

➔ Visão Global

<b>Group Description</b>	
Research Unit:	Unidade de Investigação em Desenvolvimento Empresarial - UNIDE <b>uID:315</b>   (L700315)   (LECO-LVT-Lisboa-315)
Group Name/Designation:	ARC - Account Research Centre
Group Reference:	<b>RG-ECO-LVT-Lisboa-315-2488</b>
Principal Investigador:	Maria João Martins Ferreira Major
Time Interval:	(2003-2010)
Location of Group (Host Institution):	Instituto Superior de Ciências do Trabalho e da Empresa
Keywords:	Management Control; Financial Accounting; Management Accounting; Accountability
Funding, source, dates:	Research projects carried out in this period of time (2003-2006) (e.g. Activity-based Costing in Portugal; Management Accounting Change in Portugal) in the amount of 42.852,00 were mainly funded by FCT and the Finance and Accounting department budgeting
<b>PI and Researchers</b>	
<b>Researchers in the Group (Ph.D. Only)</b>	
(CV) Ana Isabel Abranches Pereira de Carvalho Morais	
(CV) Emanuel Freire Torres Gamelas	
(CV) Helena de Oliveira Isidro	
(CV) Isabel Maria Estima Costa Lourenço	
(CV) Maria João Martins Ferreira Major	
(CV) Victor Domingos Seabra Franco	
<b>Other Researchers in the Group (Ph.D. Only)</b>	
n/a	
<b>Other Researchers in the Group (non Ph.D.)</b>	
n/a	
<b>Objectives and Achievements</b>	
<b>General Objectives</b>	
<p>The objectives of the projects conducted within this individual group are concerned with studying accounting in practice and promoting firms' competitiveness. Drastic changes have been occurring in Portuguese firms in what respects accounting. The way accounting has been used and its role in firms has been attracting academia interest. However, historical studies of accounting lack detail on the manner in which accounting changes have occurred in their particular context. Little understanding has been provided of why and how change has come. For example, firm-specific origins, mechanics and consequences of change have been not explored. This research group attempted in the last three years to study the process by which accounting change has occurred at the level of the firm within a real world setting. Their main aim was to answer to calls of some researchers (e.g. Scapens, 1994, 2004 and Kaplan, 1998, just to mention a few) for conducting further research based on empirical work.</p>	
<b>Main Achievements</b>	
<p>The main achievements of this research group in the period of 2003 -2006 are thus:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) A national survey was conducted inquiring the largest 1000 firms about their accounting practices. Such investigation provided researchers with a better understanding of the accounting tools adopted by firms;</li> <li>2) An electronic national survey was also sent to firms operating in Portugal in order to investigate the current roles of accounting and accountants in firms.</li> </ol> <p>Both studies have been compared with other research studies in UK. Findings suggest that Portuguese firms tend to follow similar accounting practices to UK.</p>	
<b>Productivity</b>	
<b>Publications in peer review Journals (3000 ca.)</b>	
<b>(Up to a max of 10. Always indicate at the end of the citation, impact factor of the journal (IF=) and number of citations (nº C=). Give title and full</b>	

**citation in original language. DO NOT translate)**

- Major, M. and Hopper, T. (2005), T. "Managers Divided: Resistance and Consent to ABC in a Portuguese Telecommunications Company", Management Accounting Research, Vol. 16, pp. 205-229;
- Hopper, T. e Major, M. (2007) "Extending Institutional Analysis through Theoretical Triangulation: Regulation and Activity-Based Costing in Portuguese Telecommunications", The European Accounting Review, pp. 59-97;
- Isidro, H., O'Hanlon, J. and Young, S. (2004) "Dirty Surplus Accounting: International Evidence", Accounting and Business Research, Vol. 34(4), pp. 383-397;
- Isidro, H., O'Hanlon, J. and Young, S. (2006) "Dirty Surplus Flows and Valuation Errors", Abacus, Vol. 42 (3/4), pp. 302-344.

