José Guilherme de Almeida

PhD, computational biologist (they/them)

Education

Oct 2017 - 2022 European Bioinformatics Institute and University of Cambridge PhD in Computational Biology

Sep 2015 - Sep Universidade de Coimbra

> 2017 MSc in Cell and Molecular Biology with honours

Sep 2012 - Jul | Universidade de Coimbra 2015 BSc in Biochemistry

Relevant Research Experience

2022-current Computational Clinical Imaging Group @ Champalimaud Foundation

Under Nikolaos Papanikolaou

Post-doctoral fellow

- Development of robust machine- and deep-learning methods for prostate cancer detection and segmentation in multi-parametric magnetic ressonance imaging
- Creation of reproducible pipelines for image registration and radiomic feature extraction

2017 - 2022 Cancer data science group @ EMBL-EBI

Suvervised by Moritz Gerstung and George S. Vassiliou

PhD fellow

- Development of machine- and deep-learning methods to detect and characterize vast collections of cells in digitalised whole blood slides in a haematological cancer context. Predictive modelling of disease genotype using machine-learning methods to uncover cytomorphological profiles
- Statistical and Bayesian modelling of longitudinal targeted sequencing experiments to uncover the genetic and non-genetic factors driving clonal expansion. Phylogenetic and phylodynamic modelling of the lifelong trajectories of clones using single-cell colonies in healthy individuals

2016 - 2017 Data-driven molecular design group @ CNC-UC

Supervised by Irina S. Moreira

MSc student

- Development of machine-learning protocols to determine hot-spots (important residues) in the binding interfaces of proteins
- Structural and statistical analysis of large collections of protein-protein complexes and structural characterization of complexes with no known structure

Professional certificates

Docker & Kubernetes: The Practical Guide *Academind (online)*

Probability theory: foundations for data science Colorado Boulder University (online)

Econometrics: methods and applications *Erasmus University Rotterdam (online)*

Technical skills

Programming | Python (advanced user), R (advanced user), C (beginner)

Machine-learning | Machine-learning — scikit-learn (Python), caret (R)

Deep-learning — pytorch, lightning, MONAI, tensorflow, and related packages (Python)

Computer-vision | scikit-image, OpenCV (Python)

Statistical analysis | Frequentist methods

Bayesian methods (particularly MCMC)

Data visualization | ggplot2 (R)

Workflows | Containerisation (Docker)

Workflow management (snakemake)

Teaching Experience

2019 | EMBL Heidelberg

2019 EMBL Lautenschlager Summer School

Teaching young graduate students about practical bioimage analysis

2016 | Universidade de Coimbra

Workshops on Introductory Programming

Teaching young students about programming in Python and R

Fellowships, awards and honors

2017 | Universidade de Coimbra

Merit fellowship for exceptional curricular performance during my MSc

2017 - 2022 | European Molecular Biology Laboratory and support from the National Health Research Institute

PhD fellowship

Peer-reviewed research grants

2018-2021 | Fundação para Ciências e Tecnologia

Deep learning in cancer drug discovery: a pipeline for the generation of new therapies

Role: team member

2018-2021 | Fundação para Ciências e Tecnologia

Membrane proteins development of new computational approaches and its application to GPCRs

Role: team member

Other activities

2016 - 2017 | Junior Enterprise for Science and Technology (JEST)

Co-founder

JEST is a junior initiative I founded with a few colleagues that is dedicated to data science training among young students and services to external businesses

2018 | 20th EMBL PhD Symposium

Organization, speaker contact

Contacted different high-profile researchers to invite them to present at the 20th EMBL PhD Symposium

