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Summary

With over 15+ years of distinguished experience in the dynamic realms of software and business development, I have honed my expertise to become a trailblazer in the industry. In my most recent corporate role as a Lead Consultant at Virtusa, a global leader in digital engineering and cloud transformation, I held the pivotal position of Architect for Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning (AI/ML) solutions for one of the largest banks in the USA.

My professional focus revolves around providing unparalleled AI/ML solutions tailored specifically for the banking and financial services (BFS) sector. I am dedicated to assisting clients in navigating their most intricate and pressing business challenges by harnessing the power of cutting-edge technologies.

My illustrious track record is marked by the successful leadership and delivery of projects in key areas such as conversational AI, chatbots, microservices, intelligent search, and cloud computing. I am adept at employing agile and lean methodologies, ensuring optimal project outcomes aligned with industry best practices.

In addition to project leadership, my involvement extends to pivotal aspects of business growth, including product development, sales strategy, revenue optimization, go-to-market strategies, business process optimization, and intelligent automation. My passion lies in creating tangible value for customers and stakeholders by seamlessly integrating human-centered design principles and fostering innovation within the BFS domain.

As a full-time entrepreneur, my commitment is to drive excellence and innovation, setting a high standard in the industry and delivering transformative solutions for clients seeking unparalleled expertise in AI/ML within the BFS sector.

Experience

Co-Founder / Chief Strategy & Group Chief Technology Officer

Spemai

Apr 2024 - Present (2 months)

Co-Founder / Chief Strategy Officer

Spemai

Jan 2020 - Present (4 years 5 months)

At the forefront of innovation in Asia, Spemai is not just a company but a dynamic ecosystem driving the future of finance and technology. As the holding company, Spemai oversees a portfolio of groundbreaking ventures, each revolutionizing their respective sectors.

OnePay, OnePay for Business, and oneTicket.lk are among our esteemed fintech brands, recognized for their transformative impact on the industry. From seamless digital payments to comprehensive business solutions and convenient ticketing services, our subsidiaries cater to diverse needs, empowering businesses and individuals alike.

In addition, Spemai Labs serves as the engine of innovation within our ecosystem. Through cutting-edge research and development, Spemai Labs pioneers breakthrough technologies that power our ventures and shape the future of AI and fintech.

Backed by Japanese funding and driven by a relentless pursuit of excellence, Spemai leads the charge towards a more connected, efficient, and prosperous future. Join us as we redefine the boundaries of possibility in finance and technology.



Lead Consultant - AI/ML

Virtusa

Jul 2022 - Sep 2023 (1 year 3 months)

Machine learning and artificial intelligence, Conversational AI, BankTech, FinTech

- Pursuing the role of architecting in machine learning and CAI for a fortune 500 organization.
- Lead an engineering team of microservices and intelligent search.
- Agile/scrum and lean practices with clients for a result-driven development life cycle.



Solutions Architect & Head of Engineering

UPay

Aug 2021 - Jul 2022 (1 year)

- Pursued the role of solutions architect and head of engineering in Fintech Leader in Sri Lanka
- Agile/Scrum software development practices having Objective Key Results for cost-effective developments with on-demand deliveries.
- Mission-critical end-to-end operations in a banking environment with a given compliance framework.
- Implementation of minimum compliance guidelines for mobile banking payment applications by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka.
- Responsible for product development, software development, DevOps, quality engineering, deliveries, and vendor management.



Technology consultant

Evoke Ventures Ltd.

Dec 2019 - Aug 2021 (1 year 9 months)

Open API Banking, Identity as a Service for banking and enterprise integrations. Cognitive banking experiences over shared business entities such as IoT, Telco, Mobile.



Innovationist

Nations Trust Bank PLC

Jun 2017 - Feb 2020 (2 years 9 months)

Generate, Capture, Organize, and Accelerate Ideas that work.

