CODEX

Codex Newsletter

May 17, 2021

WORDS OF THE EXPERIENCED

Vedant Nanda

Batch of 2019, ITER

Current role: Associate Consultant, Microsoft

Q: How did you prepare yourself for final year placement?

A: When I started off my preparations, I decided how much time I wanted to give to each topic in a week. It was very difficult to make that decision and find a perfect balance between everything, but I was focusing on preparing for the written exams and technical interviews as well. I prepped for written exams myself with my hostel roommates who were gracious enough to help me wherever I needed help. I also joined an institute "Confidence Factory" in BBSR for interview and GD preparation. Amidst all this I was trying to find time for brushing up on my technical skills as well and my friends helped me with it. I want to name some of my friends who helped me reach where I am today and all of whom got placed in campus recruitment as well: Nilamadhab Mohanty(Kloudgin), Siddharth Sahoo(Deloitte), Mites Mrinoy(IBM), Siddharth Nayak(Robert Bosch), Anurag Dhanuka(HighRadius).

Q: How should one prepare oneself to be successful in the field of engineering?

A: Very simple but effective success mantra: "Do what you love!!"

Q: How far do you think college plays a role in preparing a student for industrial and job situation?

A: College plays a major role in building the foundation that one needs to be successful in the industry.College helps you in not only joining the industry, but it gives you a platform to build yourself up for different walks of life be it corporate, higher studies, entrepreneurship or whatever people are interested to do post college. From a CS student's curriculum point of view, I see it getting updated very frequently to adhere to the industry norms which would benefit students when applying for jobs.

Q: How was the first 2 years of college life like for you ?

A: First two years I was just having a good time in general. I hadn't started preparing for anything. I was enjoying my engineering days without much stress. Things were simpler, only things that were of concern were Assignments and Exams. Third year is when I seriously started preparing for placements. I would suggest everyone the same, to enjoy your engineering days and make the best out of it but not at the cost of academics.

Q: What is the best way to learn something? Self-study through resources or having financed supervision?

A: There is no fixed best way to learn something new. Usually there are tons of free resources on all topics but also the paid ones are better structured and might be more useful. I usually start off learning something new with a free resource and if I don't find good enough materials then I go for paid courses.

Q: How to maintain balance between our college study and self-learning?

A: Tricky question!! But it depends on an individual's time management skills. The person should understand what his key strengths and weaknesses are and based on that he/she should give appropriate time to each.

Q: Does learning new things and technology as well as contributing to open source have any significance or we should rather only focus on our academic?

A: Everything that you do has some level of significance. I will suggest if you are able to find time beyond your college academics then go ahead and learn or do whatever you want to. The more you try different things the better you get to know if that is something you are interested in doing.

Q: What do you think is more important : learning new things or being polished at one thing?

A: From a Computer Science Grad's perspective with new things coming up every now and then I feel we need to keep ourselves updated and not focus on only one thing, but that doesn't mean knowing 2 % of 50 things. The best thing to do in my opinion is pick 3-4 things and be good enough to be able to answer questions on it if asked in an interview.

Q: What will you advice the 1st year students to make them acquainted with the engineering field/life?

A: To first year students I would say, pretty much everyone is confused and overwhelmed with a sudden shift from school to college. Best suggestion is interacting with your seniors, as many as you can and get their perspective on things that you think you should know but are clueless as to where to get the answer from. You would find folks with very different opinions on same topics also but go with an open mind and try to understand what they did in their initial days which helped them or just learn from their mistakes and their opinion on engineering or life in general.

Q: What will you advice someone before starting the placement preparation?

A: I will suggest if you are preparing for the campus drive then find out which companies visit, what roles they offer, the job description and what skill sets they usually look for. Based on that you can structure your preparation, also talk to seniors about their interview and preparation experiences and any tips that they could share.

A: I haven't thought that far ahead for myself yet. My short-term goal for now is to keep learning and gain more exposure to different things in the industry to broaden my horizon which will enable me in setting a long-term goal for myself.

