

KANISHK KASHAYAP

LEAD AI & DATA ENGINEER

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Lead AI & Data Engineer with 5+ years shipping production GenAI, RAG, agentic, and data platforms. Leads a four-person RAG team while remaining hands-on with Python/FastAPI, evaluation, retrieval, and Azure. Turns product priorities into roadmaps, tested releases, and measurable outcomes.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Carl Zeiss AG: Lead AI & Data Engineer

July 2022 – Current

Technical Leadership, AI Architecture & Client Solutions

- **RAG Technical Leadership:** Lead a four-person RAG team; own architecture, translate product priorities into roadmaps, mentor engineers, and define testing and release standards.
- **Production Hybrid RAG:** Achieved 94% retrieval accuracy on an internal benchmark through hybrid embeddings/vector and keyword search, metadata filtering, and reranking.
- **Agentic Workflows:** Accelerated component sourcing by 35% using LangGraph multi-agent workflows and ReAct tool selection for retrieval, validation, and ranking.
- **AI-MCP Agentic RAG:** Standardized AI-to-tool/data interactions across 15+ products, reducing retrieval/integration time by 60%; implemented agentic chunking, hybrid vector/graph-database search, reranking, and RAGAS evaluation.
- **Evaluation & Observability:** Reduced agent errors by 50% with RAGAS/Langfuse evaluations of relevance, groundedness, tool-call correctness, and response quality.
- **Model & Backend Optimization:** Reduced query latency by 25% and API costs by 40% through model benchmarking, intent routing, and asynchronous FastAPI services.
- **Secure Production Delivery:** Delivered 10+ secure Python/FastAPI Azure services with MCP, Docker, and CI/CD; saved 30+ hours weekly and supported 100+ customers.
- **Enterprise AI Adoption:** Advised 15+ engineering teams on AI practices and supported framework adoption by 500+ developers.
- **Platform Automation:** Reduced resource-deployment time by more than 40% across 20+ data products using Terraform.
- **Enterprise Data Platform:** Built governed Databricks/Unity Catalog/dbt CI/CD pipelines across 7 business units and 15 countries; generated €850,000 revenue and gained 30+ internal customers.

Deloitte Risk and Financial Advisory: Data Analyst

Jan 2018 – Sept 2019

Data Analysis, BI & Client Reporting

- **Pipeline & Stakeholder Delivery:** Saved 20 engineering hours weekly by automating financial/operational pipeline monitoring and reporting in Python; translated stakeholder requirements into validated data models and transformations.

EDUCATION

Otto-Von-Guericke University: MSc. Data Engineering

Oct 2019 – July 2022

Chandigarh University: Bachelor of Engineering

Aug 2014 – May 2018

KEY SKILLS

- **Agentic AI & RAG:** LangChain, LangGraph, ReAct, MCP, Multi-Agent Systems, Embeddings, Hybrid Vector/Graph-Database Retrieval, Reranking.
- **Evaluation & Observability:** RAGAS, Langfuse, Groundedness, Tool-Call and Response-Quality Evaluation, Guardrails, AI Observability.
- **Engineering Platforms:** Python, FastAPI, REST APIs, Azure, Azure AI Search, Databricks, Unity Catalog, dbt, Docker, CI/CD.
- **Languages:** English (Bilingual), German (Basic/A1), Hindi (Native).