

Ryan Beck, PE

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Education

Iowa State University

M.S. Civil Engineering (Structural Engineering)

Ames, IA

August 2012 – December 2014

- Thesis: [*Seismic Behavior of Hollow Concrete Columns*](#)

Iowa State University

B.S. Civil Engineering

Ames, Iowa

August 2009 – December 2012

Engineering Work Experience

HDR Engineering

Omaha, Nebraska

Bridge Engineer

September 2015 – Present

- Designed and analyzed highway bridges, including steel and concrete girder superstructures, piers, and abutments
- Inspected and load rated girder and steel truss bridges

LeMar Industries

Des Moines, Iowa

Structural Engineer

June 2014 – August 2015

- Designed steel towers and bridges for the agricultural industry
- Communicated with customers to provide optimal structure configurations

Forecasting Experience

- Pro forecaster for Foretell in 2021 and continuing as a [pro for INFER in 2022](#)
- [Top 50 forecaster on Metaculus](#)
- [Over 330 questions on Good Judgment Open](#) (0.220 Brier; ~0.03 below community median)

Writing and Analysis

- First place (out of 7 entries) in the Metaculus Szilard Fortified Essay Contest: [Reducing Nuclear Risk Through Improved US-China Relations](#)
- Top prize (out of 13 submissions) in the [Impactful Forecasting Prize](#) contest for a Metaculus comment later published as a Metaculus Journal piece: [Predicting Polygenic Selection for IQ](#)
- Analysis in the Metaculus Journal using electricity production data to forecast the future of renewables: [Renewables Forecasting](#)
- Self-published science fiction novel: [SEER](#)

Skills and Certifications

- Self-starter with a desire to learn new skills
 - Created a personal website with HTML and CSS mostly from scratch with little prior familiarity ([Github Repo](#))
 - Learned working knowledge of R and Github Actions for use in forecasting (e.g. an automatically updating visualization of [influenza hospitalizations](#))
- Proficient in Microsoft Office including extensive use of Excel and experience with VBA macros
- Licensed as a Professional Engineer since June 2018