Founder of Kaffeine Labs and Nations Open API Banking - Sri Lanka's 1st Open Banking API initiative
Product developments,
R & D (IoT, AI, automation, ML) into FinTech
Architecting

Pioneer the start of an innovation centre in the bank as "Sri Lanka's 1st Innovation lab in financial sector", setting up an innovation practice and creating an open innovative culture. Keeping updated

and forming a thorough understanding of emerging technologies, and transferring this knowledge in a simplified manner to key stakeholders within the organization.

The Position is guided by the Board of Directors, CEO, COO, and the CINO of the bank in setting up and sustaining an innovation practice in the bank.

Principle Accountabilities:

- Keep fully updated with global technology developments and application usage to solve real problems
- Engage closely with the target community of customers and employees to understand user needs
- Work closely with the technology, marketing, and business functions in delivering the solution
- Create and foster an open innovation culture where everyone sees the need for them to innovate and an environment that is supportive.

Purpose of the job: To drive technology innovation and research, being updated and having a thorough understanding of emerging technologies. This would then extend to creating the right innovation discussions within the organization and the delivery of solutions that would make a positive difference to customers and employees.

Ref: <https://www.sundayobserver.lk/2017/10/29/business/ntb%E2%80%99s-caffeine-labs-ignite-innovation>

<https://www.nationstrust.com/media-releases/community/looking-to-the-future-nations-trust-bank-establishes-innovation-lab-will-host-first-ever-fintech-hackathon>

Chairman for Industrial Application of AI - CIAI

Sri Lanka Association for Artificial Intelligence

Mar 2017 - Mar 2018 (1 year 1 month)

The Sri Lanka Association of Artificial Intelligence (SLAAI) is the first organization to represent the artificial intelligence researchers in Sri Lanka. SLAAI is a non-profit association committed to promoting research and application of artificial intelligence in Sri Lanka. SLAAI organizes an annual conference to bring researchers of all the fields of artificial intelligence in Sri Lanka under one umbrella and this forms a stage to present and discuss the latest research findings and applications in AI. Apart the conference, SLAAI conducts a number of Meetups, workshops in universities and schools to promote and enhance the public understanding of AI.



Head of Payment Technology

findmyfare

Jan 2016 - Jun 2017 (1 year 6 months)



Engineering Team Lead

findmyfare

Apr 2015 - Jan 2016 (10 months)



Software Engineer

Open University of Sri Lanka

Jul 2014 - Apr 2015 (10 months)

Software Quality Assurance Engineer

Innerglobe Solutions (PVT) Ltd

Jan 2014 - Feb 2015 (1 year 2 months)

Co-Founder and Director

90ad

Feb 2013 - 2015 (2 years)

Took the lead in technical part of 90ad Technologies (Pvt) Ltd.

Innovator

Electra Technologies

Jan 2012 - Dec 2013 (2 years)

Computer science

Developer

Audio Visual Unit of Department of agriculture, Sri Lanka

Jan 2009 - Feb 2010 (1 year 2 months)

Adobe Direct

Adobe Photoshop

HTML

CSS

JavaScript

Education



University of Sri Jayewardenepura

Master of Philosophy - MPhil, Business/Managerial Economics

Mar 2024 - Apr 2026



Wrexham University

Master of Science in Cyber Security , Cyber/Computer Forensics and Counterterrorism

Feb 2022 - Aug 2023

Dissertation title: Enhancing Customer Identification and Personalization in Banking Conversational AI.

The MSc dissertation aimed to investigate the use of AutoML and behavioral matrices for user identification in conversational AI systems for consumer banking. Through a thorough literature review, the project identified research gaps and opportunities in this field. Using a mixed-methods approach, the research involved data collection, preprocessing, feature extraction, AutoML algorithms, and behavioral matrices modeling.

Different AutoML algorithms were compared using various evaluation metrics and validation methods. The results were presented and discussed to understand the effectiveness of the proposed strategy

and its implications. The dissertation concluded with a summary of contributions, limitations, and future work, along with practical and theoretical implications for conversational AI in banking.



