

Prepare For the Coding Interview

Vivek Kirubanandan,
Founder & Mentor

April 11, 2021 10:00-11:45 AM PST

Agenda

1

Kickoff
10:00-10:10

...

2

Introduction
10:10-10:20

...

3

Presentation
10:20-11:05

...

4

Break
11:05-11:10

...

5

Q&A Discussion
11:10-11:40

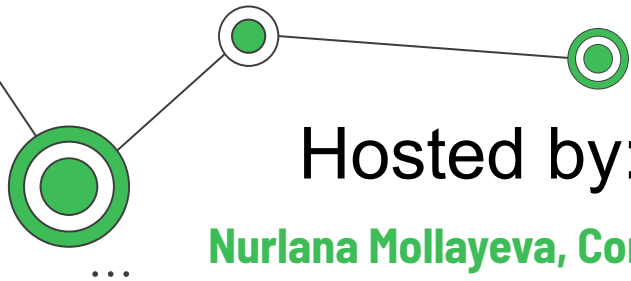
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6

Wrap up
11:40-11:45

...



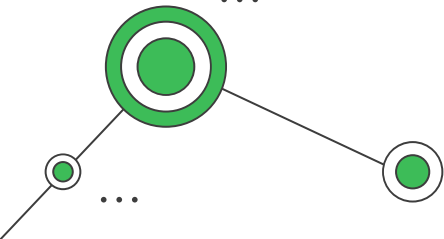


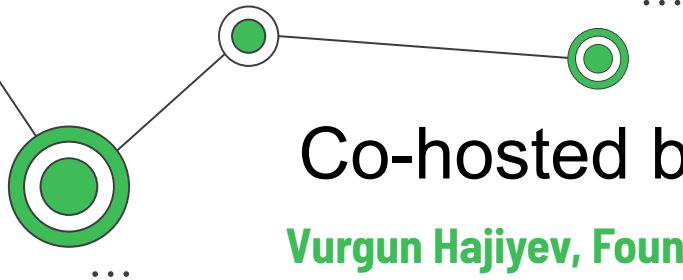
Hosted by:

**Nurlana Mollayeva, Community
Manager @ GoUp, Student**

GoUp Community driven Open source accelerator!

- Building next generation community: egoless, collaborative, competent, decentralized, scalable, fun community culture.
- Structure and index the data flow within community.



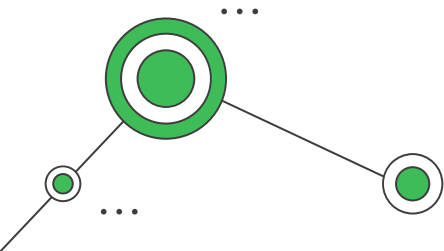


Co-hosted by:

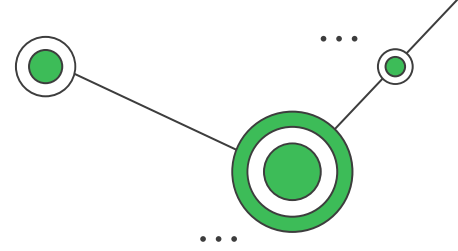
**Vurgun Hajiyeve, Founder @
Expertech**

Expertech is a monthly tech meetup series
organized by ATL Group to bring IT minds together.

The goal of this meetup series is a commitment to the
development of the local IT ecosystem for professionals,
students, and IT enthusiasts.



We want to know you, if you fit!



