Elie Abi Raad, Dr.-Ing.

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Summary

Technical Program Leader with 7+ years leading complex technical programs across engineering, research and AI/ML. Proven track record of bringing clarity to ambiguous environments by surfacing risks and dependencies, orchestrating cross-functional execution, and multiplying the impact of Engineering, Product, and Leadership.

Experience

Acoustic Consultant *(Technical Program Lead)*, Lufthansa Technik
Hamburg, Germany | Oct 2024 – Dec 2025

- **Owned a technical innovation program** across 6 interdependent workstreams and 11 engineers, aligning priorities, dependencies, resources, and delivery across previously fragmented teams.
- Delivered **3 market-ready solutions, 20+ prototypes and key internal capabilities**, including a technology roadmap, an ML simulation tool, and physical solutions for cabin sound control.
- **Surfaced cross-team dependencies, program risks, and conflicting stakeholder expectations** across engineering, sales, and leadership, keeping the program aligned with delivery goals.
- **Led development of an ML-based sound simulation tool** spanning UI, data retrieval, database, and calculation layers, iterating with users to deliver an MVP in 2 months.

Co-Founder and CEO, Kebbe Bleiben (*kebbebleiben.com*) Aachen, Germany | Mar 2022 – Jan 2024

- **Built the company from zero**, defining strategy, operating model, customer segments, product direction, and execution priorities in an unstructured startup environment.
- Tested ~30 customer segments and **pivoted toward 3 higher-potential opportunities**, increasing CTR from 1% to 6% and tripling quarterly revenue during testing.
- Owned execution across **product, marketing, production, logistics, customer engagement, branding, and commercial strategy**.

Chair *(Program & Product Lead)*, European Acoustics Association Remote | April 2021 – Sept 2023

- **Defined and built the program strategy, organizational structure, and operating model** for the "Young Acousticians Network", a European network serving 10,000+ acousticians.
- Transformed the Young Acousticians Network from a low-impact service **into a core strategic initiative** of the European Acoustics Association, delivering value to all segments of the association.
- Built and led a **cross-functional team from 2 to 9 members**, launching initiatives across community platforms, events, communications, internal infrastructure and partnerships.
- Created a **pan-European network of 20+ societies and companies**, aligning diverse stakeholders around a shared mission.

Research Scientist *(Research Lead)*, Institute for Technical Acoustics
Aachen, Germany | Feb 2018 – Sept 2023

- **Built and led a 5-year multidisciplinary research program** to improve ultrasonic metal welding, coordinating parallel workstreams across measurements, simulations, signal processing, thermodynamics, machine learning, and experimental research.

- **Defined and managed interconnected technical projects** (2-5 concurrently, scaling up to 10 occasionally), connecting results and dependencies across them to guide subsequent R&D priorities.
- Owned **30+ industry and research projects from problem definition through delivery**, working with engineers, researchers, students, industrial clients, and partner institutes.
- Developed a real-time AI monitoring system improving prediction accuracy by **170% compared with industry standards**.

Software Engineer, Omega Financial Solutions Beirut, Lebanon| Sept 2015 – June 2016

- Built and maintained **B2B SaaS banking software** (full stack) using CodeGear, C#, MySQL, and XML for asset and portfolio management.
- **Reduced internal debugging time by 30%** by pitching and building a debugging tool.

Co-Founder & Project Lead, Matsuri Festival Lebanon Beirut, Lebanon | April 2014 – Dec 2015

- **Discovered and validated** an underserved market opportunity for anime-themed concerts in the Middle-East and built the initiative from concept through execution.
- **Delivered two full-scale pilot concerts** after recruiting and coordinating 13 musicians, attracting about 1000 attendees and generating about €8000 in revenue.

Education

Doctor in Engineering (Dr.-Ing.) in Electrical Engineering and Information Technology
RWTH Aachen University, Aachen, Germany *February 2025*
Thesis: *"Real-time monitoring of Ultrasonic Metal Welding using horn and anvil vibrations and sound measurements"*

Master of Science (M.S.) in Mechanical Engineering, specialization in acoustics
Paris-Saclay University, Palaiseau, France *September 2017*

Bachelor of Engineering (B.Eng.) in Mechanical Engineering
American University of Beirut, Beirut, Lebanon *May 2015*

Certificates

Certified Product and Project Manager by XDi-Experience Design Institute GmbH. *September 2024*
Deep Learning specialization by DeepLearning.AI *17 March 2024*

Tools, Languages, Hobbies

- **Languages**: English (bilingual), Arabic (native), French (native), German (fluent)
- **Programming & Tools**: C#, Python, Matlab, MySQL, XML, Figma
- **Hobbies**: music performance and production; video games; chess and boxing.