



Training Unit

Internship Chronicles

2024-2025

Foreword

In the face of a challenging job market, this edition of the Placement and SI Chronicles highlights BITS Pilani's unwavering commitment to excellence in placements. With over 100 student stories, it serves as a valuable guide for navigating the dynamic job landscape. The perseverance of our students during tough times and the addition of new recruiters underscore the importance of a well-rounded profile. May these Chronicles inspire future batches to conquer challenges and secure success in their professional journeys.

Best of luck to all!



Vipul Singhal

Dy. Manager - Placements



Anish Hatua

Internship Coordinator - Sem 1

BITS Pilani continues to set a benchmark in internship hiring, with companies increasingly preferring the PPO model to assess talent for different timeframes before extending an offer. In this scenario, those who view internships as a stepping stone gain access to top recruiters who value their adaptability and skills. Despite a challenging hiring period, this has enabled our students to secure internships in record numbers, reinforcing its role in the institution's placement ecosystem. I hope these Chronicles provide valuable insights for students and enhance their profiles towards their target summer internships or placements.

Wishing everyone the very best of luck!

This internship cycle was a whirlwind of opportunities that tested students in myriads of ways. The students however sharpened their skills and maintained their composure to make the best of all incoming opportunities. The chronicles herewith reflect the preparedness and consequent positive interview experiences of the students.

I hope that the Chronicles can serve as a blueprint for future seasons and the students can refer to it to prepare during the summer for their target companies and roles. Good luck!



Saksham Sandhu

Internship Coordinator - Sem 2

Meet the Team

Heads



Akshatha Sabaji
Chemistry + Chemical Engg



Rishabh Malik
Economics + CSE

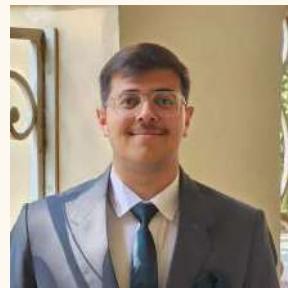
Senior Associates



Abhinav Gollapalli
ECE



Kshitij Galande
EIE



Mohd. Yaawar Askari
Math + ECE

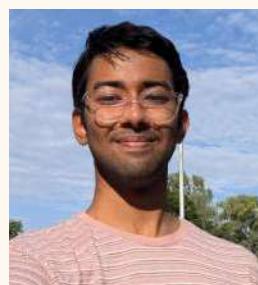
Associates



Abhinav Srivastava
Chemistry + CSE



Karthik Tenneti
CSE



Krishna Athreya
ECE



Suryansh Mallik
Civil Engg

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Consulting

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What is Management Consulting?

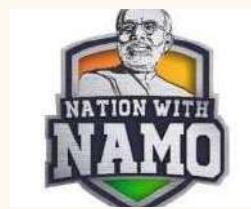
Management Consulting firms offer advisory services to different companies or organisations in order to improve their performance or assist them in achieving different organisational objectives. As one of the **most sought after** career entry points, this is one of the **most competitive** sectors in the market at present.

Resources

These resources, as compiled by the Training Unit, are a good place to start your preparation journey, if you would like to accrue the required skillsets for this role -

1. Placement Training Module for Consulting Interviews, compiled by the Training Unit - [click here](#).
2. Videos of past workshops organised by the Training Unit - [click here](#)

Present and Previous Recruiters



Accenture Strategy & Consulting

Introduction

Interviewee - Meghna Ramaratnam (2022A4PS0915P)

Job Role - Management Consulting Delivery Associate

Number of offers made - 5

Selection Process

Branches open to - All except A7, only single-degree students were eligible

CGPA Cutoff - None

Recruitment process -

Round 1 - Resume Shortlisting

Round 2 - HR Interview

This order struck me as quite unique, given that traditionally, the HR Interview round is the last round of most hiring processes. However, given that this was the first time Accenture visited BITS Pilani for such a role, I was mentally prepared to see something different from the usual trend.

My round started with introductions and resume-based questions. The panel seemed particularly interested in my prior internships and leadership experiences while going through my resume. I was not asked any situation-based/organizational behaviour questions in my interview, but I was asked conventional questions designed to test my fit, such as “Why are you interested in this role?” and “Why is Accenture a good fit for you?”.

They were also trying to understand me better, by asking me questions like “What are your strengths and weaknesses?”

Accenture Strategy & Consulting

Round 3 - Case Interview

Following introductions, we proceeded to the case-solving segment of the interview. Here, I was asked a **Market Entry**-type case, where I was expected to recommend a market entry strategy for a newly discovered Anti-Cancer Drug.

Relevant Courses or Certifications

While not a lot of my coursework was relevant for the role, I can say with certainty that my prior internship experiences at **KMT, Dunlin AI, and Henkel** and leadership roles played a good part. I found that my tenure as the **Consulting Director of ShARE BITS Pilani** was of particular interest to them, given the time spent discussing it in my interview.

Personal Experience

Sources of Preparation

I referred to the annual casebook published by the **Indian Institute of Management, Lucknow** for my case preparation. I already was familiar with the basics of case solving due to on-campus clubs' recruitment processes, at which time I had referred to **Day One**.

Words of Advice

Be as thorough with your resume as possible and ensure that you structure it to reflect your journey and learnings in the most fitting way. Having a variety of internship experience, as opposed to internships in only one sector, is always recommended for roles in Consulting and Consulting Services, especially when that one sector is also non-core.

For those in Consulting clubs, live project experience would also be helpful, especially if you find your profile relatively lacking in internship experiences

Boston Consulting Group

Introduction

Interviewee - Utkarsh Tiwari (2022A7PS0052P)

Job Role - Summer Associate

Number of offers made - 4 (Including 2 via the Bruce Henderson Ideathon)

Selection Process

Branches open to - All, no backlogs

CGPA Cutoff - None

Recruitment process -

Round 1 - Resume Shortlisting

Round 2 - Buddy Rounds and Case Interview

After **nine** students were shortlisted for the interview rounds from the resume shortlisting, each of us was assigned a “Buddy” - a BCG employee who would guide us through case interview preparation for **ten days** before the first case interview. In this stage, we worked through various case types here.

In my first interview, I was asked an **Unconventional** case, which went like “A fast food chain has partnered with a meat supplying company for their burgers. The butcher wants to know whether the cows should run or walk in the abattoir.”

Round 3 - Case Interview

Following introductions, we proceeded to the case-solving segment of the interview. Here, I was asked a **Market Entry**-type case, where I was expected to recommend a market entry strategy for an online platform for car repairing services, similar to UrbanClap.

Boston Consulting Group

Relevant Courses or Certifications

None.

Personal Experience

Sources of Preparation

For case interview practice, I systematically covered the contents of **Case Interviews Cracked** and the casebook published by the **Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad**'s consulting club. IIMA's casebook also starts every case type with a standard framework, which really helped compartmentalize my approach to the case and structure my answers in the interview. I reached out to my assigned Buddy for interview-specific help and seniors for advice on both my resume and my interviews.

Words of Advice

The one thing I would say is to never rely on Consulting as a “first preference”/“this or nothing” plan. Hiring trends and requirements vary each year and are incredibly unpredictable. A common factor noticed was that despite there being no GPA cutoffs, a high GPA was viewed extremely favourably.

