

Taking on the Technical Interview

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Preparing for interviews

Technical interview

Coding

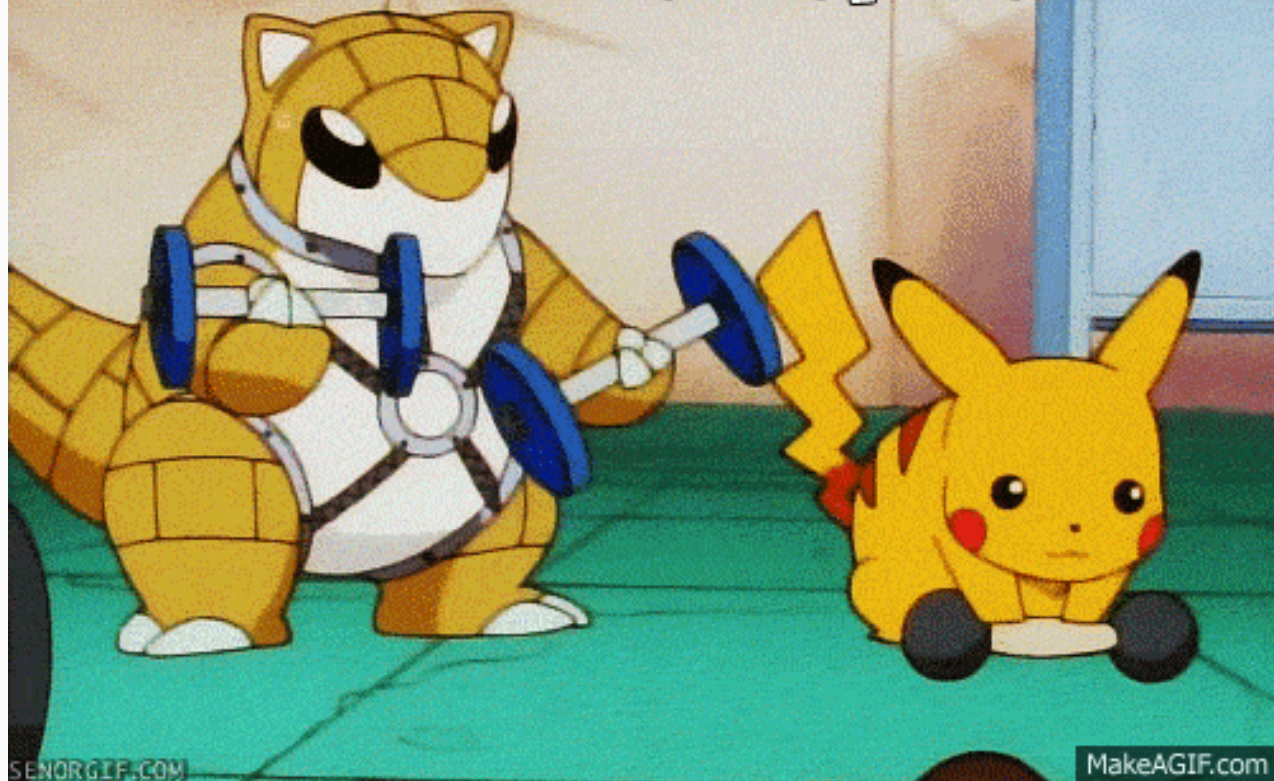
Data structures and algorithms

Theory

Testing

Design

DO YOU EVEN LIFT?



