

Evgenii Rodionov

Engineering Manager · Founder/CTO - Platform Engineering & Distributed Teams

Bali, Indonesia · Remote worldwide · Open to Relocation · GMT+8 (overlaps US PT mornings, EU afternoons)

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SUMMARY

Founder/CTO and engineering leader with 9+ years in high-throughput backend and platform engineering, leading distributed teams across multiple time zones. Currently founder/CTO of Anketta (anketta.app), a privacy-first text-first dating app with AI-driven semantic matching (embedding-based recommendations using positive/negative highlight signals). Built solo end-to-end - custom-trained ONNX document verification, saga/outbox event pipelines, real-time WebSockets, and a fully autonomous multi-agent Claude Code dev pipeline; live with first paying customers. Previously, as EM/Tech Lead, led ~16 engineers across 2 distributed teams via 2 team leads - facilitated a cross-team architectural alignment on a shared auth library across REST and GraphQL stacks, unifying both teams on a maintainable native-Nest.js implementation in ~2 weeks. Before that, 6 years at a Y Combinator-backed B2B SaaS (50+ engineer org, 8 teams) as team lead - surfaced a click-attribution bug in the credit-metering pipeline whose fix drove a ~30% revenue lift, and led a zero-downtime migration of the user-facing high-throughput event-tracking microservice. Seeking Engineering Manager, Tech Lead, or CTO roles at remote-first companies building distributed systems at scale.

SKILLS

Leadership & Engineering Practices: Engineering management (EM), technical leadership, distributed-team leadership (multi-time-zone), hiring & interviewing, mentorship & coaching, cross-functional partnership (Product, Sales/CS, executive), architectural facilitation & cross-team alignment, system design, distributed systems patterns (saga, transactional outbox, event-driven), RFC authoring & review, on-call ownership, incident response & Site Reliability Engineering (SRE) practices, zero-downtime migrations; async-first communication tooling (Slack, Linear, Notion, Loom)

Backend & APIs: TypeScript, Node.js, Nest.js, Bun.js, Elysia, REST, GraphQL (native Nest.js), WebSockets, Server-Sent Events (SSE), microservices, monorepos

Infrastructure & Platform: Kubernetes (k8s), Helm, Flux, Flagger, GitOps, GitLab CI/CD, Terraform, Ansible, SOPS + age (secrets), Docker, feature flags, canary releases, reverse proxy (Traefik)

Cloud & Networking: Yandex Cloud, Selectel, AWS Cloud Practitioner (in progress), Cloudflare (DNS, CDN, edge), object storage (S3-compatible / Yandex S3), VPS provisioning, DNS management

Data & Messaging: PostgreSQL, Drizzle ORM, Prisma, TypeORM, pgvector, pgbouncer, CloudNativePG (CNPG), Redis, Kafka, RabbitMQ, BullMQ, Cassandra, Hive, Elasticsearch, Hadoop

Observability: OpenTelemetry, Grafana, Prometheus, PostHog, Sentry

Frontend: React, Next.js, Tailwind CSS, shadcn/ui, styled-components, Redux

Testing & Quality: Jest, Playwright, Mocha, Chai

AI / Machine Learning: Computer vision, OCR (Tesseract; custom MRZ & zone recognition), document/identity verification (passport / driving license), custom ONNX model training & deployment, training-data labeling pipelines, recommendation systems (embedding-based semantic matching with positive/negative feedback signals), AI content moderation pipelines (cascaded inference: regex → embedding nearest-neighbor → LLM, with cost-tier gating, model evaluation, and circuit breakers), PII detection & redaction, self-hosted LLM inference (privacy-first), vector embeddings (pgvector), multi-agent AI workflows

Security & Auth: WebAuthn / Passkeys, IP tracking & fingerprinting

AI-Assisted Development: Claude Code, Cursor, n8n; team prompt/CLAUDE.md conventions, AI-assisted code review and delivery workflows

EXPERIENCE

Anketta - Founder & CTO

2025 – Present · Bali, Indonesia / Remote · anketta.app

- Built and shipped Anketta - privacy-first text-first dating app with AI-driven semantic matching - solo from zero to live with first paying customers in ~3 months on a subscription model; sole owner of product, business, and engineering decisions.
- Operate the full business loop solo: customer support, billing/Stripe, content moderation triage, growth experiments, and product roadmap - informed by PostHog event analytics and direct user feedback.
- Architected and operate the production platform solo: 8 backend microservices (Bun.js + Elysia + Drizzle ORM) and 2 frontend apps (Next.js + React) on HA Kubernetes with GitOps (Flux), Flagger canary releases, Traefik, and SOPS+age secrets - sustaining 99.5% availability (14-day rolling) and 15–20 deploys/day. Kafka event pipelines with transactional outbox + saga orchestration for offline-user consistency; WebSocket real-time chat and feed events; observability and analytics via PostHog.