From Our Members

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Gymstructor

(Vinayak, Sourav Bera) [2019-2023]

It is an android app that enables users to do exercise, yoga in the comfort of their house. As during this pandemic situation no one is able to go out of their house to gyms, yoga centres, etc. so the respective flutter developer came up with this idea to help such peoples in these pandemic situations. The main idea of this app is to guide people through various exercises, yoga in form of tutorial videos. It also has a BMI calculator that helps people keep track of their body fitness, it also provides healthy diet tips, all these at just the tip of your finger. Apart from this they are trying to add many further updates in which people will be enabled to make direct video contact with their personal instructors if they are not happy with result they got from using the app.
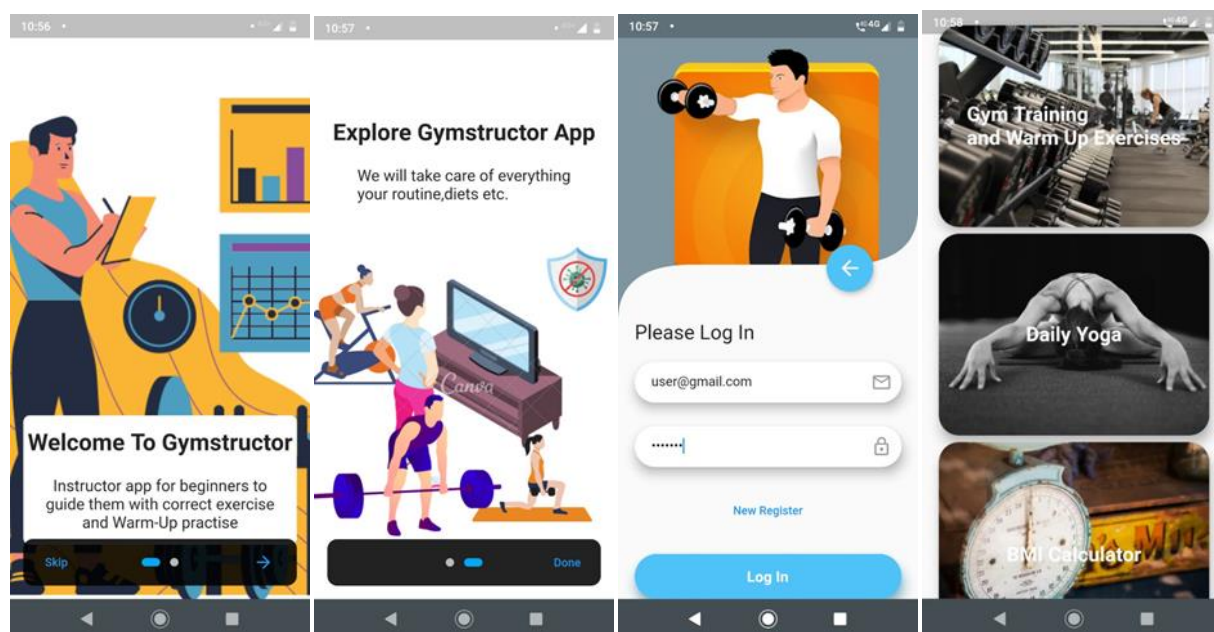
Project Link

Speak Short

(Rituraj Gupta, Bikash Dash, Debashish Samantara) [2019-2023]

It is a website in which you get two utilities in the homepage namely Text-to-speech and URL Shortener.As we speak of the Text-to-speech it is a web-app that makes your device read out the articles for you. It can be used to read any language. At present it supports only .txt file stated by the creator. For this they've used web speech API, HTML, CSS, JS. And the URL shortener works just fine like the earlier web-app. It shortens your default long URL into a shorter and more shareable format. For this they've used PHP, CSS, SQL, JS.

