Rajit Saha

DATA & AI PLATFORM LEADER · HANDS-ON BUILDER

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SUMMARY

Data and AI platform leader with 23 years of professional experience, including 22 years in software engineering. Currently Director and Architect, Data & ML Platform at Coursera + Udemy, leading platform strategy and integration. Previously Senior Director of Engineering at Experian, leading a 75-person global organization. Builds data and AI platforms and the teams that run them, from streaming pipelines and lakehouses to production AI agents: leads through managers at enterprise scale and still writes the first version. Combines distributed-systems depth, engineering leadership and practical governance to turn business needs into reliable data, ML and AI capabilities.

CORE CAPABILITIES

- **Data platform, data engineering and data infrastructure.** Platform direction, architecture, real-time and batch pipelines, lifecycle operations and engineering priorities aligned with business needs.
- **AI platforms and AI engineering.** ML and AI platform direction, production AI agents, evaluation, agent governance and responsible adoption of AI capabilities.
- **Global engineering leadership.** Leading through managers, developing engineering judgment and establishing clear ownership across regions.
- **Data governance, privacy and responsible AI.** Partnering with Legal, Compliance and business teams to translate requirements into practical platform controls and accountable delivery.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Coursera + Udemy

DIRECTOR AND ARCHITECT, DATA & ML PLATFORM: Jan 2022 – Present

- Own the Data, ML and AI platform on AWS and Databricks and lead the Coursera–Udemy platform integration; joined Udemy in January 2022.
- Translate business and internal customer needs into platform strategy, priorities and accountable engineering delivery.
- Guide distributed teams, establish clear ownership and develop engineering judgment while staying close to architecture and early prototypes.
- Partner with Legal, Compliance and business teams on privacy, enterprise data commitments, governance and responsible AI adoption.

Experian

SENIOR DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING, DATA SERVICES, CLOUD INFRASTRUCTURE AND ASCEND PLATFORM: May 2020 – Jan 2022

- Built and led a 75-person global engineering organization across the US, Latin America and India, with four engineering managers, one director and one architect as direct reports.
- Delivered a next-generation, cloud-agnostic analytics platform at multi-petabyte scale for a regulated data business; established an enterprise metadata hub on open-source Amundsen.

LendingClub

DIRECTOR, DATA PLATFORM / ARCHITECT (Aug 2019 – May 2020) · Senior Development Manager (Aug 2018 – Aug 2019) · Principal Software Engineer / Manager (Nov 2015 – Jul 2018)

- Designed and built a real-time data pipeline from zero using Kafka, Oracle GoldenGate CDC and Spark Streaming, providing sub-second data availability for credit risk and regulatory reporting.
- Led modernization from on-premises Hadoop to AWS; aligned platform architecture with executive priorities across risk, reporting and analytics.
- Built distributed ML execution capabilities on Hadoop and Spark and introduced DevOps/DataOps practices for platform delivery. Presented the real-time pipeline architecture at Oracle OpenWorld 2017.

VMware

LEAD HADOOP DEVELOPER / BIGDATA ARCHITECT: Jan 2013 – Nov 2015

- Architected VMware IT's advanced analytics environment on virtual Hadoop, aligning memory/vCPU allocation and storage integration across vSphere, vSAN and EMC Isilon.
- Supported Hortonworks and virtual Hadoop implementations, including Project Serengeti and Virtual Hadoop Manager (vHM); led US–India cross-functional delivery within one year.

Teradata

TECH LEAD: Nov 2011 – Jan 2013

- Developed Java/C SQL-MapReduce functions for Teradata Aster; supported customer Aster/Hortonworks implementations, automated Hadoop provisioning and integrated clusters with Aster appliances.

Yahoo

TECHNICAL YAHOO, HADOOP (Oct 2010 – Nov 2011) · **TECH LEAD** (Jun 2007 – Sep 2010)

- Contributed to HDFS disk-fail-in-place development and resilience validation; owned testing and quality for core HDFS/MapReduce features and nightly regression automation.
- Led development of a distributed VESPA test framework and customer-hardware performance benchmarking; presented at VESPA Summit 2009.

Earlier Career

ORACLE: Senior Member Technical Staff (Dec 2005 – Jun 2007) · **IBM GLOBAL SERVICES**: Application Programmer (Mar 2004 – Nov 2005) · **BENGAL COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY**: Lecturer (Mar 2003 – Mar 2004)

OPEN SOURCE

Designed, coded and shipped independently on my own time, outside my employment, to test ideas and stay hands-on with AI engineering. AgentBreeder alone is about 800 commits and 1,650+ tests at about 98% coverage, built solo with AI coding agents using the 100xPrism workflow.

- **AgentBreeder** (Apache 2.0, open-source preview): deploy-time identity and policy gate for AI agents; an agent ships only if the identity provider confirms an accountable sponsor, a current review date and scoped grants, with approvals, a kill switch, an audit chain and MCP tool-call enforcement.
- **100xPrism** (MIT): open-source toolkit for spec-driven AI-assisted development, configuration adapters, quality-check workflows, agent-to-agent review and local usage reporting.

SPEAKING, WRITING & EDUCATION

Intelligent Enterprise: Turning Data into Decisions, TechSommet × Hex (Nov 18, 2026): Opening keynote, *Your AI Is Only as Smart as Your Definitions* · **Clutch Events SF AI Engineering & Infrastructure Summit, Palo Alto (Oct 15, 2026)**: Think Tank panelist on durable AI infrastructure decisions, evaluations and governance · **CDO Vision San Francisco 2026**: Speaker · **Oracle OpenWorld** 2006 and 2017: Speaker · Judge, UC Berkeley Datathon 2025 · Technical writing on the Udemy engineering blog, Medium and LinkedIn, including *What's Left for Engineers When Agents Can Architect, Build, Test, and Review?* and *Choose Your Fighter: 5 Surprising Truths About the 2026 AI Agent Framework Wars*

Education: M.Tech, Electronics and Instrumentation (Gold Medalist), Jadavpur University, Kolkata, 2003

LEADERSHIP CONVERSATIONS

I welcome conversations about data and AI platforms, engineering leadership and building strong engineering organizations. Full résumé and references available on request: email or LinkedIn.