

# José Fragoso Santos

🏠 INESC-ID

Av. Rovisco Pais, 1

☎ +351 915790280

✉ jose.fragoso@tecnico.ulisboa.pt

🌐 j3fsantos

🌐 <https://j3fsantos.github.io>

**Profile & Goals** My long-term research goal is to establish a certified infrastructure and a principled methodology for developing scalable sound program analyses for dynamic languages. My method is to combine deep theoretical results with tool building for verification of real-world software. My expertise spans a wide range of approaches to program analysis and verification: symbolic execution, separation logics, type systems, information flow control, compiler construction.

## Current position

Sep 2019–present **Assistant Professor**, DEI, *Instituto Superior Técnico, Universidade de Lisboa*, Portugal

## Experience

Mar 2015–Aug 2019 **Research Associate**, Department of Computing, *Imperial College London*, UK

*Topic* Specification, verification, and testing of JavaScript programs.

*Project* Certified Verification of Client-Side Web Programs, EPSRC Grant, Reference EP/K032089/1

REMS: Rigorous Engineering for Mainstream Systems, EPSRC Grant, Reference EP/K008528/1

*Supervisor* Philippa Gardner

Aug 2009–Sep 2010 **Research Assistant**, SQIG,  
*Instituto de Telecomunicações*, Portugal

*Topic* Flexible information flow control.

*Project* KLog: Logics for Security.

*Supervisor* Ana Almeida Matos

Jan 2009–Aug 2009 **Research Assistant**, Vision Laboratory,  
*Institute for Systems and Robotics*, Portugal

*Topic* Automatic self-calibration of a humanoid's robot head.

*Project* BIO-LOOK: Biomimetic Oculomotor Control for Humanoid Robots.

*Supervisor* Alexandre Bernardino

Oct 2007–Nov 2008 **Research Assistant**, SAT Group, INESC ID

*Topic* Learning techniques for pseudo-boolean optimisation and solving.

*Project* BSOLO: Pseudo-Boolean Solving and Optimisation

*Supervisor* Vasco Manquinho

## Education

2011–2014 **PhD in Computer Science**, *University of Nice Sophia Antipolis*, France

*Thesis* Enforcing Secure Information Flow in Client-Side Web Applications

*Supervisor* Tamara Rezk and Ana Almeida Matos

*Jury* David Naumann (Stevens Institute of Technology), Peter Thiemann (Univ. of Freiburg), Cédric Fournet (Microsoft Research), and Vasco Vasconcelos (Univ. of Lisbon).

- 2006–2008 **M.Sc. in Information Systems and Computer Engineering**,  
*Instituto Superior Técnico*, Portugal, 18/20  
*Thesis* Learning Techniques for Pseudo-boolean Solving and Optimisation  
*Supervisor* Vasco Manquinho  
*Jury* Inês Lynce (IST), Vasco Manquinho (IST), Nuno Mamede (IST)
- 2003–2006 **B.Sc. in Information Systems and Computer Engineering**,  
*Instituto Superior Técnico*, Portugal, 16/20

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## Awards

- 2018 **Winner of the Research Award on Continuous Reasoning Research**,  
*Facebook*, UK (together with Philippa Gardner and Petar Maksimović)  
50K USD for furthering my work on JaVerT 2.0.
- 2011–2014 **FCT PhD Scholarship**, *Fundação para a Ciência e Tecnologia*, Portugal  
Fully-funded PhD scholarship.

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## Publications

My research output is characterised by high-quality papers in top-tier conferences.

📄 Total citations 95 📄 h-index 6 (Google Scholar, Jan 2019).

