

## Robert C. Foster

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### CONTACT INFORMATION

[www.robertcfoster.com](http://www.robertcfoster.com)  
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Ph.D. statistician with a strong applied background in the physical sciences and engineering.

### RESEARCH INTERESTS

Applied statistical methods with a focus on science and engineering applications, Bayesian and empirical Bayesian methods, uncertainty quantification, and quantum computation.

### EDUCATION

#### **Ph.D. in Statistics**

**Iowa State University**, Ames, IA, October 2016

- Thesis title: [Topics in Empirical Bayesian Analysis](#)
- Adviser: Mark S. Kaiser
- 3.65 GPA

#### **M.S. in Statistics**

**Iowa State University**, Ames, IA, December 2010

- Thesis title: [Simulation Analysis of a Bayesian Test Plan for Sequential Data from a Homogeneous Poisson Process](#)
- Adviser: Alyson Wilson
- 3.65 GPA

#### **B.S. in Mathematics and Statistics**

**Oklahoma State University**, Stillwater, OK, May 2007

- Summa cum laude
- Minor in Computer Science
- 3.948 GPA
- Honors college degree

### RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

**Los Alamos National Laboratory**, Los Alamos, NM  
CCS-6, Statistical Sciences group

Postdoctoral Researcher, Oct. 2016 - Oct. 2019

- Utilized applied statistical skills to perform research in multiple topics, including sources of uncertainty for computation techniques that lie “Beyond Moore’s Law” and the statistical properties of resulting errors from propagation of BML uncertainties, simulation of microstructures from

samples of additively manufactured materials, and applications of quantum computing in statistics. Current projects are modeling measurements of earth’s magnetic field using geospatial statistical techniques, and modeling solutions of differential equations probabilistically

**Iowa State University**, Ames, IA  
Department of statistics

Research Assistant, 2007-2010

- Engaged in multiple consultation projects with various departments and research groups at Iowa State University, including animal science and the agriculture experiment station (AES).

#### PREPRINTS

**Foster, R.**, Weaver, B. and Gattiker, J., “Applications of Quantum Computing in Statistics,” arXiv:1904.06819 [stat.CO]

**Foster, R.**, “A Bayesian framework for classical test theory,” PsyArXiv

**Foster, R.**, Vander Wiel, S., Livescu, V., and Bronkhorst, C., “Towards Recreation of Microstructure of Spatially Varying Materials from Orthogonal Sections”

#### TECHNICAL REPORTS

**Foster, R.**, Weaver, B. and Gattiker, J., “Combining Observational and Computational Uncertainty in Calibration Experiments,” LA-UR-19-30566

Grosskopf, Michael, Gattiker, J., and **Foster, R.**, “Statistical Numerics” (2019)

**Foster, R.**, Weaver, B., Picard, R., and Gattiker, J., “Beyond Moore’s Law Uncertainty,” LA-UR-18-28596 (2018)

Abendroth, Lori, Marlay, Stephanie, Myers, Anthony J.W., Elmore, Roger W., and **Foster, Robert C.**, “*Regional Corn Planting Date Recommendations for Iowa*” (2010). Iowa State Research Farm Progress Reports. 410.

#### OTHER CITED WORKS

Blog post ‘Confidence Interval for wOBA Based on the Multinomial Model,’ cited in VanDerwerken, D., ‘Slugging percentage is not a percentage – and why that matters,’ *The American Statistician* (2019)

#### INVITED TALKS

*Towards Recreation of Microstructure in Additively Manufactured Materials*, International Conference on Plasticity, Jan. 2018

*Towards Recreation of Microstructure in Additively Manufactured Materials*, Albuquerque ASA spring meeting, Apr. 2018

#### CONTRIBUTED TALKS

*Applications of Quantum Annealing in Statistics*, Joint Statistical Meetings, Aug. 2019

LOCAL TALKS	<p><i>Applications of Quantum Annealing in Statistics</i>, Talking to Ourselves, CCS-6 (2019)</p> <p><i>Uncertainty, Noise and Beyond Moore’s Law</i>, Statistical Sciences Seminar Series, CCS-6 (2018)</p>
POSTER SESSIONS	<p><i>Towards Random Generation of Microstructures of Spatially Varying Materials from Orthogonal Sections</i>, Computational Data Science Approaches for Materials 2019</p> <p><i>Uncertainty, Noise, and Beyond Moore’s Law</i>, CoDA 2018 - Conference on Data Analysis</p> <p><i>Generation of Spatially Varying Digital Microstructures for Additively Manufactured Materials</i>, 2017 Materials Capability Review on Manufacturing Science</p>
TEACHING EXPERIENCE	<p><b>Iowa State University</b>, Ames, IA USA Department of Statistics</p> <p><i>Instructor</i> <b>August 2010 to May 2016</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Principles of Statistics: Fall 2010, Spring 2011, Summer 2011, Fall 2011, Spring 2012, Summer 2012</li> <li>• Probability and Statistics for Computer Science: Fall 2012, Spring 2013, Fall 2013, Spring 2014</li> <li>• Engineering Statistics: Fall 2014</li> <li>• Probability and Statistical Inference for Engineers: Spring 2015, Spring 2016</li> <li>• All courses other than “Principles of Statistics” taught without direct supervision.</li> </ul>
PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• American Statistical Association, Albuquerque chapter</li> </ul>
COMPUTING EXPERTISE	<p>Statistical Software: R, JMP, SAS, Matlab</p> <p>Programming Languages: Python, Java, C</p> <p>Applications: <math>\text{\TeX}</math>, <math>\text{\LaTeX}</math>, <math>\text{\BibTeX}</math>, Microsoft Office</p> <p>Operating Systems: Microsoft Windows, macOS, Unix</p>