CAREER DECISION MAKING IN AN EVOLVING WORKPLACE

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CAREER TIMELINE

- Early 20s:
  - Training in Engineering and Neuroscience
- Late 20s:
  - Diving deep in Neuroscience across various topics and techniques
- Early 30s:
  - Application of academic knowledge and skills in Industry
- Late 30s:
  - Creating impact and solving customer problems in Startups

CAREER TIMELINE

- **ENGINEERING (2003-2007)**
  - BE - Delhi, India
- **NEUROSCIENCE (2006+)**
  - MSc - Oxford, UK
  - PhD - London, UK
  - Postdoc - Paris, France & Oxford, UK
- **AI (2017+)**
  - Amazon Alexa AI - Seattle, USA
  - Swiggy - Bangalore, India
- **ENTREPRENEURSHIP (2015+)**
  - EduChroma - P2P Career Mentoring (educhroma.com)
  - Timing Research Forum (timingforum.org)
  - EdTech for AI reskilling - Bangalore, India (stsj-ai.github.io)

1. ENGINEERING TO NEUROSCIENCE

- Why?
- How?
- What did I learn?
- What did I accomplish?

2. NEUROSCIENCE: DEPTH AND BREADTH

- Why?
- How?
- What did I learn?
- What did I accomplish?

3. ACADEMIA TO INDUSTRY

- Why?
- How?
- What did I learn?
- What did I accomplish?

4. BIGTECH TO STARTUP

- Why?
- How?
- What did I learn?
- What did I accomplish?

5. EMPLOYMENT TO ENTREPRENEURSHIP

- Why?
- How?
- What did I learn?
- What did I accomplish?

STARTUP: EDTECH FOR AI/ML RESKILLING

- Problem: *The promise of AI is real but the talent to build production AI is rare.*
- Landing page: https://stsj-ai.github.io. Register your interest here: https://stsj-ai.github.io/learners.html
- To become an exceptional AI/ML scientist, it is essential to develop scientific hypothesis-driven thinking, a product mindset, and hone soft skills to collaborate with a variety of stakeholders to take AI to production.
- We aim to train a variety of learners motivated to become industry-ready AI practitioners:
  - (1) Students who are in the penultimate/final year of university and seeking their first jobs in AI/ML;
  - (2) Passionate learners (including students in first/second years) from any field who want to upskill themselves in AI and prepare for joining the AI industry;
  - (3) Employees in non-AI/ML roles who want to switch to an AI/ML role;
  - (4) Employees in AI/ML roles who want to upskill to upgrade to a more attractive AI/ML role

HARD-EARNED LESSONS

- Make decisions that optimise for your personal and professional growth
- Focus on learning skills that you enjoy (and will be paid for)
- Follow interests, not trends; trends don’t last while your interests do
- Be aware of what’s happening outside bubbles
- Jobs and salaries are a dynamic function of supply and demand
- Soft-skills are underrated and are fundamental for career growth

BIO & CONTACT

- Dr. Sundeep Teki is the Founder of a new EdTech startup focused on AI/ML reskilling to train the next generation of AI leaders at scale - https://stsj-ai.github.io.
- Sundeep is a leader in AI and Neuroscience with professional experience in BigTech (Conversational AI at Amazon Alexa AI, Seattle), unicorn Startup (Applied AI at Swiggy, Bangalore), and Academia (Cognitive Neuroscience at Oxford University and University College London). He has published 40+ papers on Neuroscience and AI, secured £500k+ in research funding, and is recognised by the Royal Society, UK as an 'Emerging Leader in Neuroscience'.
- Sundeep consults deep tech startups on AI/ML product roadmap and team strategy, and conducts due diligence of early-stage startups for angel syndicates.

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Q&A