📄 CORE rank: 3 × A\*, 3 × A, 4 × B

- ECOOP'20 **A Trusted Infrastructure for Symbolic Analysis of Event-Driven Web Applications**,  
*G. Sampaio, J. Fragoso Santos, P. Maksimović, and P. Gardner.*  
In Proc. of European Conference on Object-Oriented Programming. 2020. (To appear).  
📄 Citations 0 📄 CORE rank A
- PLDI'20 **Gillian, Part I: A Multi-language Platform for Symbolic Execution**,  
*J. Fragoso Santos, P. Maksimović, S. Ayoun and P. Gardner.*  
In Proc. of International Conference on Programming Language Design and Implementation. ACM SIGPLAN. 2019.  
📄 Citations 0 📄 CORE rank A\* 📄 Length 16 pages
- POPL'19 **JaVerT 2.0: Compositional Symbolic Execution for JavaScript**,  
*J. Fragoso Santos, P. Maksimović, G. Sampaio and P. Gardner.*  
In Proc. of Symposium on Principles of Programming Languages. ACM SIGPLAN. 2019.  
📄 Citations 3 📄 CORE rank A\* 📄 Length 31 pages
- PPDP'18 **Symbolic Execution for JavaScript**,  
*J. Fragoso Santos, P. Maksimović, T. Grohens, J. Dolby, P. Gardner.*  
In Proc. of Symposium on Principles and Practice of Declarative Programming. ACM. 2018.  
📄 Citations 3 📄 CORE rank B 📄 Length 14 pages
- POPL'18 **JaVerT: JavaScript Verification Toolchain**,  
*J. Fragoso Santos, P. Maksimović, D. Naudžiūnienė, T. Wood, and P. Gardner.*  
In Proc. of Symposium on Principles of Programming Languages. ACM SIGPLAN. 2018.  
📄 Citations 15 📄 CORE rank A\* 📄 Length 33 pages

- CADE'17 **Towards Logic-Based Verification of JavaScript Programs**,  
*J. Frago Santos, P. Gardner, P. Maksimović, and D. Naudžiūnienė.*  
 In Proc. of International Conference on Automated Deduction.  
 Vol. 10395 of LNCS. Springer. 2017.  
 Citations 3 CORE rank A Length 18 pages
- APLAS'16 **DOM: Specification and Client Reasoning**,  
*A. Raad, J. Frago Santos, P. Gardner.*  
 In Proc. of Asian Symposium on Programming Languages and Systems.  
 Vol. 10017 of LNCS. Springer. 2016.  
 Citations 6 CORE rank B Length 20 pages
- JCS'16 **Mashic Compiler: Mashup Sandboxing based on Inter- frame Communication**,  
*Z. Luo, J. Frago Santos, A. A. Matos, T. Rezk.*  
 In Journal of Computer Security. ACM. 2016.  
 Citations 1 CORE rank B Length 45 pages
- TGC'15-2 **Modular Monitor Extensions for Information Flow Security in JavaScript**,  
*J. Frago Santos, T. Rezk, A. Almeida Matos.*  
 In Proc. of Symposium on Trustworthy Global Computing.  
 Vol. 9533 of LNCS. Springer. 2015.  
 Citations 0 CORE rank - Length 13 pages
- TGC'15-1 **Hybrid Typing of Secure Information Flow in a JavaScript- like Language**,  
*J. Frago Santos, T. Jensen, T. Rezk, A. Schmitt.*  
 In Proc. of Symposium on Trustworthy Global Computing.  
 Vol. 9533 of LNCS. Springer. 2015.  
 Citations 5 CORE rank - Length 13 pages
- TGC'14 **An Information Flow Monitor for a Core of DOM - Introducing References and Live Primitives**,  
*A. Almeida Matos, J. Frago Santos, T. Rezk.*  
 In Proc. of Symposium on Trustworthy Global Computing.  
 Vol. 8902 of LNCS. Springer. 2014.  
 Citations 8 CORE rank - Length 15 pages
- SEC'14 **An Information Flow Monitor-inlining Compiler for Securing a Core of JavaScript**,  
*J. Frago Santos, T. Rezk.*  
 In Proc. of IFIP International Information Security and Privacy Conference.  
 Springer. 2014.  
 Citations 28 CORE rank B Length 16 pages
- PLAS'12 **Typing Illegal Information Flows as Program Effects**,  
*A. Almeida Matos, J. Frago Santos.*  
 In Proc. of Workshop on Programming Languages and Analysis for Security. ACM. 2012.  
 Citations 6 CORE rank - Length 12 pages
- IROS'10 **Sensor Based Self Calibration of the iCub's Head**,  
*J. Frago Santos, A. Bernardino, J. Santos-Victor.*  
 In Proc. of International Conference on Intelligent Robots and Systems. IEEE. 2010.  
 Citations 8 CORE rank A Length 12 pages
- IWIL'08 **Learning Techniques for Pseudo-Boolean Solving**,  
*J. Frago Santos, V. Manquinho.*  
 In Proc. of International Workshop on the Implementation of Logics. CEUR-WS.org.  
 2008.  
 Citations 4 CORE rank - Length 10 pages

