Nirbhay Pherwani

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Principal Android Engineer · Platform Architecture · Embedded & Agentic AI

LinkedIn ↗ GitHub ↗ Google Scholar ↗ Technical Writing ↗

I build the platforms teams ship on, and embed AI in how the company operates.

ReachMobi's **sole Principal Android Engineer**, setting direction for **12+ engineers across five studios**. **Only engineer leading both executive mandates:** partner with the CEO to grow Core apps toward a **target 90-day lifetime value (LTV) of $3 per user**; build the **COO's AI operating model** so **teams of one or two people can launch and run an app**.

2.6M+	21M+	86%	+50%	4	10
Combined DAU reached	Cumulative installs	lower crash rate Big Keyboard, 2026	First-day interstitial RPU Ad-loading improvements	Hackathon awards	Android Weekly selections
				JetBrains' IntelliJ IDEA blog	

ReachMobi, Inc.

Florida · May 2020 to Present

Portfolio Reach: 6.3M MAU reached · **AppKit:** 600K+ DAU across four of five apps

Big Keyboard · Shield · Easy Mail · All Weather Mode · Messenger Chat Home

Android Engineer	Senior Developer	Engineering Lead	Product Leader	Principal Engineer
May 2020	Aug 2021	Mar 2022	Mar 2024	Dec 2025 to Present

Four Promotions in 5.5 Years; first engineer promoted to Product Leader. **Leading Android Engineering Hiring** with primary decision-making authority; mentored developers across **three teams**.

ENGINEERING LEADERSHIP AND IMPACT

- **Designed AppKit, the Kotlin/Compose core of four of five apps.** Drive Core architecture and monetization through LTV analysis and build scorecards. Built **RemoteLab** for product experiments and configuration **without app releases**.
- **Resolved a revenue defect the SDK vendor could not.** Reverse-engineered AppLovin's SDK and restored interstitial delivery across studios. The defect had cut Email Home's projected lifetime value by **$0.30 per user** ($1.80 to $1.50).
- **Lifted Messenger Home monetization.** Reworked ad caching and retry logic: first-day interstitial **RPU +50%** and impressions per user **+155%**. Fixed native inbox ad impression recording; reported first-day inbox ad RPU rose **30%**.
- **Launcher Reliability.** Led improvements that cut Play crash rates **86% in Big Keyboard** (1.55% to 0.22%), **78% in Connect SMS** (1.134% to 0.252%) and **65% in Shield** (0.436% to 0.151%), 2024 to 2026. Play Console and Perfetto investigation cut Messenger Home ANRs **from 3.5% to about 2%**.
- **Launcher Performance.** Shield AI-audit fixes cut HOME cold-start time **46%** (1,337 to 721 ms); walkthrough jank **12%–14% to 1.23%**. Cut Messenger Home's download **49 MB to 27 MB**. Led a two-developer Connect SMS rebuild: **99.33% crash-free users**; D7 retention **+19.4% relative** (15.2% to 18.15%).
- **Standardized delivery across all five studios.** GitLab/Bitrise unifies AI review on every MR, Google Checks, dependency flags, device tests, QA handoff and Play releases. **Release, risk and automation scorecards** prioritize improvements.

AGENTIC AI AND OPERATIONAL INTELLIGENCE

- **Now building Juno, a voice-to-action assistant for four apps.** Handles **calls, texts, timers, app launches and settings shortcuts** through on-device routing, cloud interpretation and search; shared module designed for a standalone assistant and licensable SDK.
- **Built Pulse's dashboard and MCP server, giving all five studios app-health intelligence without Play Console access.** Queries fell from 30–90 s to **under 2 s**; sync from 2 h to **41 min**. **Kernel connects 232+ tools** to answer engineering, health and revenue questions and guide weekly priorities.
- **Built Nucleus to cut cross-studio investigations from hours to minutes.** MCP brings code, specs and live evidence into one workspace so agents can investigate and plan fixes; human approval gates control execution.
- **Made tracking classifications auditable across three launchers.** Four **LangChain** agents challenge mappings against app-code taxonomies, reject speculation and produce traceable decisions and cleanup candidates for team review.
- **Lead company-wide AI Lunch & Learns** with role-based agendas and demos, reusable runbooks and a learning portal; run weekly office hours for engineering and business teams.

