

Anson Chu

Hands-on engineering manager. I like to build software and teams in complex technical domains.

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EXPERIENCE

Fab2 (formerly Atomic Semi) — Staff Software Engineer / Engineering Manager

Jun 2024 – present

Makes small, fast semiconductor fabs. Joined as the 2nd software engineer; now lead fab software, infrastructure, chip-design tooling, and AI adoption.

- **Built the software that runs the fab.** Software-defined recipes, robot-automated execution, parameter sweeps, statistical process control. Research and production are one platform: process engineers iterate experiments straight into production.
- **Built it from the firmware up.** Wrote the embedded systems for two process tools and every line of the v1 Cube robot. Versions later, its architecture still runs the fab and ten tool teams build on its standard. Ran infra and SRE until I hired a staff lead to own it.
- **Help lead and grow the team.** Wrote the levels matrix that hiring, promotion, and pay run on as the company grew 25 → 150. Grew the software org from one engineer to three staff engineers and their teams: two hired, one coached up from intern. Pushed the fully automated fab from off the roadmap to company strategy.
- **Own AI across the company.** Personally onboarded engineers and non-engineers to Claude Code, then built the compliance and inference platform to make it self-serve. Now standing up the ML team for AI process engineering and yield optimization.

Numerai — Software Engineer → VP Engineering → CTO

2018 – 2023

A quant hedge fund powered by a data science tournament. Joined as the 3rd software engineer; as CTO ran everything except research: product, data, infra, trading.

- **Aligned incentives across the hedge fund and the tournament.** An obfuscated dataset anyone can model. 5,000 anonymous models stake crypto and earn or burn by contribution to the stake-weighted ensemble. Features and targets engineered so tournament scores track fund returns.
- **Built the research-to-production platform.** Research ideas become datasets, targets, and scoring functions. Data and backtest tooling for model building. The daily run: vendor data to dataset to submissions to meta-model to risk and portfolio to trading.
- **Ran a tight ship.** Incident response end to end, from ML pipelines to the Ethereum cold wallet: alerts, PagerDuty, rotations, on-call training. Took trading from fully manual to automated daily. Never missed a trading day in my last two years as CTO.
- **Built the team.** Hired the entire engineering team; helped hire the COO and Chief Scientist. Three of my hires grew into owning data, the tournament, and trading. Split the teams the way the system split.
- **Took it from experiment to institution.** Wrote the yearly strategy and quarterly OKRs. Worked the audits and compliance behind our SEC registration as an investment adviser. AUM grew from \$8M to ~\$500M, Ivy League endowments and Canadian pensions among the investors.

Uber — Software Engineer → Senior Software Engineer

Dec 2013 – Dec 2017

Early Uber. Two years on Dispatch, the system matching riders and drivers, then two years on Map Services.

- **Scaled dispatch infrastructure through 100x+ growth.** Self-hosted and pre-cloud: Node.js and Redis, then a Go and Cassandra rewrite. Login, distributed caching, data center failovers. Ring0 incident responder.
- **Built the spatial search engine that replaced Google geolocation and POI.** Team of four, cutting ~\$1M/month. Patented wifi-fingerprint pickup positioning (2015). Wrote postmortems the org circulated as examples.

Earlier

2011 – 2013

Web Developer → Senior Web Developer, Salesforce · Technology Consulting Analyst, Accenture Technology Labs

SELF-DIRECTED ML & RL

- **Zero to Hero:** completed Karpathy's course and nanoGPT, with worked notes. ansonchu.com/zero-to-hero
- **RL:** ongoing self-study: Sutton & Barto, DQN on Gymnasium, notes on PPO/GRPO and evals. ansonchu.com/rl
- **Auto-research:** a small autonomous-research project over Gym environments. ansonchu.com/auto-research

SKILLS

Languages: Python · Go · Rust · C++ · TypeScript · Java

Systems & infra: Postgres · Redis · Cassandra · Airflow · gRPC · AWS · GCP · Terraform · on-prem/bare-metal

EDUCATION

B.S. Computer Science and Engineering — UC Irvine, 2011