Video Transcript
Saishruthi, IBM Data Scientist, Get Insights from a Data Scientist

Hello. I'm Siashruthi. I'm a data scientist and Ethics by Design program advisor at IBM. I have been in the field of data science and AI for over four years now.

When I first interacted with data and AI, I felt they were talking to me. I can understand what my data was trying to convey. And I was amazed at how my data can answer all my questions just like a magic box, you know, like that gives what we want, what we ask for. So, isn't it amazing? And that's how, you know, I started my data and AI journey.

To simply put because I... Because both my heart and mind is here I start my work every day with sheer excitement, not because of schedules, meetings, or deadlines or so on. And on top of that I can relate to what I'm doing. Right? I can see how impactful my work is and the kind of innovation and change that I'm bringing to the world. That's why I was sure that, okay, this is the right career for me because both my heart and mind are in the same place.

There is no one person per se like who I have as a mentor. I decided what I want. I decided my path. I learned from everyone I came across, and I'm still learning of course. I believe more perspectives I get, better I can view my shape better I can shape my views. I can, you know, shape my career, So, I learn from every single thing. I learn even from a tweet. I learn even from an article... by interacting with community people, even by just interacting with my family and friends because AI at the end of the day is how we think it's trying to, you know, mimic how we think. So, I learn from everyone around.

Learn from everyone. Never hesitate to ask for help and try new things. Most importantly, with hard work

and focus anything can be achieved. One thing, you know, that's close to my heart and I'm

still continuing and will continue for sure is, be with the community, right. Every single mind you interact with is going to help you become better in your career, so learn from everyone and never hesitate to ask for help.

So, I'm on the ethics side and I feel through my job I help bring innovation into life without compromising on ethics and trust. Basically, my work is on balancing safety and innovation, and that excites me. It goes along with my life. It goes along with what I believe in and what my principles are. And there is no distinction between my life and my work. And that's the excitement I have.

So, I have, you know, a pretty interesting and challenging role because no two days are the same. I have to like literally learn a lot about AI, not just the model, not just the architecture. It's not just, you know how it works but how it impacts. When it's the impact, it's not just one thing. It was like multiple perspectives. You have to be very careful, right, from, you know, the conversation that kicks in from the business side to the deployment stage. So, I get to interact with a lot of people, and I get to know more about AI systems not just in terms of how they work but more about how they impact, and I need to just trigger my mind to think far. I can't just think next step. I can't just think only about parameters or accuracy I need to think far, like how the impact and how it can impact the society, right. So thinking far makes me a better person in my personal life. So, it's just a combination of everything out there. Not always the same for sure.

Yes, so I meet new people every day. And no two tasks are similar. That's the favorite part of my job because it's a kind of excitement, you know when you need to define your own path. You need to move

forward just by analyzing things around, just by talking with people you make your own choice, and whatever result you get it's out of your own, you know, choices and the decisions. So that's exciting that no two tasks are similar. I get to meet a lot of people every day, interact with them, learn from them as I mentioned before. I learn new perspectives every single day, literally, every single day.

First enjoy it; enjoy the journey. It's not hard. It's not impossible because I started as an electrical engineer in networking specialization, and I tested the data science and AI and decided to jump like a complete turn in my career. It was hard initially, but it's not impossible. So, if you want to step into AI, first, it's important to know why, like why do you want to enter into the field. If the why is clear, next steps will automatically fall into place because you know why you want that. And start with the online courses, start with, like, small projects. Connect with community. You know, learn from each other because I personally feel AI is not just like one person thing. We have the community need to come together to bring this innovation and technology for the betterment of society. So, I personally feel like having like individual projects and doing courses, it does help you get better at the concepts. But to create that real impact community needs to come in, collaboration needs to come in. So, put them all together, and I'm sure this journey is all worth it.