Ricardo Cruz, PhD







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Ricardo Cruz has worked on a wide range of machine learning topics, with particular emphasis on theoretical aspects of deep learning and computer vision – with 20+ publications and 100+ citations in such topics as: • adapting ranking models for class imbalance; • making convolutional neural networks invariant to background; • making them faster by adjusting the computational effort to each image; • losses for ordinal regression. He is a Post-doc Researcher on autonomous driving at the Faculty of Engineering, University of Porto, and he has been a researcher at INESC TEC since 2015, where his research earned him the computer science PhD in 2021. He has a BSc in computer science and a MSc in applied mathematics. He is frequently invited to teach at the Faculty of Engineering, University of Porto, where he earned a pedagogic award.

EDUCATION

2021 PhD Computer Science (joint degree University of Porto, Minho and Aveiro)

2015 M.Sc. Mathematical Engineering (Faculty of Sciences, University of Porto)

2012 B.Sc. Computer Science (Faculty of Sciences, University of Porto)



EMPLOYMENT

2021/09—present Post-doctoral Researcher on Autonomous Driving University of Porto (FEUP) [in partnership with Bosch]

- Collaboration between the University of Porto and Bosch Car Multimedia to improve autonomous driving perception
- Developed frameworks for object detection using camera and LiDAR (2D discretization and raw point-clouds)
- Published new methods for efficient semantic segmentation and ordinal regression

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- Supervised six master's theses, four bachelor's projects, and other team members
- Responsible for the HPC infrastructure (using Slurm)

2023/09–2024/02 Invited Auxiliary Professor, University of Porto (FEUP) Courses:

- OAT4001 & FACVC: Machine Learning

2021/09–2022/08 Invited Auxiliary Professor, University of Porto (FEUP) Courses:

- L.EIC003: Programming Fundamentals (Python)
- L.EEC009: Data Structures and Algorithms (C/C++)

2018/09–2021/08 Invited Teacher Assistant, University of Porto (FEUP) Courses:

- L.EIC003: Programming Fundamentals (Python)
- L.EIC009: Programming (C/C++)

2015/09-2021/08 Research Assistant on Machine Learning and Computer Vision

INESC TEC

- Research focus: re-thinking fundamentals about image classification and semantic segmentation (8+ publications)
- Some highlights: (1) a method for background invariance using adversarial training, (2) new losses that minimize absolute trade-offs between Type 1 and 2 errors instead of relative trade-offs, (3) using backpropagation also for inference to refine existing outputs, (4) deploying learning-to-rank methods for class imbalance
- Contributed to workshops, Summer School on Computer Vision (VISUM), and other events
- Twice awarded "outstanding recognition" for organizing workshops and helping with the HPC infrastructure

2014/09–2014/12 Research Grant on Mathematical Modelling Research Mathematics Center of the University of Porto (CMUP)

- Epidemiological models for HIV. A little of everything: from differential equations to stochastic simulations to cellular automata.



IMPACT AND CITATIONS

- \bullet Crossref h-index: 5 with 112 total citations (2024-04-05)
- Google Scholar h-index: 7 (2024-02)
- Best oral paper: 2021 RECPAD conference &

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Sources: • Citation counts are from Crossref. • IF (Impact Factor) comes from each journal's webpage. • SJR rank quantiles are from Scimago and relate to the subject category closest to machine learning (not necessarily the best quantile). • The CORE rank are from ICORE for whatever last year is available for that conference. (Last retrieval date: 2024-04-05)

