

Gaurav Ashtikar

Co-Founder & Director, Platforms | AI Operations, Platform Engineering & DevOps

Pune, Maharashtra, India | gau1991@gmail.com | gau1991.me | linkedin.com/in/gau1991 | github.com/gau1991

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Co-Founder and platform engineering leader with 13+ years of experience building cloud platforms, DevOps systems, automation products, and AI-driven operations tooling. Builder of **OpsRabbit**, a self-hosted AI incident-investigation platform for ITOps, DevOps, SRE, infrastructure, security, and enterprise IT teams.

At Applied AI Consulting, built OpsRabbit from the ground up and led customer-facing DevOps/SRE consulting across cloud infrastructure, Kubernetes deployments, automation, reliability, operations, and cost-control programs.

CORE STRENGTHS

- **AI operations products:** Incident investigation, alert workflows, runbooks, knowledge systems, and human-in-the-loop automation
- **Platform engineering:** Cloud infrastructure, CI/CD, release automation, self-service tooling, and reliable operating models
- **Infrastructure automation:** Provisioning, configuration management, container platforms, Linux operations, and repeatable environments
- **Enterprise readiness:** Self-hosted deployments, access control, approval flows, auditability, redaction, and guardrails
- **Leadership:** Managed and mentored 30+ DevOps and SRE engineers delivering customer infrastructure and operations programs

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Co-Founder & Director, Platforms

Aug 2019 - Present

Applied AI Consulting (AAIC) - Pune, India

Product: OpsRabbit

- Built **OpsRabbit** from an initial Slack-based investigation concept into a self-hosted enterprise platform for AI-assisted operations.
- Led product architecture across user experience, core platform, persistent investigation history, alert ingestion, collaboration channels, and administrative controls.
- Built alert investigation workflows for Datadog, PagerDuty, Jira, and Email: normalize alerts, preserve event history, create or reuse investigation threads, run AI analysis, and send provider-specific follow-ups.
- Designed capabilities for safe automation, operational memory, runbook-style guidance, infrastructure context, knowledge search, and customer-system integrations.
- Implemented enterprise controls for user access, secret storage, approval flows, command guardrails, scoped integrations, redaction, structured logging, and optional isolated execution.

Consultancy: DevOps and SRE

- Led consulting work for customers across cloud infrastructure, Kubernetes deployments, infrastructure automation, platform operations, reliability improvement, and cloud cost control.
- Managed and mentored a team of 30+ DevOps and SRE engineers delivering infrastructure, automation, deployment, monitoring, and operations programs.
- Helped businesses modernize operations through AI technology, DevOps practices, AWS cloud services, and automation-first delivery.

DevOps Engineer

2019

Flux7 Inc.

- Worked on DevOps and cloud engineering initiatives across automation, cloud infrastructure, and delivery engineering.

Cloud Architect

Jan 2018 - Jan 2019

REAN Cloud - Pune, India

- Led team-level work and internal product initiatives for cloud automation and infrastructure delivery.
- Participated in code reviews, architecture reviews, and technical design discussions.
- Designed AWS infrastructure for cloud-native workloads and developed serverless applications using AWS Lambda.

Senior Cloud Automation Engineer

Sep 2016 - Dec 2017

REAN Cloud - Pune, India

- Designed and implemented AWS infrastructure for customer and internal environments.
- Automated infrastructure provisioning and configuration using Terraform, Ansible, and Chef.

- Built CI/CD pipelines, Docker-based infrastructure, Debian/RPM packages using Chef Omnibus, and delivered Chef/Ansible workshops.

Cloud Automation Engineer & Python Developer

Apr 2016 - Aug 2016

Opex Software Corp. - Pune, India

- Automated operational tasks using Chef and Ansible.
- Built infrastructure automation using Terraform and Packer.
- Set up Jenkins CI environments and provisioned AWS infrastructure.

Linux System Administrator

May 2014 - Mar 2016

rtCamp - Pune, India

- Administered Ubuntu and Debian Linux servers across installation, troubleshooting, monitoring, backup, and recovery.
- Managed Nginx, PHP, MySQL, Git, Jenkins, Travis CI, WordPress, Discourse, and GitLab environments.
- Developed and maintained EasyEngine automation for WordPress setup on Debian/Ubuntu servers using Python and Shell scripting.
- Built Nginx and PHP packages for Debian and Ubuntu.

Assistant System Engineer / System Administrator

Jul 2013 - May 2014

Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) - Pune, India

- Performed real-time server administration, monitoring, backup, and recovery.
- Automated day-to-day operational tasks using Shell scripting and deployed PHP-based applications.

SELECTED PROJECTS & OPEN SOURCE

OpsRabbit - AI-powered incident investigation platform for ITOps, DevOps, SRE, infrastructure, cloud, security, and enterprise IT teams. Built the product experience across alert ingestion, investigation threads, AI-guided analysis, integrations, collaboration, and admin controls.

EasyEngine - Contributed to CLI automation for setting up and managing Nginx-based WordPress infrastructure on Debian/Ubuntu Linux.

DoudouLinux - Contributed to a Linux distribution designed to make computer use easy and pleasant for children aged 2 to 12.

Pragat Cluster Automation Toolkit - Built Python/PHP tooling for mass deployment of CentOS-based OpenMPI clusters as part of a DRDO sub-project.

EDUCATION, CERTIFICATIONS & AWARDS

Bachelor of Technology - Information Technology, Walchand College of Engineering, Sangli (2009 - 2013)

AWS Certified Solutions Architect - Associate (previously certified; expired July 01, 2019)

Awards: Employee of the Year 2017 (REAN Cloud), Employee of the Month (REAN Cloud, TCS), ILP Kudos (TCS Training), Student of the Year (Information Technology Department).