

Working at VMware R&D

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About me

- Ph.D. project on model-driven software development in the CPN group.
- Ph.D. thesis:
 - **Using Formal Behavioral Models in Software Development: From Real-World Problems to Software Systems.**
- Defended my thesis October 21, 2008.

VMware

- Founded in 1998 in Palo Alto, California.
- Initially they made money on virtual machines running on the desktop (1999).
- Later came server virtualization (2001).
- Even later came Virtual Center to manage datacenters with virtual machines (2003).
- Next:
 - Cloud computing
 - Desktop virtualization

VMware R&D in Århus

- Stay on the third floor of IT-Huset.
- 10+ people with various backgrounds.
- Modeling and managing virtualized applications.
- Open Virtualization Format
 - Specification work with DMTF.
- vCloud API.
- Storage.

How did I end up at VMware?

- Wanted a change.
- Heard about VMware through an old class mate who worked there.
- I was encouraged by the manager to send in a resume before I graduated.

Actually getting a job at VMware

- North American company = long hiring processes.
- Send in resume August 1, 2008.
- Invited to an informal interview about two weeks later (2 hours).
- Formal interview about four weeks later (7 hours).
- Contract negotiation two weeks later (1-2 hours).

Formal job interview

- Read: Joel on Software - The Guerrilla Guide to Interviewing (version 3.0)
 - <http://www.joelonsoftware.com/articles/GuerrillaInterviewing3.html>
- Interviewed by six different people for 45 minutes each. Questions:
 - My thesis, logical problems, code problems, design problems, impossible problems, ...

Working in VMware R&D

- Not all that different from the life at the university.
 - Although no papers, teaching and courses 😊
- Often work with a deadline in smaller teams (2-3 people).
- People are generally enthusiastic about what they work on.
- VMware encourages taking courses and writing papers for conferences.

Adjusting to the job

- I needed to catch up on a lot of stuff.
 - Products, design of solutions, code!
- Many people with various background:
 - 7 Cand.scient, 2 Ph.D., and one datamatiker.
- Learning when I had done enough.
 - SCRUM.
 - Bi-weekly status reports.

Thank you!