2019 | EBI-Sanger-Cambridge PhD Symposium (eSCAMPS) 2019

Website design

Developed and designed the website for the 2019 eSCAMPS

Languages

Portuguese | Native

English | Proficient

Spanish | Beginner

Scientific publications

2017

- 2022 | 1. **De Almeida, J. G.**, Gudgin, E., Besser, M., Dunn, W. G., *et al.* Computational analysis of peripheral blood smears detects disease-associated cytomorphologies. *medRxiv* (2022).
 - 2. Fabre, M. A., **de Almeida, J. G.**, Fiorillo, E., Mitchell, E., *et al.* The longitudinal dynamics and natural history of clonal haematopoiesis. *Nature* (*shared first-authorship with M Fabre*), 1–8 (2022).
- 2021 | 3. Preto, A. J., Matos-Filipe, P., **de Almeida, J. G.**, Mourão, J. & Moreira, I. S. in *Artificial Neural Networks* 267–288 (Springer, 2021).
- 4. Preto, A. J., Barreto, C. A., Baptista, S. J., Almeida, J. G. d., *et al.* Understanding the binding specificity of G-Protein coupled receptors toward G-proteins and arrestins: Application to the dopamine receptor family. *Journal of Chemical Information and Modeling* **60**, 3969–3984 (2020).
- 5. R Magalhães, P., Machuqueiro, M., G Almeida, J., Melo, A., *et al.* Dynamical rearrangement of human epidermal growth factor receptor 2 upon antibody binding: effects on the dimerization. *Biomolecules* **9**, 706 (2019).
- 6. Lemos, A., Melo, R., Preto, A. J., **Almeida, J. G.**, et al. In silico studies targeting G-protein coupled receptors for drug research against Parkinson's disease. *Current neuropharmacology* **16**, 786–848 (2018).
 - Melo, R., Lemos, A., Preto, A. J., Almeida, J. G., et al. Computational approaches in antibody-drug conjugate optimization for targeted cancer therapy. Current topics in medicinal chemistry 18, 1091– 1109 (2018).
 - 8. Melo, R., Lemos, A., Preto, A. J., Bueschbell, B., *et al.* An Overview of Antiretroviral Agents for Treating HIV Infection in Paediatric Population. *Current medicinal chemistry* (2018).
 - 9. Preto, A. J., **Almeida, J. G.**, Schaarschmidt, J., Xue, L. C., *et al.* Computational Tools for the Structural Characterization of Proteins and Their Complexes from Sequence-Evolutionary Data. *Encyclopedia of Analytical Chemistry: Applications, Theory and Instrumentation*, 1–19 (2018).
 - 10. **Almeida, J. G.**, Preto, A. J., Koukos, P. I., Bonvin, A. M. & Moreira, I. S. Membrane proteins structures: A review on computational modeling tools. *Biochimica et Biophysica Acta (BBA)-Biomembranes* **1859**, 2021–2039 (2017).
 - 11. Bastos, F. C., Corceiro, V. N., Lopes, S. A., **de Almeida, J. G.**, *et al.* Effect of tolbutamide on tetraethylammonium-induced postsynaptic zinc signals at hippocampal mossy fiber-CA3 synapses. *Canadian Journal of Physiology and Pharmacology* **95**, 1058–1063 (2017).
 - 12. Moreira, I. S., Koukos, P. I., Melo, R., **Almeida, J. G.**, *et al.* SpotOn: high accuracy identification of protein-protein interface hot-spots. *Scientific reports* **7**, 1–11 (2017).
 - 13. Sensoy, O., Almeida, J. G., Shabbir, J., Moreira, I. S. & Morra, G. in *Methods in Cell Biology* 205–245 (Academic Press, 2017).

Conference presentations

- 2021 | The Natural History of Clonal Haematopoiesis, CRUK Cambridge Centre Early Detection Programme 6th Annual Symposium, Cambridge
- 2020 Leveraging Automated Blood Cell Morphology for Myelodysplastic Syndrome Diagnosis and Prognosis Prediction, *Quantitative BioImaging Conference*, Oxford
- 2017 | Using big-data to understand the protein interface landscape, *Encontro de Jovens Investigadores de Biologia Computacional Estrutural*, Coimbra
- 2016 | A Machine Learning Based Protein-Protein Hot-Spot Prediction Method SpotOn, *Encontro de Jovens Investigadores de Biologia Computacional Estrutural*, Lisbon