

# Digital Skills Role Models

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What does your job entail?

My job responsibilities are quite varied. I am often studying biology and its interaction with technology to enable new insights into human health. When I have an idea, I have to use a computer program to develop an algorithm to get the information on human health. Sometimes my idea is successful, other times it is not. I help with measuring someone's heart rate, stress levels, sleep quality, exercise data and how many steps they do.

How did you get into this line of work?

I studied Maths & Statistics at university and later did a master's degree in bioinformatics. I always had a strong background in Maths and an interest in Biology, so it was natural that I wanted to apply Mathematical techniques to biological data.

Outline your career to date?

I spent six months developing AI solutions in Cancer Research to help with earlier, more accurate detection of colorectal cancer. I have spent 3.5 years at B-Secur developing physiological insights from biosignals such as the electrocardiogram, bioimpedance analysis and accelerometer data.

How do you use digital skills in your role today?

I need IT and digital skills to perform research, gather data and use this data to program new insights into someone's health. Without these skills I couldn't apply Mathematical & Statistical techniques to biological data.

Did you have the opportunity to develop IT and digital skills at school or did you learn them at college, university or on the job?

I learnt some IT skills in university. My Maths & Statistics degree allowed me to develop problem solving skills and the ability to design a study and understand research. But most of my IT and digital skills didn't come until I was on the job. So, you have a head start.