

Hi!

I write these lines in order to describe my experience during my time at BRL (Bristol Robotics Lab), as part of the overseas internship program provided by the the Humanware innovation program back in October 2013.



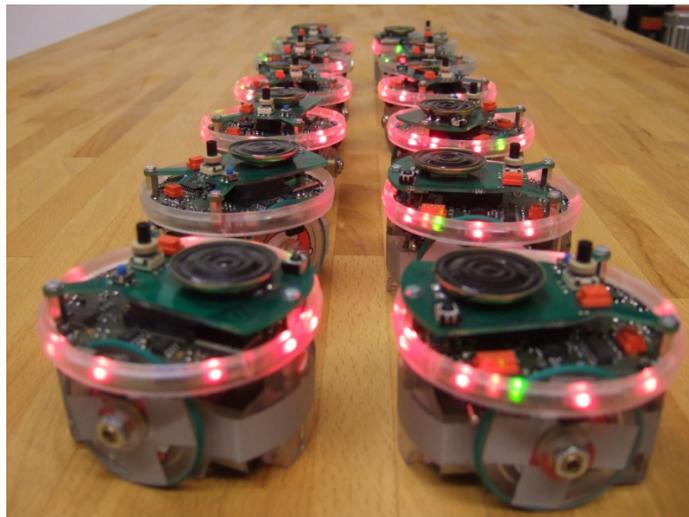
Every overseas story starts with a journey, and after a very long flight (in my case almost 18 hours), I arrived to Bristol (UK) with the intention of succeeding in the research goal I had appointed by my supervisor at Osaka University. However, as I discovered the nice and professional environment to conduct research that BRL (Bristol Robotics Lab) provided me, I also found many interesting things I didn't expect at all.



For a start, Bristol is a small British city near Wales, even though the weather is not usually the best there; I enjoyed walking through its streets and enjoyed its rich cultural heritage such as the docks or the city museums. Bristol is a city of artists, and in every corner of the old quarter you can find street musicians or a nice piece of urban paintings.



Even though there was a really nice atmosphere at Bristol's old town. I past most of my time at BRL. BRL is a vibrant research lab located on the outskirts of Bristol. BRL is a ground-breaking joint project of University of Bristol and University of West of England. Within this lab there are many research groups and famous researchers working in interesting projects related in some degree with robotics. Human-Robot interaction, unmanned aerial vehicles or multi-robot systems (which I was particularly interested at) are especially famous research groups for their innovative research.



The multi-robot systems lab at BRL is supervised by Prof. Winfield which was my mentor in the time I was there, as well as a famous scientist in the field. He gave me a lot of advice about what I was planning to do with the time I was there, and guided me through the process of setting up my experiments. Indeed, Professor Winfield and other members of the multi-robot group were really nice to me and a big help in order to fulfil my goals within BRL.

I strongly believe that the friendships and acquaintances I made during the time I stayed in Bristol and BRL would be not only important for me but also for my current lab at Osaka University. Since, the outcome of my research was positive, many possible collaborations between the two Institution can arise in the future. Based on my experience, I would like to recommend this program to any student interested in expanding his/her horizons not only for research purposes but also in order to meet new people, cultures and countries.

Eduardo Castelló.