Also, a common trend I have noticed in my time on campus is a correlation students tend to establish between consulting/entrepreneurship/finance-related commitments and the likelihood of landing a consulting shortlist. **This does not exist**; most shortlisted students had none. In fact, I would think that our exposure to other “unrelated” spheres made our perceived value addition stronger.

Boston Consulting Group

Introduction

Interviewee - Kunj Doshi (2021B3A71057P)

Job Role - Summer Associate

Number of offers made - 4 (Including 2 via on-campus hiring)

Selection Process

Branches open to - All

CGPA Cutoff - None

Recruitment process -

Disclaimer:- The Bruce Henderson Insights Ideathon is a college engagement initiative by BCG, allowing selected colleges to participate in a business plan competition. Winners of the competition at the National Level are awarded a Summer Internship at BCG and National Finalists are awarded an interview opportunity for the role. My team, comprising Keya Shah, Pranit Bhansali, and I, were National Finalists in this event.

Round 1 - Online Assessment

In this round, all interested candidates had to complete an online assessment. This primarily included questions on reasoning, aptitude, and the basics of business economics. This assessment was to be taken individually, not as a team. After the shortlist was released, we were required to organize ourselves into teams of three.

Round 2 - B-Plan Presentation

We had to come up with and present a business idea/model in a given presentation format. This was not a themed event and the idea could be based on any sector. This was an **intra-campus round**, with the **Top 3 Teams** qualifying for intra-campus finals.

Boston Consulting Group

Round 3 - Intra-BITS Finals

The top 3 teams were made to present their B-Plans to a panel consisting of senior leaders from BCG. This also included an alumnus. Following our presentations, we were asked questions pertaining to the same, and from this, the **Campus Winner** was announced

Round 4 - National Finals

The Campus Winners were called to the National Finals, where around **10 teams** presented their winning B-Plans to a panel of Managing Directors & Partners (MDPs) at BCG India. The **Top 3** teams were awarded a **MacBook** and an **Internship offer**, while the rest, including us, were awarded an **iPhone** along with an **Interview Opportunity**.

Round 5 - Interview

A standard case and fit interview was taken. Unlike the on-campus process, which has multiple interview rounds, we had only one where both aspects were tested.

Personal Experience

Sources of preparation

While I did not have one particular source of preparation, my team did refer to various reports and papers as part of secondary research for building the B-Plan.

Words of advice

Building the right team and distributing work amongst yourselves in accordance with your strengths is of utmost importance. Also, the timeline for this programme, at least when I participated in it, clashed with both mid-sems and compres across various rounds. Be sure to study in advance for these examinations if you are serious about this competition.

Nation with NaMo

Introduction

Interviewee - Aarohi Uniyal (2021B1A31316P)

Job Role - Graduate Impact Leadership Programme (GILP) Summer Associate

Number of offers made - 2

Selection Process

Branches open to - All, no backlogs

CGPA Cutoff - None

Recruitment process -

Round 1 - Resume Shortlisting

Round 2 - Case Interview (Guesstimate and Policy)

After introductions, we proceeded to the case segment of the interview. I was first asked a standard guesstimate. Then, we went to Policy and Campaign Management cases. These are unlikely to be found in a standard management consulting interview, but that's because **Nation with NaMo is not a management consulting firm, it's a political consulting firm.**

My first discussion was on **increasing women voter turnout** in a given area, where they expected my understanding of the situation and sought recommendations. My second discussion was around **political campaign strategies** to improve overall voter participation.

Round 3 - Fit Interview

To commence the interview, I was asked some basic questions to test my political awareness, especially from my home state (Gujarat), such as who the **Chief Minister** is.

Nation with NaMo

They then asked me about my interest and motivation towards working in the political consulting sector. Finally, I was given a conventional **Profitability case**, where I was asked to analyze and provide appropriate recommendations to amend a decline in profits for a cosmetics brand.

Round 4 - HR Interview

This was quite generic, where they asked me about my interests, past experiences, my strengths and weaknesses, and the likes. This was more conversational and it concluded with a discussion of my prior interviews with them.

Relevant Courses or Certifications

My coursework was not particularly relevant, but prior internships and on-campus leadership positions were extensively discussed. My prior leadership experiences include **CoStAAAn, Department of Paper Evaluation and Presentation** (APOGEE 2024), a **Team Lead at Dance Club**. I was also a member of the erstwhile **PU Consulting Committee**.

Personal Experience

Sources of preparation

I used some standard case books like Case in Point and the IIMA Consulting Guide for my preparation, along with mock interviews by seniors. I also brushed up on my GK around recent political events and information.

Words of advice

Be honest, they understand that engineering students might not have a political consulting background. Keep your basics really strong, they aren't looking for MBB-level case solving. Idea is that they care most about your logical and structured thinking and not how well you can memorize frameworks or political facts and figures.

Core

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What is a Career in Core Engineering?

This prospect is mostly intended for students of **Chemical Engineering (A1)**, **Civil Engineering (A2)**, **Mechanical Engineering (A4)**, and **Manufacturing Engineering (AB)**. The work would directly relate to designing, building, and maintaining physical systems rather than software-focused roles, prevalent in the Information Technology sector.

Depending on the specialization, a core engineer could be involved in designing, analyzing, manufacturing, testing, maintenance, project management, and quality control of various systems.

Present and Previous Recruiters



ExxonMobil

Introduction

Interviewee - Shubhang Gautam (2022A1PS1666P)

Job Role - Engineering Intern (Product Planning)

Number of offers made - 2

Selection Process

Branches open to - A1 & A4

CGPA Cutoff - 6.5+

Recruitment process -

Round 1 - Online Assessment

Being the first round of the screening process, the online assessment had pretty standard questions based on various topics such as logical reasoning, basic mathematics and reading comprehension. The difficulty of these problems, especially in the mental ability section, felt similar to that seen in BITSAT.

Round 2 - Group Discussion

The group discussion was more of a test of our impromptu thinking, as the topic was given on the spot. As for the topics, they were quite generic, mine being a discussion on the **Future of Electric Vehicles (EVs)**. There were a total of **16 candidates** in this round, of whom **4 made it through** to the further process. They were on the lookout for people who thought outside the box, could present their ideas well in limited time and words as well as those who were open minded and not restrictive while approaching the topic.

ExxonMobil

Round 3 - Interview

This was a mixture of a Technical and an HR interview. I was first asked about my time and work in my Projects as well as in some campus commitments, such as Coding Club and CRISS Robotics. This was the only points of my resume that were discussed. I was then asked some basic conceptual questions around core CDCs in my branch. I was finally asked some basic HR questions. My answer to “Why do you want to join ExxonMobil and how do you think it will help you?” was extensively discussed though.

Relevant Courses or Certifications

- 1. CHE F212 - Fluid Mechanics**
- 2. CHE F213 - Chemical Engineering Thermodynamics**
- 3. CHE F241 - Heat Transfer**
- 4. CHE F244 - Separation Processes I**

Basic concepts from these courses were useful.

Personal Experience

Sources of Preparation

There was no explicit source that I used to prepare from. Looking through the notes and slides of previously studied courses was enough for me to answer the few technical questions. Whereas there is no need to specially prepare for the very basic online assessment.

