



Amy

**Service Provider, Trainer,
Regulator**

Friendly, Conscientious, Polite,
Helpful, Organised

Current Role: Doctorate (PhD) Student.
Carrying out research in Climate Science.

Does your current role match your results and how does your personality make you a good fit for this role?

My current role matches Service Provider and Regulator, which says I should work in lab / university in data analysis / environmental consultant / meteorologist / research technician which is pretty much what I do. Trainer is a side I would like to do more – get involved in taking science to others etc. My attention to detail, and the fact I am methodical and logical help with my research and coding - taking processes and carrying them out in certain ways, analysing results, looking for small results and trying to attribute them to certain changes (in climate).

What qualifications did you take to get you to your current job?

During my GCSEs I figured out I wanted to be a physicist, then went to university and did an astrophysics degree. There I chose a wide range of modules to try everything and broaden my knowledge base. This is how which is how I decided to go into climate physics - despite not having a degree in meteorology or geography or something you would expect.

My view is about finding something you're passionate about. Studying STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) provides you with the base skills to do almost anything - doing physics means I learnt applied maths which can take you anywhere from research like I do, or into finance or into many different disciplines. On a practical level, I learnt what it was to be a scientist - being logical, methodical, following procedure for experiments, being rigorous, having the ability to look at something and figure out why it's happening. I will take all these skills with me into the next job I have.

What did you aspire to do when you were growing up? Did that change?

I've always wanted to be a scientist, but it changed between sciences. As a kid I always wanted to be in a lab playing with test tubes and chemicals and doing something more hands-on. I wanted to be a forensic scientist, then a microbiologist, then a biochemist, then I changed my A-Levels last minute to become an astrophysicist. And now I'm a climate scientist!

What is the best thing about your role?

My PhD project is really interesting and really relevant to everyone – it's very accessible so I can chat to anyone about it. I also get to work with some amazing people who do incredible work.



Henry

**Service Provider, Communicator,
Manager, Developer**

**Friendly, Empathic, Cooperative,
Conscientious, Creative**

**Current Role: Communications Manager for the Parliamentary
Office of Science and Technology.**

I ensure that MPs and Lords have access to the best information they need to make their decisions. Support Parliament's scrutiny of the government.

Does your current role match your results and how does your personality make you a good fit for this role?

My personality is a good match for my role. I need to talk to people, win their trust and support, and give them what they need when they need it.

What qualifications did you take to get you to your current job?

I did a physics degree at university which gave me an understanding some of the things I talk. I also studied science communications. This looks at the issues to do with how people understand and communicate information. I'm interested in helping people. And in my current role this is helping inform the people who make the decision with good information. The information needs to be understandable, concise and relevant.

What did you aspire to do when you were growing up? Did that change?

I wanted to be all sorts of things when I grew up: pilot, chef, astronaut and politician. As I got older I discarded being a pilot because I was colour blind. I got more into maths and science at school and wanted to know more about the world so I studied physics.

What is the best thing about your role?

The work is slow and you are very distant from seeing the effect you have but you get to help millions of people at a time. Also because of the fast pace, you are always working on something new all the time.



Katie

Explorer, Trainer, Regulator, Communicator

Investigator, Regulator, Communicator, Trainer, Supporter

Current Role: Senior Spacecraft Thermal Engineer

I create computer models to simulate how heat moves around a spacecraft. To do that, I need to know about the materials used, how parts are put together, what electronic units will be on the spacecraft and how they will be used and about what the spacecraft will do, e.g. it's orbit and where it will point.

Does your current role match your results and how does your personality make you a good fit for this role?

I talk to lots of people to understand what it is I need to be analysing and also what it is we want to learn from the analysis. We can't analyse everything, it would take too long and some things we just don't know, so a great part of my job is being creative in working out how to get the most suitable knowledge from my work. I also present my work to people who aren't specialists in my area, they challenge me to make sure that I have covered all the scenarios they are concerned about and I also do the same for them to make sure I have considered everything in my computer models I make.