**Other publications (3000 ca.)**

**(Include only Books, chapters or full papers published in conference proceedings up to max of 10. Give title and full citation in original language)**

- Major, M. (2007) "Activity-Based Costing and Management: A Critical perspective", in.; Hopper, T., Scapens, R. W. and Northcott, D (Eds) Issues in Management Accounting, 3rd edition, London: Pearson, pp. 155-174;
- Burns, J. Moll, J. and Major, M. (2006) "Institutional Theory", in Hoque, Z. (eds) Methodological Issues in Accounting Research: Theories and Methods, London: Spiramus Press, pp. 183-205;
- J. Moll, J., Major, M. and Hoque, Z. (2006) "The Research Tradition", in Hoque, Z. (ed) Methodological Issues in Accounting Research: Theories and Methods, London: Spiramus Press, pp. 375-398.
- Major, M. and Hoque, Z. (2005) "Activity-Based Costing: Concepts, Issues and Practice", in Hoque, Z. (ed) Handbook of Cost and Management Accounting, London: Spiramus Press, pp. 83-103;
- Major, M. (2005) "A Case Study of ABC Implementation", in Hoque, Z. (ed) Handbook of Cost and Management Accounting, London: Spiramus Press, pp. 105-116;
- Cruz, I., Major, M. e Scapens, R. (2007) "Loose Coupling of Performance Measurement Practices in a Globalized Organization", European Accounting Association 2007 Congress, Lisbon, 25-27 April 2007;
- Cruz, I. e Major, M. (2007) "Is Accounting Changing in Portuguese Hospitals? Evidence from a Case Study", European Accounting Association 2007 Congress, Lisbon, 25-27 April 2007;
- Pimentel, L. e Major, M. (2007) "Balanced Scorecard Implementation in an Service Company", European Accounting Association 2007 Congress, Lisbon, 25-27 April 2007;
- Major, M. e Hopper, T. (2006) "An Institutional Examination of Regulation and Activity-Based Costing in Portuguese Telecommunications", Thirteenth Annual Internacional Conference on Advances in Management, Lisbon, July 19-22, 2006;
- Cruz, I. e Major, M. (2006) "Management Accounting in the Portuguese Healthcare System", European Accounting Association 2006 Congress, Dublin, 22-24 March 2006;
- Pimentel, L. e Major, M. (2006) "A Case Study of Resistance to Balanced Scorecard Implementation", European Accounting Association 2006 Congress, Dublin, 22-24 March 2006;
- Hopper, T. e Major, M. (2006) "An Institutional Examination of Regulation and Activity-Based Costing in Portuguese Telecommunications", American Accounting Association Conference, Clearwater Beach, Florida, January 5-7, 2006;
- Major, M. e Hopper, T. (2005) "Searching for Legitimacy in the Telecommunications Industry", Paper presented at the Workshop on Trends and Fashions in Management Studies, European Institute for Advanced Studies in Management Studies (EIASM), Lisbon, 20-22 October, 2005;
- Major, M. and Hopper, T. (2005) "ABC in the Telecommunications Industry: A Search for Legitimacy", Paper presented at the 1st Joint Conference MCA/ENROAC, Antwerp, 7-9 April 2005 and Europ. Acc. Assoc. Congress, Gothenburg 18-20 May 2005;
- Major, M. and Hopper, T. (2004) "Extending New Institutional Theory: Regulation and Activity-Based Costing in Portuguese Telecommunications" Paper presented at at the 4th APIRA Conference, Singapore, 4-6 July 2004.

