

# Luís Leitão

MSc STUDENT IN ENGINEERING  
PHYSICS

## Contact

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## About me

I'm an adventurous and open-minded person, constantly trying to challenge myself mentally and physically. I have a deep interest in applying mathematics, physics, and machine learning to uncover patterns behind the complexity of this world: from financial markets and economic behaviour to language and cultural evolution. Want to know more about me? Visit my website!

## Technical skills

**Programming:** Python, SQL, LaTeX, Matlab  
**Tools:** Git, VS Code, Linux, macOS, Windows

## Languages

Portuguese - C2 (native)  
English - C1  
French - A2 (learning)

## Interests

Reading, running, cycling, swimming, spearfishing, investing, music, surfing

## Education

**Master's degree in Engineering Physics** Sep 2023 – Present  
*FCUL – University of Lisbon*

- Currently pursuing the second year of the Master's degree with coursework spanning optics, nuclear physics, control theory, and complex systems (with a strong focus on stochastic calculus).

**Erasmus+ Exchange Student** Sep 2024 – Jan 2025  
*Sorbonne Université, Paris*

- Specialization in machine learning integrated within the MSc in Physics.

**Bachelor's degree in Engineering Physics** Sep 2019 – Aug 2022  
*FCT - NOVA*

- Developed strong foundations in mathematics, classical and quantum physics, electronics, and programming.
- Active in the student association: organized workshops, lectures and interviews. As Treasurer, managed the budget and bank account, and prepared detailed financial reports.

## Experience

**Research Fellow** Mar 2023 – Present  
*NUC-RIA, LIP*

- Supported by an 18-month FCT research grant, calculated atomic parameters for heavy ions and performed collision-radiative modelling for kilonovae nucleosynthesis.
- Supervised two bachelor's students during a summer internship focused on developing a database and a corresponding website for data access.
- Publication on *Physical Review A*: R. F. Silva, A. Flörs, L. Leitão, "Systematic Bayesian Optimization for Atomic Structure Calculations of Heavy Elements".
- Presented 1 talk and 3 posters at conferences including: IBER2023, Russbach 2024, FÍSICA2024 and NIC2025.

**Math and physics tutor** Jan 2020 – Sep 2024

- Math and physics tutor for high school students, balancing 4 to 9 hours per week alongside academic and research commitments.

**Intern** Jan 2022 – Mar 2022  
*Instituto de Astrofísica e Ciências do Espaço*

- Analyzed high-redshift galaxy spectra from the MOSDEF survey using Python and the FADO analysis tool, with the goal of predicting the contribution of nebulae to the global makeup of the galaxies.

## Volunteering

**School Assitant** Sep 2022 – Oct 2022  
*Escola Humberto Braima Sambu, Guiné Bissau*

- Took a gap year to volunteer at a local school in Bissau and travelling across the country. Taught mathematics and Portuguese, secured sponsorships in Portugal and conducted job interviews to recruit suitable teachers.

**Scout** Sep 2011 – Aug 2022  
*CNE*

- Member for 11 years, I started working and leading teams from an early age, and participated in various volunteer initiatives.