

Rafael M. Lins

30 YEARS OLD SOFTWARE ENGINEER · ETERNAL STUDENT

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"Zeal is its own reward"

Bio

Hey vsauce! Actually... Not Michael here!

WHO IS THIS GUY?!

Rafael Lins is an experienced Java developer and advisor. His biggest passion about his work is actually putting stuff out there, in production, and knowing that people are using those systems and getting value from them and most importantly: making sure the end-user have a "it feels good to use this" feeling towards the products he helps to build.

One achievement he's particularly proud of was getting rid of very long waiting lines in a state-run health care plan/company by automating the much of the old, manual process of going there to get authorizations for exams and such, all of that can now be done online!

During recent years, Rafael has focused in broadening his fields of technical knowledge and mentoring, transferring research results and years of experience with Software Development to the industry and newcomers in order to foment a better, more competitive environment. To this end, he have been networking quite a bit! From Europe to São Paulo, he's making connections all over. And taking Machine Learning classes.

Currently he's trying to get a better grasp of Machine Learning in order to develop something useful (or evil? muahaha - like an *Eliza Cassan* prototype!) and getting to know and experiment with many kinda-new but mature techs such as Kotlin and JBoss Wildfly Swarm.

Out of his work life, he's an Affliction Warlock in World of Warcraft (Nihillus @ Goldrinn-US) and for years hes been protecting Azeroth (we finished the Warlords of Draenor expansion as #3 on our server!) Now and again he is a Raid Leader at the <Endlings> guild putting the new people in check, teaching them the mechanics and distribute the sweet, sweet loot!

Rafael is looking to move out of Brazil, for the immense life and learning experience, or at least move to Brazil's South or Southeast regions (hey, Brazil is so big that that feels like moving countries!). Although welcome, he doesn't need help with the moving costs :)

Education

IFPI - Instituto Federal de Tecnologia do Piauí

Teresina - Piauí, Brazil

TECHNOLOGIST IN SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT AND ANALYSIS

Finished in 2017

- Twice graded as the best technologist course in Brazil
- Built the currently official LaTeX template used by the university

DKIT - Dundalk Institute of Technology

Dundalk - Louth, Ireland

EXCHANGE STUDENT - 2 SEMESTERS

Sep. 2013 - Jun. 2014

- "Sandwich" Graduation through the Science Without Borders programme
- This is where I had the idea for the RespondAi project, and started its execution

Experience

Ajuda.Ai - <https://ajuda.ai/>

Teresina - Piauí, Brazil

PERSONAL PROJECT

Dec. 2016 - Apr. 2017

- **Open Source:** <https://github.com/gOdkar/ajuda-ai>
- A crowd-funding platform focused on Charities and Non-Governmental Organizations;
- Started as a pet project, evolved into a Undergraduate Thesis for my graduation at IFPI - I have plans to ship it in the future;
- Biggest Product Innovation: Allows for the selection of Payment Gateway in a per-client basis (charity A can use *Mercado Pago* and B can go with *MolIP*);
- Biggest Technological Innovation: An implementation of the Strategy Design Pattern using/managed solely the Dependency Injection subsystem (JBoss Weld).

IFPI's Official LaTeX Template for Papers

Teresina - Piauí, Brazil

PERSONAL PROJECT

Jan. 2017 - Mar. 2017

- **Open Source:** <https://github.com/gOdkar/abntex-ifpi>
- IFPI didn't have any LaTeX template available for writing Papers;
- Instead of going with the (awful) Microsoft Word one, I built this open-source LaTeX template;
- Currently the university official LaTeX template for papers;
- My own Undergraduate Thesis, built with it, was made available in order to help those less knowledgeable with TeX;
- *This CV is also made with LaTeX!*

Vikstar Contact Center

Teresina - Piauí, Brazil

SOFTWARE ENGINEER - TEAM SIZE: 3 PEOPLE

Aug. 2014 - Apr. 2016

- Lead engineer on a data gathering system to build a database of phone calls for real-time phone call profile monitoring (the company is expected to get N calls for a given reason X - like 10 calls for minute about problems with cell phone signal);
- Helped build the new version of the company's website;
- Built systems integrated with other legacy systems to expand their functionality;
- Data processing of large data sets of monthly phone calls received for QA analysis, indexing and ranking by index;
- Built many minor, helpful systems/tools such as an enrollment system for company events or a tool that did synchronization between two databases, one in Excel and another in MSSQL;
- Worked along the IT Support team helping out with problems on Java-based applications built by VIVO/Telefónica and other telecom companies;
- Served as an technologies advisor to directors, management and other non-IT teams doing programming tasks within the company;
- On occasions helped out the Endomarketing Team with tasks (it was fun to step away from building softwares and to something else).

LeapStay

Dundalk - Louth, Ireland

FREELANCER SOFTWARE ENGINEER

May 2014 - Apr. 2015

- DkIT have a freelance job searching for the students;
- LeapStay is a system for managing renting of rooms, akin to Airbnb;
- The innovation of the project is that the system would make an arrangement of different rooms to suit price constraints, travel and some other constraints;
- Say you're going to stay for a week in São Paulo and Guarulhos. The system could build and offer your a plan of renting 1 day at a room in São Paulo, then another room for 2 more days and then you would go to Garulhos and there the system would find a 1 room per day because that would be much cheaper than renting 1 room for 4 days;
- Remote work after June 2014.

