

Fábio André Pereira Couto

Fábio Couto is a researcher working on technology management, socio-technical AI, AI-enabled organizational systems and Human-AI Collaboration. He completed his bachelor's degree with 16/20, and graduated with a GPA of 18/20 and 20/20 for his master's thesis in E-Business, focused on managing Digital Transformation in Cooperatives using Digital Transformation frameworks and Digital Maturity models. This early focus on digital transformation in organisations sparked a lasting interest in governance, coordination, and decision-making in technology-enabled settings, which continues to shape his current research.

He is enrolled in the Doctoral Program in Digital Media (FEUP), majoring in Technologies and Human-Machine Interaction, with a final grade of 19/20 in the Research Methodologies course (best-in-class). Since 2022, he accumulated 3+ years of involvement in funded research and 2.5+ years of full-time research experience, first as a researcher at CEOS.PP and currently at INESC TEC (since Feb 2025), within projects related to the sociotechnical integration of AI in organizations, both following Design Science Research approaches (CTI, HumanAI4PM).

He was involved, after competitive selection, in 5 funded projects including Verão com Ciência 2022 (FCT), AgroVila (PRR), Centros de Tecnologia e Inovação - CTI (PRR), HumanAI4PM (P2030) and Link Me Up - 1000 Ideias co-creation program (POCH/FSE; Demola). These experiences strengthened his ability to conduct applied, multi-stakeholder research and translate organizational needs into actionable models, methods, and evaluation evidence.

Fábio has 6 peer-reviewed papers: 2 journal articles, one published in 2025 and another in 2026; 4 conference papers, including PRO-VE 2025 and HCI International 2024. He also disseminated results through 2 conference posters, 6 conference abstracts, and 1 technical report. He is an invited lecturer since 2024 in postgraduate and master's programs on digital transformation (ISCAP and Porto Executive Academy) and co-supervised 2 Master's projects, one on Digital Transformation strategies (18/20) and one on Sociotechnical Digital Twins for Human-AI Collaboration (ongoing). In total, Fábio has been involved in the production of 17 scientific outputs (11 as first author), evidencing a consistent dissemination pipeline.

His scientific service includes reviewing for EurOMA and ad hoc reviewing for Humanities and Social Sciences Communications (Springer Nature). He co-organized and co-led a co-creation workshop at the 13th EurOMA Sustainable Operations and Supply Chains Forum and served on the organizing committee of the Digital Media Doctoral Symposium 2026; he also chaired a session at HCI International 2024 and represented INESC TEC at the Gaia-X Summit 2025, reinforcing his engagement with international research communities.

Fábio served as guest speaker 3 times at academia and industry venues, and is a member of the self-evaluation committee for his former master's degree. His achievements were recognized with 3 awards: Best Student in the E-Business MSc (2021-2023), a DGES merit scholarship (2024), and a regional win in Link Me Up - 1000 Ideias & Demola Global (2023). Internationally, he completed an Erasmus+ ICM mobility semester in Bosnia-Herzegovina (2022) and an Erasmus+ internship in Spain (2019-2020). He also engaged in civic volunteering abroad through the European Solidarity Corps in Poland (2020) and gained additional international work experience in Germany (2021).

Identification

Personal identification

Full name
Fábio André Pereira Couto

Gender
Male

Citation names

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<https://www.linkedin.com/in/fabioapcouto/> (Professional)
<https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Fabio-Couto-3> (Scholar)

Knowledge fields

Engineering and Technology
Social Sciences - Economics and Business - Business and Management
Social Sciences - Media and Communications - Information Science

Languages

Language	Speaking	Reading	Writing	Listening	Peer-review
Portuguese (Mother tongue)					
English	Advanced (C1)	Advanced (C1)	Advanced (C1)	Advanced (C1)	Advanced (C1)
Spanish; Castilian	Intermediate (B1)	Intermediate (B1)	Elementary (A2)	Intermediate (B1)	Elementary (A2)
French	Intermediate (B1)	Intermediate (B1)	Intermediate (B1)	Intermediate (B1)	Beginner (A1)