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## Teaching

**2015/2018** **Course Support Leader** of Separation Logic (4th year course),  
*Imperial College London, UK*

Leader of teaching assistants

*Duties* Assist the lecturer in preparing tutorial sheets, coursework and lecture notes; mark coursework; give tutorials.

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## PhD and Project supervision

**2017–ongoing** Assistant Supervisor of **Gabriela Sampaio**, PhD in Computer Science, *Imperial College*

*Topic* Automatic Reasoning about DOM Events using JaVerT.

**2018–2019** **Eric Wenhao Ruan Zhu**, MEng Joint Mathematics and Computing,  
*Imperial College London*

*Topic* Multi-theory First Order Solver for Program Analysis and Verification.

*Mark* 78/100

**2018–2019** **Priyanka Shah**, MEng Computing, *Imperial College London*

*Topic* Compiling JavaScript Regular Expressions.

*Mark* 75/100

**2018–2019** **Si Wei Tan**, MEng Computing, *Imperial College London*

*Topic* Trusted Infrastructure for JavaScript (ES5) Analysis.

*Mark* 90/100, *IBM Project Prize*

**2017–2018** **Radu-Andrei Szasz**, MEng Computing,  
*Imperial College London*

*Topic* Typing JavaScript Through Symbolic Execution.

*Mark* 90/100, *IBM Project Prize*

**2017–2018** **Beatrix de Wilde**, MEng Computing,  
*Imperial College London*

*Topic* Towards Automatic Verification of JavaScript Programs.

*Mark* 86/100

**2017–2018** **Cesar Roux Dit Buisson**, MEng Computing,  
*Imperial College London*

*Topic* Web of Truths: Formal Verification of JavaScript DOM Clients.

*Mark* 82/100

**2017–2018** **Iván Matellanes**, MSc Computing,  
*Imperial College London*

*Topic* A Verification Tool for JavaScript.

*Mark* 82/100

## Interns

**Summer 2018** **Emma Tye**, 2nd year research internship,  
*Imperial College London*

*Topic* Verifying AVL-tree algorithms using JaVerT 2.0.

**Spring 2018** **Théotime Grohens**, Final year research internship,  
*Imperial College London*

*Topic* Symbolically testing real-world JavaScript libraries.

**Summer 2017** **Thomas Pointon**, 1st year research internship,  
*Imperial College London*

*Topic* Verifying doubly-linked list algorithms using JaVerT.

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## Invited Talks

**Jun 2017** Invited talk at **JSTools'17**, Barcelona, Spain  
Invitation-only seminar organised by J. Dolby and C. Hammer co-located with ECOOP'17.

*Topic* *JaVerT: a Logic-based Tool for JavaScript Verification*

**Jun 2016** Invited talk at **JSTools'16**, Rome, Italy  
Invitation-only seminar organised by J. Dolby and C. Hammer co-located with ECOOP'16.

*Topic* *Toward Logic-based Verification for JavaScript*

**Apr 2012** Invited talk at **the 19th Crest Open Workshop on Interference and Dependence (COWL)**, London, UK

Invitation-only seminar organised by the Department of Computer Science at UCL.

*Topic* *Typing Illegal Information Flows as Program Effects*

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## Research Talks

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### JaVerT 2.0: Compositional Symbolic Execution for JavaScript

*Jan 2019* POPL'19, Lisbon, Portugal.

*Dec 2018* Departamento de Informática, Faculdade de Ciências, Lisbon, Portugal.  
Hosted by Vasco Vasconcelos.

*Dec 2018* Departamento de Engenharia Informática, IST, Lisbon, Portugal.  
Hosted by José Carlos Monteiro.

