Vinayak Kaladhar

Quality Engineering Leader | Staff Quality Engineer | Automation & AI-Driven Testing |
📧 vinayak.kaladhar@gmail.com | 📞 +91-9171677408 LinkedIn| Github| LeetCode

---

Professional Summary:

Full Stack QA Engineer focused on testing and quality strategy for complex, high-scale platforms across FinTech, Payments, Digital Wallets, Crypto/Blockchain/NFTs, Payouts, Invoicing & Taxation, Healthcare, Airline Operations, SaaS, EduTech, and SuperApps. Designs scalable quality practices and hybrid automation frameworks across Web, Mobile, APIs & AI/ML solutions. Known for leading teams, mentoring engineers, and improving release outcomes through strong engineering discipline.

Technical Skills & Other Tools Used:

- **Programming Languages**: Java, JavaScript, Python (Intermediate)
- **Web & Mobile Frontend Automation**: Selenium, Appium, Cypress, Playwright, XCUITest, Espresso
- **API Automation**: RestAssured, PactumJS, Pact
- **Testing Approaches & Frameworks**: TestNG (TDD), Cucumber (BDD), Flutter
- **CI/CD Tools**: Jenkins, GitHub Actions, GitLab
- **Performance Testing**: JMeter, Locust, K6
- **Security Testing**: ZAP Proxy, ASTRA
- **Test Management Tools**: JIRA, XRay, TestRail, Zephyr, Confluence
- **Version Control**: GitLab
- **Databases**: SQL, MongoDB
- **Infrastructure as Code**: Docker, AWS, Terraform
- **Observability & Production Verification:** Datadog, New Relic, Splunk, Clevertap, Grafana, Kibana
- **Other Tools**: Charles Proxy, Postman, Claude & Claude Skills, NotebookLLM, Ollama, GitHub Copilot, Windsurf, Glean, Bitrise

---

AI in Quality Engineering:

- Designed and implemented **RAG evaluation pipelines using RAGAS** to measure context precision/recall, faithfulness, and factual correctness for LLM systems.
  GitHub: https://github.com/vinayakkaladhar/llm_evaluation
- Built an open-source **AI agent for accessibility testing**, helping identify accessibility gaps on web pages. Recognized among the **Top 10 project submissions at Google DevFest 2026**, organized by Google Developer Groups (GDG).
  GitHub: https://github.com/gdgcblr/open-source-agents/pull/38

- Driving initiatives using **Claude skills & MCPs for internal tools** (ex: Quality of the code, coverage, fetching of logs, healthchecks)

Education:

- **Master of Business Administration (MBA) in Systems Management**
  2016 – 2018 | University Of Madras
- **Bachelor of Engineering (B.E.) in Electrical and Electronics Engineering**
  2009 – 2013 | Anna University

Professional Experience:

Staff Quality Engineer, Booking.com - FinTech Payments & Payouts
2023 – 2026 | Bangalore

- **Owned E2E risk-based quality strategy** for core fintech systems powering partner financial disbursements across real payment flows — including Mastercard-issued virtual cards (VCC), multi-channel settlement flows, wallets, bank transfers, refunds, and chargebacks ensuring end-to-end accuracy, compliance, and reliability.
- Built scalable automation capabilities for **API driven backend (Java)** and **UI driven frontend (TypeScript/Playwright)** workflows, enabling comprehensive end-to-end validation of critical customer journeys while reducing manual testing effort and release timelines by **60%**.
- **Integrated and validated** third-party PSPs such as Adyen, Braintree, and PayPal, leveraging sandbox environments and integrating payment gateways like Stripe.
- Defined **quality KPIs and guardrails** to measure release readiness, detect regressions, and drive data-driven quality decisions.
- **Designed and rolled out strengthened RFO processes**, reducing repeated defect leakage by 70%.
- Established quality health metrics by partnering with engineering teams to identify systemic quality patterns through **telemetry**, **Datadog & Sentry logs, monitoring signals, and defect trend analysis**, driving continuous improvement initiatives.
- Designed and implemented a **risk-based quality strategy** leveraging decision tables and optimized test coverage, reducing redundant testing efforts by **70%** while significantly increasing automation coverage confidence.
- Built automation and verification capabilities focused on real-world workload using **python built locust,** supporting SREs with health check validation of services, reducing reliance on manual testing and improving confidence in production readiness in terms of non-functional testing.
- Validated **user interface (UI) and user experience (UX)** consistency across different browsers and mobile devices with different versions.

