

Internship Activity Report

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In the period of time from 1st of June – 31st of August I received a DAAD scholarship for doing research at the Technical University of Munich, Faculty of Informatics, department of Scientific Computing in Computer Science (SCCS). The project that I worked on was concerned with applying Grid techniques to an existing engineering framework that was developed at this department.

When I came to TU Munich, I was very enthusiastic to extend my knowledge related to parallel and distributed computer systems. By working on the project, I had the opportunity to explore the latest technologies that are used in modern distributed systems. To be more precise, I was introduced to the world of service-oriented architecture and I later recognized my great interest in this field of computer science. Besides the possibility to work with the cutting-edge technology, I was provided with very good infrastructure that was needed for carrying out my project assignment.

The existing framework required working with large engineering models and therefore it needed support for storing and processing of large datasets. This is exactly what the Grid technology offers and my part of work in porting the framework to the Grid consisted of building a data management service that is responsible for data operations within the framework. In order to achieve this I used a middleware that offers access to distributed data on the Grid. I developed a data service that receives the queries from the framework (e.g. when a client wants to check out a component of a model) executes them on a remote data resource and returns response to the framework. Using this service, the framework can access data anywhere on the Grid.

I was working in a computer lab where students from the SCCS department come to do their homework. This gave me an opportunity to talk with the students and get myself acquainted with the contents of a Master's program that is offered by the department. As I liked the program, I applied for admission and since October 2005 I am a Master's student at the same department. It is important to point out that besides the professional knowledge I received at TU Munich, this scholarship made possible to get to know a good deal of new things about myself as well.

As this was my first time in Germany, there were a lot of new things to learn and see. During my time spent in Munich I attended a course of German language at the University and obtained a beginner-level diploma. The fact that I stayed in Germany helped me a lot with the possibility to practice what I have learned in everyday real-world scenarios. I also took the opportunity to travel around Bavaria and I saw very beautiful places Germany has to offer. I met a lot of people and got new friends from all around Europe.

I would like to thank for this great opportunity that was given to me. I can only strongly recommend to all the young students from South Eastern Europe that are interested in parallel and distributed technologies to apply for this scholarship and take advantage of this chance.