Education

	Degree	Classification
2024/09/16 - 2030/08/31 Ongoing	Doctoral Program in Digital Media (Doctorate) Major in Technologies and Human-Machine Interaction Universidade do Porto Faculdade de Engenharia, Portugal	
2021 - 2023 Concluded	Electronic Business (Master's Degree) Major in Digital Transformation Management and Maturity Models Instituto Politécnico do Porto Instituto Superior de Contabilidade e Administração do Porto, Portugal <i>"A Digital Transformation Model for Cooperatives of Services" (THESIS/DISSERTATION)</i>	MSc: 18 // Thesis: 20
2022/02/20 - 2022/07/10 Concluded	Digital Economy (Erasmus+ ICM) (Master) Faculty of Business Economics - University of East Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina	
2016 - 2019 Concluded	Languages, Literatures and Cultures (Licenciate Degree) Major in Portuguese and English studies Universidade do Porto Faculdade de Letras, Portugal	16
2013 - 2016 Concluded	Computer Systems Management and Programming Technician (High School) Escola Profissional do Infante, Portugal	15

Affiliation

Science

	Category Host institution/organization	Employer
2025/02/01 - Current	Researcher (Research)	Instituto de Engenharia de Sistemas e Computadores Tecnologia e Ciência, Portugal
2023/07/01 - 2025/01/15	Researcher (Research)	Instituto Politécnico do Porto Centro de Estudos Organizacionais e Sociais, Portugal

Teaching in Higher Education

	Category Host institution/organization	Employer
2024/03/01 - Current	Invited Assistant (University Teacher) Porto Executive Academy, Portugal	Faculdade de Ciências Empresariais da Universidade Técnica do Porto, Portugal
2024/01/03 - Current	Invited Assistant (University Teacher) Faculdade de Ciências Empresariais da Universidade Técnica do Porto, Portugal	Faculdade de Ciências Empresariais da Universidade Técnica do Porto, Portugal

Others

	Category Host institution/organization	Employer
2021/01 - 2021/04	English Language Tutor	AuPairWorld, Germany
2020/09 - 2020/11	Social Volunteer (European Solidarity Corps)	Fundacja EBU, Poland
2019/09 - 2020/03	Erasmus+ Traineeship (Bachelor's)	Asociación Educativa por la Integración y la Igualdad (AEII), Spain

Projects

Grant

	Designation	Funders
2026/10/01 - 2026/12/31	Governance of Hybrid Human-Artificial Actor Networks Call for Expressions of Interest under the Visiting Scholars Program Principal investigator Massachusetts Institute of Technology, United States	Massachusetts Institute of Technology MIT Portugal Program, Portugal Ongoing
2023/03/01 - 2023/05/31	6ª Edição "Link Me Up- 1000 Ideias" (Porto - Q6) POCH-04-5267-FSE-000825 Research Fellow Instituto Politécnico do Porto Instituto Superior de Contabilidade e Administração do Porto, Portugal Instituto Politécnico do Porto Escola Superior de Media Artes e Design, Portugal Instituto Politécnico do Porto Instituto Superior de Engenharia do Porto, Portugal	Demola: Link me UP - 1000 ideas, Portugal Concluded
2022/09/01 - 2022/09/30	Verão com Ciência 2022 Verão com Ciência 2022 Scientific Initiation Fellow Instituto Politécnico do Porto Centro de Estudos Organizacionais e Sociais, Portugal	Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia, Portugal Concluded

Contract

	Designation	Funders
2026/04/01 - Current	HumanAI4PM AAC n.º MPr-2023-7 Researcher Instituto de Engenharia de Sistemas e Computadores Tecnologia e Ciência, Portugal	Portugal 2030, Portugal Ongoing
2027/01/01 - 2030/08/31	Governing Human-AI Collaboration in Production Management: A Sociotechnical Design Framework for Industrial SMEs 2026.00693.BD Principal investigator Instituto de Engenharia de Sistemas e Computadores Tecnologia e Ciência, Portugal Universidade do Porto Faculdade de Engenharia, Portugal	Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia, Portugal Ongoing
2025/02/01 - 2026/03/31	Centros de Tecnologia e Inovação (CTI) 03/C05-i02/2022.P21 Research Fellow Instituto de Engenharia de Sistemas e Computadores Tecnologia e Ciência, Portugal	Programa de Recuperação e Resiliência, Portugal Concluded

2023/07/01 - 2025/01/15

Projeto AgroVila

14/C05-i03/2022.PPRR-C05-i03-I-000166-LA10.5

Research Fellow

Instituto Politécnico do Porto Centro de Estudos
Organizacionais e Sociais, PortugalPrograma de
Recuperação e
Resiliência, Portugal

