

COE Internship Experience Note

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This note summarizes my experiences during my COE internship at the Institute of Fluid Science (IFS) at Tohoku University, Sendai, Japan.

1 Academic Perspective

My internship was with Prof.Obayashi's lab. During my internship I developed a novel algorithm for efficient optimization of black-box functions and applied it to airfoil shape optimization. The COE has provided me with a comfortable study environment and so I was able to focus on my research and to obtain good results. The latter are expected to be published both as a journal and a conference paper.

The COE has kindly supported me in attending the AFI–2006 conference in Tokyo and the ICFD–2006 conference in Matsushima, where I also presented a paper and a poster. In these events I learned of the cutting-edge research performed in Japan and elsewhere and these were interesting experiences.

I also gave a seminar about my work and attended seminars given by students from Prof.Obayashi's laboratory. This was an additional opportunity to learn of the range of research activities performed at the IFS.

2 Social Perspective

Japan has a unique culture and this adds an interesting aspect to the COE internship. Sendai is located comfortably close to several attractions and I enjoyed visiting its surroundings, e.g. Matsushima and Akiu. Tokyo was also interesting and as it is a unique combination of a busy western-city and Japanese culture.

In several occasions the students from the lab, Tom (a fellow internship student) and myself met for lunch, dinner or a night-out, and these activities added an enjoyable aspect to my visit.



Figure 1: Dinner Party. I'm to the left of Prof.Obayashi.

3 Acknowledgments

My internship has been successful due to the assistance of many:

- Prof.Obayashi: who supported my application and provided helpful research advice.
- Ms.Konohara and others at the COE staff: who effortlessly organized this complicated internship.
- The fellow staff and students from the lab: Dr.Jeong, Dr.Shimoyama, Ms.Toba, Lim, Atsushi, Fabio, Takayasu, Masahito, Koma and many others which were always willing to assist and were a happy company.

I thank the IFS staff and students for their warm hospitality and wish them all the best in their endeavours.