Othar Hansson, Ph.D.

RELEVANT SKILLS

• **Technical Expertise.** Software design and development, artificial intelligence, statistics, optimization. Creative but practical system-builder with a strong research background and tremendous product focus.
• **Collaborative design and decision-making.** As an outside consultant, I have guided numerous teams through difficult decisions, design projects and reengineering efforts. I have served as the technical lead in numerous product efforts.
• **Public speaking, training and presentations.** Taught 5 courses at USC, UCLA, UC Berkeley and industry sites. Effective and passionate advocate. Author of numerous technical publications.
• **Project Management.** Responsible for all aspects of management (budgeting, proposals, legal, accounting, taxes, employment, etc.) for numerous research contracts and industry consulting projects.
• **Intangibles.** I bring warmth, humor, understanding and fun to every project team I work with.
I am a quick study, but I respect and leverage the experience of others on my team.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

1989-present: software and venture development consultant
Since 1995, I have worked as Managing Director and CFO at Thinkbank, Inc. in Berkeley. Prior to that I worked since 1989 at Thinkbank's predecessor, Heuristicrats Research Inc. In these small software consulting and venture development firms, I have shared responsibility for all aspects of management, sales and engineering. Typical projects fall in a few categories:

- **Product design leadership.** With startups like Enviz, TimeDance and WR Hambrecht, led development of the initial product line. As a consultant, I worked with founders, initial employees, and customers to develop first-of-their kind products under tight schedules and budget constraints. My most recent startup was Enviz: I led development of Enviz Insight's Collection Server from initial design to version 2.0. Managed improvements to Enviz' VizScript data analysis language, including the addition of data-mining operations. Consulted with sales staff and assisted in technical sales efforts as one of Enviz Insight's architects. Consulted with Keynote Systems after they acquired Enviz.
- **Analysis of complex systems.** As a consultant, worked with teams to analyze and improve performance of complex software products. Consultant to Apple computer on performance of webserver products. Consultant to NASA on technology strategy and program planning for earth science models (e.g., weather-prediction) and space exploration (e.g., 2009 Mars Science Lab mission).
- **Analysis of startup teams**. Technical due diligence assignments for JP Morgan Partners, Summit Accelerator Fund, US Venture Partners and individual investors. Visited companies, conducted interviews and technical reviews, reported back to board members and/or potential investors.
- **Innovative research**. Integration Lead on the Radar "personal assistant that learns" project at CMU/SRI (funded by DARPA). Advisor for the Deep Space One planning/scheduling system, part of the first spacecraft controlled by AI planning technology. Principal Investigator on two major research projects to develop advanced scheduling algorithms and software (the basis of my Berkeley dissertation).

1999-2001: technology innovation in investment banking
One of Thinkbank's most successful projects led to WR Hambrecht + Co, the San Francisco investment bank, hiring all of Thinkbank to develop a range of securities auctions. I joined as Principal Developer and was promoted to Managing Director and member of the management committee. Our team was responsible for the design, development and operations of WRH's online securities auctions (OpenIPO, OpenBook, OpenFollowOn, and custom systems for partners such as Freddie Mac). We worked with everyone from customers to the SEC to design these systems to meet regulatory and market constraints.

EDUCATION

9/89 - 12/98 **University of California**, Berkeley. *PhD* in Computer Science. Thesis title: *Bayesian Problem-Solving Applied to Scheduling*. Thesis research concerned application of statistics and decision-theoretic search control to constraint-satisfaction and scheduling problems, include NASA science planning problems. Advisor: Stuart Russell.
9/86 - 6/89 **University of California**, Los Angeles, California. *MS* in Computer Science. Minors in graph algorithms and linguistics. Advisor: Rich Korf.
9/83 - 12/85 **Columbia College in the City of New York**, New York, New York. *BA* in English Literature and Computer Science. Graduated in 2.5 years. Research advisors: Moti Yung and Zvi Galil.

PATENTS & AWARDS

Scholarships: Shell Foundation Fellow, UC Berkeley. University Fellow and RAND Corporation Fellow, UCLA. John Jay Scholar and National Merit Scholar, Columbia.
US Patent 6,629,082: Auction system and method for pricing and allocation during capital formation.
William R. Hambrecht, Othar Hansson, Jordan Hayes, Alan Katz, Charles Ocheret and Matt Regan.
NASA Awards: Group Achievement Award (Deep Space One Project Flight Software Team) from the NASA Administrator, 1999. Two Certificates of Recognition (for DS1 On-Board Planner and Scheduler) from Inventions & Contributions Board, 1997.

RESEARCH GRANTS & CONTRACTS

2004-present Integration Lead, "Radar: a Personal Assistant that Learns," SRI/CMU/IET/Thinkbank. DARPA.
1996-1998 Principal Investigator, "Reusable Software Components For Science Planning And Spacecraft Sequencing," National Aeronautics and Space Administration.
1996 Project Manager, "A Probability Network Methodology For Developing Analysis Tools For Science Mission Data Libraries" National Aeronautics and Space Administration.
1996 Project Manager,"A Probability Network Language for Machine Learning and Knowledge Discovery Applications," National Science Foundation.
1991-1994 Principal Investigator, "Decision-Theoretic Control of Artificial Intelligence Scheduling Systems," National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

UCLA Extension: instructor for Introductory AI and an advanced course in Search & Problem Solving (several quarters, on-campus and on-site, 1986-1989).
USC: visiting instructor for graduate AI course in EE dept, 1989.
UC Berkeley: visiting instructor for Introduction to AI (CS188), 1997.
Teaching Assistant for over a dozen courses including Artificial Intelligence, Expert Systems, Search & Problem Solving, Finite Mathematics, Discrete Mathematics, Data Structures & Algorithms, Computability & Formal Languages, and Digital Design.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Program committee member: AAAI-94, UAI-96, UAI-97, UAI-98, IJCAI-99.
Reviewer for NSF, Journal of Algorithms, Journal of AI Research, Artificial Intelligence, Communications of the ACM, International Journal of Forecasting, IEEE SMC, IEEE TKDE, Statistics and Computing, Control-Theory and Advanced Technology, many conferences, and various edited volumes.
University: Co-founder, Philolexian Debate Society at Columbia; Announcer and Scriptwriter, Columbia Marching Band; Graduate Student Representative, UCLA;
Community: Kara (Palo Alto nonprofit grief counseling organization) - board member, treasurer, Community Outreach/Response team volunteer, Youth and Families Grief Program facilitator.

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