<https://goupaz.slack.com>



<https://www.linkedin.com/company/goupaz>



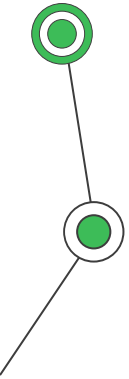
<https://github.com/goupaz>



<https://youtube.com/goupaz>



<https://www.meetup.com/goupaz>



Sponsor



<https://www.allmytaxes.com>



To reach for community event
sponsorship contact us over Slack:
slack.goupaz.com



Code of Conduct

01

Language

English

02

Collaboration

Learn, benefit,
contribute

03

Equality

Despite roles and
accomplishments

04

Neutrality

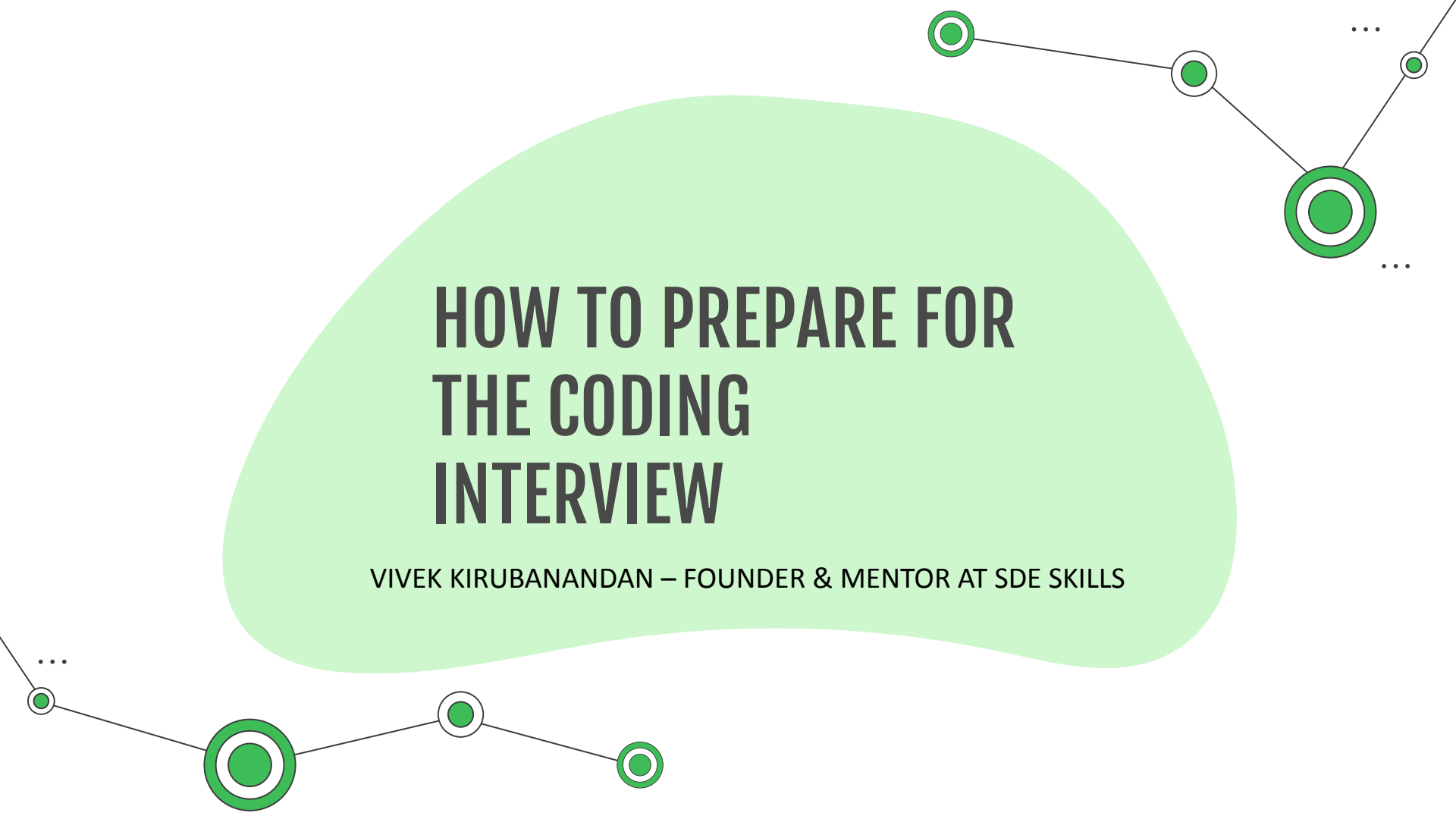
No marketing, selling,
competing



Photo Shoot Time

Please turn on your camera :D

...



HOW TO PREPARE FOR THE CODING INTERVIEW

VIVEK KIRUBANANDAN – FOUNDER & MENTOR AT SDE SKILLS

About Me

Founder of SDE Skills and an Engineering Manager in Seattle. An active interviewer with 500+ technical and behavioral interviews for various roles.

Disclaimer: *Anything shared are my own opinions, and do not represent my past, current or future employers*

FOCUS OF INTERVIEWS?

The What

Assessed via core-skill
interviews

Focus is on “Do you have
the skills to do the job?”

The How

Assessed via behavior
interviews and hypothetical
interviews

Focus is on “Can you do the
job effectively?”

ANATOMY OF AN INTERVIEW

Intro (5m)

Discussion (50m)

Close (5m)

1. Requirements Gathering (5m)

2. Problem Solving (15m)

3. Execution/Coding (20m)

4. Testing and Validation (10m)

TOPICS TO PREPARE

Data Structures

Strings and Arrays

Linked Lists

Stack /Queue

Graphs and Trees

Hash Tables

...

Algorithms

Traversal

- BFS/DFS

Seek

- Binary Search

Sorting

- Quick Sort
- Merge Sort

...

Concepts

Big O

Recursion

Dynamic Programming

OO Concepts

Design Patterns

...

THE PREP PROCESS

Concepts	Practice	Assessment	Remember
Big O	Leetcode	Mock Interviews	Simulate interviews
Prep Topics	GfG	Real Interviews	Quality over Quantity
Building Blocks	Books	Review compicators	
	Meetups		

SAMPLE CODING QUESTION

Given two (large) data sets, find the number of common elements between them.

