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# Saravanabalaji DG

Strategic data leader with over 17 years of experience driving data engineering, analytics, governance, and AI/ML initiatives. Known for blending hands-on technical expertise with strong leadership to deliver high-impact projects on time and within budget. Proven ability to build high-performing teams, influence C-level stakeholders, and deliver measurable business outcomes across food, gaming, retail, claims, manufacturing, and financial services industries.

## SKILLS

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- Data Strategy & Governance
- Business Intelligence Leadership
- Data Engineering
- Values-Driven Leadership
- Team Leadership & Development
- SAP Analytics
- Cloud Migration & Architecture
- Data Modelling
- Data Quality & Cataloging
- Project & Program Management
- Enterprise Data Platforms
- Problem Solving
- End-to-End Analytics Platform Delivery
- AI/ML Enablement
- Organizational Culture Building
- Change Management
- Hands-on Technical Leadership
- SQL & Database Management
- Data Security & Compliance

## STRATEGIC ACHIEVEMENTS

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- Spearheaded AI-driven Marketing Mix Modeling and Cash Flow Prediction projects, improving forecasting accuracy by 25%.
- Leveraged Snowflake as the operational analytics layer for manufacturing data by modelling and analyzing Redzone OEE, waste, and downtime metrics, and architecting secure data pipelines into SQL Server data warehouse enabling standardized operations reporting and enterprise visibility into plant performance.
- Strategically enabled SAP Datasphere and SAP Analytics Cloud (SAC) adoption ahead of dedicated hiring by self-architecting the platform end-to-end, installing DP Agent, configuring cloud and SAP HANA connections, integrating Data Robot for advanced analytics, enabling real-time analytical solutions, and establishing bi-directional integrations with Power BI and Collibra accelerating time-to-value and de-risking enterprise investment.
- Directed Tableau-to-Power BI migration by designing enterprise Power BI architecture, governance policies, certified dataset frameworks, workspace lifecycle (DEV/QAS/PROD), schema management, and self-service enablement, ensuring secure, scalable BI adoption across the organization.
- Architected a SKU-level Profitability Analytics solution, implementing complex business rules and cost allocations within a governed semantic model and presenting Finance-ready insights through a clean, intuitive dashboard for strategic decision-making.
- Directed the migration of on-prem SQL Server data warehouse, SSIS packages, and production jobs to Microsoft Fabric, enabling faster analytics and reducing infrastructure costs by 30%.
- Established enterprise Data Governance Council, implemented Collibra Data Catalog and Data Quality framework, resulting in a 40% improvement in data accuracy.

- Designed and rolled out company-wide Data Literacy Program via Data COE, increasing analytics adoption by 50%.
- Spearheaded the migration of the legacy ERP system (MAS500) to SAP S/4HANA, completing all data migration activities within 4 months, ensuring data integrity, and enabling a seamless go-live transition.
- Directed multi-system integration of Workday and ADP, automating payroll and HR reporting, reducing manual processing time by 60%.

## EXPERIENCE

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07/2016 – Present

**Senior Data and BI Manager**, King's Hawaiian – Torrance, CA

- Directed the design, development, implementation, and maintenance of sophisticated data systems and solutions.
- Created and implemented a strategic plan and roadmap for data and analytics initiatives to support business goals and optimize performance.
- Spearheaded real-time AI/ML use cases, including a Marketing Mix Model and Cash Flow Prediction project, enhancing forecasting accuracy and decision-making.
- GitHub-based CI/CD, Apache Airflow (Astronomer), and production data pipeline orchestration for enterprise analytics platforms.
- Enabled enterprise adoption of SAP Datasphere and SAP Analytics Cloud ahead of hiring by self-architecting integrations across SAP HANA, Data Robot, Power BI, and Collibra, delivering real-time analytics and accelerating ROI on platform investment.
- Developed and managed conceptual, logical, and physical data models to enhance data analysis and business intelligence capabilities.
- Directed end-to-end data lifecycle management and governance activities.
- Data Governance Council core team member and Architect.
- Led the design, development, implementation of Collibra Data Catalog and Data Quality.
- Designed and executed Data Literacy programs through Data COE.
- Led the design and scaling of the enterprise-wide data infrastructure, optimizing performance and transitioning on-premises systems to cloud-based solutions (Azure, SAP Datasphere, AWS S3, Snowflake and Fabric).
- Collaborated with business stakeholders to create meaningful and actionable metrics.
- Integrated requirements for aggregate navigation, response time, repeatable queries, and data row security into the data warehouse design.
- Directed and architected the migration of data from legacy systems to SAP HANA.
- Designed and implemented a security model encompassing content, object, and data security.
- Led Integration team in Workday and ADP integrations.
- Mentored and guided team members in technology evaluations, technical designs, and implementations.
- Led a team of Data Engineers, Business Intelligence Developers, and Data Management/Governance Leads.
- Python and R programming for data analysis, automation, and advanced analytics use cases.
- Created reporting objects including Attributes, Metrics, Filters, Reports, and Dashboards in MicroStrategy (MSTR), Business Objects, Tableau, SAP Analytics Cloud and Power BI.

05/2014 – 07/2016

**Senior BI Analyst/Onsite lead**, Systech Solutions Inc – Glendale, CA

- Spearheaded BI implementations for manufacturing and retail clients, ensuring solutions aligned with strategic objectives.
- Managed client relationships, translating high-level goals into scalable data strategies.
- Led design and delivery of ETL workflows using SSIS and executive dashboards in MicroStrategy, supporting \$500M+ in transactions annually.
- Coordinated global delivery teams to ensure milestones were achieved within scope, budget, and timelines.
- Provided training and enablement sessions to accelerate adoption of BI tools and best practices.
- Translated business requirements into detailed technical specifications.
- Customers-Projects worked: King's Hawaiian – MFG BI Implementation, Nishimoto Trading Co. Ltd- MSTR Mobile App Dev, King's Hawaiian – MFG BI Implementation.

10/2008 – 05/2014

**Senior BI Developer/Team lead**, Systech Solutions Pvt Lt – Chennai, India

- Led multiple enterprise data platform implementations, including data warehouse modernization, ETL pipeline design, and performance tuning.

**List of Customers and Projects:**

- Orvis – Business Objects: BI Maintenance, Support and Enhancement
- HauteLook Inc – MicroStrategy Setup and Configuration
- Fox Filmed Entertainment – ATLAS EDW Replacement using Informatica
- Affinity Gaming - GHR 360 EDW Model & Implementation Services
- Fox Filmed Entertainment – COBE - EDW Data Model Validation and Enhancement
- Hain Celestial (HCG) – MS SQLSERVER2000 DTS TO SSIS DTSX – Migration
- Fox Filmed Entertainment – Category Management for BESTBUY
- Hain Celestial (HCG) – Informatica & BO Support and Enhancement
- Hain Celestial (HCG) – Informatica To SSIS – Conversion
- International Rectifier (IR) – Finance & HR Datamart Support and Enhancement
- Procter and Gamble - AAI Media Base EDW Implementation
- Fox Filmed Entertainment – Category Management EDW Implementation

## EDUCATION

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Graduated 06/2008

**BE in Computer Science & Engineering**, Anna University – Chennai, India

## CERTIFICATIONS

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- SAP Certified Application Associate - SAC
- IBM Infosphere Foundation Tools 8.5 Sales Mastery Certification by IBM

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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**Experienced Domains:** Food, Gaming, Retail, Claims, Manufacturing, Financial Service