

The Seminars on “Information Technology Outlook” – PhD Programme in Computer Science and Mathematics



Kiev Gama

Associate Professor
Universidade Federal de
Pernambuco (UFPE), Brazil

Tuesday January 20, 2026
15:30



Sala Consiglio – 7° floor
Dept. Computer Science

Neurodivergence in Software Engineering: Lived Experience, Research Directions, and Inclusive Practice

Abstract: Neurodivergent professionals constitute a significant yet under-recognized part of the software engineering workforce. In this talk, I integrate my perspective as a neurodivergent researcher with empirical findings from studies on ADHD and autism in software engineering to shed light on how cognitive differences has the potential to shape creativity and productivity. I discuss methodological approaches for studying neuroinclusion in software teams, the challenges of neurodivergent software engineers, and the opportunities for designing neuroinclusive practices—ranging from task structuring to pair programming. The presentation concludes with reflections on how lived experience can strengthen research, teaching, and advocacy in computing.

Short Bio

Kiev Gama is an Associate Professor at Universidade Federal de Pernambuco (UFPE), Brazil, and a researcher in the Brazilian National Institute of Science and Technology in Software Engineering (INES). His work bridges software engineering, innovation, and human and collaborative aspects of software engineering. He leads studies on diversity and inclusion, creativity, and the use of AI in software engineering. He also coordinates social innovation and digital transformation initiatives in partnership with government, industry, and academia. His lived experience as a late-diagnosed ADHD/autistic individual informs both his research and his commitment to building more humane technical environments.