Words of Advice

Being calm, confident and carefully assessing their questions before answering would do the trick.

Godrej Properties

Introduction

Interviewee - Kashish Agrawal (2022A2PS1039P)

Job Role - Civil Operations Intern

Number of offers made - 4

Selection Process

Branches open to - A2

CGPA Cutoff - None

Recruitment process -

Round 1 - Online Assessment - Team Round

This mainly asked us conceptual and basic numerical MCQs based on Civil Engineering CDCs.

Round 2 - Online Assessment - Individual Round

This again had MCQs based on Civil Engineering CDCs. They were of a similar difficulty level as the previous round, the only difference was that now, we had to answer them individually and not in teams.

Round 3 - Case Presentation

We were given a case statement - to plan the layout of a building in Pune - based on certain constraints given to us in the question. We had to submit the case and the best of the cases were shortlisted to the interview round

Godrej Properties

Round 4 - HR Interview

Here, they just asked me questions based on situations to gauge my professionalism and approach to work, such as how I would deal with an unproductive coworker. They just wanted to test my ability to handle workplace situations

Relevant Courses or Certifications

Three Civil Engineering CDCs were particularly useful to my preparation -

1. CE F321 - Highway Engineering
2. CE F243 - Soil Mechanics (CE F243)
3. CE F242 - Construction Planning and Technology

Personal Experience

Sources of Preparation

I mainly approached my professors for these courses for conceptual clarity, and they were more than willing to help out. I also referred to seniors' experiences with HR Interviews to clear them comfortably.

Words of Advice

Have a strong grasp on your CDCs, especially the ones covered in the previous semester. In case of any doubts always feel free to reach out to Civil Department professors, they're always enthusiastic to help out and are incredibly passionate about their subjects.

It's especially important to be confident while answering questions as the technical section is entirely based on what you have learnt in your CDCs and the interview round doesn't need any prior preparation.

Jindal Steel Works

Introduction

Interviewees - Riya Gautum (A2), Gungun Vanjani (B1A4), Karan Rao (B1A1)

Job Role - SIP Intern

Number of offers made - 6

Selection Process

Branches open to - A1, A2, A4

CGPA Cutoff - 7+

Recruitment process -

Round 1 - Resume Shortlisting

Round 2 - Online Assessment

The OA had two parts to it and was completely MCQ-based:-

1. Mental ability and logical reasoning
2. Branch-specific conceptual questions and basic numericals.

Round 3 - Interview

This was mostly technical, with a few HR-type questions based on my projects. Technical questions were of three types - either they wanted to test my basic conceptual knowledge, my understanding of my projects, or my ability to apply basic concepts into their professional interests, such as sustainability.

Jindal Steel Works

Relevant Courses or Certifications

In case of Chemical Engineering, the following CDCs were helpful:-

1. **CHE F213** - Chemical Engineering Thermodynamics
2. **CHE F212** - Fluid Mechanics
3. **CHE F241** - Heat Transfer
4. **CHE F244, F313** - Separation Processes I and II

In case of Civil Engineering, the following CDCs were helpful:-

1. **CE F213** - Surveying
2. **CE F321** - Highway Engineering
3. **CE F230** - Civil Engineering Materials
4. **CE F211** - Mechanics of Solids

In case of Mechanical Engineering, the following CDCs were helpful

1. **ME F211** - Mechanics of Solids
2. **ME F311** - Heat Transfer
3. **ME F212** - Fluid Mechanics
4. **ME F214** - Applied Thermodynamics

Personal Experience

Sources of Preparation

I revised the concepts covered in my CDCs and referred to Behrouz Abbas's YouTube channel for framing answers to HR Questions.

Words of Advice

The process can get intimidating with the number of rounds and conceptual questions which you know you once could answer but now you've lost touch. Keep your answers simple and your preparation strong. Also, read up on the sustainability sector, maybe even take up DEIs/Projects in the sector.

Data Science

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What is Data Science?

The utilisation of a multidisciplinary approach including algorithms, principles, and processes from mathematics, statistics, computer science and engineering, and AI to analyse large amounts of data.

Resources

Check out some training resources compiled by the Training Unit to get started on your preparation for these roles -

1. Placement Training Module for Analytics and Machine Learning, compiled by the Training Unit - [click here](#).

Present and Previous Recruiters



Hindustan Unilever Limited

WELLS FARGO

UBER

Expedia

Introduction

Interviewee - Shreyas Mishra (2022AAPS0241P)

Job Role - Data Science Intern

Number of offers made - 4 (3 more for their IT role)

Selection Process

Branches open to - All

CGPA Cutoff - 6+

Recruitment process -

Round 1 - Personality Assessment

The first round was a personality test designed to evaluate whether I would fit well within Expedia's open and creative work environment. It assessed my teamwork abilities and whether I foster a positive and conducive workplace. The test was primarily behavioral, and based on the results, some candidates were shortlisted for the next round.

Round 2 - Technical Test and Video Interview

The second round consisted of a video interview and a short technical test. The video interview was not a live interaction but rather a set of pre-recorded questions displayed on the screen. I had to record my responses within a given time frame, and multiple re-recordings were allowed. The interview questions included why I wanted to work at Expedia and my goals with the company. After the video interview, there was a short technical assessment consisting of 10 questions covering Data Science fundamentals, probability, and statistics. This test was designed to gauge my conceptual understanding and familiarity with the field.

Expedia

Round 3 - Case Interview

Prior to this interview, Expedia assigned us a case study that involved analyzing user booking data and solving a business problem. I had to identify two prime user segments based on the data and summarize my findings and recommendations in a presentation.

The interview started by me presenting this to a Data Scientist from Expedia. After this, they asked me some application-based questions using a case study based on their website, and finally some situation-based HR questions.

Relevant Courses or Certifications

1. **MATH F112** - Probability and Statistics
2. **CS F415** - Data Mining

Personal Experience

Sources of Preparation

1. **Stanford's CS229 YouTube playlist** - Essential concepts and data-handling techniques
2. **Cody Schafer's YouTube playlist** - Basic Python programming.
3. **Sklearn Documentation** - Understanding ML models and their implementation

Words of Advice

My main advice for juniors is to stay consistent in their learning process. Reading research papers and staying updated with industry trends can help build a strong foundation. Practicing programming regularly and working on projects is crucial, as hands-on experience will prepare you for interviews and real-world applications. Projects don't have to be extensive, but they should demonstrate practical application of concepts. Staying persistent and continuously improving will make a significant difference.

Puma

Introduction

Interviewee - Shreya Kar (2022A7PS0011P)

Job Role - Data Science Intern

Number of offers made - 2

Selection Process

Branches open to -

CGPA Cutoff - None

Recruitment process -

Round 1 - Resume Shortlisting

Round 2 - Online Assessment

This was entirely MCQ-based, unlike most other OAs. They asked ML theory, basic SQL and python coding questions.

Round 3 - Interview 1

In this round, I was first asked some basic coding questions, and was given certain changes to my original methodology and was expected to resolve my question using them. Following that, they proceeded to ask me questions about my projects in second year, especially a personal health record system.

Round 4 - Interview 2

This was mostly centered around my fit and work in **business informatics**. They particularly focused on my projects using SQL and Database Systems. We concluded with a discussions on the different technical difficulties I had encountered, as well as my approach to resolution.

