



Mehraz Ali

Consultant | Builder | Leader | Entrepreneur

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FooBarRaz

mehraz-ali

Experience

Skills

Education

Volunteer

Blog

LANGUAGES

English

Native speaker

Hindi

Native speaker

Urdu

Fluent

Arabic

Basic

Spanish

Basic

French

Basic

INTERESTS

Music

Virtual Reality

Soccer

Golf

Video Games

Outdoors

Motorsports

Senior Principal Engineer, AI-forward founder, and seasoned technology consultant with 13+ years of experience building and shipping software across consulting and industry. Currently leading large-scale client engagements at Slalom Build while building DogFoodLab — a product studio focused on eliminating friction from everyday life through smart, AI-powered tools. Proven track record of designing complex distributed systems, leading cross-functional teams, and driving AI adoption and acceleration at scale. Passionate about leveraging AI-driven development practices — including Spec-Driven Development (SDD), agentic workflows, and workflow automation — to ship faster and smarter. Equal parts hands-on builder and strategic leader.

01 Experience

Feb 2025 — Present

Founder & CEO

DogFoodLab

Founder and sole operator of DogFoodLab — a product studio dedicated to cutting through the everyday nonsense. We build smart, innovative tools that let you focus on what truly matters — creating moments of magic in a world full of distractions. The flagship product, StashDog, is currently in active development. DogFoodLab operates at the intersection of AI-driven development, workflow automation, and practical product design.

Founded and launched a solo product studio from the ground up

Building StashDog — flagship product in active development

AI-native development workflow using Claude Code, Kiro, and agentic tooling

End-to-end product ownership: ideation, design, architecture, implementation, and GTM

n8n workflow automation for business process pipelines

Supabase

React

TypeScript

Node.js

Serverless Architecture

Sep 2019 — Present

Senior Principal, Software Engineering

Slalom Build

Leading complex, large-scale client engagements from discovery through delivery as a Senior Principal Engineer. Managing and mentoring teams of engineers — providing career guidance, professional development, and technical coaching. Driving AI adoption and acceleration across teams, training and guiding organizations toward effective AI integration at scale. Assessing client business challenges and architecting best-fit technology solutions. Collaborating with delivery managers, stakeholders, and cross-functional teams to scope, estimate, and deliver modern cloud-native applications.

Promoted to Senior Principal (July 2025)

Leading AI adoption and acceleration initiatives across client teams at scale

Training and coaching teams on effective AI-driven development practices

Managing complex, multi-pod client engagements end-to-end

People management and professional development for a growing engineering cohort

Technical strategy, architecture, and solution design

Engagement management and client relationship building

Thought leadership and public speaking

Agile delivery, continuous improvement, and process optimization

Apr 2025 — Present

Principal Engineer / Architect

Statewide Judicial Technology Organization

Principal engineer and architect on the central case-management pod for a statewide judicial digital transformation initiative. Led design, development, and delivery of the core case management product, replacing fragmented legacy court systems with a unified, cloud-native platform for multiple court types and judicial workflows. Served as a principal driver of AI enablement and acceleration, helping the team adopt and evolve AI tooling, engineering practices, and delivery workflows across the project.

Led architecture and delivery for the pivotal case-management pod at the center of a multi-pod modernization program

Designed core platform capabilities for end-to-end case lifecycle management across diverse court workflows

Delivered product patterns supporting standardized yet configurable processes for local court variation

Built foundational workflows for cross-court navigation, e-filing, document management, document validation, calendars, and dockets

Partnered with product, design, engineering, and public-sector stakeholders through discovery, MVP delivery, and court onboarding

Helped translate 120+ features and 850+ user stories into executable architecture and delivery plans

Advanced AI-assisted delivery practices across the team, including tooling adoption, workflow design, and engineering enablement

Supported MVP delivery, training, configuration, data migration, and rollout activities for onboarding multiple courts

Cloud-Native Architecture

Case Management Systems

Public Sector

Judicial Workflows

Document Management

Data Migration

AI Enablement

AMS

Apr 2024 — Mar 2025

Principal Engineer / Architect

Aviation Weather Technology Provider

Principal engineer and architect for a one-year modernization of a legacy desktop flight dispatch application into a modern web platform for airline dispatchers. Partnered with an integrated consulting and client engineering/design team through discovery, architecture, product framing, and delivery. Helped define the technical foundation and interaction patterns for a regulated aviation workflow that consolidates weather, flight, route, and alerting data so dispatchers can monitor aircraft from gate departure through arrival.

