

Hong Kong Monetary Authority
“Four Faces of Talents in Central” Video Series

Interview Video 1 – Data Science

Super: Are you the logical and analytic type?
Then data science may suit you well!

BabyJohn: Are you like the main character in the video
who is detail-oriented, good at analysing and studying data?
If that is the case, data science may suit you well
Today I have invited Winnie and Desmond to chat with us
and tell us more about data science

Super: Winnie Chu
Azure, Business Group Lead
Microsoft Hong Kong

Desmond Cheung
Specialist in Data & AI
Microsoft Hong Kong

BabyJohn: Hello

Winnie and Desmond: Hi

BabyJohn: Winnie, I want to ask you
What exactly is data science?
What is the work about?

Super: What is data science?
What is the work about?

Winnie: Data science is actually a process
not a result
What does it want to achieve in the end?
It helps corporations learn more about their customers
to resolve the problems they are facing

What do they use in this process?
That is big data
A lot of other tools are also involved
such as AI (artificial intelligence)
and machine learning that are often mentioned
It uses computers and machines
to speed up the entire analysis process

Desmond: Yes, grasping these major concepts in data science
like machine learning, deep learning
and artificial intelligence we just mentioned
is a basic entry requirement for a data scientist

BabyJohn: According to what you said
if I want to get into the data science industry
is it necessary to study Mathematics, Statistics
or other subjects that emphasise logical thinking and analysis?

Super: Do I need to study Mathematics or Statistics to get into the industry?

Desmond: Yes, Mathematics or Statistics
are integral subjects for working in this field
But I do not have an academic background
in a technical subject either
I studied

BabyJohn: Psychology?

Desmond: I studied industrial engineering
No
It was about controlling factory processes
which has nothing to do with my work right now
How did I learn these skills over these few years?
It was through communicating and learning
with clients and corporations
and also learning through online resources

Nowadays there are a lot of free
or paid learning platforms on the Internet

BabyJohn: I want to ask Winnie
He did not study subjects related to statistics or data analysis
What factors helped you assess his competency for this job?

Super: Apart from academic requirements, what qualities do you look for in
new hires?

Winnie: As a data scientist, some soft skills are very important
such as communication skills

Super: Communication skills

Winnie: Data scientists do not just read data
they have to interpret the data as well
It is because the systems analyse the data and generate results
but it is your job to comprehend
and report the results to the decision makers
so that they can determine the next step
In addition, an open mind is also essential

Super: Open-mindedness

Winnie: In a lot of cases, we get results
that are out of our expectations
and beyond our imagination
So apart from knowing how to communicate with others
having an open mind about different results
and continuous learning are also important

Super: Continuous learning attitude

Winnie: Because technology keeps evolving
perhaps something new will be developed tomorrow
Data scientists have to continuously learn to enhance the process

Desmond: Many companies have large volume of data
but they do not have enough time and ability to process it
So data scientists must have the curiosity
to investigate what the data means

Super: Curiosity

BabyJohn: Many people want to know
What are the career prospects in this industry?

Super: What are the advancement opportunities after getting into the industry?

Desmond: There is a high demand for data scientists in the industry
So the remuneration is good
especially in the financial sector
due to its significance in Hong Kong
Securities companies, banks, investment institutions
or even regulatory authorities
they all need data scientists to help with analysis

Winnie: Indeed, there is a huge demand for data scientists
in the market
and there are a lot of job openings
But many people misunderstand that
only mathematicians are fit for the job
I hope that after understanding more
about the data science industry
you can see its very promising future

BabyJohn: Has today's sharing raised your interest in this industry?
They are waiting for you
To learn more about other areas of the financial industry
remember to watch other interview videos

Super:

Visit the HKMA YouTube Channel
to learn more about other areas of the financial market!

Acknowledgement

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