

Placement
Awareness
Committee

Chronicles

Sem 1

2023-2024

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 Singh

Dy. Manager - Placements



Shreekar Puranik
Placement Coordinator

BITS Pilani continues to uphold its impressive placement history, even in the face of a challenging job market this semester. Despite the tough conditions, our students battled it out, showcased their skills, and reinforced BITS Pilani as the top choice for recruiters. This year's Chronicles feature the application experiences of over 100 students, from a variety of different backgrounds and in a variety of different roles. I encourage future batches to explore not only this edition but also previous ones to gain a comprehensive understanding of what companies seek and how to secure a placement or internship. Wishing everyone the very best of luck!

Facing one of the toughest job markets after the 2009 recession, our students worked hard and proved their mettle. I hope that these challenging times have prepared the batch for the dynamic job landscape. We had the fortune of hosting some exciting new recruiters apart from our legacy ones. This particular season established the value of putting your best foot forward in the summer internship season and developing a well-rounded profile. I hope these Chronicles serve as a rough guideline for students to optimize their summers and profiles towards their target summer internships or placements.



Debaayus Swain
Pitching Coordinator

SUMMER INTERNSHIPS

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Analytics

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What is Data Analytics?

The collection, organisation, and analysis of data in order to make informed business decisions.

Resources

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

1. Placement Training Module for Analytics and Machine Learning by the Career Development Committee, Placement Unit - [click here](#).
2. Basics of Data Visualisation and Machine Learning by the Career Development Committee, Placement Unit - [click here](#).

Present and Previous Recruiters



DMI Finance

Introduction

Interviewee - Arvin Datta (2021A7PS0672P)

Job Role - Analytics Intern

Number of offers made - 3 (and 2 more for Data Science)

Selection Process

Branches open to - All branches, both single and dual degree, except A5

CG Cutoff - 6+

Recruitment process -

Round 1 - Online Assessment

This round was fairly simple and straightforward. Most questions asked aimed at testing us on our logical reasoning abilities and quantitative aptitude. There were a few English proficiency-testing questions as well, if I remember correctly

Round 2 - Technical Interview

After introductions, I was actually given two consulting-type case questions. The first was a guesstimate and the second was a profitability question. These are quite simple in level and resemble the kind asked in preliminary interview rounds for the different consulting clubs on campus. Basic questions pertaining to CS F212 - Database Systems were also asked in my interview, but I was not asked a lot of IT-based questions. I suspect that this was because I am in CS myself, so be prepared to be tested on topics that might slightly be out of your depth. They are looking to test your problem-solving aptitude more than anything else.

Additionally, it is important to remember that this is not a Consulting role and that proficiency in Excel and SQL is quite important for any Analytics role.

DMI Finance

Round 3 - HR Interview

The questions asked in this round were quite generic. I wasn't thoroughly questioned about my resume, especially my past internship or project experience, but this was primarily because we had spent a good amount of time on it in the previous round.

Relevant Courses or Certifications

While not a lot of my coursework was very relevant to the role, the CS F212 - Database Systems course is incredibly important. Do not miss out on learning the core concepts from this course if you are not in A7 yourself, as that only increases your likelihood of being asked questions pertaining to these topics.

Personal Experience

Sources of preparation -

I just used **GeeksforGeeks** to work on SQL-based questions asked in other Data Analytics interviews. As this was the first time that DMI Finance hired from BITS, I did not really know what else to prepare for the interview with.

Words of advice -

I observed that prior internship experience in data analytics had been viewed very positively by my interviewers. So, if this is an offer you would like to pursue, you could certainly try obtaining some internship experience either off-campus or via PS-1 in data analytics.

Additionally, be sure to stay very comfortable with Excel and SQL, especially if you aren't from CS, as that only increases your likelihood of being asked questions to test your proficiency in them.

HDFC Bank

Introduction

Interviewee - Vudit Shekhar Benjwal (2021A7PS0004P)

Job Role - Model Validation Analyst Intern

Number of offers made - 2

Selection Process

Branches open to - Open to all branches

CG Cutoff - None

Recruitment process -

Round 1 - Resume Shortlisting

This round only carried over 3 people to the interview round, so I would assume this is the major filtration round. Though this role was open for all branches, the 3 of us who were shortlisted were all from A7.

Round 2 - Technical and HR Interview

This round was not as CS-technical as I expected it would be. However, I attribute that to my Finance minor as well as my prior work experience. I was doing FIN F345 - Derivatives and Risk Management at the time, and had also mentioned that on my resume. So, the interviewer immediately began asking me basic questions around the same. They then spent around 20 min discussing my work at WorldQuant as an independent research consultant. They asked me to explain my work there from the basics in detail and it seemed like they were testing both my knowledge and my ability to break concepts in quantitative finance down. The interview ended with questions about my motivation to join the company.

HDFC Bank

Relevant Courses or Certifications

My process centered around my Finance minor, so whatever Finance courses you have done up until that point would certainly be relevant. I suspect that I was not asked a lot of SQL/ML-based questions because I am in CS, but if you are not, a revision of SQL concepts would certainly be useful.

Personal Experience

Sources of preparation -

I did not have any pointed sources of preparation at the time. I had asked my friend, who had completed the BITS F464 - Machine Learning course, to give me a quick run-through of the concepts covered in the course. However, I wasn't asked any ML-related questions.

Words of advice -

I can say for certain that my Finance minor was very useful throughout the process. If you are from a similar background as my own, then retaining strong fundamentals from the Finance minor would come in handy for sure.

I was told by my seniors who had sat through the process in the previous season that there was a fairly high weightage for your resume and this also reflected in my interview as

Introduction

Interviewee - Nishit Soni (2021A7PS0672P)

Job Role - Business Analyst Intern

Number of offers made - 1

Selection Process

Branches open to - All

CG Cutoff - 7+

Recruitment process -

Round 1 - Resume Shortlisting

Round 2 - Online Assessment

This round was very data analytics-centric. I say this because most questions asked were technical in nature, and were based on SQL and Python. There were a few questions that tested my data-driven approach to problem-solving as well.

Round 3 - Technical Interview

In this round, we primarily addressed my resume, course projects, and prior internship experience. The technical questions asked after it were mostly SQL-based. I was also asked a few puzzles towards the end.

Notably, most of the “technical” questions were fairly common ones, as in, the answers to most of these could likely be found on GeeksforGeeks.

Round 4 - Case Interview

In this round, I was given a fairly basic market sizing guesstimate question. They were looking for how MECE (Mutually Exclusive and Collectively Exhaustive) I am in my problem-solving approach, and aimed to test my business acumen as well.

Round 5 - Personal and HR Interview

This round again started with going over my resume, but this time around, the focus was on my extracurricular activities and leadership experience, especially my tenure as President of BITS Embryo. Be sure to have answers ready for questions around your motivation and your fit for the role.

Personal Experience

Sources of preparation -

A quick glance through the most commonly asked SQL questions from GeeksforGeeks definitely helped. While I wouldn't necessarily say that any of my courses was helpful for sure, I would say that staying regular with CS F212 - Database Systems, especially with the lab component, would help strengthen your fundamentals.

Words of advice -

This was a business development role, so they wanted someone with business acumen along with basic technical know-how. I took the interview to a different tangent focusing more on my resume and extracurricular activities to highlight my fit for the role. This really helped me as the interviewer asked just two basic SQL questions. Judge what the job wants and structure your profile in the same way.

Basic programming knowledge would certainly help.

Consulting

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Consulting
Group (BCG)**

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**Nation With
NaMo**

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What is Management Consulting?

The practice of providing advisory services to different companies or organisations in order to improve their performance or assist them in achieving different organisational objectives.

Resources

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

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

Present and Previous Recruiters



Boston Consulting Group

Introduction

Interviewee - Aryan Seth (2021A7PS2221P)

Job Role - Summer Associate

Number of offers made - 2 (via PPI post-Bruce Henderson Insight | Ideathon)

Selection Process

Branches open to - All

CG Cutoff - None (Bruce Henderson Insight | Ideathon was open to all)

Recruitment process -

The Bruce Henderson Insight | Ideathon is a college engagement initiative undertaken by BCG, where certain selected colleges are allowed to participate in a B-Plan competition (Ideathon). This could potentially award winners an SI opportunity with BCG.

Round 1 - Online Assessment

In this round, all interested candidates had to take up an online assessment with primarily reasoning and aptitude questions. This needed to be taken up on an individual basis and not a team basis. Post the release of the shortlist, we had to organise 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. No themes were given to us and we were assessed on the basis of our problem statement, market analysis, and our GTM strategy.

Boston Consulting Group

Round 3 - Intra-BITS Round

The top 3 teams from Round 2 were made to present their business idea/ panel to some executive leaders from BCG, in order to select the team to be representing BITS Pilani in the MDP Round

Round 4 - Final Presentation

We were made to present our business model to a jury of Managing Director and Partners (MDPs), who asked us some questions around the same.

The top 3 teams were awarded a direct internship offer, as well as a MacBook, while the remaining 7 teams were awarded a Pre-Placement Interview, along with an iPhone.

Round 5 - Interview

A standard case and fit interview was taken to determine whether I would be a good fit for the Summer Associate profile or not.

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.

Boston Consulting Group

Introduction

Interviewee - Rahulraj Jhawar (2021ABPS1664P)

Job Role - Summer Associate

Number of offers made - 4 (via Summer Internship)

Selection Process

Branches open to - All

CG Cutoff - 7+

Recruitment process -

Round 1 - Resume Shortlisting

Round 2 - Buddy Process

This is not an eliminative round!

This round was primarily centered on root-cause analysis questions. This would greatly resemble recruitment rounds for the various on-campus Consulting Clubs. Here are the two questions I was asked:-

1. There has been an Anaemia epidemic in North India. The Government of India wants you to devise a Plan Of Action to effectively combat it. How would you go about the same?
2. A last-mile delivery services company has been facing issues with its profitability. Find the cause for the same and provide relevant recommendations to tackle the issue

Round 3 - Case and Fit Interview

This was a round featuring a Mergers and Acquisitions-themed case. The question asked to me was:-

General Electric has recently bought out the refrigerator division of Voltas India. Devise a brand integration strategy for the product.

Boston Consulting Group

Round 4 - Case and Fit Interview (MDP Round)

Besides the usual HR questions, I was also asked to discuss the benefits of UPI in India. I was further questioned about my responses to this.

Personal Experience

Sources of preparation -

1. Case books - Case Interviews Cracked (IIT Bombay), Case Compendium (Shri Ram College of Commerce), IIM Bangalore, and ISB
2. YouTube Channels - Aaditya Agarwal

Words of advice -

I'd highly recommend you to reach out to previously placed candidates for mock interviews. Also, one thing that really helped me was to not only take down the mock interviewers' recommendations but also the ideal solutions.

With respect to your resume, be ready to defend any point on your resume up to five levels and be ready for every possible scenario with respect to fit questions.

Always remember that the Buddy Round has some weightage in spite of being non-eliminative. They are likely to discuss with each other so in case your interview makes you an edge case, this has the probability of pushing you through to the next round.

Nation With NaMo

Introduction

Interviewee - Luvish Agarwal (2021AAPS0627P)

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

Number of offers made - 1

Selection Process

Branches open to - All

CG Cutoff - None

Recruitment process -

Round 1 - Resume and Cover Letter-Based Shortlisting

While resume shortlisting is not something I can directly comment about, we were also asked to share a 200-word cover letter along with it, highlighting why we would be a good fit for the role.

Round 2 - Case Interview

While this round started with some standard HR questions referencing my resume and cover letter, it then turned to two guesstimates. I was asked to estimate the:-

1. Number of flights taking off from anywhere in India at that point in time (~10 am, Saturday)
2. Number of vada pavs sold in Mumbai on an average day

Round 3 - Case Interview

This was the trickiest round for me. I was asked a math question, an aptitude-based question, and was given **15 min** for it all. Following this, I was asked to write about the functioning of the NDA and the central government in 200 words within **10 min**.

Nation With NaMo

Round 4 - Case and Fit Interview

Besides the usual HR questions like rating myself across the rounds and highlighting my strengths and weaknesses, I was also tested on my Hindi speaking abilities, as they asked me to explain the solution to Guesstimate 1 (asked in Round 2) in Hindi.

Following this, I was also asked a case study-based question to design a social media campaign targeting the youth during the election season.

Personal Experience

Sources of preparation -

1. Case books - Case Compendium (Shri Ram College of Commerce), IIM Ahmedabad, and IIM Bangalore
2. Past interview experiences from different websites.

Words of advice -

I had **under 12 hours** to prepare after the shortlist was announced, so make sure to put in all the effort that you can in that period, as it pays off. Read as many previous interview questions as you can as it helped me. The essay was a major throw off, but I was appreciated in the next round for subtly utilising the PESTLE format while answering the question.

The case study-based question was quite unique, but I would suggest you brush up on some basic frameworks and on first principles to help you answer the questions in a structured manner.

Make sure to have a path flow or bulletpoint system while answering case studies and be well prepared with HR answers so that you can defend your stance if questioned.

