

Sebastian Lashmet

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SUMMARY

Quantitatively driven mathematics sophomore at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute with strong interests in applied modeling and risk analysis. World-ranked professional Pokémon Trading Card Game player (#16 globally) with extensive experience in probabilistic decision-making, expected-value optimization, and high-pressure competition. Published researcher in reinforcement learning and strategic reasoning in imperfect-information environments. Eagle Scout.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Artificial Intelligence Researcher

Rhone Research Group | Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

2025 - Present

- Designed and implemented equivariant graph neural networks for prediction of optical properties of crystals; reduced dielectric prediction error by 40% on internal test/validation sets
- Cleaned and analyzed large datasets for supervised learning
- Presented work both in person and in writing at group meetings and research symposiums

Principal Investigator

Dr. Robert Pavlica Science Research Program | Byram Hills High School

2022 - 2025

- 3-year independent high school research project. Created the first self-learning agent for the online card game *Tales of Tribute*, where previous agents had required explicit human domain knowledge.
- Designed, implemented, and validated a novel reinforcement learning pipeline. Formally analyzed results and presented work both orally and in writing
- 2025 National Junior Science and Humanities Symposium (JSHS): 2nd place in Math and Computer Science, poster presentations
- Published peer-reviewed paper in IEEE Xplore (IEEE Conference on Games, 2025)

Professional Pokémon Trading Card Game Player

Self-employed

August 2022 - Present

- Ranked #16 worldwide; multiple top-eight finishes at 2,500+ player tournaments
- Applied probabilistic modeling and expected-value optimization under incomplete information, strict time constraints, and \$15,000+ stakes
- Built a paid online learning community of 1,000+ worldwide students
- Generated >\$100,000 in revenue through competition, online content, and sponsorships

EDUCATION

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

Troy, NY, USA

B.S. Mathematics (Expected 2028) | M.S. Applied Math (Expected 2029)

GPA: 3.83/4.0 | Full-tuition merit scholarship

Relevant coursework: multivariable calculus, linear algebra, differential equations, probability theory, microeconomics

Byram Hills High School

Armonk, NY, USA

Class of 2025 | Graduated cum laude | ACT: 35

KEY SKILLS

Technical: Python, Reinforcement Learning, Graph Neural Networks, Statistical Modeling, Data Analysis, Supervised Learning, Model Validation, Statistical Reasoning

Other: Probabilistic Decision-Making, Expected-Value Optimization, Technical Writing, Research Communication, Independent Research