A Very Short History of Data Science Review

The article was a great summary and detailed timeline of how the data science field has been a conceptual moving target. As early as the 1960s the conversations starting trying to narrow down exactly what the thing we now know as data science is. As time progressed, different people in different regions of the world tried to coin phrases to identify the occupational group by. Datalogy and other names were thrown out just as ways to try and classify this emerging field.

Figuring out what the data science field was comprised of was also something that was open for debate over the decades. Some felt the statistician job title should be changed to data scientists. Others felt anyone who was associated with the data should fall under the umbrella term, even librarians and archivists. The topic has gotten more attention in recent years as the importance of good data has been highlighted and sought after by corporations of all sizes from numerous sectors.

Eventually, society started to accept the blending of computer science with statistics as a field to gather, manipulate, and organize data in an effort to tell a story or predict one. However, even today the definition continues to be an evolving one that will perhaps see more changes in the future.