Led architecture and hands-on engineering for a mission-critical aviation dispatch product modernization

Framed the product and technical backlog during a 6-week discovery phase, then delivered through a 52-week build

Designed web application patterns to replace a Windows-dependent thick client with a browser-based dispatch experience

Consolidated disparate weather, route, aircraft, and alerting data into dispatcher-focused workflows

Reduced alert fatigue through clearer prioritization, information architecture, and interaction design

Supported 14 CFR Part 121 flight dispatch monitoring and operational compliance workflows

Helped take the product from pilot feedback in late 2024 to production go-live for two airline customers by March 2025

Contributed foundational architecture and delivery patterns for future aviation products across the client organization

Product Modernization

Aviation Dispatch

Weather Data Visualization

Geospatial Applications

Alerting Workflows

Regulated Systems

React

TypeScript

Mar 2023 — Jan 2025

Principal Engineer

Regional Bank in Birmingham, Alabama

Led the design and delivery of a cloud-native platform for a regional bank, digitizing and consolidating multiple business applications into a unified system. This was the client's first cloud-native initiative, requiring extensive experimentation, stakeholder alignment, organizational change management, and hands-on technical execution. Designed and implemented services, application UIs, and infrastructure in compliance with internal banking policies. Also developed a suite of applications to ensure compliance with upcoming banking regulations.

AWS

Lambda

PostgreSQL

Node.js

React

TypeScript

Terraform

DynamoDB

SMS

EventBridge

Step Functions

Prisma

tsmx

RJSF

Regulatory Compliance

Cloud-Native Transformation

Jun 2022 — Feb 2023

Principal Engineer

Payment Products and Services Provider in Atlanta, GA

Designed and built a multi-tenant white-label e-commerce platform enabling restaurants to manage and fulfil online orders — essentially a customizable DoorDash-style solution. Implemented real-time order management, menu configuration, and payment processing capabilities across a multi-tenant architecture.

Google Cloud Platform

Next.js

React

Firebase

Realtime Database

GraphQL

Multi-tenancy

Accessibility

SEO

Performance Optimization

Jun 2022 — Feb 2023

Principal Engineer

Automotive Services and Technology Provider in Atlanta, GA

Developed and launched an online e-commerce platform to facilitate selling cars digitally. Built out the full buying experience including vehicle search, credit applications, payment processing, and multi-tenant support for dealer networks.

Node.js

AWS

React

Elasticsearch

REST APIs

Multi-tenancy

DynamoDB

Step Functions

E-Commerce

Credit Applications

Payment Processing

Jun 2022 — Feb 2023

Solution Architect

Leading Cruise Line in Miami, FL

Architected and developed a system for capturing, storing, managing, and selling photos and media taken on cruise ships — including passenger photos, event coverage, and onboard experiences. The system was designed to run on on-prem hardware aboard the ships with cloud sync capabilities.

Photo Management

On-Prem / Hybrid Architecture

Android

Kotlin

AWS

Java

Spring Boot

Angular

MinIO

Jun 2022 — Feb 2023

Solution Architect

Animation and Television Studio in Atlanta, GA

Led the effort to bring a portfolio of mobile games up to spec with new SDKs, platform standards, and California Consumer Privacy Act (CCPA) compliance requirements. Coordinated across a multidisciplinary team spanning legal, development, and QA to evaluate, plan, and execute privacy and technical updates across iOS, Android, and iPad OS titles without disrupting user experience.

iOS

Android

iPad OS

Unity

C#

.NET

CCPA Compliance

SDK Upgrades

Cross-Functional Team Leadership

Mobile Game Portfolio Management

Feb 2014 — Sep 2019

Lead Developer, Consultant (prev: Senior Developer)

Thoughtworks

Consultant at a leading global IT services firm, delivering across a wide variety of client projects in financial services, retail, logistics, and more. Responsibilities spanned the full spectrum — from hands-on delivery and architecture to coaching, enablement, and organizational transformation. Built a reputation for technical excellence, clear communication, and elevating team capabilities.

Consulting

Agile

Lean and Continuous Delivery

Test-Driven Development

Pair Programming

Education and Mentorship

Public Speaking

Clean Coding Practices

Architecture and Design

Workshops

Process Improvement

Organizational Transformation

Conflict Management

Relationship Building

Jan 2017 — Dec 2024

Founder/CXO

Kinexys

Founded Kinexys as a holding company and legal entity for passion projects. Flagship product was Shotcaller — a location-based social media app published to both the Apple App Store and Google Play Store. Took Shotcaller from concept through design, development, and production launch as a solo founder. Company has since been folded; Shotcaller has been sunsetted.

Took Shotcaller from inception to production as sole founder

Published to Apple App Store and Google Play Store

Social Media App

iOS

Android

Mobile Web

OAuth 2.0

PostGIS

React Native

Heroku

Ruby on Rails

AWS

Oct 2017 — Apr 2019

Technical Lead/Sr. Software Engineer

Business Development/Analytics Company in Cincinnati, OH

Led a team of 12 developers to build a greenfield analytics platform for a major retailer's vendor ecosystem. The application provided vendors with actionable insights based on retail sales data. Built a full-stack solution with an Angular frontend and a cluster of Spring Boot-powered Java microservices. Coached the team on development and testing best practices while enabling distributed collaboration across multiple locations.

