THE CURiosity ADVANTAGE
“Curiosity is an important trait of a genius”

Albert Einstein
What makes a good data scientist?

What makes a great Data Scientist? Summary Report - SAS
What are the personality traits of today's data scientists? Do they ... In 2014 SAS launched a survey to explore what makes a great data scientist, specifically:

What Makes a Great Data Scientist? - SAS
In Summer 2014 SAS, the leader in big data analytics, launched a survey to explore what makes a great data scientist, specifically: which skills and personality ...

How do I become a data scientist? - Quora
www.quora.com/Information-Data-Data-Science-Big-Data
Visualization - I would recommend picking up ggplot2 in R to make simple yet beautiful ... Data Science: What are some good toy problems in data science?

Six qualities of a great data scientist | Dataspaces Analytics
dataroscopeanalytics.com/what-we/six-qualities-of-a-great-data-scientist
31 Jul 2014 - We made this list to help identify ideal students for our data science bootcamp, people who will make great students and great hires.

Traits That Make A Great Data Scientist - InformationWeek
www.informationweek.com/data/data/make-a-great-data-scientist/.../...
21 Jan 2014 - Not everyone has the chops to cut it as a data scientist. Here are the skills that matter most, says tech consulting firm Booz Allen Hamilton.

What makes a great data scientist? | Information Age
www.information-age.com/it/skills/what-makes-great-data-scientist
23 Oct 2014 - Being a great data scientist is about more than having a head for numbers. It's about spotting relationships between data, seeing how they ...
Six qualities of a great data scientist

July 31, 2014

What does it take to be a great data scientist? We thought long and hard about this while we were designing the data science bootcamp for Metis. Some of these you undoubtedly know without looking, but others may surprise you. These six hard and soft skills are not just things to look for in a data science hire, but are also things to cultivate in yourself to prepare for a successful and fulfilling career in data science. We made this list to help identify ideal students for our data science bootcamp, people who will make great students and great hires.

4. Curiosity

So your data scientist is a technical and statistical whiz who can explain a Markov chain to a supermarket checker. What else separates the elite? The first of our trio of invaluable soft skills is curiosity. Many who are drawn to data science find most alluring the opportunity to work on a constant stream of new and challenging puzzles. They are people who have been asking "why" and "how" since their mouths could form the words.

A good data scientist will take a request, implement it, and deliver the prediction or analysis with confidence. A great data scientist will come back asking for access to more data, or to interview users, or to try something new in the next iteration, because something he did triggered that curious itch. Curious data scientists might have a disdain for machine learning competitions because they can't access all of the levers and choice points to ask questions and dig deeper. Masters of curiosity are quick to question their own assumptions.
Get the Right Data Scientists Asking the “Wrong” Questions

by Josh Sullivan
MARCH 19, 2014

Wouldn’t it be great to catch the next Bernie Madoff well before his pyramid scheme collapsed around us?

That’s not a rhetorical question. Advances in the field of data science have brought us to the point where it’s reasonable to expect that an ongoing program of fraud could be identified in its early stages by people with access to the right data to cross-reference and query. And more than ever before, organizations and even ordinary citizens have access to massive data sets; they can draw on publicly available information in dispersed domains such as social media, open source projects, government statistics, and even weather patterns.
Most Important Trait For a Data Scientist? Curiosity

A Q&A with Ooyala’s Matt Pasienski

By Kata Kaye. Published on November 26, 2013.

There’s no shortage of people watching video online and certainly no shortage of data detailing that video viewing. It’s Ooyala’s job not only to manage and deliver digital video, but to help media firms understand who their viewers are, and give them what they’re looking for based on up-to-the-minute information.

As the company’s chief data scientist for two years, Matt Pasienski spends his time turning “crazy messy data sets into something meaningful for our customers.” But the sheer volume and speed with which data rushes towards him and his team means he needs more than his PhD in physics to make sense
“I believe that anyone can do this job, if you have one trait: **intense curiosity.** OK, you need strong mathematical and computational skills, but the most successful data people are the ones that have a desire to keep looking. If I were hiring someone, my question wouldn't be about his or her mathematical background, I would ask them what the most interesting thing was that they learned last week. If there response is great, and it's obvious their inquisitive by nature, that's the data person you want at your company.”

Matt Pasienski, Ooyala
Curiosity: born or trained?
Born with Curiosity
The Story of Grace Murray Hopper
“Born With Curiosity” (2016) captures the excitement and wonder of computing's infancy and impact through the personal and professional story of US Navy Admiral and computer pioneer Grace Murray Hopper, as told by her friends, family, and colleagues.

Oana Calugar | The Data Girl | @oana_co | @strataconf | #StrataHadoop
This certificate is awarded to

Oana Calugar

for successfully completing

SLIDERULE DATA SCIENCE WORKSHOP

Topics covered in course
Probability & Statistics
Data Visualization with R
Exploratory Data Analysis
Data Wrangling
Analytics Techniques

Completed Projects
Capstone Project
Data Analysis with R
Data Visualization
Data Wrangling
Web Scraping

Curiosity?

Sathyanarayan Anand, Mentor

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Curiosity training #1
ask the right questions
LEAN ANALYTICS
Use Data to Build a Better Startup Faster

Oona: Ask great questions.

[A signature]
Let’s collect all the data that we can and we’ll see what we can do with it!
or
We have all of these data, so something interesting must be in it.
Let’s collect all the data that we can and we’ll see what we can do with it!

or

We have all of these data, so something interesting must be in it.

"Who are our next 1,000 customers going to be, where are they going to come from, and how and why are you going to win them?"
QUESTION THE QUESTIONS WE’RE ASKING:

1. Step back
2. Notice what others miss
3. Challenge assumptions (including our own)
4. Gain a deeper understanding of the situation or problem at hand, through contextual inquiry
5. Take ownership of a particular question & DON’T GIVE UP until you find the answer
QUESTION OUR OWN QUESTIONS & SPEND SOME TIME WITH PRESCHOOL KIDS
Curiosity training #2

beginner’s mind
“In the beginner’s mind there are many possibilities, but in the expert’s there are few.”
Shunryu Suzuki
Curiosity training #3
find pleasure in uncertainty
New and uncertain activities make people happier and create more meaning than familiar routines. We’ll re-train our brain to benefit from the pleasures of surprise and uncertainty. Living a life of curiosity is not about ignoring risk and anxiety. It’s about being willing to do what we value, even in the face of risk and anxiety.
Ask the person next to you to lunch & ask him/her smart questions: What’s your earliest memory?
“Most people stop searching when they find the proverbial needle in the haystack. I would continue looking to see if there were other needles.”

Albert Einstein