

Praveen Penumaka

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

With over 14 years of experience in the software industry, including roles as Head of Technology and Chief Technology Officer, I am a hands-on full-stack and backend engineer and engineering leader. I build reliable, scalable backend services and distributed systems, from Amazon and GoJek to early-stage startups, working mainly in Python, Django, Go and TypeScript on AWS and GCP. I take end-to-end ownership of products, from architecture and technical roadmap to delivery and maintenance, and have delivered over 30 consumer-facing applications. My recent work focuses on computer vision and 3D reconstruction with Gaussian splatting. I am known for my strong communication and leadership skills, including hiring, mentoring and building teams that achieve exceptional results.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Senior Consulting Developer

Feb 2024 - Present

Abolyn • Hyderabad

- Working with the founder to ideate and develop a minimal viable product. Part of this MVP was developing an AI-based product filtering engine.
- Developing a workflow powered by AI and Selenium for getting the quotes from various instant quote providers to get a unified view

Head of Technology

May 2022 - Jan 2024

Swadesh (Greentiger AI) • San Francisco

- Spearheaded a cross-functional team of 4 engineers to design, develop, and deploy a Neobank mobile application within 3 months, targeting immigrants from India to the US. Successfully launched it in time to capture the targeted seasonal customer base. Oversaw the integration with an international remittance partner, facilitating \$100k in transactions within 2 weeks of launch.
- Led the re-architecture of the Python backend to support integration with multiple banking providers. Worked closely with external teams on regulatory compliance, enabling seamless provider switching, and hence improving leverage for the negotiation of financial terms.
- Set the technical strategy and product roadmap with the founders. Hired and mentored engineers and ran code reviews.

Senior Software Developer

Jul 2021 - Feb 2022

AtoB • Hyderabad, India

- Architected a robust data workflow system to gather and process data from multiple providers. I have implemented a scalable data ingestion pipeline in Python on AWS Lambda, with automated tests, enabling seamless integration and real-time processing. This has let us set up a completely new stream of revenue for the startup via new features to the product.
- Hired and mentored engineers and ran code reviews.

Engineering Manager

Jan 2019 - Jul 2021

GoJek • Bangalore, India

- As a product engineer at GoJek, I worked in a Marketplace team that handles matchmaking, pricing, and incentives. I majorly worked on a pricing service, built in Go and running on Kubernetes on GCP, that handles both rule-based prices and dynamic prices (surge). I have worked on launching the surge pricing for a new country which led to increased revenue from that region.
- Spearheaded the deployment of a machine learning-based service for demand forecasting. Collaborated closely with data scientists to integrate feature engineering and model training into a high-throughput service. The system was optimized for real-time decision-making with minimal latency. The deployment of this service resulted in savings of \$3 million per quarter.
- Led the productization and modularization of internal API services within the organization. Streamlined the existing API ecosystem by centralizing redundant services and building reusable modules that could be easily integrated across teams, reducing development time for new features.
- Hired and mentored engineers, ran code reviews, and maintained automated tests and monitoring for the team's distributed systems.

Co-Founder & CTO

Apr 2016 - Jan 2019

CreativeMindz • Hyderabad, India

- Co-founded CreativeMindz, a services startup focused on bridging the gap between industry-standard technologies and cutting-edge solutions. Managed client negotiations, onboarding, and technical delivery for high-profile clients. Owned the entire hiring pipeline and was responsible for growing the company to 75 employees at its peak. Mentored engineers, ran code reviews, and set the technical strategy and roadmap for client projects. Delivered a complex platform for an MNC client within 3 months, which became the backbone for multiple business initiatives. Under my leadership, the company generated over \$100k in monthly revenue, with the flagship project being the successful delivery of the Pizza Hut MENA application.

Head of Technology

Feb 2015 - Feb 2016

Prototyze • Goa, India

- Managed a large team of 40 developers to build products from scratch, which led to the incubation and launch of multiple startups under the Prototyze umbrella. Set the technical strategy for each product and collaborated with founders, investors, and business teams to ensure that each product aligned with market demands and was ready for funding rounds. Successfully raised funding for 3 startups based on the products developed by my team, providing the necessary financial backing to scale these businesses.

Software Development Engineer

Mar 2012 - Aug 2013

Amazon • Hyderabad, India

- As part of the "Listmania" team, developed a high-throughput microservice that managed user-curated product lists displayed on product details pages. The service was designed to handle large volumes of traffic and provide near-instantaneous responses for a seamless customer experience. The service contributed to enhancing customer engagement by allowing users to easily discover curated product recommendations, which indirectly influenced purchasing behavior.
- Developed a mission-critical KYC service for EU-based Amazon sellers during the registration process. The service was built with high availability and fault tolerance, ensuring compliance with regulatory requirements and providing a smooth seller onboarding experience. This KYC solution enabled Amazon to efficiently handle the complex process of verifying EU sellers, ensuring legal compliance while minimizing onboarding friction.

Associate Engineer

Jun 2010 - Oct 2011

Kony Labs • Hyderabad, India

- Served as the sole developer responsible for the Toyota Shopping Mobile Application, which targeted iOS, Android, and Blackberry platforms. Led the development of key features, including QR code scanning and Augmented Reality SDK integration, while also ensuring the maintenance and stability of the app. Delivered a seamless cross-platform experience for Toyota customers, improving engagement through innovative features like QR code scanning and AR-based interactions.

