

Thomas Maurer

Based in Zurich, Switzerland

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Software engineer with 16 years of experience in platform engineering, reliability and large-scale data systems. At GitHub since 2016, I've led multi-year initiatives across Ruby on Rails, MySQL, data migrations and distributed caching. In recent years, AI-assisted software development has become a core part of how I work.

Expertise

Platform engineering · Database reliability and scalability · Large-scale data migrations · Distributed caching · Database observability and governance · AI-assisted software development · Ruby on Rails · MySQL · Technical leadership

Experience

GitHub

2020 – Present Staff Software Engineer

- **Technical leadership:** set technical direction for multi-year database reliability initiatives spanning large-scale data changes, application boundaries, distributed caching and database proxying.
- **Distributed caching:** architected and shipped a reusable caching framework handling over 1M operations per second and removing hundreds of thousands of queries per second from MySQL.
- **Database partitioning:** improved the reliability and scalability of GitHub's large Ruby on Rails and MySQL deployment by partitioning relational database workloads.
See my GitHub blog post [about partitioning GitHub's relational databases](#).
- **Data transitions:** built an automated data-transition platform and drove its adoption as the default for GitHub's Rails application and multiple services.
- **Database governance:** built observability and governance tooling that exposed costly database usage, established

ownership and enforced company-wide reliability standards through CI.

2016 – 2020

Senior Software Engineer

- **Core product features:** improved repositories, pull requests, code review and issues.
- **Commit attribution:** added support for co-authors on repository commits.
See the GitHub blog post announcing [commit co-authors](#).
- **Performance:** made diff pages 3x faster.
See my GitHub blog post describing [how we made diff pages 3x faster](#).
- **Protected branches:** added configurable status-check requirements and user and team push restrictions.
See my GitHub blog post describing [relevant product changes](#).

Simplificator

2012 – 2016

Software Engineer, Team and Project Lead

- **Customer consulting:** advised customers on engineering practices and team organization.
- **Led web and mobile projects** from requirements through production scaling.

2010 – 2012

Software Engineer

- **Web engineering** with Ruby on Rails.
- **Mobile engineering** for iOS and Android.

Education

University of Zurich

2008 – 2010

Master of Science in Computer Science

2005 – 2008

Bachelor of Science in Information Systems