

Personal Report

Research Project at the City University of New York

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Introduction

I was introduced by my supervisor Dr. Wegenkittl from University of Applied Sciences Salzburg (SUAS) to the opportunity to do my master's project at the City University of New York (CUNY), which was an immense personal and professional opportunity for my development. My supervisor at CUNY was Professor Gabor T. Herman, who was very helpful with his invaluable expertise and guidance. Additionally I am very thankful for the generous funding by the Austrian Marshall Plan Foundation, which made this master project financially possible.

Overall Impression of the Research Period

The research at CUNY was very insightful, interesting and helped me to develop many different skills during the research period. One big development for me was to work with challenging research problems, which was especially the case with the mathematical and algorithmic research topics for the master's project. Working in an active research group enabled me to learn the ways to work in such a field and to experience and participate in discussions and presentations in a high level of expertise. Overall this research project gave me the confidence and patience to work with a broader range of research related topics and sparked my interest to continue working in research in the future.

Quality of the Research Institution

The research institution where I was working was the CUNY Graduate Center. This institution is a part of the public university system of New York City and is located in Midtown Manhattan. The CUNY Graduate Center is an institution for master and doctoral students in the arts and sciences. My workplace consisted of an office that was used by two other researchers, but I had also access to the library of the CUNY Graduate Center, as well as the libraries of any other university building in the CUNY university system. Additionally I was able to use the offices and equipment of the research group where I was working in.

My supervisor was Gabor T. Herman who has an immense expertise in the field of medical imaging and was aiding me with a lot of knowledge and guidance which was invaluable for my project. He authored many different publications as well as books in the field of computerized tomography and Superiorization. He wrote the book "*Fundamentals of Computerized Tomography: Image Reconstruction from Projections*" which was also very helpful for my project.

Integration in the Research Institution

The research group where I was working with, was the Discrete Imaging and Graphics Group (DIG) and included Marcelo Zibetti, Ph.D. and Chuan Lin, Ph.D, who I was working close with and who helped me a lot throughout the project. It was a very encouraging environment where over many constructive discussions and presentations I learned many insights about the different research topics that we covered. I had to do presentations continuously over the course of the project where I presented my progress of my research to my supervisor and the research group. This was very helpful to stay on track and receive suggestions and new ideas for the research questions that I tackled.

Recommendations for future MPS Scholars/Fellows

I can highly recommend the CUNY Graduate Center, especially the high level of expertise and knowledge of the researchers and teachers working there. They are very supportive and encouraging and give valuable advice and new ways of looking at the problems at

hand. As told before, being part of the CUNY university system one can work at different university buildings and their libraries if needed or if their location is more convenient for oneself.

I can recommend to future MPS scholars/fellows to use the opportunities to explore New York as well, which has a tremendous range of diversity in every field of interest. It is very interesting to see so many attitudes and world views in one place. I was taking part of many local Meet-ups during my stay which I can also highly recommend, where many open minded people are gathering to different topics or activities. I took the chance to dive into the tech scene which is very vibrant and fast paced in New York. Additionally there are uncountable free and paid event throughout the year.

During my stay in New York I was living in the Kolping House in Manhattan which was male only and offered additionally dinner during the week. It was very affordable for its location in the Upper East Side and the CUNY Graduate Center was easily accessible with the subway.