Kiran Chand Chalasani

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SKILLS

Platforms: Android Mobile, Android TV, Fire TV
Android Stack: Jetpack Compose, ViewModel/MVVM, Coroutines/Flow, WorkManager, Navigation, Retrofit/OkHttp, ExoPlayer, Google IMA Ads
Languages: Kotlin, Java, Python
Testing: JUnit, Mockito, Espresso
Build & Release: Gradle (multi-flavor), Google Play Console, CI/CD
Monitoring & Analytics: Firebase (Analytics/Crashlytics), Sentry, Mixpanel, Conviva, CleverTap
Tools: Android Studio, IntelliJ IDEA, Jira, Confluence, Git, GitHub, BitBucket
Practices: Agile/Scrum, Continuous Integration, Test-Driven Development (TDD), Code Reviews

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Begin Software   **Dallas, TX, USA**
Senior Software Engineer   *June 2024 - Present*
  - Led migration of OTT Android apps (Mobile, Android TV, Fire TV) from Java/XML to Kotlin and Jetpack Compose, cutting cold start by about 800 ms and improving UI delivery speed by about 40%.
  - Re-architected with MVVM, Repository, and Hilt, standardized modules and multi-flavor Gradle, and aligned API contracts and analytics event schemas with backend, design, and analytics teams to reduce rework and speed delivery.
  - Consolidated to one codebase with shared core modules (player, networking, analytics, common UI) reused by Mobile, Android TV, and Fire TV, eliminated duplicate dependencies, and reduced time to release by about 20%.
  - Built Compose UIs (channel lists, autoplay, bottom sheets) with TV focus and remote support plus accessibility, improved large-screen navigation, and reduced UI defects by about 15%.
  - Implemented the playback stack with ExoPlayer for live and on-demand (HLS, MPEG-DASH), added Google IMA ads and closed-caption/audio track controls, and ensured reliable orientation/fullscreen with state restore.
  - Used WorkManager to reliably send playback and engagement analytics even when users exit playback or the app, queued jobs with network constraints, retries, and unique work to prevent drops or duplicates.
  - Drove staged releases and stability improvements (Firebase, Sentry), delivering a 0.61% crash rate on the latest release; last 28 days at 1.60% crash (-0.11 pp) and 0.14% ANR (-0.03 pp), with rating up to 4.0 (+0.82) across 30.3K installs and 8.1% install base.
  - Removed unnecessary API calls, tightened async flows, and used AnimatedVisibility best practices to speed rendering, cut per-screen load time by about 15%. Partnered with backend, design, and analytics to align APIs and event schemas, which reduced rework.
  - Mentored the team on Compose state, testing, and performance and introduced reusable components as part of a Compose-first approach, improving code quality, speeding reviews, and reducing duplicate UI.

Tata Elxsi   **Bengaluru, Karnataka, India**
Senior Software Engineer   *April 2021 - December 2022*
  - Implemented 'Continue Watching' and 'You May Also Like' features, increasing user retention by about 30%.
  - Reduced API calls by about 50% and cut screen load times by about 40% using Kotlin Coroutines, Flow, and Paging, improved overall app performance.
  - Introduced MVVM and Kotlin best practices, raising dev speed by about 25% and reducing bugs by about 30%
  - Actively engaged with clients to validate requirements and ensure alignment with project goals. Conducted regular meetings to provide updates, gather feedback, and maintain transparency throughout the development process.
  - Integrated unit tests into the application using JUnit and Mockito, significantly improving test coverage from 18% to 76%. This initiative ensured robust functionality and higher code quality.
  - Provided user support on a rotational basis, efficiently resolving issues raised by users. Coordinated with backend teams for quick resolutions, ensuring minimal impact on user experience.
  - Utilized analytics tools like Sentry, ANR-WatchDog, CleverTap, Conviva, Mixpanel to monitor app performance and user behavior. Implemented data-driven improvements based on analytics insights, enhancing overall user experience and app performance.
  - Conducted pair programming sessions, collaborated closely with team members, and employed Agile methodologies to manage project timelines and deliverables effectively.

Apalya Technologies Pvt Ltd   **Hyderabad, Telangana, India**
Software Engineer   *May 2019 - April 2021*
- Built and launched Sun NXT Android apps (mobile, TV, Fire TV) and integrated with Jio Set-Top Box and Tata Sky auth, improved access for 9M+ customers.
- Revamped search across 18 languages, improving search efficiency and accuracy by about 20%, added UI tests (Espresso/JUnit) and shipped a unified new UI.
- Handled navigation seamlessly across the app and also handled deeplinks.
- Regularly attended scrum calls, providing updates on project progress and discussing challenges. Engaged in code reviews to maintain high standards, resulting in a 20% reduction in code defects.
- Conceptualized and developed custom UI components, prioritizing reusability and adherence to Material Design principles. Achieved a 30% enhancement in UI responsiveness and aesthetics.
- Implemented advanced multithreading and networking techniques, including the use of Retrofit interceptors for API key management, logging, and retry functionality.
- Applied deep understanding of Android UI paradigms from Gingerbread to Android 11, including Material Design principles, to create visually appealing and user-friendly interfaces. This effort led to a 20% increase in user engagement and satisfaction with the app's interface.
- Communicated effectively with clients and conducted debug sessions, resulting in a 40% decrease in bug resolution time. Collaborated with iOS developers, backend API team, and Analytics team to log user actions, ensuring comprehensive issue resolution.
- Implemented new features as part of proof of concept (POC) and demonstrated them to clients. Upon approval, integrated these features into the application, enhancing its functionality and meeting client requirements.

Prodeco Technologies Pvt Ltd   **Hyderabad, Telangana, India**
Software Engineer   *July 2016 - May 2019*
- Contributed to the development of a Set-Top Box launcher, enhancing user engagement by 40% through an advanced leanback interface design tailored for ease of navigation and accessibility.
- Integrated voice search and a client-side payment gateway into our platform, which personalized ad displays and boosted search efficiency by 25%, leading to a 15% increase in ad revenue.
- Led the research, design, and development of a download and playback manager for music and video on-demand content streaming, leveraging BitTorrent protocol, which improved content delivery speeds by 30%
- Enhanced media controller functionality by adding features such as shuffle, continuous playback, and advanced playlist management (Create, Remove, Rename, Add Song), improving user experience and increasing session times by 20%.
- Leveraged BrowseFragment, ArrayObjectAdapter, and Presenter from the Leanback library to design an intuitive interface for browsing and selecting media content.
- Implemented BrowseFragment to streamline the development of the main UI, enhancing user interaction and content discovery.
- Utilized ArrayObjectAdapter to efficiently populate rows with media content, ensuring a seamless and immersive user experience.
- Customized the appearance and behavior of UI elements using Presenter, resulting in a visually appealing and user-friendly layout for the Set-Top Box launcher.

EDUCATION

University of Alabama - Birmingham   **January 2023 - April 2024**
Master's, Data Science   *GPA: 3.88*

VR Siddhartha Engineering College   **August 2012 - April 2016**
Bachelor's, Information Technology   *GPA: 7.2*