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in https://www.linkedin.com/in/francisbernardo

#### **PROFILE**

• Experienced researcher, designer and engineer, with 8 years of industry experience and +10 years in publicly funded R&D projects • Specialised in user-centred design, complex UI architecture design and development • Well-rounded experience in CS fundamentals, programming paradigms, languages and design patterns • Experienced in machine learning toolkit and workflow design and development for sensor, audio, and physics-based simulation data • Experienced in agile and greenfield project management, technical leadership, documentation and writing, and in working across large software stacks for SaaS solutions in start-up and scale-up environments.

#### **EDUCATION**

PhD Computer Science – Goldsmiths, University of London	2020
MA Management in Creative Industries – Universidade Católica Portuguesa	2013
MSc Mobile Systems – University of Minho	2009
BSc Computer Science and Systems Engineering (5-year degree–300 ECTS) – University of Minho	2006

# **INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE**

# Frontend Software Engineer - Cegid Primavera, Portugal

Jan 2011 – April 2013

- Developed a modular software architecture and components for business analytics dashboards for OLAP and data warehousing in the Primavera Elevation SaaS (Silverlight, C#.NET, SQL Server, Analysis Services, WCF).
- Designed and developed the UI architecture, UX and content for Business Intelligence dashboards.
- Designed, developed and managed the project for a mobile iOS app for ERP global sales indicators (Objective-C).

## Senior Software Engineer and Project Manager – Ubisign, Digital Signage, Portugal

May 2007 – Jan 2011

- Advocated and accelerated the transition of a desktop software product to a cloud-based software-as-a-service, contributing to the company's acquisition by a larger market player.
- Led architecture and development of progressive Web applications for network and channel management, and content orchestration for a digital signage SaaS (Silverlight, XAML, Prism, C#.NET, WCF, SQLServer).
- Developed a high-performance desktop multimedia system and video plugins (C#.NET, WPF and DirectShow).
- Created new products including a gesture-based interactive catalogue for multimedia kiosks with audience analytics for intelligent content segmentation (WPF, C#.NET, Kinect, Intel AIM, C++, DirectShow, OpenCV).
- Instituted best practices for architecture and engineering of complex Web user interfaces.

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

## Postdoctoral Fellow in Digital Musical Instrument Design – Imperial College London, UK

Sept 2024-current

- Applied research on virtual analog modelling and simulation of circuits with Wave Digital Filters (Python, C++, Rust).
- Led design, engineering, and experimental evaluation of analog-digital audio circuits with ultra-low latency embedded systems (STM32H750, Altera DE-10 FPGA, Quartus Prime, System Verilog, Analog Devices Analog-Digital conversion).

#### Postdoctoral Fellow in Computational Design – University College London, UK

Sept 2021 - Sept 2024

- Led prototyping and evaluation projects with industry partners (Meta Reality Labs, Sony R&D, Ultraleap).
- Prototyped ultrasonic phased arrays, acoustic waveguides and metamaterials for wearable mid-air haptics (CAD, COMSOL Acoustics simulation, acoustic field measurement, Python, electronics, embedded C++, Verilog).
- Authored a computational framework for Al-driven optimisation with geometric modelling, finite elements method, and wave scattering simulation for metamaterials (Python, Fortran90, SALOME, ElmerFEM, HPC).
- Generated synthetic datasets and applied deep learning for generative design and optimisation of acoustic metamaterials (Python, scikit-learn, Pytorch).
- Supervised a PhD student in Computer Science (CS) and two MSc students in Data Science and Machine Learning.
- Delivered seminars in Algorithms and Data Structures to CS undergraduates (Python).

# Postdoctoral Fellow in Music Technology (AH/R005154/1) – University of Sussex, UK

Jan 2021 - Aug 2021

• Led system design, full-stack engineering, systems administration, and documentation for https://sema.codes, a Web-based integrated development environment for audio and machine learning (C++, Emscripten, WebAssembly,

## Javascript, CSS, HTML, Web Audio API, Svelte, NodeJS, Tensorflow.js, Nginx, AWS).

- Co-authored a new method and middleware for client-side browser compilation of domain-specific languages for audio signal processing and machine learning (won a Best Paper award, published in Audio Engineering Society).
- Conducted user research with mixed methods to refine user experience, workflows, documentation, instructional content and video tutorials (ethnography, usability evaluation, 5 workshops, 3 large scale surveys).
- Led community-building actions (2 summer schools, 2 performances, 4 public speaking events).
- Coordinated design work, mentored two interns, contributed to open-source software (<a href="https://mimicproject.com">https://mimicproject.com</a>,
   Maximilian C++ DSP library).

