PREPARING THE CODING INTERVIEW

Because you want this job.

CAUTION

This presentation does not guarantee a job.
But it does contain some great tips :)

ROADMAP

- Find the job

- Prepare your application

- Be ready for the phone interview

- Run a marathon – onsite interviews

WHERE SHOULD I FIND THIS DREAM JOB?

FINDING THE BIG FOOT

- AngelList

- Careers from StackOverflow

- Recruiters on LinkedIn

- Meetups

- Referrals (the fastest)

BEFORE APPLYING

- Identify offers you can apply for

- Shortlist different offers

- Rank them by interest

LET'S APPLY NOW!

1. I'M A PERFECT FIT

- Update resume to show you definitely are

- Write a cover letter

  - If startup, make it fun/original

  - If corporation, make it classic

2. I'M NOT BUT I CAN DO IT

- Improve your skills

    - Learn about the tech, stack and libs

    - Learn about how the company uses it

- Show you are motivated

    - Do some homework and add it to your CL

ONCE SUBMITTED

- Circle back after few days

- Email / Tweet to show your motivation
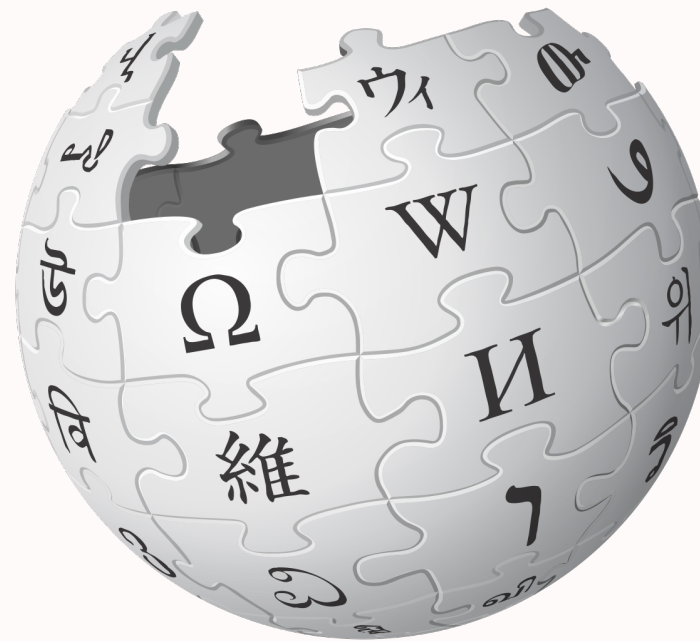
THEY GOT BACK TO ME!!!
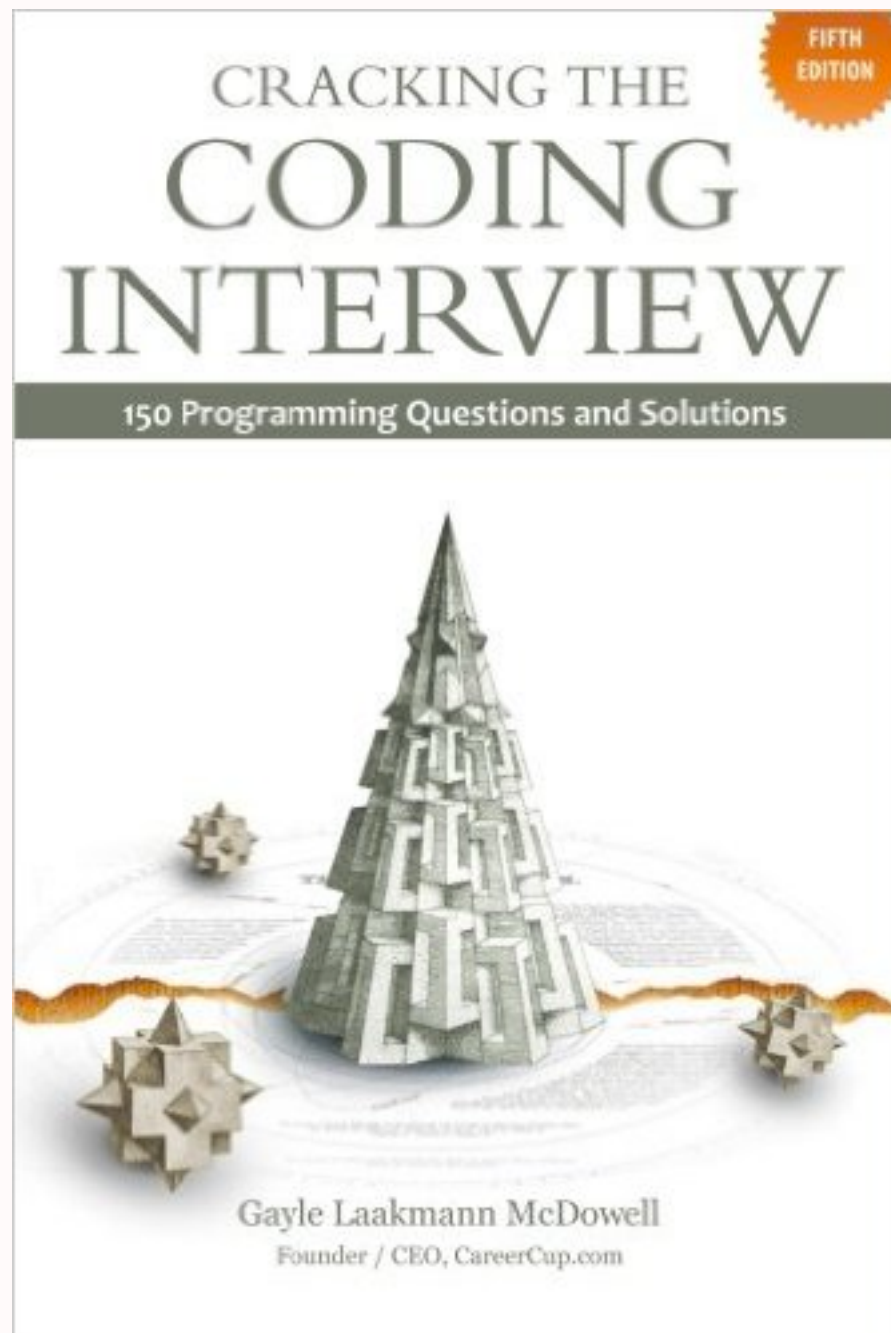
PHONE INTERVIEW

