

Sairaj Khope

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Product Builder +Engineer +Designer +Artist

An engineer by training, designer by passion, and storyteller at heart - I build things that live in tomorrow while speaking today's language. My journey's taken me from ambitious moonshots like India's first hyperloop to teaching robots how to be social (meet [Robin](#)!) - always chasing that sweet spot where impossible starts feeling possible.

My superpowers? An insatiable curiosity that keeps me reading until 3 AM, a memory that never forgets a face and the ability to translate complex systems into stories people actually want to be part of.

Education

BITS Pilani K. K. Birla Goa Campus
B.E. (Hons.) in Electronics & Instrumentation Engineering
2014-2018

Core Interests

| | |
|----------|------------------|
| Robotics | Design Research |
| Deeptech | Health & Fitness |
| HCI | Basketball |

Core Skills

Storytelling
Conceptualization
UX Research
Electronics - Firmware & Hardware

Experience

Alongside

Mar 2023 - Nov 2024

Co-founder & CPO

- Built a social robot platform called **Robin**, capable of voice to voice communication, human-like expressions and agentic interactions with a computer
- Built **Creator**, an intelligent workspace designed for product & sales teams integrated with AI agents, data creation tools, web search and long-term memory for focused, uninterrupted work. We had 60 Daily Active Users.

OnTheProwl

Sep 2020 - Aug 2021

Co-founder

- Built India's largest repository for Wildlife tourism with maps, tourism guides for all Tiger Reserves and National parks in the country.
- Built a platform for Tour Guides and Creators (120+ onboarded) to monetise their business via Social Media and sell their services directly to their followers.

Lifespark Technologies

Jan 2020 - Dec 2020

Co-founder

- Worked on firmware & systems for a low cost rail-mounted assisted blood sample analysis device
- Helped develop a business thesis for **WALK**, India's first non-invasive wearable device for Parkinson's patients
- WALK** was awarded a grant of \$70k from BIRAC, won \$100k grant from Social Alpha and was also one of the top viewed pitches on Shark Tank India Season 3.
- Designed & developed an end-to-end privacy-centric Covid tracking app called **Safe.t** integrated with 8 Hospital systems for effective management & monitoring of the pandemic

Vayve Mobility

Jan 2019 - Aug 2019

Powertrain Engineering Intern

- Designed and architected a compact **two-seater** 3-wheeler electric vehicle platform from ground up, focusing on urban commuter needs.
- Conceptualised and developed critical systems including motor control optimization, battery management and charging infrastructure specifications.

University of California Santa Barbara

RF & Mixed-Signal Integrated Systems Lab
Jan 2018 - Aug 2018

Research Intern

- Worked under [Prof. Jim Buckwalter](#) (5.9k citations, **h-index 42**) as part of my University off-campus thesis.
- Researched next-generation optical communication systems, focusing on designing and optimizing novel switching architectures for improved efficiency and performance
- Worked in collaboration with [Prof. Jon Bowers'](#) lab (79k citations, **h-index 139**) to publish a [paper](#) in [Optics Letters](#)

Hyperloop India

Jan 2017 - Dec 2017

Team Lead; Powertrain & Testing Lead

- Led testing and development of India's first hyperloop prototype, designed core electrical architecture including power systems & control systems, while coordinating 7 technical teams from concept to successful prototype
- Only Indian team from 24 international teams to make it to the finals of SpaceX Hyperloop Pod Competition 2017 and demo the prototype in front of Elon Musk
- Won the Hyperloop One Global Challenge where our route map from Mumbai-Pune-Chennai was chosen by the Maharashtra government for building the first Hyperloop route in India

Publications

Scalable multicast hybrid broadband-crossbar wavelength selective switch: proposal and analysis

<https://doi.org/10.1364/OL.412242>