Written Interview for Python Engineer - Data Center Hardware Integration (Greater Boston Area)

Derek Rodriguez (derek@derekrodriguez.dev)

October 8, 2023

1 Career Development

1.1 How would you describe your level of experience managing data servers and network hardware?

1.2 How would you describe your level of experience as a software engineer?

1.3 What is your proudest success as an engineer?

1.4 Outline the role of an engineering manager in shaping a high functioning team.

2 Experience

2.1 Describe your level of experience in Python, and how you have attained it.

2.2 Describe a case where it was very difficult to test code you were writing, but you found a reliable way to do it.

2.3 When did you start working with Linux? Describe your level of experience as a user & developer on Linux.

2.4 Describe your experience with networking, storage technologies and cloud infrastructure

2.5 Describe your experience of large-scale physical server installations, including any provisioning, automation and service orchestration work.

2.6 Tell us what you believe teams should consider when they build, test, run and deliver software.

2.7 How do you think about quality?

2.8 What would you like to achieve in career development and skills development?

3 Education

3.1 At high school, how did you fare in mathematics and physical sciences? Which were your strongest subjects in the hard sciences, and how did you rank in your class?

3.2 At high school, what leadership roles did you take on?

3.3 What course and university did you choose, and why?

3.4 How did you rank competitively in university? Which were your strongest courses, and which did you enjoy the most?

3.5 At high school and university, describe your achievements that were considered exceptional by colleagues and staff.

4 Context

4.1 How are you involved in open source software?

4.2 Describe any significant contributions to open source (with links where possible)

4.3 What do you think are the key ingredients of a successful open source project?

4.4 Why do you most want to work for Canonical?

4.5 Which other companies are building the sort of products you would like to work on?

Here's what I seek out in terms of projects:

- Technical Challenge to improve / maintain
- Provides utility to people

- Generally, makes the world a better place

Here are some examples of companies that make products which meet those requirements:

- Apple (iOS, macOS, XCode, iMessage)

- Microsoft (Azure, GitHub, Visual Studio Code)

- HuggingFace (HuggingFace Hub)

4.6 What do you think Canonical needs to improve in its engineering and products?

4.7 Who do you think are key competitors to Canonical? How do you think Canonical should plan to win that race?