



# Debajit Kataki

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## Profile Summary

Results-driven technology leader with 18+ years of experience in Cloud, and Data Platform Engineering, specializing in cloud & data strategy, AI/ML, and platform transformation at enterprise scale. Expertise in driving architectural vision, executing roadmaps, and leading high-performing global teams to deliver scalable, resilient, and cost-optimized cloud and data solutions. Strong background in AWS, GCP , BigQuery, RDBMS, NoSQL, and data management with a focus on resiliency, compliance and operational excellence. Passionate about enabling engineering excellence, enhancing operational efficiency, and shaping the future of cloud & data through strategic leadership and execution.

## Employment History

### Sr. Director - Data , Cloud & DevOps , Cortex , Palo Alto Networks Inc. , Bangalore August 2021 — July 2024

August 2024 — Curent

- Currently working with engineering leaders and architects to design, build, and run the high scale , high traffic systems in a microservice / **GKE** based architecture in **GCP**.
- Focussing on service stability & resilience in a **service mesh architecture via ( Istio / Envoy ) and Kubernetes**.
- Enhancing operational excellence and achieving service restoration through observability and automation-enabled service recovery.
- Optimize non-prod GCP cloud workload to make it financially more efficient.
- Leading a new charter around **GameDays / Chaos engineering**.
- Data lake implementation with **Databricks , S3 , Apache spark/ETL**. Proactively identifying and addressing customer issues, ensuring continuous improvement in platform performance, reliability, and user experience.
- Hiring, mentoring, and developing top-tier engineering talent—establishing high-performance and impactful teams. Includes campus hiring , branding activities

### Director - DevOps / SRE / Data Platform at Prisma Cloud , Palo Alto Networks Inc, Bangalore

August 2021 — July 2024

- **Built a technology-driven**, innovation-centric DevOps engineering organization with a core focus on Build, Run, Operate, Integrate, and Secure, ensuring strong and stable infrastructure across **AWS , GCP** and Azure.
- Led Adoption, Growth, and **Innovation initiatives** for my areas of responsibility at Palo Alto Networks.
- Cultivated a culture of Customer Centricity, Learning & Development, Growth Mindset, and Innovation.
- Consumer-first strategy with regular customer collaboration & gain/maintain/retain customer trust
- Successfully built 4 successful expertise in India i.e. **Site Reliability/ DevOps** , Data Platform , **Chaos engineering** and **Cloud FinOps**. Teams spread across Bangalore , Tel Aviv and Beijing.
- Designed & built the current Kubernetes with 8K+ EC2 nodes and which hosts about 20K+ container pods across 14 AWS global Geo Locations.

## Focus Area / Expertise

Leadership & Strategic Vision

Cloud Architecture (AWS & GCP)

DevOps /SRE Transformation

Site Reliability Engineering

Data Platform Engineering

Cloud Cost Optimization

BCP/DR ( Disaster Recovery)

Incident & Problem Mgt.

Cloud Security & posture mgt.

AWS, GCP, K8s, Python, Kafka, RDS, Cassandra, Observability

- Developed AI-Driven Incident Response built using **Meta LLaMA 3** and RAG, reducing on-call effort by 35% through context-aware incident insights
- Designed **highly scalable Kafka** in AWS , later migrated to MSK. RDS ( PostgreSQL Sharding ) , MemSQL/SingleStore Muti-AZ etc.
- Brought down the AWS consumption by **USD 3-4 Million per FY** with various cloud hosting disciplines.
- Leading the Security and compliance certifications like SOC2 , FedRamp , MLPS 2.0
- Introducing an **Embedded SRE** model of scrum based SRE engineers and ensuring SOPs and uniformity in our Global DevOps and SRE practices , along with CICD / GitOps in GitLab
- Ensuring smooth **production releases** across our Dev and 17 K8s global production clusters , including US GOV
- Observability practices with **Prometheus , Grafana , honeycomb**, runscope , spunk and other cloud natives tools.
- **Various productivity tools** like 'Disposable cloud accounts' to reuse AWS cloud accounts for testing purpose , 'Castles' - to spin up and tear down our Dev, QA environments , **Compass** for cloud cost optimizations monitoring., **PDAR** to provision production access to developers etc.
- Implemented **Change / Problem Management** and **Incident management framework** via Blameless/ FireHydrnat and JIRA

