Plan:

1. The Search (The Right Jobs)
2. The Application (The Process)
3. The Interview (Info Gathering & Demonstrate Ability)
4. The Offer (Negotiating)

Data Science Jobs: Process

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Build A Career In Data Science (2020)

Part I: Getting Started With Data Science

- What is Data Science?
- Data Science Companies
- Getting the Skills
- Building a Portfolio

Part II: Finding Your Data Science Job

- The Search: Identifying the Right Job for You
- The Application: Resumes and Cover Letters
- The Interview: What to Expect and How to Handle It
- The Offer: Knowing What to Accept

Part III: Settling Into Data Science

- The First Months on the Job
- Making an Effective Analysis
- Deploying a model into production
- Working with Stakeholders

Part IV: Growing In Your Data Science Role

- When your Data Science Project Fails
- Joining the Data Science Community
- Leaving Your Job Gracefully
- Moving up the Ladder

1. The Search: The Right Job

Know where to start:

- LinkedIn, Indeed, and Glassdoor
- POCIT and Tech Ladies, for people of color and women in technology respectively
- job boards for specific types of companies like start-ups (AngelList) and technology (Dice)
- specific company's careers page
- Twitter & Meetups

Watch for red flags:

- No description of company or job
- A job that is actually three jobs

Demand Fit, not Perfection

Advice for new grads

*If you're about to or just graduated college, **your most relevant skill is your education**. Your **data science portfolio** will be helpful here too. When you're searching for jobs, look for positions specifically titled **"New Grad," "Junior," "Associate," and "Entry-level."** Also look at your career center for help and go to any job fairs that happen on campus. Internships are relevant – less for what work skills you learned and more that it shows you can come to an office each day, be professional and productive.*

On Job Descriptions

*The first thing to keep in mind is that **job descriptions are generally wish lists** with some flexibility. If you meet 60% of the requirements (e.g. you're a year short of their required work experience or haven't worked with one component of their tech stack), but are otherwise a good fit, you should still apply.*

A job by many names...

Data analyst
entry level
Analyze data & create reports

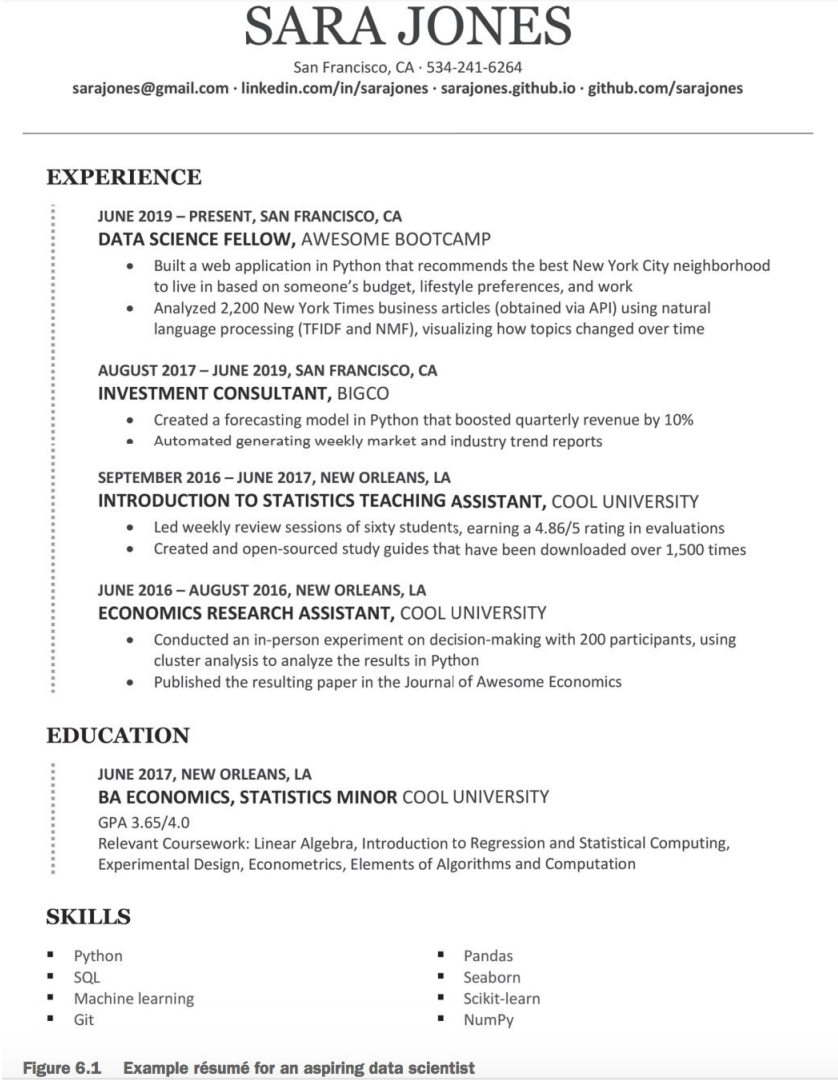
Product analyst
job varies
Focuses on one part of the company