Core - Mechanical and Chemical

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Present and Past Recruiters



Hindustan Unilever Limited



ExxonMobil

Introduction

Interviewee - Kartik Chandrajit Joshi (2021A42107PS)

Job Role - Engineer Intern

Number of offers made - 2

Selection Process

Branches open to - Mechanical (A4) and Chemical (A1) - Only Single Degree

CG Cutoff - 7+

Recruitment process -

Round 1 - Aptitude Test

This test had three sections:

1. Analytical Reasoning
2. Quantitative Aptitude
3. English Proficiency

Round 2 - Group Discussion

It is likely that we were shortlisted into this round on the basis of both our resumes and our scores in the aptitude test. In this round, we were in a room with 14 participants. We were given a fairly general topic - “Social Media: Boon or Bane?” We were given ~5 min to prepare and the entire round spanned ~30 min. The topics given both this year and previously greatly resembled those given in the initial recruitment rounds for committees or for clubs like DebSoc, BITS Embryo, etc.,

ExxonMobil

Round 3 - Interview

Most questions in the round were about my resume and past work experience. I was particularly questioned about my PS-1 (at Johnson Controls, where I worked on reverse engineering of competitors in the air conditioning sector) and my SOP (pertaining to membrane distillation). I was also asked about my extracurriculars and other HR questions.

Personal Experience

Sources of preparation -

I just brushed upon the basics of my 2nd year CDCs. I think that staying strong in my fundamentals did come in handy during the interview process.

Words of advice -

It felt like they were trying to check my ability to stay composed and confident in what I was saying. So, I would suggest everyone to stay confident and to keep a calm head about them. Additionally, I was also asked about my PoRs, so, be sure to be well-versed in your resume. So long as you are able to justify whatever you have mentioned, there should be no problems.

Hindustan Unilever Limited

Introduction

Interviewee - Joyeeta Nath (2021A1PS2166P)

Job Role - Research and Development Intern

Number of offers made - 1

Selection Process

Branches open to - Chemical (A1), Mechanical (A4), and Manufacturing (AB) - Both single and dual degree candidates were allowed to appear for the process.

CG Cutoff - 7+

Recruitment process -

Round 1 - Resume Shortlisting

In this round, around 30 people were shortlisted.

Round 2 - Situational Response Test

This asked us various questions aimed at testing our interest in the role, as well as our professional ethics and attitude.

Round 3 - Online Technical Interview

In this round, we were asked **three** questions. These questions were aimed at assessing our core technical aptitude. They addressed prior work experience, as well as our relevant coursework in our major. In my case, since I am a Chemical Engineering student, one of these three questions was about a topic directly taught in class.

Hindustan Unilever Limited

Relevant Courses and Certification

All second year CDCs are incredibly important. If you have done any Discipline Electives or some relevant Open Electives, be sure to brush up on those.

Certainly emphasise on those topics which are addressed in both Mech/ Manu and Chemical. These include Thermodynamics, Fluid Mechanics, Material Science, and Heat Transfer.

Personal Experiences

Prior Project and Internship Experiences -

I had a research paper from my PS-1 and had also interned at a firm called First-Green Consulting off-campus prior to that. In the latter, I had learnt about Life Cycle Assessments and had also completed a course on the same.

Words of Advice -

In all questions in the interview, regardless of whether it's a technical one or an HR one, be sure to stay as specific, structured, and on-topic as possible.

Also, to prepare a good answer for the fit-based questions, I would suggest you browse their website to understand both their different areas of work as well as their core values. Using this information, you can not only figure out the sphere of work that you would fit into, but also frame your answers to the fit-based questions to align with those specific values.

All the best!

Jindal Steel Works Group

Introduction

Interviewee - Suyash Kumar (2020B5A41454P)

Job Role - SIP Intern

Number of offers made - 3

Selection Process

Branches open to - Chemical (A1), Civil (A2), Mechanical (A4) - Both single and dual degree students were allowed to appear for this process

CG Cutoff - 7+

Recruitment process -

Round 1 - Resume Shortlisting

Along with this, they had also floated a Google Form asking for our months of internship experience, as well as our willingness to locate to a remote location for the duration of the SIP. Those who said that they would be unwilling were directly removed from the process.

Rounds 2 and 3 - Online Technical (MCQ) Test

Both tests were of the same format and had two parts each:-

1. Common for all branches - This segment tested our quantitative aptitude, logical reasoning, and English proficiency
2. Branch-specific - This segment tested our core competencies with concepts taught across our respective BE CDCs

Jindal Steel Works

Round 3 - Online Technical Interview

This was not a very traditional interview process and almost caught me off-guard. The HR questions posed were slightly unconventional, starting with “Tell me something regarding your work experiences that wasn’t on your resume”.

Given that I decided to address my interest in a specific field (Supply Chain Management), the questions further delved into the same. We talked about a project I had done in this space and the concepts I was learning in the SCM course had come in handy. I was doing the course as a Discipline Elective at the time.

However, a friend of mine decided to give a broader overview, highlighting themselves as an all-rounder. In accordance with the same, they were asked questions from different spheres, both core and non-core.

Relevant Courses and Certification

All second year CDCs are incredibly important. The technical test would especially require that you revise the core concepts taught in your respective second-year CDCs (BE only). Knowledge of some basic formulae would be helpful.

Additionally, if you choose to highlight any sort of niche via the DEIs you have chosen, a quick revision of the core concepts and themes in the DEIs would come in handy during your interview.

Personal Experiences

Words of Advice -

This is a generalised internship hiring programme, where they are simply looking for the top talent across IITs and BITS. So, it doesn’t matter as much which path you opt for during the interview as long as you’re thorough with whatever you wish to highlight. Be sure to set the right first impression as well, showing your interest to stick to the firm and your commitment to their core values.

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 provided by the Placement Unit to get started on your preparation for these roles -

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

Present and Previous Recruiters



WELLS FARGO



Hindustan Unilever Limited

UBER

Atlassian

Introduction

Interviewee - Srijan Shashwat (2020A7B30091P)

Job Role - Data Science Intern

Number of offers made - 4

Selection Process

Branches open to - B3A7 and B4A7 only

CG Cutoff - 7.5+

Recruitment process -

Round 1 - Online Assessment

The test had ~15 questions. These questions were primarily based on logic, probability, statistics, and SQL. While most questions could be solved by a decent knowledge of MATH F112: Probability and Statistics, there was 1 high-weightage SQL-based question asked.

Round 2 - Technical Interview

This round mainly focused on SQL. It had three parts:-

1. Previous work/projects' discussion - In this round, I was asked detailed questions based on my CS F212 - Database Systems project
2. Business case study - I was asked to solve a case study using a data-driven approach. Concepts taught in ECON F241 - Econometric Methods came in handy.
3. Coding round - In this round, a question with all data given was asked. We had to code it using SQL in HackerRank, but couldn't run the code.

Atlassian

Round 3 - Behavioural Interview

This round was quite small. Since Atlassian focuses heavily on its values, this round primarily aimed at testing your culture fit for the company.

Relevant Courses and Certification

1. SQL - This is mandatory for the application process. The Placement Training Module for analytics was helpful and a good place to start.
2. Curricular Work - CS F212 (Database Systems), MATH F112 (Probability and Statistics), and ECON F241 (Econometric Methods) all came in handy over the course of the process.
3. I used GeeksforGeeks for their interview questions, as well as Ankit Bansal's playlist for SQL.

Personal Experiences

Words of Advice -

Be very thorough with SQL prior to appearing for any of the rounds. A stronger background in Statistics is highly preferred. If you have the time, diving deeper into Machine Learning, Python, and regression models could be helpful.

DMI Finance

Introduction

Interviewee - Vatsal Agarwal (2021A3PS1074P)

Job Role - Data Science Intern

Number of offers made - 2 (more for their Finance role)

Selection Process

Branches open to - All circuital branches

CG Cutoff - 7+

Recruitment process -

Round 1 - Online Assessment

This round had two segments:-

1. Logical Reasoning and Basic Quantitative Aptitude
2. English Proficiency

Round 2 - Technical Interview

This round mainly focused on logic and basic programming. They asked me some basic questions on loops and iterations. They also asked me some more logical reasoning questions in this round. They also questioned me on my resume and on some off-campus courses I had mentioned in it. These questions were not too complicated either, they asked me to explain some basic concepts from them.

DMI Finance

Round 3 - HR Interview

This round was very much like the typical HR round. Be very prepared with your answers for questions like “Why DMI Finance?” and “Why data science?” I would suggest that you read up about the company, their work, and their core values and formulate your answers accordingly before the interview.

Relevant Courses and Certification

MATH F112 - Probability and Statistics was fairly relevant for the OA. Besides that, I didn’t find a lot of my coursework very relevant.

However, I had completed the Deep Learning Specialisation on Coursera as part of the learning requirements for my PS-1 station. This seemed to impress the interviewers in my technical round, as I was asked further questions pertaining to the topics covered in this course.

Personal Experiences

Words of Advice -

Stay patient and confident while answering the questions posed to you by the interviewer. Also, please read up about the company especially before the interview rounds and ensure that your responses reflect your interest in both working in the role and being a part of the company.

Hindustan Unilever Limited

Introduction

Interviewee - Arjoo Kumari (2021B3A70770P)

Job Role - Data Science Intern

Number of offers made - 1 (more for their SCM and R&D roles. This was also their first time hiring for the role)

Selection Process

Branches open to - Open to A7 - Both single and dual degree students

CG Cutoff - 7+

Recruitment process -

Round 1 - Resume Shortlisting

Round 2 - Online Assessment 1

This round mostly had MCQs pertaining to logical reasoning and basic probability and statistics. However, at the end of the test, there was **one** coding question in **Python**.

Round 3 - Online Assessment 2

This round mainly focused on testing our theoretical knowledge. Most of the questions were MCQs yet again, but these were of very good quality and aimed at testing **ML fundamentals**. There were **three** coding questions as well, again in **Python**. Two of these were quite easy, but the third was of a good level.

Hindustan Unilever Limited

Round 3 - Technical Interview

Each of the 7-8 shortlisted candidates had a personalised interview experience. Due to my dual degree being in economics, I was first asked about the usage of statistics in ML. It seemed like they were searching for keywords in my answer and would immediately move on from them when found. They tested me on a range of topics, from linear regression to time series.

Then they started asking questions about ML in a similar fashion, with again a range of topics, from regression techniques to handling datasets. Regarding the latter, they gave me a certain type of data and specified some features and values and asked me how I would go about analysing it to arrive at a certain result. I had to ask questions to figure out what was expected of me.

Relevant Courses and Certification

I found Andrew Ng's Machine Learning Specialisation reasonably helpful. With respect to courses I have done on campus, the one that helped the most in the interview was ECON F342 - Applied Econometrics.

I was also in the final stages of procuring a Diploma in Data Science from IIT Madras.

I also found my work PS1 in Elucidata Consulting slightly helpful, as it exposed me to handling large amounts of data. This practical approach made the dataset-based question a smooth ride for me.

Personal Experiences

Words of Advice -

One thing that I would suggest is to approach any interview, not just this, with a carefree, confident, and calm mindset. Day 0 and Day 1 interviews especially have very high competition, but the truth is that this stress inevitably shall reflect in your performance. The interviewers are all likely experienced, so its very easy for them to catch onto your stress as well. This is one thing I feel like they subtly tested me for in the interview process, despite the lack of an extra HR Round.

Uber

Introduction

Interviewee - Ria Shekhawat (2021B4A71986P)

Job Role - Data Science Intern

Number of offers made - 2 (more for their SWE)

Selection Process

Branches open to - Open to only B3A7 and B4A7

CG Cutoff - 7+

Recruitment process -

Round 1 - Online Assessment

This round was primarily case study-based and heavily relied on Excel knowledge. There were some questions regarding the fundamentals of data science and some other company-based questions, but these were fairly easy to solve after going through their website.

Round 2 - Personal Interview

This round mainly focused on my resume and projects. They had also given me a case study and expected me to solve it using a more data-driven approach. The questions asked about my resume were fairly standard and technical in nature. Being able to explain the work on it to a satisfactory degree should suffice to clear the round.

Uber

Round 3 - Technical Interview

While this did start with some quick questions about my resume, it was mostly based on a bigger case study that I was given. It also had a few ML questions and DSA questions.

Relevant Courses and Certification

While there were no on-campus courses in particular that were markedly helpful, I would suggest you to revise your DSA and ML concepts, as well as learn advanced Excel.

Personal Experiences

Sources of preparation -

As this was the first time that Uber was offering a Data Science role not only in BITS but in India, I didn't exactly have specific resources from previous interviews. So, I stuck to revising ML concepts and looking at some past Data Science interview questions.

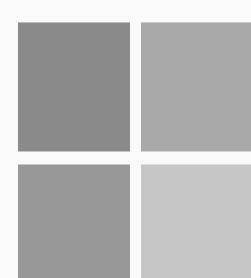
Words of Advice -

The process would likely go a lot smoother for you if you are already comfortable with Excel as well as ML fundamentals. So, if you are seriously targeting a Data Science role, may it be in Uber or elsewhere, these are certainly good and relevant hard skills to pick up. Having relevant projects would help as well.