Practice, practice, practice

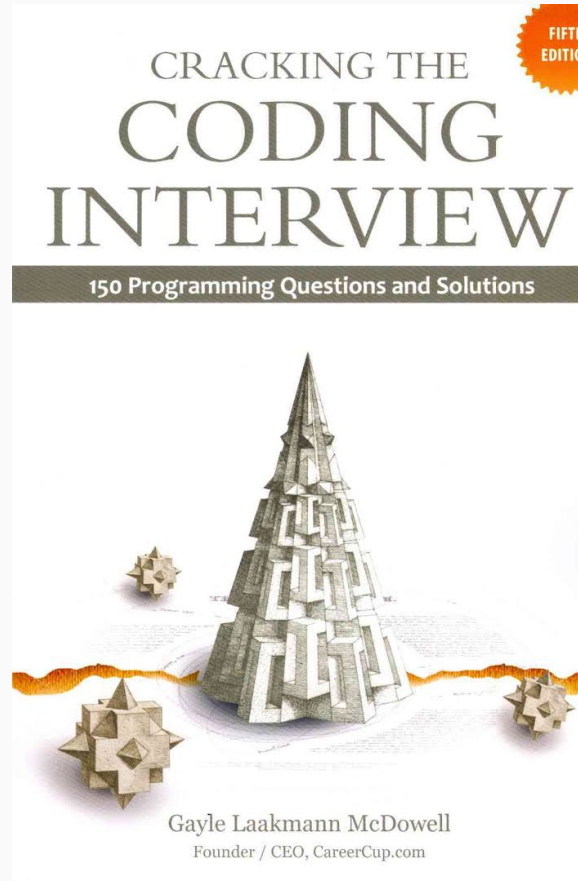
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Cracking the coding interview



Coding — Technical tips

Listen to your interviewer

Pick your programming language carefully. Know common libraries.

There are usually multiple correct answers. Take the time to think. Pick carefully.

Style doesn't matter except when it confuses you

Use decomposition

Test your own code, think about edge cases

Data structures and Algorithms

Arrays

Lists

Trees

Hashtables

Graphs

Heaps

Stacks

Queues

Various sorting
algorithms

Tree traversals

Recursion

Dynamic programming

Dijkstra's algorithm

Traveling salesperson

5 2 4 6 1 3

Theory

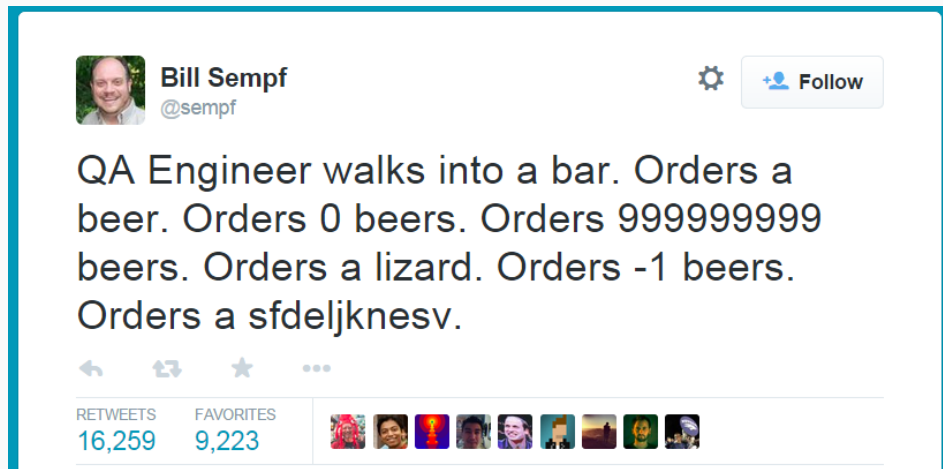
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$O(N)$

Testing



Testing



Testing for coding

Test your own code!

Be systematic about test cases

Edge cases, extreme cases, random testing

Re-evaluate your code

Testing-specific questions

Types of testing

Mocks/stubs/fakes

Test design

Large scale testing

Design

Start with a naive implementation

There is no one right answer. There isn't one best algorithm.
Make it clear that you are analyzing the tradeoffs.

Ask a lot of questions.

Focus a bit on the numbers. Analyze the scale of the problem.

Don't worry if you don't finish.

Non-technical tips

Asking questions to clarify the problem

Verbalizing your thought process

Make sure you're justifying (and vocalizing) your assumptions

Have some questions prepared for your interviewer — just **don't** ask about how you did.

It's better to say something wrong than to say nothing

Questions?

Me: "How is it we assume that
Dinosaurs just roared, they could have
talked like us, right?"

Interviewer: "I meant questions about
the job"

Practice!

Practice Questions: Round 1

Freshmen / Sophomores: Juniors / Seniors:

<https://goo.gl/vU02Be>

<https://goo.gl/ssll1z>

Practice Questions: Round 2

Freshmen / Sophomores:

Juniors / Seniors:

<https://goo.gl/XoEDWX>

<https://goo.gl/xW4c45>