Paytm Interview Experience

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Round 1 : Coding Test

Number of Questions: 3
Time: 70 minutes.
Platform: Cocubes
The time given was enough.Questions are of easy and medium type.
26 students were shortlisted after this round.

Ques 1: Given a matrix of row 'm' and column 'n'. Sort the matrix row wise. (3 marks)

Example :
Input: 2 5 6
        6 2 4
       10 6 12

Output: 2 5 6
        2 4 6
        6 10 12

Ques 2: Given an array 'valarray' of length 'n' containing elements .Another array 'indexarray' of length 'n' containing distinct indexes .
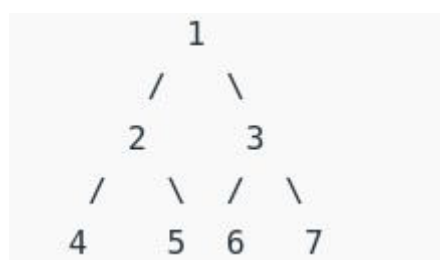 Put elements of 'valarray' according indexes given in 'indexarray'.   (3 marks)
Example :
valarray: 2 5 66 23 10 6 12
indexarray: 5 1 0   2   3   4 6

 Output valarray : 66 5 23 10 6 2 12

Ques 3: Given a binary tree and node .Return the sum of cousins of that node. (5 marks)

Input : Root of the binary tree .
       Node – 4
Output : 13
Explanation : cousins of 4 are 6 and 7.Therefore 6+7 = 13

Input : Root of the binary tree .
       Node – 3
Output : 0
Explanation : there is no cousin of 3.

Round 2: Technical Interview
Duration: 1 hour
Platform : Microsoft teams, Google doc.

The interviewer was friendly. He introduced himself and asked me to do so.
After that he asked I am familiar with Binary tree.I said yes then he asked the
properties of Binary Search Tree and asked a Question :
 https://practice.geeksforgeeks.org/problems/check-for-bst/1

I started with brute force and then gave him the optimal approach. Time and space
complexities were discussed for each solution. He asked me to code the optimal one.

Then he asked some Database questions -

● What are triggers ?
● What are constriants?
● How can you access faster from database ?
After that he asked me SQL queries:
 Given a Customer table (cust_id, cust_name,country) .
Write a query to print the country and count of customers in that country.
Follow up question :   Write a query to print the country and count of customers in
that country where the count is greater than 5.

After that he again move to DSA and asked a question
 https://leetcode.com/problems/valid-parentheses/

I tell him the approach using stack he tell me to write the code then he gave his
testcase and want me to dry run that.My code works fine for his test case.He seems
satisfied with it .
Then he ask me, If I want to ask some question .

I asked him about the work culture,technology he is working there and the project he is currently working on.He answered all the questions.

Round 3: Technical Round 2
Duration: 1 hour
Platform: Microsoft Teams, Google doc

He introduce himself and ask me to do so.
 He checked out my resume, he asked me about my experiences that i have mentioned. Then he asked me which Data structure I know , I told him that i am familiar with stack ,queue, linked list, binary tree,bst , heaps also arrays.Then he asked me a question related to Stack-

 Design a data structure that supports push, pop, and retrieving the maximum element in constant time.

Then i asked him may i use stack he allowed to use anything that i want.
Then I tell him my appraoch he asked me to write the code that follow all the edge cases.I write a clean code he checked that code with his testcases and seems satisfied with that.

After that he asked me to tell functioning of Hash table.

He asked that you have mentioned SQL in your resume let me ask you a Query you have given a table Employee (emp_id,name,email) you have to return the duplicate names from the table.
I write the query .

After that he asked : What is the reson behind my motivation?
                                    Where do i see myself in 1 year or 2?
I replied both the answers honestly he get impressed with that.

After that he moved to my projects and discussed one of my project for rest 30 minutes.He asked me to design the class that are included in my projects and also want me to tell him to the functions also the data structure that can be used in order to modify my project.Whole discussion was about system designing I got stuck at first .But he motivates me and give me hints by changing his questions again and again.
Then he gave me 5 minutes to think after that i was able to give him replies that satisfies him.He helped a lot in between .

After that he asked me if i have some question I asked him some .

Final Result : 9 students selected for intern+FTE.

Points to be noted:

1. Revise everything you have written on your resume, Specially projects and skills.
2. Do not rush into the optimal solution (unless directly asked) if you have already solved the question, always give a quick brute force approach followed by optimizations.
3. While coding, use meaningful variable names and write clean modular code.
4. Never say that you can't do it. Even if you are not getting any hint try to speak loud whatever you are thinking interviewer will always give you a hint just focused on his words.
5.Luck matters along with your hard work.

All The Best !! 😊