Electronics

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Present and Previous Recruiters



Microsoft



Qualcomm

 **TEXAS INSTRUMENTS**

Microsoft Corporation

Introduction

Interviewee - Akshay Manish Aserkar (2021A8PS1199P)

Job Role - Silicon Engineering Intern

Number of offers made - 2

Selection Process

Branches open to - A3, AA, and A8 only - Both single and dual degree students were eligible

CG Cutoff - 8+

Recruitment process -

Round 1 - Resume Shortlisting

Round 2 - Technical Interview

This round mainly covered questions based on ECE/EEE/INSTR F215 - Digital Design. There were also some basic questions pertaining to a third-year CDC - EEE/INSTR F313 - Analog and Digital VLSI Design. Though this isn't a course you would have taken by the time of your interview, be sure to learn some basic concepts like Static Time Analysis. I was specifically asked a question pertaining to this topic in my interview.

I was also asked some questions based on the fundamentals of programming like the Fibonacci series, as well as about Computer Architecture. They first asked me about the basic parts of the computer and memory and how they are organized. They also asked questions based on pipelining, such as about how delays occur and what the hazards are.

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Round 3 - Personal Interview

This was almost like a 40 minute-long personality test. They gave me a few situations and asked me different questions to gauge my professional ethics, as well as how I would respond and react to different situations.

They also tried to test my situation-handling abilities in this round

Relevant Courses and Certification

1. On-campus courses:-
 - a. ECE/EEE/INSTR F215 - Digital Design
 - b. EEE/INSTR F313 - Analog and Digital VLSI Design
2. You should also be familiar with Verilog

Personal Experiences

Sources of preparation -

You should be well versed with DD and also find some online resources to make yourself familiar with ADVD, as you would not have done it by then. I used HDLBits to get more comfortable with Verilog. For basic programming concepts, you could use general sources of preparation such as GeeksForGeeks.

Words of Advice -

For this role, I would say that you should be good at expressing yourself and communicating your thought process purely because there was no initial aptitude test. Your entire preparation is gauged during the interview so you have to be very clear in expressing your thoughts.

Nvidia

Introduction

Interviewee - Ansh Bharat Waikar (2021AAPS0634P)

Job Role - ASIC Intern

Number of offers made - 1

Selection Process

Branches open to - A3, AA, and A8 only - Both single and dual degree students were eligible

CG Cutoff - 8+

Recruitment process -

Round 1 - Online Assessment

This round itself was highly competitive, with most questions pertaining to the second-year Electrical CDCs. This made the round particularly hard. The biggest reason why I say it was competitive, however, is because only 4 people were shortlisted to the interview round after this.

Round 2 - Technical Interview

I was primarily asked conceptual questions from courses like ECE/EEE/ INSTR F212 - Digital Design, as well as ECE/EEE/INSTR F241 - Microprocessors and Interfacing.

I was also asked some basic questions about Computer Architecture. While this is a third year CDC for CS students (CS F342) and a DEI for Electrical students, brushing up on the basic concepts covered in the course would be useful.

Nvidia

Relevant Courses and Certification

While all the second-year CDCs are important, these two must especially be thoroughly revised, as a lot of the questions in both the technical test and the interview revolved around core concepts from them

- a. ECE/EEE/INSTR F215 - Digital Design
- b. ECE/EEE/INSTR F241 - Microprocessors and Interfacing

Personal Experiences

Sources of preparation -

I just revised my notes from second year. They were more than sufficient, especially to skim through and quickly revise the important concepts.

Words of Advice -

Stay calm and confident especially during the technical test, as a fair few questions were slightly tricky. Be sure to prepare thoroughly for this round, as it has a lot of candidates and is their primary means of filtration.

During the interview, make sure that your answers reflect a strong grasp of the concepts involved in the question. An observation that I made was that the panel was also fairly interested in my problem-solving approach and conceptual clarity.

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Introduction

Interviewee - Akshaya Venugopal (2021AAPS0022P)

Job Role - Hardware Engineering Intern

Number of offers made - 1

Selection Process

Branches open to - A3, AA, and A8 only - Both single and dual degree students were eligible

CG Cutoff - 8+

Recruitment process -

Round 1 - Online Assessment

The test had two sections. One was common to all and for the other part, you had to choose either hardware or software depending on which role you wanted. The test covered concepts taught in different Electrical courses as well as basic Verilog.

Round 2 - Technical Interview

I was initially asked questions based on ECE/EEE/INSTR F 212 - Digital Design as well as ECE/EEE/INSTR F244 - Microelectronic Circuits. I remember being asked about **Multiplexers** (DD) and I also was asked about a basic **inverter circuit** and an **amplifier circuit** (μ E). I was asked a little bit of Python programming as well.

Notably, I was also asked questions from the basic concepts of a third-year CDC, EEE/INSTR F313 - Analog and Digital VLSI Design. One of the important topics asked was Static Time Analysis.

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Relevant Courses and Certification

All the second year CDCs are quite important, especially for the technical test. If I had to select a few in particular which really helped across both rounds, they would be

- a. ECE/EEE/INSTR F212 - Digital Design
- b. ECE/EEE/INSTR F213 - Electronic Design
- c. ECE/EEE/INSTR F241 - Microprocessors and Interfacing
- d. ECE/EEE/INSTR F244 - Microelectronic Circuits

Personal Experiences

Sources of preparation -

While for my CDCs I just revised from my own notes from the lectures in second year, I referred to some introductory level online study material to brush up on the fundamentals covered in EEE/INSTR F313 - Analog and Digital VLSI Design. I also used online resources to brush up on Verilog.

Words of Advice -

I would suggest you to be very thorough with your basics, and especially in the concepts taught in Digital Design. It is better if you are already comfortable with Verilog from the get-go, as that would prevent a lot of last-minute discomfort and scrambling.

Additionally, I noticed that I was credited for my problem-solving approach, so even if you are not very certain of how to answer or even solve a particular question asked, be sure to at least walk the interviewer through your thought process. This would also give them insights into how you apply your existing knowledge to tackle new problems.

Texas Instruments

Introduction

Interviewee - Vedant Kabra (2021AAPSO022P)

Job Role - Analog Engineering Intern

Number of offers made - 4 (5 more were made across other roles)

Selection Process

Branches open to - A3, AA, and A8 only - Both single and dual degree students were eligible

CG Cutoff - 7+ was listed by the PU, however, most shortlisted students had 8+

Recruitment process -

Round 1 - Online Assessment

The test had two sections:-

1. Logical Reasoning - Common for all
2. Electives - We were given **3 options** - Embedded, Analog and Digital.

One could attempt at most two elective sections depending on the role they are interested in. Our performance decided our interview calls.

Round 2 - Technical Interview

The interview was quite long. It started with a basic circuit and as the interview proceeded, more complexities were added to the circuit. They also asked some conceptual questions related to the stream.

At the end of the interview, my ECE/EEE/INSTR F244 - Microelectronic Circuits project was briefly discussed where they asked about the aim and problem statement.

Texas Instruments

Relevant Courses and Certification

1. EEE F111 - Electrical Science
2. ECE/EEE/INSTR F241 - Microprocessors and Interfacing
3. ECE/EEE/INSTR F242 - Control Systems
4. ECE/EEE/INSTR F243 - Signals and Systems
5. ECE/EEE/INSTR F244 - Microelectronic Circuits

Personal Experiences

Sources of preparation -

1. Courses - I found the YouTube playlists made by Prof. T Chembyal (BITS Goa) quite helpful in revising concepts of Electrical Science and Microelectronic Circuits. For the rest of the courses, I just went through my previous notes
2. Interview Preparation - Not only did I take mock interviews from seniors, but I also thoroughly referred to the YouTube channel of Himangshu Agarwal, a TI employee, for the mock interviews on them.

Words of Advice -

It is very important to be thorough with your concepts, especially when it comes to Electronics roles. TI is no different in that regard. Also, since we're very used to a problem-solving approach, especially because that is also emphasized in our coursework, I would suggest you to work on being able to solve on paper and then communicating your solutions clearly and in a stepwise fashion.

Something that really helped me improve the same was giving a lot of mock interviews, especially with people who have been part of the process earlier.

Texas Instruments

Introduction

Interviewee - Rishi Agarwal (2021AAPS0973P)

Job Role - Digital Engineering Intern

Number of offers made - 1 (8 more were made across other roles)

Selection Process

Branches open to - A3, AA, and A8 only - Both single and dual degree students were eligible

CG Cutoff - 7+ was listed by the PU, however, most shortlisted students had 8+

Recruitment process -

Round 1 - Online Assessment

The test had two sections:-

1. Logical Reasoning - Common for all
2. Electives - We were given **3 options** - Embedded, Analog and Digital.
One could attempt at most two elective sections depending on the role they are interested in. Our performance decided our interview calls.

I had opted to only answer the Digital elective. The questions asked were fairly conceptual and were from topics like Digital Design, Static Time Analysis, and C Programming.

Texas Instruments

Round 2 - Technical Interview

Besides the topics covered in the technical test, the interview also covered Verilog and some CMOS concepts as well. One of the questions asked was to convert a number to its corresponding ASCII character after performing a right-bit shift operation(considering 32 bits). Notably, my resume was not discussed much in the interview. The interviewer was quite helpful as well.

Relevant Courses and Certification

1. On-campus courses:-
 - a. ECE/EEE/INSTR F215 - Digital Design
 - b. CS F111 - Computer Programming
2. You should also be familiar with Verilog and the basic concepts covered in EEE/INSTR F313 - Analog and Digital VLSI Design

Personal Experiences

Sources of preparation -

Besides the course material already taught, I used ASICWorld to learn more Verilog and HDLBits to get better at problem-solving using Verilog.

Words of Advice -

Conceptual clarity, especially in your fundamentals is very important over the course of the process. With respect to the interview itself, it is incredibly important to keep communicating with your interviewers even while you are solving a question. I would suggest you not opt for trying to solve the questions asked fully and only then explaining the solution to the panel directly. I believe that communicating throughout your solving would give them a far better insight into your problem-solving approach.

Texas Instruments

Introduction

Interviewee - Rakshit Aggarwal (2021AAPSO973P)

Job Role - Embedded Systems Engineering Intern

Number of offers made - 3 (6 more were made across other roles)

Selection Process

Branches open to - A3, A7, A8, and AA only - Both single and dual degree students were eligible

CG Cutoff - 7+

Recruitment process -

Round 1 - Online Assessment

The online assessment mainly covered microprocessors, microcontrollers and DSA. There were also a few questions based on topics like Database Management Systems and Object-Oriented Programming, but that was a very minimal part. It was mostly an MCQ-based paper.

Round 2 - Technical Interview

They asked for an introduction followed by a description of my projects. I had 2 projects, one Python-based and other C-based. Although they were not interested in the Python-based project, they cross-questioned me on my C project.

Texas Instruments

Some questions that were asked are

1. "You have an a.c and a b.c file and you need to use a variable in a b.c file but it is declared in the a.c file. You do not have any header files. How would you do this?"
2. "How do you connect a microprocessor to a keyboard?"
3. Questions based on binary XOR, AND and OR operations
4. "If there are 2 lines of code and the instruction pointer is initially pointing to the first line of code but after that line, it is no longer pointing to the second line of code. In what case can this happen?" He further helped in this question by mentioning that what if the first line of code was "a=a/0" hinting towards exceptions.

He also directly or indirectly asked about how interrupts work in a microprocessor multiple times in the interview

Relevant Courses and Certification

1. CS F211 - Data Structures and Algorithms
2. CS F241 - Microprocessors and Interfacing

Personal Experiences

Words of Advice -

Develop very strong fundamentals from your second year itself. This will make the entire preparation process, not just for TI but for any SIP, that much smoother. Also, do focus on the theoretical portion, especially in CS F241 - Microprocessors and Interfacing. This would be extremely useful across the process.

Texas Instruments

Introduction

Interviewee - Akshat Garg (2021AAPSO261P)

Job Role - Field Analog Application Engineering Intern

Number of offers made - 4 (5 more were made across other roles)

Selection Process

Branches open to - A3, AA, and A8 only - Both single and dual degree students were eligible

CG Cutoff - 6+

Recruitment process -

Round 1 - Online Assessment

The test had two sections:-

1. Logical Reasoning - Common for all
2. Technical Segment - Mostly questions from the fundamentals of Digital Design, Signals and Systems, Microelectronics, as well as Power Electronics.

Round 2 - Technical Interview

This interview really tested my fundamentals. Some important topics on which I was asked questions were MOSFETs, OpAmps, and RC Circuits. Additionally, I was also asked to draw the block diagrams of a few appliances, including a drone.

Be sure to revise filters prior to giving this round, I remember that they had asked a bunch of questions on this topic.

Texas Instruments

Relevant Courses and Certification

1. EEE F111 - Electrical Science
2. ECE/EEE/INSTR F241 - Microprocessors and Interfacing
3. ECE/EEE/INSTR F242 - Control Systems
4. ECE/EEE/INSTR F243 - Signals and Systems
5. ECE/EEE/INSTR F244 - Microelectronic Circuits

Personal Experiences

Sources of preparation -

1. Courses - I found the YouTube playlists made by Prof. T Chembyal (BITS Goa) quite helpful for revising Electrical Science. For the rest of the courses, I just went through my previous notes
2. Interview Preparation - I think the best source of preparation is YouTube channel of Himangshu Agarwal, a TI employee. The mock interviews on it is quite accurate
3. Problem-Solving - All About Electronics has another channel of their own, called “All About Electronics-QUIZ”. This was very helpful in clearing the technical test, as most questions on it are of a similar difficulty level.

Words of Advice -

Please do not skip classes. As tedious as they may be, they ensure that your fundamentals remain strong throughout.

