

Piumal Mahawasala

Digital Solutions & Learning Technology Consultant

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PROFILE

Educational technologist with 10+ years of experience across teaching, instructional design, school leadership, and technology development, working at the intersection of pedagogy, product, and AI. As Product Lead of ScienceDojo since 2020, has been building a digital learning platform end-to-end – from requirements gathering through product design to technical implementation and ongoing operation. Currently a student research assistant at DFKI (German Research Center for Artificial Intelligence) and completing an MSc in Educational Technology focused on AI-supported learning applications at Saarland University. Experienced in requirements analysis, stakeholder communication (sales, customers, development, IT), and the hands-on use of modern AI tools in an educational context.

CORE COMPETENCIES

Digital Learning Solutions & Consulting

Conception & specification of digital learning platforms · Requirements analysis & requirements management · Interface between sales – customer – development/IT · Learning Experience (LX) & instructional design · Curriculum & assessment development · Project coordination through go-live

AI in Education

AI-assisted question generation (MSc thesis research focus) · Prompt engineering · LLM integration (OpenAI, Gemini APIs) · Agentic/AI-assisted development tools (Claude Code, OpenAI Codex, Google Gemini) · AI workflow design for learning products · Learning analytics

Platforms & Technology

Web technologies & platform architecture (Next.js, React, TypeScript) · Databases & integrations (SQL/MySQL, REST APIs) · Cloud deployment & hosting (Vercel, Cloudflare, ISPConfig) · Linux/Windows server administration · Data protection/GDPR fundamentals in digital learning environments

Communication & Leadership

Stakeholder & client communication · Mentoring & teacher training · Bilingual content & media production · School leadership & team management

EXPERIENCE

Lead Product Manager & Educational Technologist

ScienceDojo — EdTech Tutoring Platform

Remote / Saarbrücken, Germany · 06/2020 – Present

- Owns end-to-end product development – from requirements gathering through specification to deployment – for a STEM tutoring platform serving international curricula (IGCSE, GCSE, A-Level, IB).
- Uses agentic development workflows (Claude Code, OpenAI Codex, Gemini) to translate product requirements into deployable systems; designs AI-powered learning tools and assessment workflows.
- Owns platform infrastructure (GitHub, Vercel, Cloudflare, domains, hosting) and directs technical partners on feature planning, implementation, and QA.
- Recruits and manages tutors, oversees client relationships, and applies instructional design and learning analytics principles to measurably improve learning outcomes.

Student Research Assistant — Technical Systems & Infrastructure

DFKI — German Research Center for Artificial Intelligence

Saarbrücken, Germany · 10/2023 – Present

- Developed an internal web application for the ISG team extending ISPCConfig (outdated PHP detection, database health, website ownership migration), improving productivity on routine ISPCConfig tasks by an estimated 50 %.
- Administers and migrates hosting and server environments (Linux & Windows); maintains SQL/MySQL databases for data management and consistency checks.
- Produces technical documentation and supports cross-team knowledge sharing between researchers, developers, and technical staff.

Research & Student Assistant

Saarland University — Department of Educational Technology

Saarbrücken, Germany · 02/2023 – 03/2024

- Tutor for Empirical Research Methods, MSc Educational Technology (10/2023–03/2024): Led tutorials on research methodology and data analysis and delivered SPSS training sessions.
- Student Assistant, Educational Technology Development (02–08/2023): Supported development and operation of learning platforms (incl. virtual patient simulations, online argumentation systems) as well as user management, databases, and system administration.

Earlier Career — School Leadership, Teaching & Software Development

Sri Lanka

2015 – 2022

- School Principal, Brightwood International School (2021–2022) — academic and operational management, curriculum standardization, and digital learning initiatives.
- Computer Science Teacher & Digital Learning Coordinator, Royal Institute International School (2018–2020) — Cambridge IGCSE Computer Science with a 100 % pass rate; led the school's shift to remote learning during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Software Development Intern / Associate Software Engineer, Virtusa (2017–2018) — application support for a data warehousing/ETL system for BT Global Services within an ITIL framework.
- STEM Tutor (2015–2023, concurrent) — individualized learning plans for Cambridge, Edexcel, AQA, SQA, and IB curricula in Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, and Computer Science.

EDUCATION

MSc Educational Technology

Saarland University, Saarbrücken · 10/2022 – 03/2026

Thesis: AI-assisted question generation for scientific reading comprehension

Master of Education — Educational Leadership & Management

Asia e University, Malaysia · 01/2021 – 06/2022

BSc Computer Science

University College Dublin (UCD), Ireland · 10/2013 – 12/2017

LANGUAGES

English — Native or bilingual proficiency · Sinhalese — Native or bilingual proficiency · German — B1 (conversational, actively progressing)

CERTIFICATIONS

Machine Learning (Stanford University) · Introduction to SQL for Data Science · Introduction to Python for Data Science · Introduction to Big Data · ICDL