João Franco
Updated December 31, 2025

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/ (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
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
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.	