

Alex Kulikov

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Latest public version at lxqu.dev/cv

Engineering leader | Performance-focused backend dev | Pro bono & open source contributor

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EXPERIENCE

Sysblok | HEAD OF ENGINEERING (PRO BONO)

Since November 2023 | [LinkedIn page](#) | sysblok.ru (in Russian)

- Leading the engineering team of 4 for a non-profit media with 170k subscribers;
- Directing the development of the website (80k MAU) and internal tooling for editorial workflows;
- Sourcing the engineering backlog from the editorial board requests;
- Integrated AI tools into engineering and editorial workflows, enabling non-technical staff to automate routine tasks;
- Managed HR pipeline and technical interviewing, growing the team to 4 engineers through 30+ interviews.

Meta | SENIOR SOFTWARE ENGINEER

February 2020 – August 2024 | Hack(PHP), Java, React | London, UK

- Led the reliability workstream (6 people) on [Data Transfer Project \(DTP\)](#);
- Achieved a 10x drop in DTP failure rate and overhauled the monitoring pipeline;
- Implemented several features in [Spark AR Hub](#) Insights UI and data pipeline;
- Mentored new people on the teams, conducted 100+ interviews.

July 2019 – October 2019 (internship) | Python2/3, C++14, MySQL | London, UK

- Designed and implemented a snapshot extension for Mercurial ([Github repo](#)).

Yandex.Go | SOFTWARE ENGINEER

June 2018 – July 2019 | C++14, Python2, MongoDB | Moscow, Russia

- Implemented microservices for the award-winning [New Year's promotion](#);
- Refactored a major part of the core APIs, gaining 2x performance boost.

MIPT | TEACHING ASSISTANT | PYTHON (LECTURES), COMPILERS

September 2017 – June 2019 | Moscow, Russia

- Taught Python and Compilers to 50+ undergraduate students.

... more on [LinkedIn](#)

SELECTED PROJECTS

tank8s | SCALABLE KUBERNETES-NATIVE LOAD TESTING TOOL

Since April 2025 | Terraform, k8s, Playwright, TypeScript, Grafana | [repo](#)

- Configured IaaS and Kubernetes clusters for local and cloud deployments;
- Developed a Playwright-based load testing worker that exports logs and metrics to Grafana via Loki;
- Leveraged AI tools (ChatGPT, Claude) to accelerate prototyping and problem-solving during development.

Wächter Bot | TELEGRAM BOT FOR COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT

Since August 2023 | Python | [Bot](#) (in Russian), [repo](#)

- Leading a team of 3 for the growing product (500+ Telegram groups, 20k users);
- Overhauled the product via user feedback, better architecture and monitoring.

COMMON | HELPING REFUGEES TO LEARN LANGUAGES

April 2022 – January 2023 | Python | cmoncmon.co, [repo](#)

- Developed a Telegram bot for refugee students and volunteer teachers;
- The bot facilitated onboarding and learning for 2.8k students and 1k teachers.

... more on [Github](#)

EDUCATION

MOSCOW INSTITUTE OF PHYSICS & TECHNOLOGY

BSC IN APPLIED MATHEMATICS & COMPUTER SCIENCE

Grad. July 2017 | Moscow, Russia

RECOGNITIONS

2025 ConnectHack, 2nd prize
2023 Tech Nation, UK Global Talent

SKILLS

HARD

Recent experience:

• AI Tools (ChatGPT, Claude) • APIs (REST, GraphQL) • CI/CD • DevOps • Git • Go • Hack(PHP) • Mercurial • OpenTelemetry • Python • Typescript • Unix • Wordpress

Needs brushing up:

• C/C++ • ELK • Java • ~~TeX~~ • NodeJS • MongoDB • Raspberry Pi • Redis • Pytest • React • Scrapy • x86Asm

SOFT

• Agility • Collaboration • Empathy • Learning • Interviewing • Mentoring • Passion • Project Management • Strategic Reasoning

LANGUAGES

• Russian (native) • English (fluent) • French (intermediate, DELF B1 diploma, participant of All-Russian Olympiad Finals)

INTERESTS

VOLUNTEERING

Contributed to multiple volunteer projects, both as a Software Engineer and as a helpline support operator.

TEACHING

7 years of teaching experience. Taught Mathematics and Computer Science to high school and undergraduate students. Organized dozens of school-level Math and Physics competitions, including solution review and event coordination.