Lead Software Engineer in Test, Web3Auth - Crypto Wallets, Blockchain, Digital Payments
2022 – 2023 | Remote

- **Validated real-time blockchain transactions**, including transfers, smart contract executions, and wallet balance reconciliation.
- Automation IOS & Android application using XCUItest & Espresso.
- **Cut production bug leakage by 25%** by building E2E automation with Playwright and expanding API coverage using RestAssured and PactumJS.
- **Strengthened reliability and audit readiness** for fiat and digital currency flows through reconciliation-focused test coverage.
- Tested **MPC-based authentication**, secure key sharing, and financial workflows involving wallet recovery & transfers.
- Collaborated with teams using **JIRA**, **GitHub**, and **Slack**, integrating test automation within **CI/CD pipelines** via **Jenkins** and **GitHub Actions**.
- Managed databases including **MongoDB** to support automation framework development.

Lead QA Automation, Gojek - Digital Wallets, UPI, Cards, Financial Payments
2020 – 2022 | Bangalore

- **Drove the QA strategy** for payment experiences across wallet top-ups, UPI, cards, net banking, refunds, and alternate payment methods.
- Implemented test automation using **Appium** and **Selenium** across Android/iOS platforms, improving test coverage by 30%.
- **Eliminated test flakiness using retry analyzers and reduced operational load** by implementing cross-device and network-simulation testing via BrowserStack.
- Managed performance testing using **JMeter** and security testing with **ZAP Proxy**, ensuring the stability and security of payment services.
- **Optimized CI/CD pipelines using GitLab**, accelerating release cycles by **20%**.

Principal QA Engineer, Chargebee Technologies - Subscription Billing, Invoicing, Taxation, Revenue Systems
2018 – 2020 | Remote

- **Delivered QA ownership** for payment tokenization, subscription management, billing, invoicing, taxation, and PIYOC (Pay In Your Own Currency) flows, including FX and cross-currency validations.
- Developed optimized **CI/CD pipelines** using **Jenkins** and **GitHub Actions**, reducing build and deployment times by 35%.
- Leveraged **Terraform** and **AWS** for infrastructure automation, boosting team productivity and operational efficiency.
- **Mentored and upskilled junior QA engineers**, fostering strong automation ownership and collaborative quality practices.

- Participated in sprint planning and product review sessions to provide early QA feedback on proposed features.

QA Engineer, UnitedHealth Group - Healthcare Integrations
2016 – 2018 | Chennai

- **Owned QA delivery** for large-scale healthcare product integrations and SLO-driven platforms, including OKTA-based identity systems.
- Conducted **API automation** using **RestAssured**, improving reliability and reducing defects by 20%.
- Performed **performance testing** using **JMeter**, leading to a 15% improvement in application response times.
- Improved test documentation and traceability using **TestRail**, ensuring comprehensive coverage and accurate reporting.
- Owned **test strategy by designing, writing**, and executing comprehensive test cases and checklists covering functional, regression, and integration testing.

Associate Software Test Engineer, ADP Solutions Pvt Ltd, Payroll & HCM Systems
2014 – 2016 | Chennai

- Led E2E QA for **iHCM Enterprise** workflows, covering payroll-linked processes, employee lifecycle, and recruitment modules.
- Automated testing processes using **Selenium** with Ruby and **Cucumber (BDD)**, reducing manual testing efforts by 30%.
- Pioneered test case documentation and report portal integration, enhancing documentation accuracy by 25%.
- Managed **SQL** databases to validate test results and ensure the accuracy of testing data.