Puma

Relevant Courses or Certifications

1. CS F212 - Database Systems
2. BITS F464 - Machine Learning

Personal Experience

Sources of Preparation

1. LEET Code BLIND 75
2. NEET CODE 150
3. Strivers Sheet

Getting comfortable with these three would make you sail through the tests and the technical interview. Besides this, make it a point to mindfully take up projects beyond those which are a part of your CDCs and electives. Revise all your projects to be able answer questions regarding them effectively.

Words of Advice

Start preparing early. Maybe even before the summer break or SI season. The more practice you get for subjects like DSA, the better. Further, be aware of all your projects because you can be questioned on any aspects during your interviews. You could also refer to your coursework or YouTube in case you need help with theoretical questions around your project.

Finally, stay calm and confident during your interview, and know that they are there to understand your process better, so make it a point to remain extremely communicative throughout your interviews.

Skan AI

Introduction

Interviewee - Aditya Dubey (2022AAPS0231P)

Job Role - Data Science Intern

Number of offers made - 1

Selection Process

Branches open to - A3, A7, A8, AA

CGPA Cutoff - 8+

Recruitment process -

Round 1 - Online Assessment

The online assessment was conducted in IPC and consisted of two parts. The first part was a DSA round, which included four to five coding questions of easy to moderate difficulty. The second part focused on **machine learning concepts**, covering topics such as logistic regression, feature engineering, PyTorch, and various fundamental ML models.

Round 2 - Interview I

Only 7-8 people were selected for the Interview Round post the Online Assessment. The interview process was divided into **three** stages. The first stage involved solving **two to three** basic DSA problems, which were to be implemented using pseudocode. In addition, candidates were asked about their ML projects, basic coding questions in Python, and other conceptual topics.

Skan AI

Round 3 - Interview II

The second stage was more machine learning intensive, where candidates were tested on their understanding of ML concepts, complexity calculations of ML models, and various scenario-based problem-solving questions. They were also asked in-depth questions about their previous ML projects.

Round 4 - Interview III

The final stage was conducted by the data science head of the company, based in California. This round involved a discussion on coursework, future career plans, and **two scenario-based problems**, for which candidates had to propose ML-driven solutions.

Personal Experience

Sources of Preparation

For this role, having a solid understanding of machine learning concepts, modeling techniques, ML pipelines, and feature engineering was essential. A strong foundation in basic data science principles also played a crucial role in the selection process.

Words of Advice

For those seeking placements in similar roles, a strong foundation in DSA and a conceptual understanding of machine learning are crucial. While technical skills are important, having at least one robust ML project can significantly improve chances of selection. A well-structured project that demonstrates the ability to apply ML concepts effectively can make a candidate stand out in the recruitment process.

Electronics Technology

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What is Electronics Technology?

Electronics technology involves designing, developing, and managing electronic systems. It spans from circuit design to real-world applications, driving innovation in communication, healthcare, and automation. Roles that come on campus generally involve students to work on digital, analog and embedded systems roles.

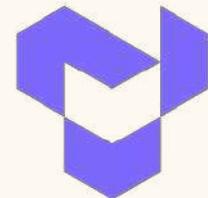
Present and Previous Recruiters



Qualcomm

TEXAS INSTRUMENTS

micron®



tenstorrent



Introduction

Interviewee - Kedar Anand Date (2021A3B52396P)

Job Role - ASIC Intern

Number of offers made - 5

Selection Process

Branches open to - A3, A8, AA

CGPA Cutoff - 8+

Recruitment process -

Round 1 - Technical Test

The test lasted for **40 minutes** and it consisted of **14 questions**. It included two main components:-

1. **Aptitude** - This section primarily included basic verbal and logical reasoning, along with basic quantitative aptitude.
2. **Technical** - Topics covered here included
 - a. Digital Design
 - b. C Programming
 - c. Static Time Analysis
 - d. Circuit Analysis
 - e. Computer Architecture Basics

Round 2 - Technical Interview

The interview itself was hour long, and it began with a detailed discussion of the questions I had incorrectly attempted in the OA, emphasizing my approach towards them. It was followed by them asking me what STA meant and further probing based on my answers.

It concluded with a discussion of my projects in PS-1 and the course **Microelectronic Circuits (EEE/INSTR/ECE F244)**

NVIDIA

Relevant Courses or Certifications

1. EEE/INSTR/ECE F215 - Digital Design
2. EEE/INSTR/ECE F241 - Microprocessors & Interfacing
3. EEE/INSTR F313 - Analog and Digital VLSI Design
4. EEE/INSTR/ECE F244 - Microelectronic Circuits
5. EEE F111 - Electrical Sciences

Personal Experience

Sources of Preparation

1. DD -
 - a. Notes and tutorial sheets
 - b. Neso Academy's videos
2. STA - Content from the ET Drive
3. PYQs - From the ET Drive and the adsTI drive

Words of Advice

The test for NVIDIA is quite different from even Qualcomm. There are only 14 questions and they are subjective answer (not MCQ). They are not difficult questions, but they test the depth of the understanding conceptually. Thus, it's important that you focus on those nitty-gritties to perform well overall.

It's a must to **be thorough with DD concepts**. Finally, during the interview, attempt all the questions and think out loud while solving - don't be worried if you aren't entirely correct, your thought process and conceptual clarity matters more. The panel is likely to help you too if you aren't on the right track. Stay calm and good luck!

Qualcomm

Introduction

Interviewee - Vidyarenu Swamy (2022AAPS1584P)

Job Role - Hardware Engineer Intern

Number of offers made - 1

Selection Process

Branches open to - AA, A3, A8

CGPA Cutoff - 8.5+

Recruitment process -

Round 1 - Resume Shortlisting

Round 2 - Online Assessment

It comprised **three** sections:-

1. **Aptitude** - Logical reasoning and quantitative aptitude
2. **Programming** - A question using C
3. **Technical** - Digital Electronics - Questions from Digital Design, Microprocessors and Interfacing, and the digital parts of ADVD, like Static Time Analysis

Round 2 - Technical Interview

The interview, lasted an hour for me and dived directly to technical questions. I was asked questions on sequential circuits and Verilog code, he started from the basics (designing circuits with MUXs, etc). To conclude, I was asked a puzzle.

The pattern of the interview was consistent for all candidates.

Qualcomm

Relevant Courses or Certifications

1. EEE/INSTR/ECE F215 - Digital Design
2. EEE/INSTR/ECE F241 - Microprocessors & Interfacing
3. EEE/INSTR F313 - Analog and Digital VLSI Design
4. CS F111 - Computer Programming

Personal Experience

Sources of Preparation

1. DD - I referred to my course notes, and I also went through some YouTube playlists like Neso Academy and All About Electronics.
2. Microprocessors - I focused more on the memory allocation part more than assembly language.
3. CP - Coding practice mostly, and slides for concepts.

Words of Advice

I must say, that it depends a lot on luck. As for me, I was not asked any HR questions, and I do know a few batchmates who were asked relatively trickier thinking-based question towards the end, or that their interview was mainly HR based alone.

Further, for general advice, I would suggest to keep your basics strong, revise as much as you can, and stay calm. Especially in the interview, stay cool and don't panic even if you say something wrong. The best thing to do is to think out loud and talk them through it. Make sure you make use of all the previous OAs you give and work on your weak topics, which would help you do better overall.