Responde.Ai - A web-based, real-time, interactive Quiz game

Teresina - Piauí, Brazil

PERSONAL PROJECT - CURRENTLY OFFLINE AND HALTED INDEFINITELY

Out. 2013 - Nov. 2015

- Started as a End-Term Project project at DkIT;
- Overview of the 1.0 version, as presented as part of the end-term project: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I35-cdJMdkY>
- Web-based real-time functionality built with WebSockets;
- The original idea was to have a product marketed at "places with huge screens and people waiting stuff" such as cinemas, congresses and such events where people could compete in a fun quiz game during lunch breaks;
- Rebuilt a few times to have a more robust architecture;
- Halted indefinitely due to work at Vikstar and logistical problems (legal stuff to open a company, hiring a designer, ...);

Software Engineering Consulting

Teresina - Piauí, Brazil

FREELANCER CONSULTANT

Aug. 2012 - Now

- Occasionally hired as a Software Engineer consultant;
- Usually involves architectural difficulties or technology evangelism;
- Networking between local companies and talents;
- Partnership with 180graus.com to serve as remote consultant for their in-house IT team;
- Free consulting for *good* friends (or beer)!

180graus.com - Local News Website

Teresina - Piauí, Brazil

LEAD SOFTWARE ENGINEER - TEAM SIZE: 4 MAIN MEMBERS + 6 OTHERS DURING THE PROJECT

Nov. 2012 - Sep. 2014

- "The largest news portal of Piauí!" as advertised by themselves;
- About 100-120k unique visitors per day (as measured by Google Analytics);
- Speed, Security and Stability were the biggest issues of the old version (and beauty - I remember using the old version on classes at IFPI as an example of what *not* to do);
- Two separate systems: A "backend" for journalists and ad management and a "frontend" which is the website itself - One can work w/o the other;
- The whole system was designed to be secure and able to withstand sudden peaks of traffic (imagine that "The Governor just died in a plane crash!" and you can expect a 5-fold increase in traffic).
- First time I had experience with larger systems, traffic spikes. Learned a lot about load balancing, caching, database indexing and other optimization techniques;
- As of August 12, 2017, no security flaws were found.

System for Tracking Brazil's Election's Counting of Votes

Teresina - Piauí, Brazil

FREELANCE SOFTWARE ENGINEER

Out. 2012

- Commissioned by 180graus.com - Built in PHP as requested by them;
- The system offered a real-time, web-based, beautiful way to track the counting of votes of the 2012 elections in Brazil;
- Raw data was a bunch of .zip files compiled by the Federal Electoral Tribunal and served by the tribunal itself and mirrors;
- System downloaded the raw data, cycling through mirrors, processed it and cached it locally;
- Users could filter by State, City, Political Party, Coalition, Candidate Name and others.
- Very well received by end-users and the client.

infoway

Teresina - Piauí, Brazil

SOFTWARE ENGINEER - TEAM SIZE: 15+ PEOPLE

Apr. 2008 - Nov. 2012

- My first full-time job!
- Joined the company internal framework (JHeat) development team;
- Still tasked with maintenance of the legacy system though;
- Collaborated with the team responsible for building the new version of said legacy system;
- Member of the internal "Challenge Task Force": A group of people that would help other people out with challenging problems;
- Built a number of tools such as the "Intensive Testing Unit" (a play on ICU), a tool that not only monitored if a system was online but was also capable of executing complex testing routines and assessing things like "This particular action is running slower than expected" and send warnings to the admins;
- Highest Accomplishment: Built a XML-based report system that generated PDFs with good aesthetics, still used today - it mapped XML entities directly to iText PDF entities, pretty much like a DOM would;

infoway

Teresina - Piauí, Brazil

JUNIOR SOFTWARE DEVELOPER - TEAM SIZE: 12+ PEOPLE

Nov. 2007 - Apr. 2008

- My first job!
- Where I learned Java :)
- Tasked with maintenance of a legacy system, built with Struts and Apache Tiles.

Prior Experience: Just a kid with a computer and a modem

The Interwebs

WHOA! THE INTERNET IS COOL!

1999+

- From 1999 to about 2002: Extensive knowledge of mIRC Scripting. The language itself is a mix of Perl and C. mIRC is an old IRC client for Windows. If you're from Brazil and "from that time" you might remember Scoop Script or t7ds!
- Also had a few adventures making some DLL addons in C for mIRC;
- I think it was 2004: Built a blog from scratch, with PHP. It was called SMIF hahaha, the name of our "gang" on High School.

Extracurricular Activity

Talks and Teaching in Local Computing Events

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TECH TALKS AND TEACHING

2011 - Now

- Many presentations and talks over the years in local computing events with various themes such as JavaScript and/or Android development, tech talks about modern markets with Internet services and others;
- Also taught about Android development in multiple occasions.

LABIRAS - Laboratory of Intelligent Robotics, Automation and Systems

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CONSULTANT AND CLOSE FRIEND

Jun. 2013 - Now

- Friends with many of the researchers and prof. Marcelino, head of the lab;
- Occasionally lent a hand and helped out alongside their projects.

Writing

Ajuda.Ai - Uma solução em Software para Crowdfunding Social

Teresina - Piauí, Brazil

UNDERGRADUATE THESIS

Apr. 2017

- Undergraduate thesis presented as at IFPI.

Applications development for Google Android

Chapter of a Book

LEAD AUTHOR

2012

- Wrote the 7th chapter of the ENUCOMP 2012 Annals.