Massachusetts Institute of Technology

MIT GSL Sri Lanka Challenge, Entrepreneurship/Entrepreneurial Studies
2014 - 2014



Open University of Sri Lanka

Bachelor of Software Engineering (Hons), Computer Software Engineering
2010 - 2015

Postgraduate Institute of Archaeology - University of Kelaniya

Epigraphy, Inscription

Research Triangle Nanotechnology Network

Nanotechnology maker, Nanotechnology
May 2021 - Present

Bandaranaike International Diplomats Training Institute

Diploma in Diplomacy and World Affairs, Diplomacy
2016 - 2018

Licenses & Certifications



Certified Lean Six Sigma Yellow Belt - CLSSYB - Nations Trust Bank PLC



Nanotechnology: A Maker - Research Triangle Nanotechnology Network



AWS Partner: Sales Accreditation (Business) - Amazon Web Services (AWS)



Kore.ai Experience Optimization Platform Developer - Kore.ai



Kore.ai Experience Optimization Platform Developer - Advanced - Kore.ai



Natural Language Processing with Classification and Vector Spaces Specialized
- DeepLearning.AI
2L3MPA8DPVPW





Natural Language Processing with Probabilistic Models Specialized -
DeepLearning.AI

AU86XGBVSUWW

 **XO Platform: Conversation Hand-off to Agent Systems** - Kore.ai
APKAILVQOTZN4SHI6YSA

 **XO Platform: Knowledge Graph Health** - Kore.ai
APKAILVQOTZN4SHI6YSA

 **Natural Language Processing with PyTorch** - LinkedIn
f8a18e2ec8084ba67afb80f6b22872e58696cbae6d2b5851054e7501c33675e8

 **Apache Cordova: Building Cross-Platform Mobile Apps** - LinkedIn
4913911ba8db885fa76a2a950839b9946b7aa19ef063e06d879cbdff5c48aff

Skills

Decentralized Autonomous Organizations • Web3 • Team Leadership • Engineering • Financial Services • Banking Technologies • ISO 27001 • Strategic Planning • NeMo Framework • Nvidia

Honors & Awards

Motorola Inter University Innovation Championship - Motorola and SLASSCOM
Feb 2014

Completed the final demo of JEEVA exploration and survey system for both flora and fauna. Honorable Patali Champika Ranawaka minister of technology and research, and Her Excellency Michele J. Sison United States high commissioner for Sri Lanka and maldives participated and motivated us at the moment. Her Excellency Shelley Whiting Canada high commissioner for Sri Lanka and maldives and Mano Sekaram vice chairmen of SLASSCOM Sri Lanka came us and I demonstrated the JEEVA.

Mr. Charitha Goonathilake, Mr. Achithra prasadh, Miss. Madavi Nimalarathne. Mr. Nuwan Dassanayake and Miss Malkanthi participated representing faculty of engineering technology of Open University of Sri Lanka.

21st of February 2014 at University of Colombo, School of Computing

National Best Managed Project in Financial and Banking sector - PMI Project
Management Institute

Jul 2018

Nations Open API Banking project from Nations Trust Bank PLC won Silver awards at National Best Managed Project Awards 2018 by IPM Colombo Chapter, Sri Lanka

Go Extra Miles - GEM AWARD - Virtusa

Jan 2023

It is with great honor and appreciation that I share my recent recognition by my employer, Virtusa. I am truly grateful for the opportunity provided by Virtusa to upskill myself and gain valuable experience in solving complex high-tech engineering problems. This chance has allowed me to expand my skills,

knowledge, and expertise on a global scale, and I wholeheartedly recommend Virtusa to anyone looking for a supportive and growth-oriented organization.

I believe In a short time like 06 months, I have been able to make a significant impact, and I am deeply honored to have been recognized for my contributions. This recognition serves as a testament to the hard work, dedication, and passion that I bring to my work, and I am proud to be part of such a dynamic and innovative team.

I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to my manager and colleagues for their guidance, mentorship, and unwavering support. Their trust in my abilities and belief in my potential has been instrumental in my success, and I highly recommend Virtusa for its supportive and empowering work culture.

I am excited to continue contributing to the success of Virtusa and leveraging the skills and experiences I have gained to make a positive impact in the world.

Thank you once again for this tremendous recognition and opportunity.