Concluded

Outputs

Publications

Conference abstract	1	Couto, Fábio; Curado Malta, Mariana; Soares, António Lucas. Corresponding author: Couto, Fábio. "Towards a Framework for the Integration of Artificial Intelligence in Supply Chain Organisations". Paper presented in <i>6th Doctoral Congress in Engineering 2025 (DCE25) - Symposium on Informatics, Porto, 2025</i> . Published · https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.21379694
	2	Meira, Deolinda; Couto, Fábio; Bernardino, Susana; Curado Malta, Mariana. Corresponding author: Meira, Deolinda. "A adequação da forma jurídica cooperativa para enquadrar os mercados locais digitais AgroVila". Paper presented in <i>Dia do Investigador CEOS.PP - DICEOS24, Porto, 2024</i> . Published · https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.21379564
	3	Meira, Deolinda; Couto, Fábio; Curado Malta, Mariana; Bernardino, Susana. Corresponding author: Meira, Deolinda. "La idoneidad de la forma jurídica cooperativa para enmarcar los mercados locales-digitales agrovila en el contexto de la economía colaborativa". Paper presented in <i>Ecoovida - COP 16, Cali, 2024</i> . Published · https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.21376028
	4	Curado Malta, Mariana; Couto, Fábio; Marco Oliveira; Bernardino, Susana. "Projeto AgroVila". Paper presented in <i>Dia do Investigador CEOS.PP DICEOS23, Porto, 2023</i> . Published · https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.21379319
	5	Couto, Fábio; Curado Malta, Mariana; Azevedo, Ana Isabel Rojão Lourenço. Corresponding author: Couto, Fábio. "A Digital Transformation Model for Cooperatives of Services". Paper presented in <i>Dia do Investigador CEOS.PP DICEOS23, Porto, 2023</i> . Published · https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.21379018
	6	Couto, Fábio; Curado Malta, Mariana; Azevedo, Ana Isabel Rojão Lourenço. Corresponding author: Couto, Fábio. "Towards a Digital Transformation Model for Service Cooperatives". Paper presented in <i>XVI Congress RulesCOOP, Porto, 2023</i> . Published · https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.21376563
Conference paper	1	Couto, Fábio; Curado Malta, Mariana; Lucas Soares, António. Corresponding author: Couto, Fábio. "A Governance Design Framework for Human-AI Collaboration in SMEs' Production Management". Paper presented in <i>27th IFIP/SOCOLNET Working Conference on Virtual Enterprises - PRO-VE 2026, Padova, 2026</i> . Accepted

- 2 Zimmermann, Ricardo; Freires, Gaudêncio; Fontes, Cristiano; Gomes, Jorão; Freitas, Fernanda; Couto, Fábio; Dalmarco, Gustavo; Lucas Soares, António. Corresponding author: Zimmermann, Ricardo. "Towards a socio-technical AI profiling tool for supply chain contexts: insights from iterative focus groups". Paper presented in *27th IFIP/SOCOLNET Working Conference on Virtual Enterprises - PRO-VE 2026, Padova, 2026*.
Accepted
- 3 Pereira, Vítor; Couto, Fábio; Lucas Soares, António. Corresponding author: Pereira, Vítor. "A Sociotechnical AI Digital Twin Framework for Modelling and Assessing Hybrid Human-Artificial Actor Networks". Paper presented in *27th IFIP/SOCOLNET Working Conference on Virtual Enterprises - PRO-VE 2026, Padova, 2026*.
Accepted
- 4 Couto, Fábio; Paiva, Jerónimo; Bernardino, Susana; Curado Malta, Mariana; Azevedo, Ana; Pereira, Inês Veiga. Corresponding author: Azevedo, Ana. "What Drives Portuguese Consumers in e-Grocery? Preferences, Barriers, and Business Implications". Paper presented in *IDEEA'26 – Research, Development, Experience and Academic Exploration, Coimbra, 2026*.
Accepted
- 5 Couto, Fábio; Curado Malta, Mariana; Lucas Soares, António. Corresponding author: Couto, Fábio. "Collaborating with Algorithms: AI for Collaborative Supply Chain Management". Paper presented in *26th IFIP/SOCOLNET Working Conference on Virtual Enterprises - PRO-VE 2025, Porto, 2025*.
Published · https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-032-05673-3_12
- 6 Freitas, Fernanda; Zimmermann, Ricardo; Freires, Gaudencio; Couto, Fábio; Fontes, Cristiano; Lucas Soares, Antonio; Dalmarco, Gustavo; Rhodes, Donna; Gomes Jr., Jorão. Corresponding author: Gomes Jr., Jorão. "Socio-Technical AI Maturity in Supply Chains: Insights from the Pulp and Paper Sector". Paper presented in *26th IFIP/SOCOLNET Working Conference on Virtual Enterprises - PRO-VE 2025, Porto, 2025*.
Published · https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-032-05673-3_11
- 7 Couto, Fábio; Curado Malta, Mariana. Corresponding author: Couto, Fábio. "Contributions for the Development of Personae: Method for Creating Persona Templates (MCPT)". Paper presented in *HCI International 2024, Washington D. C., 2024*.
Published · https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-76803-3_1

