

# ARTES Travel Report

## RTSS 2003, Cancun, Mexico

AnnMarie Ericsson  
University of Skövde  
ammi.ericsson@ida.his.se

### Introduction

The RTSS conference held 3-5 December 2003 was located in a sunny but windy Cancun, Mexico. I was asked to present a work in progress paper at the conference poster session. This was a good opportunity for me to gain feedback and inspiration for my ongoing work about using timed automata for specifying event triggered systems.

### Workshop

The day before the actual symposium started, a workshop on constraint aware embedded system was held. The workshop contained many interesting talks by e.g. Al Mok, who talked about limited network bandwidth, but there were also a few less prepared talks where it was hard to understand the contribution, or point of the work presented.

Unfortunately, some of the invited speakers had VISA trouble when travelling from USA, which resulted in that two of the workshop speaks were cancelled.

Daniel Mosse closed the work shop with an informal discussion about the possibility of arranging some kind of programming competition connected to the RTSS conference. Most people present seemed to think it was a good idea, and Mosse welcomed interested persons to give inputs on how such a competition could be arranged. I think that some kind of team development competition is a really good idea, perhaps with participants from different universities in the same team. Such a competition would be a fun and interesting opportunity to solve some practical development issues in combination with gaining experience of working together with students from other countries.

### Symposium

This was the first time I participated in a conference, and my first impression was that there were *many* talks about scheduling. I think scheduling is kind of interesting, but I am more interested in real-time databases and higher level modelling.

Fortunately, deep in the jungle of scheduling talks, I actually found some talks within my area of interest. Some of the talks I enjoyed were “QoS Management in Replicated Real-Time databases” presented by Sang Son and “Timed I/O Automata: A Mathematical Framework for Modeling and Analyzing Real-Time Systems” presented by Frits Vaandrager. I also think that the industry session with talks about e.g. using real-time Java was interesting.

### Work in progress session

The WIP session was divided in two parts, the papers were either presented in a five minutes talk, or as a poster. My paper “Operator Patterns for Analysis of Composite Events in Timed Automata” which I wrote together with Robert Nilsson and Sten F. Andler, was presented as a poster.

Despite the sunny weather and blue Caribbean Sea 50 meters away, the poster session was rather well visited. I got some good advice about what my next step in this work should be and met a lot of interesting people, so in my opinion this was a good poster session. However,

I was rather surprised by the number of questions from people who had never heard about neither active databases nor timed automata models.

## **Conclusion**

This was the first time I participated in a conference, and even if it is hard to remember each specific talk, I learn a lot from the talks close to my area of interest. I met a lot of nice and interesting people and it was a good experience for me to participate in a conference and to listen to different kinds of talks from expert speakers. This experience will hopefully make it easier for me to prepare talks and posters for conferences in the future. I am also grateful for the feedback I gained during the posters session, since it will help me to continue my work in the future.