

I am Subhro Das, a senior undergraduate student in Electronics and Electrical Communication Engineering at Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Kharagpur.

I had done my intern at INFONET Lab, School of Information & Communication, Gwangju Institute of Science & Technology (GIST) for 9 weeks under the guidance of Prof. Heung-No Lee in the field of 'Network Codes over Binary Erasure Channel'. It provided me an exposure to the contemporary cutting-edge research. I also learnt to gain expertise quickly in highly technical environment by combining high level of adaptability with a passion for new challenges. The intern wasn't just an awesome research experience but also a period that has brought a perceptible change in my outlook and vision towards my career.

About facilities of research at GIST, School of Information & Communication is worth mentioning which in one of the top research centres in Korea, the land of electronics giants Samsung & LG. The well organised and structured institute campus and housing facilities are its strong positive sides. I had access to university gym and other sport facilities. Another part of this internship is my experience in and around Gwangju, one of the six metropolis in Korea. Gwangju is a wonderful, laid-back city, but by no means a bore. Weekend hangouts to downtown and often having dinner with my colleagues in restaurants in the city are some of the moments I am going to miss. During my stay I visited places like Seoul and Mukpo, a city on the west coast. I enjoyed Korean food, my taste buds will always crave for the pork dishes specially. I even tried my hand on cooking in the international kitchen and turned out to be a not so palatable cook in course of time ☺. Gradually I came to know of the intricacies of Korean culture and the niceties of their lifestyle. The quality time that I spent with my Professor and my labmates fomented in me a sense of appreciation for Korean culture. I enjoyed more than what I could have ever wanted to.

I received ample support and encouragement from my guide and my labmates, in all aspects, including non-academic. Right from picking me from Gwangju terminal, arranging for my accommodation, helping me in getting started and for resolving every small issues, they were always there. They never let me feel alone in my lab, always helped me whole heartedly. I always felt that I am in my own university with my own buddies. Thanks to my guide Prof. Lee who was always so patient in listening to me and who made me realize not to make statements obvious but make them with strong logic and that's what the research is all. Thanks to him for providing me this wonderful opportunity to work in his lab and also thanks to all my labmates for making my stay so memorable.

What I am taking home with me is a sense of achievement and a feeling of respect for scientific research and discipline and yeah lots of new friends. Eccentric memories of cheering for Korea with my labmates during Football World Cup matches, memories of playing soccer in synthetic ground and table tennis & badminton in gymnasium, singular memories of Baseball match for first time in my life with another Lab members, memories of amiability of co-operating colleagues, memories of tight scheduled late night works, savory memories of some relishing Korean delicacies, invigorating memories of series of treats by my Professor, exciting memories of trip to Mukpo, gustatory memories of Chicken festival at Seoul, dolorous memories of emotional good-bye's - all those memories, live and fresh, had a indelible impression on my mind. All the fun and experiences that I had, made this summer as the best summer of my college life and a powerful asset for recollection in tranquility.

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