- Chose self-hosted bge-m3 (1024-dim, multilingual) over OpenAI's embeddings API for privacy and multilingual reach; engineered the recommendation engine over user-written manuscripts, with positive/negative highlight signals (text users mark as resonant or cross out as off-key) reshaping the matching feed in real time. All embeddings computed and stored locally in pgvector - user data never leaves the platform.
- Designed and shipped a privacy-first cascaded content moderation pipeline (regex → Xenova/multilingual-e5-small embedding nearest-neighbor → self-hosted + OpenRouter LLMs) with cost-tier gating, model evaluation, and circuit breakers - separate stages for community-norms enforcement (PII redaction, underage signals, guideline violations) and recommendation-feature embedding extraction.
- Designed and operate a fully autonomous multi-agent Claude Code dev pipeline (code → tests → docs → atomic commit → MR description) - codified as the engineering practice I would scale to a hired team for compounding velocity.

Business Aviation / Private Jet SaaS (RusJet) - Engineering Manager / Tech Lead

2025 (6 months) · Moscow / Remote

- Facilitated a cross-team architectural dispute spanning 2 distributed teams (~16 engineers via 2 team leads): Team A used native REST decorators on a shared Nest.js auth library, but Team B's non-native GraphQL implementation blocked clean integration and threatened to fork into parallel auth implementations diverging in maintenance and security posture. Reframed the dispute around shared-library maintenance cost and reuse rather than tech-stack preference, and brokered a compromise - Team B preserved GraphQL but migrated to the native Nest.js library - unifying both teams on a single auth surface in ~2 weeks.
- As Engineering Manager / Tech Lead, made both teams' production systems more resilient and operationally consistent across the Nest.js + Next.js stack - rolled out OpenTelemetry/Grafana/Prometheus across both teams' services so on-call engineers could trace incidents across team boundaries instead of inside team-level silos; introduced idempotency, retry/backoff, and dead-letter queue conventions on Kafka so cross-team event flows handled failures predictably; reviewed architectural RFCs from both team leads to prevent stack divergence, while remaining hands-on and personally shipping production features alongside IC engineers.

Y Combinator-backed B2B SaaS (TrendMD) - Senior Software Engineer → Team Lead

2019 – 2025 · San Francisco Bay Area / Remote · 50+ engineer org across 8 teams

- Spotted a long-standing click-attribution bug in the credit-metering pipeline - the event tracker only registered left-clicks, missing middle-click and context-menu opens, common interactions on recommendation widgets. Raised it to the EM; while the team debated whether the behavior was intentional, instrumented traces and logs in production to settle the question, measuring +30% additional engagement traffic going untracked relative to current totals. Architected and shipped the fix; the lift was captured into prepaid customer credit consumption (real revenue) with no customer-side price change.
- Led a zero-downtime migration of the user-facing high-throughput event-tracking microservice (the click/impression tracker feeding credit-metering) from a legacy Node service to a refactored TypeScript/Node.js implementation - partnered across teams on the design, ran a gradual percentage-based cutover with full LB-layer rollback on error-budget breach, shipped without customer-visible incidents.
- Drove an org-wide migration of distributed microservices into a Nest.js monorepo across 8 teams - replacing fragmented stacks (mixed Meteor/Hapi/Express, mixed Node versions, mixed test setups) with one consistent foundation. Authored the migration Architecture Decision Record (ADR) and aligned 8 team leads via internal memos for async review - reducing on-call burden as engineers stopped inheriting unfamiliar legacy stacks on quarterly rotation.
- Stretched into running both my team and a peer team (~16 engineers) for ~3–6 months after the peer team lead was let go - kept both teams shipping, took over their on-call rotation, and ran regular 1:1s with each engineer (biweekly default; weekly for those needing more support); brokered scope between CEO and engineering when mid-sprint asks arrived, routing strategic requests into the next planning cycle to protect commitment integrity and morale.
- Identified underperformance early via team-velocity and burndown signals; ran private, non-accusatory root-cause 1:1s; set written expectations and offered coaching plus paid time off for personal recovery; documented for HR when formal action was needed. Conducted performance and salary evaluations with growth-path recommendations for engineers on my team.

EDUCATION

Bachelor's in Computer Science · Moscow Power Engineering Institute (Technical University · MPEI) · 2017

LANGUAGES

English (Professional Working Proficiency · C1) · Russian (Native)