

CMU Portugal Undergraduate Internship Program - Fall 2016

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This report summarizes the activities carried out during my internship at CMU, which took place from October 21st to December 22nd, 2016. I was hosted and advised by Professor Alan Black, and had the opportunity to work in the Language Technologies Institute.

The initially proposed objective was to explore methods of achieving a cross-lingual voice conversion system. However, due to the short-term nature of this internship it was decided to further explore voice conversion methods on the same language, topic in which I had been working for the past year to finish my MSc. This led to the proposal of a syllable-based conversion system, that used a lot of the work I previously developed with deep learning, and revealed to be extremely effective. The research developed will likely result in a paper publication and a submission to the INTERSPEECH 2017 conference.

Furthermore, during my stay at CMU, I had the opportunity of attending several talks, lectures and seminars on topics such as natural language processing, machine learning and artificial intelligence (AI). Among these, I would like to highlight a lecture from Ruslan Salakhutdinov, AI director at Apple, and a seminar from Yann LeCun, director of AI research at Facebook. It is remarkable the opportunity one gets to hear from so many interesting people at CMU.

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