Prajna Kandarpa (pra-gnya)

Engineering Management | Full Stack Dev | Cloud Ops | Data Science

https://prajis.me

♥ Hyderabad, India

Engineering Director with expertise in engineering leadership, people management, full stack software development, product management, technical recruiting, and machine learning.

Early/founding employee at multiple venture and accelerator funded startups and have work experience in the USA, Canada, and India. My experience spans companies doing manufacturing IOT analytics and machine learning (Acerta Systems Analytics, Muse Wearables) and most recently, have built and managed large teams working on enterprise AI platforms (CognitiveScale, Inc).

Do you need a capable engineering leader that can build and manage teams which turn ideas dependent on machine learning or data into software products that can scale to millions of users? Let's talk! Setup some time on my Calendly



WORK EXPERIENCE

December 2022 December 2020

Director of Engineering, CognitiveScale, Inc, Hyderabad, India

- > Managed and led the Engineering and QA, (briefly, SRE) teams for the India division of CognitiveScale,
- > Mentor and guide all engineers (14 direct, 6 indirect reports) with their career goals, technical objectives and personal growth through regular bi-weekly 1:1s
- > Determine product development priorities, plan development timelines along with Chief Engineers and VPs from the Austin, TX HQ for Cortex Certifai and Cortex Fabric
- > Work closely with partners, RedHat, AWS, GCP, and Azure to ensure our product is available on all major cloud marketplaces
- > Manage all hiring related activities for the Product Engineering team including hiring policies, interview guidelines, candidate selection, and new employee onboarding
- > Work closely with the GM and MD in India to determine Company policies, design company culture and fit guidelines and generally ensure employee retention and satisfaction

Kubernetes | CI/CD | DevOps | AWS | Azure | Google Cloud | Redhat OpenShift | Product Roadmaps | Machine Learning | People Management | Mentoring | Technical Hiring | Project Management

November 2020 November 2018

Sr. Technical Lead, CognitiveScale, Inc, Hyderabad, India

- > Help customers integrate their models into Cortex Certifai to determine AI business risk wrt to bias, fairness, explainability, robustness, and regulatory compliance measures
- > Instrumented conversational bots with Natural Language Understanding and Dialogue prediction
- > Designed and managed development for a proprietary data labelling and annotation tool for NLP applications

Python | Docker | Product Roadmaps | Machine Learning | Deployment Automation | Natural Language Processing Anomaly Detection

November 2018 April 2018

Vice President - Software, Muse Wearables, Bangalore, India

- > Recruited and formed the entire software team including Front-end Engineers, Backend Engineers and Android/iOS engineers.
- > Collaborated with the Product head to develop UI/UX ideas, feature development and market re-
- > Helped optimise our crowdfunding campaigns and secured over \$140,000 worth of pre-orders for our hybrid smartwatches
- > Designed and lead the development of a bot based user coaching/engagement platform for personal health, fitness and finance

Product Development | Natural language Processing | NFC Payments | Mobile Apps | Leadership | Backend Development

April 2018 April 2017

Senior Software Engineer, CognitiveScale, Inc, Hyderabad, India

- > Developed user interfaces for visualising the business impact of our machine learning enabled solutions on client usecases
- > Architected backend stacks to scale to hundreds of thousands of users MongoDB | PostgreSQL | Python | Java | Scala | Docker | Rancher | React.js | Node.js | ES6

June - Dec 2016

Full Stack Engineer, ACERTA SYSTEMS ANALYTICS, Waterloo, Canada

July - Dec 2015

> Designed and built web apps, backend services, machine learning models and data processing pipelines during a 14 month stint as **Employee #1**

> Worked in Javascript, Python (scikit-learn), R(stats, dplyr), Go(fasthttp)

Data Science R Automotive Aeronautical Industrial Monitoring

January 2015

Diagnostics Engineering Intern | Manufacturing Automation | Hardware Diagnostics, ARISTA NETWORKS, Santa Clara, California

May 2014

> Created software based hardware test automation of a new gigabit ethernet switch and collaborated with Hardware, Software and Bootloader teams

Python C Linux PCB Bringup Hardware testing

COMPETENCIES

People Management Mentorship, Career Guidance, Hiring, Goal Setting

Product Development Technical Architecture, UX Wireframing, Product Roadmaps, Project Management

Technical Management Jira, Asana, Confluence, Gliffy, Trello Programming Python, Javascript, R, Go, Java, C

Platforms Docker, Kubernetes, GoCD

Cloud Ops AWS, Azure, Rancher, Google Cloud

Databases MySQL, PostgreSQL, mongoDB, Redis, Hadoop, Hive, ElasticSearch

Development Tools Emacs, vim, Visual Studio Code, IntelliJ Idea, npm, git, RStudio, Android Studio, XCode

Operating Systems Mac OS X, Linux, iOS, Android

66 REFERENCES

Pankaj Vaish

Managing Director
COGNITIVESCALE INDIA

Steve Teleki

VP - Software Product Engineering COGNITIVESCALE, INC. USA

EDUCATION

2010-2016 Bachelor of Appplied Science in Mechatronics Engineering (Hons.), University of Waterloo, Canada

2010 International Undergraduate Scholarship, Faculty of Engineering, University of Waterloo

LANGUAGES



 English
 ● ● ● ●

 Telugu
 ● ● ● ●

 Hindi
 ● ● ● ○

 French
 ● ○ ○

Gym
Boxing
Table Tennis
Badminton

PROJECTS

Talon Drone Deliveries 2015-2016

https://talonco.github.io

An add-on kit for delivery trucks that enables drone deliveries without massive capital requirements. Responsible for Radio communications, flight controller tuning and route planning backend

Drone Flight Control ArduPilot Raspberry Pi Computer Vision

CROP YIELD PREDICTION FEB - MAR 2016

Link to paper

Evaluated multiple machine learning models including SVM, Neural nets and Random Forests to predict crop yields in India from a dataset containing meteorological and geographical features

MT_FX R Data Science Time Series Predictions