João Franco
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PERSONAL DETAILS	**Ph.D. student in Complex Systems and Data Science** Vermont Complex Systems Institute University of Vermont Burlington, Vermont, USA *E-mail:* joao.franco@uvm.edu *Websites:* https://okfranco.github.io/, LinkedIn and Google Scholar profile	
RESEARCH INTERESTS	Complex Systems, Computational Social Science, Belief Dynamics	
EDUCATION	**The University of Vermont**, Burlington, Vermont, USA Ph.D. in Complex Systems and Data Science *Advisors:* Laurent Hébert-Dufresne and Juniper L. Lovato	2025–Present
	Nova School of Business and Economics (Nova SBE), Lisbon, Portugal M.Sc. in Finance with Area of Expertise in Data and Business Analytics *Advisor:* Joana Gonçalves de Sá B.Sc. in Management	2015–2020
PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE (ACADEMIC)	**Vermont Complex Systems Institute**, Burlington, Vermont, USA Graduate Research Assistant	2025–Present
	Social Physics and Complexity Lab, Lisbon, Portugal Technical Consultant	2025
	Copenhagen Business School, (Remote) Research Assistant (Part-time)	2022–2023
FUNDING & AWARDS	**Fulbright Grant for Ph.D. with FCT support**[1], Fulbright Portugal, Role: Awardee. ($22.000)	2025
	Nova Fellowship for Excellence, Nova SBE, Role: Awardee. (80% of M.Sc. tuition fees)	2018
	Nova Excelência Scholarship, Nova SBE, Role: Awardee, (1st year B.Sc. tuition fees)	2015
PUBLICATIONS	Preprints, in reverse chronological order:	

1. **J. Franco**[†], I. Damião[†], M. Silva, P. Almeida, P. Magalhães, J. Gonçalves-Sá (2026); *Cross-National Evidence of Disproportionate Media Visibility for the Radical Right in the 2024 European Elections*; arXiv.org

[†]These authors contributed equally to this work.

TALKS & POSTERS	**Evaluating Political Salience Using Topic Modeling Approaches**, Poster, CompleNet 2024	2024
TEACHING	**Strategy (B.Sc.)**, Teaching Assistant, Nova SBE [in-person]	2019
	Introduction to Programming in Python (B.Sc.), Teaching Assistant, Nova SBE [in-person]	2019
	Calculus I (B.Sc.), Teaching Assistant, Nova SBE [in-person]	2018
PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE (OTHER)	**Social Data Lab**, Lisbon, Portugal Data Analyst	2022–2024
	The Boston Consulting Group, Lisbon, Portugal & Stockholm, Sweden Strategy Consultant	2018, 2020–2022

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[1]Portugal's Foundation for Science and Technology

VARIA   Technical: Python, SQL, LaTex, Power BI, Looker Studio, SQL Server Products, Google Cloud Platform, Airflow

Languages: Portuguese (Native), English (Proficient), French (Basic)

Additional: Strategic planning, large-scale transformation initiatives, budgeting and financial forecasting, stakeholder management.