

# Ishwarya Chengalvarayan

Senior DevOps & Cloud Security Engineer | Solutions Engineering

Solutions Engineering Portfolio — Architecture Demonstrations · Live Product Demos · GitHub

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## PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Senior DevOps and Cloud Security Engineer with 7+ years designing, automating, and securing enterprise-scale AWS infrastructure. Deep hands-on background in Zero Trust architecture, IAM, ZTNA platforms, and cloud security policy enforcement across large-scale Kubernetes and multi-cloud environments. Experienced in authoring RFCs and architecture design documents, leading infrastructure modernisation, and presenting technical strategy to engineering and senior leadership teams. Now transitioning into a Solutions Engineering role, targeting cloud security and AI infrastructure companies across the UK and Europe.

Public portfolio includes live architecture demonstrations, GitHub repositories, and customer-style technical presentations covering AWS infrastructure and cost intelligence, identity and access decision design, and SE discovery and solution design.

## CERTIFICATIONS

- AWS Solutions Architect Associate (SAA-C03) — In Progress
- HashiCorp Terraform Associate (003) — In Progress

## CORE COMPETENCIES

- Cloud Security Architecture | Zero Trust Network Access (ZTNA) | IAM, RBAC, SCIM, SSO/SAML, OIDC, OAuth2 | SAST/DAST | Least-Privilege & Policy-as-Code
- RFC & Architecture Design Document Authorship | Multi-Region Cloud Infrastructure | Cloud Migration Strategy | AWS Well-Architected Framework
- Technical Advisory | Customer-Facing Solution Design | Stakeholder Alignment | Translating Technical Tradeoffs into Business Impact
- IaC & Platform Engineering (Terraform, Spacelift) | Monorepo & Blessed Module Frameworks | CI/CD & GitOps | Cost Optimisation

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### DevOps Engineer · Bugcrowd · Remote

April 2026 – Present

- Contributing to Monorepo architecture scoping across 100+ repositories in a security-focused bug bounty platform, defining service boilerplate standards and reducing onboarding friction for new services.

### Infrastructure Architect (Contract) · Mercor AI Lab · Remote

2026

- Designed the cloud platform architecture for a distributed US/Australia AI lab deploying LLM workloads: authored the platform RFC and architecture design documents covering approach rationale, risk analysis, and phased rollout.
- Implemented a Terraform-backed modules library spanning S3, IAM, ECS, Lambda, and EventBridge — built for LLM inference workload deployments — and a Spacelift-driven ClickOps-free deployment pipeline across all Monorepo projects.
- Presented architecture decisions and led async design reviews with US and Australian engineering leads, translating infrastructure trade-offs into business-level recommendations across time zones.

### Career Break · Southeast Asia

August 2025 – February 2026

Planned sabbatical following 7 years of continuous employment. Travelled independently across Southeast Asia; trained in Mixed Martial Arts (MMA).

### Software Engineer · Cisco Systems · Bengaluru, India

September 2023 – July 2025

- Designed secure, scalable cloud architecture supporting 2M+ monthly transactions, improving deployment efficiency by 30% through policy enforcement guardrails and RBAC-aligned access models.
- Managed multi-region AWS infrastructure with Terraform, leading expansion into China and US Gov regions. Coordinated cross-functional stakeholder discussions across security, compliance, and engineering to align architecture with FedRAMP and regional data governance requirements.
- Evaluated SaaS ZTNA platforms (Cloudflare Zero Trust, Netskope, and Palo Alto) against identity integration, policy enforcement, and SCIM requirements. Translated technical trade-offs into a structured comparison presented to senior engineering leadership to inform organisation-wide security strategy.
- Implemented SAST and DAST pipelines using SonarQube and CodeQL across 50+ repositories covering Java, Go, and Python services, embedding automated security scanning into CI/CD workflows and reducing vulnerability exposure at the code and dependency levels.
- Delivered 20% compute cost reduction via AWS Well-Architected cost pillar analysis; led AppDynamics migration, reducing monitoring overhead by approximately 40%.
- Integrated Dynatrace Davis AI and Datadog Watchdog for proactive anomaly detection and executive-grade audit reporting.

### Senior DevOps Engineer · Reshamandi · Bengaluru, India

May 2023 – July 2023

- Led EKS-to-AKS cloud migration and Jenkins-to-Kubernetes codebase transition, reducing deployment cycles by 30% through Terraform IaC automation.

### Senior DevOps Engineer · Gale Partners · Bengaluru, India

May 2022 – April 2023

- Engineered ArgoCD-based GitOps infrastructure across 3 AWS regions with RBAC guardrails and self-serve CI/CD pipelines, reducing manual errors by 80%.
- Led OpenShift 3-to-4 enterprise migration with zero downtime, conducting solution alignment sessions with platform teams to map current-state requirements before re-architecture. Reduced service downtime by 25% through Istio service mesh redesign.