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Some Present and Previous Recruiters



UBER

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Accenture

Introduction

Interviewee - Hemant Seshadri Nemani (2021AAPS2170P)

Job Role - Advance Application Engineering Intern

Number of offers made - 3

Selection Process

Branches open to - All except A7 - Both single and dual degree students were eligible

CG Cutoff - 7+

Recruitment process -

Round 1 - Resume Shortlisting

Round 2 - Online Assessment

This round had **two** segments:-

1. Logical Reasoning and Quantitative Aptitude
2. Coding round - For this round, we could use any programming language we were comfortable with. Even the questions asked were of a quite easy/medium level, with this being one of the easiest OAs I had appeared for.

Round 3 - Communication Assessment

This round was fully automated as well and resembled English proficiency tests. We had to listen to a sentence and repeat whatever we had heard. Most people who appeared for the round cleared it.

Accenture

Round 4 - Technical + HR Interview

This round started with a discussion around my resume and my projects. While some others who I know had a separate technical segment with some basic OOP and DSA questions, I instead had a detailed discussion about my projects, primarily around my work in the Backend Team of the Students' Union Technical Team.

They first asked me to explain my work and the technical stacks used in them, and then followed up with detailed questions around the same to test my fundamentals and my understanding of the implementation side of the work. They then asked me some situation-based HR questions and concluded.

Relevant Courses and Certification

While no course that I had done by then were relevant in and of itself, conceptually speaking, the following **three** CS courses are quite relevant:-

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

Personal Experiences

Sources of preparation -

For problem-solving, I just used Striver's Problem List and Leetcode

Words of Advice -

I would suggest you to have a headstart in your preparation, especially if you aren't in CS yourself. This is because it is likely that you wouldn't be allowed to take these courses in your second (third if you're a dualite) year, because these are also 2-2 CS CDCs. A good starting point is Striver's A-Z DSA playlist.

Beyond this, don't lose hope and be sure to utilise your summer break well.

Amazon

Introduction

Interviewee - Aaryan Garg (2021A7PS2222P)

Job Role - SDE Intern

Number of offers made - 13

Selection Process

Branches open to - A7, A3, A8, AA - Both single and dual degree students were eligible

CG Cutoff - 7+

Recruitment process -

Round 1 - Online Assessment

This was an hourlong round, with **two** questions that tested basic DSA concepts. While the first was a standard dynamic programming question, the second was based on stacks. There was a cultural assessment right after, where you had to rate yourself on 1-5 based on different aspects of personality.

Round 2 - Technical Interview

This was also an hourlong round, and it did not have a separate HR segment to it. After introductions, I was asked **three** questions, which were also DSA-based. I personally found the difficulty level of the interview ranging from easy to medium, as the questions were fairly standard. The questions were:

1. Print all the diagonals of a tree.
2. The very standard Rotting the Oranges question (which involves multisourced BFS in a graph).
3. Subset sums-based question

I was then given the chance to ask the panel questions if I had any and I took this opportunity to ask about their work culture.

Amazon

Relevant Courses and Certification

CS F211 - Data Structures and Algorithms was central to the interview process. If you aspire to get **any** SI in the SWE domain, this is one course that should be the primary focus of your interview preparation

Personal Experiences

Sources of preparation -

1. Problem Sets - I referred to the **Neetcode 150** set to get hands-on practice in problem-solving in DSA. To get more comfortable with problem-solving using Dynamic Programming, I referred to **Striver's List**
2. Interview Preparation - This was not very specific. I primarily spoke to seniors who had appeared for the process in previous years and also brushed up on my resume in case I was asked questions on the same.

Words of Advice -

Be sure to practice as much DSA as you can, because the fact that most questions asked were fairly standard in nature only implies that most people appearing for the process are already familiar with them. This makes your speed, accuracy, and ability to communicate your solution all incredibly important in the interview.

When given the opportunity to introduce yourself or ask questions to the panel, highlight company values as much as you can. In my introduction, I tried to highlight their values like building for others. When given the opportunity to ask them questions, I drew a parallel to my work at SUTT, as making long-term sustainable solutions is also of paramount importance to the team. This also happens to be a core company value.

You'd definitely find this information on their website.

Arcesium

Introduction

Interviewee - Jay Prakash Mundhra (2020B3A70799P)

Job Role - SDE Intern

Number of offers made - 2

Selection Process

Branches open to - A7, A3, A8, AA - Both single and double degree students are eligible to apply

CG Cutoff - 7+ for A7, 8+ for A3/A8/AA

Recruitment process -

Round 1 - Online Assessment

This round had 2 sections:-

1. Logic and Basic Math - This was an MCQ segment
2. DSA-based coding round - This was of moderate level and was about binary search

Round 2 - DSA Interview

This was an offline with one interviewer present. Although I did not have to code the solution, I had to write down the classes and objects in pen and paper. I was also asked to explain the logic I used to solve the questions in the OA round.

Round 3 - OOP Round

It was an online round with one interviewer present. It went fairly deep in the OOPs fundamentals and could be rated as a difficult round. There was some Java code written in a text editor and I had to write the output of the code. The interviewer then made changes or added something to the code and then further asked questions.

Arcesium

Round 4 - DBMS Interview

It was an offline round mostly based on DBMS but a graph-based DSA question was asked as well. Concepts like 1nf, 2nf and 3nf normalization and their application in real-life applications, asset properties and basic definitions were asked from DBMS.

Round 5 - HR Interview

This was a very standard HR interview. Basic questions around my resume and motivation to work for Arcesium were asked.

Relevant Courses and Certification

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

Personal Experiences

Sources of preparation -

Going through LeetCode and Geeks for Geeks during PS-1 was enough for Arcesium.

Words of Advice -

Be sure to communicate your thought process over the interviews. Even if it is just that you need some time to gather your thoughts, tell them that explicitly.

They were very lenient with the coding language as they allowed me to do my DSA round in Java and the other rounds in C++. But you need to know either Java or C++ very well to make it through the process.

Axis Bank

Introduction

Interviewee - Manav Mehta (2021AAPS0636P)

Job Role - Business Intelligence Unit Intern

Number of offers made - 6

Selection Process

Branches open to - All but A7 - Both single and double degree students are eligible to apply

CG Cutoff - 7+

Recruitment process -

While the role says Business Intelligence Unit Intern, we are actually going to be segregated into **4** teams depending on our interview process - Data Analytics, Data Science, Machine Learning, and Business Intelligence. However, the process was common for all.

Round 1 - Online Assessment

This test had **two** parts, but was overall technical in nature:-

1. MCQs - There were **20** of these and were aimed at testing our basic understanding of all four job functions
2. Coding Round - There were **3** questions of easy-medium level and we could write the solutions to these in any language of our choice. They tested us on a combination of concepts like dynamic programming and trees with the very basics, like linked lists, vectors, etc.,

Axis Bank

Round 2 - Technical and HR Interview

An interesting thing about this round was that it was personalised from candidate to candidate based on what their resume and prior project and internship experience highlighted. As mine highlighted experience with Machine Learning, they started with asking me about my projects and asked me to explain the tech behind them. Following that, they asked me the classic Tower of Hanoi problem.

While there were no separate direct HR questions, they tried gauging my teamwork skills indirectly by asking me if in my projects/PS-1, I had worked in a team and gave me some situational questions to test my teamwork skills.

Relevant Courses and Certification

While the A7 second-year CDCs are all relevant, since the process was open to all branches **except** CS, the process mainly relied on my resume.

Personal Experiences

Sources of preparation -

I had heard from seniors who had previously sat for the process that it would be very reliant on my resume. So, I primarily got very comfortable with explaining every bit of it. For coding practice, I used Leetcode and AtCoder.

Words of Advice -

The start of 2-2 is the best time to start preparing for SWE SIs in general, especially if you are not in A7, because that gives you enough time to get comfortable with DSA and start competitive coding in general. Be sure to stay consistent with your preparation.

Capital One

Introduction

Interviewee - Shubham Gupta (2021A3PS0799P)

Job Role - SDE Intern

Number of offers made - 3

Selection Process

Branches open to - A7

CG Cutoff - 7+

Recruitment process -

Round 1 - Online Assessment

Round 1 had 2 case study based problems. We were given 2 different problems, and had to write their answers in a Word document, and then submit it. For each problem, we were given around 25-30 minutes to think and write the solution. The questions I was asked were

1. Given four arrays of integers, and a target, find the number of combinations, taking exactly one integer from each array, so that their sum = target.
2. You have a conference of people. A stranger is a person who is known by everyone, but who knows no one. Given a $n \times n$ matrix, where $\text{arr}[i][j] = 1$ if person i knows person j. Find the index of a person who is a stranger. If there are more than 2 strangers, return any one. If no stranger exists, return -1.

Capital One

Round 2 - Technical Interview

Round 2 just involved grilling based on our Round 1 solutions. I'd recommend saving your code in VS Code/any IDE, and in a new folder, and to keep it ready. My interviewer was pretty helpful, and gave me constant hints and ideas on how to make it work better. One tip I'd give is to keep talking / engaging with him. Even if your approach isn't the best, just let him know what you're thinking about, as that may help him direct you in the right direction. I optimized my first code from $O(n^4)$ to $O(n^2)$ and my second one from $O(n^2)$ to $O(n)$ (if I remember correctly).

Round 3 - HR Interview

I was just questioned on the basis of my projects and clubs, as well as some more generic questions, but none related to Capital One. I'd still recommend going through the Capital One website and PPT thoroughly beforehand.

Relevant Courses and Certification

As long as you have strong fundamentals from second year, it is far better to focus on competitive coding and problem-solving than reading up on any courses.

Personal Experiences

Sources of preparation -

Leetcode, Neetcode, GeeksforGeeks.

Words of Advice -

Certainly communicate your problem-solving approach. Also, in the puzzle round, mention your thought process and optimisations without fail.

Cohesity

Introduction

Interviewee - Adarsh Agarwal (2020B5A70924P)

Job Role - SWE Intern

Number of offers made - 1

Selection Process

Branches open to - A7 only - both single and dual degree students were eligible to appear for the process

CG Cutoff - 7+

Recruitment process -

Round 1 - Online Assessment

The test was purely coding-based. One question was based on the Greedy algorithm and the other was a standard DP question. After this round, only 4 people were shortlisted (3 singlites and 1 dualite).

Round 2 - Technical Interview

This was a 40-45 min round. I was asked **three** questions:-

1. Finding the diameter of the binary tree
2. After being asked the subjects I was comfortable with, I was specifically asked about my comfort with CS F241 - Microprocessors and Interfacing. They asked me if I knew about paging and then asked me a question about it.

You're given a very large file which cannot be stored in a standard file and you have to take serial input. You have to separate 0s and 1s (difficult question in paging). Didn't fully implement but explained approach and that was adequate.

Cohesity

Round 3 - HR Interview

This was a very standard HR interview. Detailed questions around my resume, particularly my projects and my PS-1 at IIRS, ISRO were fielded. Finally, they asked if I had any questions for them

Relevant Courses and Certification

1. CS F211 - Data Structures and Algorithms
2. CS F212 - Database Systems
3. CS F213 - Object-Oriented Programming
4. CS F241 - Microprocessors and Interfacing

These four CS CDCs are incredibly relevant and unmissable across the entire SIP process for SWE roles, especially for Day 0 and Day 1 roles like this. Be sure to understand and know them very thoroughly.

Personal Experiences

Sources of preparation -

For problem-solving itself, I would suggest sticking to Leetcode and the Striver Problem Sheet. Also, I had revised the four courses mentioned above from my own notes.

Words of Advice -

Be sure to take every opportunity to highlight your interest and commitment to the company and the role. This always pays off. One way to do so would be to familiarise yourself with the core values of the company, which you can find on their website and would also be mentioned in their PPT.

Once you have learnt these, you could try highlighting a shared value system through your answers, especially in the HR Round.

DE Shaw India

Introduction

Interviewee - Adarsh Goel (2020B3A70821P)

Job Role - Technology Developer Intern

Number of offers made - 4

Selection Process

Branches open to - A7 only - both single and dual degree students were eligible to appear for the process

CG Cutoff - 7.5+

Recruitment process -

Round 1 - Online Assessment

The test was purely coding-based. I had **three** questions, with different weightages as per their difficulty. One was easier than the other two, so the other two had a higher weightage. They were all DSA-based.

Round 2 - Technical Interview 1

One thing about the DE Shaw interview process is that their questions are all original, they don't really refer to "standard" problems. The **three** questions I was asked were:-

1. Given an array of numbers, find the maximum difference between two numbers at index i and j such that $|i - j| > x$, where x is an integer.
Expected complexity: $O(N)$
2. Given an array of numbers, find the maximum difference between two numbers at index i and j such that $y > |i - j| > x$, where x and y are integers.
Expected complexity: $O(N * \log(N))$

DE Shaw India

3. Given an array of numbers, find the minimum difference between two numbers at index i and j such that $|i - j| > x$, where x and y are integers. Expected complexity: $O(N * \log(N))$

Round 3 - Technical Interview 2

This just had one fairly tricky DSA question, based on dynamic programming. It was that given a string, how would I partition it into k substrings such that each substring is a palindrome. Expected complexity: $O(N^N)$.

Round 4 - HR Interview

This felt more like a conversation than an interview, and we just discussed my interest, motivation, and past experiences.

