



Joao Pinheiro Neto, PhD

POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCHER · PHYSICIST

✉ joaoxp@gmail.com | 🏠 joaopn.github.io | 📧 joaopn | 🌐 joaopn | 🎓 Google Scholar | ORCID

Summary

Physicist with experience in modeling collective dynamics of complex systems. I specialize in data analysis of large datasets, with an emphasis on data quality and sampling effects. Currently working on how the structure of social media impacts opinion spreading in social networks.

Education & Academic Experience

University of Graz

POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCHER

- lIdea Lab (PI: Prof. Dr. Jana Lasser)
- Funding: Austrian Science Fund

Graz, Austria

June. 2024 -

RWTH Aachen University

POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCHER

- Chair for Computational Social Sciences and Humanities (PI: Prof. Dr. Jana Lasser)
- Funding: University of Konstanz

Aachen, Germany

Nov. 2023 - Jun. 2024

University of Konstanz

POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCHER

- Social Data Science Lab, Department of Politics and Public Administration (PI: Prof. Dr. David Garcia)
- Funding: University of Konstanz

Konstanz, Germany

Feb. 2023 - Sep. 2023

Max Planck Institute for Dynamics and Self-Organization

POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCHER

- Physics of Social Systems Group, Department of Dynamics of Complex Fluids (PI: Prof. Dr. Stephan Herminghaus)
- Funding: Max Planck Society

Göttingen, Germany

Jan. 2021 - Jan. 2023

Georg August University of Göttingen

PHD IN PHYSICS

- Title: *Criticality and sampling in neuronal networks* (supervisor: Prof. Dr. Viola Priesemann)
- Funding: Brazilian Council for Scientific and Technological Development & Max Planck Society

Göttingen, Germany

Nov. 2017 - Jan. 2021

State University of Campinas

MSC IN PHYSICS

- Title: *A study on the dynamics of neural networks* (supervisor: Prof. Dr. José Antônio Brum)
- Funding: São Paulo Research Foundation

Campinas, Brazil

Feb. 2012 - Dec. 2014

University of Bremen

GUEST RESEARCHER

- Guest at the Complex Systems Lab (supervisor: Prof. Dr. Stefan Bornholdt)
- Funding: São Paulo Research Foundation

Bremen, Germany

Nov. 2013 - Mar. 2014

State University of Campinas

BSC IN PHYSICS

Campinas, Brazil

Feb. 2008 - Dec. 2011

Coding Skills

Proficient python, SQL, MongoDB, LLM stack, MATLAB, git, bash

Basic R, Julia, Mathematica, C/C++

Professional Experience

University of Graz

POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCHER

- Modeling and data analysis of multiple social media platforms.
- Large-scale data scraping and data cleaning
- Creation and maintenance of terabyte-range databases and data infrastructure
- Research on application of Large Language Models to computational social science

Graz, Austria

Jun. 2024 -

RWTH Aachen University

POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCHER

- Teaching of graduate-level courses for the CSS masters program.
- Co-supervision of 4 masters students.
- Modeling and data analysis of multiple social media platforms.
- Research on application of Large Language Models to computational social science

Aachen, Germany

Nov. 2023 - May 2024

University of Konstanz

POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCHER

- Modeling and data analysis of multiple social media platforms.
- Creation and maintenance of multi-billion-object PostgreSQL and MongoDB databases.
- Writing of grant proposals to research online platforms.
- Teaching of graduate-level university courses.

Konstanz, Germany

Feb. 2023 -

Max Planck Institute for Dynamics and Self-Organization

POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCHER

- Modeling and data analysis of multiple social media platforms.
- Data scraping and data cleaning.
- Creation and maintenance of multi-billion-object MongoDB databases.
- Network and NLP analysis of social media data.
- Supervision of 3 BSc students.

Göttingen, Germany

Jan. 2021 - Jan. 2023

Max Planck Institute for Dynamics and Self-Organization

PHD CANDIDATE

- Data analysis of large-scale experimental data in Neuroscience, using methods from Physics, Network Theory and Information Theory.
- Development of fast network dynamics simulations using CUDA and parallelization in MATLAB.
- Signal processing and filtering of timeseries.
- Supervision of 3 MSc students, and tutoring in several university block seminars.
- Modeling of COVID-19 spread using Bayesian inference.

Göttingen, Germany

Feb. 2015 - Jan 2021

State University of Campinas

STUDENT

- Modelling of large-scale dynamical networks using methods from Network Theory (clustering, community detection, etc).
- HPC simulations of particle physics interactions and development of a software to interpolate simulation results.
- Teaching assistant for undergraduate classes. Disciplines: Experimental Physics I (2009, 2011), Probability I (2010)

Campinas, Brazil

Feb. 2008 - Dec. 2014

Research Publications

6. **Neto, J. P.**, F. P. Spitzner, and V. Priesemann (2022). Sampling effects and measurement overlap can bias the inference of neuronal avalanches. *PLOS Computational Biology*, 18(11):1–22
5. F. P. Spitzner, J. Dehning, J. Wilting, A. Hagemann, **J. P. Neto**, J. Zierenberg, and V. Priesemann (2021). Mr. estimator, a toolbox to determine intrinsic timescales from subsampled spiking activity. *PLOS ONE*, 16:e0249447
4. J. Dehning, J. Zierenberg, F. P. Spitzner, M. Wibral, **J. P. Neto**, M. Wilczek, and V. Priesemann (2020). Inferring change points in the spread of covid-19 reveals the effectiveness of interventions. *Science*, 369:eabb9789
3. J. Dehning, F. P. Spitzner, M. C. Linden, S. B. Mohr, **J. P. Neto**, J. Zierenberg, M. Wibral, M. Wilczek, and V. Priesemann (2020). Model-based and model-free characterization of epidemic outbreaks. *medRxiv*, page 2020.09.16.20187484
2. J. Wilting, J. Dehning, **J. P. Neto**, L. Rudelt, M. Wibral, J. Zierenberg, and V. Priesemann (2018). Operating in a reverberating regime enables rapid tuning of network states to task requirements. *Frontiers in Systems Neuroscience*, 12
1. **J. P. Neto**, de M. A. M. Aguiar, J. A. Brum, and S. Bornholdt (2017). Inhibition as a determinant of activity and criticality in dynamical networks. *arXiv: 1712.08816*