ML engineer
software focused
Build ML models to power the business

Research scientist
theoretical
Research focused job, requires advanced degree

2. The Application

- Resume *and* cover letter should be compelling
  - Resume:
    - goal is to get you an interview, not a job
    - Better be skimmable
    - Includes: contact info, education, experience, and skills



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EXPERIENCE

JUNE 2019 – PRESENT, SAN FRANCISCO, CA

DATA SCIENCE FELLOW, AWESOME BOOTCAMP

- Built a web application in Python that recommends the best New York City neighborhood to live in based on someone's budget, lifestyle preferences, and work
- Analyzed 2,200 New York Times business articles (obtained via API) using natural language processing (TFIDF and NMF), visualizing how topics changed over time

AUGUST 2017 – JUNE 2019, SAN FRANCISCO, CA

INVESTMENT CONSULTANT, BIGCO

- Created a forecasting model in Python that boosted quarterly revenue by 10%
- Automated generating weekly market and industry trend reports

SEPTEMBER 2016 – JUNE 2017, NEW ORLEANS, LA

INTRODUCTION TO STATISTICS TEACHING ASSISTANT, COOL UNIVERSITY

- Led weekly review sessions of sixty students, earning a 4.86/5 rating in evaluations
- Created and open-sourced study guides that have been downloaded over 1,500 times

JUNE 2016 – AUGUST 2016, NEW ORLEANS, LA

ECONOMICS RESEARCH ASSISTANT, COOL UNIVERSITY

- Conducted an in-person experiment on decision-making with 200 participants, using cluster analysis to analyze the results in Python
- Published the resulting paper in the Journal of Awesome Economics

EDUCATION

JUNE 2017, NEW ORLEANS, LA

BA ECONOMICS, STATISTICS MINOR COOL UNIVERSITY

GPA 3.65/4.0

Relevant Coursework: Linear Algebra, Introduction to Regression and Statistical Computing, Experimental Design, Econometrics, Elements of Algorithms and Computation

SKILLS

- Python
- SQL
- Machine learning
- Git
- Pandas
- Seaborn
- Scikit-learn
- NumPy

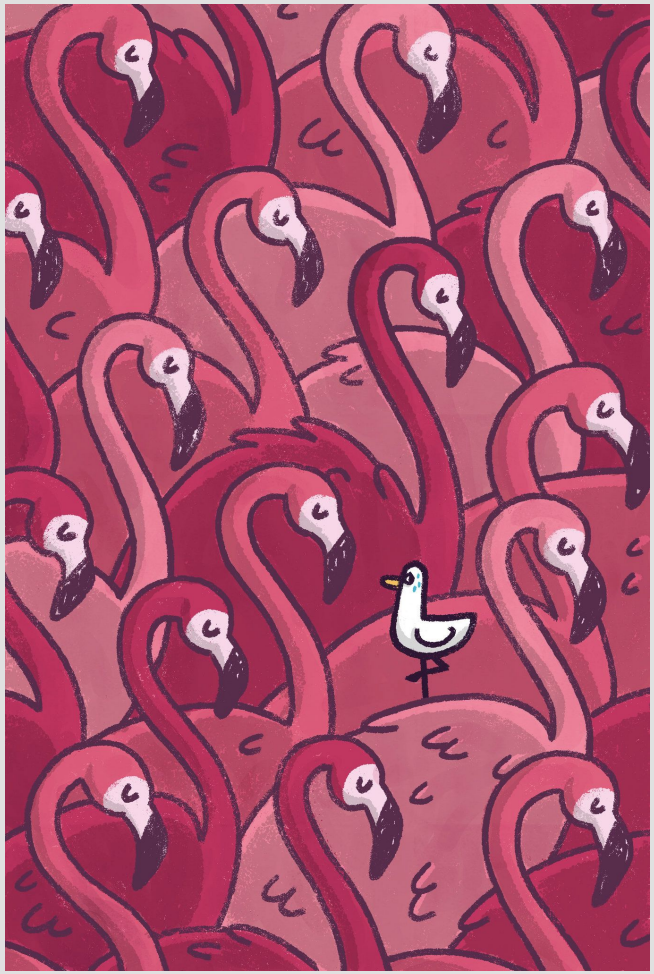
Figure 6.1 Example résumé for an aspiring data scientist

