

Ajit Kolekar

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I'm a well-rounded IT Professional with 23+ years of IT experience. I have a variety of technical, business, and leadership experience while performing roles as Project Manager, Scrum Master, Team Lead, Data Analyst, Java Developer, Host Developer, Subject Matter Consultant, Systems Analyst, Service Analyst, and Onsite-Offshore Coordinator. I have earned Bachelor of Science (BS) in Electronics Engineering, Master of Business Administration (MBA), and will be graduating very soon (March 5th, 2022) with Master of Science (MS) in Data Science degree! I believe in continuous learning and have earned several designations and certifications, such as AWS Certified Cloud Practitioner, PMP, CSM, SAFe Agilist, SASM, CLU, CPCU, and ChFC.

SKILLS

Web Development, Data Science, Machine Learning, Python Programming, R Programming, SQL, Tableau, GitHub, Version One, Qlik Sense, Project Management, Product Management, Servant Leadership, Agile & Waterfall Methodologies, Software Development Lifecycle (SDLC), Testing Lifecycle

EXPERIENCE

State Farm Insurance, Bloomington, IL

Jan 2011 - Current

Scrum Master (7 years)

- Utilized servant leadership skills and agile mindset to create a high energy environment with sense of urgency and gained high level of engagement from the team members. Quickly built positive relationships, built cadence and discipline, and successfully made service teams operational as small agile product teams in a very short time by following agile principles.
- Influenced Scrum Masters Community in Personal Lines Auto to bring quality and consistency in defect management process. Defect quality improved by more than 50% after implementation of the process.
- Provided valuable contributions toward various testing efforts, such as Business Acceptance Testing, Performance Testing, Large Volume Testing, and Chaos Testing that are critical to the successful implementation of Personal Lines Auto Pilot.
- Innovated several automated reports for Business Acceptance Testing that provide accurate information in timely manner. These reports were used by senior leadership to make executive decisions and helped to keep the Personal Lines Auto Pilot implementation on track.
- Implemented several processes such as dependency management and incident management to improve efficiency of the product teams. Created roadmaps and workflows to help teams plan the work appropriately and complete the work on time and with good quality.
- Facilitated discussions with product owners and product managers to document Objectives and Key Results (OKRs) of product teams while focusing on the internal and external customers, product differentiators, and business outcomes.

IT Project Manager Development Assignment (1 year 6 months)

- Successfully led several P&C Claims projects that were confidential, legislative, and time sensitive.
- Helped team members to have clear understanding of short-term milestones while keeping long term goals in mind. This helped the projects to achieve aggressive timelines and deliver projects on time.
- By exercising Project Management practices, assessed resource utilization of a project to save 10% of project funding and released a skilled resource to be utilized by another project in need.
- Utilized leadership and communication skills along with influence and relationship building to address implementation delays, and got a project implemented before legislative date, helping State Farm avoid potential financial penalties.

Systems Analyst-Web (2 years 7 months)

- Performed various roles, such as Data Analyst, Java Developer, Host Developer, Subject Matter Consultant, Systems Analyst, Service Analyst, and Onsite-Offshore Coordinator.
- Built excellent relationships with business partners from various functional areas and utilized problem solving and analytical skills to provide remarkable customer experience to business partners, resulting in increased customer satisfaction.
- As a key analyst for Financials Payments during CSR to ECS data conversion, provided directions on complex business rules to convert fields from one database to another resulting in successful and high-quality conversion of the data, and timely implementation of the data conversion project that converted more than 37 million claims.

Patni Americas, Inc., Cambridge, MA

Feb 1998 – Jan 2011

Senior Software Specialist (13 years)

- Performed various roles, such as Team Lead, Data Analyst, Java Developer, Host Developer, Subject Matter Consultant, Systems Analyst, Service Analyst, and Onsite-Offshore Coordinator.
- Utilized business knowledge while handling incidents and production problems. Continuously followed up until problems were resolved and data was restored. Provided remarkable customer service by providing resolutions in timely manner and with greater accuracy.
- Participated in design, development, and testing of several major projects, such as Electronic Funds Transfer, Consolidated Payments, and Automatic Payments that helped with successful implementation of the projects in timely manner with greater quality.
- Gained two years of people management experience with maximum span of control of nine team members, where I was responsible for growth, recognition, feedback, and annual performance reviews/ratings.

EDUCATION

Master of Science (MS) in Data Science, Bellevue University, Nebraska, March 2022 (Expected)

- Coursework includes Python Programming, R Programming, Data Preparation (Wrangling), Data Mining, Exploratory Data Analysis, Predictive Analytics, Machine Learning, Data Visualization, and Big Data.

Master of Business Administration (MBA) - Finance, Illinois State University, Illinois, December 2009

Bachelor of Science (BS) in Electronics Engineering, Shivaji University, India, June 1996

CERTIFICATIONS/DESIGNATIONS

AWS Certified Cloud Practitioner, Project Management Professional (PMP), Certified Scrum Master (CSM), SAFe 4 Agilist (SA), SAFe 4 Advanced Scrum Master (SASM), Chartered Life Underwriter (CLU), Chartered Property Casualty Underwriter (CPCU), Chartered Financial Consultant (CHFC)

INTERESTS/ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Participated in AWS Deep Racer competition and utilized Python programming for Machine Learning models
- Served Project Management Institute - Central IL Chapter for three years as a Director of Mentoring Program
- Served as a Board member of AsiaNET Employee Resource Group for three years, leading mentoring and programming committees
- Currently serving on CPCU Society's Central IL Chapter Committees as a committee chair and a team member
- Currently serving as a Board member of Dreams Are Possible (non-profit organization for women empowerment)