ESSENCE VENTURE CAPITAL

Experienced founder with strong network





SVP of Engineering



Acq. by Cloudera



10th employee



Incubator committee

Particular Areas of Interest

Stage:
Pre-seed and seed-stage teams that focus on enterprise.

Areas: Data infrastructure, Cloud, DevOps, Developer & Data scientist tooling, AI/ML systems and applications.

Geography: Primarily
Pacific Northwest
(Vancouver, Seattle, etc)
and Bay Area.



Early employees /
coworkers in cloud-native
startups: Docker,
Mesosphere, CoreOS,
VMWare, Cloudera, etc.

hey there, how things going there? I remember you talke

IIII 23 2019 7:39

That's right! I put in my notice with Intel on Friday, out by Aug 2 and taken a few weeks before being heads down on the next thing $\underline{\omega}$



How's life in the VC world?

OSS and Research communities: Apache, CNCF, Stanford, Berkeley, University of Washington VCs referrals /
Accelerators / Angels:
BVP, Accomplice, Madrona,
Workbench, Redpoint,
11.2 capital, YC,
Techstars, etc.

In bound from Blogging, Twitter and Linkedin.



Wed, Aug 28, 8:35 PM 🕏

Arjun lyer • 8:27 PM

Hi Tim, your work at HyperPilot really piqued my interes wanted to know if you are available for a chat. Thanks

Founder friends / Portfolio network referrals / Angels intro

Michael <> Tim ➤ Inbox ×

Anand Nandakumar <nr.anand@gmail.com>

to me, michael@getsomatic.com

Hi Tim please meet Michael (founder of Somatic) and Michael please meet Tim (a very helpful angel).

Startup foundation & ideation

Be the founder's active partner at the beginning of the startup journey, helping to refine raw ideas and directions to shape the core essence of the venture.

Xiaovun Zhu <xiaoyun@neurops.io>

to me. Pradeep -

Hi Tim.

Hi Tim! Do you have time for us to do a "dry" pitch with you tomorrow AM?

Niklas

He did - and all of these meetings have been *super* helpful

Sync up on pitch deck Inbox ×

Vishakha Gupta
to me ▼
..._

Arjun lyer

Hi Tim,

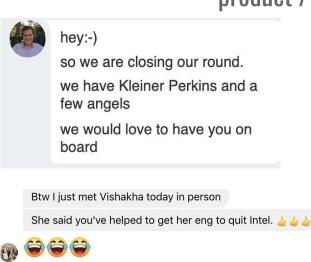
Good to hear from you! We've been brainstorming on be great to get your feedback as well.

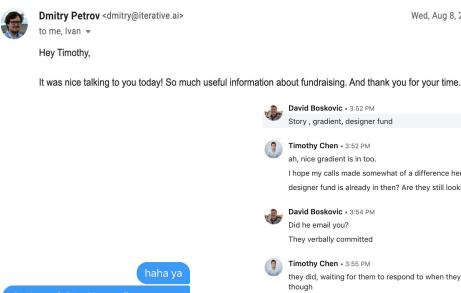
It was great meeting up earlier today and discussing our ideas for the new venture. Not sure if I had mentioned this earlier, but our new company's name is NeurOps - Al Ops as a service to reduce mean time to remediation (MTTR). I've attached the investor deck for your reference.

It'd be great if you could consider angle-investing in our company. Given your rich experience in this industry and wide connections in the community, both Pradeep and I will also appreciate it if you could take on an advisor role, to give us early feedback on our ideas, product designs and market fit, as well as connecting us to potential customers.

Founder experience

Specific areas of help with early founders include fundraising, open source strategy, product / go-to market iteration, hiring and Data/ML strategies.





David Boskovic • 3:52 PM Story, gradient, designer fund Timothy Chen • 3:52 PM ah, nice gradient is in too. I hope my calls made somewhat of a difference here:) designer fund is already in then? Are they still looking to chat? David Boskovic • 3:54 PM Did he email you? They verbally committed Timothy Chen • 3:55 PM they did, waiting for them to respond to when they want to chat though David Boskovic • 3:57 PM Everybody mentioned talking to you. I owe you a nice whiskey. If that's your thing. :)

