

Hong Kong Startup arbitAI Recruits Ex Sberbank Engineer As Chief Technology Officer (CTO)



Hong Kong, Sep 11, 2020 ([Issuewire.com](https://www.issuewire.com)) - arbitAI, a new Hong Kong firm specialising in deep learning technologies and neural networks, has hired Oliviu Chivu as chief technology officer.

Prior to joining [the tech startup](#), Chivu worked with Russia's largest bank Sberbank, where he collaborated with GridGain, a US consultancy that offers in-memory computing services for big-data systems.

With Chivu's help, Sberbank was an early adopter of GridGain's new database technology, enabling it to process an almost unimaginable volume of a claimed one billion transactions per second on computer hardware said to have cost only US\$25,000.

At arbitAI, claims Chivu, "the use of a RAM-based in-memory computing solution will decrease costs while drastically improving performance and scalability". His vast experience, says Ionut Sarbulescu, co-founder and [chief executive officer of arbitAI](#), "is a crucial advantage for us in reducing latency, thereby improving the speed and efficiency of our algorithms".

Before Sberbank, Chivu worked in a similar role in the Singapore office of Virtu Financial, a leading electronic market-maker and HFT firm head-quartered in New York.

HFT firms like Virtu Financial employ sophisticated machine-learning algorithms to seek differences between the various trading prices quoted for listed securities among different market participants. Then, HFT firms buy and sell those securities in a matter of fractions of seconds, securing a small profit.

Since the price differences are typically very small and exist only briefly, traders need to act upon them within milliseconds. That time difference between the discovery of a pricing anomaly and the execution of trade is known as latency. HFT practitioners go to great lengths - and, often, spend millions of dollars - to reduce that difference and, thereby, increase their profits.

Chivu's main achievement at Virtu Financial was the implementation, and then further development, of the firm's low-latency trading infrastructure.

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