bootstrap time and increasing code reusability.
- Managed full-stack infrastructure ownership, maintaining Infrastructure-as-Code (IaC) and monitoring production clusters across 4 environments to ensure system reliability.
- Orchestrated company-wide release cycles, coordinating cross-functional engineering teams for production deployments and translating stakeholder requirements into technical roadmaps.
- Strengthened engineering culture by mentoring mid-to-senior developers, conducting technical interviews, and optimizing the onboarding process to reduce time-to-productivity for new joiners.

Zenjob GmbH

Software Engineer

Berlin, Germany

Dec 2019 - Aug 2021

- Architected and deployed an invoicing microservice from scratch using Java 15 (Completable Futures), Spring Boot, Kafka, and jOOQ, successfully replacing legacy systems and improving data processing reliability.
- Optimized business-critical RESTful endpoints, reducing average response times from 15 seconds to <1 second, while automating internal workflows that saved account managers 20% of daily manual effort.
- Directed zero-downtime release cycles and complex data migrations using Feature Flags (Unleash) and observability tools, including Grafana, Loki, and Sentry to ensure 99.9% service health.
- Championed testing and code quality excellence by implementing Testcontainers, Spock, and JUnit 5, while mentoring junior/mid-level engineers and contributing to company-wide backend collectives.

Talentwunder GmbH

Junior Software Engineer

Berlin, Germany

Nov 2018 - Dec 2019

- Engineered two greenfield microservices using Java 8, Micronaut, and Amazon SNS/SQS to support a 100% user-base UI revamp, ensuring seamless integration between legacy Grails systems and modern architecture.
- Decoupled core monolith functionality by migrating business logic to an Elasticsearch-backed microservice, reducing deployment dependencies and increasing development velocity for cross-functional teams.
- Strengthened system reliability by centralizing error handling via Sentry and establishing the organization's first automated E2E testing suite using the Geb framework.

Education

Bilkent University

B.S. Computer Science

Ankara, Turkey • Sep 2014 - Jun 2018

Roskilde University

B.S. Computer Science (Exchange Semester)

Roskilde, Denmark • Jan 2017 - Jun 2017

Skills

Backend & Data

Java, Go, Spring Boot, Microservices, PostgreSQL, gRPC, MongoDB, Redis, Micronaut, Docker, Grafana, Loki, Sentry, Testcontainers, Kafka

Generative AI & LLM

Claude Code, OpenCode, LLM Integration, Agentic Workflows, Prompt Engineering, GitHub Copilot

Cloud & Infrastructure

AWS, GCP, Kubernetes (k8s), Docker, Terraform (IaC), Grafana

Languages

English (Fluent), Turkish (Native), German (Intermediate)