

Shahid Shaikh

Applied AI / Principal Engineer · LLMs for Secure Code Generation · Distributed Systems & Rust

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SUMMARY

Applied AI engineer focused on LLMs for code generation and software security, backed by 10+ years building and scaling production systems. MSc AI/ML (Distinction); thesis on secure code generation with generative models (patent application in progress). Currently embedded in Veracode's platform engineering team, working at the intersection of application security and large-scale backend systems. Deep systems background — distributed systems, event-driven architecture, Rust/Go — that translates directly into building, fine-tuning, evaluating, and shipping ML systems rather than only calling APIs. Author of 4 technical books, open-source contributor (Node.js, IPFS, OrbitDB), and 2021 Stratus Award winner.

CORE SKILLS

AI / ML: LLM fine-tuning (LoRA/QLoRA), evaluation & eval-harness design, RAG, agentic systems, secure code generation, prompt engineering

Systems: Distributed systems, event-driven architecture, microservices, system scaling & optimization, observability, cloud-native (AWS, Azure, EKS)

Languages: Golang, Rust, Node.js, Java

Data / Other: MySQL, PostgreSQL, MongoDB, Cassandra, ScyllaDB, Redis; Blockchain & DApps (Ethereum, Hyperledger, IPFS, Cosmos)

EXPERIENCE

AccionLabs, Mumbai — Principal Architect

Feb 2018 – Present

Continuous full-time role delivering architecture & engineering consulting for global clients.

- Lead architecture for SaaS, cybersecurity, social-networking, and developer-tools products; define architecture blueprints, coding standards, and critical design reviews.
- Design scalable microservices, event-driven systems, observability stacks, and cloud-native deployments across AWS, Azure, and EKS.
- Built Maze, an award-winning decentralized-application framework accelerating Web 3.0 development (2021 Stratus Award, IoT category).
- Own full SDLC delivery — technical roadmap, sprint planning, DevOps automation, cost optimization — and act as internal consultant for high-priority escalations and performance tuning.

Key client engagements (consulting projects under AccionLabs — not job switches):

Principal Software Engineer — Veracode

May 2024 – Present

- Platform engineering for Veracode Fix, an AI-assisted secure-code-remediation product, and the core Veracode Platform.
- Supported the release of Veracode Fix analytics modules; deep-dive debugging, backend API orchestration, and reliability under enterprise-scale load.
- Root-cause analysis across logs and DB traces; coordinated with analytics, compliance, product, and engineering on feature releases. Work sits directly at the application-security × code-generation intersection.

Head of Engineering — Bravvox

Dec 2021 – Mar 2023

- Led engineering for Bravvox, an alternative social platform built for secure, open expression.
- Designed and delivered the full platform architecture: microservices API, feed system, media pipeline, user graph, and real-time notifications.
- Built the engineering team and set up DevOps, CI/CD, infrastructure-as-code, and monitoring; reduced the deployment cycle by 40%.

Zebpay Services Pvt Ltd, Mumbai — Senior Blockchain Engineer

Jun 2017 – Feb 2018

- Led the migration to AWS and built a custom ZooKeeper solution saving ~\$300K/year.
- Led the blockchain engineering team building Zebpay's Backend 2.0.

Accion Technologies Pvt Ltd, Mumbai — Technology Lead

Jun 2014 – Dec 2017

- First role after college; progressed to Technology Lead, serving telecom, insurance, and utility clients.
- Rebuilt OODEBE, Accion's in-house accelerator for migrating data from legacy systems to modern platforms.

EDUCATION

Liverpool John Moores University (LJMU), UK — MSc Artificial Intelligence & Machine Learning

Mar 2024 – Nov 2025

Distinction. Thesis: secure code generation using generative AI models (patent application in progress).

University of Mumbai — B.E. Computer Science

Jun 2010 – Jun 2014

Distinction.

SELECTED ACHIEVEMENTS

- Completed MSc AI/ML with Distinction while working full-time.
- Led engineering for two major platforms (Bravvox and Veracode) concurrently via AccionLabs.
- Recognized as the go-to technical problem solver for critical production issues across multiple clients.
- Built multiple side products and developer tools with 0→1 execution.

PUBLICATIONS & COMMUNITY

Author (4 technical books): Building Decentralized Applications Using Blockchain; Learning Azure Cosmos DB; Mastering RethinkDB; Sails.js Essentials.

Open source & speaking: Contributor to Node.js, OrbitDB, and IPFS. 100+ technical articles. Conference speaker. 2021 Stratus Award (IoT) for Maze.