

note

0 views

## Hello from North Easton,MA, south of Boston,MA,USA

Today I'm checking out this class to see if it makes sense for my background to learn about the fundamentals of data analysis using R Studio. I use the SUSE Linux package. I'm job searching in the greater Boston,MA area, and if I'm able to stick with this class and it makes sense for me even if I find a job, I will do so. We'll see how things go. I took a class on EdX from UTAustin last spring 2014 to review the area in which I used to work up until 5 years ago, embedded systems. This time I'm checking out the data analysis course to see if it makes sense to learn for me while I job search.

I'm going to be 50 in Jan. 2015 so a big mile stone birthday coming up for the new year, and wouldn't it be great to find a job by then! I am married to a Computer Science professor here in the Boston area who is originally from England, so a very nutty British person. We have 2 nutty kids ages 9 and 11, so my priorities are not the same as when I was young and in college taking courses in person.

My background is: BS and MS in Electrical Engineering, and I learned Computer Science here and there along the way, with some humanities thrown in - in areas such as micro and macro economics, Justice-Ethical Reasoning, International Human Rights, International Criminal Law, US Constitution, and I'm just this week finishing a course on being an entrepreneur both in vibrant and in economies that find that type of start up life challenging. My 18 years of work experience was as an embedded software engineer, primarily using C, but recently I've expanded my programming skills to include Python, MATLAB, Ruby on Rails, Android with Java and XML, and in past lives have done a bit of C++ too. I've learned about networks, databases, even artificial intelligence algorithms with python which I made it through but that one was a bit of a challenge for me, and just recently, GPS maps and spatial computing from a conceptual level. I'm also learning more about software security and so far surviving that online course.

Well that's all I can think of to introduce myself today, except that I'm actually not originally from Boston,MA -- I'm from Albany,NY originally, a place I LOVED growing up. Many people including my husband from England think the only place worth visiting in NY State is NY City - but they are wrong - Albany was a great place to grow up! ;-)

I also know 3 people who now live in the Austin area that work in high tech companies there that I either worked with or knew in college, and they have great things to say about the UTAustin university.

So today I will check out this data analysis course and see if it makes sense for my background or not. Thank you!

[introductions](#)

Just now by Karen West

**followup discussions** *for lingering questions and comments*