Conference poster

- 1 Couto, Fábio; Curado Malta, Mariana; Bernadino, Susana. Corresponding author: Couto, Fábio. "O Modelo de Negócio AgroVila". Paper presented in *Dia do Investigador CEOS.PP - DICEOS24, 2024*.
<https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.14195954>
- 2 VAZ, HUGO; Couto, Fábio. Corresponding author: VAZ, HUGO. "Pencil Survival in the Future". Paper presented in *In2CoP 2024 - Conferência Internacional em Processos de Cocriação no Ensino Superior, 2024*.
<https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.14193457>

Journal article

- 1 Couto, Fábio; Curado Malta, Mariana. Corresponding author: Couto, Fábio. "Applying Directed Qualitative Content Analysis for Data-driven Persona Creation: A Case Study on User-Centred Digital Marketplace Development". *Interacting with Computers* (2026):
Published · <https://doi.org/10.1093/iwc/iwag010>

- 2 Couto, Fábio; Curado Malta, Mariana. Corresponding author: Couto, Fábio. "Aligning Frameworks: Identifying Compatible Pairs of Digital Transformation and Maturity Models". *Springer Nature Computer Science (SN Computer Science)* 6 948 (2025):
Published · <https://doi.org/10.1007/s42979-025-04471-7>

Report 1 Couto, Fábio; Curado Malta, Mariana; Bernardino, Susana. Corresponding author: Couto, Fábio. 2026. *Descrição do Modelo de Negócio AgroVila*. <https://www.iscap.pt/edicoesceos/index.php/livros/issue/view/60>.
<https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.18434735>

Thesis / Dissertation 1 Couto, Fábio André Pereira. "A Digital transformation model for cooperatives of services". Master, Instituto Politécnico do Porto Instituto Superior de Contabilidade e Administração do Porto, 2023. <http://hdl.handle.net/10400.22/23357>.

Website 1 Couto, Fábio. *Institutional Website of the AgroVila Project*. 2023. <https://agrovila.org/>.

Other

- Other output 1 A Sociotechnical AI Digital Twin Framework for Modelling and Assessing Hybrid Human-Artificial Actor Networks. 2026. Pereira, Vítor Neves; Couto, Fábio; Lucas Soares, António. <https://hdl.handle.net/10216/176047>.
- 2 Plano de transformação digital para uma IPSS. O caso da Santa Casa da Misericórdia de Aljezur. 2024. Visitação, Joana; Couto, Fábio; Meira, Deolinda. <http://hdl.handle.net/10400.22/27003>.

Activities

Oral presentation

	Presentation title	Event name Host (Event location)
2025/11/11	Focus Groups: From Preparation to Publication of Results	Guest Speaker in the Research Methodology Course Master's Degree in Information Science - FEUP (Porto, Portugal)
2024/11/13	The Future of the Social Economy: Leveraging AI with Purpose	Guest Speaker at Diálogos com Inteligência Artificial. IA: Um Recurso para a Economia Social? (3ª Sessão) Universidade Aberta e IEFP (Santa Maria da Feira, Portugal)

2024/10/22

The AgroVila Platform's Business Model

Guest Speaker for the course on
Introduction to E-Commerce
Master's Degree in E-Business - ISCAP
(Porto, Portugal)

Supervision

Thesis Title
Role

Degree Subject (Type)
Institution / Organization

2026/03/05 -
2026/07/20

A Sociotechnical AI Digital Twin
Framework for Modelling and Assessing
Hybrid Human-Artificial Actor Networks
Co-supervisor of Vítor Neves Pereira

Industrial Engineering and
Management (Master)
Instituto de Engenharia de Sistemas e
Computadores Tecnologia e Ciência,
Portugal
Universidade do Porto Faculdade de
Engenharia, Portugal

2023/09/19 -
2024/10/31

Digital Transformation Plan for a Social
Solidarity Institution (IPSS) – The Case of
Santa Casa da Misericórdia de Aljezur
Co-supervisor of Joana Visitação

