*At the 2018 Bio-IT World Conference & Expo, we dedicated the Wednesday morning plenary session to a* [*panel discussion*](http://www.bio-itworld.com/2018/05/29/bioit18-data-science-definitions.aspx) *on data science. It was rich conversation. Panelists laid out their own definitions of “data science”, discussed how to build and structure a data science team, and debated what role expertise (data science or domain) should play in experimental design. As we talked, we collected questions from the audience—more than we were able to use. Instead of abandoning the community’s contributions, I’ve collected the top voted questions from the panel and offered them back to our community. Want to weigh in? Send me your answers to these questions (at least half of the list). We’ll be sharing them with the community.*

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1. What is the optimal environment to grow data science?
2. What are the different levels of maturity in data science in a lab and what does the roadmap look like?
3. How do you generalize processes for data science and analytics when working with heterogeneous (and always evolving) data types?
4. What skill sets would you recommend graduate student researchers have, who are in the process of transitioning to a Data Science industry? Does domain expertise still matter in the era of data science, ML, and AI?
5. How do you define data curation?
6. How big is the problem of messy data (missing metadata, data that is not FAIR) as a roadblock for data science? Can you discuss tricks and tips to streamline the data cleaning part of data sciences?
7. ROI & economics are not to be forgotten talking about data science. How do you calculate ROI of your data science efforts?
8. Are there areas which you feel are ripe to apply data science tools which have not embraced them much yet?
9. Have you had any experience with data science methods being misused because the implementer did not fully understand the methodology?
10. Your full contact details: name, title, affiliation, email, etc.