Curriculum Vitae

João Aguiar Castro

João Aguiar Castro is a Data Steward at the Management Support Service (AG) of INESC TEC, where he is responsible for promoting and implementing Research Data Management and Open Science practices. His work focuses on developing institutional services and guidelines, supporting researchers in preparing data management plans, curating and publishing research data, and delivering training and capacity-building initiatives.

He holds a PhD in Digital Media (2020) and a Master's degree in Information Science from the University of Porto. He has been working in Research Data Management since 2013 and is an Invited Assistant Professor at the Faculty of Engineering of the University of Porto (FEUP), where he teaches Research Data Management and Knowledge Management.

Identification

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Affiliation

2021 – Present	Data Steward | Management Support Service INESC TEC
2018 – Present	Invited Assistant Professor Faculty of Engineering, University of Porto (FEUP)
2013 – 2020	Researcher INESC TEC

Education

2020	PhD in Digital Media University of Porto (FEUP)
2013	Master's degree in Information Science University of Porto (FEUP)
2009	Degree in History University of Porto (Faculty of Arts and Humanities)

Projects

Selected research projects

2025	FAIRway: A Pathway to Promote Open Science Through Research Data Lifecycle Management Co-Principal Investigator (Co-PI) | RI/00139/2024
2019 – 2022	EPISA — Entity and Property Inference for Semantic Archives FCT | DSAIPA/DS/0023/2018
2015 – 2020	Engaging researchers in research data management: creating metadata models for multi-domain dataset description FCT doctoral research | PD/BD/114143/2015
2016 – 2019	TAIL — Research data management from production to deposit and sharing FCT | PTDC/EEI-ESS/1672/2014

Institutional responsibilities

Research data management support, including data management planning, metadata curation, research data publication, institutional services and guidelines, and training for researchers.

Professional engagement

2026	Session Chair — Data Stewards session International Digital Curation Conference (IDCC)
2025	National survey on the role of professionals supporting research data management Co-author | 10.5281/zenodo.17662516
2018	Multi-domain Research Data Management: from metadata collection to data deposit Workshop co-organiser | International Conference on Theory and Practice of Digital Libraries

Teaching in higher education

2021 – Present	Transferable Skills — Research Data Management FEUP | Doctoral and continuing education
2019 – Present	Knowledge Management and Collaboration FEUP | Master's in Information Science
2018	Knowledge Representation FEUP | Master's in Information Science

Supervision

2024 – 2025	Marine and environmental data management and sharing: CIIMAR Watch case study Master's in Information Science | Supervisor
2020	Data management plan for FAIR data: FRAILSURVEY use case Master's in Information Science | Supervisor
2020	Application of Research Data Alliance recommendations in Portuguese research groups Master's in Information Science | Co-supervisor
2018 – 2019	Application of LabTablet in a laboratory environment: i3S case study Master's in Bioengineering | Co-supervisor

Selected conference contributions

2026	FAIRway: A Pathway to Open and FAIR Research Data — Empowering Researchers and Institutions IDCC | Poster
2025	Introducing Doctoral Students to Data Management Plans: Insights from a Transversal Skills in RDM course IDCC | Oral presentation
2025	Mapping institutional RDM practices: lessons from FAIRway Fórum GDI | Oral presentation
2024	The strategic role of the Data Steward in developing DMPs for large-scale projects: the INESC TEC case Fórum GDI | Oral presentation

Selected publications

Journal articles, book chapters and conference papers

2023	Castro, J. A., et al. Getting in touch with metadata: a DDI subset for FAIR metadata production in clinical psychology. IASSIST Quarterly. 10.29173/iq1008
2022	Maciel, A., Castro, J. A., et al. Fostering the Adoption of DMP in Small Research Projects through a Collaborative Approach. International Journal of Digital Curation. 10.2218/ijdc.v17i1.849
2020	Castro, J. D. A., et al. Role of Content Analysis in Improving the Curation of Experimental Data. International Journal of Digital Curation. 10.2218/ijdc.v15i1.705
2019	Rodrigues, J., Castro, J. A., et al. Hands-On Data Publishing with Researchers: Five Experiments with Metadata in Multiple Domains. Springer. 10.1007/978-3-030-11226-4_22
2018	Ribeiro, C., et al. Research Data Management Tools and Workflows: Experimental Work at the University of Porto. IASSIST Quarterly. 10.29173/iq925
2016	Amorim, R. C., Castro, J., et al. A comparison of research data management platforms: architecture, flexible metadata and interoperability. Universal Access in the Information Society. 10.1007/s10209-016-0475-y
2014	Castro, J. A., da Silva, J. R., & Ribeiro, C. Creating lightweight ontologies for dataset description: practical applications in a cross-domain research data management workflow. 10.1109/jcdl.2014.6970185

Distinctions

2017	Best Student Paper Award