

# Contributing to Open Source:

## From Not Knowing Python to Becoming a Spyder Core Developer

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### Context



Spyder is a scientific development environment written in Python, for Python. It offers a unique combination of the advanced editing, analysis, debugging, and profiling functionality of a comprehensive development tool for data exploration, interactive execution, deep inspection, and visualization capabilities.



Currently working at Quansight/Quansight Labs as a Software Engineer



### How it began

- I was an undergraduate student doing a double degree on Industrial Engineering and Systems and Computing Engineering in 2016.
- No experience programming with Python.
- Started working with a Spyder maintainer (Carlos Cordoba).
- Started doing small fixes/helping others in issues like:



spyder issue 3522



spyder issue 3564

### How it's going



#### Spyder Small Development Grant proposal

- Core developer since 2019.
- Release manager for Spyder versions 4.1.6, 4.2.1, 5.2.0, 5.2.1, 5.2.2, 5.3.0 and [5.3.2](#)
- A proposal to improve the Spyder installer on Windows and the Python environments/packages management was accepted by NumFOCUS and will let the project fund a junior developer to work in the changes for six months.

### Learned things

#### Communication

- Multicultural and multilingual community.
- People asking for help or creating issues can be completely new to Python or Spyder.
- Importance in being comprehensive, respectful and have a good attitude to moderate all the conversations.

#### Roadmap



#### Spyder 2022 Roadmap

- Planned for the community.
- It becomes the source of ideas to write proposals to get funds and then make those ideas achievable.

#### Funding

Having different funding sources helps keeping the project going while not being dependent from an specific organization. For example Spyder has had funding from:

- [NumFOCUS Small Development grants.](#)
- [Google Season of Docs](#)
- [PSF grants program](#)
- [Quansight Labs CWO](#)
- [OpenCollective \(Donations\)](#)

### Spyder related projects/repositories

**spyder-ide/qtpy**  
Provides an uniform layer to support PyQt5, PySide2, PyQt6, PySide6 with a single codebase

48 Contributors

10 Issues

648 Stars

131 Forks

**spyder-ide/spyder**  
Official repository for Spyder - The Scientific Python Development Environment

190 Contributors

23k Used by

7k Stars

1k Forks

**spyder-ide/qtawesome**  
Iconic fonts in PyQt and PySide applications

22 Contributors

25k Used by

526 Stars

84 Forks

**python-lsp/python-lsp-server**  
Fork of the python-language-server project, maintained by the Spyder IDE team and the community

105 Contributors

3k Used by

11 Discussions

626 Stars

79 Forks

**spyder-ide/ux-improvements**  
Discussion about UX improvements for Spyder 5 and beyond

3 Contributors

43 Issues

3 Stars

2 Forks

**spyder-ide/spyder-docs**  
Documentation for Spyder, the Scientific Python Development Environment

18 Contributors

8 Issues

20 Stars

108 Forks

**jupyter/qtconsole**  
Jupyter Qt Console

125 Contributors

103k Used by

317 Stars

178 Forks