

Joining the world of Data: from lab to coding

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Consultant for the EU public sector

- ▶ Working for the private sector, exclusively for EU clients
- ▶ Confidentiality is highly important
- ▶ Focus is on the client
- ▶ **Trained on the job on new needs, tools and processes**
 - ▶ Writing technical reports mandated by the EU commission
 - ▶ Data collection and reporting
 - ▶ MicroStrategy
 - ▶ Data cleaning and publishing
 - ▶ SAS enterprise guide & SAS data analytics
 - ▶ Data extractions from the sDWH for PAD (public access to documents) requests
 - ▶ SAS enterprise guide & SAS data analytics
 - ▶ Training stakeholders, webinars, updating technical documents
- Collaboration with EU commission and stakeholders, challenging projects, novel approaches



What is what

Business analyst

- ▶ assesses how organisations are performing and help them improve their processes and systems

Data steward

- ▶ supports the user community and is responsible for collecting, collating, and evaluating issues and problems with data. Ensures that data policies and standards turn into practice within the steward's domain

Chemical monitoring data collection

- **Domain:** Occurrence of chemical contaminants in food/feed
- **Data:** results of chemical analysis performed (mostly) in EU countries

Occurrence of chemical contaminants in food and feed

[*ChemMon2023 call for data](#)

Priority list of chemical contaminants to support scientific opinions in progress	Deadline for data submission
Phthalates, structurally similar substances and replacement substances potentially used as plasticisers	30-Jun-23
Emerging and Novel brominated flame retardants (BFRs) in food	30-Jun-23
Organic arsenic [thiolated compounds (DMMTA and MMTA)] and others (MMA, DMA, arsenolipids, arsenosugars, etc.)	30-Jun-23
Dioxin and Dioxin-like Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs) (Food and Feed)	30-Jun-23
delta-8-Tetrahydrocannabinol (Food)	30-Jun-23
Perchlorate(/chlorate) (Food)	30-Jun-23
Beauvericin and enniatins (Food and Feed)	30-Jun-23

Science and Data: a match made in heaven

- ▶ Evolving and **cutting-edge domains**
- ▶ Constant need for technically trained scientists
- ▶ A culture of outsourcing
- ▶ Skills transferrable between academia, industry and free-lancing
- ▶ Traditional and modern working environments
- ▶ Tech is generally an equal opportunity field
- ▶ Scientific background, knowledge and understanding is **valuable and rewarded**

