Software Developer

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My first position post-graduation was a software developer for Rutherford Appleton Laboratory and I’m still there today. I work on the ATLAS experiment with the LHC (Large Hadron Collider). While doing my PhD, I was already involved with the ATLAS experiment. I enjoyed particularly the technical aspects of work on the experiment and was excited to continue working in that area. I write software to keep only interesting data and then discard the rest. The data is then used to search for evidence of new particles and better measure those we know.

I gained a great deal of technical knowledge on my PhD particularly in particle physics. The year I spent at CERN during my PhD was extremely valuable firstly in getting exposure to the job and for networking with various people in the field. There were regular experiment meetings when I was a student and I’d often have to prepare results and present them at short notice. This is a valuable skill, which I have used multiple times in my current role.

‘I love what I’m doing and it’s definitely working out career wise.’