

PRASAD KAVURI

Director, AI Transformation | AI Platforms & Agentic AI | Enterprise Change Leadership | MBA

Naperville, IL • 312-623-2488 • vbkpkavuri@gmail.com • linkedin.com/in/pkavuri • prasadkavuri.com

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

AI and engineering leader with 20+ years of experience building platforms, leading large-scale technology organizations, and driving transformation in complex global environments. Most recently focused on bringing AI into real operating models — moving beyond pilots to measurable adoption across engineering, product, and business teams.

I have led global teams of 85+ engineers, driven major cost reductions, built AI platforms from the ground up, and partnered with senior stakeholders on strategy, operating model design, and enterprise execution. My background spans AI/ML infrastructure, agentic AI systems, cloud-native platforms, and organizational change leadership in matrixed, high-accountability environments.

With an MBA in Strategic Marketing and hands-on experience across AI transformation and platform engineering, I'm comfortable translating technology investments into clear adoption paths, business cases, and decisions leadership teams can act on. My experience in safety-critical, regulated environments at HERE Technologies — where data quality, compliance, and cross-functional alignment were essential — has shaped how I approach transformation in complex organizations.

SELECTED IMPACT

70% cost reduction	Replaced Google Maps + MapMyIndia; scaled Ola Maps to 13K+ enterprise customers
50% latency ↓ 40% cost ↓	Built India's first Agentic AI platform (Kruti.ai) via multi-model LLM orchestration
85+ engineers led	Global teams across US & India — org structure, delivery frameworks, and career development
20+ years	AI/ML, platform engineering, and enterprise transformation in complex, regulated environments

CORE COMPETENCIES

Area	Capabilities
AI Transformation & Adoption	Enterprise AI deployment at scale, operating model design, AI adoption frameworks, AI-native SDLC, change management
Executive Leadership	Executive stakeholder engagement, cross-functional collaboration, global team leadership, matrixed organization navigation, talent development
Strategy & Analytics	Adoption roadmaps, KPI/OKR design, business case development, build-vs-buy analysis, data-backed recommendations, executive presentations
Technology & Platforms	Generative AI, Agentic AI, LLM orchestration, RAG, AI/ML infrastructure, cloud-native platforms, API design, FinOps, cost optimization

ENTERPRISE TRANSFORMATION EXPERIENCE

- Defined and executed AI adoption roadmaps across engineering and product organizations, introducing measurable KPIs across the development lifecycle.
- Established AI-native ways of working across teams, making adoption visible and accountable rather than something the business just assumed was happening.
- Orchestrated transformation across three continents — navigating cultural dynamics, competing priorities, and time zones without losing momentum or delivery predictability.
- Worked closely with executive stakeholders on major platform decisions, including investment tradeoffs, vendor strategy, and operating model changes.
- Drove large-scale platform and workflow changes — including monolith-to-services transitions and AI-enabled development — without disrupting live systems or stopping feature delivery.

- Regularly presented recommendations and tradeoffs to senior leadership in ways that shaped how they evaluated platform investments, organizational priorities, and execution sequencing.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Head of AI Engineering | Krutrim (Ola Group) Mar 2025 – Present • Naperville, IL

Krutrim is Ola Group's AI and cloud division — India's answer to AWS and OpenAI combined. Led engineering for Kruti.ai, India's first Agentic AI platform.

- Built an AI-native operating model that made adoption measurable across the entire engineering org — introducing KPIs at every SDLC stage so AI usage was something the business could track, not just assume.
- Built and launched India's first agentic AI platform, covering LLM selection, orchestration, RAG pipelines, and domain-specific agents for cab booking, food ordering, bill payments, and image generation.
- Reduced end-to-end latency by 50% and inference cost by 40% through a smart routing layer dynamically distributing traffic across internal and external model providers.
- Built the engineering organization from the ground up — team ownership, KPI frameworks, performance standards, and 24/7 operational readiness for a globally distributed team.
- Translated AI platform capabilities into business outcomes — enabling new enterprise and consumer use cases and expanding B2B adoption of the Kruti.ai ecosystem.
- Coordinated cross-functional migration from AWS to Krutrim's proprietary cloud with minimal production disruption across infrastructure, ML, and product teams.

