

About the Author



I was born in 1999.

I moved to the United States in 2005.

My family — already struggling — got run over by the Global Financial Crisis in 2008.

I got kicked off my first robotics team in high school so I started a rival team and built it into one of the top 25 in the world. I taught myself using online forums and scored in the top 25 of a global programming competition within 5 months of writing my first line of code.

I probably set a handful of school records for standardized test scores and academic rigor.

I studied CS at UIUC (full ride, full merit, top-5 CS program).

I got headhunted to intern as a SWE at Google as an underclassman without connections or submitting an application. I pushed to production at the Goog within 3 years of starting to code.

I had the strongest resume in my class after my freshman year in 2018.

I had the strongest resume in my class after my sophomore year in 2019.

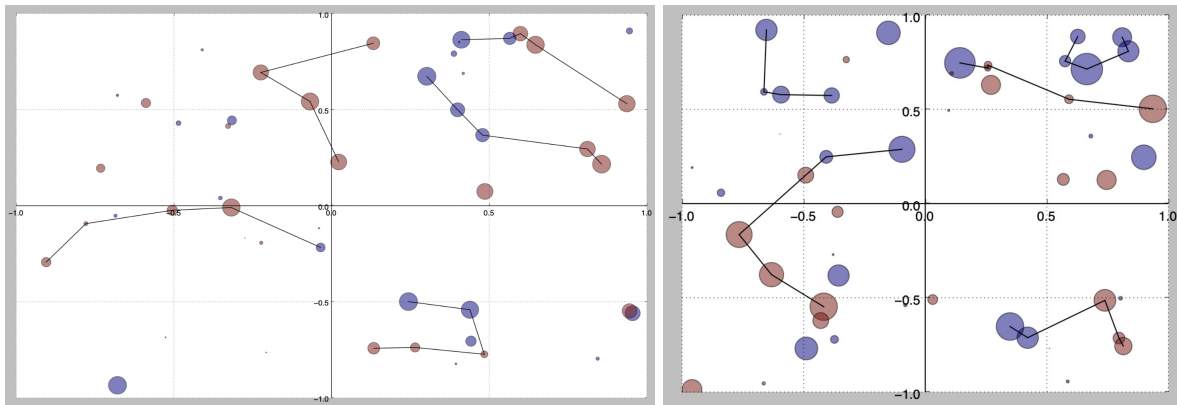
I had the strongest resume in my class after my junior year in 2020.

I had the strongest resume in my class after my ~~senior year~~ “academic victory lap” in 2021.

I created a position for myself leading R&D at a unicorn tech startup when I was 22.

I earned full autonomy within 45 days and personally delivered value comparable to the output of the entire engineering org during my time there — a novel routing algorithm, a simulation engine, and an analytics dashboard for evaluating historical and simulated technician route combinations, etc. — in addition to my nominal responsibilities as a mid-level Product Manager.

I invented the Fernandez-Wang algorithm for optimized technician routing in an evening.



The company wouldn't accept my resignation after a notable disagreement — or meet my terms to continue and recognize me as Director of R&D at 23 — and we went our separate ways.

I invented a portable deductive framework for exposing CapEx fraud.

I did a bunch of other cool stuff. I kicked back for a while. I taught some kids to juggle.

I spent a few years helping families navigate debt and collections at Beyond Finance.

In 2025 I looked at the AI CapEx figures and realized the economy was going to capsize.

I quit my job, got on a train with an air mattress and a sleeping bag, and started talking to thousands of Americans on the streets to learn sales skills and perform field research.

In 2026 I sat down, published “A Losing Bet Regardless of Outcome” in 16 weeks while packing my bags, left the United States, posted on LinkedIn to formally light my resume on fire and put my professional network on notice, and started building a team to distribute the work.

FAQ

Q: Are you an optimist or a pessimist?

A: I am a deeply optimistic person who values his own judgement and epistemics over consensus. I am an empiricist who aggressively challenges his own beliefs. I made my conclusion falsifiable because I am willing to update publicly if I am wrong. I believe very deeply in human agency and in the individual to overcome their circumstances.

Q: How can an “optimist” publish something with such dark conclusions?

A: My optimism is grounded in reality rather than in institutional discourse or collective delusion.

A pessimist would shrug rather than publish a satirical economics dissertation in 120 days.

A pessimist wouldn't believe his effort could make a difference.

A pessimist wouldn't publicly burn his career and just have faith that things will work out.

Q: What are you an “expert” in?

A: Nothing, really. I'm a generalist and a first principles thinker. I've tested my limits to enough extremes that I trust myself to get pretty good at pretty much anything in a short period of time.

Q: Do you consider yourself an intellectual?

A: No, I don't particularly fit the label. I get bored easily. I'm curious. I like solving problems.

Q: Are you competitive?

A: Not generally, but I'm the most competitive person I know when I'm pissed off. I'm not even that ambitious in the traditional sense — you can tie every single one of my accomplishments back to a moment someone said something that pissed me off. And now I just challenged the entire planet to an intellectual gunfight and threw down \$10,000 in prize money.

Q: Democrat? Republican?

A: My views don't fit cleanly into either party. I currently vote based on crisis character — who I would prefer behind the wheel if things go very, very poorly.

Q: Why didn't you publish your work anonymously?

A: I'm demanding accountability from everyone, and putting my name on my work keeps me accountable to the truth as well. I can't publicly update if I'm wrong if I published anonymously.

I'm not an epistemic coward.

Q: Do you like to brag about your accomplishments?

A: Not particularly, but the work I'm doing now requires that I establish standing to issue a serious moral and intellectual challenge, which requires I disclose my background.

Q: Do you have an accomplishment that you're most proud of?

A: Not really, or at least not that I can disclose publicly.

Q: Have you always been this audacious?

A: I've always been audacious when the moment requires it.

Q: What's the most audacious thing you've ever done?

A: Probably this. A few of my teachers might disagree. Sorry teachers.

Q: What do you do for fun?

A: I'm on a mission. Fun is on the backburner. I'll think about fun when I have the bandwidth.

**Q: You just publicly self-immolated your career. How are you paying your bills?
And you're building a team and hiring people?**

A: Savings and retirement accounts.

Q: What was your favorite post-2008 crisis poverty meal?

A: White rice with ketchup.

Q: Did you actually work as a clown?

A:

