# What is Science?

I study Computer Science at the University of Canterbury. I come from a wealthy European/New Zealander family; thus, I have never fallen victim to racism or prejudice as people from other upbringings might. On my road to studying Science, I initially thought I was going to study commerce; however, I enjoyed tinkering with computers. After a bit of thought, I decided I wanted to study computer science and hopefully develop it into a business.

Computer Science is a relatively new school of Science, it is still evolving rapidly and is constantly changing. Historically, Computer Science was a study of physical hardware. Still, it has now shifted to incorporate both tangible and non-tangible states (Dasgugta, 2014). The study of Computer Science varies from other scientific domains as it is not concerned with the study of natural law like physics and chemistry, but concerned with purpose, it is the study of the artificial, we measure success by efficiency, practicality, and usage (Dasgugta, 2014). As an artificial science, it is closer to the social sciences than traditional sciences. Computer Scientists use both inductive and deductive logic to rationalize. An example of how a computer scientist might use deductive reasoning is providing a general interface for most users and creating more features to offer to a specialized group of people.

Computer science is a white male-dominated profession, and that has not changed in the last decade (Allison, 2016). Stereotypically, Computer Science is seen as a field of people with a distinct lack of communication skills. Although I am not helping the diversity statistics associated with Computer Science, I have a good set of social skills that have allowed me to connect with many people in the past and believe this to be a great asset within the domain of computer science. In Laura Snyder’s TED talk, she names some statistics on how many American people have a basic understanding of scientific literature. She reveals shocking statistics that only 28% of American people have a basic knowledge of scientific research (Snyder, 2012). This highlights the importance of communication and making information available and readable to the general public. We should not be writing in such a way that appeals to those in our field, but that we should be reporting so the world can understand our findings. Unfortunately, the current system and availability of scientific knowledge are not perfect, with companies withholding research and information for profit rather than education (Snyder, 2012). Like Snyder, I think we have lost our way with how we report findings, and as Snyder said in her TED talk, Science doesn’t have to be only be for Scientists (Snyder, 2012).

**References**

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