JOURNAL PUBLICATIONS

Year	Paper	Citations	IF	SJR Rank
2024	[SUBMITTED] Weather and Meteorolog-	n/a	8.2	Q1
	ical Optical Range Classification for Au-			
	tonomous Driving			
	C. Pereira, R. Cruz, J. Fernandes, J. Pinto,			
	J. Cardoso			
	IEEE Transactions on Intelligent Vehicles			
2024	[SUBMITTED] A Case Study on Phishing	n/a	2.4	Q2
	Detection with a Machine Learning Net			
	A. Bezerra, I. Pereira, M. Ângelo, D. Coelho,			
	D. Oliveira, J. Costa, R. Cruz			
	Springer International Journal of Data Sci-			
205 :	ence and Analytics	,		
2024	[SUBMITTED] Learning Ordinality in Se-	n/a	8	Q1
	mantic Segmentation			
	R. Cristino, R. Cruz, J.Cardoso			
2024	Elsevier Pattern Recognition		,	
2024	[SUBMITTED] Unimodal Distributions for	n/a	n/a	Q1
	Ordinal Regression			
	J. Cardoso, R. Cruz, T. Albuquerque			
2023	IEEE Transactions on Artificial Intelligence	1	3.9	Q2
2023	Two-Stage Framework for Faster Semantic Segmentation \mathscr{O}	1	3.9	Q^2
	R. Cruz, D. Silva, T. Gonçalves, D. Carneiro,			
	J. Cardoso			
	MDPI AG Sensors			
2023	Rethinking low-cost microscopy workflow: Im-	0	n/a	Q1
2020	age enhancement using deep based Extended		11/ a	
	Depth of Field methods &			
	T. Albuquerque, L. Rosado, R. Cruz, M. Vas-			
	concelos, T. Oliveira, J. Cardoso			
	Elsevier BV Intelligent Systems with Applica-			
	tions			
2022	Quasi-Unimodal Distributions for Ordinal	2	2.4	Q2
	Classification &			
	T. Albuquerque, R. Cruz, J. Cardoso			
	$MDPI\ AG\ Mathematics$			

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Year	Paper	Citations	\mathbf{IF}	SJR Rank
2021	Ordinal losses for classification of cervical can-	15	3.8	Q2
	cer risk ℯ			
	T. Albuquerque, R. Cruz, J. Cardoso			
	PeerJ PeerJ Computer Science			
2019	Insulator visual non-conformity detection in	43	4.3	Q1
	overhead power distribution lines using deep			
	learning ?			
	R. Prates, R. Cruz, A. Marotta, R. Ramos,			
	E. Simas Filho, J. Cardoso			
	Elsevier BV Computers & Electrical Engineer-			
	ing			
2018	Binary ranking for ordinal class imbalance &	2	3.9	Q2
	R. Cruz, K. Fernandes, J. Costa, M. Ortiz,			
	J. Cardoso			
	Springer Science and Business Media LLC			
	Pattern Analysis and Applications			

BOOK CHAPTER PUBLICATIONS

Year	Paper	Citations	SJR Rank
2023	YOLOMM – You Only Look Once for Multi-modal	0	Q3
	Multi-tasking <i>♥</i>		
	F. Campos, F. Cerqueira, R. Cruz, J. Cardoso		
	Springer Nature Switzerland Progress in Pattern		
	Recognition, Image Analysis, Computer Vision, and		
	Applications - Lecture Notes in Computer Science		
2023	Condition Invariance for Autonomous Driving	0	Q3
	by Adversarial Learning \mathcal{O}		
	D. e Silva, R. Cruz		
	Springer Nature Switzerland Progress in Pattern		
	Recognition, Image Analysis, Computer Vision, and		
	Applications - Lecture Notes in Computer Science		
2023	Active Supervision: Human in the Loop \mathscr{O}	0	Q3
	R. Cruz, A. Shihavuddin, M. Maruf, J. Cardoso		
	Springer Nature Switzerland Progress in Pattern		
	Recognition, Image Analysis, Computer Vision, and		
	Applications - Lecture Notes in Computer Science		
2023	Interpretability-Guided Human Feedback During	1	Q3
	Neural Network Training \mathscr{O}		
	P. Serrano e Silva, R. Cruz, A. Shihavuddin, T.		
	Gonçalves		
	Springer Nature Switzerland Pattern Recognition		
	and Image Analysis - Lecture Notes in Computer		
	Science		