Make a good resume, highlight your important projects, use a good format, it certainly does make an impact. I did my PS-1 at CDOT, that was entirely digital domain and some communications, so I think that helped. Further, although I mentioned a tech team on-campus in my resume I wasn't asked about it in my interview.

Texas Instruments

Introduction

Interviewee - Tanmay Deuskar (2022AAPS0248P)

Job Role - Analog Engineering Intern

Number of offers made - 3

Selection Process

Branches open to - A3, A8, AA

CGPA Cutoff - 6+

Recruitment process -

Round 1 - Resume Shortlisting

Round 2 - Online Assessment

The Online Assessment was conducted at IPC. There were 4 sections, a **compulsory Aptitude section** and an option to **attempt any 2** of Analog Electronics, Embedded Systems and Digital Electronics.

The Aptitude section included work-power problems, pattern recognition, blood relations and other logical reasoning problems.

The Analog Section had questions mainly on op-amps, diodes, RC circuit questions, basics of MOSFETs and BJTs. The questions were simple but required practice to complete in time. A lot of the questions were purely from the syllabus covered in Electrical Science (EEE F111), so being able to solve questions efficiently with KCL and KVL is important. None of the questions were conceptually difficult.

Each section is MCQ-based, has a 45-minute timer, and includes 20 questions.

Texas Instruments

Round 3 - Interview

At the start, the interview focused on the maximum power transfer theorem. This was followed by an analysis of an RC circuit with progressively increasing complexity. The emphasis was on intuitive understanding rather than mathematical calculations. Later, an op-amp circuit was presented for feedback type identification. The conversation concluded with exploring how to design a square root circuit using an ideal op amp and an ideal multiplier.

Relevant Courses or Certifications

1. EEE/INSTR/ECE F244 - Microelectronic Circuits
2. EEE F111 - Electrical Science
3. EEE/INSTR/ECE F243 - Signals and Systems
4. EEE/INSTR/ECE F242 - Control Systems

Personal Experience

Sources of Preparation

1. OA - GATE PYQs covering Analog Electronics (diodes, R/L/C circuits, op-amps, BJT, and MOSFET).
2. Interview - Prioritize RC circuits, RL circuits, and op-amp circuits using **Chembian T's playlists** and **electronics-tutorials.ws**. Supplement with **MuE notes**, slides, and lectures (particularly frequency response analysis), **Razawi Lectures** for fundamentals, **Himanshu Aggarwal's videos** on second-order circuits, and Chembian T's LC circuit content.
3. Mock interviews - Himanshu Aggarwal and Analog Easy-Peasy.

Words of Advice

When facing technical interviews, focus on conceptual clarity rather than mathematical analysis. Stay calm even when challenged, think aloud instead of remaining silent, and don't hesitate to ask if you're on the right track or need a hint. Master fundamentals like RC circuits thoroughly—your ability to explain simple concepts with depth often matters more than solving complex equations.

Texas Instruments

Introduction

Interviewee - Jeevan Joyce (2022AAPS0219P)

Job Role - Digital Engineering Intern

Number of offers made - 3

Selection Process

Branches open to - A3, A8, AA

CGPA Cutoff - 6+

Recruitment process -

Round 1 - Resume Shortlisting

Round 2 - Online Assessment

The Digital Electronics section covers questions on flip-flops, multiplexers, counters, registers, logic design, static timing analysis, RTL coding, and assembly language.

The Analog Electronics section focused on basic concepts such as RC circuits, current, voltage, and power calculations, op-amps, signals and also systems, Bode plots, pole-zero analysis, LP/HP filters, and MOSFET operations.

The logistics was the same for all the roles for which TI hired interns.

Texas Instruments

Round 3 - Interview

The technical interview is the deciding round for the internship. It focuses on understanding and solving problems intuitively rather than relying solely on mathematical solutions. There was only a single interview round with no HR rounds involved. They ask questions from various different topics that covers everything from 2nd year electronics courses. They also go in depth into your resume and question you about every major accomplishment, project, course, certificate, etc. I was also asked a lot of coding questions, ML basics, some mathematics, etc

Relevant Courses or Certifications

1. EEE/INSTR/ECE F241 - Micro-Processors and Interfacing
2. EEE/INSTR/ECE F215 - Digital Design
3. EEE/INSTR/ECE F244 - Microelectronic Circuits
4. EEE/INSTR/ECE F214 - Electronic Devices
5. EEE/INSTR/ECE F243 - Signals and Systems

Personal Experience

Words of Advice

Just be very confident and engage in conversation with the interviewers because they usually are very interested in you as they did shortlist you. Listen to the question properly and don't forget to ask for clarifications if you are in doubt. You can take some time to think about the answer. Explain your thought process for each question and don't leave questions without attempting. They are testing your logical thinking more than your knowledge of the subject. Keep them interested, list all of your key strengths and core competencies slowly throughout the conversation. Again confidence is key and don't lose your confidence at any point. I didn't have an inkling that I would be selected so if I can do it, you can do it too!

General Management

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What is General Management?

This role, especially in an undergraduate programme, can look like hiring for different aspects of a firm/startup's operations. In case of a firm, it could look like Sales, Marketing, Operations, or more. In case of a startup, it could look like Product Management, Growth, Operations, or Founder's Office.

Generally, in this context, we use it to refer to multifaceted roles.

ICICI Bank

Introduction

Interviewee - Renaissance Mukhopadhyay (2022A1PS0824P)

Job Role - Summer Intern

Number of offers made - 2

Selection Process

Branches open to - All

CGPA Cutoff - None

Recruitment process -

Round 1 - Resume Shortlisting

Round 2 - Online Assessment

10 people were shortlisted for this round and we were asked to undertake a personality profiling assessment. This included a questionnaire asking us to rate ourselves between 1 (strongly disagree) to 5 (strongly agree) based on how we see ourselves relating to different responses in situations or different personality traits.

Round 3 - Interview

This started with an introduction and then some questions around my hobbies, where I mentioned that I dance and create content for LinkedIn. We circled back to my content creation eventually. Before that, I was extensively grilled over my resume, where they asked detailed questions on everything including my internship experience (web development PS-1) and my projects in core Chemical Engineering. They then asked me about my vision for my future and my aspirations. Finally, they asked me about my LinkedIn content creation and how I approach it.

ICICI Bank

Relevant Courses or Certifications

None

Personal Experience

Sources of Preparation

Given that this was their first time hiring for this role from BITS, I first prioritized understanding their history, operations, and product offerings. For this, I started from their Wikipedia page and then went to their website. To understand the possible projects and expected learning, I went through the Job Description they shared.

Finally, I referred to YouTube to prepare for HR-based questions.

Words of Advice

Firstly, please be honest in your interview. For example, they asked me if I really read up every day for my content creation. They were evidently happy with my honest admission against the same. At the end of the day, they want to see what kind of a person you are and how you lead your life.

Stay true to your roots, to what you have done in the past, and don't misrepresent your goals and aspirations just to fit into what you think the expected answer might be.

