

João Cardoso

COMPUTER SCIENCE GRADUATE STUDENT

Alameda Campus, Lisbon, Portugal

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Education

Instituto Superior Técnico (IST) - Alameda Campus

Lisbon, Portugal

MASTER IN COMPUTER SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING (MEIC-A)

September 2023 - November 2025

- Specialization in Artificial Intelligence and Language and Information Technologies
- Average Grade: 18/20
- Thesis: “Hybrid Prompt Optimization for Sparse Autoencoder Feature Visualization in Large Language Models”
 - Developed task-specific prompt optimization algorithms for maximizing Sparse Autoencoder latent activations
 - Supervised by Professors [Arlindo Oliveira](#) and [Bruno Martins](#)
 - Final grade of **20/20**

Instituto Superior Técnico (IST) - Alameda Campus

Lisbon, Portugal

BACHELOR'S IN COMPUTER SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING (LEIC-A)

September 2020 - July 2023

- Average Grade: 17/20
- Academic Merit Diploma all three years (2020/21, 2021/22, 2022/23)

Scientific-Humanistic Secondary Education

Portugal

HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA

September 2017 - July 2020

- Average Grade: 19.5/20

Experience

Teaching Assistant - Natural Language Processing

Lisbon, Portugal

INSTITUTO SUPERIOR TÉCNICO (IST)

September 2024 - November 2024; September 2025 - November 2025

- Worked as a Teaching Assistant for the Natural Language Processing course in the MEIC-A program.
- Besides in-person teaching, also assisted with test and project grading.

Research Intern

Lisbon, Portugal

PRIBERAM LABS

February 2024 - July 2024

- Engineered and implemented a machine learning-based live speech transcription system leveraging state-of-the-art open source models.

Research Intern

Lisbon, Portugal

INESC-ID - HUMAN LANGUAGE TECHNOLOGIES

April 2023 - July 2024

- Conducted research on applying voice conversion techniques to restore historical and degraded audio recordings.

Course Author

Portugal

TREE2 - AFTERSCHOOL

April 2023 - May 2023

- Co-authored integral calculus course materials for high school students.

Multimedia Department Member

Lisbon, Portugal

SINFO

May 2022 - May 2023

- Produced and edited promotional materials including images and videos for Portugal's largest free tech conference.
- Was staff during the course of the event.

Writer & IT Infrastructure Head

Lisbon, Portugal

DIFERENCIAL

December 2020 - March 2023

- Led overhaul of the organization's WordPress website, improving user experience and content management capabilities.
- Authored several journalistic and opinion [articles](#) (in Portuguese).

Awards and Certifications

Academic Merit Diploma - MEIC-A	Instituto Superior Técnico
	2023/24
Axians Merit in Optimization and Algorithms	Instituto Superior Técnico
BEST STUDENT IN THE OPTIMIZATION AND ALGORITHMS MSc COURSE	2024/25
Academic Merit Diploma - LEIC-A	Instituto Superior Técnico
	2020/21, 2021/22, 2022/23
National Contest in Ethics and Practical Philosophy	APEFP (Portuguese Association of Ethics and Practical Philosophy)
1ST PLACE	2019
Certificate of Proficiency in English (CPE)	Cambridge Assessment English
C2 LEVEL	2017

Skills

Programming Languages & Technologies	Python, PyTorch, Java, C, JavaScript, SQL
Areas of Expertise	Machine Learning, Natural Language Processing, Deep Learning, Speech Processing, Data Analysis
Languages	Portuguese, English (C2 Proficiency)
Tools & Frameworks	Transformer Lens, SAE Lens, Git, Linux, Docker, WordPress, LaTeX, Image/Video Editing