Hello, I'm Berto Alessandro, and I joined the Master 2 of Genetics at the Magistère de Génétique, Université Paris Diderot, in the academic year 2012-2013.

Originally from the University of Padova, I completed my university studies through the Double Diplôme Européen, a joint program between the University of Padova and the Magistère de Génétique at Université Paris Diderot. After a first semester of courses and exams, I joined Valérie Doye's team (Non-conventional Functions of the Nuclear Pore), where I completed my M2 internship. I continued in Valérie Doye's team for my PhD studies, first enrolled and funded by Université Paris-Sud, and later at Université Paris-Saclay, completing my thesis at the end of 2017. My research focused on the role of Nup-133, subunits of nuclear pore complex, in cell cycle regulation and mouse embryonic stem cell differentiation.

After a few months as a transitional postdoc to complete ongoing studies (issued by Labex WhoAmI), I moved in 2018 to EPFL in Lausanne, joining Pierre Gönczy's laboratory as a postdoctoral researcher, supported by a Marie Skłodowska-Curie Individual Fellowship. My research initially focused on the role of PIP2 lipids in asymmetric spindle positioning during the first cell division of the *C. elegans* embryo, and later on the role of AIR-1 kinase in cell polarity establishment in the same model system. I remained in Gönczy's lab until April 2022, when I transitioned from academia to industry, joining Nanolive as Bio-Application Analyst, later taking on the role of Digital Product Owner.

Since October 2024, I have been working as Product Manager at Nagi Bioscience, a company that develops and commercializes an automated microfluidic platform for in vivo testing using *C. elegans*, enabling studies in fields such as aging, neurodegeneration, and compound screening. Alongside its instrument, Nagi also offers tailored testing services. The company primarily serves the life sciences, drug development, and chemical safety markets, offering innovative alternatives to traditional animal testing. As Product Manager, I drive the development and optimization of the platform and service solutions, aligning product strategy with customer needs in the life sciences and biotech markets.

Moving away from Padova to Paris with an Erasmus fellowship broadened my mindset and perspectives, introducing me to a European approach to education, research and work. The Master 2 of Genetics program provided me with a structured yet flexible training environment, enabling me to explore my scientific interests and develop my career in the direction I desired. I built a strong network of colleagues and friends, some of whom I remain in touch with today, and others I know I can always reach out to, knowing we share a common, formative experience. During that first year in Paris, my classmates and I shared not only scientific projects, studies, and exams, but also great fun, apéro evenings in Paris and unforgettable weekends spent with incredible people and friends. I am grateful to have been part of such a formative and enjoyable adventure, which has forever shaped both the person and professional I am today.