### Sr. Manager roles at Intuit Inc, Bengaluru

January 2010 — February 2019 ( Total : 9 yrs+ )

- **Sr. Cloud Engineering & DevOps Manager** – from July 2018 till Feb 2019
- **Sr. DevOps Manager** from **June 2016- till July 2018**
- **Sr. Technical manager** from **Aug 2013-June2016** (Intuit Inc.) - 3 Year
- **Team Lead in 2010**, (Intuit Inc.) - 3.5 years

### Business and Technical responsibilities:

- **Accelerating Intuit's AWS cloud journey** and container adoption with **Docker and Kubernetes**.
- Provided effective leadership in driving Intuit's major eCommerce & SaaS initiatives and strategies for Enterprise Business Solutions. The platform supports Quickbooks Online and TurboTax.
- Delivered several **HA/DR Solutions** for various products and backend applications. Migrated 50+ applications critical to Intuit's Businesses between data centers and saved up to \$70M in Data Center Consolidation Initiatives.
- Transformed an unstructured department by developing a positive culture, providing opportunities, mentoring & upgrading talent into a high performing global team from India.
- Owning the entire nightly release and deployments for high traffic (331k +concurrent) web tiers applications with Apache, Jboss, tomcat NGINX.
- Architect to design a patent ready Service restoration systems
- (FSR), with self-healing concept to achieve a RTO < 15 mins, and highly available Pre-prod.
- Played **Incident management leader (IML)** role providing RCA's and ensuring SLA's Also designed tools and automations to remediate incidents.
- Responsible for CICD "Release Automation" and "Release Engineering" across the organization.
- Coach and align my engineers to build a highly-efficient and reliable automation infrastructure for DevOps **CICD practices**, and also build frameworks and regulate, recommend and implement the usage around the tools & automatons to achieve operational excellence

## ***Individual Contributor roles:***

### **Ibibo India Pvt. Ltd , Bangalore**

#### **Role: Lead of Operations - Apr 2008 to Mar 2010**

Web and Systems engineer, worked on LAMP ( Linux , Apache , MySQL, PHP/Python ) Environment and here I was an SME of a python based crawler engine and also the social user login UDB /MDB systems. Hosted **India's first social networking site called Ibibo.com**. Created measure for fault tolerance , resiliency , performance for our data center based web servers.

### **Akamai Technologies**

#### **Role : CDN , TSS Specialist - Dec 2006 to Apr 2008**

Worked extensively in Akamai's CDN technologies like CMP , Edge Suite , HTTP content caching accelerations and delivery for Customers like CNBC , Yahoo etc. This was my first large scale exposure where we had about 30K+ web servers.

### **Cbay Systems (I) Pvt Ltd**

#### **Role : Systems Engineer - Dec 2005 to Dec 2006**

Data center setup, scale , tune and large scale Linux and UNIX based LAMP( Linux , Apache , MySQL and PHP) setup. Open source implementation and development contribution.

### **Matrix Inc.**

#### **Role : UNIX consultant - Jan 2003 to Nov 2005**

*( Deputed in Indian Air Force, EAC – Eastern Air Command from a CMC project)*

On-site Consultant on Linux/Unix environment where I was deputed on various sites like CMC, Easter Air Command(NE), IAF Indian Air Force etc.

### **CDAC Noida June 2002-Dec 2002 Internship / trainee engineer ( 6 months )**

Socket programming, chat servers. Game designing in C++

## **🎓 Education**

M.Sc. , B.Sc. (Comp Sc.) , AWS and GCP certified

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  - Innovation day champion.
  - 3 US patents in the areas of service restoration and recovery.
  - Recently launched my first book [“Focused Minds”](#)

## **📖 References**

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/dkataki/details/recommendations/>