Relevant Courses and Certification

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

Personal Experiences

Sources of preparation -

I just used Leetcode mostly for competitive coding practice.

Words of Advice -

Getting a headstart and staying consistent with your preparation in competitive coding will certainly pay off. Definitely try to develop your problem-solving mindset as much as you can, as DE Shaw especially looks for that.

DevRev

Introduction

Interviewee - Neel Lalit Dedhia (2020B3A70786P)

Job Role - Software Developer Intern

Number of offers made - 1

Selection Process

Branches open to - A7 only - both single and dual degree students were eligible to appear for the process

CG Cutoff - 7+

Recruitment process -

Round 1 - Online Assessment 1

The test was purely coding-based. The **three** questions were quite difficult. They were:-

1. Implementation of a spiral output after being given a starting corner
2. One based on graphs - This was particularly tricky
3. Dynamic Programming, with binary search and bitmasking

Round 2 - Online Assessment 2

The shortlisting for this round was likely based on not only the previous round but also on the basis of resumes. This round was relatively easier and was of a shorter duration. Both questions asked were implementation-based and would likely correspond to the medium level on Leetcode. These questions were not exactly algorithmic, and were almost design-based.

DevRev

Round 3 - DSA Interview

The interviewers were very knowledgeable and the questions asked were very in-depth. They started by asking me about my resume and projects. Following this, we got to the DSA segment. We started with a discussion on sorting algorithms, to great detail. This is not likely to be covered by students when they approach SI preparation with Leetcode, but it was covered by the CS F211 - Data Structures and Algorithms course. Even after that, we had a very in-depth discussion about quick sort and merge sort.

Round 4 - CS Fundamental Interviews

We started with a detailed discussion about my PS-I in Persistent Systems, where I had worked on a project with Federated Learning and Computer Vision. Coincidentally, my interviewer also had previously worked on a project with the intersection of these two subjects. Thus, my interview primarily took this tangent.

This just goes on to show that in this round, there is no standard formula of questions that you can expect.

Relevant Courses and Certification

1. CS F211 - Data Structures and Algorithms
2. CS F213 - Object-Oriented Programming
3. CS F222 - Discrete Structures for Computer Science

Personal Experiences

Sources of preparation -

I primarily just revised from my course material and from Codeforces and Leetcode for problem-solving

Words of Advice -

Be sure to be very thorough in your fundamentals before appearing for this process especially.

Introduction

Interviewee - Harsh Swapnil Deshpande (2021A7PS2225P)

Job Role - Software Developer Intern

Number of offers made - 2

Selection Process

Branches open to - A7, A3, A8, and AA - both single and dual degree students were eligible to appear for the process

CG Cutoff - 8+

Recruitment process -

Round 1 - Online Assessment

The test was purely coding-based. While the first question was a fairly standard DSA question based on **dynamic programming**, the second wasn't exactly standard and was slightly on the tougher side.

Round 2 - Technical Interview 1

This round ranged from easy to moderate in its difficulty. One question was non-standard and the other was a disguised dynamic programming question, which boiled down to a longest common subsequence question. This round required us to think slightly out of the box.

Round 3 - Technical Interview 2

They wanted to test my DSA fundamentals in this round, so they essentially asked me to design a data structure and gave hints along the way.

Relevant Courses and Certification

The second year CDCs are all quite relevant, but the most relevant would naturally be

1. CS F211 - Data Structures and Algorithms
2. CS F212 - Database Systems

Personal Experiences

Sources of preparation -

I used Leetcode and USACO Guide for theory, and to practice, I stuck to Leetcode. I would say that it's more than enough for SI season preparations.

Words of Advice -

There would be many sources that one would suggest you to follow. I would suggest you to not spread yourself thin and to stick to one source and follow it. The most standard source of preparation is obviously Leetcode, so be sure to be very thorough in that.

If you have the time and interest, then maybe you could look at Codeforces. Point is to develop conceptual clarity while focusing on competitive coding. This is very beneficial in helping you land an SI.

Beyond this, start as early as possible and don't lose hope!

Flipkart

Introduction

Interviewee - Rikhil Gupta (2021A7PS2225P)

Job Role - Software Developer Intern

Number of offers made - 1

Selection Process

Branches open to - A7, A3, A8, and AA - both single and dual degree students were eligible to appear for the process

CG Cutoff - 7+

Recruitment process -

Round 1 - Online Assessment

The test was purely coding-based. This had **two** questions. They were all DSA-based. While one question was based on graphs and the BFS algorithm, the second was based on dynamic programming. Overall, the questions were of an easy-medium level.

Round 2 - Technical Interview 1

This round was held over Leetcode and was again very reliant on dynamic programming. It started with introductions and a short discussion about my projects. Then, I again was asked a dynamic programming question.

Round 3 - Technical Interview 2

This too started with introductions and a brief discussion about my past internships. Following this, we had a bit of a deep dive into stacks and priority queues.

Flipkart

Relevant Courses and Certification

I would say that while all second year CDCs in A7 are relevant, the **three** most relevant ones are:

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

Personal Experiences

Sources of preparation -

Beyond ensuring strong fundamentals in the courses from second year, I practiced problems as much as I could from GeeksforGeeks, Leetcode, and Codeforces

Words of Advice -

Stay consistent in your preparation for SI season, especially if you're looking for SWE roles. No doubt, there is a lot of competition, but the consistency shall always pay off.

Be very thorough with the different classic problems, you'd find various solutions to them on GeeksforGeeks, Leetcode, and Codeforces for sure.

Start competitive coding as early as you can, even a few problems a day should be just fine in ensuring your selection. Good luck!

Goldman Sachs

Introduction

Interviewee - Bhavi Lodha (2020B3A71962P)

Job Role - Summer Intern - Software Development

Number of offers made - 8 (4 more for their Quant role)

Selection Process

Branches open to - Open for all

CG Cutoff - 7+

Recruitment process -

Round 1 - Online Assessment

This had **two** segments:-

1. MCQs - This part had **50** questions. They mostly pertained to basic logical and quantitative reasoning, as well as the fundamentals of CS
2. Coding Round - They asked **2** very basic DSA questions.

Round 2 - Technical Interview 1

After introductions, I was asked some technical questions pertaining to my previous work experience, the tech stack I used, and so on. Following this, I was given a DSA question. This would fall under the medium category on Leetcode, I suppose.

Round 3 - Technical Interview 2

In this round, I was asked some basic questions around System Design. Following this, we moved on to discussing one of my projects in detail.

Goldman Sachs

Round 4 - Technical Interview 3

This started with questions around my projects and work experience. This time around, they were more interested in understanding my comfort with the breadth of topics I had previously worked on. After this, they just asked me a difficult question and let me go after.

Relevant Courses and Certification

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

Personal Experiences

Sources of preparation -

I used Leetcode and InterviewBit to practice coding questions for the interview stages, but that's about it.

Words of Advice -

Be very clear and sure about the projects you've worked on. Stay communicative and confident during the interviews. Don't panic if you can't come up with an optimal solution within the first few minutes.

Just speak your mind and keep the conversation going. The interviewer also wants you to be able to solve questions. They're much more interested in understanding your approach to problem-solving than what your "final answer" is.

Google

Introduction

Interviewee - Mehak Agarwal (2020B3A70868P)

Job Role - Software Engineering Intern

Number of offers made - 4

Selection Process

Branches open to - Open for all

CG Cutoff - 7+

Recruitment process -

Round 1 - Online Assessment

This came from a pool of **four** questions, where everyone was given two of these four questions randomly. All the questions were of medium-hard level as per Leetcode standards and were based on concepts covered as part of CS F211 - Data Structures and Algorithms

Rounds 2 and 3 - Technical Interview 1 and 2

Both these rounds were identical to each other and were of **50 min** each. How they played out was that we were initially given only **one** difficult question and we were expected to code it out entirely. If we managed to finish it before the 50 minutes elapsed, we were given a shorter question. The catch was that we also had to code that out in the remaining time.

All the questions were DSA based, and were of a very good level. One thing worth noting was that the interviewers seemed to prefer C++, Java, or at least Python.

Google

Relevant Courses and Certification

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

Personal Experiences

Sources of preparation -

I wanted to be as thorough with the A-Z of DSA, both from an academic and a problem-solving point of view. Thus, I paid particular attention to the course material taught. Besides that, I practiced problem-solving via **Leetcode** and **InterviewBit**.

I also participated in competitive coding contests held over **Codeforces** and **Codechef**.

Words of Advice -

This is naturally one of the most sought after SI offers, so the competition is certainly high and the process, on an average, is harder than many others. The way to stay ahead of the curve is to be consistent in your preparation and to start as early as possible. This consistency is not just in competitive coding but also in your approach to academics overall.

While there is no “right” time to start preparing, given the ample amount of resources present on the Internet, I would suggest you start as early as possible.

IMC Trading

Introduction

Interviewee - Venkatavihan Devaki (2021A7PS0429P)

Job Role - Graduate Software Intern

Number of offers made - 2

Selection Process

Branches open to - Open for all, but the only ones shortlisted were from A7

CG Cutoff - None

Recruitment process -

Round 1 - Online Assessment

We were asked **two** questions from concepts covered in CS F211 - Data Structures and Algorithms. We had **90 min** to solve these questions, but unlike most OAs which allowed us to use the programming language we were comfortable with, in this round, we were only allowed to use either **Java or C++**.

Round 2 - Technical Interview 1

This was an online interview that primarily aimed to test our comfort with Java and/or C++. Since I mentioned that I was more comfortable with C++ than Java, it mainly centered around C++ covering the knowledge of basic memory management, pointers in C++, and smart pointers in C++.

We also briefly discussed my CS F213 - Object-Oriented Programming project, done in Java, on a superficial level.

IMC Trading

Round 3 - Offline Round

This round had both a technical segment and an HR segment. While the technical segment was relatively easy and C++-centric, the HR segment was not exactly conventional.

We were explicitly said at the start of the HR segment that any mention of coding henceforth would result in an instant disqualification of our candidature. This round revolved around understanding us, our interests, and our values better, so as to check their alignment with IMC's culture.

Relevant Courses and Certification

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

Personal Experiences

Sources of preparation -

I used **GeeksforGeeks** to be thorough with C++ and **Leetcode** for problem-solving in DSA. For the interview itself, I used IMC Trading's website to learn more about their values and their YouTube channel to learn more about their breadth of work.

Words of Advice -

Focus on your CGPA no matter what anyone else says or does. Start SI preparation as early as you possibly could. You will need the two months of PS-I to prepare dedicatedly, especially if you are targeting Day 0/1 companies. Be sure to retain strong fundamentals, but also, to maintain and highlight your interests outside of academics.

All-rounders are always appreciated!

Jaguar Land Rover

Introduction

Interviewee - Saavi Manish Deshpande (2021A7PS2436P)

Job Role - Software Intern

Number of offers made - 4

Selection Process

Branches open to - A7, A3, A8, AA - Both single and dual degree students were eligible for the role

CG Cutoff - 7+

Recruitment process -

Round 1 - Online Assessment

This had **two** segments:-

1. Logical Reasoning - There were **3** questions of increasing difficulty level. If you answered a question correctly, then the next question you'd get was harder and had a higher score. If you answered it incorrectly, the next question would be easier and thus had a lower score. You could not have gone back to the previous question and there is a time limit for this part.
2. Coding Test - There were **2** questions in this segment. They were DSA-based and we were allowed to code in any language of our choice. The problems were quite standard and could be classified as a Leetcode medium-level problem

Jaguar Land Rover

Round 2 - Technical Interview

This round lasted for around **an hour**. It began with an introduction, followed by an in-depth discussion around my projects and prior internship experiences. First, they asked basic questions around the tech stacks and concepts used in the project. They then proceeded to ask more in-depth questions around these stacks and concepts.

Following this, they asked some basic to moderate questions around design patterns and the basic concepts covered in CS F213 - Object-Oriented Programming. To conclude, they asked a coding question pertaining to concepts covered in CS F211 - Data Structures and Algorithms which had to pass certain test cases.

Relevant Courses and Certification

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

Personal Experiences

Sources of preparation -

- Competitive coding - Leetcode, Codeforces
- Problem-solving - GeeksforGeeks, Striver's SDE Sheet
- OOP revision - I just used different playlists on YouTube

Words of Advice -

Don't mention any skills/projects in your resume about which you are not confident of answering. Make sure to prepare OOP thoroughly. Even if you get stuck somewhere during the interview, keep on interacting with the interviewer and tell him every thought that comes to your mind. The interviewer is there to help you and often he'll tell you if you're going in the right direction. The thought process matters more than knowing the actual concept.

Microsoft Corporation

Introduction

Interviewee - Vaibhav Singla (2021A7PS2227P)

Job Role - Software Engineer Intern

Number of offers made - 4

Selection Process

Branches open to - A7, A3, A8, and AA - both single and dual degree students were eligible to appear for the process

CG Cutoff - 7+

Recruitment process -

Round 1 - Online Assessment

It lasted for about **1.5 hours**. There were two questions based on the basic concepts covered in CS F211 - Data Structures and Algorithms that I would rate as easy to medium. The time given was ample so it was key to finish it as fast as possible so that your submission time was best.

