

Lokesh Kumar A R

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Executive Summary

Lead AI/ML Engineer & Team Lead at Imitate Labs with **9.63 CGPA** from **IIT Madras** and **Hindustan University**. Building innovative AI systems using **hybrid CNN-ViT architectures** and **LoRA fine-tuning**. **Creator of QritiQ**—university-funded AI evaluation platform achieving **95% accuracy** with **Whisper**, **Ollama**, and **Mistral** and **Llama** models.

Education

Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Madras <i>Bachelor of Science - Data Science and Applications</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Specialization: Machine Learning, Deep Learning, Computer Vision, LLMs, AI Engineering	Jan 2025 – Jan 2028 <i>Dual Degree Online Program</i>
Hindustan Institute of Technology and Science <i>Bachelor of Technology - Computer Science Engineering</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">CGPA: 9.63/10 Academic Rank: 2nd Core Focus: AI Systems, ML, Data Structures, Algorithms	July 2023 – May 2027 <i>Chennai</i>

Technical Skills

AI/ML Frameworks: PyTorch, TensorFlow, Transformers, LLMs, LoRA, OpenAI Whisper, Hybrid CNN-ViT
Advanced Systems: Model Training, MLOps, CI/CD, Edge AI, RAG, Model Training
Engineering: Python (Advanced), Docker, FastAPI, Flask, REST APIs, Git/GitHub, Database Design
Data Science: Pandas, NumPy, Statistical Analysis, Jupyter, Visualization, Prompt Engineering
Tools & Tech: Ollama, Mistral Models, Model Context Protocol (MCP), Linux, Container Orchestration, Azure OpenAI

Professional Experience

Lead AI/ML Engineer & Team Lead <i>Imitate Labs (imitatelabs.ai)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Leading the AI/ML division at an innovative early-stage startup, architecting foundational infrastructureDesigning custom ML model transformers and hybrid CNN-ViT architectures for multimedia processingDeveloping parameter-efficient fine-tuning techniques using LoRA for resource-constrained environmentsCreating model evaluation frameworks and end-to-end AI workflows from data processing to optimizationLeading technical decision-making for AI/ML stack selection and establishing model training best practices	July 2025 – Present <i>Chennai</i>
AI R&D Intern & Project Lead, QritiQ Platform <i>Hindustan Institute of Technology and Science</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Initiated and led the development of QritiQ, securing full ownership and university resource investmentDesigned complete AI architecture with Whisper ASR and LLM integration, reducing evaluation time by 66%Implemented cost-effective deployment using on-premise llama3 and Mistral models (80% savings)	May 2025 – July 2025 <i>Chennai</i>
Artificial Intelligence with Python Intern <i>Cothon Solutions</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Implemented CNN and MTCNN for image recognition and facial detection projects with practical ML applicationsDeveloped understanding of model training workflows, evaluation metrics, and deployment challenges	Oct 2024 – Nov 2024 <i>Remote</i>

Key Projects

QritiQ - AI-Powered Interview Evaluation System <i>Ollama, Mistral, Docker</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Single-handedly developed and secured university funding for this AI evaluation platform from concept to deploymentBuilt complete system including production-ready ML pipeline, FastAPI backend, and database architecture	Founder-Led Project
Face Detection & QR Attendance Management <i>OpenCV, MTCNN, Flask</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Engineered hybrid computer vision solution achieving 98% facial recognition accuracy with spoofing preventionBuilt dual-verification system combining facial recognition with dynamic QR code generation	Academic Project

Achievements & Leadership

Leadership & Recognition <ul style="list-style-type: none">AI/ML SPoC: Blue Screen Programming Club (2025-Present) Lead Engineer: Imitate Labs AI DivisionCompetition Winner: AI Genesis Inter-College Competition (INNOTHON 2025, 20+ institutions)Entrepreneurial Success: Founded and secured institutional funding for QritiQ AI platform	2024-2025
Professional Certifications <ul style="list-style-type: none">Technical Certifications: Docker Foundation Professional Certificate, GitHub Foundations Certification, ChatGPT Prompt Engineering, Git & GitHub (IBM)Data & AI Certifications: Google Data Analytics, BCG GenAI Job Simulation, Data Literacy (DataCamp), Accenture North America Data Analytics	2023-2025