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Year	Paper	Citations	SJR Rank
2023	Evaluating the Performance of Explanation Meth-	0	Q3
	ods on Ordinal Regression CNN Models 💞		
	J. Barbero-Gómez, R. Cruz, J. Cardoso, P.		
	Gutiérrez, C. Hervás-Martínez		
	Springer Nature Switzerland Advances in Computa-		
	tional Intelligence - Lecture Notes in Computer Sci-		
	ence		
2019	Automatic Augmentation by Hill Climbing &	1	Q3
	R. Cruz, J. Pinto Costa, J. Cardoso		
	Springer International Publishing Lecture Notes in		
	Computer Science - Artificial Neural Networks and		
	Machine Learning – ICANN 2019: Deep Learning		
2017	Constraining Type II Error: Building Intentionally	3	Q3
	Biased Classifiers &		
	R. Cruz, K. Fernandes, J. Pinto Costa, J. Cardoso		
	Springer International Publishing Advances in Com-		
	putational Intelligence - Lecture Notes in Computer		
2017	Science	1	02
2017	Fine-to-Coarse Ranking in Ordinal and Imbalanced	1	Q3
	Domains: An Application to Liver Transplantation		
	M. Pérez-Ortiz, K. Fernandes, R. Cruz, J. Cardoso,		
	J. Briceño, C. Hervás-Martínez		
	Springer International Publishing Advances in Com-		
	putational Intelligence - Lecture Notes in Computer		
	Science		
2017	Combining Ranking with Traditional Methods for	7	Q3
	Ordinal Class Imbalance &		
	R. Cruz, K. Fernandes, J. Pinto Costa, M.		
	Pérez Ortiz, J. Cardoso		
	Springer International Publishing Advances in Com-		
	putational Intelligence - Lecture Notes in Computer		
	Science		
2017	Ordinal Class Imbalance with Ranking &	5	Q3
	R. Cruz, K. Fernandes, J. Pinto Costa, M. Ortiz,		
	J. Cardoso		
	Springer International Publishing Pattern Recogni-		
	tion and Image Analysis - Lecture Notes in Com-		
	puter Science		



PROCEEDINGS PUBLICATIONS

Year	Paper	Citations	CORE Rank
2023	Two-stage semantic segmentation in neural net-	0	С
	works ?		
	D. Teixeira e Silva, R. Cruz, T. Gonçalves, D.		
	Carneiro		
	SPIE Fifteenth International Conference on Ma-		
	chine Vision (ICMV 2022)		
2021	Background Invariance by Adversarial Learning &	1	В
	R. Cruz, R. Prates, E. Simas Filho, J. Pinto Costa,		
	J. Cardoso		
	IEEE 2020 25th International Conference on Pat-		
2010	tern Recognition (ICPR)		
2019	Averse Deep Semantic Segmentation \mathscr{O}	1	ightharpoonup C
	R. Cruz, J. Pinto Costa, J. Cardoso		
	IEEE 2019 41st Annual International Conference of		
	the IEEE Engineering in Medicine and Biology So- ciety (EMBC)		
2018	Deep Image Segmentation by Quality Inference	6	В
2010	K. Fernandes, R. Cruz, J. Cardoso		D
	IEEE 2018 International Joint Conference on Neu-		
	ral Networks (IJCNN)		
2018	A Class Imbalance Ordinal Method for Alzheimer's	0	
	Disease Classification &		
	R. Cruz, M. Silveira, J. Cardoso		
	IEEE 2018 International Workshop on Pattern		
	Recognition in Neuroimaging (PRNI)		
2016	Tackling class imbalance with ranking ${\mathscr O}$	23	В
	R. Cruz, K. Fernandes, J. Cardoso, J. Pinto Costa		
	IEEE 2016 International Joint Conference on Neu-		
	ral Networks (IJCNN)		

