

Nova Quinn

PhD Candidate · Extraterrestrial Signals & Anomalous Data · Institute for Unusual Data

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Location: Northern Hemisphere (undisclosed)

Profile

PhD candidate exploring how much evidence for non-human intelligence is already hiding in plain sight. I combine astronomical surveys, declassified archives and anomaly detection methods to identify consistent non-human patterns across heterogeneous data sources.

Research Interests

- Anomaly detection in astronomical and multi-modal observational data
- Joint modeling of sky surveys and declassified / open intelligence archives
- Bayesian reasoning about non-human intent and persistent unexplained objects
- Robust methods for separating sensor failure, human artifacts and genuinely weird signals

Education

PhD in Anomalous Data & Extraterrestrial Signals

Institute for Unusual Data · 2021 – present

Thesis (working title): *Consistent Non-Human Patterns in Heterogeneous Datasets*. Advised by Prof. A. Reyes. Focus on cross-domain anomaly embeddings linking sky surveys with historical intelligence reports.

MSc in Machine Learning

Somewhere Respectable University · 2019 – 2021

Coursework in probabilistic ML, representation learning and scientific computing. Master's thesis on Bayesian filters for intent-like trajectories in noisy data.

BSc in Physics

Same Planet University · 2016 – 2019

Specialization in astrophysics and statistics, with projects on transient phenomena in radio observations.

Selected Publications

Convergent Anomalies in Sky Surveys and Intelligence Archives

Nova Quinn

under review, Journal of Unusual Data, 2025

Joint embedding of radio survey anomalies and redacted intelligence reports, revealing clusters that do not resemble sensor failure – or known human activity.

Bayesian Filters for Non-Human Intent

Nova Quinn, A. Reyes

NeurIPS Workshop on Anomalous Intelligence, 2024

Probabilistic framework for trajectories that look like intent without assuming human agency, applied to synthetic and archival datasets.

What Survives Redaction: Structure in Heavily Redacted Documents

Nova Quinn

Archive Mining Conference, 2023

Language models over blacked-out pages, quantifying semantic structure that persists after redaction.

Teaching Experience

Anomaly Detection for Astronomers (graduate level)

Co-lecturer · 2025

Co-designed and co-taught a course on modern anomaly detection techniques for astronomical data, including practical projects on survey anomalies.

Bayesian Thinking for Weird Data

Teaching Assistant · 2024

Led exercise sessions on priors, posteriors and updating under deep uncertainty, with examples from unusual real-world datasets.

Introduction to Machine Learning

Teaching Assistant · 2023

Tutorials, grading and office hours for an introductory ML course (~120 students).

Selected Talks

When the Sky and the Archives Agree

Keynote, Anomalous Intelligence Summit · 2025
How to Not Hallucinate Aliens (Statistically)
ML for Astronomy Workshop, NeurIPS · 2024
What We Learned From 10,000 Redacted Pages
Archive Mining Conference · 2023

Methods & Tools

Methods	Probabilistic modeling, Bayesian inference, anomaly detection, representation learning, time-series modeling, metric learning.
Technical	Python, PyTorch, JAX, NumPy, pandas, scikit-learn, basic CUDA workflows, Linux, Git.
Data	Astronomical survey data, unstructured text archives, document-level NLP, multi-modal pipelines.

Service & Community

- Reviewer for workshops and venues on machine learning, anomaly detection and scientific ML.
- Co-organizer of a cross-institution reading group on anomalous intelligence and unconventional data sources.
- Mentoring students interested in the boundary between astronomy, ML and unknown unknowns.

Ethics & Disclaimer

This CV describes a fictional researcher. It reflects an interest in rigorous, responsible analysis of unusual data. No classified material is handled or encouraged; all work is conceptual or based on public / simulated data.