A very short history on data science

It was a long run for the term as we now use as data science, It all started in 1948 when John Tukey coined a term ‘bit’ from a mathematician’s paper as for a long time he believed that he was a statistician but his central interest was always in data analysis. In Tukey’s second paper, he argued that they should emphasize more on the hypotheses that confirmatory data analysis and exploratory data analysis should work hand-in-hand. In 1989, the Knowledge Discovery in Databases, often called as KDD organized its first workshop. ‘Business Week’ ran the cover story on Database Marketing, revealing the ominous news that companies had started gathering large amounts of personal information, with plans to start strange new marketing campaigns.

In 1996 there was a meet in Kobe, Japan which included data science for the first time in a conference and they started developing special data mining tools because back then scalability was a huge issue as storage was expensive and cloud storage was not even a concept. In the coming years, “Data Scientist” became a buzzword, after a while Google’s chief economist commented that the next sexy job will be Statisticians aka data scientists in next 10 years. In 2010, there was a draft which stated that data science is a blend of hackers, stats and machine learning with which people argued but many people were in support of it too. I think ‘Data Science’ better describes what we actually do: a combination of computer hacking, data analysis, and problem solving. Overall concluding the fact in September 2012 data scientist got the tag of the sexiest job of the 21st century.