

Travel Report:

Two-day visit at Department of Computer Science and Technology, School of Computer Science and Engineering at Beihang University (BUAA)

Beijing, China

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1. Motivation

In the summer of 2007, I was given the chance of joining **ARTIST2 / UNU-IIST** summer school at Suzhou, China. At that moment, I met some friends from the department of Computer Science and Technology, school of Computer Science and Engineering at Beihang University (BUAA) and there were some interesting talks among us. At the end of the summer school, they asked me if there would be an opportunity for my short-term visit comes up in the near future. Thereby, I planned this two-day visit trip as the late response to them. As the time was quite short, i.e. only two days, the aims of the trip were to contact one of the best Computer Science and Technology department in Chinese academic field in the first step, which includes presenting the research activities in my group that are mainly concerning on the timing analysis in maintenance of complex embedded system to the staffs at the Dep., have a look at what they are doing, and explore the possibility of having further communications, for instance a formal visit to them with more colleague(s) from my group, then start some kinds of collaborations in the future.

2. Research

The school of Computer Science and Engineering at Beihang University holds the 3rd place in the rank of the best institutions in Computer Science and Technology era in China. There are five sub-units, Department of Computer Science and Technology, Department of Computer Application Engineering, Department of New Media Art, Computer Teaching Experiment Center, Software Engineering Institute (SEI), and Network Research Center. Within the school, there are many collaborations with the industries, e.g. Microsoft Research Asia (MSRA), IBM, Lenovo China, Nokia-Beihang Series60 united lab, Joint Network Lab & Network School with Hua Wei Company, and many international visits from University of Cambridge, Nebraska University, USA etc. The place that I visited is Computer Science and technology department, of which part of the research is embedded real-time system and distributed system.

3. Environment

BUAA locates in Beijing which is the capital of the country as you may know. Beijing is a big city with the huge population, i.e. more than 17 millions from the 2007 June Population by-census. In this city, you can of course find out quite lots of different styles of foodies. One of my favourites is sushi, which I am most living on, an amazing Japanese food with a great price-performance ratio in Beijing.



As the 2008 Summer Olympic Games, which is from 8th Aug 2008 to 24th Aug 2008, is approaching, the city is changing every day in order to be ready for the Olympics and the life there is encouraging.

4. Results

During my visit, I had a presentation about our research works in the group, e.g. timing analysis in maintenance of complex embedded systems including model extraction, model validation and model analysis, the existing results from the above research activities, relevant papers accepted and future plans. Mr. Yang, Zhibin, a PhD student at the department of Computer Science and Technology, also introduced his research work on using AADL (An Architecture Analysis & Design Language for Developing Embedded Real-Time Systems) for analysis of complex embedded real-time system; For instance, what is AADL, why to use AADL (due to the complexity of formal methods in his application), what are the drawbacks of AADL, AADL behaviour annex, and his future research plan about AADL complex component composition. From his presentation, it showed that he had many discussions with the people from IRIT, Université Paul Sabatier where is the main contributor to AADL, and now he is formulating the research topic in more detailed level. What is more, I also had a guided tour at the university, e.g. visit to weight lifting gymnasium for 2008 Olympics games and its featured biggest office building in China which is shown as follows.



5. Conclusions

The two-day visit to the department of Computer Science and Technology at BUAA has been very useful for me since not only both of us had a better understanding about each other's research topic, but also I can see the chance of some further activities, e.g. further visit to the department at BUAA in the higher level (professor level) this coming summer, and the possibility of developing some collaborations.

The cost of the trip with all the practical issues involved has been well spent according to my plan.

Last but not least, I am very grateful for this kind support by ARTES, and become a witness of her successful "ringing down the curtain".