Diego Russo | Principal Software Engineer | CPython Core Developer

Cambridge, UK

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⌂ diegorusso • Updated on February 23, 2026

CPython Core Developer and Principal Software Engineer in Arm's Runtimes team, based in Cambridge, UK. 20+ years in software engineering, using Python since 2006 and contributing to CPython since 2023, with a focus on interpreter performance, JIT-related work, CI infrastructure, and ensuring CPython and its ecosystem run reliably and efficiently on Arm platforms. Work sits at the intersection of runtime, performance engineering, and large-scale open-source collaboration. EuroPython organiser and lead of the Arm Python Guild, an internal community of more than 1,400 Python developers across the company.

Career Experience

CE-SW Runtimes, Arm Ltd., Cambridge, UK   **2023–present**

Principal Software Engineer

Technical Scope: Tech Lead, CPython.

Started with a six-month secondment in 2023 to assess the CPython ecosystem on Arm platforms, then joined the Runtimes team to continue enablement work with upstream collaboration and ecosystem reliability for developers. Worked on CPython JIT-related investigations and performance work on Arm platforms.

○ Organised the CPython Core Dev Sprint 2025 at Arm in Cambridge (blog post).

ML Group, Arm Ltd., Cambridge, UK   **2020–2023**

Principal Software Engineer/Staff Software Engineer

Technical Scope: Tech Lead, Python, Machine Learning, IP Evaluation, Inference Advisor, Software Quality.

Led the open-source Arm ML Inference Advisor project and coordinated technical delivery across ML and Arm teams. Owned design, implementation, and maintenance of ML tooling and partner integrations. Previous project: IP Selection Sandbox for ML.

○ Helped AI/ML developers tailor and optimize models for Arm hardware: `https://pypi.org/project/mlia/`

○ Built the IP Selection Sandbox for ML, enabling clients to evaluate the right IP for workloads.

ISG, Arm Ltd., Cambridge, UK   **2017–2019**

Staff Software Engineer

Technical Scope: Jenkins/Pipelines, LAVA, Artifactory, Docker, Python, Bash, Linux, GitHub.

Led build, test, data representation, and validation automation for product development. Partnered with global teams and external partners, produced system design documents, and improved CI reliability.

○ Designed automated build and test infrastructure from scratch on real Cortex-A boards for custom Linux distribution.

DSG, Arm Ltd., Cambridge, UK   **2013–2017**

Staff Software Engineer

Technical Scope: Python, Flask, Bootstrap, AngularJS, MongoDB, Linux, SVN/Git

Supervised an eight-member team and managed automation infrastructure for Arm Compiler and OSS toolchains. Ensured compliance with design principles, shared knowledge across teams, and hosted a monthly stakeholder forum. Acted as business representative on DSG infrastructures.

○ Collaborated with the GNU team to deliver optimized GNU toolchains for Arm processors.

○ Drove development of infrastructure for automated builds, tests, and benchmarks.

○ Created an application to triage GCC test results, store results in a database, and automate issue tracking using Jira.

Engineering IT, Arm Ltd., Cambridge, UK   **2011–2013**

Senior Software Engineer

Technical Scope: Python, MongoDB, RabbitMQ, Java, Jira, LSF, Perl, C, tcsh, bash, Linux, SVN/Git

Contributed to internal platforms, including a fault-tolerant application integrating with LSF cluster and AMQ server. Built a Jira plug-in to synchronize external and internal tickets, and maintained core IT systems.

○ Planned and executed the IT Early Career Scheme for interns and graduates.

R&D, Forinicom Srl, Bastia Umbra, IT   **2008–2011**

Software/System Engineer

Technical Scope: Python/Django, PostgreSQL, Debian, XEN, PyQT, Git

Delivered embedded systems and web solutions for authentication and hotspot management. Built a captive portal for sign-up, session logs, remote device signals, and payment integration, plus network monitoring software.

○ Set up internet connection and enabled fast connectivity for rural areas, providing services to hundreds of clients.

○ Designed and implemented hotspot system with captive portal and credit card payments for numerous tourists; used at EuroPython 2011.

Consorzio Miles, Servizi Integrati, Rome/Assisi, IT   **2006–2008**

Python/Django Engineer

Technical Scope: Python/Django, PostgreSQL, Linux

Worked with a team to replace paper-based processes with a Django web system. Led migration from VB to Python/Django, enabling citizens to track and update municipal processes online in real time.

Additional Experience

Forinicom Srl., Bastia Umbra, IT — 2011–05 / 2011–06
Objective-C Engineer — *Contract*
Technical Scope: Hotspot Captive Portal app, used at EuroPython 2011 in Florence

Exion Sagl, Manno, CH — 2010–11/2011–01
Python Engineer — *Remote, Contract*
Technical Scope: Python, Django, PostgreSQL

Sauce Labs Inc., San Francisco, USA — 2010–10/2011–01
Python Engineer — *Remote, Contract*
Technical Scope: Python, Pylons, GitHub

Wedoit Sas., Assisi, IT — 2005–11 / 2006–05
SEO Engineer — *Internship*
Technical Scope: SEO, Python, PHP

Talks & Podcasts

2026: Python SDQ January 2026 Meetup: Python por dentro: personas, procesos, código — *Slides | YouTube*

2025: EuroPython / PyCon UK: Exploring the CPython JIT — *Slides | PyCon UK | EuroPython*

2025: Microsoft Build: Run PyTorch natively on Windows on Arm using GitHub runners — *Session | Recording*

2025: Intervista Pythonista: Runtime e Interpreter con un Core Developer! #66 — *YouTube | Spotify | Apple Podcasts*

2024: Arm Innovation Coffee: GitHub Arm-hosted Runners with Larissa Fortuna and Diego Russo — *YouTube*

2023: EuroPython: Python on Arm Architecture — *Slides | Recording*

Education

Master of Science in Computer Science (Security) IT: 110/110 cum laude — UK: First class honours — 2021
University of Perugia, Perugia, IT
Thesis: Pruning layers of a neural network with a heuristic-based approach.

Bachelor of Science in Computer Science (Networking) IT: 102/110 — UK: 2:1 — 2006
University of Perugia, Perugia, IT
Thesis: Wireless Broadband Network/WeConnect project

Accountant programmer Diploma (Mercurio project) IT: 85/100 — UK: A — 2002
Ministry of Public Education, Commercial Technical Institute, Federico Cesi, Terni, IT

Professional Training

Expert Product Development with Python — 2022
Arm Ltd., Cambridge, UK — *Doulos*

Advanced Python Training — 2022
Arm Ltd., Cambridge, UK — *Learning Tree*

C++ Programming for Embedded Systems — 2021
Arm Ltd., Cambridge, UK — *Doulos*

Practical Deep Learning — 2020
Arm Ltd., Cambridge, UK — *Doulos*

iPhone (iOS9) and Swift 2.2: DipMatBeacon — 2016
Online, University of Perugia project app for booking state of rooms — *Udemy*

MongoDB Administration and Developers training — 2015
Arm Ltd., Cambridge, UK — *MongoDB*

Affiliations

Python Software Foundation: Contributor (2023–2024), Triage Team (2024–2025), Core Developer (2025–present) — *2023–present*

EuroPython Conference: Organiser/Volunteer/Attendee, Florence, Berlin, Bilbao, Rimini, Edinburgh, Online — *2011 – Present*

Languages

Italian: Fluent — *Italian citizenship*

English: C1 — *British citizenship*

Spanish: C1

Proudly written in LaTeX and Vim: https://github.com/diegorusso/cv