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### P1 Self-introduction

现在在哪 / 老家在哪 / English Speaking Experience / BG

on my vocation living in SHENZHEM

Hello, I am a graduate from Jinan University, majored in Network Engineering in the Department of Computer Science. I will join the HKUST(GZ) as an MPhil student in Data Science and Analytics. I'm very honored to meet everyone.

## P2/3 Preparation & Discussion

[考官分两组topic]

共同准备2分钟(Preparation),然后轮流讲2~3分钟指定的Topic,讲完会被上一个同学提问,比如a讲完,d提问,然后a回答问题(大概一分钟)。

## (1)Describe your research using clear and simple language

- What is the general topic of your research?
- What is your research project about?
- Why are you interested in this area of research?
- Why is research in your area important to society? Can you give an example of a real-world application of your research?
- What main challenges have you faced in research you have done until now?
- What do you hope to achieve in your research?
- Your general research problem?
- Your research topic in detail?
- Prospects of your research?

The general topic of my research is **spatial-temporal data mining**. It's **about the type of data**, such as weather patterns, climate, traffic flow and urban population, which changes over time and has distinct spatial features.

I am **particularly interested in this area** because it has connections to our society in many real-world applications, from intelligent transportation systems to the environment. **My research is very important** because it helps to improve decision-making in the tasks. **For example**, using the knowledge on traffic flow prediction can let the roads designed more reasonable.

There are **many challenges** in this research and I also **aim to publish several papers** in this field and address main challenges such as **how to improve the accuracy of predictions or how to design more general stable framework**. My goal is to create practical solutions that can be applied in the real world, providing valuable tools for tackling issues related to spatial-temporal

Overall, I am **optimistic about the prospects of my research** and its potential. I feel that it can contribute to both the academic community and society at large in the future.

#### • 1)Have you worked with any other researchers or institutions on your projects?

Yes, I have collaborated with other researchers and institutions on my projects. During my internship at HKUST (GZ), I had the opportunity to work closely with Professor Liang and his team. This collaboration allowed me to engage with experts in the field and gain valuable insights into advanced research methodologies and applications.

#### • 2)How has collaboration influenced your research?

Cooperation has significantly influenced my research in several ways. Working with Professor Liang and his team provided me with access to additional resources and expert guidance. This collaborative environment helped me refine my research methodologies, improve the quality of my work, and address complex challenges more effectively. By sharing ideas and feedback, I was able to develop more innovative solutions for spatial-temporal data mining. Overall, the collaborative experience has been instrumental in enhancing my research capabilities and achieving meaningful progress in my projects.

# (2)Descirbe an event(or situation) where you were required to speak in English

- What was the event and where did it take place?
- How long was/will it be?
- Why did/will you attend it?
- Were/will you be able to prepare in advance for it? If so, in what way?
- Who were/will be the other people present?
- Did/Will the event require much conversation and/or exchange of information with others? Or was/will it require you to speak on your own?
- When will you speak?
- To whom will you speak?
- Where will you speak?
- Any details? Any difficulties?

During my undergraduate studies, about two years ago, I took part in an **English movie class** where we had to act out a drama in English **at the front of the classroom** as one part of an exam. The exam required my teammates and me to perform a **20-minute drama** from a script we wrote ourselves. I spent about two weeks to prepare **because I need to get a good mark**.

The activities **needed much conversation because** our team was **made up of classmates from different subjects** and all had different ideas. However, We reached an agreement and finally created our story some kind like Shakespeare's 'Hamlet'.

**The biggest challenges we faced was acting in English**. We also had to overcome our nerves to perform without any mistake. That's why I feel it more difficult for me.

However, despite the challenges, our hard work paid off and the teacher praised our performance. We got a high mark in the end.

To prepare for speaking in English, I focused on the following points. First, I practiced regularly by engaging in conversations with fluent speakers, which helped me gain confidence. I also watched English movies to improve my listening skills and pronunciation. Finally, I recorded myself speaking to identify areas for improvement. These methods helped me feel more prepared and comfortable with speaking in English.

# (3)Describe your experience of speaking or presenting your research in English?

- When did you speak about your research/academic areas of interest?
- Have you had much chance to speak about your research in English?If not, have you had opportunities to speak about academic topics in English?
- What do you find most challenging about speaking about your research and/or academic topics in English?
- What do you like about presenting your research in English?
- What would you like to improve about your English presenting skills?
- When do you speak? To whom? Where? Other details? Difficulties?

**During my internship** at HKUST(GZ) last year, I had **several opportunities** to present my research in English during the group meeting led by Professor Liang. In once meeting, I used PowerPoint to give a presentation and discussed my research about spatial-temporal graphs.