Project Link

Criczilla

(Piyush Ranjan, Aditya Sharma, Shubhanjan Dash) [2019-2023]

It is a website that views stats of cricket players of all countries across different formats. Such as statistics overview across various formats, live scores, cricket news, searching players across a huge collection of player's profiles, pre-written birthday tweets for players every day for

whichever player's birthday it must be, etc. The developers have implemented this website using EJS templates, CSS, Vanilla JS, Express Js, MondoDB Atlas, APIs for live scores and news and heroku for deployment.The developers also intend to come up with future update in which it may enable user to read bio of players, facebook functionality, etc.

Project Link

CryptoContact

(Tapas Sahu) [2019-2023]

It is basically an application that stores data (contact as the name suggests) in a much secured way. It is so much secured that even the developer cannot access your data. If somehow any unauthorized personnel get into the database then also it will be of no use. It has been implemented using Jasypt (Java Simplified Encryption) libraries, spring boot, hibernate, Thymeleaf, JPA, MySQL, bootstrap, HTML, CSS and JS. The working of this application is described below:-
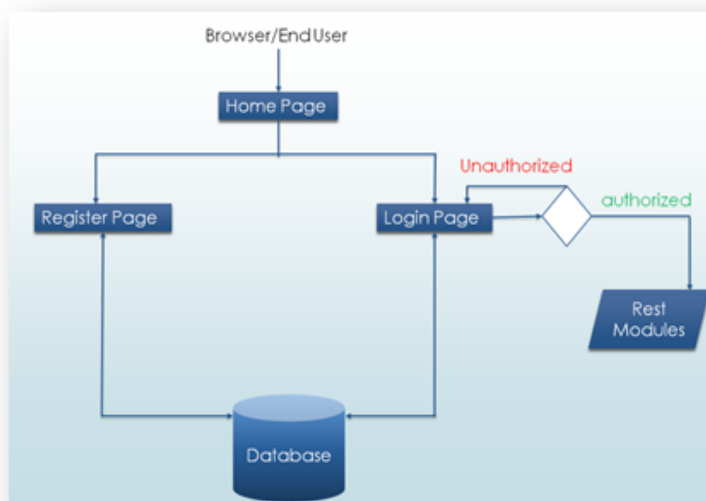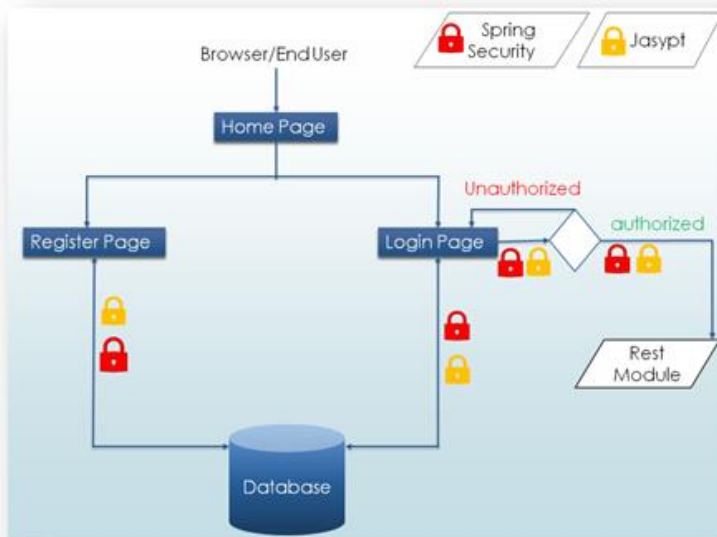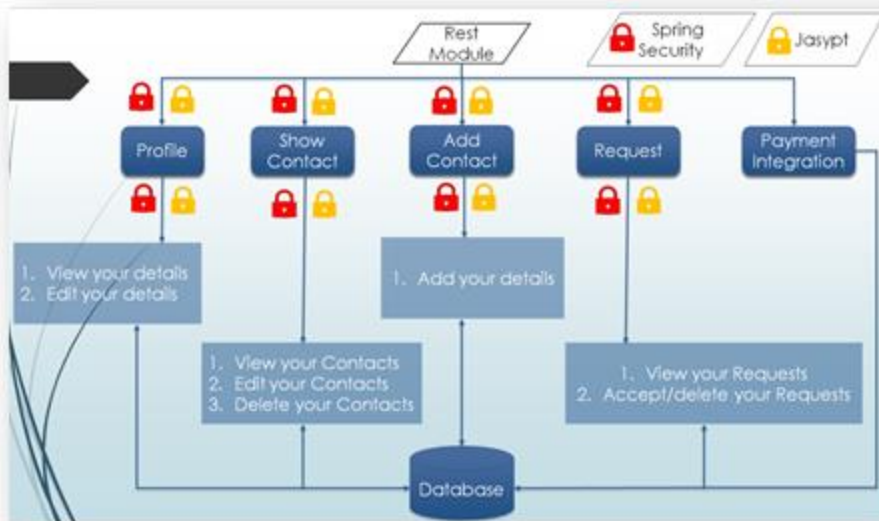
PDFHut