OLA Cabs

Introduction

Interviewee - Krishnam Gupta (2021B2A42307P)

Job Role - Founder's Office Intern

Number of offers made - 1

Selection Process

Branches open to - All

CGPA Cutoff - None

Recruitment process -

Round 1 - Resume Shortlisting

Round 2 - Interview with the Founder

This interview was meant to gauge four things:-

1. My understanding of the company and their functioning
2. My awareness of the overall market, and especially the electric vehicles segment
3. My awareness of the entrepreneurial ecosystem
4. My work ethic and approach to tasks assigned

This was reasonably intense, with questions being fielded as follow-ups to nearly everything I say. They covered even aspects of my resume pertaining to the same, such as my projects on Battery Technology (Mechanical SOP) and on the Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC), as well as my experience as the President of PIEDS.

OLA Cabs

Relevant Courses or Certifications

None

Personal Experience

Sources of Preparation

Multiple Venture Capital firms, both in India and globally, publish annual reports. This helped me obtain a general understanding of the market. Perhaps the most helpful would be the Indus Valley Report, published by Blume Ventures. Besides that, I listened to the podcast made by Antler and carefully observed the Sequoia AI Summit.

Words of Advice

Firstly, be aware of what exactly the work environment at Ola is like. You need to be comfortable with the unconventional schedules before you apply, otherwise, it's likely that you wouldn't have the most pleasant experience, which in turn would impact your takeaways and performance.

I would even say, at our stage, this would be a great platform if and only if you are

1. ready to work in a high-strung environment
2. aspiring towards a career in a high-growth startup, and/or eventually building your own startup/venture
3. aspiring towards a career in Private Equity/Venture Capital.

Sperax

Introduction

Interviewee - Shivang Rai (2021B2A42292P)

Job Role - Product Design Intern

Number of offers made - 1

Selection Process

Branches open to - All

CGPA Cutoff - 7+

Recruitment process -

Round 1 - Task Submission

I was asked to submit two tasks relevant to their work (Crypto, Web3, etc.,) and the job requirement (Design, Design thinking). The two tasks were:-

1. Redesigning their web3 app
2. Designing a crypto trading app

Round 2 - Interview with a Product Designer

This round was based on my submissions for the tasks. They essentially wanted to understand the thought process behind and also wanted me to present a walk-through of the projects.

They then asked me questions based on my previous experiences

1. Internship at a product-based company - I was a UI/UX Intern there, and had worked extensively with Figma
2. Department of Visual Media - I was a UI/UX designer at DVM, and have helped in the creation of multiple fest apps and websites as well as the hostel allocation portal

Sperax

Round 3 - HR Interview

This was a basic discussion around myself, my hobbies, my strengths and weaknesses, etc., Finally, they asked me if I knew my expected stipend.

Round 3 - Interaction with the CEO

The CEO was aware of the task submitted and my performance in the last two rounds. Thus, the questions were thus mostly around the my preparation, fit, daily routine etc.

Relevant Courses or Certifications

None

Personal Experience

Sources of Preparation

I didn't really prepare specifically for this process. However, I know that my extensive work experience with Figma in my three years, as well as my significant interest in the crypto and web3 sectors was extremely helpful in my navigating the process. Also, the experience I had with DVM for developing the UI of the fest apps and websites was extremely helpful for the task.

Words of Advice

You need to be interested in the web3 and crypto sectors in order to land the role. Spend time in reading up about these sectors, their growth, and the existing market landscape. Also, before just getting started on the tasks, spend at least a day or two in understanding the statement provided and brainstorming what you want to add to your app/change about their app.

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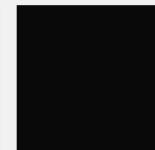
Google

amazon.in



SAMSUNG

UBER



IBM

CISCO™

rubrik

Accenture

Introduction

Interviewee - Shubh Singhvi (2022A3PSO357P)

Job Role - Advanced Application Engineering Intern

Number of offers made - 3

Selection Process

Branches open to - A7

CGPA Cutoff - 6+

Recruitment process -

Round 1 - Online Assessment I

The online assessment had three kinds of questions:-

1. **Basic CS concepts and IT awareness** - Questions about how broadband, IP addresses, DNS servers work were also asked.
2. Input Query questions
3. **Aptitude** - Puzzle questions, basic logical reasoning similar to BITSAT/ NTSE

Round 2 - Online Assessment II

Two questions based on **Data Structures and Algorithms** were asked. One of them was a direct medium-level question based on **arrays**. The other was also medium level once you understood the problem. Basically, it was about the manipulation of the stock market, wherein they had given a stock pricing for different days. So, we needed to write a code to predict which day we should sell or buy the stocks. At the end of the day, this is also **array manipulation**.

Accenture

Round 3 - Communication Round

The communication round which was taken by AI had multiple segments. In one of the segments, the questions were being asked, and we needed to give a one-line reply to those. And then there was a question, “Describe yourself at Accenture”. After which, we had to write a paragraph that was recorded and analyzed.

Round 4 - Interview

Following a brief introduction, they asked me to explain the projects I've undertaken. They picked one of those projects and asked me some basic technical questions, along with key learnings.

Relevant Courses or Certifications

1. CS F211 - Data Structures and Algorithms
2. CS F213 - Object-Oriented Programming
3. CS F111 - Computer Programming

Are all very helpful in clearing fundamentals. However, the preparation you undertake beyond what is taught in the classroom is more important.

Personal Experience

Sources of Preparation

1. DSA - NeetCode 150, Quant questions, were mostly helpful
2. Projects - Relevant SOPs and a PS-1 in web development

Words of Advice

Start preparing and practising early. In my opinion, you should **begin before the summer internship season begins**, probably by the end of 2-2 itself. Devote at least an hour everyday and the task will become a lot easier. If you are consistent, you will get your results.

Arcesium

Introduction

Interviewee - Aman Rameshchandra Agarwal (2022A7PS0036P)

Job Role - Software Development Intern

Number of offers made - 2

Selection Process

Branches open to - All (Through participation in Walmart Sparkathon)

CGPA Cutoff - 7+

Recruitment process -

Round 1 - Resume/Internal Shortlisting

Round 2 - Online Assessment

The test comprised **three** sections:-

1. **Aptitude and Basic Math** - MCQs - relatively easy, but lengthy
2. **CS Fundamentals** - MCQs - slightly tricky, but manageable with revision
3. **Coding** - 2 questions

The test was of moderate difficulty. Time management was crucial.

Switching between questions was allowed within a section, but changing sections was restricted.

Round 3 - Technical Interview I

This was based on DSA, DBS, and OOP. I was first asked a **LeetCode Medium-level DSA question** via a HackerRank CodePair link. I had to code my solution while explaining my approach and time complexity. The interviewer then asked **SQL-based questions**, building a complex problem step-by-step. The round concluded with **OOP concepts**, requiring coded examples for topics such as **polymorphism** and **multithreading**.

Arcesium

Round 4 - Technical Interview II

This round mostly covered **DBS concepts**, with some puzzles and DSA questions asked. I was first asked some advanced SQL queries. Then I was asked two standard **GFG puzzles**. We then covered questions on ACID properties, normalization levels, and OOP principles. Finally, I was asked questions from DSA theory, which focused on data structure implementations, functionalities, and time complexities (heap, tries, etc.)

Round 5 - Technical Interview III

This round covered **System Design** along with a basic discussion of my fundamental grasp of CS concepts. I was asked to develop various features of a phonebook.