## Senior DevOps Engineer · Qburst Technologies · Chennai, India

July 2021 – May 2022

- Built AWS infrastructure from scratch for Android, iOS, and web products (Cognito, API Gateway, Lambda, CloudFront, Route 53), improving delivery latency by 40%.
- Managed Kubernetes workloads, achieving 50% scalability growth and 30% downtime reduction, securing multi-region clusters via VPC segmentation and IAM access controls.

## Systems Engineer · Sify Technologies · Chennai, India

July 2018 – July 2021

- Supported 200 Linux enterprise clients on VMware, AWS, and Azure. Automated operations with Python, Shell, and Ansible, achieving 99.9% uptime and 35% reliability improvement.
- Led on-premises to AWS cloud migration, reducing provisioning time by 60%, integrating Azure AD and Google Identity for enterprise authentication flows.

## PUBLIC PORTFOLIO PROJECTS

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### AWS Infrastructure & Cost Intelligence Copilot

Platform teams lack a single place to ask plain-English questions about AWS findings, cost anomalies, and account risk. Natural language interface grounded in live AWS data, built on Bedrock and pgvector retrieval over real collected findings.

[Portfolio](#) | [Live Demo](#) | [GitHub](#)

### Identity & Access Decision Studio

Access policy decisions are often opaque, with no visibility into why a request was allowed, denied, or challenged. Real-time policy evaluation engine integrated with live Okta SSO, covering identity, device posture, and blast-radius impact analysis before rollout.

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### SE Discovery & Solution Design Copilot

Customers often describe symptoms rather than root causes during discovery calls, leading to generic recommendations. Adaptive discovery engine that surfaces underlying gaps, scores them against compliance frameworks, and generates architecture tradeoff options.

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## SELECTED ARCHITECTURE PROJECTS

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### Terraform Multi-Tenant Restructuring — Gale Partners (2022–2023)

20 customer environments co-located in a single Terraform repository created a silent blast-radius risk. Conducted technical discovery, authored the RFC, and led implementation into a fully isolated per-customer state with zero cross-client exposure.

### Platform RFC & Blessed Modules — Mercor AI Lab (2026)

Greenfield AI lab infrastructure with no existing standards or guardrails. Architected the platform from first principles: RFC and design documentation, a tiered blessed modules library (S3, IAM, ECS, Lambda, EventBridge), and a ClickOps-free Spacelift pipeline with a full audit trail.

### Secure Microservice Isolation — Cisco (2023–2024)

1,000+ EKS clusters with inconsistent identity provider integration and no SCIM lifecycle automation. Designed the ENI-based isolation model, embedded Okta, Azure AD, Ping, and Google SSO/SAML with SCIM automation, and delivered self-serve audit runbooks across all clusters.

### Multi-Region EKS GitOps Platform — Gale Partners (2022–2023)

A marketing analytics platform required manual engineering intervention for every deployment. Architected ArgoCD-based GitOps across 3 AWS regions with RBAC guardrails, enabling team-wide self-serve deployments and reducing manual errors by 80%.

### Cloud Security Alert Intelligence — Public Portfolio (2026)

8-flow n8n automation system demonstrating end-to-end AI-powered security operations: multi-source alert ingestion (Wiz, CrowdStrike, Datadog), LLM triage, MITRE ATT&CK and CVE enrichment, and automated remediation generation.

[GitHub](#)

## TECHNICAL SKILLS

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- Cloud Platforms: AWS (primary), Azure (intermediate), GCP (familiar) | AWS Well-Architected Framework
- IaC & Platform Engineering: Terraform, Terragrunt, Ansible, CloudFormation, Spacelift, Monorepo architecture, blessed modules
- Containers & Orchestration: Docker, Kubernetes, EKS, AKS, Helm, OpenShift, ECS Fargate
- CI/CD & GitOps: Jenkins, GitHub Actions, ArgoCD, Spinnaker
- Security & Identity: AWS IAM, GuardDuty, AWS Config, Inspector, ZTNA (Cloudflare, Netskope, Palo Alto), Okta, Azure AD, Ping Identity, ADFS, SSO/SAML, SCIM, OIDC, OAuth2, RBAC, CIS Benchmarks, VPC Security, SAST/DAST (SonarQube, CodeQL)
- Observability: CloudWatch, Prometheus, Grafana, ELK, Dynatrace, Datadog, AppDynamics
- Programming & Scripting: Python, Shell/Bash, PowerShell, YAML, Groovy
- AI & Automation: n8n, OpenRouter (Mistral, Llama 3, Qwen), OpenAI API, LLM orchestration, Webhook/REST integration
- Cost Management: AWS Budgets, Cost Explorer, CloudHealth, Spot.io
- Collaboration: Git, Bitbucket, Jira, Confluence, ServiceNow

## EDUCATION

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### Bachelor of Technology, Information Technology

August 2014 – April 2018

Anna University, Chennai, India | GPA: 8.47 / 10.0

Published: [Detection of Network Layer Attacks in MANET](#) — Intrusion Detection Using Grammatical Evolution and Feature Selection

## LANGUAGES

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English (fluent) | Tamil (native) | Hindi (conversational)

Right to work: Requires UK Skilled Worker visa sponsorship, wider EU, Singapore is considered