

Avi Zurlo

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Experience

NIL FOUNDATION

Remote

CPO, CEO

November 2023 – April 2025

- Led a 60-person global team through CEO transition while maintaining research and engineering execution momentum including a [novel ZK proof system](#), [cryptographic compiler](#) (Rust/C++ to algebraic circuits), and [high-performance Ethereum L2 blockchain](#).
- Built and scaled an ecosystem of 50+ developer partners over six months; sourced opportunities, collected product feedback, negotiated contracts, and drove adoption leading into product launches.

DRZ CAPITAL

New York, NY

Founder & Partner

August 2025 – Present

- Led investment due diligence and operations of fund manager backed by \$100M+ family office; executed \$12.5M SPV in Apptronik. Other robotics investments include DYNA and RoboStrategy.
- Built operational insight into the robotics sector through dozens of meetings with robotics founders, facility tours at four major N.A. labs, and an expert network of researchers, hardware specialists, and major customers.

DELPHI DIGITAL

Remote

Analyst, Associate

February 2021 – December 2023

- Early-stage venture investing focused on blockchain and AI companies; top performing non-Partner investor by deal volume (24), principal invested (\$20M+), and portfolio ROI (4.5x).
- Self-started systematic venture portfolio reviews and thesis formation process to inform fund-wide deployment strategies and risk management; owned blockchain infrastructure and AI theses.

PARIVEDA SOLUTIONS

New York, NY

Software Consultant

September 2020 – May 2021

- Built and deployed full-stack web applications (MongoDB, Express, Angular, Node.js) for enterprise clients; worked directly with engineers in fast-paced, iterative development cycles.

SERVICE WORK

Boston, MA & New York, NY

Hourly Worker

2008 – 2020

- Began seasonal work at age 12 shoveling snow, landed first year-round hourly job at 14, maintained part-time to full-time positions through university, including: ice cream scooper, demolition laborer, bagel maker, baby-sitter, camp counselor, barista, barback, bartender, fitness instructor, recruiter, and bicycle mechanic.

Education

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY

New York, NY

Chemical & Biomolecular Engineering, B.S.

Spring 2020

- Computer Science Tutor (Python, MatLab)
- Research: Computer vision for agriculture robotics (FarmBytes, Urban Food Lab)

Technical Skills

- Claude :)

Interests

- Training for full Ironman (completed 3x 70.3, 1x Marathon)
- Favorite book: *When We Cease to Understand the World* by Benjamin Labatut
- Maintaining coffee ratings across 75+ specialty coffee shops globally