Follow Ups:

- Can you find the elements as well?
- What is the Time Complexity and Space Complexity of your algorithm?
- Additional constraints on the Space Complexity

HOW ARE YOU ASSESSED?

Not Looking For

Knowing the answers

Instant solutions

Flawless coding

Looking for

Your approach

Your thought process

Use of correct idioms

- `list.insert` vs `list.add`
- `queue.pop` vs `stack.pop`

AT INTERVIEWS, THE JOURNEY IS MORE
MEANINGFUL THAN THE DESTINATION!

Drive the interview! Take control!

BEST PRACTICES – CODING

- Listen and clarify
- Work out the “solution” – need not be optimal.
- Iterate and optimize
- Code it up
- Test
- Remember to bring the interviewer along

BEST PRACTICES – WHITEBOARDING (Virtual?)

- Start top-left
- Manage logical spaces
- Erase what you don't need / keep the rest
- Leave lines between code → arrows are fine
- Shorthand mostly okay

BEST PRACTICES – BEHAVIORAL INTERVIEWS

Elevator Pitch

I'm a **[title]** at **[company]**. I studied at **[school]**. At my current company, **[current success]**. Before this, **[prior success]**. On the side, I do **[relevant hobbies]**

STAR Format

Situation – 5W, 1H

Task – total solve

Actions you took

Results – Tangible outcomes

Focus

Pick right stories

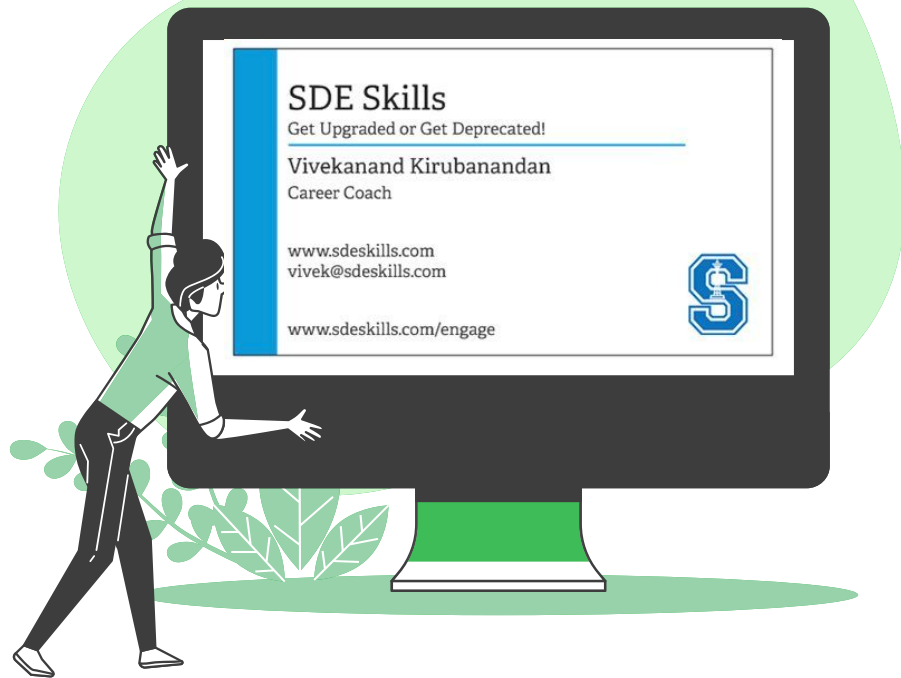
Recent stories are better

Focus on the message

May include interests in the elevator pitch

Wrap up

Feel free to reach out





5 MINS

BREAK

Q&A Discussion

...

What are your techniques for pushing professionals out of their comfort zones?

What's your goal as a mentor?

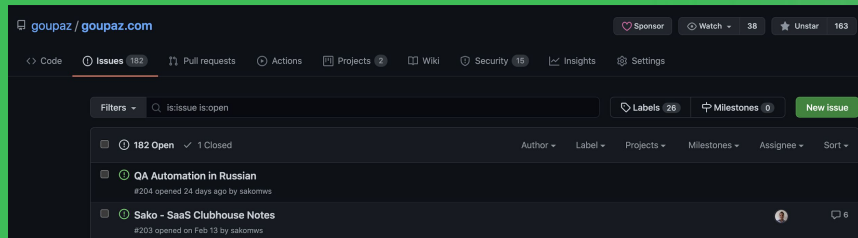
What would you do if you were your mentee?

...

How are you tracking the progress for the duration of career coaching?

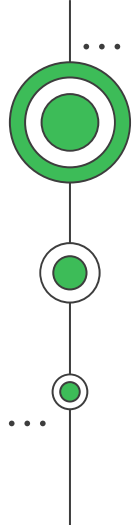


Open issue on GitHub!



<https://github.com/goupaz/goupaz.com>





Thank you!