Senior Director of Engineering | Ola Sep 2023 – Feb 2025 • Naperville, IL

Led engineering and platform transformation for Ola Maps — scaling a real-time mobility platform into a B2B API business serving 13,000+ enterprise customers.

- Delivered a 70% infrastructure cost reduction by replacing Google Maps and MapMyIndia dependencies (~₹150 crore/year) with a proprietary open-source stack through a phased, milestone-gated transformation.
- Partnered with executive leadership to align technical strategy with business priorities — built cost models and time-to-market analyses that drove alignment on multi-million-dollar platform decisions.
- Led incremental decomposition of a monolithic platform into scalable services without halting feature delivery or disrupting marketplace operations.
- Introduced AI-driven route optimization for fleet management, improving ETA accuracy and supporting better outcomes for customers and driver partners.
- Built and led cross-functional teams across the US and India with KPI frameworks tied to DORA metrics — deployment frequency, MTTR, and change failure rate.
- Managed complex vendor and partner relationships across the UK, Australia, and EU to accelerate platform adoption and delivery.

Director of Engineering — Highly Automated Driving | HERE Technologies Jul 2021 – Jun 2023 • Chicago, IL

Led the HD maps engineering program enabling L3/L4 autonomous driving for HERE's three OEM shareholders — BMW, Daimler, and Volkswagen. A high-stakes, safety-critical environment where data quality, compliance, and release rigor were non-negotiable.

- Managed a global team of 85+ engineers delivering high-definition lane content and map precision systems across multiple OEM programs with distinct quality and compliance requirements.
- Operated in a safety-critical, regulated environment where data quality, release rigor, and cross-functional coordination were essential to every program.
- Advanced AI/ML-based automation in map generation and safety validation, improving precision and supporting autonomous driving deployment at OEM scale.
- Navigated high-pressure stakeholder dynamics with BMW — held firm on scope and sequencing under pressure, protecting delivery quality and platform sustainability across all programs.

Head of Infrastructure & Services | HERE Technologies May 2023 – Sep 2023 • Chicago, IL

- Directed global engineering for AI/ML infrastructure supporting autonomous driving and computer vision platforms used by major OEMs.
- Improved scalability and release readiness through updated infrastructure frameworks, modern data pipelines, and stronger platform foundations for AI-heavy workloads.

Sr. Eng. Manager → **Eng. Manager** → **Lead Engineer** → **Sr. Engineer** | **HERE Technologies** May 2005 – Jun 2021 • Chicago, IL

18-year progression from hands-on engineering to leading teams and platform transformation across 2D, 3D, and HD mapping infrastructure.

- Led Agile and cloud transformation — transitioning legacy map content pipelines to cloud-based delivery models with measurable improvements in release cycle predictability.
- Built navigation infrastructure used in Nokia phones; managed platform continuity through HERE's major ownership transition (Nokia → VW/BMW/Daimler consortium).

Software Developer | **Paradigm Infotech Inc.** Nov 2004 – Apr 2005 • Columbia, MD

- Developed GUI and middle-tier components using C# and .NET across the full software development lifecycle.

EDUCATION

MBA, Strategic Marketing — Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL 2012 – 2014

Master of Computer Applications (MCA) — Osmania University, Hyderabad, India 1999 – 2002

Bachelor's Degree, Computer Maintenance & Engineering — Osmania University, Hyderabad, India 1996 – 1999

CERTIFICATIONS & CONTINUOUS LEARNING

AI / Generative AI

- Generative AI Leader — Google Cloud
- Building with Claude API — Anthropic
- Agentic AI, LLMOps, Introduction to Subagents, Introduction to MCP — Anthropic / DeepLearning.AI
- Quantization Fundamentals — Hugging Face / DeepLearning.AI

Responsible AI & Systems

- Introduction to Responsible AI
- Building AI Plugins with Semantic Kernel
- ITIL Foundation