Round 6 - HR Round

This was a general discussion covering topics like my background, my interests, my awareness of the company and the challenges I might face on the job.

Relevant Courses or Certifications

1. CS F211 - Data Structures and Algorithms
2. CS F212 - Database Systems
3. CS F213 - Object-Oriented Programming

Personal Experience

Sources of Preparation

1. **DSA** - Revised course content, solved **300+** questions across Striver's Sheet, InterviewBit, and Leetcode
2. **DBS** - Scaler Academy mostly, with interview practice from InterviewBit
3. **OOP** - Notes and Slides

Words of Advice

Start preparing and practicing early. Stay consistent, good luck!

Capital One

Introduction

Interviewee - Nirjar Patel (2022A7PS0168P)

Job Role - Software Development Intern

Number of offers made - 4

Selection Process

Branches open to - All

CGPA Cutoff - 7+

Recruitment process -

Round 1 - Online Assessment

The first round was conducted in IPC and had **two coding questions**, both of medium difficulty.

Round 2 - Resume Shortlisting

Round 3 - Technical Evaluation and Coding Test

Candidates were invited to a pre-interview coding test. This round consisted of two parts:

- 1. Coding Question:** Candidates were given a problem based on **Dijkstra's Algorithm**, to be solved using a text editor without access to a compiler. This required confidence in code accuracy as debugging was not possible.
- 2. Analytical Question:** An additional analytical question was included.

The test was scored out of 100, with a **strict cutoff of 70 marks** to advance. The subsequent technical interview focused on the candidate's thought process, solution approach, potential optimizations, and alternate algorithms.

Capital One

Round 4 - HR Interview

In the final HR round, candidates were asked about their future aspirations (specifically, where they see themselves in the next five years) and to provide examples of leadership experiences and instances where they have gone out of their way to help someone.

Relevant Courses or Certifications

1. CS F211 - Data Structures and Algorithms
2. CS F212 - Database Systems
3. CS F213 - Object-Oriented Programming

Personal Experience

Sources of Preparation

1. **Company-Specific Preparation** - I used Google and ChatGPT to understand more about the company and their values
2. **Prior Interview Questions** - I used Leetcode's playlist, which had about 15-20 questions.
3. **DSA** - I used the Striver A2Z Sheet and Codeforces, Codechef questions

Words of Advice

One of the most challenging rounds is the OA, because this, coupled with the resume shortlisting, eliminates most people. You need to be extremely confident in your code because they don't provide compiler access; this might just have been the first time I've seen that in a test. Practice of competitive coding definitely provides an edge in clearing the OA round.

For the HR Round, it's important you remain honest and not exaggerate your experiences or try to constantly only tell them what you think they'd like to hear.

Cisco

Introduction

Interviewee - Abhishek Mishra (2021B4A70823P)

Job Role - Software Engineering Intern

Number of offers made - 1

Selection Process

Branches open to - All

CGPA Cutoff - 6.5+

Recruitment process -

Round 1 - Online Assessment

The test was held in IPC for shortlisted among the ones who applied. I gave the test which was based on very basic concepts of computer programming with a few questions from DSA and a few from networks that could be guessed easily.

Round 2 - Technical Round I

The first interview was a technical round in which they simply asked me Data Structure and Algorithms (DSA) questions. The questions were of easy-medium difficulty.

Candidates should be prepared to demonstrate their ability to apply theoretical knowledge in real-world scenarios.

Round 3 - Technical Round II

The second round of the interviews was questions from domains like CS fundamentals, a little bit about medium level DSA, computer networking, database systems and modern software applications.

Cisco

Round 4 - HR Round

The HR round involved asking me about my preferences. Where would I want to work, why would I want to join the company and why I would join Cisco over other companies? They also questioned me about my achievements and other points mentioned in my resume.

Relevant Courses or Certifications

While formal course content is insufficient, the following courses provided a good starting point:-

1. CS F111 - Computer Programming
2. CS F211 - Data Structures and Algorithms
3. CS F212 - Database Systems
4. CS F213 - Object-Oriented Programming
- 5.

Personal Experience

Sources of Preparation

GeeksforGeeks and Striver's A2Z sheet were enough to prepare for DSA. Basic knowledge of Computer Networking was required to pass through the interview rounds.

Words of Advice

Start preparing for DSA using the Strivers sheet and in the last few days before the SI season begins, one can start preparing for the CS fundamentals. Like, especially the most important I considered were OOP (Object Oriented Programming) and DBMS (Database Management Systems). Few topics of computer networking, layer models and some related insights would help particularly for Cisco.

DE Shaw India

Introduction

Interviewee - Suryash Singh (2022A7PS0093P)

Job Role - Development Intern

Number of offers made - 4

Selection Process

Branches open to - A7, A3, A8, AA

CGPA Cutoff - 7+ for A7, 8+ for A3, A8, AA

Recruitment process -

Round 1 - Online Assessment

The test had 3 questions, difficulty was LeetCode medium-hard level. Each question had 30 minute time limit, not 1.5 hours for whole OA. Dynamic Programming and Graph questions were asked.

Round 2 - Technical Round I

2 DSA questions, pretty difficult, on DP and graph. And then moved on to CS fundamentals (DBMS, C++ fundamentals, OOP). **Please note the OOP was asked in C++.**

Round 3 - Technical Round II

This round was similar to the previous round, starting with DSA questions and moving onto CS fundamentals.

DE Shaw India

Relevant Courses or Certifications

While your preparation is more important than the courses that you undertake, courses like DSA, OOP, DBMS and C++ Programming will cover the basics of the topics you need to further practise.

Learncpp.com is imperative for the interviews in DE Shaw.

Personal Experience

Sources of Preparation

I did a lot of competitive programming. That helped a LOT. Learncpp.com helped massively for C++ fundamentals in the interview round, the interviewer was extremely impressed with my c++ fundamentals compensated for my shortcomings. The DBMS questions were on the easier side though, I think the BITS course would be enough. Same goes for OOP, but note that DE Shaw asked OOP in C++.

Learncpp and knowledge of design patterns was enough for C++ OOP as well is super important.

Words of Advice

Start DSA as early as possible, not just in summer vacation. When interviews are approaching, prepare for them as well.

Don't worry about a low CGPA if it is enough to clear the cutoff, they judge you solely based on your performances in OA and interviews. **Try to "enjoy what you are learning while preparing for SI.** This leads to better understanding and more often than not you have lesser chances of burn out. Might seem like obvious advice but it creates a huge difference.

Expedia

Introduction

Interviewee - Keshav Goel (2022A8PS1560P)

Job Role - Software Development Intern

Number of offers made - 3

Selection Process

Branches open to - All

CGPA Cutoff - 6+

Recruitment process -

Round 1 - Personality Assessment

The first round was a personality test designed to evaluate whether I would fit well within Expedia's open and creative work environment. It assessed my teamwork abilities and whether I foster a positive and conducive workplace. The test was primarily behavioral, and based on the results, some candidates were shortlisted for the next round.

Round 2 - Online Assessment

The online assessment consisted of ten questions, with eight focusing on computer science fundamentals and two covering data structures and algorithms (DSA). The CS fundamentals questions were relatively easy. As for the DSA questions, one was easy-to-medium level, while the other was slightly more challenging.