**Master and Ph.D. thesis completed (3000 ca.)**

- "Relato da performance financeira", Dina Rato, Mestrado em Contabilidade, 2006.
- "Contabilização de opções financeiras transaccionadas em mercados de balcão", Jorge Manuel Santinhos Esteves, Mestrado em Contabilidade, 2003.
- "Divulgação do risco de negócio", Teresa Alves, Programa doutoral em Contabilidade, 2005.
- "A Relevância da Informação Contabilística em Portugal", Pedro Santos Trabucho, 2006.
- "A Contabilização das Aquisições e Alienações de Participações Financeiras em Filiais a Interesses Minoritários", Jorge Amaral Penedo, 2006.
- "A Relevância dos Investimentos em Associadas Valorizadas pelo Método de Equivalência Patrimonial versus Método do Custo: evidência do mercado espanhol", Paula Santos, 2006.
- "Reconhecimento e Valorização do Imobilizado Corpóreo de Utilidade Pública", Rita Martins, 2006.
- "A Relevância da Amortização do Goodwill: uma perspectiva sobre o índice PSI-20", Nélio Marques, 2004.
- "Proposta de um Procedimento Contabilístico a Adoptar na Transposição Monetária das Demonstrações Financeiras de Filiais Expressas em Moeda Estrangeira", Eusébio Pires da Silva, 2003.
- "Tratamento Contabilístico das Concessões na Óptica do Estado e das Sociedades Concessionárias", Rui Luís Sousa, 2003.
- "A Produção e a Divulgação de Informação Ambiental na CIRES: Uma Perspectiva Institucional", Joaquim Marvão, Mestrado em Contabilidade, INDEG/ISCTE. Tese discutida em 27 de Julho de 2005.
- "The Impact of Environment and Strategy upon the Design of ABC Systems: Evidence from a Case Study in a Food Processing Company", Helena Pereira, 2005. Master
- "Indicadores de Avaliação do Desempenho das Instituições do Ensino Superior: Um Estudo de Caso", Catarina Neves, 2006. Master
- "Implementing the Balanced Scorecard: A Case Study in a Portuguese Service Company", ????????, 2006.

## Organization of conferences (2000 ca.)

- "Methodological Triangulation in Management Accounting Research", Sven Modell (Stockholm University), INDEG/ISCTE (LISBON), 18 May 2006;
- "Conducting Accounting and Organizational Research: Generating Ideas, Literature Review, Theory Choice and Triangulation Approaches", Professor Zahirul Hoque (Deakin University, Australia), INDEG/ISCTE (LISBON), 24 May 2005;
- "Critical Theories in Case Study Research", Professor Ezzamel (Cardiff Business School), INDEG/ISCTE (LISBON), 3 March 2005;
- "New Public Management", Dr. Jodie Moll (Manchester Business School), INDEG/ISCTE (LISBON), 4 November 2004;
- "Performance Evaluation", Professor Al Bhimani (LSE - London School of Economics), INDEG/ISCTE (LISBON), October 2004;
- "Theoretical Approaches in Management Accounting Investigation", Professor Keith Hoskin (Warwick University), INDEG/ISCTE (LISBON), May 2003;
- "Past and Current Trends in Alternative Accounting Research: Hopper & Powell 20 Years After", Professor Trevor Hopper (Manchester Business School), INDEG/ISCTE (LISBON), 10 April 2003;
- "Qualitative Research in Management Accounting", Professor Trevor Hopper (Manchester Business School), INDEG/ISCTE (LISBON), 9 April 2003.
- Piecewise Linear Accrual Models: do they (really) control for the asymmetric recognition of gains and losses? José Moreira, Faculdade de Economia da Universidade do Porto;
- Accounting Conservatism and Corporate Governance, Juan Manuel Garcia Lara, Universidad Carlos III – Madrid;
- Corporate Governance Earnings Management in Spain, Belén Albornoz, Universidad de Valência;
- Conducting Accounting and Organizational Research: Generating Ideas, Literature Review, Theory Choice and Triangulation Approaches, Professor Zahirul Hoque, Charles Darwin University, Austrália;
- Aspectos do credo anglosaxónico: O Marco Conceptual do IASB, Cea Garcia, Universidad Autónoma de Madrid;
- A Returns-Based Representation of Earnings Quality, Jennifer Francis, Duke University, USA;
- Novos desenvolvimentos da contabilidade de gestão, Mohamoud Ezzamel, Cardiff Business School, UK.

