Technical Interview Preparation

Capstone Abstract

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This capstone project aimed to help students prepare for technical job interviews in software engineering. Guided by Professor Mark Kochanski, it resulted in a comprehensive tool to build students' skills and confidence for success in these interviews.

The project consists of two parts for effective interview prep. The first part offers clear explanations of important data structures and sets of four LeetCode questions. These questions cover various difficulty levels, helping students improve problem-solving skills for real interview situations.

The second part is an innovative online platform, accessible after completing the Canvas course. It lets students connect with industry experts who generously offer mock interviews and mentoring sessions for career growth. The platform uses secure logins for mentors and students, ensuring privacy. Mentors indicate their availability which is then stored in a database. Students can choose slots from an anonymous pool of appointments made from the listed availability.

Research revealed few comparable resources. This project stands out by offering free educational content and an entirely cost-free platform for students to practice with industry experts, unlike expensive alternatives. The scheduling tool is unique, with a flexible many-to-many anonymous system.

The outcome is an enriched course and a functional prototype of the scheduling tool ready for use. A network of volunteer industry professionals committed to helping University of Washington Bothell students enhances the project's impact. This initiative is set to become an invaluable resource for software engineering students, boosting their job placement and career success.