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AMAR KOTA

CHIEF TECHNOLOGY OFFICER | VP ENGINEERING

Polyglot Technology Executive with proven track record building and scaling high-performing startups & teams of 40+ to dozens of product launches using AWS / Azure / Google clouds in multiple industries, most recently with AI / ML architectures. Managed operational & capital budgets over $5M per annum and established IT strategy and roadmaps for a $1B company. Graduated above 90th percentile of students from top-tier computer science school & teacher of software analysis & design.

EDUCATION

Master of Science (MS)	eBusiness Technology, School of Computer Science	**Carnegie Mellon University**
Batchelor of Science (BS)	Neuroscience, School of Natural & Agricultural Sciences	**University of California, Riverside**

SKILLS & EXPERTISE

- Performance Engineering for High Volumes
- Recruiting → Training → Team Building
- Multi-Million CAPEX & OPEX Control
- P&L, Balance Sheet, Forecasting, ROI
- Design + Reduce Total Cost of Ownership (TCO)

- Create Technology Budgets, Governance and Roadmaps
- GitHub, Jira, Confluence, Trello, Slack, Figma, InVision
- Python, C#, R, Ruby, React, Tailwind, TypeScript, SQL
- Agentic workflows, text embedding, fine-tuning LLMs
- Policies, procedures and boardroom presentations

SELECTED ACHIEVEMENTS

ABA.AmarKota.com	Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA) Dashboard analyzing over 1,000 therapy sessions.
Last10K.com	Co-Founder / CTO of profitable SaaS; Top paid iPhone/iPad finance app in App Store (2022).
Revenut.com	Built open source / FOSS mobile + web app and API for SaaS revenue forecasting.
MySpaceTV.com	Co-managed development teams and launched YouTube-competing streaming site.
CE.UCI.edu	Tenured 10-year teacher for Division of Continuing Education at University of California.

EXECUTIVE EXPERIENCE

Y Combinator
Antler

Funding and mentoring founders of early-stage startups.

Hybrid / San Francisco, CA.
Hybrid / New York, NY.

Co-Founder / Fractional CTO   **2024 - Present**

Creating the development of early-stage startups through participation in renowned global accelerator programs and developing entire tech stacks.

- Completed the Y Combinator (S24) accelerator program and raised $2M for an AI-powered headcount management platform with an OpenAI custom GPT.
- Completed the Antler Residency founder program to build hybrid RAG and AI agent on edge devices for the creation of a HIPAA-compliant behavioral health SaaS.

Finfare, Inc.
Early-stage (Series A) fintech startup with a focus on AI-powered expense management payment systems

Hybrid / Irvine, CA.

Chief Architect   **2022 - 2023**

Owned end-to-end multi-product architecture, roadmap and $3M budget for single-page application (SPA), microservices and AWS cloud architecture for 13 onsite engineers.

- Defined KPIs based on DevOps Research Assessment (DORA) built on vendor-neutral application observability facade that report performance metrics that met strategic business vendor SLA and achieve card network certification.
- Managed both commercial and contractual side of identifying and procuring Payment Card Industry (PCI) Qualified Security Assessor (QSA) for attestation that satisfied short- and long-term banking partner integration and security requirements.
- Collaborated with VP of Credit/Risk and designed custom ML algorithm delivered through decision engine to mine thousands of variables in real time and provide proprietary scoring on prospects for credit decisioning modeling.
- Partnered with vCISO and CCO to write & adopt 12 IT and security policies that passed bank's cyber risk management due diligence requirements and aligned with SOC-2 security standards.
- Oversaw development of entire Infrastructure-as-a-Service (IaaS) that defined and deployed 17 version-controlled cloud services consistently for entire tech stack across multiple accounts, regions and environments via orchestrated event-driven architecture.

The Pacific Financial Group

Registered Investment Advisor (RIA) with $3B AUM and developer of automated risk profiling and portfolio construction SaaS for financial advisors and brokers.

Hybrid / Newport Beach, CA.

Enterprise Architect   **2019 - 2022**

Reporting to Chief Product Officer, responsible for $2M budget of onboarding 30+ person onshore + offshore DevOps and SecOps with AWS.

- Principle technology chief responsible for governance, facilitation and vendor integrations of technology for sales, operations, trading and distribution teams.
- Defined architectural strategy and API integrations that led to "all-in-one" risk profiling, portfolio construction and surveillance technology on the largest wealth management platform, Envestnet with 103,000 advisors across 4,900 companies.
- Led R&D efforts on evaluating new data pipeline orchestration & workflow management platform that was implemented to create revenue line by monetizing fund performance metrics by curating 100+ million positions monthly.
- Recruited DevOps Security Engineer and Cybersecurity Analyst to follow NIST cybersecurity framework for small businesses.

Training Consultants

Financial qualification exams preparation provider for RIA and broker-dealer firms regulated by FINRA.

Santa Ana, CA.

Vice President, Technology   **2017 - 2018**

Reporting to CEO, responsible for $1M budget of all technology + cloud / Azure changes that will serve new exam restructure set forth by regulating authority.

- Served as executive team member that defined short & long-term business goals, objectives / OKRs and KPIs with company co-founders.
- Architected predictive analytics model by learning from over 87K exams in 18 years to identify at-risk students early-on.
- Achieved accreditation pre-qualification with US Department of Education authority by writing inquiry and pre-application submissions that established congruence with eligibility requirements.
- Completed SIG assessments in data security required by current clients to ensure vendor compliance set forth by regulator.

California Southern University

Regionally accredited (WASC) online university offering degrees at the associate, bachelors, masters and doctoral levels.

Irvine, CA

Chief Technology Officer   **2016**

Reporting to University President, managed $1.5M P&L for software engineering, DevOps, QA, business intelligence, product management and technical support of student learning and back-office systems hosted on Microsoft Azure.

- Formed and held committee chairman role that led to defining next-generation distance learning environment & learning consortium interoperability standards to deliver interconnected learning management (LMS), administrative student information (SIS), Salesforce CRM and Microsoft ERP ecosystem.

Ria Financial

Subsidiary of Euronet Worldwide (NASDAQ: EEFT), provider of financial services and 3rd largest money transmitter worldwide.

Buena Park, CA.

Senior Manager, Product Development & Technology   **2010 - 2015**

Reporting to General Manager, managed $5M P&L by hiring 11 engineers to create 'Payment-as-a-Service' global money transfer platform on Microsoft Azure.

- Founding member of Digital division; created and executed technology strategy plan that led to development and launch of company's first B2C offering.
- Oversaw engineering of 7 identification & payment providers that facilitated consumer website to be launched in 12 countries which achieved 6th place sales ranking in a 200,000+ agent network.
- Launched first white label integration with Boost Mobile's mobile wallet app for Android & iOS with beta release of React Native.
- Wrote e-commerce policies that contributed to qualifying company to be a financial service provider for Walmart.

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE

[Systems Architect](#)	Pacific Alternative Asset Management Company, Irvine, CA.
[.NET Engineer](#)	MySpace.com, Beverly Hills, CA.
[Senior Systems Analyst](#)	UnitedHealth Group, Costa Mesa, CA.
[Consultant](#)	Olofson Technology Partners, Newport Beach, CA.