## Internationalization (2000 ca.)

(Collaborative publication, Research, Graduate Training Networks or other forms of participation of the Research Group at the international level)

- There has been some collaborative research with Manchester Business School (professors Trevor Hopper and Robert Scapens), Lancaster Business School (professors O´Hanlon, J. and Young, S). Other universities involved in joint research projects with ISCTE concerning accounting are LaTrobe University (professor Zahirul Hoque) and The Auckland University of Technology (professor Deryl Northcott). Also, there is a participation in the editorial board of an international accounting journals (Maria João Major - Journal of Accounting and Organizational Change (Emerald)) and ad-hoc participation as referee in Management Accounting Research (ELSEVIER) and Research in Accounting and Emerging Economics. Furthermore some of the members of this research group have participated as scientific members in several international accounting conferences (e.g. Maria João Major and Helena Isidro in the European Accounting Association Conference and Maria João Major at the International Management Development Association (IMDA), 15th Annual World Business Congress, Junho 18-21 de 2006, Sarajevo Graduate School of Business

## Future Research

### Objectives

During the period 2007-2010 we expect to conduct the following research projects: (1) Firms' incentives and institutional environment and the valuation properties of accounting numbers in Europe - With Ivana Raonic (Cass Business School, London); (2) The determinants and consequences of non-GAAP reporting measures: international analysis - With Ana Marques (Universidade Nova, Portugal); (3) Corporate governance, earnings quality and valuation using forecasts - With Juan Garcia Lara (Universidad Carlos III, Spain) and Beatriz Garcia (Universidad Autonoma de Madrid, Spain); (4) Unobserved heterogeneity in accounting and finance. New insights from model-based clustering methods - With José Dias (ISCTE, Portugal) e Sofia Ramos (ISCTE, Portugal); (5) Relevance and reliability in fair value accounting - With J.O´Hanlon (Lancaster University, U.K.); (6) Management Accounting Change in the Portuguese NHS - With Trevor Hopper (Manchester Business School, UK), Deryl Northcott (The Auckland University of Technology, NZ) and Zahirul Hoque (LaTrobe University, Australia); (7) Social and Environmental Management Accounting in Portuguese Companies - With Jodie Moll (Manchester Business School). Furthermore we expect to publish several articles that have already been submitted to top accounting journals (Accounting, Organizations & Society and Accounting, Auditing & Accountability Journal) and submit new articles following the research projects we plan to carry out.

### Funding, source, dates

We plan to get funds from FCT and also from EQUIS (Madame Curie programme) shortly.

### Previous publications in the area

- Major, M. and Hopper, T. (2005), T. "Managers Divided: Resistance and Consent to ABC in a Portuguese Telecommunications Company", Management Accounting Research, Vol. 16, pp. 205-229;
- Hopper, T. e Major, M. (2007) "Extending Institutional Analysis through Theoretical Triangulation: Regulation and Activity-Based Costing in Portuguese Telecommunications", The European Accounting Review, pp. 59-97;
- Isidro, H., O´Hanlon, J. and Young, S. (2004) "Dirty Surplus Accounting: International Evidence", Accounting and Business Research, Vol. 34(4), pp. 383-397;
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- Burns, J. Moll, J. and Major, M. (2006) "Institutional Theory", in Hoque, Z. (eds) Methodological Issues in Accounting Research: Theories and Methods, London: Spiramus Press, pp. 183-205;
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- Major, M. and Hoque, Z. (2005) "Activity-Based Costing: Concepts, Issues and Practice", in Hoque, Z. (ed) Handbook of Cost and Management Accounting, London: Spiramus Press, pp. 83-103;

### **Special Requirements**

We need to get two new computers and to have good access to international top accounting journals