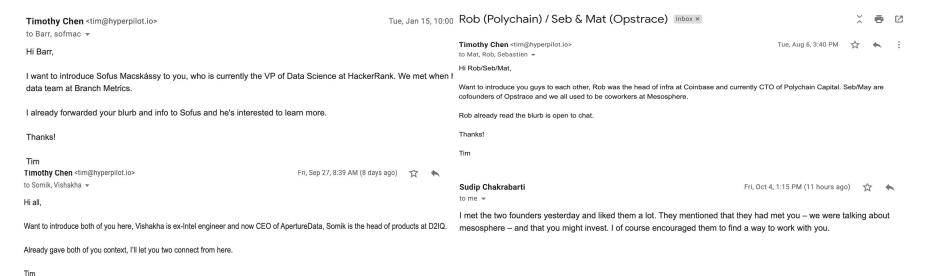
Wed, Aug 8, 2018, 1:24 AM

that's my job at Hyperpilot anyways might as well continue that trend!

Customer and Investor network

Help introduce early customers and investors based on existing customers relationship during Hyperpilot, Mesosphere, Cloudera, etc.

Also receive recommendations and referrals from top VCs and angels for allocation.



Pipeline

Mentoring and tracking 20+ early promising teams that are still in founding and idea validation mode.

Teams include ex-Docker founder, Founding engineers at Mesosphere, ex-CTO of Cloudera ML, Senior director at AppDynamics, Early Kubernetes Committer, Uber Engineer Managers, Computer science Professors, etc.

Investments with top-tier VC and Angels

Company	Invested Stage	Co-invested / Follow-ons
lterative.ai	Pre-seed (currently Seed)	Afore Capital, True Ventures, Florian Leibert, Tobi Knaup, Andrew Lee, etc
Elotl	Pre-seed	Angels
marionet	Pre-seed	Founder Collective, Angellist Spearhead
NeurOps	Seed	Mango Capital, 8VC, Point72
≫ OR	Seed (currently Post-Seed)	SignalFire
mobikit	Pre-seed	Angels
Mogul	Series A	Hearst Corporation and Founders & Heads of Comcast, Match.com, LinkedIn, McGraw Hill Education, MTV, NPR, Gary Vaynerchuk, and Diane Von Furstenberg
\$\infty flatfile	Pre-Seed	Afore Capital, Gradient Ventures, Liquid 2, Founder Collective, Designer Fund, CEO of Kaggle,
{(§)} kubecost	Seed	Afore Capital, Unusual Ventures, Andrew Lee, etc.
(i) OPSTRACE	Seed	Kleiner Perkins, Liquid 2, Florian Leibert, etc.

Strong ecosystem relationships













































Fund Summary

Sector: Enterprise (Infrastructure, SaaS, AI/ML,

Cloud-native)

Stage: Pre-seed and Seed

Number of investments: 10-20

Investment period: 1-2 years

Check size: \$50-100K per company

Fund Terms

Size: 1M

GP Commit: \$30,000

Carry: 20%

Management fees: None*

Minimum investment: \$25,000

Back-office: Hosted on AngelList

^{*} Tim does not charge any management fees. AngelList charges 1% admin fee per year, for up to 10 years for fund administration services.

THANK YOU!



Summary: Collaboration for ML

Category: Machine learning (B2B)

Invested: Pre-seed @ 4m valuation, lead by Afore Capital

Valuation today: 18m (Seed), lead by True Ventures

Sourced: Inbound



Summary: Customer data management

Category: Data infrastructure (B2B)

Invested: Pre-seed @ 8m valuation, lead by Afore Capital. 2-3x

oversubscribed.

Sourced: Developer network



Summary: Monitoring / Logging at scale for Enterprises

Category: Monitoring (B2B)

Invested: Pre-seed @ 20m valuation, lead by Kleiner Perkins.

Highly competitive round that closed before YC demo day.

Sourced: Ex-colleagues at Mesosphere



Summary: HR recruiting automation

Category: HR (B2B)

Invested: Seed @ 10m valuation, lead by Signalfire. Hit 1m ARR

before round closed.

Valuation today: ~20m (Seed 2), lead by Signalfire. Hit 2m+ ARR

Sourced: Introduced by Iterative.ai founders

Appendix - Founder events

Create high quality founder events to help foster PNW startup community, and foster the culture of helping each other.

Example enterprise dinner includes:

Bessemer investor, CEO of Algorithmia, CEO of Togethar, CEO of Rubica, CEO of Hyperproof, ex-CEO of Glimpzit, CEO of Kaskada