MSC SUPERVISIONS

Year	Student	Dissertation
on-going	Diana Teixeira Silva	Quantifying How Deep Implicit Representations Promote
		Label Efficiency
on-going	Francisco Gonçalves	Comparative Study on Self-Supervision Methods for Au-
	Cerqueira	tonomous Driving
2024	Airton Tiago	Data Augmentation for Ordinal Data &
2023	Alankrita Asthana	Iterative Inference for Point-Clouds
2023	Rafael Cristino	Introducing Domain Knowledge to Scene Parsing in Au-
		tonomous Driving &
2023	José Guerra	Uncertainty-Driven Out-of-Distribution Detection in 3D
		LiDAR Object Detection for Autonomous Driving & (In-
		ternship at Bosch Car Multimedia)
2022	Pedro Silva	Human Feedback during Neural Networks Training &

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Year	Student	Dissertation
2022	João Silva	Environment Detection for Railway Applications based on
		Automotive Technology 💞 (Internship at Continental)
2022	Ana Bezerra	Phishing Detection with a Machine Learning Net & (In-
		ternship at E-goi)

BSC SUPERVISIONS

Year	Student	Project
on-going	João Monteiro	Cross-vehicle collaboration using RGB cameras
on-going	Diogo Mendes	Automatic Recognition of Pig Activity in an Intensive
		Production System
on-going	Beatriz Sá	Research on Deep Augmentation for Ordinal Regression
2024	Eliandro Melo	Resource Efficiency using Deep Q-Learning in Au-
		tonomous Driving
2024	Ivo Duarte Simões	Resource Efficiency using PPO in Autonomous Driving
2023	Diana Teixeira Silva	Condition Invariance for Autonomous Driving by Adver-
		sarial Learning
2022	Diana Teixeira Silva	Semantic Segmentation in Neural Networks using Itera-
		tive Visual Attention
2022	Filipe Campos, Fran-	Mobile App using Object Detection for Car Driving &
	cisco Cerqueira, Vasco	
	Alves	
2022	Bruno Gomes, Rafael	Internship at ANO
	Camelo	

Jury Participation

- 2023/12 External Examiner @ U.Minho: MSc Dissertation "Prediction System for Municipal Waste Containers"
- 2023/07 Examiner @ INESC TEC: Evaluation of 6 summer interships (SCI 2023) on computer vision and machine learning
- **2022/10** External Examiner @ FEUP: MSc Dissertation "Neuroblastoma Cancer Radiogenomics"
- 2022/10 External Examiner @ FEUP: MSc Dissertation "AI-Based Models to Predict The Traumatic Brain Injury Outcome"
- 2022/07 Examiner @ INESC TEC: Evaluation of 2 summer interships (SCI 2022) on computer vision and machine learning
- 2022/07 Chairman @ FEUP: MSc Dissertation "Learning to write medical reports from EEG data"

- 2022/07 External Examiner @ U.Minho: MSc Dissertation "Detection and classification of small impacts on vehicles based on deep learning algorithms"
- 2021/12 External Examiner @ FCUP: MSc Dissertation "3D Lung Computed Tomography Synthesis using Generative Adversarial Networks"
- 2021/09 External Examiner @ U.Minho: MSc Dissertation "Feasibility of using autoencoders for learning car interior background models"
- 2021/07 Examiner @ INESC TEC: Evaluation of 4 summer interships (SCI 2021) on computer vision and machine learning

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AWARDS

- 2022 Bosch for Mobility: My students won Best New Participating Team in an autonomous driving competition
- **2021** INESC TEC Outstanding Recognition Award:

 ✓ INESC TEC internal award, reason: maintenance of the HPC infrastructure
- 2021 Pedagogic award (voted by students): University of Porto (FEUP)
- 2021 Best paper and presentation: PRECPAD national conference
- 2018 INESC TEC Outstanding Recognition Award: ${\cal O}$ INESC TEC internal award, reason: help organizing workshops
- 2017 Kaggle Bronze Medal (competition) and Silver (engagement)

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