Expedia

Round 3 - Technical Round I

The first interview began with a discussion about my resume, where the interviewer asked about my projects and experiences. Then, we moved on to solving DSA questions. The first problem was relatively easy, and I had to write and execute the code. For the second problem, the interviewer only asked me to explain my approach. After this, we had about ten minutes left, so we had a casual conversation about working at Expedia. Before concluding, the interviewer asked two behavioral questions, one of which was about my experience working in teams.

Round 3 - Technical Round I

The first problem took me about ten minutes to solve, while the second problem was more challenging and took around 40-45 minutes. Due to time constraints, we did not cover much else in this round. At the end, the interviewer asked two behavioral questions just like the first interview.

Personal Experience

Sources of Preparation

For DSA preparation, I primarily used Codeforces and LeetCode. My Codeforces rating was around 1400, and I had solved approximately 200-250 questions on LeetCode. These platforms helped me get familiar with standard question patterns and develop problem-solving skills.

Words of Advice

My key advice is to practice both Codeforces and LeetCode, as they complement each other. LeetCode helps in recognizing standard problem patterns, while Codeforces improves logical thinking by presenting problems that require unique approaches. It is also important to stay resilient throughout the placement season. There will be times when interviews do not go well or when luck plays a role in the selection process. If you continue preparing and improving, you will eventually find a good opportunity.

Goldman Sachs

Introduction

Interviewee - Kavya Goel (2021B4A32499P)

Job Role - Summer Intern - Software Development

Number of offers made - 3

Selection Process

Branches open to - All

CGPA Cutoff - None

Recruitment process -

Round 1 - Online Assessment

The OA had two sections—coding and aptitude. The aptitude part contained MCQs related to simple maths and logic while the coding section consisted of 2-3 DSA problems.

The coding questions are of moderate difficulty but I found that focusing on the aptitude questions was just as important. They were a little time-consuming, but carried enough weightage that it was worth the time it took to do them, so don't just focus on the coding section and skip the aptitude part.

Round 2 - Technical Round I

In the first interview I was asked a DSA problem, along with a few simple technical questions relating to core CS concepts. The interview didn't involve coding in front of the interviewer, just explaining my approach and thinking was required of me.

Round 3 - Technical Round II

The second round was related to the CDCs and other courses and projects I had mentioned in my resume.

Goldman Sachs

Round 4 - Technical + HR Round III

The second round was related to the CDCs and other courses and projects I had mentioned in my resume.

Relevant Courses or Certifications

Courses mentioned on your resume can be asked in the interview like I was asked questions, Probability and Statistics and Graphs and Networks (Mathematics CDC) aside from OOP and DBS. You can add relevant courses in the subjects section too.

Personal Experience

Sources of Preparation

I did a course on geeksforgeeks to understand the concepts and solved problems on leetcode as and when i finished each topic. Once i got shortlisted for the interviews, I referred to **company-wise lists of interview problems (which can be found on Google/GitHub repos)** to find and practice problems that were frequently asked in Goldman Sachs interviews specifically.

Words of Advice

Start preparing and practising early. In my opinion, you should begin before the summer internship season begins, probably by the end of 2-2 itself. **Devote at least an hour everyday** and the task will become a lot easier. If you are consistent, you will get your results.

The OA for GS was relatively easier than a lot of companies is quite doable. For the interview, I would suggest to be completely honest in what you write in your resume and be very thorough with every project, internship, or certification you mention there so you can confidently answer any questions about them. The interviewers for GS were quite friendly and encouraging and wanted you to perform to the best of your abilities. If you feel stuck on any problem during the interview, have a discussion with your interviewer and they will steer you in the right direction.

Google

Introduction

Interviewee - Riddhi Agarwal (2021B3A71117P)

Job Role - Software Engineering Intern

Number of offers made - 6

Selection Process

Branches open to - A7, A3, A8, AA

CGPA Cutoff - 7+

Recruitment process -

Round 1 - Resume Shortlisting

Round 2 - Online Assessment

The online assessment was one of the first to be conducted. It had 2 questions. It lasted an hour. Both of them are known. Modified merge sort and the other using a tree don't remember properly.

Round 3 & 4 - Technical Interview I & II

45 minute long with 1 DSA question (generally interview have another question or a follow-up question). No questions were asked about resume and no direct LeetCode questions were given. Questions were modified. The frequent topics that were asked were Graphs, Trees and Sliding window, etc. but it's recommended to be well versed with all topics.

Google

Relevant Courses or Certifications

While your preparation is more important than the courses that you undertake, courses like DSA, OOP, DBMS and C Programming will cover the basics of the topics you need to further practice.

Personal Experience

Sources of Preparation

Strivers A2Z Sheet is good starting point for learning different concepts. YouTube resources for individual topics that you may not understand. Practice different types of questions on Codeforces and LeetCode.

Words of Advice

Start preparing and practicing early. Google gives a decent weightage to your CGPA so being around and above 8 will help you get shortlisted and selected. In my opinion, you should begin before the summer internship season begins, probably by the end of 2-2 itself. Devote at least an hour everyday and the task will become a lot easier.

Microsoft

Introduction

Interviewee - Anjaneya Bajaj (2022A7PS0164P)

Job Role - Software Engineering Intern

Number of offers made - 5

Selection Process

Branches open to - A7, AA, A3, A8

CGPA Cutoff - 7+

Recruitment process -

Round 1 - Online Assessment I

The first was an online assessment in the IPC for 1.5hrs of 2 questions based on DSA. The questions were relatively easier as compared to other OA's - the time taken to complete them was also being considered so the earlier the better. Unlike most other OA's, a very limited number of test cases were shown for the questions.

Round 2 - Technical Interview I

The first interview had questions on topics like DSA, OOP, DBS and projects. The first DSA question was finding duplicates in a list. The next one was based on backtracking - given digits as input and a keypad, return possible letter combinations. The codes was compiled and ran it on test cases. The questions on OOP and DBS were mostly theoretical and based on fundamental concepts like inheritance, normalisation forms etc. They also asked for a description and explanation of the work done in the PS-1 internship and a SOP project.

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Round 3 - Technical Interview II

The second interview also started off with a similar discussion on projects. This was followed by a theoretical discussion on how you would sort a list with 2 cases - if it fits within the memory and if it doesn't. Time complexity of the algorithms used was asked. Then, a question to be coded out based on binary search. The discussion ended with a few questions on what are my weaknesses and steps taken to mitigate them.

Relevant Courses or Certifications

CS F211 - Data Structures and Algorithms
CS F212 - Database Systems
CS F213 - Object Oriented Programming

Personal Experience

Sources of Preparation

DSA - Striver's A2Z DSA sheet - concept videos and problem solving;
GeeksforGeeks - problem solving
OOP and DBS - some parts of coursework slides, along with random youtube videos and cheatsheets (no particular source).

Words of Advice

For the OA specifically, speed is important - though the time given is 1.5 hours, most people finished much before that. Having a good resume with strong projects/internship work is good - you must also be able to explain these in depth during the interview. While the CGPA cutoff for the role was 7+, a higher CGPA is beneficial and can act as a boost to one's profile. Being able to clearly communicate your solutions/work in the interview is important so mock interviews can help with that.