Greenfield

Stream Lead

Code-zero to Production

Production Support

Microservices

Pivotal Cloud Foundry

Distributed Team

Feature Tagging

CLI Development

Angular 2/4/6/7

RxJS

HgRx

Java

Spring Boot

Spring Cloud Stream

Spring Batch

RabbitMQ

Jun 2017 — Oct 2017

Sr. Software Engineer

Consumer Credit Reporting Agency in Atlanta, GA

Built a fraud detection and risk analysis system for a consumer credit reporting agency. The system tracked access patterns across factual, situational, and behavioral metrics to build risk profiles and flag fraudulent authentication attempts. Worked on an 8-person team to stand up the backend infrastructure using Java, CassandraDB, Apache Avro, Apache Kafka, and clickstream aggregation tools.

Greenfield

Cassandra

Security

Distributed Team

Java

Spring Config Server

Apache Kafka

Apache Avro

Fraud Detection

Jan 2017 — Jun 2017

Sr. Software Engineer

Credit Card and Payment Services Provider in Wilmington, DE

Worked on a large-scale, event-sourced microservices platform serving tens of thousands of daily users for a major payment services provider. Contributed across production support, new product inceptions, and experimental R&D initiatives. Built a developer CLI tool to automate routine development tasks.

Microservices

CI/CD

Event Sourcing

Production Support

CLI Development

Java

Ruby

GoLang

Spring Boot

Spring Cloud DataFlow

Kafka

Avro Framework

Distributed Team

Jun 2016 — Dec 2016

Technical Lead/Sr. Developer

Mortgage Loan and Financial Services Company in Reston, VA

Delivered two engagements for a mortgage and financial services company. First, built a custom testing framework for data engineers to validate ETL jobs — resulting in over 50% reduction in testing time. Then transitioned to coaching 5 scrum teams on Agile development practices through pairing, structured learning, and presentations as they built a next-generation loan delivery system.

Greenfield

Coaching and Enablement

AWS

Angular

Full-Stack

Spring Boot

Framework Development

Test-Driven Development

Data Testing Framework

ETL

Behavior-Driven Development

Sr. Software Engineer

Business Analytics Company in Atlanta, GA

Engineered a fraud detection and risk analysis system for a consumer credit reporting agency. The system tracked access patterns across factual, situational, and behavioral metrics to build risk profiles and flag fraudulent authentication attempts. Worked on an 8-person team to stand up the backend infrastructure using Java, CassandraDB, Apache Avro, Apache Kafka, and clickstream aggregation tools.

TECHNICAL

AI-Driven Development

Claude Code

Prompt Engineering

AI Team Enablement & Adoption

JavaScript

Java

HTML / CSS

GitHub Copilot

ChatGPT / OpenAI

Spec-Driven Development (SDD)

Agentic Workflows

TypeScript

React

Node.js

Spring Boot

AWS

CI/CD Pipelines

Amazon Kiro

Google Gemini

Cursor

Workflow Automation (n8n)

Ruby

Ruby on Rails

C#

Lambda

Docker

Serverless Architecture

PostgreSQL

Angular (2+)

React Native

Next.js

Terraform

Cassandra

DynamoDB

Cloud Foundry (PCF)

Python

Firebase

Kafka

RabbitMQ

GraphQL

Prisma

Android

Supabase

ElasticSearch

Kotlin

Google Cloud Platform

MongoDB

iOS

i3.js

KnockoutJS

Grunt

Gulp

GoLang

Unity

AS/400

Tibco ActiveMatrix/ENS

PhoneGap

LEADERSHIP & CONSULTING

Communication

MASTER

Presenting / Public Speaking

MASTER

Problem Solving

MASTER

Teaching / Mentorship

MASTER

AI Adoption Strategy

MASTER

Facilitation

EXPERT

People Management

EXPERT

Relationship Building

EXPERT

Executive Advisory

EXPERT

Negotiation

EXPERT

Organizational Transformation

ADVANCED

Strategy

ADVANCED

QUALITY & TESTING

Test-Driven Development

MASTER

Jest / Mocha / JUnit

EXPERT

Behaviour Driven Development

EXPERT

Cucumber

EXPERT

Jenkins

EXPERT

Selenium WebDriver

ADVANCED

Load & Performance Testing

PROFICIENT

Security Testing

COMPETENT

DOMAIN EXPERTISE

Financial Services & Insurance

EXPERT

E-Commerce & Retail

EXPERT

SaaS & Product Development

EXPERT

Automotive

PROFICIENT

Entertainment & Media

PROFICIENT

03 Education

2005 — 2006

Georgia State University

M.Sc. in Computer Science (incomplete)

Computer Science

GPA: 4.30

2003 — 2004

University of Georgia

Bachelor of Business Administration

Marketing

GPA: 3.2 in Major (Dean's List)

04 Community

ZipCode Wilmington

VOLUNTEER

Helping aspiring software developers work on group projects and prepare for interviews with potential employers

Digital Youth Founders

VOLUNTEER

Helping middle and high-school kids learn to build software.

Trees Atlanta

VOLUNTEER

Planting new trees to replace ones lost to urban development

Open Hand

VOLUNTEER

Delivering food and groceries to people with disabilities and chronic illnesses.
1,000 pounds of food donations

Atlanta Community Food Bank

VOLUNTEER

Sorting and packing food donations for distribution to local food pantries.