PROJECTS

Studio3D (GS) | Jul 2025 - Dec 2025

Python, Flutter, Django REST Framework, Celery, Redis, Docker, COLMAP, OpenSplat, Firebase Auth, Nginx

- Owned Studio3D end to end as the only engineer (97 commits): a computer vision platform that turns photos and videos into 3D Gaussian Splatting models, using 3D reconstruction / photogrammetry with COLMAP. Flutter app for capture and viewing, Django REST API, Firebase for authentication and Nginx in front.
- Built an asynchronous job queue (Celery + Redis) for long-running GPU training jobs, with separate Docker workers for COLMAP, video processing, splat training on GPU and the web viewer. The public beta is live as a subscription with usage limits, project status tracking with ETAs, and downloadable models.

Gausstream | In progress

- Building a system that streams level-of-detail (LOD) Gaussian splats to a viewer for display, so large scenes load progressively instead of all at once.

returnman (RMS) | May 2026 - Jul 2026

TypeScript, pnpm + Nx monorepo, Astro, Hono, Drizzle ORM, PostgreSQL, Inngest, Docker, Caddy, GitHub Actions

- Started an early-stage, multi-tenant return and exchange platform for Shopify merchants, with a customer portal, merchant dashboard and admin dashboard in Astro, backed by a Hono REST API. Designed the multi-tenant PostgreSQL schema.
- Set up Shopify OAuth per tenant and store, Inngest workflows, vendor adapters for WhatsApp, Unicommerce and ClickPost, and CI/CD with GitHub Actions, including database migrations.

Personal Finance Tracker | Feb 2026

Python 3.12, uv, SQLite, Ollama (llama3.2)

- Local-first tool that reads an email export (mbox), uses a local LLM to classify financial emails and extract transactions, and stores them in SQLite.
- Generates an offline HTML dashboard of spending by category and over time. No email or financial data leaves the machine. Open source on GitHub.

Mahabharatha Game | In progress

- Developing a 2D game set in Mahabharatha mythology, using AI-driven workflows for asset creation.

Personal CRM | In progress

- Building a CRM for managing personal contacts.

The Forge Sauna (forgesauna.ca) | May 2026 - Aug 2026

HTML, CSS, JavaScript, YAML site config, Cloudflare Workers, SignStack

- Co-built the website for a mobile wood-fired sauna rental business in St. John's, Canada: config-driven static site, rental booking forms on a Cloudflare Workers API, admin page with SignStack e-signature status, waiver pages with QR codes, JSON-LD and Open Graph metadata.

V-Organize (v-organize.co) | Jul 2026 - Oct 2026

HTML, CSS, JavaScript, Cloudflare Workers, JSON-LD, Microsoft Clarity

- Built the website for a home organizing service in Hyderabad: multi-page static site on Cloudflare with on-site SEO (meta tags, Open Graph, JSON-LD, sitemap), a local landing page, WhatsApp booking links and Clarity analytics.

numpygo | 2020

Go

- NumPy-style n-dimensional array library written in Go as a learning project. 44 stars on GitHub.

OPEN SOURCE CONTRIBUTIONS

playcanvas/splat-transform | 2025

- Gaussian splat processing CLI. Merged PR #29 adding standalone HTML viewer output from .ply files with camera and target options, and merged PR #65 adding box and sphere filtering of Gaussians. Also proposed Flash K-Means GPU clustering for splat compression (#186).

google/built_value.dart | 2023

- Merged PR #1228 adding a Uint8List serializer using base64.

WebODM/OpenSplat | 2025

- Proposed Python bindings (#189) and an official Docker image (#196).

MrNeRF/LichtFeld-Studio | 2026

- Proposed Flash K-Means integration (#1042).

COMMUNITY

Friends of AI | Founder and Organizer | Mar 2026 - Present

- Founded and run a community of about 70 AI practitioners and enthusiasts. Host weekly Saturday sessions for research paper reading and knowledge sharing, with 30+ sessions so far, plus a Luma calendar and occasional newsletter.

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Technology

Aug 2006 - Aug 2010

Indian Institute of Technology - Madras • Chennai, India

SKILLS

Languages: Python, Go (Golang), TypeScript, JavaScript, Java, Dart, Clojure, C, C++, HTML, CSS

Backend: Django, Django REST Framework, Celery, Node.js, Express.js, Gin (Go), Hono, REST APIs

Data: PostgreSQL, Redis, MongoDB, SQLite, Drizzle ORM

Cloud/Infra: AWS (Lambda), GCP, Kubernetes, Docker, Cloudflare Workers, GitHub Actions (CI/CD), Nginx, Caddy

Observability/Testing: Prometheus, Grafana, Datadog, Sentry, New Relic, pytest, Go testing, Jest

AI/CV: LLMs (OpenAI GPT, Anthropic Claude, Google Gemini, Llama via Ollama), computer vision, 3D reconstruction, Gaussian Splatting, COLMAP, OpenSplat

Mobile/Frontend: Flutter, iOS, Android, Angular, Ionic, Astro