

## Experience report -45th Hawaii International Conference on System Sciences, Maui, Jan. 4-7.2012

Dear Sir or Madam of Alumni-Verein,

I first want to thank you for the support which enabled me to take part in the 45<sup>th</sup> HICSS. It was a precious academic experience to communicate with the peers from all over the world and share my research ideas with them. I was deeply impressed in terms of both its expertise and organization.



The conference was well-organized. There were four program components that comprised the conference including minitracks, symposia, workshops and tutorials. There were altogether 100 minitracks subordinated to 10 tracks. Every paper session contained 3-4 presentations. Quite a few participants came from US. Germans were quite active participants, as German language was heard in many occasions such as buffet, reception, break. By experience and observation, researchers from mainland China and Hong Kong seemed to get quite along with the American peers, whereas Japanese researchers usually kept to themselves. The keynote speech was delivered by former chief information officer of US government, which revolved around the innovation through open data platforms. He exemplified the point with the cases he dealt with for the government.

The venue for the conference is located by the southwest coast of Maui island, where I marveled at the amazing ocean view with gorgeous sunset. The moderate temperature and nice landscape brought the pleasant atmosphere to the conference. During the coffee break, researchers had the chance to exchange ideas with each other. I talked with some PhD students from Singapore, US and Netherland, who were doing research in different fields such as knowledge management, E-commerce efficiency and IT in Health care. Nevertheless, some of us used the similar method, hence we exchanged more information further regarding the validity check. From the talk I realized there were actually some leeway to improve my study. The informal academic communication at the conference enlightened me on the important research details. Another chance to broaden academic horizon is to attend presentations of one's interest. After listening to 2 presentations, respectively "modularity and inequality in OSS project" and "network centrality in case of Chinese Wikipedia", I managed to talk with the authors about their research interests in order to discover the potential collaborating possibility.

Although only 8-9 audiences attended my paper session (that might because it was already the afternoon on the last day), they were almost the experts in open source software field. They gave me the pertinent feedback on my research model and we further talked about the difficulty I encountered when collecting data. They advised me to derive the data directly from the OSS forge for the next study, which they maintained and collected data of OSS projects regularly.

To sum up, the conference was worthy of experiencing in terms of not only improving and promoting the current study, but also establishing academic network which would be very beneficial for the future work. This is the meaning and significance to present my current work, as a PhD student, at an international conference.