Round 2 - Technical Interview 1

In this round, I was asked to make a code for number conversions from one base to another (The code should have been a general case working for any base systems). I was asked to deal with negative numbers as well and was presented with several edge cases and had to incorporate their solutions into the code. They compiled my code and ran it on test cases. They also asked me to optimize my code.

Microsoft Corporation

Round 3 - Technical and HR Interview

LeetCode medium questions were asked like merging two sorted linked lists. They also asked me to describe one of my projects and then asked questions based on that. Optimization was to be considered here as well. I started with a basic code and then they built on it. They presented different methods and asked what they would prefer and why.

In the end, they asked HR questions like Why join Microsoft? Do you prefer Microsoft or Google? I had gone through the slides of the presentation that they gave and found them to be helpful in answering these questions

Relevant Courses and Certification

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

Personal Experiences

Sources of preparation -

- DSA - Topicwise YouTube videos,
- Problem-solving - Striver's SDE and A2Z Sheet
- Competitive coding - Leetcode (All difficulty levels), a little bit of Codeforces
- Dynamic Programming - YouTube playlists by Aditya Verma, Striver

Words of Advice -

I would recommend the candidate to have a good resume with a strong focus on projects and internships. A CG of 8+ would also be advised. I also think that communication in the interview is very important so mock interviews should be practiced.

National Payments Corporation of India

Introduction

Interviewee - Dhruv Shrimali (2021A7PS0009P)

Job Role - SDE Intern

Number of offers made - 1

Selection Process

Branches open to - A7 - only single degree students were eligible

CG Cutoff - None

Recruitment process -

Round 1 - Online Assessment

This round had **four** segments:

1. English
2. Data Interpretation and Logical Reasoning
3. Coding - This round had **two** questions, which would likely fall under the medium to hard range in Leetcode. Both these questions covered concepts from CS F211 - Data Structures and Algorithms, with one of them also touching upon Graphs
4. Machine Learning - This round comprised MCQs and short answer questions and was quite difficult. We were expected to be comfortable with various models, their parameters, and more.

Disclaimer: While I had not taken this course then, I can say that on hindsight, even the Discipline Elective CS F464 - Machine Learning does not teach enough to be able to answer the questions asked in this round. So, be sure to learn enough ML to be able to appear for and perform well in this test.

National Payments Corporation of India

Round 2 - Technical and HR Interview

This round started with introductions and some basic HR questions around the company and my interest. Then we began with the technical segment, which started by them asking for at least **2** programming languages that I was comfortable with. When I stated my comfort with C++ and Python, they started asking some basic questions around those. After this, I was asked some MySQL questions, like, they gave me a complicated query and asked which of these the compiler would compile first.

Most questions asked were quite conceptual in nature.

Relevant Courses and Certification

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

Personal Experiences

Sources of preparation -

I used **GeeksforGeeks** to revise C++ and **Leetcode** for problem-solving in DSA.

Words of Advice -

Practice answers to the HR questions in advance, as the interview is only for **15-20 min**, so it isn't very efficient for your technical segment if you take too much time in the HR segment.

Additionally, start competitive coding at least in your **2-2** if not earlier, because you will need all this time to be able to land your dream SI offer. Moreover, you can also correlate with concepts being taught in your courses, which is convenient.

Nvidia

Introduction

Interviewee - Satvik Jain (2020B3A70791P)

Job Role - System Software Intern

Number of offers made - 3

Selection Process

Branches open to - A7, A3, A8, AA - both single and dual degree students were eligible for the role

CG Cutoff - None

Recruitment process -

Round 1 - Online Assessment

This round had **two** segments:

1. Logical Reasoning
2. Coding - This round had **two** questions, which would likely fall under the medium category in Leetcode. It was told to us prior to the start of the round that only **C** would be allowed for this round of the assessment. One of these questions was to debug a given piece of code

Round 2 - Technical Interview

This round lasted for around **50 min**. No particular language was mentioned and any language was allowed to be used. They started by asking me some basic DSA questions. These included:-

1. How would you remove repeated elements from a string?
2. Given an array of integers, find the maximum sum of pair of numbers in the array.

They concluded after asking a few basic questions on CS F215 - Digital Design and CS F241 - Microprocessors and Interfacing.

Nvidia

Round 3 - HR Interview

This round, like most other HR rounds, aimed at understanding me better. However, unlike other rounds, the panel emphasized a lot on my future plans. They asked me about my ideal career, career progression, and about my plans for higher education, if any.

Relevant Courses and Certification

1. CS F211 - Data Structures and Algorithms
2. CS F213 - Object-Oriented Programming
3. CS/ECE/EEE/INSTR F215 - Digital Design
4. CS/ECE/EEE/INSTR F241 - Microprocessors and Interfacing

Personal Experiences

Sources of preparation -

- DSA Revision - Striver's SDE Sheet
- DSA Problem-solving - Leetcode, InterviewBit
- Interview preparation - GeeksforGeeks

Words of Advice -

A lot of companies might either give you no direction around what to expect and/or prepare for in the interview, OR they give direction, but your process might not reflect that. I had had a very similar experience with some other SI hiring processes.

Thus, I could not stress further on the importance of retaining a strong foundation and basics, so that you will not be caught in a tricky spot in the event that a question slightly out of the “average interview framework” is asked to you.

Procter & Gamble

Introduction

Interviewee - Dev Parikh (2021AAPS2236P)

Job Role - IT Intern - P&G Spotlight

Number of offers made - 4

Selection Process

Branches open to - Nothing specified

CG Cutoff - None

Recruitment process -

Round 1 - Online Assessment

This was common for all and tested us on the basis of logical reasoning, verbal ability, situational response skills, and our culture fit with the firm.

Round 2 - Resume Shortlisting

Rounds 3 to 4/5 - Interviews

While some candidates had 2 interviews, others (myself included) had 3. The technical segments of these rounds were mostly conceptual. They touched upon the most basic concepts taught across the 2nd year CDCs for CS and then asked questions around my internship and project experience.

Even there, the questions asked were not in-depth, but it was more like them intending to test our awareness of what we had listed on our resume. Following this, I was asked situation-based questions as well as some standard HR questions

Procter & Gamble

Disclaimer:

P&G Spotlight is a college engagement programme targeting potential hires from Tier-1 technical institutes in India. Thus, following selections from these rounds, we were called to their corporate office to understand their functioning and over there, we had these interviews. They weren't conducted prior to our acceptance into the programme.

Relevant Courses and Certification

While no course is relevant in particular, a revision of the core concepts of the 2nd year CS CDCs would certainly be useful.

Personal Experiences

Sources of preparation -

I used YouTube to grasp the basics of DSA, DBS, OOP and DiSCo. I don't particularly think I required a lot of extra preparation for this role. However, I did expect HR questions and framed answers for them beforehand, after consulting with seniors who had previously received SI offers from P&G, regardless of whether it was for the IT role or for the SCM role.

Words of Advice -

This is a very spontaneous recruitment process, so it would serve you well to not overthink at any step. Be sure to show the recruiters your dedication and your personality at every step, as they too are looking for all-rounders and future leaders via this programme.

Also, be very thorough with your resume and what is mentioned in it, especially because that is what will determine the primary line of questioning in your interview rounds.

Rubrik

Introduction

Interviewee - Aadit Nayyar (2021A7PS2687P)

Job Role - Software Engineer Intern

Number of offers made - 2

Selection Process

Branches open to - A7 - both single and dual degree students were eligible for the role

CG Cutoff - 7.5+

Recruitment process -

Round 1 - Online Assessment

This round was purely a coding round and had four questions. Each of these questions could be solved by a thorough understanding of concepts taught in CS F211 - Data Structures and Algorithms. Most of these questions relied on Dynamic Programming and/or Graphs, as is standard for most OAs.

Round 2 - Technical Interview 1

This round was singularly based on CS F211 - Data Structures and Algorithms, and asked a lot of in-depth questions on Graphs. These questions definitely required a strong background in both DSA and competitive coding. Nearly every question asked to me, interestingly, was graphs-based.

Round 3 - Technical Interview 2

This round was singularly based on CS F212 - Database Systems. Most questions asked were quite conceptual and could easily be solved following a thorough revision of the course material.

Rubrik

Round 4 - HR Interview

This round was a fairly standard HR interview, but the panel also had technical personnel. So, there was a fairly detailed discussion around my projects and my prior internship experience.

The HR asked questions directed at understanding my ability to work in a team and resolve situations that may arise in that process.

Relevant Courses and Certification

1. CS F211 - Data Structures and Algorithms
2. CS F212 - Database Systems

Personal Experiences

Sources of preparation -

- DSA - Leetcode
- DBS - The course is more than sufficient
- Problem-solving - Codeforces
- Interview Preparation - InterviewBit, GeeksforGeeks

Words of Advice -

Be sure to start as early as possible with competitive coding. There are various clubs on campus, and in general a fairly interested crowd of people who appear for contests regularly. There are also many resources available online to even help a beginner to start, so there is no dearth of resource or company to get started.

This is all the more important if you aspire towards getting an offer in Day 0 or Day 1.

Beyond that, be sure to keep communicating with the interviewer regardless of whether you know the answer or not. They mainly want to see your thought process and problem-solving approach.

Samsung R&D, Delhi

Introduction

Interviewee - Krteyu Pillai (2021A7PS2522P)

Job Role - Software Intern

Number of offers made - 5

Selection Process

Branches open to - A7, A3, A8, and AA - both single and dual degree students were eligible to appear for the process

CG Cutoff - 7+

Recruitment process -

Round 1 - Resume Shortlisting

Round 2 - Technical Interview

This round started with a short discussion around my resume, projects, and internship experience. They also briefly discussed my vertical transfer into A7 after my first year. They then gave me a standard competitive coding problem and asked us to figure out the approach to solve it. They did not ask us to code and run it and did not actively seem to be looking for that either.

They then asked me about some standard algorithms (Tjikstra, Bellman-Ford) and gave me a problem that could be solved using these. They expected implementation in this segment as well. I observed that they seemed to care about resumes more than the average SWE/SDE recruiter.

Samsung R&D, Delhi

Round 3 - HR Interview

This was very standard in nature. I was asked about my motivation and interest behind joining this role. I was also asked about a few extracurriculars listed on my resume and my personal interests. The interview concluded with a discussion around my strengths and weaknesses.

Relevant Courses and Certification

1. CS F211 - Data Structures and Algorithms
2. CS F222 - Discrete Structures for Computer Science

Personal Experiences

Sources of preparation -

I stuck to Leetcode for problem-solving and I also occasionally used YouTube playlists by NeetCode to learn some problem-solving approaches as well as revise prior concepts.

Words of Advice -

An important thing to note about Samsung Research SIs are that there are **three** different institutes that come to BITS for SI, all of which have different research interests.

1. Delhi - Computer Vision
2. Noida - AI and appliances
3. Bangalore - Telecommunication

Be sure to apply as per your area of interest. Besides that, understand your concepts clearly, ensure your fundamentals are strong, and do not lose motivation at any cost!

Samsung R&D Institute, Noida

Introduction

Interviewee - Dhyey Italiya (2021A7PS2522P)

Job Role - Intern - R&D

Number of offers made - 3

Selection Process

Branches open to - A7, A3, A8, and AA - both single and dual degree students were eligible to appear for the process

CG Cutoff - 7.5+

Recruitment process -

Round 1 - Resume Shortlisting

Round 2 - Problem-Solving

This was not an IPC-based coding round. Instead, the 20+ shortlisted candidates were all called to the PU office, where the recruiter gave us a variation of the Super Egg problem to solve. It was not very difficult and this would fall under the easy to medium difficulty range on Leetcode. Depending on the solution, the recruiter selected 7 people to the interview stage.

Round 3 - Technical Interview

The interviewer himself had a competitive coding background from his college days, which made this interview reasonably heavy on algorithms. He primarily asked questions based on tries and asked me to implement a dictionary using tries. I was then asked about my approach towards converting a given set of tries into a Red-Black Tree. We concluded with a short conversation around my resume.

Samsung R&D Institute, Noida

Round 4 - HR Interview

While this round was mostly standard in its approach, discussing my interests, motivation, cocurriculars and extracurriculars, as well as strengths and weaknesses, there was a small strategy in play. They first made me comfortable by asking such questions, but finally asked me why I had not received an SIP offer so far, which caught me severely off-guard.

Relevant Courses and Certification

1. CS F211 - Data Structures and Algorithms
2. CS F212 - Database Systems

Personal Experiences

Sources of preparation -

I worked on competitive coding from both Codeforces and Leetcode. Following this, I started InterviewBit. If you are just starting now, I would suggest that you start with solving the entirety of InterviewBit, as that will help you with standard problems and patterns. Then, if time permits, do Leetcode, followed by Codeforces and Codechef

Words of Advice -

Be very thorough with your understanding of data structures, algorithms and their implementation. The questions asked in this process were often not complex at all, but they're so fundamental that it isn't taught and you might need to think on the spot to answer.

If you are aiming for top-tier companies, then there is no way you can afford to ignore competitive coding. I would go so far as to say that the earlier you start, the better it is. Finally, don't give up!

Samsung R&D Institute, Bengaluru

Introduction

Interviewee - Achinthy Hebbal (2021A7PS1457P)

Job Role - SDE Intern

Number of offers made - 13

Selection Process

Branches open to - A7, A3, A8, and AA - both single and dual degree students were eligible to appear for the process

CG Cutoff - 7+

Recruitment process -

Round 1 - Online Assessment

This round had **three** coding questions, all of which were based on concepts covered in CS F211 - Data Structures and Algorithms. While the first question was easy, the other two questions could be classified as medium level, as per Leetcode standards.

