



# CHARLES CHEN

## Principal Software Engineer

C#/.NET • TypeScript • JavaScript • React • Vue • GCP • AWS • Azure


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Charles combines a unique mix of deep enterprise solution design and delivery experience with an entrepreneurial spirit fostered with his tenures at both bootstrapped as well as VC-backed startups.

He has over a decade of experience leading high performance software engineering teams building commercial enterprise software and SaaS used by customers such as Biogen, Novo Nordisk, Roche Diagnostics, and Boehringer-Ingelheim.

A hands-on engineering leader and builder to the core, his pragmatic approach to system design and architecture helps teams iterate and build rapidly from 0 to 1 and scale solutions from 1 to 1,000,000.

### Platforms

#### Amazon Web Services

Experience designing, deploying, and managing web application backends for enterprises and e-commerce using AWS (InnovoCommerce, Ownit)

#### Google Cloud

Experience building, deploying, and operating full-stack B2C SaaS applications using both serverless and containerized workloads (zeeq, Turas, Motion)

#### Microsoft Azure

Experience designing and delivering enterprise SaaS solutions in regulated industries using Azure AI, serverless, and NoSQL products. (InnovoCommerce, Thinktastic)

### Domain Experience

Life sciences (Clinical, Reg Docs), E-commerce, Finance/Banking (Marketing)

### Founder

**zeeq.ai** • 09.2023 – Present • [zeeq.ai](https://zeeq.ai)

AI superpowers for your documents. Get answers from your existing documents using natural language questions. Instantly find the critical information that you seek from your SOPs, protocols, and critical process documents.

### Co-Founder

**Turas Global** • 05.2023 – Present • [turas.app](https://turas.app)

Turas.app takes the pain out of planning your travel itineraries in Google Docs and Google Sheets. Share your travel story and publish your own micro-blog to share with the friends and family or other travelers from around the world!

### Principal Software Engineer, Founding Team

**Ownit Commerce** • 05.2022 – 05.2023 • [ownit.co](https://ownit.co)

A seed stage VC-backed startup, Ownit is building AI-powered experiences for e-commerce. Responsible for designing and implementing a distributed content-scraping and continuous price ingestion pipeline monitoring prices across tens of thousands of products, building an AI categorization engine using OpenAI embeddings and Postgres vector search, and evolving the infrastructure approach from Elastic Beanstalk to container-based deployments (ECS). Guided and mentored junior engineers and interns.

### Lead Software Engineer

**Motion (YC W20)** • 01.2022 – 05.2022 • [usemotion.com](https://usemotion.com)

Full-stack application development of Motion's React frontend and Google Functions backend application with TypeScript on Node. Designed a Google Pub/Sub-based message-oriented architecture to provide greater system resiliency and address quota limitations with external service APIs. Implemented complex scheduling algorithms. Developed extensive Playwright browser test automation to support automatic end-to-end release validation.

## Stacks Senior Advisor (Contract)

### AI

OpenAI, Postgres Vectors,  
Embedding Search

### Frontend

CSS, HTML, JavaScript,  
TypeScript, React.js, Vue.js,  
Windows Forms / Win32 / PlInvoke

### Application/API

.NET/Core, ASP.NET/MVC, C#,  
EF Core, GraphQL, JavaScript  
(Node.js), NHibernate, REST, WCF,  
XMPP, XML, XPath, XSLT, ZeroMQ

### Backend/Data

CosmosDB, DynamoDB, Neo4j,  
NoSQL, Microsoft SQL Server,  
PostgreSQL, Firestore

### Identity

Auth0, Azure AD B2C, Cognito,  
Exostar (Ping Federate), Firebase

### Test

BDD, Cypress, Unit Testing,  
Playwright, Taiko + Gauge

### DevOps

Docker, GitHub Actions, GitLab  
CI/CD, Jenkins, Kubernetes, NPM,  
PowerShell, Shell Scripting

## Education

Rutgers University  
New Brunswick, NJ  
B.Sc. Computer Science  
Minor - Mathematics  
1999 - 2003

### Apprentice • 09.2021 – 11.2021 • [apprentice.io](https://www.apprentice.io)

Worked with CEO and senior VP leadership team to provide strategic guidance for GxP validation. Provided hands-on technical training to engineering and product teams using test automation with Playwright and document automation using Confluence.

## Session Presenter

### Azure Serverless Conference • 09.2021 • [microsoft.com](https://www.microsoft.com)

One of five community presenters for Microsoft's inaugural Azure Serverless Conference (North America). Prepared and presented an open source project for a [live session on building serverless architectures using .NET Azure Functions and Azure CosmosDB](#) to a global audience.

## Director of Engineering

### InnovoCommerce • 07.2011 – 12.2020 • [innovocommerce.com](https://www.innovocommerce.com)

Managed the [innovoPOINT](#) product pipeline from requirements scoping to development to multi-million dollar go-lives and ongoing support. The product is used by customers such as Novo Nordisk to manage secure exchange of essential documents.

Designed and implemented the core distributed, high-throughput batch event processing architecture using ZeroMQ to enable an event-driven architecture managing millions of nodes in a Neo4j graph database.

Collaborated with customer IT leaders to scope and design enterprise systems integrations to eTMF (Veeva Vault, FirstDoc), CTMS (Impact), and SSO ([Exostar](#), Ping Identity, [Office 365](#)). Coordinated cross-functional efforts across engineering, QA, and support leads.

Implemented code quality standards, defined SDLC processes, evaluated emerging technologies, planned engineering roadmap, expedited the QA process via automation and streamlined documentation, and refined the DevOps pipeline.

## Co-Founder

### Thinktastic (v1) • 01.2011 – 12.2020 • [thinktastic.net](https://www.thinktastic.net)

Conceptualized, designed, and developed a suite of products for [real-time, enterprise collaboration on SharePoint](#) via a web based XMPP client and Openfire Server.

## Independent Contractor, Tech Lead, Senior Consultant

### Various • 06.2003 – 01.2011

Independent contractor, technical lead, and senior consultant leading technical delivery teams working with various clients including ITT Industries, Dow Jones Factiva, Merrill Lynch, Citibank, Bank of America, Pfizer, Abbott Labs, Merck, GSK, Sanofi-Aventis, and more. (Details on request).