

# REACTO

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*(Whiteboard) problem solving technique*

# LOGISTICS

(every morning 8:30–9:30am)

- Random weekly pairs of ‘interviewer’ and ‘candidate’
- Interviewers study problem night before
- Fellow presents problem to interviewers *15 min*
- "Interview" time *30 min*
- Optional review *15 min*

# WHITEBOARD

- **Technical interviews often involve a whiteboard**
- **Why?**

# PROBLEM SOLVING

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- **Identify the problem**

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- **Identify the problem**
- **Brainstorm solutions**
- **Implement one**
- **Evaluate it**



**R e p e a t**

**E x a m p l e s**

**A p p r o a c h**

**C o d e**

**T e s t**

**O p t i m i z e**

**R e p e a t**

**E x a m p l e s**

**A p p r o a c h**

**Notice how far down this is**

**C o d e**

**T e s t**

**O p t i m i z e**

# REPEAT

- **Restate in your own words (diagram if useful)**
- **Or ask questions**
- **Keep going until you understand the problem**
- **Leads very naturally into...**

# EXAMPLES

- **Representative input and output**
- **Consider edge cases**
- **Consider errors**
- **Write them down**

# APPROACH

- **Come up with at least one *conceptual* solution**
  - identify pros and cons
  - make simple, broad optimization choices here
- **Don't code!**
- **Show you can communicate**
- **Use this time to plan (crucial)**

# CODE

- **Start at top left**
- **Write small**
- **Minimal indenting**
- **Minimal line spacing**
- **Breadth first**

# TEST

- **Use Examples**
- **Be the machine**
- **Leads into...**

# OPTIMIZE

- **How is it now?**
- **Count the steps (maybe during Tests)**
- **Count the “space”**
- **Convert to big O**
- **How could it be more optimal?**



# FINAL THOUGHTS

- **Think of the interviewer as a collaborator**
- **Enjoy it!**