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### Symbolic Execution for JavaScript

*Sep 2018* PPDP'18, Frankfurt, Germany.

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### JaVerT: JavaScript Verification Toolchain

*Jan 2018* POPL'18, Los Angeles, USA.

*Dec 2017* Systems Security Group, Royal Holloway University, London, UK.  
Hosted by Johannes Kinder.

*Dec 2017* NOVA LINCS, Lisbon.  
Hosted by Carla Ferreira.

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### Hybrid Typing of Secure Information Flow in a JavaScript-like Language

*Sep 2015* TGC'15, Madrid, Spain.

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### Modular Monitor Extensions for Information Flow Security in JavaScript

*Sep 2015* TGC'15, Madrid, Spain.

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### Enforcing Secure Information Flow in Client-Side Web Applications

*Nov 2014* LAFHIS Research Lab, University of Buenos Aires, Buenos Aires, Argentina.  
Hosted by Viktor Braberman.

*Nov 2014* LoReL Group, Universidad Nacional de Quilmes, Quilmes, Argentina.  
Hosted by Eduardo Bonelli.

*Nov 2014* FaMAF, Universidad Nacional de Córdoba, Córdoba, Argentina.  
Hosted by Pedro D'Argenio.

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## **An Information Flow Monitor for a Core of DOM - Introducing references and live primitives**

*Oct 2014* Department of Computing, Imperial College London.  
Hosted by Sergio Maffei.

*Sep 2014* TGC'14, Rome, Italy.

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## **An IFlow Monitor-inlining Compiler for Securing a Core of JavaScript**

*Jun 2014* SEC'14, Marrakech, Morocco.

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## **Typing Illegal Information Flows as Program Effects**

*Jun 2012* PLAS'12, Beijing, China.

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## **Sensor Based Self Calibration of the iCub's Head**

*Nov 2010* IROS'10, Taipei, Taiwan.

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## **Learning Techniques for Pseudo-Boolean Solving**

*Nov 2008* IWIL'08, Doha, Qatar.

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## Academic Activities

**Reviewer** *Program Committee:* OOPSLA 2020, IJCAI 2020.  
*External Review Committee:* PLDI 2020.  
*External Reviewer:* CSF 2012, PLAS 2013, LATIN CRYPT 2013, CSF 2014, POST 2014, POPL 2017, CSF 2018.  
*Journals:* Journal of Computer Security.

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## Research Software

**JaVerT 2.0** A JavaScript program analysis tool with support for: whole-program symbolic testing, semi-automatic separation-logic-based verification, and fully-automatic compositional testing. (With P. Maksimović).

- A novel combination of symbolic execution with compositional program reasoning based on separation logic.

*Website* <https://github.com/javert2/JaVerT2.0/>

- Used by Peter Thiemann at the University of Freiburg.

**Cosette** A tool for general-purpose whole-program symbolic testing of JavaScript programs. (With J. Dolby, T. Grohens, and P. Maksimović).

**JaVerT** The first separation-logic-based verification tool for JavaScript. (With P. Maksimović, D. Naudžiūnienė, and T. Wood).

- It comprises: JS-2-JSIL, a thoroughly tested compiler from JavaScript to JSIL; JSIL Verify, a separation-logic-based verification tool for JSIL; and axiomatic specifications of the JavaScript internal functions.

**Mashic** A mashup compiler for automatic sandboxing of third-party JavaScript code. (with A. Almeida Matos, Z. Luo, and T. Rezk).

*Website* <http://web.ist.utl.pt/~ana.matos/Mashic/mashic.html>

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## Industrial Outreach

**Mar 2018** Represented Imperial College London at the **official meeting of the ECMA TC39**, the ECMAScript international committee. London, UK.

## Research Visits

**Nov 2018** Visited the Flow Team at **Facebook**. Menlo Park, California, USA.

**Jan 2018** Visited **Galois**. Portland, Oregon, USA.

**Jan 2018** Visited the Hack Team at **Facebook**. London, UK.

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## Other skills

**Languages** Portuguese (native speaker) • English (full professional proficiency) • French (fluent)

**Programming** OCaml, Racket, JavaScript, Java, C, C++.