

LUCAS CHAUFOURNIER

SENIOR SOFTWARE ENGINEER, BACKEND & PLATFORM

PROFILE

Senior backend engineer with 8+ years of experience building high-scale commerce and platform systems powering real customer experiences. At Block (Square), led backend infrastructure supporting restaurant merchants and menu systems, contributing to \$300M+ in incremental GPV. Experienced designing distributed systems, APIs, and internal platforms used by hundreds of engineers. Strong collaborator with product, design, and data teams to deliver reliable systems that support complex marketplaces and merchant operations.

EXPERIENCE

2022- 2026 Block • Seattle, WA

Senior Software Engineer

- Senior Software Engineer on the menus squad and the back office server team.
- Led the design and rollout of **large-scale merchant menu migration pipelines**, enabling restaurants to adopt Square's next-generation menu platform and contributing to **\$300M+ in incremental GPV**.
- Designed and evolved merchant **menu management APIs** powering catalog operations across Square for Restaurants, improving reliability and developer experience for high-volume menu updates.
- Built **Merchant Factory**, an internal platform for generating production-like merchant environments in staging, now used by **hundreds of engineers** monthly to accelerate development and testing.
- Developed **payment reporting infrastructure** using Elastigraph supporting merchant analytics, compliance workflows, and financial reporting across restaurant merchants.
- Partnered closely with **product managers, designers, and infrastructure teams** to deliver merchant-facing backend systems used by thousands of restaurants.
- Mentored 2 junior engineers, supporting system design reviews and contributing to the successful promotion of one engineer.

2019 - 21 Capital One • Washington, D.C.

Senior Software Engineer

- Designed backend APIs for secrets management services built on HashiCorp Vault, enabling secure credential access for internal engineering teams.
- Operated and scaled high-availability Vault infrastructure on AWS, supporting secure authentication workflows across multiple internal platforms.
- Participated in incident response and reliability improvements for a mission-critical security platform used across Capital One engineering teams.

2020-21 George Washington University • Washington, DC

Adjunct Faculty

- Taught Database Systems and Advanced Networking & Distributed Systems courses
- Mentored students on large scale system design and team based software projects.

2017-19 Veeva Inc. • New York, NY

Backend Engineer

- Built backend cloud services in Go supporting distributed edge devices and remote device management.
- Led design of Veeva's developer ecosystem, improving the developer onboarding experience.
- Built customer-facing demo applications showcasing edge computing capabilities.
- Prototyped and implemented computer vision demos running on edge hardware.
- Delivered internal education and documentation for teams working with Veeva devices.

2017-19 UMass Amherst • Amherst, MA

Graduate Research Assistant in Distributed Systems

- Evaluated the performance of hardware and operating system virtualization platforms at scale.
- Researched multi-path networking protocols in data center and edge environments.
- Built large-scale data visualizations for distributed system debugging and analysis.

EDUCATION

2015 - 2018 Umass Amherst
Master of Computer Science

2011 - 2015 The George Washington University
Bachelor of Computer Science

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- **Languages:** Kotlin, Java, Go, Node.js, Python, Ruby, Flutter
- **Infrastructure:** AWS, Docker, Kubernetes, HashiCorp Vault and Terraform, Google Cloud, Supabase
- **Architecture:** Microservices, Distributed Systems, REST APIs, GraphQL, Kafka
- **Data & Messaging:** Event-driven systems, data pipelines
- **Developer Tools:** Claude Code, Goose, Cursor, ChatGPT

LEADERSHIP & MENTORSHIP

Seattle Social Club (Nonprofit) – Founder & Organizer | 2022 - Present

- Founded and scaled a Seattle-based nonprofit focused on reducing loneliness through curated social and dating events, growing from a solo effort to a **5-person board of directors**.
- Produced **62 sold-out events serving 3,398+ attendees**, growing a community of **1,062 newsletter subscribers and 6,300+ Instagram followers**.
- Built multiple full-stack applications supporting event operations, including attendee networking tools and logistics platforms.
- Lead product strategy, technical architecture, and operational execution.

Technical Mentorship

- Mentored **2 junior engineers at Block** on system design, backend architecture, and engineering execution, contributing to the successful promotion of one mentee.
- Served as industry mentor for **3 senior capstone teams (12 students)** at George Washington University, guiding architecture decisions, code reviews, and delivery planning to mirror real-world engineering practices.
- Regularly reviewed technical designs and unblocked complex implementation challenges, improving team velocity and software quality across multiple projects.

PUBLICATIONS

- Performance Evaluation of Multi-Path TCP For Data Center and Cloud Workloads. ICPE 2019.
- Fast Transparent Virtual Machine Migration in Distributed Edge Clouds. ACM/IEEE SEC 2017.
- Containers and Virtual Machines at Scale: A Comparative Study. ACM Middleware 2016.