

International Internship in Thailand

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1. Purpose

My purpose of participation in this internship has two points. First, I wanted to get international knowledge by communication with other country people. I have been to Australia using homestay program at junior high school. Then I couldn't communicate sufficiently. I thought this internship give me chance of revenge. Second, I wanted to study my major in other country. My major is acoustics. I want to learn how to study technical things using English because my job hunting. Many companies require international skill because those have overseas factory especially developing countries. In fact, I want to work in car or sound related company, but it was not realized, I spent only university.

2. Schedule

I had many experiences in Thailand. I will explain my schedule briefly.

9/15 Arrival at Thailand

9/16 Forenoon: Introduction of facilities in a University

Afternoon: Orientation my project

9/17 International party

9/18 Welcome party

9/19 Proceeding my project

9/20 Travel to Bangkok with students

(Owing to a cold, I can't participate.)

9/21 Sightseeing Korat Zoo



9/22,23,24,25,26 Proceeding my project

9/27,28 Free day

9/29 Proceeding my project

9/30 Progress report to my professor



10/1 Proceeding my project

10/2 Sightseeing market with friends

10/3 Proceeding my project

10/4 Farewell party for another



Japanese

10/5,6 Proceeding my project

10/7 Sightseeing Bangkok

10/8,9 Proceeding my project

10/10 Presentation my project, farewell party for me

10/11 Leave-taking to my professor and classmate

10/12 Moving airport

10/13 Coming back Japan

3. Introduction of SUT

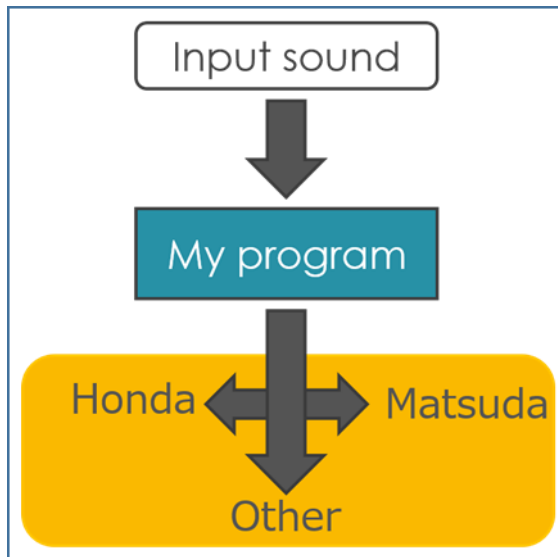
I assigned Suranaree university of technology (SUT). It is in Nakhon Ratchasima which is situated northeast of Thailand. Nakhon Ratchasima is called Korat. SUT has some subjects of technology, biology and more. I could talk with



various students because they talk to me using English positively. Korat has broad acres and beautiful nature, but in the other words, there is the country. SUT has also broad ground and many facilities, for example, restaurant, dormitory for students, museum, farm, and research installation. Thus students don't need to go out. I spent most of the time in SUT.

4. My project

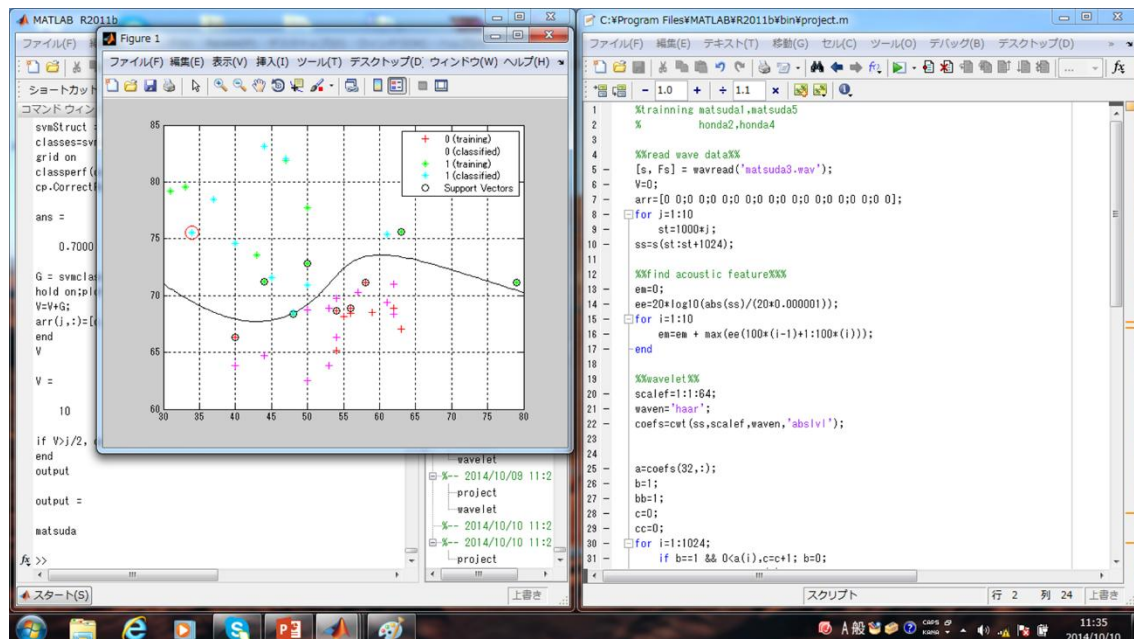
I assigned Dr.Kanit's office. Dr.Kanit is a specialist of image. He and his



assistant research recognition of car form and satellite photograph. I was invited to make car engine recognition system using engine sound as shown in the right figure. It is subset of car form recognition system.

