Martin Amps

Software Engineer

https://ma.rtin.so
m@rtin.so
+1 (650) 649-8789
linkedin.com/in/martinamps

Technical Skills

Coding

Full Stack Generalist. TS/JS, lua, PHP, python, java, SQL, terraform. Proficient in Bash, C#. Low level experience with C/++, x86 assembly

AI Engineering

Built multiple agents both with vision (playing poker or controlling ERPs via remote desktop) and CoT (generating websites or travel itineraries). Shipped several consumer apps

Attended many hackathons (eg AGI Hacker House, Llama, Nvidia, Cloudflare, Cerebras) & OAI Dev Day

Operations

Owned & operated high-availability infrastructure across cloud/native environments. DataDog Keynote Speaker & Ambassador. Deep expertise in observability platforms from nagios/munin to DataDog

Debugging

Pragmatic approach to identifying and solving problems quickly and efficiently. Extensive real world profiling and performance optimization experience and many years of oncall stories.

Additional Projects

COVID Volunteering (March 2020)

Founding Engineer or IC for findcovidtesting.com, c19coalition.com, projectn95.com, schoolclosures.org

ResistBot (Feb 2017 - 2020)

Founding Engineer working directly with Eric Ries to build an SMS/Fax bot, generating over $1M in revenue for Twilio. Enabled 6M+ users to find polling stations, send millions of letters to Congress

BandTogetherBayArea.org (Oct 2017)

Part of the tiger team to build site & comms to boost ticket sales for a Red Hot Chilli Peppers concert to raise funds for those in need following the bay area fires

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As a **zero-to-one entrepreneurial software engineer** with 15+ years of experience, I've scaled multiple products from prototype to millions of users. My journey spans from **founding engineer at YC-backed iCracked** to **founding Twilio's Developer Tools team** during Series E.

With deep technical expertise across the stack, I bring a rare blend of **rapid iterative product development and system-level optimization**—from launching net-new products with creative solutions to driving efficiency in complex systems (e.g., **optimizing >$7M/year in cloud costs at Stitch Fix**).

Today, my passion lies in **AI**. I'm actively building, learning, and engaging with the AI ecosystem through hackathons and community events. I'm excited to help shape the next generation of transformative companies.

Matrix Partners (Entrepreneur In Residence)   EB-1A | Austin | May 2023 — Present

`typescript` `llm observability` `ai gateways` `vision models` `evals` `rapid development`

- Built 6+ AI powered prototype apps while developing an LLM platform to improve DX, performance & agility
- Built and evaluated dozens of tools/frameworks/services including CrewAI, Langchain, Helicone, LiteLLM, Instructor, Braintrust, Cloudflare AI Gateway, Swarm, Groq, Cerebras, Fireworks, Modal
- Built a copilot that got featured by CB insights in their AI agents & copilots market map
- Advised founders, participated in pitches and office hours, and spoke at ~10 hackathons from SF to Tokyo.

Stitch Fix (Platform Architect)   EB-1A Greencard | Austin | Mar. 2021 — April 2023

`aws` `python` `postgres` `luajit` `react` `terraform` `ml ops` `experimentation`

- Boosted online algorithms cluster performance by 20% while cutting costs by 30%.
- Led cost-saving initiatives, reducing expenses by $650K/year through vendor consolidation and over $7M/year via platform optimizations
- Significantly enhanced observability of the platform adding automated instrumentation to hundreds of services
- Led large initiatives to modernize the algorithms platform and position it for future scale and agility

Twilio (Technical Lead)   O-1 Visa | San Francisco | Dec. 2015 — Mar. 2021

`aws` `java 8` `php 5.6` `luajit` `chef` `react` `elasticsearch` `kafka` `lambda` `openresty`

- Founding Engineer of the Runtime team, which repeatedly shipped flagship products at Twilio's Signal Conference, such as the API Explorer, TwiML Bins, Debugger, Functions & Assets
- Architected and drove the successful launch of our SaaS Contact Center platform Flex (patent: US 20190278589)
- Designed and implemented major parts of Twilio's Serverless stack (patent: US 10705864)
- Served as Tech Lead for launching NYC's contact tracing contact center
- Leader within Twilio's MySQL Guild working on Twilio's custom HA MySQL tooling for dozens of clusters
- Part of acquisition team focused on integration and customer migration for Sao Paolo based startup Teravoz

iCracked (YC W12) (CTO)   O-1 Visa | Redwood Shores | Oct. 2012 — Dec. 2015

`mariadb` `redis` `php 5.6` `hhvm` `sphinx` `aws` `twilio` `nagios` `munin`

- First in-house engineer, led the development of the world's first on-demand repair & buyback platforms. Responsible for 70% of codebase, including architecting and deploying entire infrastructure
- Key member shipping a hardware device to value devices instantly & prep for shipment (patent: US US20160034980 A1)
- Expanded the team 7x, played a crucial role in 3 rounds of funding (a16z, tenaya, sv angel), and grew the company internationally & in new verticals. Exited to Allstate Insurance

Five Media Marketing Ltd. (Lead Software Engineer)   Jan. 2011 — Oct. 2012

`nginx` `mysql` `php 5` `code igniter` `jquery` `javascript` `css3` `html5`

- Led major cloud sharing platform (Alexa top 1000) redesign while simplifying software stack and optimizing deployment strategy. Enhanced usability with drag & drop / copy & paste uploading (frontier webtech in the early 10s!)
- Worked on other services including an >95% automated captcha solver (for our visually impaired users), a new image sharing platform, and an ad optimization platform

TravelToro (Founding Engineer)   Part Time | Late 2010 – June 2017

`linux` `git` `apache` `mysql` `php 5` `memcache` `javascript` `jquery` `crawlers` `scrapers`

- Founding engineer, built a new travel aggregator for extreme sports, moved to advisory role in 2013
- Built parsers & crawlers to automatically and efficiently replicate content from a plethora of affiliates (viator etc)