Who am I?

Rodrigo Thomaz

My name is Rodrigo Thomaz da Silva. I was born in São Carlos, but raised in Ibaté, both in São Paulo State, Brazil. I am a humble follower of Jesus Christ, so my whole existence is based on this very important fact.

Son of a firefighter and a Portuguese teacher, I learned early that sometimes I should act first and think later and that everything should be well written (at least in Portuguese). With my other three siblings I learned how to share and how to refuse to share.

When I was 4 or 5 years old (memory fades...), my father gave my brother and I a PlayStation 1. With it I improved my logic, developed several different skills such as adventure, languages, rhythm, motor coordination and, last but not least, I learned to wait for my turn.

I grew up going to a small Presbyterian Church, where, among several other important skills and feelings I learned, my thirst for knowledge was encouraged. Roughly, they always taught me I should not accept things as they are told; instead, I should always ask "why is it like that? What is the logic behind it? Does it have a logic at all?". I guess that's when little Rodrigo started to wonder about the world he lived in and about himself. It was also in this church that my musical career begun.

I think I should also mention the children I used to play with in the neighborhood. They contributed a lot to the person I am today.

In middle school I earned a medal in a math olympiad, something I would never expect. This led to an incredible discovery in my life: "real math" is fun. So, when the time came, I applied to pure math courses at public universities (that's how it worked by then in Brazil (and I hope it stays like this...)). I got accepted at Universidade Federal de São Carlos – UFSCar. There I got to meet my advisor, Prof. Francisco Braun, and the brand new world of Academia.

Fascinated by all that, I continued the natural path, going for a Master (still at UFSCar). Eager for new adventures, I told Francisco I expected for some kind of change in my PhD. After exchanging mails with some colleagues, he found me a coadvisor to my PhD, which happened to be French.

Now a PhD student, I've stayed in France for one year, where I met incredible people, learned a new language, discovered wonders about gastronomy, culture, etc, and found the most beautiful and lovely woman in the world, who happens to be my partner for life.

I am passionate about adventures, music, technology, sports and gaming. I hope to visit and get to know several different countries and cultures (and to learn at least 2 more languages). I hope to be able to improve my music skills, in particular for the (acoustic and electric) guitar, bass, keyboard/piano, and who knows which other instruments. I hope not everyone will get dumbed down by AI. I hope to improve my tennis, volleyball and calisthenics skills. I hope to be able to play all games I already own.

Finally, I love to see people smiles. So when you talk to me, do expect a lot of (perhaps bad) jokes. I think everyone already has their problems, so a bit of light might save a whole day.

If you wanna know more about me, just ask me directly. Have a great day!

(Incredible picture in the next page!!!!!!!)

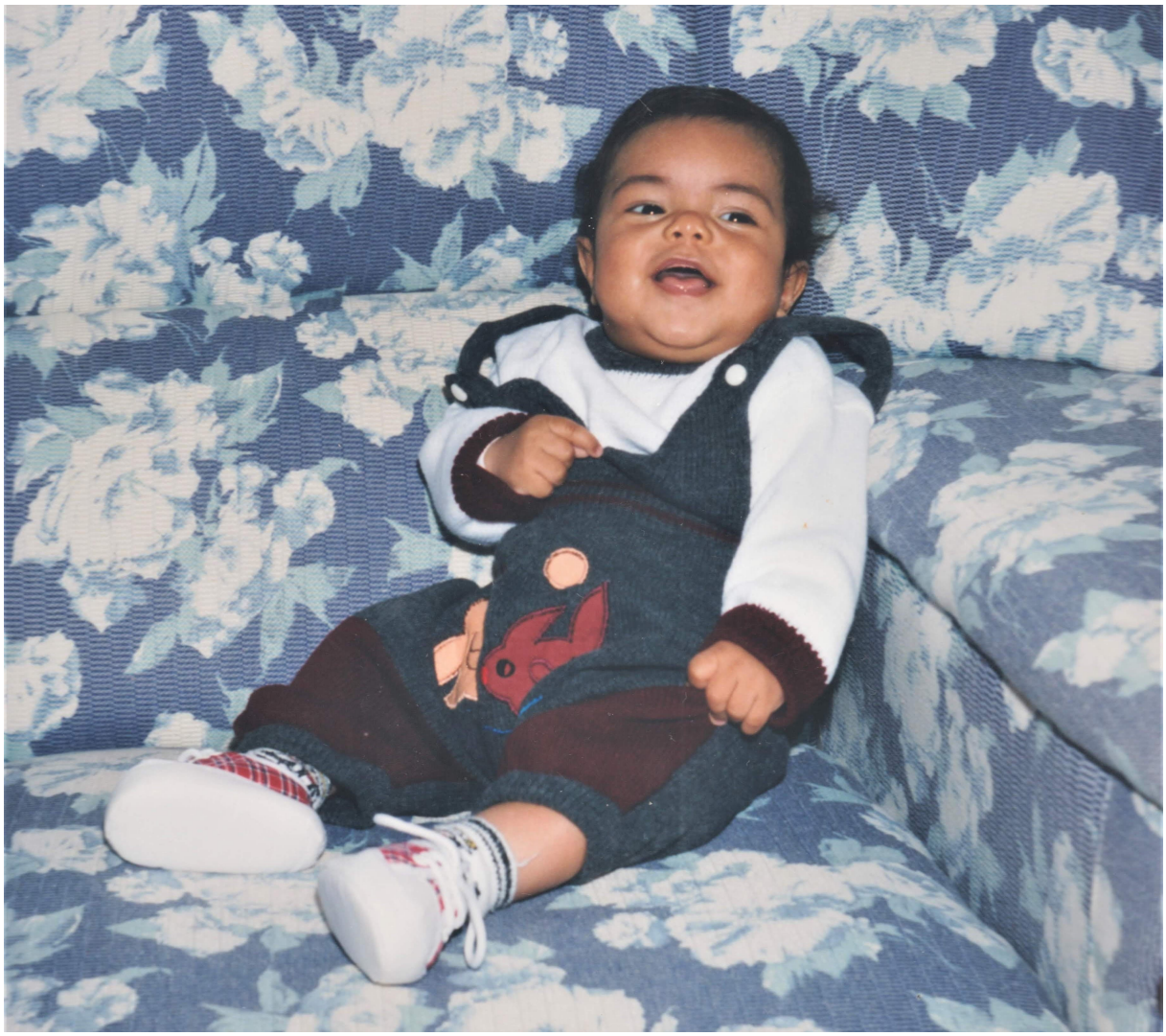


Figure 1: Smiiiiiiiiiiile