**One of the most challenging** about my English research speaking was overcoming my pronunciation difficulties, which sometimes made it hard to communicate my ideas clearly to my peers.

Despite being challenging, I still felt it's great and significant because it's a valuable experience to practice my oral English. In the future, I would like to further improve my English presenting skills by focusing on precision in my speech, so that I can clarify my research in various kinds of academic meetings.

#### How did you prepare for presenting your research in English?

To prepare for presenting my research in English, I practiced my presentation multiple times to improve my pronunciation and fluency. I also sought feedback from colleagues to refine my delivery. Additionally, I watched similar presentations to learn effective communication techniques and used flashcards to remember key vocabularies. This preparation helped me feel more confident during the group meetings.

## (4)Describe why you chose to study at HKUST(GZ)

- What did you hear about HKUST(gz) before you came here?
- What attracted you to study at HKUST(GZ)?
- What are you first impression of the campus?
- What does HKUST(GZ) compare to the university of your undergraduate studies?
- What do you know about your research department at HKUST(GZ)? Which professors will you be working with?
- Aside from studies, what else do you hope to achieve at HKUST(GZ) or in Guangzhou?

I first heard about HKUST Guangzhou **from the Internet**. I chose HKUST(GZ) because of its **forward-looking perspective** and the numerous opportunities it offers for academic and personal growth. At **my first impression**, there are also many kind and knowledgeable professors who bring powerful and inspiring ideas to the school.

**Compared to my undergraduate studies**, HKUST(GZ) stands out for its openness to students from diverse domains and subjects. This creates an academic atmosphere where students can explore and excel in various fields.

I had been familiar with the **research department of INTR** since as an intern at HKUST Guangzhou. During my internship, I kept **working with the laboratory** led by Professor Liang.

**Aside from my studies**, I hope to do exercise everyday and achieve a healthier body level during my time at HKUST Guangzhou.

• How did you learn about this university? Was it through an information session, a recommendation from a friend, or another reason?

I first heard about HKUST Guangzhou from the Internet.

It was through online research that I discovered the university's forward-looking perspective and opportunities for growth.

## (5)Describe a challenge you faced in your studies or at work. How did you overcome it?

- What was the challenge?
- Why was it a challenge?
- What did you do to overcome it?
- Did you handle it well? Why?
- What did you learn from this challenge?
- Would you deal with it differently now?

One year ago, I faced a challenge when I **began my academic research** on spatio-temporal data mining. I felt it **challenging because** Although I had some software engineering and coding abilities, I quickly realized that I lacked the fundamental knowledge in artificial intelligence necessary to handle and use these data effectively.

**To overcome this obstacle**, I dedicated myself to learning more about AI in my daily life. I spent considerable time writing code and designing better modules to forecast spatiotemporal data. Through continuous learning, I was able to develop the necessary skills and eventually handle it well in my research.

**Reflecting on this experience**, I recognize that I could have dealt with the difficulties by utilizing more advanced tools from the beginning. So now the tools for data loading, graph algorithms, and debugging would have enhanced my efficiency.

#### • What skills or knowledge did you gain from overcoming this challenge?

By overcoming this challenge, I gained significant skills in artificial intelligence and improved my ability to handle spatio-temporal data effectively. I also enhanced my coding skills and learned how to design better framework for the downstream tasks. Additionally, I became more familiar with utilizing advanced tools when I survey or coding for my experiments.

# (6)Describe a time when you attended an interview(e.g. job, university etc.)

- What type of interview did you attend?
- Did you do well? Why?
- What did you learn from this interview?
- Do you think presentation skills are important for interviews? Why?
- How can these skills be improved?
- Should universities teach students such skills?

Last year, I participated in an interview for the **RBCC**, where we were required to present our group's products in oral English as a condition of **university admission**.

I felt well-prepared because I had practiced English frequently beforehand, but I still experienced a bit of nervousness when introducing my topic. **Despite this, I believe I did well**. This interview was a **valuable learning experience**. It enhanced my understanding of the knowledge about multimodal artificial intelligence. I realized **the critical importance** of presentation skills.

These skills are **crucial because** they enable you to communicate your ideas clearly and confidently, whether in interviews, seminars, or conferences.

**To improve these skills**, I actively engage with English activities such as listening to the seminars and music, as well as watching TV shows like those on BBC.

I also believe **universities should** teach students essential skills like academic writing and research methods. These are fundamental for success in both academic and professional environments.

#### How did you prepare for the interview?

To prepare for the interview, I practiced English frequently, focusing on speaking and presentation skills. This helped me feel more confident in introducing my topic, even though I was a bit nervous.