## Doctoral Researcher – Computing, Goldsmiths, University of London, UK

Feb 2021 - August 2021

- Doctoral thesis examined the design and the developer experience of machine learning APIs and tooling.
- Identified client research needs and strategic research goals for a technology transfer and innovation consortium with 3 leading-edge European research centres and 5 music technology start-ups (EU Horizon 2020).
- Co-designed/developed a software developer-friendly machine learning toolkit for multimodal experiences with sensor data (https://rapidmixapi.com) (C++, Emscripten, Javascript, HTML, CSS, React).
- Structured a developer-centric design research system for the consortium, carried out research with stakeholders and end users (co-design workshops, large-scale hackathons, surveys, interviews, ethnography, prototyping, cognitive walkthroughs, discount usability, mixed methods data analysis), contributed to the final official EU evaluation rating of "Excellent".
- Led research interventions and data collection with project stakeholders, machine learning researchers and creative developers (2 co-design workshops, 3 hackathons, 40+ interviews, ethnography, prototyping, cognitive walkthroughs, usability evaluation, mixed methods analysis) which informed the development of 6 new products.
- Produced 3 prototypes and middleware for data visualisation, machine learning, and mobile AR for Google ATAP Soli, the millimetre-wave radar-on-a-chip sensor (featured at Google I/O 2016, published research paper).

## **TECHNICAL SKILLS**

- Software Engineering and Architecture: desktop, web, mobile, embedded, and augmented reality applications.
- Programming Languages: Python, C#, C/C++, Rust, Obj-C, Java, Javascript, HTML, CSS, Haskell, SQL, Fortran, Verilog.
- Mobile Development: iOS, WP7, Windows Mobile 6.5, J2ME, Bluetooth protocol development.
- Software Design Methodologies: Agile, eXtreme Programming, SCRUM, design patterns and TDD.
- Hardware, signals and systems: Analog and digital electronic circuit design, embedded systems, signal processing
- Machine Learning: Foundational algorithms, Tensorflow.js, Pytorch.
- Modelling and Simulation: COMSOL Multiphysics, Salome, Elmer FEM, FreeCAD, Wave Digital Filters
- Front-end Frameworks: Svelte, React, WPF, DirectShow, Prism, Tensorflow.js, Fiddler, GraphEdit, SourceSafe, Openframeworks, OpenCV.
- **Backend**: Node.js, Webpack, Rollup, MySQL, MongoDB, MS SQL Server, MS Analysis Server, Apache Web Server, Nginx, Express, AWS, RIA Services, WCF, ADO.NET.
- **Development Environments**: VSCode, Visual Studio, XCode, Unity3D, PureData, Git, CI/CD, Github Actions, Travis, NUnit, FxCop, CruiseControl, Team Foundation Server.
- UI Prototyping: storyboards, sitemaps, user journeys, wireframes, mockups, 3D modelling and printing.
- Other: NVivo, RStudio, LaTex, Mendeley, MS Office Suite, Project and Visio, Adobe Premier, After Effects.

# **AWARDS AND HONOURS (selected)**

3x European Commission Seal of Excellence on H2020 Marie Skłodowska-Curie grant proposals	2021-2024
Best Paper award at Web Audio Conference, Trondheim, Norway.	2019
Prototypes for Google ATAP Soli Alpha Developer featured at the Google I/O 2016.	2016
Best Paper award at Vienna Music Business Research Days, Vienna, Austria.	2013

## **ADDITIONAL INFO**

Languages: Portuguese (native), English (proficient), Spanish (intermediate), French (basic).
Canadian, Portuguese, and British (triple) citizenship. Multi-instrumentalist (guitar 20+ years, piano 6 years)