What qualifications did you take to get you to your current job?

I have A-Levels in physics, mathematics and chemistry; which took me to a degree in physics (BSc). I had a gap of 4 years where I didn't know what I wanted to do, so when I finally worked it out, I decided to do a Masters in aerospace engineering (MSc) to get myself up to speed with technical things again. I use more skills from the undergraduate degree on a day to day basis though.

What did you aspire to do when you were growing up? Did that change?

I wanted to either work in Law or something science related. I never really knew what, so it was more that I wanted a job in whatever was interesting me at the time.

What is the best thing about your role?

I get to work with all parts of the spacecraft. Thermal design is sensitive to the shapes, colours and finishes of all surfaces, as well as any power is, where the Sun is, where dark space is and also how things are connected; which is basically everything on the spacecraft. I love how creative it is and just how much information there is and how incredible it is that we can send things to space.



Marios

Communicator, Trainer, Supporter

Creative, Curious, Logical, Cautious, Empathic

Current Role: Scientific Editor.

I evaluate research paper submitted to our scientific journal for publication and handle them through the process of peer review, eventual publication, promotion, etc..

Does your current role match your results and how does your personality make you a good fit for this role?

I am in the role of communicator and supporter. It matches the results very well. I am curious and interested in the new results in my scientific field (astronomy) and I enjoy helping authors to publish their papers and communicate their results to as wide an audience as possible.

What qualifications did you take to get you to your current job?

My degree in physics & astrophysics provided me with the scientific knowledge required for my job. It also provided me with a logical and structured way of thinking that is important in the type of work that I do. My studies also taught me how to look for and acquire new knowledge and also evaluate this new knowledge and its usefulness towards a specific goal. It also strengthened my analytical and mathematical skills, as well as practical analysis of computing to solving real-world problems.

What did you aspire to do when you were growing up? Did that change?

My first thoughts about my future revolved around chemistry. I was fascinated by the white robes and the idea of mixing different liquids and powders and making all sorts of cool experiments. In fact, during my school years, I felt quite challenged by physics and I was not at all sure the subject was for me. Later on I decided I liked astronomy more (actually astronomy and biology, but astronomy won as it doesn't include dissecting any frogs!). While I am still fascinated by biology and especially how the human brain works, astronomy still remains my main interest.

What is the best thing about your role?

As an editor I get to read the most exciting and cutting-edge research in astronomy. If there is new planet discovered, I am the first to know! And not only that, but I actually get to help other astronomers with communicating their work and results to as wide an audience as possible. Being a scientist myself, I can fully appreciate the pride and joy of seeing your work finally becoming known to both your fellow scientists and to the public.



Martin

Communicator, Trainer,
Supporter

Methodical, Logical, Organised,
Careful, Neat

Current Role: Senior Software Engineer at Just Eat.

I work on the website and its back-end services, adding new features to benefit consumers and improving the quality of existing functionality. This involves writing code using HTML, JavaScript and C# to implement these features and to write automated tests for them. I also support the website

infrastructure during peak hours, troubleshooting any issues and suggesting resolutions to them as they arise.

Does your current role match your results and how does your personality make you a good fit for this role?

Service provider fits the best, which matches my job role and the day-to-day skills delivering software according to requirements/specifications, working with business analysts, product managers etc.. Explorer also fits well with the regards to the skills required to actually implement the functionality required once the requirements have been fully analysed and rationalised. This often involves additional research into software libraries to find existing solutions to similar problems that can be leveraged to solve the problem at hand as efficiently as possible.

What qualifications did you take to get you to your current job?

I did A-Levels in physics, maths and computing, then a degree (BSc) in physics & astrophysics. I also have a number of accredited qualifications in software testing.

What did you aspire to do when you were growing up? Did that change?