Now I describe progress my project. First week, I recorded many car engine sounds. Next I have learned about how to discriminate engine sounds. I haven't built recognition program before. I investigated its method and talk to my senior about it. But she didn't know particularly about it because she major not sound but image. I almost thought its method by myself. Eventually I decide to use support vector machine (SVM). SVM are supervised learning models with associated learning algorithms that analyze data and recognize patterns, used for classification and regression analysis.

Second week, I attempted to find several acoustic feature from car engine



sounds. SVM need multiple features to distinguish sounds. Choose features decide efficiency of system. As it is very difficult, I couldn't choice appropriate features. First feature is found using wavelet transformation to know behavior of frequency. Second feature is sound pressure. I thought that there are relation of frequency and sound pressure.

Third and fourth weeks, I have built distinction program using SVM. As my senior was used to building SVM, I asked many tricks for building SVM. I work hard to get better recognition probability. Eventually, My program could distinguish Honda or Matsuda about 80%. But it couldn't recognize 'other'.

Now, as I studied more, I know how to solution. If possible, I should have studied beforehand. I study so much things through this project. It is difficult for everybody to advance something to work with unknown person, much less other country person. This project told me how to work and communicate with them.

5. Thai culture

I feel a lot of Thai culture while my internship for 1 month. My friends and other SUT students brought me different places. They are so positive and kind, so I felt no boredom every day. Everything in my eyes seemed new experience.

5.1. Thai food

Before I went to Thailand, I heard that Thai food is so spicy and have a mysterious smell. I thought those are really right, but its impression



doesn't mean bad-tasting, all of dishes taste good. The most famous Thai food is Tom Yam Goong. We can order it any Thai restaurant. Tom means boiling, Yam means mixing, and Goong means a lobster. If you remove lobster and put chicken into this soup, it called Tom Yam Gai.

Thai people know some Japanese food, for example sushi, okonomiyaki and syabusyabu. But Thai sushi is put kanikamaboko and something sweets. And Japanese food is expensive for Thai people.

In the convenience store, I often found Japanese words in the package of snack and livingware. It show that Japanese item is reliable for Thai people.



5.2. Thai personality

Thai people differ from Japanese in way of thinking association. I felt they are talkative, positive, and frank. When I stayed student's dormitory, SUT students often invited me dinner and playing. I was treated as like a guest by all of Thai people, and they talk to me

positively. So if you want to participate international internship to communicate with people from abroad, I recommend Thailand.

Here, I describe bad news for Japanese. Thai people is careless about being on time. While I stayed Thailand, I waited for coming long time several times. My Thai friend say that Thai people is not punctual. And He say that Japanese people keep discipline. Those are respective character. We can't answer which is correct, because Japanese people and Thai people differ culture and environment. I studied real International thinking.

5.3. Thai environmental

I felt some inconvenient in my stay. First, Thai temperature. Thai sunlight is strong and Thailand is very hot. Some Thai people wear long sleeves outside the house to avoid getting a sunburn. But at night, a little chilly. I got cold because I couldn't correspond temperature difference. Second, wild dogs. If you stay Thailand, you will often encountered. Those may be sick. Once, I was surrounded by dogs when I was returning dormitory from convenience store. Then fortunately I

was not bit.

I also surprised my room. My room is one of the dormitory for students. There is not bathtub and air conductor. In addition, the shower cannot



supply hot water. And all door doesn't shut right so some insect can come in the room. If I put half-eaten food, many ants make a line. I felt unusual, but all room was almost same situation. First, I couldn't be adapted these environment, but I gradually adjusted.

Thus I experienced many things that is difference from Japan. Those are a little dangerous but improve me. I could not only study my major, but also study how to live in unfamiliar environment. It is important for my life and future.

6. Conclusion

I could come back Japan safely. But if my friends doesn't help me, I may encounter bad situation. I think it is important that if we live unknown

place, we should take care physical condition and dangerous things. So we should listen to what local people is saying.

This international internship converted my sense of values and point of view. I had much time of talking many person who have different culture. Due to experience these time, I thought their thinking that is different from mine, and I expanded my thinking. I think I cannot experience these in the future, can experience only while student days. This thinking must help me in after this.

I think that this international internship gave me positively, capacity, communication skills with other cultural person, and more. Now my Thai friends often send me e-mail. I will be training more each other.



Finally, I appreciate all of person who gave me this chance and help me.