

I am a PhD Researcher at UCL **working on high performance software for problems in science and engineering**. I'm interested in applying HPC to difficult scientific problems, and my research focuses on scaling solvers for Maxwell's equations. I have significant software development experience in data science and machine learning, and have worked in different industries (Manufacturing, Insurance, Automotive). I am active in the open source software community, with contributions (small and large!) to numerous popular data science and numerical libraries, most significantly **ExaFMM**, **Traits**, **Envisage**, **Chaco**, **Numba**, **Scipy**, **Scikit-Learn** and many more, including time being mentored by CPython maintainers while an intern at Enthought.

EDUCATION

University College London

London, UK

MSc+PhD Mathematics & Computer Science (MSc with Distinction)

September 2018 - September 2024

Focus: My area of research is **software systems** for large scale (petascale, moving to exascale) **simulation** in **Rust** and **Python**. I write software to take advantage of distributed and heterogeneous hardware (mixed CPU/GPU) for scientific and engineering problems. My research focuses on solutions to the integral and differential equations that arise out of wave-phenomena, for example in electromagnetism, acoustics and other related fields. The goal of my PhD research is to develop simulation software for Maxwell's equations that scales to petascale. I completed my MSc part-time in order to fund my studies through working in the technology industry.

Durham University

Durham, UK

MPhys Physics (Upper Second Class Honours)

October 2013 - May 2017

Focus: Theoretical physics, and applied computation.

TECHNOLOGIES

Languages: Python (8 years), Matlab (3 years), Rust (2 years), C++/C, JavaScript (1 year), Miranda, Haskell, Go (< 1 year)

Tools: **Data Science** (Pandas, Numpy, SciPy, SKLearn, Numba) (5 years), **Distributed Computing** (MPI, OpenMP, Dask) (3 years), **Heterogeneous Computing** (CUDA, OpenCL) (3 years), **Databases** (Postgres, Elasticsearch, MongoDB) (2 years),

DevOps (Docker, Singularity, TravisCI) (2 years), **Web Dev** (Flask, FastAPI, AWS, GCP) (1 year), **Deep Learning** (Tensorflow, Keras) (<1 year), **Frontend** (React, React-Native) (<1year)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

The majority of my professional experience has been in startups, in product, software and research roles. Startups have taught me how to deal with extreme ambiguity, learn quickly, execute projects with limited resources, form productive teams, and effectively engage with stakeholders.

DeGould Automotive

Remote, UK

Software Engineer

Nov 2021-

- I'm a software engineer at a computer vision startup in the automotive industry.
- I work primarily in **Python** and **Rust**, building data-pipelines, and productionising research outputs.

Enthought

Cambridge, UK

Software Engineer, Intern

April 2019-September 2019

- I developed **computer vision software** for a client in the semiconductor industry to automate manufacturing defect detection using **Python** with **SciKit-Image**, **Keras** and **PyQT** for development, and **TravisCI** and **Docker** for the build environment.
- I contributed to popular Python open source projects (**Traits**, **Envisage**, **Chaco**), under the guidance of core maintainers of **CPython**.

Cytora

London, UK

Software Engineer

September 2017-December 2018

- I took ownership of the development of mission critical projects, operating under ambiguity, and changing requirements.
- I lead a team of three to develop greenfield **natural language processing software**, to process data from unstructured and structured source data, using **Python** with **Flask**, **ElasticSearch**, **PostgreSQL**, and **CircleCI**, **Docker** and **GCP** for deployment.

Cambridge Quantum

Research Intern

Cambridge, UK

June 2017-September 2017

- I was a summer researcher studying algorithms for the next generation of quantum computers where I collaborated with researchers from the University of Cambridge.
- I designed algorithms for compiling simple quantum algorithms on emerging quantum hardware topologies, inspired by classical sorting networks.

Humboldt University

Research Intern

Berlin, DE

June 2016-September 2016

- I was a summer researcher in computational neuroscience, working on models for olfaction in insect brains.
- I implemented neural-data analysis software in Python, and presented the outputs of my work at the Bernstein Conference for Computational Neuroscience.

PUBLICATIONS

[1] **Kailasa, S.** & Betcke, T. Distributed Octrees in Rust, Designed for Exascale, Manuscript in Preparation (2021).

[2] **Kailasa, S.**, Wang, T., Barba, L. A. & Betcke, T. PyExaFMM: Designing a High-Performance Point Fast Multipole Solver in Python with Numba. Manuscript in Preparation (2021).

PRESENTATIONS

[1] **Kailasa, S.** & Betcke, T. Electromagnetic Solvers for Exascale Machines in Rust. 8th European Congress on Computational Methods in Applied Sciences and Engineering (2022).

[2] **Kailasa, S.**, Betkiewicz, R., Bardos, V., Kloppenburg, P. & Nawrot, M. P. Single Neuron Model Description and Intrinsic Properties of Different Neuron Types in the Cockroach Antennal Lobe. Bernstein Conference (2016).

PRIZES

[2020] UKRI Doctoral Training Prize, Full PhD Fees and Stipend.

[2019] UCL Enterprise Startup Battlefield, 3rd Place £1500.

[2017] Durham University Hackathon 'Durhack', Best Use of Data £50.

[2016] DAAD Scholarship, Summer Research Prize £2000.

[2014] BP STEM Scholarship, undergraduate funding £20,000.

REFERENCES

[1] Primary Supervisor - Timo Betcke, Professor of Computational Mathematics, University College London. t.betcke@ucl.ac.uk

[2] Secondary Supervisor - Iain Smears, Associate Professor of Applied Mathematics, University College London. i.smears@ucl.ac.uk