When I was a teenager before I started studying my GCSEs I was interested in becoming an airline pilot. Over time this lent more towards and interest in technology as started studying computing and physics at A-Level. The downturn in the airline industry at the time also meant that sponsored training programmes were no longer being run by airlines, making pilot training much more difficult and expensive. Once I finished my degree I started looking at jobs involved in technology where a degree in physics was considered desirable. This eventually led me to a graduate role as a Software Tester. Lots of on-the-job training, self-guided study and experience over several years eventually lead me into a role as a Software Engineer, writing code, not just testing it.

What is the best thing about your role?

The free-reign to come up with solutions to problems and then applying my skills to solving them in practice. After that it is actually getting new features I've been working on deployed and seeing them used by real end-users.



Matthew

Regulator, Investigator, Explorer

Logical, Organized, Self-motivated, Persuasive, Sensible

Current Role: Patent Attorney (Patent Lawyer).

I draft/handle patent applications and give legal advice on patent law. My clients include individuals and business (large and small). I sometimes have to go to the European Patent Office (EPO) in Munich to defend my clients' patent application, which may be opposed by a third party. This part of the job is a bit like going to court (although the EPO is not actually a court).

Does your current role match your results and how does your personality make you a good fit for this role?

Yes, it is one of the jobs in the "Regulator" personality type. As a patent attorney, we tend to be very meticulous with detail and analytic about legal consequences before taking action.

What qualifications did you take to get you to your current job?

I have a master's degree (MPhys) and a doctorate (PhD) in physics. To become a patent attorney, you must have at least an undergraduate degree (BSc) in a field of science, engineering, or technology. This is because patents by definition relate to science and technology. Legal training is done on the job. For this part, you have to study in your spare time outside work (although some allowances are given at work). The legal training part usually takes 3 to 5 years.

What did you aspire to do when you were growing up? Did that change?

I originally wanted to be a Formula 1 engineer. That gradually changed through university as I realized I was more interested in general physics. Then, I thought I wanted to go into academic research or commercial Research & Development. But through my doctorate I realised research was not for me and that was when I heard about patent attorneys.

What is the best thing about your role?

One aspect of my job involves a lot of arguing, in writing or sometimes in person, mostly with patent office examiners to convince them to grant a patent to my client. It is surprisingly satisfying when an argument is accepted or when an examiner concedes a point. Another part of my job involves understanding my clients' inventions and putting them into a patent application that would give the broadest patent protection. When the invention is good, this can be very interesting.



Michael

Explorer, Communicator, Regulator

Intuitive, Curious, Careful, Honest, Logical

Current Role: Risk analyst at a wealth management company.

My main role is to ensure that my company manages the assets of large pension funds in the best interests of clients. It requires a fair amount of maths and statistics to assess the risks being run in these funds. The ability to communicate complex issues to a non-technical audience and an understanding of how these risks relate to changes in financial markets are important.

Does your current role match your results and how does your personality make you a good fit for this role?

Yes. The Explorer personality picks up on my drive to do the job. That is to gain an intuitive understanding of interesting and complex problems.

Communication is important in my role. Solving problems is not much use if you are unable to communicate the solution and convince people to take action when needed.

Regulator. Risk is all about making sure people have considered the potential downside of their actions and are prepared for it. You have to be willing to stand up against short sighted decisions which benefit a small group of insiders but are not aligned with the client's objectives.

What qualifications did you take to get you to your current job?

I chose subjects that I was interested in and would develop critical thinking. So I focused on maths and science at A-Level. I then did a degree in physics. Qualifications in a quantitative field is required in my role.

What did you aspire to do when you were growing up? Did that change?

I rarely had a specific career in mind for long when I was younger. But I always aspired to do something which would be intellectually stimulating, provide the space to think about broad concepts and pay enough to live a comfortable life. Depending on my mood that meant my aspirations could jump from wanting to be an academic researching physics to becoming a trader to becoming a film director and everything else in between. I don't think my core aspirations changed much, but the financial aspects of a career take on more prominence as you get older.

What is the best thing about your role?

The problems I work on are intellectually stimulating and touch on broader trends and concepts.



