



Author: Maren Schulte

Fundación AITIIP | Zaragoza, Spain

Juan

ETIT – Automation and Robotics M.Sc. – 5. Semester

01.Nov.22 – 29.Jan.23



Fundación AITIIP

Aitiip is a technology center that focuses its activity on the following lines of research: circular bioeconomy, plastic extrusion, digitalization and industry 4.0, efficiency of production processes, robotization and multi-material 3D printing. It also participates in several EU funded projects.

Betreuer/-in im Unternehmen:

Funktion: R&D+I Engineering Manager



Zaragoza, Spain

Zaragoza is located in the independent community of Aragon, which is rich in history and culture, which permeates through its architecture, people and customs. The climate is predominantly dry and windy, but in peak seasons it can be very hot in summer and very cold in winter. Surrounded by a mainly dry landscape, Zaragoza benefits from the advantages provided by the Ebro River. Nearby is the Moncayo mountain and national park, and the Pyrenees mountain range that borders France. The city has high-speed train connections with Madrid and Barcelona.



Author: Maren Schulte



I found the Internship through the IAESTE organization. I applied to it in timely manner and after being accepted, I was able to get access to the list of companies offering an Internship. After selecting one, I contacted the International Office to do the application for that offer. Overall, it took around 4 months to have my internship confirmed.

Vorbereitung

I found the room through an online tool called idealista.com, although AirBnB had good options available. The search of the room was a bit hard since Zaragoza is a city with a big important university, and therefore where almost all the available rooms already booked by students or the landlords wanted to have people for longer time. My Tipp will be to look for sufficient time and select the person that politely replies. I paid 335eur for a 8m2 and shared areas. It could go up to 500eur.

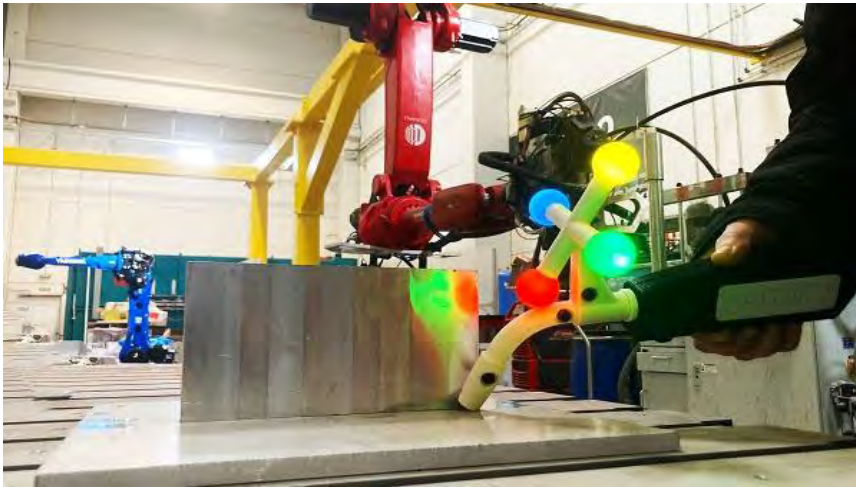
Aufgaben während des Praktikums

Work in computer-vision software platforms with a decentralized Robot Operating System (ROS) node-based structure to increase factories modularity using cutting-edge technology and the application of agile manufacturing principles, as well as work in cognitive robotic platforms built on a modular approach that makes it possible for robotics production platforms to be quickly reconfigured, in the frame of the EU-funded ACROBA project.



Author: AITIIP. Source: readi3dplatform.com

- Industrial computer-vision aided processes, to extend robotic manipulators capabilities.
- Software development for use in industrial environments.
- ROS integration, applied use and packages development.



Author: AITIIP. Source: aitiip.com



Author: AITIIP. Source: youtube.com

Eindrücke

I felt very welcomed the moment I stepped in the company. After a short integration and learning curve, I was able to earn the trust of my colleagues, which translated into me having full confidence and independence in the fulfillment of my tasks. That is one of the things that I value the most and think that changed my life, since it gave me work experience in an EU member state company and strengthened self-assurance in what I am able to accomplish as an engineer of the TU Dortmund.

Kultur

It was very easy to make friends and very good colleagues. Many things were very alike to my homeland Mexico, but others not. Language: despite speaking the same language, many funny moments arose from misunderstandings in the use of the language, but that only enriched my use of it. From what I could experience, I found interesting how “Food” and sharing with the friends play a big role in the groups. Food was all-round delicious with many options to try and taste.



Author: Maren Schulte

Only from what I experienced and was able to see, in my opinion, it impressed me how little from the Russo-Ukrainian War there is in the everyday life in Zaragoza. Almost never heard people talking about it or supporting against it, neither flags or symbols of support.

I talked to my friends and colleagues to get their point of view.

Nachhaltigkeit

Hin- und Rückreise

Unfortunately, not fully. There are not sufficiently well-connected train routes to go all the way to Zaragoza. It can be partially done by travelling to either Madrid or Barcelona, and they take the electric train. What I found positive is that travelling with high-speed train woke up an engineering interest on it.

Nachhaltigkeit vor Ort

I got a divided impression. The company being a technology-center, was focused on developing and testing new sustainable materials and manufacture processes, but I was not able to see a real long-term commitment on the topic on everyday life from the people I got to know in and out the Internship.

Tipps & Vorschläge für zukünftige Praktikant/-innen

- Look for the Internship with at least 6 months in advance if possible.
- Search if there are any travelling or migratory restrictions for your arrival and stay. If any, consider the processing times.
- Choose dates that are preferably slightly before start of semester, since it will be easier to find accommodation.
- Get a local account (e-banking) to use Bizum (fund transfer method). You will use it with your friends.
- No need to get big sums of cash, almost everywhere accepts card payment.
- Get a Bus-Tram card, it is definitely cheaper.
- If going on winter, warm clothing and bed linings.



Author: Maren Schulte



Author: Maren Schulte

Das Leben danach...

I take with me the friendship and living experiences I had with the people around me.

I now also have lots of experience in applied robotic manipulators and computer-vision systems. The internship offered me cutting-edge technologies understanding that will positively impact in my professional career.

A future in Germany is my goal, but Spain, specifically AITIIP in Zaragoza will definitely remain as one of my options to work in the future due to the very positive experience that I had in such a short time.

Anything else?

I would like to thank all the people that enabled me to make this Internship:

- Technische Universität Dortmund, Referat Internationales, and greatly Laura Hope.
- IESTE Organization.
- ERASMUS+ Program.
- Dr. Frank Hoffmann
- Dr. Berta Gonzalvo, Dr. Jose Antonio Dieste and his ID+I team at AITIIP.
- My family.



Author: Maren Schulte