> *"Several of our strongest engineers across the studios had already looked at the problem and were unable to solve it. Nirbhay did."*
>
> Jon Forbes, COO, ReachMobi · 2025 to 2026 performance review

Nirbhay Pherwani

Products · Research · Recognition

CREATIONS AND INDEPENDENT ENGINEERING

ShowPapers Creator — 2026 to Present

Building **"Plaid for paperwork"**: agents connect institutional requests to people's records, prepare sourced answers and assemble documents for owner review and consent. Shipped private, on-device AI apps on iOS and Android **in two months**; co-authored the open .showpapers format for records reused across institutions, apps and AI.

Drogon Co-Creator — 2026

Building a **native experimentation platform for PMs, designers and engineers**: turn ideas from AI tools or existing code into live app tests without building delivery infrastructure or shipping a release for every experiment. Designed around Remote Compose binaries, API workflows and policy checks to **improve retention and revenue**; first native delivery prototype built.

Chattodo Co-Creator

Built a team messenger to **keep commitments from disappearing in chat**, turning messages into assigned tasks linked to their discussion. Original Android app shipped **in two months**; current rebuild in open alpha.

Spothole · Photo-based pothole reporting from citizens to city teams; **featured in GitHub Student Gallery**.
Flappy Musk.eteer · Arcade game; Android Weekly article pick. GoFIFA · Player search and comparisons; MongoDB Learn feature.

RESEARCH AND TECHNICAL RECOGNITION

- **Mini Me: Personal AI · First Author, Qeios preprint, 2026.** Proposed AI that carries context across life and devices, anticipates needs and acts within user permissions, reducing repeated briefing. Open specification: Continuum.
- **Aegon · Co-Author, arXiv white paper, 2026.** Proposed an audit layer for AI content licensing, with publisher-verifiable transactions and traceable use. **Three citations:** eBay's AgentBound, delegation research and Citation Receipts.
- **Seven research publications.** First-authored The ShowPapers Protocol (2026). 2017 journal papers: VR authentication, ARIMA forecasting, failure/survival analysis, taxi fleets. Cited in IEEE Access and ACM IMWUT.
- **21 technical articles; 10 Android Weekly selections** across eight issues, including the lead story. Featured by Kotlin Weekly and JetBrains' IntelliJ IDEA blog; listed in Google Dev Library. **Two** Medium Boost selections; Russian and Chinese translations. Selected work: Kotlin Unknotting, Compose Animations, Advanced Kotlin.
- **Directly approached by droidcon Academy and Udacity** for teaching and course content. **Speaker and Workshop Leader** at GDG DevFest Central Florida and Miami (2023).

AWARDS AND MEDIA

- **Three first-place wins:** Government of India's Make in India, IIT Bombay, water category (2016); i-Hack, IIT Bombay / Cimpress (2017); J.P. Morgan Flow Monster (2017). **Third place:** VESIT E-Cell / Mastek Hackathon (2016).
- **National media coverage.** Make in India project and team featured in DNA and The Better India, with print coverage in The Times of India and Navbharat Times.

EARLIER EXPERIENCE

Solu Technology Partners Software Developer Co-Op — Jan to May 2020

Built **hiring/onboarding survey analytics** with drill-down filters; helped resolve ngx-charts defects. **95%+ test coverage**.

CHAMPS Software AI/ML Engineer Co-Op — May to Aug 2019

Pitched and built IMClassify to take teams **from raw images to deployed computer-vision models in one browser workspace**. CEO created the role for the pitch; beta shipped **in one summer**.

J.P. Morgan Technology Analyst, Corporate & Investment Bank — Jul to Nov 2017

Built Java/Mule ESB trade-processing modules to normalize FpML and other message formats for trade amendments.

RIT	Ran Alumni and Giving websites; built API integrations and analytics dashboards	2018 to 2019
KeyQual	Built AI chatbots for hiring and work exchange, plus a job portal with continuous delivery	2015 to 2017
Mahindra	Modeled warranty failures and forecast vehicle sales; **two journal papers**	2015 to 2016
Air India	Built Engineering Services' website and customer inquiry portal	2015

EDUCATION AND TECHNICAL FOCUS

MS, Information Sciences and Technologies · Rochester Institute of Technology · 2020 · GPA 3.61/4.0
BE, Computer Engineering · VESIT, University of Mumbai · 2017 · CGPI 8.61

AI Systems	Agentic Systems · Loop Engineering · MCP · On-Device AI
Architecture	System Design · Platform Architecture · Kotlin · Jetpack Compose · Python/FastAPI
Engineering Operations	CI/CD · Performance Engineering · Release Confidence · Monetization & Experimentation