

Halil Bülent Orhon

Backend Engineer | Elasticsearch Contributor

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Summary

- Backend engineer with **7+ years** of experience designing and building scalable backend systems, real-time APIs, and distributed infrastructure.
- Currently at **Trendyol (Alibaba Group)**, operating high-throughput services powering the search experience (**100M+ daily requests**) with intelligent, ML-assisted pipelines.
- Previously co-founded a restaurant automation platform used by 100+ businesses.
- **Contributed a production patch to Elasticsearch**, after identifying a critical bug
- Passionate about infrastructure, reliability, and building highly scalable systems from scratch.

Skills

Languages: Java, Go, Python, C#, SQL

Frameworks: Spring Boot, .NET Core, Angular, Flutter

Databases: Elasticsearch, PostgreSQL, Couchbase, MSSQL, Redis

Messaging: RabbitMQ, Kafka

Monitoring & Observability: Grafana, Prometheus, Jaeger

Infra & DevOps: Kubernetes, Docker, GitLab Pipelines, Helm, ArgoCD

Concepts: Distributed Systems, Microservices, Event-Driven Architecture, CQRS, Search Infrastructure, ML-Assisted APIs, A/B Testing, CI/CD, TDD

Experience

Trendyol (Alibaba Group) — *Backend Engineer* Dec 2023 – Present

- Built and scaled microservices for search suggestion and pre-search pipelines
- Designed systems for brand/category/synonym/spell correction resolution
- Integrated ML-based personalization models into query suggestion flow
- Contributed upstream patch to Elasticsearch after identifying production bug
- Maintained and scaled Kubernetes-based suggestion services handling 100M+ daily requests, ensuring high availability and latency SLAs during Black Friday-scale traffic

Ideas Software — *Co-Founder, Full-Stack Engineer* 2019 – 2023

- Developed POS & automation system used by 100+ restaurants
- Built mobile (Flutter), web (Angular), and backend (.NET Core) apps
- Integrated with Trendyol, Yemeksepeti, Netsis, and Logo ERP systems

Etgi Grup — *Part-Time Software Developer* 2014 – 2018

- Developed exam & reporting modules for LMS used by companies like Havelsan, TÜİK, and Huawei
- Focused on backend development using .NET Web API and MSSQL

Open Source Contributions & Technical Writing

Elasticsearch Contributor: Contributed a production-critical patch upstream

HaloDB: Key-value store implemented in **Golang**, w/ **B+ tree**, **WAL**, **partitions**, **crash recovery** and **bloom filter**

Medium Articles: Topics on Elasticsearch internals and distributed backend systems

Education

Bilkent University – Computer Science

Yaşar University – B.Sc. Computer Engineering