

- **Lars W. Ericson, Ph.D.**
- *Independent Forecaster*
- Season 4 GJP and GJ Open

Areas of Interest

- **Compare effectiveness on same questions of novel vs traditional analyst teams**
 - Networked subject matter expert part-timers from ranks of accurate busy forecasters (0.5% of participants in GJOpen)
 - In-service professional IC analysts with forecasting paradigm overlayed onto their conventional IC workflow, trained as effectively as possible to be more like natural ABFs
- **Enhanced forecaster's toolkit**
 - Automated filters to allow forecasters to aggregate the forecasts of other forecasters based on correlated prior performance, stats like median and std dev, etc e.g. best 24 on prior questions twice excluding 2SD from median twice (assume everybody knows each other's forecasts, rationales and scores)
 - Automated link and pro/con summary from multiple forecaster rationales
 - Templates for rationales to make automated analysis easier and rationale presentation more clear
 - Automated summary of current forecasting results by major theme
 - Adapt social network analysis tools to do provenance of aggregate of open source news items (on most niche foreign topics, on Google you only see press releases from active participants, but this is not always obvious), to allow forecasters to assess whether evidence is multi-source or single-source
 - Tools to easily set up related rates models, game theoretic models, probabilistic logic models, and games
 - Multi-forecaster games and simulation based on repeated automatic play of GGP-type games to project and assess probability of IFP outcomes
 - Automated model suggestion from rationale statements and “model wizard”
 - Compile a tradecraft list of novel open source inference techniques, e.g. track serial numbers on Ebay to count # of iPhones sold
 - Study GJOpen and last 4 years of GJP questions that got voided or vigorously disputed to compile an enhanced tradecraft list of question posing best practices
 - Grouping of questions into theme/major issue or topic and let forecasters see the “Story” questions as well as the “Supporting Evidence” questions that they tend to actually work on

Experience

- PhD in Computer Science from NYU Courant Institute in computational logic application
- Army Office of Research Fellow, French Govt Chateaubriand Fellow, Esprit Alcom Researcher
- Worked on sponsored research teams: MITRE Knowledge-Based Mission Planner, CMU Distributed Sensor Network, NYU Ultracomputer, IBM Scratchpad 2, INRIA Projects Formel and Algo
- 25+ years of experience on Wall St in derivatives, risk and trading analytics
- Wrote current STAC-A2 Monte Carlo benchmark for GPGPUs
- Participated in Stanford 2015 General Game Playing competition
- Developed Python tools to aggregate GJOpen forecasts and analyse participation
- Inaccurate but busy and social forecaster on GJOpen and Season 4 GJP, one of 3 people to forecast all questions out of 14,000+
- GJOpen forecasting-related blog attracting 2300+ page views from 38 countries

Teaming

- Looking for like minds to explore topics listed on previous page
- Goal is to see better tools, methodology and training in workplace and BAU for IC analysts
- Looking for ways to make that happen
- Major motivator for me is Bridget Nolan thesis on NCTC BAU
- I don't think prediction markets will make IC analysts and the analyst job description obsolete
- I do think forecasting tools and methodology can make IC analysts more effective

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