

Thinkful: Career planning document.

Section 1: Explore the landscape

Write your one to three paragraph reflection for assignment 4.1.1 here.

Much of DSci_Prep_4.1.1 is an attempt to circumscribe DataScience. Pluralization into “The Data Sciences” akin to “The Biological Sciences” is my way to understand the breadth of the field.

The “Data Scientist” being the rare generalist might be short lived. As industries are conceived, birthed, nurtured and mature, they have a strong tendency to fracture into specializations under intense economic or time pressure. While small companies will continue to value the generalist, they can’t pay like huge corporations, who tend to demand shorter dead-lines, therefore tend to throw larger teams of specialists. That said, there may come a time when “Data Scientists” may utter both these statements:

“What I do, used to take an entire department!” and

“What I used to do, now there’s an entire department for doing it!”

The “T” of my “T-shaped” DataScience skills is pretty illegible as of now, but the more I learn, the more I recognize it’s what I want to do. Never before has there been a time to facilitate the dissemination of real world factual information in ways that masses of people can grasp, trust and enjoy. I want to help entice an escapist population back to reality. Ambition enough?

Section 2: Job postings

Company name: Counsyl

Title: Data Scientist

Why did you choose this job? Genetics is both fascinating and consequential.

Link: <https://www.linkedin.com/jobs/view/283211907/>

Company name: iBeats

Title: Senior Data Scientist

Why did you choose this job? Health, Fitness, and incentivizing behavior to enhance that is fun.

Link: <https://www.linkedin.com/company-beta/7951591/>

Company name: Fortinet

Title: Data Scientist

Why did you choose this job? Threat assessment sounds interesting.

Link: <https://www.linkedin.com/jobs/view/300125203/>

Company name: Bidgley

Title: Data Scientist

Why did you choose this job? I conserve energy. I’d like to motivate others to do so to.

Link: <https://www.linkedin.com/jobs/view/306083919/>

Company name: Grail

Title: Data Scientist (BioInfo)

Why did you choose this job? Potentially dramatically reduce the global burden of cancer.

Link: <https://www.linkedin.com/jobs/view/289154284/>

Section 3: Your company hit list

Find five dream companies (whether or not they're hiring data scientists right now) and add them to this hit list. Focus on the same city you did for job postings. Include a sentence about why you added each company.

Company: NVIDIA

Why did you choose this company? They are in the front-line of visualization.

Company name: Counsyl

Why did you choose this company? A business that help's with critical life choices. That's real.

Company name: LiveRamp

Why did you choose this company? Juicy data to play with. (Need to verify their ethics.)

Company name: Data Robot

Why did you choose this company? They are good. Loads to learn.

Company name: C3 IoT or JawBone

Why did you choose this company? IoT buzz aside, well applied can help people.

Section 4: Find your people

Add the data science related events in your area.

<https://www.meetup.com/HandsOnProgrammingEvents/events/238779530/>
(It's a read-through of RNN for end to end voice recognition)

<https://www.meetup.com/degree/events/239135229/>
(Dr Tom Do Coursera's Dir of Analytics)

LinkedIn profiles for local data scientists working at the kind of job you want.

Local data scientist from a company on your hit list:

First or second degree connection in the industry:

Apple

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/nicholas-apostoloff-1671a018/>

Google

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/willigeiger/>

Counsyl

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/dave-peticolas-0bb45b1/>

I'm not sure I'm ready to work at Apple or Google...

Section 5: Write your own story

As a plot of my future skills

<https://www.mango-solutions.com/radar/?fs=true&r=5.2,3.2,2.4,4.8,2.4,6.6>

As a veteran of CGVFX, I've lost count of how many times the "direction" given is: "Make it look cool". That, animated and interactive, is what I plan to do for the data I'm given.

Too much Data Visualization i've seen has been dry at best, hard work to comprehend at worst. I'd like to make it fun, (if you're a bored teen), engaging and fast. Humans have evolved to pay attention to motion. Why are so many visualization so static? Let's bring them alive. If the news is the data is good, why doesn't it pop and fizz (again, depending on target audience). Data Visualizations can learn from UX/UI design. Viewer's attention is the master. Details not relevant should fade back. A click and the newly relevant data leaps to attention. The real world and the revelations of science are more fascinating than any computer game.

Augmented Reality presents new Data Visualization opportunities. We can be *within* our data. Importance can be represented by proximity. Distant temporal deadlines can actually *look* distant in space. Data stored "apparently" above your desk, getting bigger, looking heavier, are your tasks pending. We have spacial memories. Remembering where a file is might be easier is it's placed consistently in your office.