We were asked to answer all questions exclusively in C++.

Round 2 - Technical Interview

The interviewer began with a discussion around my projects, particularly my involvement in the App Development vertical in the Department of Visual Media. He asked fairly standard questions like what stack we used and what difficulties we faced across the process.

Samsung R&D Institute, Bengaluru

He then asked me a medium-level question based on dynamic programming, which I would even say is a fairly standard question, both conceptually and quite literally. There was not a lot of cross-questioning, nor were there any HR questions.

Relevant Courses and Certification

1. CS F211 - Data Structures and Algorithms
2. CS F212 - Database Systems

Personal Experiences

Sources of preparation -

I used Leetcode for competitive coding and used problem sets as well as playlists from NeetCode for skill development.

Words of Advice -

Be confident in what you are saying and explain your process well to your recruiter. This is one skill that my interviewer even commended me on, so I think it weighed positively in my favour.

One mistake that I made in terms of my approach towards preparing for SIs in general was that I started really late. I only started my preparations, both in terms of revising all that I had learnt in second year and in terms of competitive coding and building my problem-solving approach only after 5-6 companies came in. After giving these OAs, I had a fair idea of what they were aiming to test across OAs and interviews.

After this, I took a directed approach towards my preparation, but I am sure that I would have done far better had I started earlier. So, I would advice you start early and remember that while there is no such thing as “too early”, there is such a thing as “too late”.

Société Générale

Introduction

Interviewee - Yash Shirish Mundada (2021A7PS0001P)

Job Role - Engineering Intern

Number of offers made - 2

Selection Process

Branches open to - A7, A3, A8, and AA - both single and dual degree students were eligible to appear for the process

CG Cutoff - 7.5+

Recruitment process -

Round 1 - Online Assessment

This round had **two** segments:-

1. Numerical Ability - This segment had questions that tested our logical and quantitative reasoning abilities, as well as some basic math questions
2. Coding Aptitude - This segment had **two** questions. They would both fall under the easy to medium difficulty level according to Leetcode, and were both based on concepts such as trees, which had been covered in CS F211 - Data Structures and Algorithms

Round 2 - Technical Interview 1

I was asked **two** standard problems, which I had to both code and run. These were quite familiar and anyone who has prepped with Leetcode/ InterviewBit would be able to recognise and solve them. Following this, I had a rapid-fire segment, where the interviewer picked a topic, asked me a very basic question about it, and proceeded to dive deeper into the same.

Société Générale

Round 3 - Technical Interview 2

This round centred around testing my knowledge of the concepts taught in CS F212 - Database Systems and CS F213 - Object-Oriented Programming. Most questions were based on transactions, rollbacks, and on acid properties.

Round 4 - HR Interview

This was a fairly standard round. I was asked about my background, interests, motivation, and future aspirations and plans.

Disclaimer: All rounds for this process were conducted on the **same day**.

Relevant Courses and Certification

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

Personal Experiences

Sources of preparation -

I used Leetcode and NeetCode for problem-solving and used the InterviewBit 50 to revise DBS and OOP.

Words of Advice -

The single most important thing for SI season in general would be to stay consistent with your preparation. Even if it is competitive coding, just solving 2 problems a day would work, as long as you are consistent in your approach towards preparation.

Sprinklr

Introduction

Interviewee - Aseem Chib (2021A7PS0466P)

Job Role - Product Engineering Intern

Number of offers made - 4

Selection Process

Branches open to - A7 only - both single and dual degree students were eligible to appear for the process

CG Cutoff - None

Recruitment process -

Round 1 - Online Assessment

This was entirely coding-based and had **four** questions. They were of a very high difficulty level, so much so that even solving 1-1.5 questions were enough to clear the round. They all could have been solved with strong fundamentals and a very thorough understanding of the concepts taught in CS F211 - Data Structures and Algorithms.

Round 2 - Technical Interview 1

This was an **online** technical interview and was not too hard. We began with a discussion around my resume (primarily prior internship and project experience), where the interviewer asked me basic questions around the work that I had done. This felt like they were trying to test my **communication** skills more than anything else.

Following this, we moved to some basic questions pertaining to concepts covered in CS F211 - Data Structures and Algorithms. The interview concluded with some theoretical questions around CS F213 - Object-Oriented Programming.

Sprinklr

Round 3 - Technical Interview 2

This was far harder and more in-depth than the previous interview. Though this too began with a discussion around my resume, this time I was asked related technical questions as well, and not just explanations. We discussed tech stacks, implementation, as well as issues that arose and my process of finding a workaround.

Following this, I was given a few (Leetcode) hard questions based on dynamic programming.

Round 4 - Culture and Talent Interview

This was fairly generic and involved a few standard HR questions aimed at understanding my interests and aspirations better.

Relevant Courses and Certification

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

Personal Experiences

Sources of preparation -

I primarily worked on problem-solving, with Leetcode, GeeksforGeeks, InterviewBit, and Coding Ninjas.

Words of Advice -

It is never about solving questions. It is all about coachability. Show them your willingness to learn and how systematic and clear your thinking process is. Competitive coding is NOT mandatory, only ideal for Summer Interns. Do not ignore DSA or your communication skills in favour of competitive coding.

Tata Steel

Introduction

Interviewee - Ansh Rastogi (2021A7PS0515P)

Job Role - Management Trainee - Technical Intern (Software)

Number of offers made - 2 (more for their Core Engineering role)

Selection Process

Branches open to - A7 only - both single and dual degree students were eligible to appear for the process

CG Cutoff - 7+

Recruitment process -

Round 1 - Online Assessment

This round was entirely technical and had **two segments**, based on question type:-

1. MCQs - There were around 10-15 questions. They all could be answered using core concepts taught in CS F211 - Data Structures and Algorithms and CS F212 - Database Systems.
2. Coding - This segment had only 1 question, and that too was of a fairly easy level. It was based on arrays and is a standard beginner-level problem that you would come across on Leetcode.

Round 2 - Cultural Assessment

This round asked us to rate ourselves on a scale of 1 to 5 based on different aspects of our personality, where 1 implied that one strongly disagreed or was very unlikely to do something and 5 implied that they strongly agreed or were very likely to do something.

Tata Steel

Round 3 - Technical and HR Interview

In either segment, this round was not too detailed. They began with the technical segment. This round entirely revolved around my resume, particularly my projects and prior internships. Even the questions asked were very basic, such as explaining my work in a team or the principles/tech stacks used in a project.

The HR segment too had very standard questions, pertaining to my background, hobbies, motivation and interests.

Relevant Courses and Certification

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

Personal Experiences

Sources of preparation -

I primarily worked on problem-solving with Leetcode and TakeYouForward. To revise concepts, I used Striver's SDE Sheet.

Words of Advice -

With respect to the interview rounds, these are entirely on the basis of your resume, so, be very thorough with it. Do not try to misrepresent facts or figures in your resume, those will almost definitely be called out and treated like a red flag.

In general though, please remember to keep your head up and persevere regardless of the rejections you face. This is an incredibly competitive procedure, especially for SWE/SDE roles, so be sure to stay consistent with your preparations with it.

Uber

Introduction

Interviewee - Bhagwati Iyer (2021A7PS0685P)

Job Role - Software Engineering Intern

Number of offers made - 2 (more for their Data Science role)

Selection Process

Branches open to - A7, A3, A8, and AA - both single and dual degree students were eligible to appear for the process

CG Cutoff - 7+

Recruitment process -

Round 1 - Online Assessment

This was conducted over the summer break and was entirely based on concepts covered in CS F211 - Data Structures and Algorithms. The questions were comparable in terms of difficulty to Leetcode medium problems.

Round 2 - Technical Interview 1

This round was entirely based on CS F211 - Data Structures and Algorithms. While the questions themselves were not very difficult, they were not only testing my problem-solving, but also my efficiency, speed, and communication skills. They also gave me a question to code and run, based on merging intervals.

Uber

Round 3 - Technical Interview 2

This round primarily tested my knowledge of CS F213 - Object-Oriented Programming. After some initial questions which were more theoretical than implementation-oriented, I was asked to design a menu. The questions that followed were based on my approach and the features I had included in the same.

Relevant Courses and Certification

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

Personal Experiences

Sources of preparation -

- DSA - Striver's sheet
- Problem-solving - GeeksforGeeks
- I also revised OOP and DBS from the coursework itself.

Words of Advice -

There is no such thing as a “good” or “right” time to start with competitive programming. So, start as early and get as much practice as you can with both that and DSA overall.

Do not forget to take mock interviews from seniors who got Sls in those companies, as every company has a different interview process.

Wells Fargo

Introduction

Interviewee - Sidhartha Sankara Pati (2021A7PS0685P)

Job Role - Software Engineer Intern

Number of offers made - 7 (2 more for their Data Science role)

Selection Process

Branches open to - A7, A3, A8, and AA - both single and dual degree students were eligible to appear for the process

CG Cutoff - 7+

Recruitment process -

Round 1 - Online Assessment

This round had **three** segments:-

1. English
2. Mental Ability
3. Coding - This segment was further broken down into **two** based on the difficulty level of the questions asked. Regardless of the level, all questions could be solved using concepts learnt in CS F211 - Data Structures and Algorithms. The latter part, ie., the one with the harder questions was called the “**decider**” segment. While the former part had questions that would fall under the easy level as per Leetcode, the latter part could only be classified as medium to difficult.

Wells Fargo

Round 2 - Technical Interview

This round lasted for **45-50 min** and was heavily reliant on my resume, particularly my prior internship and project experience. The questions asked beyond these were pertaining to CS F211 - Data Structures and Algorithms, CS F212 - Database Systems, and CS F213 - Object-Oriented Programming.

Round 3 - HR Interview

This was fairly generic in nature. They aimed to test if I was a fit for Uber's values and asked me questions around the same. They also asked me questions about my background, interests, motivation and aspirations.

Relevant Courses and Certification

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

Personal Experiences

Sources of preparation -

I just referred to the GeeksforGeeks to revise concepts. Besides that, I used Leetcode and Codeforces to improve problem-solving abilities.

Words of Advice -

Be very thorough with your resume, as most of the interview process shall revolve around that. Besides that, stay up to date with your coursework and be sure to revise it over the break as well.

Manufacturing and Supply Chain Management

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What is Supply Chain Management?

The process of managing the flow of goods and services to and from a business, including every step involved in turning raw materials and components into final products and getting them to the ultimate customer.

Present and Previous Recruiters



Anheuser-Busch InBev

Introduction

Interviewee - Diya Narayanan (2020B4A30694P)

Job Role - Intern

Number of offers made - 1

Selection Process

Branches open to - All but A7

CG Cutoff - 7+

Recruitment process -

Round 1 - Resume Evaluation (non-eliminative)

Round 2 - Online Assessment

This was entirely based on puzzle-solving. It was hourlong and tracked our approach towards the puzzle too. Once we were done solving it, we were asked for feedback around it to better gauge our thought process as well by questions like whether it was fair, what we liked and disliked about it, etc.,

Round 3 - Group Discussion

The shortlists for this round were likely prepared taking into consideration both the assessment and the resume evaluation. All shortlisted candidates were segregated into rooms of 8. The topic for the discussion pertained to the company itself. The topic for my room was, “How to increase beer consumption in India?”

The round itself was incredibly cutthroat because it was very short, around 10-15 minutes overall. So, you had to fight for a chance to speak and even when you do, you had to be clear and directed in what you wished to convey.

Anheuser-Busch InBev

Round 4 - Group Interview

Around 4-5 candidates who made it through the GD round were made to sit together and were all asked the same questions one by one. They were quite basic at the start, asking us about ourselves and the likes. Then, we were asked some basic questions about the company, its competitors, market share, basic problems faced in the industry, etc.,

Round 5 - Personal Interview

As I was the only individual shortlisted to this round, I was fairly certain that I would be getting this role. So, in this round, we just went through my resume, extracurriculars, and future ambitions.

Personal Experience

Sources of preparation -

I extensively read up on the history, values, present product line, and policies of AB InBev. All of these are available on their website.

Words of advice -

Prior leadership experience and/or internship experience are both highly valued. As per my observation, a lot of the talking points that made a difference were to do with their own industry and their company, though they don't ask about these directly.

Be very thorough with their product line and the company itself. In my GD, someone suggested non-alcoholic beer, which is already a line that they have. They definitely downmarked this suggestion.

As for the puzzle test, there's no way to really do "bad" in the test. For every approach you take, certain metrics are calculated and they're looking for a very specific combination of these metrics.

Hindustan Unilever Limited

Introduction

Interviewee - Anisha Prasad Nandimath (2020A1PS2599P)

Job Role - Supply Chain Intern

Number of offers made - 5 (more for R&D and Data Science)

Selection Process

Branches open to - All but A7

CG Cutoff - 7+

Recruitment process -

Round 1 - Resume Evaluation

Round 2 - Form Filling

We were asked some HR-esque questions to gauge our strengths and weaknesses, our motivations and aspirations, etc

Round 3 - Technical Interview

The interviewer began by asking me for an introduction and then proceeded to ask me questions around Supply Chain Management. I was then asked about my prior work experiences, especially with my PS-I where I worked on a few core chemical industry projects.