(Sri Rijul Das, Deepak Pattnayak, Sourav Kumar Prusty) [2019-2023]

It is a notes exchange system where all the students of the university can get any lectures notes, books, etc. in PDF form regarding their academics at one place. This website is user-friendly, and facilitates upload and download functionality. In download section the student can get any lecture notes that are available in the database as per his/her needs. While in upload section if the student is willing to contribute to the cause of notes sharing then he/she can also do that. Not only students but also the faculty can use this website as per their convenience if

wish to do so. Developer's intention for this website is that the faculties and students don't have to struggle with the sharing process. The Developers intend to come with more innovative ideas in recent future.

[GitHub link](#)

LATEST TECH NEWS

IBM Unveils 2nm Chip Technology for Faster Computing, Could Be 45 Percent Faster Than 7nm Options.

IBM introduced what it says is the world's first 2-nanometre chipmaking technology. The technology could be as much as 45 percent faster than the mainstream 7nm chips in many of today's laptops and phones and up to 75 percent more power efficient, the company said.The 2nm chips will be smaller and faster than today's leading edge 5nm chips, which are just now showing up in premium smartphones like Apple's iPhone 12 models, and the 3nm chips expected to come after 5nm.

Read more.

A long-lasting, stable solid-state lithium battery.

Researchers have designed a stable, lithium-metal solid state battery that can be charged and discharged at least 10,000 times -- far more cycles than have been previously demonstrated --- at a high current density. The battery technology could increase the lifetime of electric vehicles to that of the gasoline cars -- 10 to 15 years -- without the need to replace the battery. With its high current density, the battery could pave the way for electric vehicles that can fully charge within 10 to 20 minutes.

Read more

Next stop, space: NASA Webb telescope undergoes final tests.

NASA engineers are getting one last look at the James Webb Space Telescope (JWST): a final test to show that its 18 gold-tinted mirror segments can unfold into a precise honeycomb configuration. After the test concludes this week, the giant instrument will be folded up, packed into a shipping container, and shipped off to French Guiana, where it will launch into space on 31 October.

Read more

Brain implants turn imagined handwriting into text on a screen.
A person paralyzed from the neck down communicated using the brain-to-text technology.Electrodes in a paralyzed man's brain turned his imagined handwriting into words typed on a screen. The translation from brain to text may ultimately point to ways to help people with disabilities like paralysis communicate using just their thoughts.From brain activity alone, the participant produced 90 characters, or 15 words,

<u>per minute</u>, Krishna Shenoy, a Howard Hughes Medical Institute investigator at Stanford University, and colleagues report May 12 in *Nature*.

[Read more](#)

Scientists Synthesize New Two-Dimensional Material.

Named beryllonitrene, the new two-dimensional (2D) material consists of regularly arranged nitrogen (N) and beryllium (Be) atoms and has an unusual electronic lattice structure, according to a study led by the University of Bayreuth."For the first time, close international cooperation in high-pressure research has now succeeded in producing a chemical compound in that was previously completely unknown," said Professor Natalia Dubrovinskaia, a researcher in the Laboratory for Crystallography at the University of Bayreuth.

[Read more](#)