

Job Search -- My Experience

1/3/17

Disclaimer: This has been my experience. From the many chats I've had with other students and my former DSI course-mates, everyone has had a different experience. So, take the information presented here with a grain of salt.

Job Hunt Materials--and how useful they have been ...

- RESUME

- Most looked at item!
- For me, it has been the most helpful in snagging the initial interviews.
- I followed Coach Eric's advice and suggestions/revisions as exactly as possible.
- Main use: showcase my experience (rather than education, projects, etc.)

- COVER LETTER

- Has been completely useless for me.
- At one point, I noticed that I was receiving responses to my applications that did not have cover letters or had a simple 'Hello I'm interested and look forward to hearing more' line for a cover letter.
- So, I stopped putting effort in this.

Job Hunt Materials and how useful they have been ... (cont'd)

- PROFILES -- Keep them active!
 - LinkedIn
 - GA Profile
 - AngelList
 - Vetterly
- PORTFOLIO -- I suggest not investing too much here...
 - Github
 - Github Blog
 - Of the 30 or so interviews I've had, I've only been asked about the work on my Github (namely, my Capstone Project) 3 times.

Application Output

- Average 2 -3 applications per week
- At one point I increased the number of applications I was sending out to 7 per week--about 2 weeks later I noticed a spike in the responses I was receiving.
- Obviously, the more applications you submit, the higher the chances of getting a bite.
- **What really boosted the number of application responses I was receiving:**
 - Recruiters
 - AngelList

Startups vs Growing vs Established Companies

- Startups

- Looking for more experienced applicants
- Usually trying to build out a data science team and are looking for someone to lead that development
- Want a Jack-of-all-trades

- Growing

- These companies already have teams in place and are looking for applicants to fill junior roles
- Sweet spot for boot camp graduates, IMO
- Specific roles in mind

- Established

- Mixed Bag
- Usually looking for a data analyst

Interview Experiences

- Phone Screens
 - Usually with the HR/Hiring Manager person or recruiter
 - Usually easy peasy and making sure going forward with the application process was not going to be a waste of time for them or the company
- Phone Interviews and *Initial* F2F Interviews (including video chats)
 - Mixed bag
 - Do you fit?
 - Story spiel/Brand Statement/Journey to present
 - Background previous experience
 - Role description
 - SQL!!!! And other pseudo-code (like Pandas)
 - Side projects and other such things (perfect opportunity to chat about meetups)
- Final Round/Technical Interviews (including video chats)
 - Concept questions: Data Science Topics
 - Coding questions: Varying levels of difficulty -- depends on the job title

One Example...

YipitData:

- Job Application/Description:
 - https://boards.greenhouse.io/yipitdata/jobs/490675?gh_src=c3yvi51#.WEceCalrK34
- Initial Steps Description:
 - See Next Slide

One Example...(cont'd)

Please take a few minutes to review this email in its entirety. Below you will find additional information about our company and our interview process. At the bottom there are instructions for the Go.com assignment, which is the first step in the interview process. If you are interested in applying for the position, please complete the assignment and return it to me no later than **Thursday, December 15th end-of-day**.

Company Overview

This company is a VC backed technology company based in New York City. We provide data and analysis on a large and rapidly expanding portfolio of publicly traded companies. Our data and analyses help drive the investment decisions of the largest hedge funds and mutual funds in the world.

Interview Process

Step 1: Go.com Assignment and Job Application

Step 2: First Round Interview

Step 3: Group Assignment

Step 4: Final Round Interview

Go.com Assignment

The first step in the interview process is to complete a quick assignment that is intended to gauge your ability to analyze a dataset and express your findings clearly and concisely. Both the instructions and the dataset are attached below. This assignment should not take longer than 1 hour to complete. We ask that you complete and return this assignment by **Thursday, December 15th end-of-day**.

Job Application

When you return your Go.com assignment please also send over your resume, and provide answers to the following questions:

- What is your undergraduate GPA, both overall and for your major?
- What are your SAT scores (broken out into the individual sections)?
- What are you looking for in your next role? (Please keep responses to 50 words or less)
- What job do you see yourself having in 10 years? (Please keep responses to 50 words or less)

Go.com assignment:

This company is a technology driven research firm that aggregates online data about public companies. Our data and analyses help drive the investment decisions of the largest hedge funds in the world.

The purpose of this assignment is to gauge your ability to analyze a dataset and express your findings clearly and concisely.

Please use the following parameters: Go.com is a fictional publicly traded ecommerce company that sells goods across three websites: cars.go.com (which sells cars), boats.go.com (which sells boats), and planes.go.com (which sells planes). Go.com is about to report their results for their most recent quarter (1Q15) and Wall Street is expecting 1Q15 y/y growth in gross profit to be in line with last quarter.

The attached spreadsheet (request via slack) contains the online sales data that we've aggregated from Go.com's three websites for 1Q15 as well as company reported data for the last five quarters. Each row represents total revenue earned by a particular site for that day. If a site happened to have no sales on a particular day, there would be \$0 in that row. Your goal is to review the data and provide a buy or sell recommendation. Your response should be solely in the form of a few sentences and no more than 100 words in length.

Take-Away Advice

- **MUST HAVE: Your story/journey/brand statement**
- Keep your LinkedIn profile active
- Look into recruiters
- AngelList
- GA profile
- *Some GA staff have helped*
- Go to meetups for leveling up on skills and networking
- Have a side project to chat about
- Always be practicing to stay sharp