AJITH KUMAR

Senior DevOps Engineer

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Summary

- Senior DevOps / Platform Engineer with 5 years on Azure and AWS. Specialized in Kubernetes platform engineering, GPU infrastructure for AI/ML, GitOps (ArgoCD), and infrastructure-as-code with Terraform.
- Owns production platforms end to end — CI/CD, service mesh, observability, incident response focused on reliability and zero-downtime operations.

Experience

Commotion - Senior DevOps Engineer | Feb 2025 - Present

- Manage **NVIDIA H200 NVL GPU** clusters on Kubernetes - separate training and inference clusters with MIG partitioning for workload isolation across AI/ML teams.
- Built production **Kubernetes** from the ground up on Azure with Terraform, Cilium CNI, overlay networking, and GitOps-driven delivery with ArgoCD and Helm.
- Migrated ingress from NGINX to **Istio** with Gateway API; rolled out Ambient-mode service mesh with waypoint proxies for L7 observability and tracing.
- Upgraded production Kubernetes from v1.29 to v1.34 with zero downtime across five minor versions.
- Operate self-hosted stateful services on Kubernetes operators - Strimzi Kafka, CloudNativePG Postgres, and Dragonfly Redis.
- Self-hosted **GitLab** runners on Kubernetes (high concurrency, Docker-in-Docker); migrated CI/CD from AWS CodeBuild to modular, reusable pipelines with ephemeral review apps.
- Resolved critical production incidents - load-balancer packet drops, Kafka recovery, Postgres WAL corruption, and gRPC connection failures.

Kovai.co - DevOps Engineer | Apr 2023 - Jan 2025

- Managed Kubernetes workloads on Azure AKS with Helm, KEDA, and HPA for scalable, cost-efficient autoscaling.
- Implemented zero-downtime deployments for customer production workloads and reduced cloud costs using Turbo360 (validated in a client recommendation).
- Built observability with Prometheus, Grafana, and Azure Container Insights to detect and resolve incidents faster.
- Designed event-driven architectures on Azure Container Apps, reducing infrastructure overhead.
- Automated provisioning and disaster recovery with Terraform and Azure DevOps.

Cognizant - DevOps Engineer | Jun 2021 - Mar 2023

- Built and managed AWS and Azure infrastructure EC2, EKS, ECS Fargate, AKS, and App Services — with CI/CD via Azure DevOps and ARM templates.
- Automated operations and observability: JFrog Artifactory artifact management, log backups, Prometheus/Grafana monitoring, and ServiceNow ITSM workflows.

Technical skills

- **Cloud:** Azure (AKS, App Services, ACR, App Gateway, Storage, CDN), AWS (EC2, EKS, ECS, S3, Lambda, Route 53)
- **Kubernetes & GPU**: Kubernetes, Helm, ArgoCD, Cilium, KEDA, HPA, NVIDIA GPU (H100, H200, MIG), Operators (Strimzi, CloudNativePG, Dragonfly)
- **Service Mesh & Networking:** Istio (Ambient mesh, Gateway API), VNet, SSL/TLS, Cloudflare DNS.
- **IaC & Automation**: Terraform, ARM Templates, Helm, Shell Scripting, Python
- **CI/CD & SCM:** GitLab CI/CD, Azure DevOps, Jenkins, Git, Docker (DinD)
- **Observability**: Prometheus, Grafana, Loki, Tempo, Azure Monitor
- **Data & Tools:** Kafka, PostgreSQL, Redis, JFrog Artifactory, Nginx, ServiceNow

Academic history

Hindusthan College of Engineering and Technology, Coimbatore.

B.Tech (Information Technology) | CGPA - 7.95 | (2017 - 2021)

Certifications

- Microsoft Certified: Azure Fundamentals Az-900
- Microsoft Certified: Azure Administrator Associate Az-104
- Microsoft Certified: Azure DevOps Engineer Expert Az-400