- Be ready for:

    - Puzzles/Coding challenges

    - Tricky/Advanced questions about the tech

    - Be tested on your communication skills

    - Architecture

PHONE INTERVIEW

- Before the interview:

  - Work your technical skills

  - Check out Glassdoor

  - List (pertinent) questions – Identify any red flag

CRACKING THE
CODING
INTERVIEW

FIFTH EDITION

150 Programming Questions and Solutions

Gayle Laakmann McDowell
Founder / CEO, CareerCup.com

careercup
.com

codewars

CODEFIGHTS

FOR ANY CODING INTERVIEW

- Work your data structures

  - BST, HashMap, LinkedList, Stack, Binary heaps

- Know the common algorithms

  - Sorting, Lookup, Bellman Ford, Dijkstra

FOR ANY CODING INTERVIEW

- Do a lot and a lot of coding challenges

- Learn how to be fast

- Be comfortable w/ whiteboards/paper

- Identify quickly patterns

- Start with ease and improve later

FOR ANY CODING INTERVIEW

- Speak speak and speak

- Don't be silent. Interviewer cannot read mind (yet)

- Don't feel ashamed of saying you are stuck

  - Explain why and list your leads/intuitions

  - Interviewer is hiring a teammate, not his boss

ONSITE

- Same thing: work the tips shown before

- Be ready to talk more about architecture

  - How do you build a website

  - A mobile app

  - Data analysis system

HOW TO IMPROVE MY ARCHITECTURE SKILLS?

- Blog posts

- Awesome–* repos

- Meetups

- Build/Design/Craft things. It's simply the best way.

ONSITE

- Memorize your interviewers and their position

  - Adapt your speech depending on the person

- Ask a loooooooot of questions

  - Know more about the culture

  - Identify red flags

ONSITE QUESTIONS

- When did you join the company? Why do you stay?

- How's your manager's leadership?

- What's a classic week here? Hours/Meetings etc.

- How will you assess my work during the first weeks?

- What do you like here and dislike?

LAST ADVICE

- Dress up appropriately

- Don't be late :) But not too early either

- Be polite :)

- Lunch interview: you can ask whatever you want

- Get a water bottle asap

I DID NOT
GET THE JOB :(

NO BIG DEAL

- Thank your interviews for their time

- Ask for feedback/advice

- Add them on Linkedin

- And apply again ;)

I DID GET IT :D

FINALIZING THE DEAL

- Review with attention your contract

- Look at the benefits

  - Medical insurance

  - Vacation policy

- Negotiate (wisely) your payroll ;)

HESITATING?

- Do not only focus of money

- But experience too

- And culture

- And your own interests :)

GENERAL ADVICE

- Plan your onsite interviews wisely

- Do not surcharge yourself

- Pass as many interviews as possible

  - Best source of experience

  - Even if you are not interested in the job