

Benjamin Woods

Head of Engineering



About me

Full-stack generalist, leader, manager, and **enemy of waste**, with experience in startups, big tech, and academia.

I work best as **glue**, bringing teams together and filling in gaps.

I take pride in **reducing waste**, prefer to adhere to lean and **Agile** processes, and believe in **documentation-first development**.

Areas of specialization

Python · Integration
Glue code · Bug hunting
Team optimization
Requirements analysis
Testing · Tooling

Technologies

Python || 5+ years
JavaScript || 3+ years

pytest	●	●	●	●
Next.js	●	●	●	●
jest	●	●	●	●
flask	●	●	●	●
numpy	●	●	●	●
cucumber	●	●	●	●
jwt	●	●	●	●
react	●	●	●	●
express	●	●	●	●
git	●	●	●	●
poetry	●	●	●	●
yarn	●	●	●	●
AWS	●	●	●	●
Docker	●	●	●	●
Kubernetes	●	●	●	●

Languages

English · native
German · basic

- benjamin-woods
- benjaminwoods
- benjaminwoods
- soyapencil

RECENT EXPERIENCE

2021-
1y 11m

Head of Engineering
10BE5 · London, UK

Leading and managing a team with 2 direct reports, 1 indirect report.

Led the development of 3 products from inception, all currently in pilot or commercial phase.

Leading the team on development, UX, CX, QA. Primary resource for product management and project management. **Created and built SOPs.** Led initiatives to accelerate development + improve team performance:

- Shifted development processes from waterfall to Agile. **Reduced average lead time by >75%.**
- Shifted test culture to test-as-you-go. **Increased the no. of team members regularly writing tests by >200%.**
- Shifted acceptance test ownership to developers, moved team to BDD, and set up standardized code review.
- Empowered developers to propose their own features and take ownership of customer success.

Full stack development using Node.js, Electron, Python, git, AWS, Azure, Kubernetes. Extensive work with Flask, pytest, Jest, Docker, Poetry, Yarn, GitLab CI/CD, and Cucumber.

2021-2021
0y 3m

Solution Architect
10BE5 · London, UK

Development using Node.js, Electron, Python, git. 1 direct report.

2020-2021
1y 6m

Software Engineer
10BE5 · London, UK

Part-time role. Primary developer for software packaging/deployment.

2020-2021
1y 4m

Engineering Technical Writer
MATHWORKS · Cambridge, UK

Full-time role. Writing documentation and examples principally for Parallel Computing Toolbox and MATLAB Parallel Server.

Work involved using MATLAB, XML, and standard *nix + sysadmin utilities.

2019-2020
0y 6m

Research Associate
UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS · Leeds, UK

Intensive 6 month project. Automated machine learning using stochastic control methods with time constraints. Primarily used metaprogramming, scikit-learn, Pandas, numpy, dask.

EDUCATION

2015-2020

Plasma Science and Fusion Energy
PHD · University of York

Nonlinear wave-particle resonance in deterministic and stochastic kinetic plasmas
Analytical/computational modelling and analysis of nonlinear systems using linear/nonlinear spectral decomposition; machine learning driven studies of complex data sets in tokamak plasmas; writing high performance parallel code in C.

2019

Physics
MPHYS · University of Exeter

Specialisation in QFT, experimental metamaterials, and elasticity theory