



15 April 2025

To whom it may concern

Re: Recommendation for Kevin Kühl Oliveira to attend the Hong Kong Laureate Forum 2025

I am writing to recommend Kevin Kühl Oliveira to be selected to attend the Hong Kong Laureate Forum 2025 as a young scientist. I am an HKLF alumni myself. I attended the inaugural HKLF as a young scientist.

Kevin is approaching the end of the first year of his PhD candidature here in the School of Mathematics and Statistics at UNSW Sydney working under the supervision of Prof. Gary Froyland. He is also a casual academic in the School and carries out several teaching-related duties including teaching tutorials and invigilating exams. My relationship with Kevin is primarily to do with the invigilation work that he does in the School, but I have interacted with Kevin in a wide range of contexts including in some research contexts.

In terms of Kevin's research, Dr Jason Atnip, a Lecturer in our school who is a close colleague of mine and works in Kevin's research group, comments that Kevin is "a bright young researcher working at the forefront of dynamical systems and machine learning." Dr Atnip also remarks that Kevin is an attentive student, regularly attending seminars and conferences.

My personal engagements with Kevin in terms of his research have been limited to listening to him discuss his work both in seminars and in informal settings. However, the enthusiasm he conveys and his ability to customise the way he talks about his research to what he knows of his audience's background, a skill that is particularly important in a setting such as the HKLF, always makes me want to know more and find ways for us to connect our areas of interest. Nevertheless, he is constantly seeking ways to improve the way he conveys ideas. Recently, I had the pleasure of helping him prepare for one of his conference talks and giving feedback on it. I feel that we do not often come across PhD students who are very open to feedback and appreciate the importance of good communication. His limitless enthusiasm to discuss his research as well as general mathematics, science, and philosophy will undoubtedly allow him to carry several meaningful conversations throughout the HKLF with the other young scientists.

One aspect of Kevin's background that has contributed greatly to all aspects of his engagement with the mathematical community is his vast international experience. He is an experienced traveller having lived in France and Australia outside of his native Brazil, and he speaks four languages fluently: English, Portuguese, Spanish, and French. His past experiences not only make him amicable in widely international communities that are common in academia, such as at the HKLF, but also understanding of the diversity of academic and cultural contexts that people come from. I am sure that he is eager to expand his horizons and, in particular, better understand the scientific community in Asia.

Where I interact with him more often which is the teaching space, particularly in exam invigilation, Kevin has always struck me as a highly competent person in all things that he engages in. Dr Atnip and I both agree that he has a strong work ethic and is willing to do whatever is necessary to solve a problem, especially in unfamiliar situations. He often stays

past his assigned work hours to ensure that our undergraduate exams all go smoothly. We have been so impressed with his competence that we have given Kevin several leadership roles among the invigilation team and have promoted him to such roles much sooner than we have ever done with any other invigilator.

We believe that in all aspects of his work, Kevin's enthusiasm to learn is met only by his compassion for others. It is because of this that Kevin is shaping up to be an excellent teacher and mentor to his junior colleagues. It is also because of this that Kevin is well prepared to make the most of the inspiration that the HKLF has to offer. On the other hand, his charisma, confidence, curiosity, and overall friendly demeanour will enable him to bring many valuable and unique contributions to the HKLF. With my personal experience of interacting with the young scientists at the inaugural HKLF, I am confident that Kevin will be a stand-out participant and would make an excellent addition to the HKLF community. It is for these reasons that I recommend Kevin for the HKLF very strongly and without hesitation.

If you have any further questions about Kevin or my recommendation, please do not hesitate to contact me at the email address below. Thank you for your kind attention and consideration.

Sincerely,

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