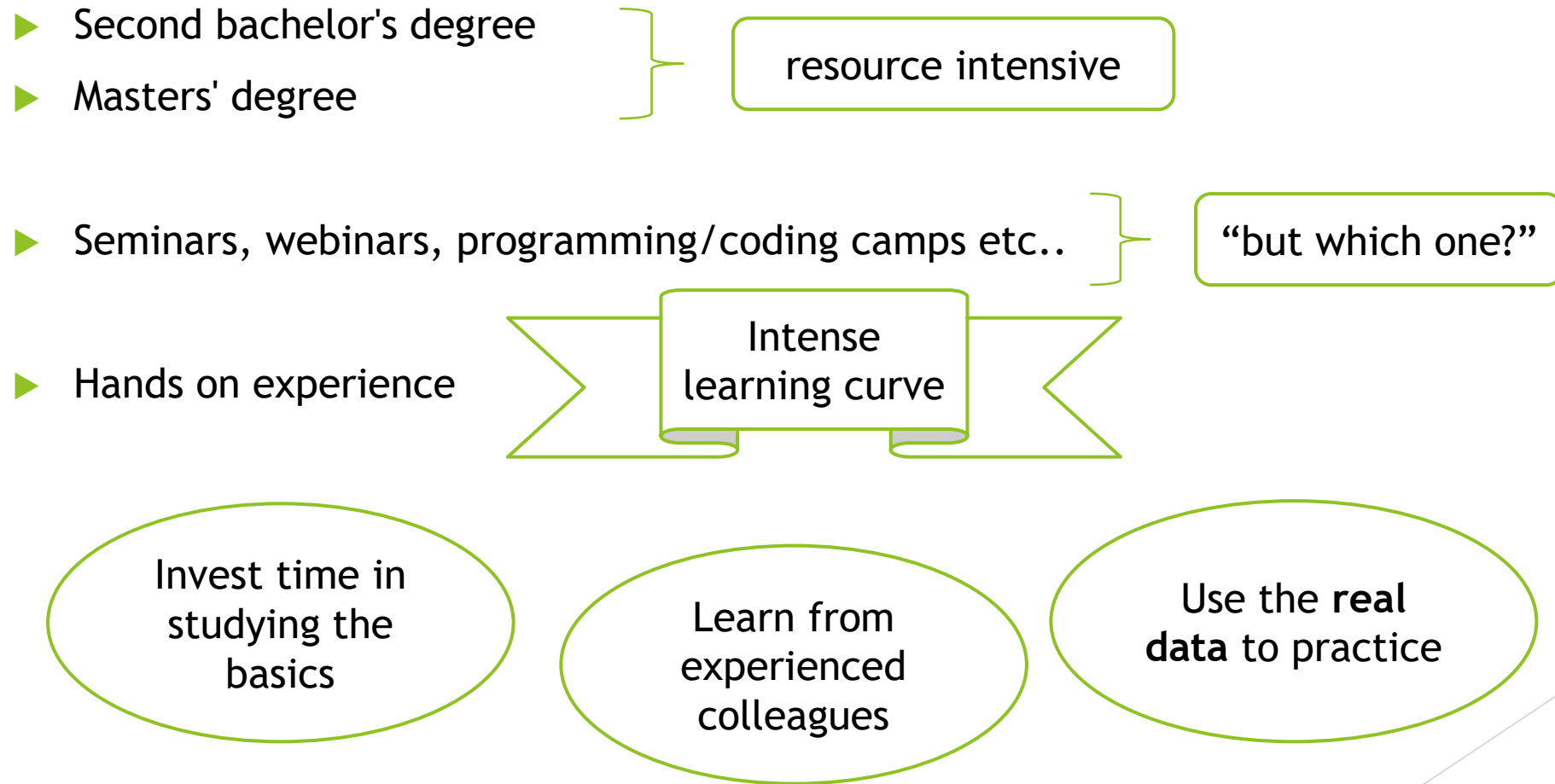
What's your goal?

- ▶ Change career direction altogether?
- ▶ Better your laboratory data handling experience?
- ▶ Broaden your skillset? Increase chances of getting hired?
- ▶ Do you want/need 'hard' qualifications or is project experience sufficient?

How do you bridge the gap?

- ▶ Understand the skillset of professionals that do the job you want
 - ▶ What programming language do they use?
 - ▶ R, Python, SQL...
 - ▶ What types of projects are they involved in?
 - ▶ What software do they have qualifications for?
- ▶ Check for the qualifications required in job offers
 - ▶ Relevant projects needed?
 - ▶ Technical qualifications needed?
- ▶ Use free (uni) courses, webinars and material provided by software companies to your advantage

How do you bridge the gap?



Soft skills to keep in mind

- Being ok with being uncomfortable
 - Asking questions
- Putting yourself out there
 - Saying good morning to everyone; no joke, it helps!
 - Challenging, managing and supporting yourself
- Asking for opportunities
 - Offering your support and educated opinion
- Keep growing

Projects

- ▶ Data collection of occurrence results from marine biotoxins in scallops. EFSA opinion [published](#).
- ▶ Assessing and verifying the completeness of registration dossiers according to the REACH Regulation ([Regulation \(EC\) No 1907/2006](#)).
- ▶ Developing an [ad-hoc data collection](#) for results on the migration and concentration of phthalates and analogous plasticisers in Food Contact Materials.
- ▶ Published EFSA technical report “[Chemical monitoring reporting guidance: 2023 data collection](#)”.
- ▶ Published [results](#) from national testing programs on the occurrence of chemical contaminants in food and feed.