

Denis Makarau

Senior iOS & SDK Engineer · Swift, SwiftUI · Mobile test automation

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Available for part-time freelance projects and workshops, alongside my role at Zendesk. Freelancer (Freiberufler), directly or via agencies. Rate on request.

SUMMARY

Senior iOS engineer building a widely used customer-service SDK: SDK architecture, Swift Concurrency, UIKit to SwiftUI migration and the developer experience of the integrators who depend on it. Before moving into development I spent seven years in mobile test automation, which shapes how I approach reliability, CI/CD and release quality. I also teach engineers to work with AI coding agents without trusting unverified claims.

EXPERIENCE

Zendesk · Senior Software Engineer, iOS SDK

Jan 2023 – present · Munich

- Designed the iOS side of the SDK's analytics pipeline, from event tracking in Swift to the data platform (Kafka, Snowflake).
- Built AnalyticsKit, a modular analytics layer used inside the core SDK.
- Reworked the SDK's concurrency model with Swift Concurrency and fixed long-standing race conditions.
- Led the UIKit to SwiftUI migration of core SDK screens.
- Security Champion for the iOS team: audits, vulnerability reviews and secure-by-design practices.
- Maintain legacy Objective-C components and keep upgrades smooth for enterprise customers.

Zendesk · Senior Development Engineer in Test

Sep 2021 – Jan 2023 · promoted to Senior Software Engineer

- Built a scalable XCUITest framework with Fastlane and Bitrise CI/CD for every SDK release.
- Migrated 500+ UI tests from the deprecated EarlGrey framework to XCUITest.
- Moved test execution to BrowserStack with parallel runs on 100+ real devices.
- Led the cross-platform test strategy (iOS XCUITest, Android Espresso): snapshot, integration and UI tests.

Nebius Academy · AI Technical Instructor & Workshop Lead (part-time)

Aug 2026 – present

- Design and run live workshops for software engineers on working with AI coding agents safely, including hands-on exercises (CI failure triage, test audits), facilitator kits and supporting tooling.

ProSiebenSat.1 Digital · Senior QA Automation Engineer

Apr 2019 – Sep 2021 · Munich

- Built cross-platform test automation from scratch for a high-traffic video player (iOS, Android, Web) with XCUITest, Espresso and Selenium in GitLab CI/CD.

Earlier

- Virtual Solution AG · Software Test Automation Engineer · Jun 2018 – Apr 2019 (Appium, Ruby, Cucumber)
- Western Union · Senior QA Automation Engineer · Mar 2017 – May 2018 (Appium, Java, TestNG)
- EPAM Systems · Software Test Automation Engineer · Feb 2015 – Feb 2017 (Java, Selenium)

SKILLS

iOS	Swift, SwiftUI, UIKit, Objective-C, Swift Concurrency, SDK development, MVVM, Clean Architecture, CoreML, Foundation Models
Testing & CI/CD	XCUITest, Espresso, Appium, Selenium, snapshot testing, Fastlane, Bitrise, GitHub Actions, GitLab CI, Jenkins, BrowserStack
Platform & data	Flutter / Dart, Supabase, Kafka, Snowflake, Docker, AWS, REST APIs
AI tooling	Claude Code, AI coding agents, Model Context Protocol, OpenAI API

PROJECT

SmartKauf (smartkauf.makarau.com), beta on iOS and Android: a shared shopping list app, offline-first with cloud sync, per-list sharing and voice input parsed by an LLM. Flutter, Supabase (Postgres RLS, Edge Functions), FCM/APNs, Claude API.

CERTIFICATIONS, LANGUAGES, EDUCATION

Certifications: Claude Code: Agentic Coding for Professional Developers · Model Context Protocol (MCP) · Mastering Swift Concurrency

Languages: Russian (native) · English (professional) · German (B2) · Spanish (basic)

Education: B.A. Business/Managerial Economics, Belarusian State Economic University

Volunteering: Volunteer firefighter, Freiwillige Feuerwehr Neufahrn (2025 – present)