Natalie

Explorer, Investigator, Regulator,
Supporter

Persistent, Imaginative, Cautious,
Reliable, Curious

Current Role: Offshore Wind Performance Analyst.

I do a mix of analysis of technical wind turbine data (both standardised on a monthly basis, & individual tasks as a result of breakdowns), reporting of site performance indicators (such as generation) to senior management & modelling of costs for proposed wind farms.

Does your current role match your results and how does your personality make you a good fit for this role?

My current role matches my results quite well. The Explorer and Investigator types fit with the research parts of my role – investigating why wind turbines behave the way they do. The detail checking part of my Regulator type helps me, but the rest isn't relevant. Most of my analyses are to help engineers on site focus their work which fits with my Supporter type.

What qualifications did you take to get you to your current job?

I have a physics degree (MPhys) and a doctorate (PhD). The PhD helped, but was definitely not a requirement.

What did you aspire to do when you were growing up? Did that change?

I wanted to be a maths teacher when I was very young, and later a researcher. During my PhD I realised I was more interested in improving things which were happening now so I moved into the energy industry.

What is the best thing about your role?

Making pretty graphs! Taking complex data & creating a simple picture to explain what's happening, or why a particular wind turbine is not behaving optimally, is very satisfying.



Ryan

Explorer, Investigator, Supporter

Curious, Persistent, Organised, Friendly,
Inventive

Current Role: Graduate Analyst in Business

Gather, clean, and analyse data to make suggestions to improve and create new processes for a better business.

Does your current role match your results and how does your personality make you a good fit for this role?

Investigator and Explorer. I spend my days looking through data to see if there is anything useful in there that we might not already know.

What qualifications did you take to get you to your current job?

I studied maths and physics at A-Level and did a theoretical physics degree at university. I use statistics and the problem solving skills I gained doing this course in the work I do every day. I also convey mathematical results and concepts to colleagues without technical backgrounds. My job takes lots of different degrees but being a scientist really helped when I applied.

What did you aspire to do when you were growing up? Did that change?

Originally I wanted to be an astronaut, and then I found out you had to be in shape for that! Next I wanted to be a teacher, then a university lecturer. I don't do this now, but I still get to explain ideas and share knowledge to people I work with which is what I liked best about the idea of teaching.

What is the best thing about your role?

Everyone says it, but the variety. I have looked at everything from the number of people we recruit each year to the time it takes someone to get to work each morning. I have to change the way I think depending on what I am looking at and what I want to find out. I also really like having access to massive amounts of data, it can be really fun to find little trends in the data you might not have expected!



Sarah

Entrepreneur, Explorer, Service Provider

Friendly, Self-motivated, Conscientious, Witty, Sensible

Current Role: Tritium Plant Engineer

I work in the group that provides the tritium fuel for the world's largest fusion experiment. My job involves a nice mixture of computer programming and conducting experiments, so it's really interesting and varied! I'm also part of the team working on designing the tritium plant for a future fusion power station, which is really exciting!

Does your current role match your results and how does your personality make you a good fit for this role?

I currently work in a science/engineering role in a nuclear fusion research laboratory, so my results are a good match for this role – especially Explorer and Service Provider. I'm very self-motivated and I like to understand how things work, but I also easily get along with other people, which is very important for a research role!

What qualifications did you take to get you to your current job?

I did physics, maths and German for A-level. I then did a physics degree at university which also included a year in Germany as an exchange student, which was a fantastic experience!

What did you aspire to do when you were growing up? Did that change?

When I was a teenager I wanted to become a scientist, because I loved the idea of conducting research into something useful for humanity...and that's exactly what I'm doing now! My aspirations did change from time to time though, at one point I wanted to be an actress, and later I thought about becoming a German teacher! I liked a lot of different subjects at school, which can make it hard to decide what you want to do, so I'd advise anyone in that position to choose subjects that keep your options open.

What is the best thing about your role?

Aside from being part of cutting-edge research to develop the energy source for the future, I love being able to directly apply the physics and maths that I learnt at school in the real world!