

Lakshya Kumar

Software Engineer

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🛠 Skills

TypeScript, JavaScript | React, NextJS, HTML/CSS, Vue, Redux, Zustand, NodeJS, Browser Extensions, Vite, Webpack, Firebase, Tailwind, TanStack, ShadCN, Bundlers, Monorepos, Web Performance, Service Workers, ServerSentEvents, WebSockets, PR Reviews, Mentorship

📁 Professional Experience

Founding Engineer (Frontend Lead), Merlin AI 🔗 08/2022 – present | Bengaluru, India

- **Currently leading the frontend team** at a fast-growing AI startup, delivering high-impact features and maintaining engineering excellence
- Built and scaled the Merlin AI **Chrome Extension** to **1.5M+ installs** and a **4.8★ rating** on the Chrome Web Store
- Developed and maintained the web platform (**Next.js App Router**), driving **3M+ monthly SEO traffic**
- Maintained a in-house **component library** built with **ShadCN** and **Radix UI**, ensuring **design consistency** and **accessibility**
- Built and shipped multiple **AI-driven features** including **YouTube video summarization**, **Gmail AI email generation** and replies, **LinkedIn and Twitter post/message AI replies**, and **chat with any webpage on internet**
- **Improved performance and developer experience** by implementing a **caching layer** with TanStack Query and building **reusable internal hooks and utilities**
- Owned platform engineering tasks including monorepo standards with **ESLint/Prettier** and CI automation with **GitHub Actions**
- Integrated and managed **Stripe payments** for individual and enterprise tiers, contributing to **\$1.6M+ ARR**
- Migrated bundler from **Parcel to Vite**, reducing build time from 110s to 10s and **saving 3000+ dev hours annually**
- **Reduced** Chrome Extension bundle size by **5x**, enabling **faster downloads** and **quicker release cycles**
- **Migrated database across regions**, achieving **20% faster query** performance across the entire stack.
- Built and maintained **authentication** with guest mode and **team invitations** to **improve onboarding and access control**
- Built an **iframe-based chat interface** to bypass Chrome review delays, reducing rollout time **from 7+ days to 10 minutes**
- Collaborated with founders, product, and design teams in **feature planning, UX research, and roadmap prioritization**
- Conducted **50+ technical interviews**, reviewed **600+ PRs**, and **mentored junior engineers** and interns on **best coding practices** and **maintaining code base hygiene**

SDE Intern, Groww 🔗 01/2022 – 08/2022 | Bengaluru, India

- Improved the KYC flow, leading to a **3% increase** in customer onboarding rate
- Migrated the user onboarding codebase to **TypeScript**, **reducing bugs** and **improving developer experience** for 30+ engineers
- Developed and maintained **responsive multi-step forms** for capturing user information

Frontend Developer Intern, ScoopWhoop Media 🔗 07/2021 – 12/2021 | Delhi, India

- Led the migration of scoopwhoop.com 🔗 to **Next.js** with **Incremental Static Regeneration(ISR)** and **Server Side Rendering (SSR)**, improving **page load time by 30%**
- Built an “autosave” feature in **Vue.js** for the CMS, **saving 40+ hours for 50+ content writers**
- Developed a **video player** for unscripted.news 🔗 on top of **VideoJS** with advanced playback features similar to **youtube**.

Frontend Developer Intern, VPS Techub 03/2021 – 07/2021 | Mumbai, India

- Integrated **Redux for state management**, enhancing state visibility and maintainability
- Built the core feature “self-learning modules” with 100+ **dynamic screens, interactive quizzes, and animations**

🎓 Education

Bachelor of Computer Applications,
Maharaja Surajmal Institute

08/2019 – 06/2022 | Delhi, India