

# Maksim Smirnov

Principal Technical Lead / Staff Engineer

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## SUMMARY

Principal Technical Lead with 12 years designing event-driven distributed systems at scale. At Raiffeisenbank own the architecture of a credit automation platform spanning six teams; the event-driven redesign cut credit approval from 3 days to under 24 hours and reduced Kubernetes infrastructure costs by 30%. Set platform-wide technical standards, drive cross-team architectural decisions, and ship open-source infrastructure tooling. Open to Staff/Principal Engineer roles.

## EXPERIENCE

**Principal Technical Lead**, Raiffeisenbank 2024 – Present

- Own the architecture of an enterprise credit automation platform on event-driven microservices (Kafka, gRPC, REST), with technical decisions spanning six engineering teams in the risk and compliance domain.
- Architected the migration to an event-driven system that reduced Kubernetes infrastructure costs by 30% and improved observability via Prometheus and Grafana.
- Redesigned the approval pipeline and CI/CD to bring credit approval from 3 days to under 24 hours.
- Established platform-wide engineering standards (service boundaries, event contracts, interview rubric) adopted across teams; mentored senior engineers toward technical ownership.

**Senior Software Engineer**, Yandex 2022 – 2023

- Owned the Python library porting pipeline for Yandex's air-gapped internal package ecosystem: evaluated upstream OSS, authored compatibility patches, and integrated them into proprietary VCS and registry.
- Engineered automation that reduced manual overhead in the import and patching workflow, enabling internal teams to track and adopt new upstream releases reliably.

**Lead Software Developer**, EPAM Systems 2018 – 2021

- Technical lead for agile teams of 8–9 engineers on pharmaceutical software, owning architecture, code quality, and delivery.
- Founded a Python Competence Center, raising engineering standards across 100+ engineers through lectures, workshops, and assessment frameworks.

**Co-Founder & Lead Python Developer**, Aglaya 2014 – 2018

- Co-founded the company and led the technical delivery of custom information systems for enterprise clients with a team of 10.

## SELECTED CONTRACT ENGAGEMENTS

**Engineering Lead**, Metamap *part-time, contract* 2022

- Led the architectural migration from monolith to microservices (Python, REST, Docker/Kubernetes), enabling product expansion into Latin America and Singapore.
- Reduced the codebase by 50%, cutting release cycles from days to hours through a CI/CD overhaul.

**Engineering Lead**, Runity *part-time, contract* 2022 – 2023

- Delivered six previously stalled projects by establishing clear technical ownership; improved estimation accuracy, reducing variance by 10–15%.

## OPEN SOURCE & PUBLICATIONS

**metrics** — Jira engineering-analytics toolkit computing cycle time, lead time, queue time, and throughput; modular, extensible, fully tested. [github.com/smirnoffmg/metrics](https://github.com/smirnoffmg/metrics)

**litestar-keycloak** — Keycloak authentication plugin for the LiteStar Python framework, published to PyPI.

**Publications:** *Software Engineering Metrics* and *Profiling Asynchronous Python* — Medium.

## EDUCATION

**MIPT University — M.Sc., Data Science, Moscow, Russia** 2023 – 2025

- Focus: machine learning systems and MLOps.

**ITMO University — B.Sc., Information Security, Saint Petersburg, Russia**

- Thesis: a neural network for detecting steganographic content in digital images.

## CERTIFICATIONS

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**AWS Certified Solutions Architect** — designing and deploying scalable cloud systems on AWS. **IELTS 7.5** (2022).

## TECHNICAL SKILLS

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**Languages:** Python, Go **Data:** PostgreSQL, MongoDB, Redis

**Cloud / DevOps:** AWS, Docker, Kubernetes, Helm, Terraform, GitLab CI/CD, Prometheus, Grafana

**Messaging / APIs:** Kafka, RabbitMQ, gRPC, REST **Frameworks:** LiteStar, FastAPI, Django, Gin, PyTorch, LangChain

**Architecture:** Distributed systems, event-driven design, system design, technical leadership

**Spoken:** English (fluent), Russian (native), German (beginner)