

Resources 2026

STAR method

Paradigm to help organise the content of what you want to say . Especially useful in answering interview questions since it helps the answer to be clear and concise.

- **S:** situation
- **T:** task
- **A:** action
- **R:** result

Common interview questions

About the employer:

- What do you know about the company?
- Why do you think you are a good fit for our company?
- Why do you want to work for us?

About you:

- What do you do in your spare time?
- What are your hobbies and interests?

Work history:

- When you have faced a challenging situation?
 - **S:** During the development of a large, loosely constrained, and poorly scoped in terms of product requirements feature/project: In INRIA, I was creating a modular system to teleoperate a robotic system which included a GUI; while in Kudan I was refactoring a portion of a large library riddled with tech debt into a separate module.
 - **T:** Handle the increasing pressure for the time sensitive delivery of the work which started making me question my decisions up to that point and if I should stop pursuing my design.
 - **A:** I persevered in both cases, managing to navigate the development by trusting my design decisions.
 - **R:** I completed the development achieving the targets and expectations that I had set for both features/projects.
- Can you tell us about a personal achievement at work?
 - **S:** I was improving the IMU filtering library at Kudan by incorporating state of the art research into the codebase.
 - **T:** Re-implement the white paper which contains complex differential geometry math into a production ready module.
 - **A:** I dedicated the time to understand deeply the maths involved, promptly asked for support to the relevant team member, followed strict coding principles, and wrote a document with the implementation details to facilitate the understanding of the other team members.
 - **R:** I successfully re-implemented the algorithm presented in the paper. The resulting code, compared to the existing open source implementation, was much more maintainable, with a clear architecture, and much closer to the mathematical rigor of the white paper.
- Have you ever taken initiative?
- Have you ever failed at a task?
- Why do you want to leave your current job?

Strengths:

- What are your main strengths?
- Why should we hire you?
- Can you tell me an example of your leadership skills?
- Can you tell me an example of your team work qualities?
- Can you tell me an example that showcases your problem solving capabilities?

Weaknesses:

- Do you have any weaknesses?

Questions to ask:

- What is it like to work in your company?
- What does a typical day involve?
- How do you see the company developing over the next few years?
- Will there be any training opportunities after I start?

System design interview

References

- The STAR method