Business and Legal Practices in the
Social Economy (Master)
Instituto Politécnico do Porto Instituto
Superior de Contabilidade e
Administração do Porto, Portugal

Event organisation

Event name
Type of event (Role)

Institution / Organization

2026/07/10 -
2026/09/11

INESC TEC 2026 Annual Strategic
Meeting, organised by BEAR
(2026/09/11)
Meeting (Member of the Organising
Committee)

Instituto de Engenharia de Sistemas e
Computadores Tecnologia e Ciência,
Portugal

2026/02/26 -
2026/03/17

Co-creation session "Integrating AI in
Sustainable Supply Chains: Co-creating
Progression Vectors and Roadmaps for
the SC-STAI Profiling Tool" (2026/03/17)
Workshop (Co-organiser)

13th EurOMA Sustainable Operations
and Supply Chains Forum, Portugal

2025/11/10 - 2026/01/26

Organization of the Digital Media
Doctoral Symposium 2026 (2025/12/31 -
2026/01/26)
Symposium (Member of the Organising
Committee)

Universidade do Porto Faculdade de
Engenharia, Portugal

Event participation

Activity description
Type of event

Event name
Institution / Organization

2026/03/16 -
2026/03/17

Technical Support to Parallel Session
Speakers
Conference

13th EurOMA Sustainable Operations
and Supply Chains Forum
Instituto de Engenharia de Sistemas e
Computadores Tecnologia e Ciência,

Portugal
Universidade do Porto Porto Business
School, Portugal

2025/12/31 - 2026/01/26	The Idea Puzzle Software for Research Design (Tutorial) Symposium	Digital Media Doctoral Symposium 2026 Universidade do Porto Faculdade de Engenharia, Portugal
2024/07/04 - 2024/07/04	Parallel Session Chair "Design Thinking, User Engagement, and Collaborative Creativity" Conference	DUXU: 13TH International Conference on Design, User Experience and Usability HCI International 2024, United States
2019/04/04 - 2019/04/07	FLUP Representative at MOSTRA UP 2019 Exhibition	17ª Mostra da Universidade do Porto 2019 Universidade do Porto Faculdade de Letras, Portugal

Ad Hoc journal article review

	Journal title (ISSN)	Publisher
2025/12/26 - Current	Humanities and Social Sciences Communications (2662-9992)	Springer Nature

Association member

	Society Organization	Role
2025/09/25 - Current	Boosting Early Stage Researchers (BEAR) - INESC TEC Internal Network	Founding Member

Committee member

	Activity description Role	Institution / Organization
2024/05/24 - 2025/07/01	Member of the self-assessment committee for the Master's program in E-Business Member	Instituto Politécnico do Porto Instituto Superior de Contabilidade e Administração do Porto, Portugal

Conference scientific committee

	Conference title	Conference host
2025/11/17 - 2026/03/17	13th EurOMA Sustainable Operations and Supply Chains Forum	Porto, Portugal

Course / Discipline taught

	Academic session	Degree Subject (Type)	Institution / Organization
2024/03/15 - Current	Digital Transformation in Social Organizations	POSTGRADUATE PROGRAM IN	Porto Executive Academy, Portugal

INNOVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF SOCIAL ORGANIZATIONS (Postgraduate Program)

2024/01/03 - Current	Digital Transformation in Social Economy Organizations	MASTER'S DEGREE IN BUSINESS AND LEGAL PRACTICES IN THE SOCIAL ECONOMY (Master's Degree)	Instituto Politécnico do Porto Instituto Superior de Contabilidade e Administração do Porto, Portugal
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Scientific expedition

	Activity description	Institution / Organization
2026/10/01 - 2026/12/31	Visiting Researcher at the Sociotechnical Systems Research Center (SSRC)	Massachusetts Institute of Technology, United States

Distinctions

Award

2024	Best Student in the Master's Program in E-Business (2021–2023) Instituto Politécnico do Porto Instituto Superior de Contabilidade e Administração do Porto, Portugal
2024	Academic Merit Scholarship (2022–2023 Academic Year) Direção-Geral do Ensino Superior (DGES), Portugal
2023	Regional Winner (Porto - Q6) of the Co-Creation and Business Innovation competition “Link Me Up – 1000 Ideias & Demola Global” with the project “Pencil Survival in the Future – Viarco Indústria do Lápis, Lda” Demola: Link me UP - 1000 ideas, Portugal

Other distinction

2026	PhD Research Scholarship - 2026.00693.BD Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia, Portugal
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