



Rohit Prasad, SVP and Head Scientist, Amazon Alexa

Rohit Prasad is senior vice president and head scientist for Amazon Alexa, leading a multi-disciplinary team to make Alexa a trusted AI assistant, advisor, and companion for everyone, everywhere. His team's product, engineering, and scientific advances have driven the adoption of Alexa by millions of customers worldwide, and made it easy for anyone to develop skills for Alexa or integrate Alexa into their device or app.

In his previous roles at Amazon, Prasad directed areas such as far-field speech recognition, natural language understanding, and the underlying machine learning technologies that were instrumental in launching Amazon Echo's new paradigm of hands-free interaction with ambient devices. Prasad and his team are now focused on advancing generalizable AI, combining the best of human-like intelligence with machine learning to accelerate the future of ambient intelligence – where the underlying AI seamlessly blends into your environment, connects heterogeneous services and devices, and adapts on your behalf to provide greater utility.

Prior to Amazon, Prasad was deputy manager and senior director of the Speech, Language and Multimedia Business Unit at Raytheon BBN Technologies. In that role, he directed U.S. Government-sponsored research and development initiatives in speech-to-speech translation, psychological health analytics, document image translation and STEM learning. Prasad is a named author on more than 100 scientific articles and holds several patents. He received his master's degree in Electrical Engineering at the Illinois Institute of Technology, Chicago, and a bachelor's degree in Electronics and Communications Engineering from Birla Institute of Technology, India.