

1. What is something you are passionate about (doesn't have to be technology-related). Describe what interests you about it.

I have a big interest in mathematics, both applied math and applied math.

The reason for this passion is really naive. I have studied math since secondary school and it is my best subject up to now. In high school, I was in specialized class in mathematics but honestly I was just above average but it is still my best one. So, I decided to keep studying math in University of Science and now, in John von Neumann Institute, I keep studying applied math in finance.

Interesting thing about math is that many problems in this world can be formulated in mathematical problem. Some problems are partially solved, some keep being mystic. The more I study math, the more interesting application involving math knowledge such as: machine learning, finance, physics,... I choose financial problem because of its challenging and I think financial firms pay well.

2. Describe a time when you were excited by an idea. What was the idea, and why did it excite you?

Recently, I have read about Jim Simons, his life and how he solved the market. He is a theoretical mathematician in geometry and topology of manifolds. Because he is specialized in geometry, he figured out some special characteristic in technical analysis. Then, he hired best mathematician, not economic guys, to research and apply it into finance. Someone also said that his model could base on Markov model combining with public dataset around the world to predict the market. His work proved that market can be partially solved, which motivated me to keep learning and researching in mathematics to solve the market like him.

3. Have you ever been offended/upset/angered by some code, software design or mathematical model? If so, what was it and why did it upset you; if not, why not?

My first official job is at LOGIVAN where I and my team try to build an AI service to automatically operate logistics company. And in the first few months, my code was really a mess. One of the reasons is that I am new to coding stuff and I do not expect many things can happen after deployment. Briefly, after releasing my model, my company was not happy to some model outputs even though that output is similar to training dataset. They have their own policies and I need to adjust model output according to these policies. More and more complicated policies are added making my code more complicated. But after then, one of my teammates supported to refactor my code and teach me how to write lean code.