Following this, I was asked some basic questions around my 2nd year CDCs. These were quite easy and conceptual to answer. In my opinion, they did not require a thorough revisit of all the concepts.

Hindustan Unilever Limited

Round 4 - Personal Interview

In this round, I was asked questions about my prior internship and project experience. These questions were aimed at testing my understanding of the work that I had done. I was also asked some basic questions around why I wanted the role.

Relevant Courses and Certification

All second year CDCs are quite relevant for this process.

Personal Experience

Sources of preparation -

I read up on the company's values and culture from their official website. I also went through their annual reports to understand their newest reforms.

Words of advice -

Focus on your CGPA from the very start and be very structured in how you prepare for the interview procedure. Be sure to reach out to seniors who have previously gotten this role in order to understand the approach taken by interviewers.

Also, be very thorough with your resume. The hardest questions will always come from these areas.

Procter & Gamble

Introduction

Interviewee - Liyasha Agarwal (2020B3A30831P)

Job Role - Product Supply Analyst Intern - via Spotlight

Number of offers made - 1 (3 more for IT Intern)

Selection Process

Branches open to - All

CG Cutoff - None specified

Recruitment process -

Round 1 - Cognitive Test (P&G PEAK)

Questions in this round tested different kinds of reasoning and quantitative abilities. They also tested our situational response skills.

Round 2 - Resume Shortlisting

Disclaimer:

P&G Spotlight is a college engagement programme targeting potential hires from Tier-1 technical institutes in India. Thus, following selections from these rounds, we were called to their corporate office in Hyderabad to understand their functioning. The subsequent rounds were conducted there.

Procter & Gamble

Round 3 - Personal Interview

In this round, not a lot of technical questions/questions around “SCM” itself were asked. Instead, they tried to gauge my communication, problem-solving aptitude, clarity of thought, and leadership experience. They also asked a case interview question (Consulting).

Personal Experience

Sources of preparation -

I primarily understood the operations of the company and read up on their value system in order to better approach both the PEAK assessment and the interview segment. I also took mock interviews from individuals who previously had secured SIs with P&G.

Words of advice -

1. Cognitive Test - There are various online resources available for these. Be sure to use them so that you have a fair idea of what you are getting yourself into.
2. Resume - Be very thorough in your preparation around your resume. You will be asked questions based on it. Additionally, ensure that it is maintained neatly and presented well. Follow the STAR/TARS/any format of your choice consistently for the same.
3. Interview - Prepare **specifically** for this interview, as most people who had generic responses also did not end up securing the internship. Understand the values of the organisation and be sure to inculcate them in both your answer and your problem-solving approach.
4. **Keep an eye out for your emails, because it's pre-season and most people miss it!**

Tata Steel

Introduction

Interviewee - Ananya Saraswat (2020B1A40616P)

Job Role - Management Trainee - Technical Intern

Number of offers made - 3 (1 more for IT Intern)

Selection Process

Branches open to - A4 - Both single and dual degree students were eligible to appear for the process

CG Cutoff - None specified

Recruitment process -

Round 1 - Online Assessment

This round was entirely MCQ-based and had **four** segments:-

1. Basic math
2. Logical reasoning
3. Puzzle-solving
4. Technical - In this segment, we were asked some conceptual/basic formula-based questions from concepts taught in 2nd year Mechanical CDCs

Round 2 - Group Discussion

4-5 groups were shortlisted and the discussion itself was of **5-10 min** each. The topics were around current happenings in the industry, and were not directly related to coursework. However, my topic (Industry 4.0) had been touched upon in some CDCs. The round gave equal importance to our general awareness, technical aptitude, and group communications skills.

Tata Steel

Round 3 - Personal Interview

This round was mostly technical but had a small HR segment at the end. The technical questions asked were from concepts of ME F211 - Mechanics of Solids, as well as from ME F314 - Design of Machine Elements. Additionally, because of my Dual Degree being B1, I was asked some application-based questions, such as to identify the type of pump the heart would be, etc.,

Relevant Courses and Certification

All second year CDCs are important for the technical test. Pay extra attention to CDCs that are common for both A4 and AB.

Personal Experience

Sources of preparation -

I was also preparing for their college engagement initiative, titled **Tata Women of Mettle**. A lot of the evaluation patterns overlapped with that process. Even if you are not eligible for the process, there are plenty of online resources to help you prepare for that process. You could certainly utilise them

Words of advice -

The process is quite basic; even a simple revision of core concepts would suffice for the OA and the technical interview. iBe sure to go through a few math puzzles to get the general idea. As for the GD, it is not very hectic or demanding. It would remind you of a recruitment GD for a committee or a club.

Whenever one is sitting for an SI, your resume might just help you get into discussions about some niche topics that might just make you stand out from other candidates. So, be sure to remain very comfortable with whatever you have mentioned on your resume.

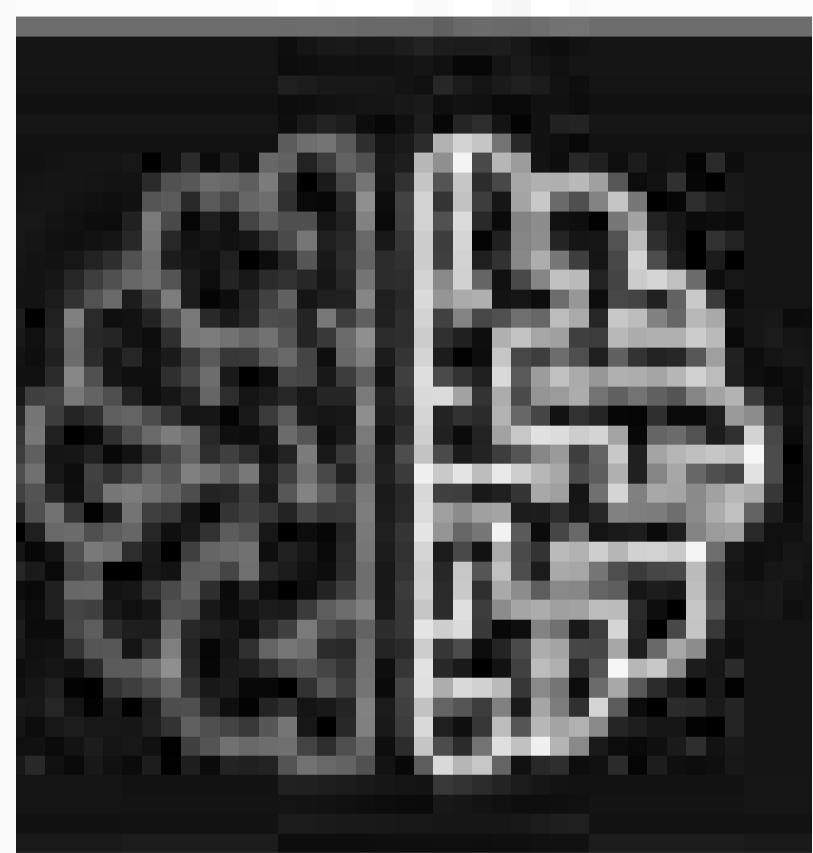
Quantitative Finance

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What is Quantitative Finance?

A branch of investment management that employs mathematical and statistical methods to analyze investment opportunities across a range of asset classes.

Present and Previous Recruiters



Millennium Management

Introduction

Interviewee - Dev Shree Kulkarni (2021A7PS243OP)

Job Role - Quant Research Intern

Number of offers made - 1

Selection Process

Branches open to - All

CG Cutoff - 8+

Recruitment process -

Round 1 - Online Assessment

This round had MCQs based on Math and Probability. Besides that, there were some coding questions.

Round 2 - Puzzle-Based Interview

I was asked various mathematical puzzles and brain teasers for 25 minutes. These can be found and even practiced from the books and videos mentioned in the next page.

Round 3 - Technical Interview

This round too started with a fairly easy puzzle. However, we moved on to the technical segment fairly quickly, as the puzzle itself was standard. In this part, I was asked to code for and run **three** questions. They are likely to correspond to the Medium to Hard difficulty level on Leetcode.

Millennium Management

Round 4 - HR Interview

While this round was called the HR round, this too started with a few moderately hard mathematical puzzles. Once solved, we proceeded to the HR segment. Here, I was asked some general questions around my resume, as well as my competitive coding background. Besides that, I was asked about my hobbies and long-term plans, as well as my expectations from the role and intent behind joining.

Relevant Courses and Certification

1. MATH F112 - Probability and Statistics
2. CS F211 - Data Structures and Algorithms
3. CS F213 - Object-Oriented Programming

Personal Experiences

Project and Internship experience -

1. Projects - **Three** projects in CS itself
2. Internship - My PS-I was in Amazon, in their Machine Learning team, which proved to be not only a good learning experience but also a good talking point
3. Academics - My CGPA was 10/10, making me **Institute Rank 1**.

Sources of preparation -

I have pursued competitive coding for two years now and have been participating in contests on Leetcode, Codeforces, and CodeChef. For quant puzzles, I stuck to Brainstellar.

Words of Advice -

Don't lose your confidence or perseverance in your preparation and stay focused on academics along the way.

Tower Research Capital

Introduction

Interviewee - Anish Ashish Kasegaonkar (2020B3A72430P)

Job Role - Quantitative Research Intern

Number of offers made - 1 - Only international offer in the SI season so far

Selection Process

Branches open to - A7 only - Both single and dual degree students were eligible for the process

CG Cutoff - 8.5+

Recruitment process -

Round 1 - Online Assessment

This round came with a time crunch of **1 hour** and had **three** segments:-

1. Math and Aptitude Segment - There were 10 MCQs around mathematics, statistics, and basic probability
2. Coding Segment - There were **three** questions that were analogous to the medium to hard difficulty levels on Leetcode.
3. Debugging (Bonus) Segment - There were **two** of these

Round 2 - Technical Interview 1

This was primarily based on concepts covered in CS F211 - Data Structures and Algorithms. This centered around one difficult problem which they initially gave and further questions were based on my approach towards solving the problem.

Tower Research Capital

Round 3 - Technical Interview 2

This round was fairly unique, because this aimed to test my ability to use logic to figure out newer concepts. The conversation in the interview revolved around parallel computing. Though this is not exactly something that is taught a lot, the questions asked were also very logical and intuitive and not conceptual.

Relevant Courses and Certification

1. MATH F112 - Probability and Statistics
2. CS F211 - Data Structures and Algorithms

Personal Experiences

Sources of preparation -

- Puzzles - Brainstellar
- Competitive programming - Leetcode, Codeforces, CodeChef, and more

Words of Advice -

TRC does not actively care about your prior experience or projects. I had no prior quant work experience either. They too acknowledge that it is quite hard to secure quant internship experience in one's first two/three years of college. The one thing that really helped me and also was a talking point across both interviews was competitive coding.

I have been pursuing this for the past **three** years and was also an ICPC World Finalist, which I was viewed favourably and appreciated for.

So if I had to give any advice to aspirants, it would certainly be to focus on your CGPA and on competitive coding from as early as possible.

Trexquant

Introduction

Interviewee - Saurabh Rahul Bhandari (2021A7PS2412P)

Job Role - Quantitative Researcher

Number of offers made - 3

Selection Process

Branches open to - A7 only - Both single and dual degree students were eligible for the process

CG Cutoff - None

Recruitment process -

Round 1 - Task Submission

This was not exactly a conventional “Online Assessment”. Instead, we were given a week’s time to work on this task and our approach was incredibly significant, as it would be a talking point in later stages of the process.

All candidates were asked to create a “Hangman” solver using ML techniques.

Rounds 2 and 3 - Technical Interview

Both these rounds were identical in terms of the themes they touched upon. Notably, there was no HR component in either round. We started both rounds with a discussion around my strategy for the Hangman solver task from the first round. Following that, I was asked some logical and mathematical puzzles. Both rounds concluded with a few coding questions that would fall under the medium-hard levels on Leetcode.

Trexquant

Relevant Courses and Certification

1. MATH F112 - Probability and Statistics
2. CS F211 - Data Structures and Algorithms

Personal Experiences

Sources of preparation -

- Puzzles - Brainstellar, 50 Challenges, Probability Book
- Competitive programming - Leetcode, Codeforces, CodeChef, and more

Words of Advice -

I have been coding ever since I started college. I have no doubt that doing so played a huge role in my selection for this role. Moreover, I believe that strong foundations and a sound knowledge in both Machine Learning and Data Science would be necessary for the job. Thus, I think my PS-I at William O’Neal was very relevant and was viewed favourably.

Looking back, the first thing I would suggest you to do is to consistently pay attention to and prioritise your academics and your CGPA. Besides that, it’s always a good idea to start competitive programming as early as possible. There are various organisations and opportunities on campus to also further explore your interest in machine learning too.

Meet the Team



Chaitanya Iyer

Training Coordinator, Semester I



Akshatha Sabaji

Coordinator, Semester I,
Placement Awareness Committee



Sarthak Sharma

Coordinator, Semester II,
Placement Awareness Committee



**Hariansh
Jalan**

Member,
Placement Awareness
Committee



**Kunal
Shekhawat**

Member,
Placement Awareness
Committee



**Siddharth
Garg**

Member,
Placement Awareness
Committee