

eINTERFACE 2005 Daily

Tuesday, July 26th

A spontaneous testimony



As said by Prof. Thierry Dutoit during the opening day of eINTERFACE, this is summer time and usually, at this period, I am on holiday after a long, busy and studious year. Therefore, when I thought about the workshop, I could not make up my mind between attending the workshop and going on holiday. I spent the first eINTERFACE week in Mons and now that is time for me to go home: I feel a little bit sad. Indeed, I really enjoyed the workshop.

First of all, I would like to thank all the FPMs team for the welcome: they spared no pains in order to make the organization perfect and they were always in a good mood. They also proposed and organized several extra programs for evenings and weekends so there was always something exciting to do. Thierry was a little bit afraid of the old rooms available in the Student Residence Hall, but it was absolutely not a problem. How funny it is to see senior researchers strolling in the corridors with their toilet roll at hand ! This makes us remember the time we were student. As far as the work is concerned, I found the experience very interesting and exciting. I had some rewarding discussions with many researchers and I met very enthusiastic people especially in team #4, which is, I am absolutely convinced, the best team of the world! I would like once again to congratulate all our hosts and also all the participants for the good work ambience and I wish success to everybody .

Alice Caplier

Orient Express - Destination: Istanbul -

Coming from various cities in Turkey, Emre, 23, Ferda, 23 (both from Koc University, Istanbul), and Oya, 27 (from Bogazici University, Istanbul) met in Mons for the eINTERFACE Workshop.

Koc University counts the largest number of researchers in the workshop after Belgian universities. Their laboratory, Multimedia Vision and Graphics, directed by Prof. AM. Tekalp and with distinguished professors, such as Y.Yemez and E.Erzin, pushed Emre and Ferda into image and vision processing. The entire interview long, they spoke a lot about their supervisors with gratitude in their eyes. Emre, the youngest project leader in eINTERFACE, is not afraid of supervising several researchers at all. Very quietly, he told us that the work was initially divided into several quite independent subtasks with the help of Prof. Tekalp and that each researcher was very well-chosen for each part. During his master thesis, he mainly worked on the fusion of speech and image to increase speech recognition in noisy environments, such as cars. Emre feels at ease in project #1 which combines gesture and speech for a better analysis and synthesis.

Ferda defines his work in eINTERFACE as the continuation of what he did during this last year in Istanbul. Actually, he helped master graduate students for lip tracking and labelling or soccer play zone detection. He is now busy to convert the output of the PRAAT software, a speech processing tool into an HTK input file for the hidden Markov models of the project. He has an interesting equation to give us to make us understand his motivation for his studies. Graduated from both computer and electrical engineering and a lover of mathematics, he was a perfect candidate to signal processing research because

computer+electricity+maths = signal processing!

Oya, now responsible of the teapot in "Carton" room (-) , is also in charge of hand tracking to finally recognize directions given by a women in a video. To achieve her goal, she combines her own PhD work, and the work she is developing in Mons. Bogazici University, where she studies, is very much involved in multimodal applications and a member of two European networks of excellence: Similar and Biometrics. She was particularly interested in eINTERFACE to learn more on multimodal works for her PhD but also for a multimodal collaboration, including different people from different backgrounds with their own experience. She is really convinced that "Good ideas come out of good collaboration".



Our three Turkish researchers also love sports : Emre practices diving, Oya enjoys tennis and wind-surfing and Ferda plays volley-ball. Why not join them for a volley-ball competition? If you are interested, send email to either Céline or Matei !

Céline & Matei

Tomorrow's Special - Free video projection -

The eINTERFACE video club is proud to propose this week the film "Minority Report" (2002) starring Tom Cruise. The projection will be held tomorrow evening at 20h00 in "Auditoire 03" located at "rue de Houdain".

Enjoy the projection !