



## Maximilian Kahn

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### Question

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At Quest University Canada, all students must choose a Question which serves as a motivation for their undergraduate thesis.

- **What is Intelligence?**

Are contemporary machine learning algorithms really intelligent? Or, can they all be roughly reduced to glorified search algorithms — and should we consider search algorithms intelligent? Similarly, are humans fundamentally the same as machines, or is there a key component that humans possess but that computers lack? What role does self-awareness and memory play in intelligence? I am interested in the promise of artificial general intelligence and am excited about the philosophical and engineering challenges such a lofty goal presents.

### Education

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- **Quest University Canada (QUC)** **2015—(anticipated) 2019**  
QUC is an innovative and interdisciplinary university, with self- designed majors and an academically demanding personalized education. Relevant courses I have taken include: Machine Learning, Artificial Intelligence, Data Analyses Using R, Multivariable Calculus, Linear Algebra, Partial Differential Equations, Computer Programming, and Computer Science.

### Technical Strengths

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- **Programming Languages**  
Proficient in Python and Rust. Have experience programming in Java and Scheme.
- **Standard First Aid - CPR A - AED** **2018—(expires) 2021**
- **East China Normal University, Shanghai**  
Studied Mandarin at an intermediate level.
- **Hong Kong Language School, Hong Kong**  
Studied Mandarin and Cantonese at a beginner – intermediate level.

### Experience

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- **Peer-tutor at QUC** **2017—2018**  
Tutored students in quantitative reasoning. Guided students in Calculus 1, Multivariable Calculus, and Mathematical Ideas in Finance. Collaborated with other peer-tutors to implement a survey for the organization.

- **Reliable Corporation, Toronto** **Summer 2017**  
Transferred sales history from Netsuite to Shopify. Worked as a technician repairing faulty circuits in small appliances.
- **Collaborator, QUC Art Magazine** **2015**  
Created and submitted artwork to the QUC student-run art magazine. Collaborated with others on magazine layout.
- **Social Change and Youth Leadership Conference, University of Toronto** **2012**  
Prepared a presentation on possible solutions to the female infanticide crisis in Asia with a group of other students and presented it to the SCYLC panel.

## Academic Achievements

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- **QUC Presidential Scholarship** **2015—present**
- **President's List** **2016—2018**  
Awarded to the top 10% of the student body for outstanding academic achievement and contributions to the university.
- **3.82/4.00 GPA** **present**

## Research

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- **AAAI Birds of a Feather** **Summer 2018**  
Performed self-directed research for the AAAI Birds of a Feather undergraduate research challenge. I will be presenting my work alongside Dr. Richard Hoshino at the Canadian Mathematical Association Winter Meeting in December 2018. The paper, *A Heuristic Search Algorithm for Finding Unsolvable Deals in the Birds of a Feather Solitaire Game*, has been accepted into the Educational Advances in Artificial Intelligence conference (EAAI-19).

## References

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- **Dr. Darcy Otto**  
Mentor and Professor of Philosophy and Computer Science at QUC.  
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- **Dr. Richard Hoshino**  
Professor of Mathematics at QUC.  
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- **Dr. Andrew Hamilton**  
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- **Dr. Luis Serrano**  
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