2. The Application

- Resume *and* cover letter should be compelling
  - Resume:
    - goal is to get you an interview, not a job
    - Better be skimmable
    - Includes: contact info, education, experience, and skills
  - Cover Letter
    - Should highlight both why you want *this* job and why *you* are a particularly good fit
    - Demonstrate your research/knowledge about the company and position
    - Tailor these for each job
    - Allow them to be machine-searchable
    - Referrals are a way to back-door past the algorithms
      - If contacting someone (LinkedIn, Twitter), give them a reason to read your message

Figure 6.2 An example cover letter with highlights showing the different components

How are you going to stand out in the crowd?



adapted from Sean Kross

3. The Interview

Basic understanding of you/position; assessment of fit	1. Phone interview
Are you able to do the job? Are you a good fit?	2. In-person interview
Take-home assignment to determine your problem-solving and technical skills	3. Case study
Tie up loose ends, presentation,	4. Leadership interview and offer

4. The Offer

1. Offer is coming - general outline of offer coming your way
2. Company makes an offer - often in email; get it in writing; includes salary, start date,
3. You respond - thank them for offer and let them know you're excited to look it over in detail
4. You negotiate - lay out what you want/need to accept the offer; best for you
    a. What is negotiable? Salary (5%), start date, vacation, flexibility, earlier review (earlier raise), educational benefits, budget for travel/conferences, benefits (less often), options
    b. Best lever: a competing offer
5. You decide - communicate final decision

Getting Your First Job in Data Science in Summary:

- Learn one programming language extraordinarily well (Python, R).
- Learn SQL extraordinarily well.
- Learn how to set up and interact with cloud computing services.
- Know how to *think* and *communicate* about data
- Create a resume and have a few people with relevant knowledge help you revise it.
- Establish a professional web presence.
- Be prepared to apply to many dozens of jobs.

Special Thanks

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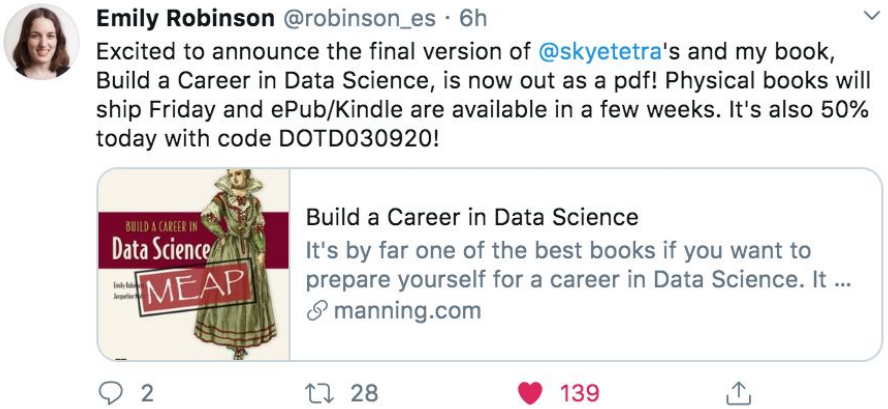
Resources

- Data Science Is Different Now (blog post)
- Advice for Applying to Data Science Jobs (blog post)
- Build a Career in Data Science (bestbook.cool) (book)
- Getting Your First Job in Data Science (slides)
- Some people to follow on Twitter: sheet



https://twitter.com/robinson_es/status/1237010792983277569