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1. FORWARD

Professor Ehsan Mesbahi, Dean, Newcastle University & CEO, NUIInternational Singapore

Our University’s global vision is to offer "excellence with a purpose” in all academic fronts of teaching, research and engagement and Singapore is our purposeful destination of choice, for delivery of our strengths in Science and Engineering. We are proud to have been the “one" British University, operating for 10 years in Singapore, providing skills and expertise to more than 100 industrial sectors and graduating our 1000th student in 2015, when Singapore celebrates her Golden Jubilee. Our world-class academics, spread across Singapore, Malaysia and Newcastle are testaments of our excellence and relevance to global and regional demands. Our overseas operations are true witnesses of the fact that we are not only "good at" what we do, but also, we are “good for” addressing 21st century challenges at international platforms. “Celebrating Success” only represents what we have achieved during last 12 months; it also shows an exponential increase in NUIS’ successes over past 5 years in most of performance categories. Congratulations to all my academic and professional support colleagues at NUIS and NU to make this possible. With your devotion, excellence and commitment, this trend of success and growth shall definitely continue for next 10 years... It has been a pleasure and privilege to be working with you.

Professor Chris Phillips, Head of Academic Operations, Newcastle University, Singapore

Academic Year 2014/15 has seen a number of notable successes, by staff and by students, at NUIS of which we can all be justifiably proud. Many of these successes are of a professional nature, e.g. publication in a highly-ranked journal, or the award of a research grant, but others are of a much more personal nature, and we celebrate all of these successes equally. These successes help to raise the profile of individuals, but also of NUIS collectively, here in Singapore and at Newcastle University's King’s Road campus and we all benefit from that. Congratulations to all those being celebrated here, I'm sure that this will spur us all on to even greater things.
2. RESEARCH ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The creation of a ‘circle of knowledge’, a process by which new knowledge is created (via research), shared with colleagues (via conferences, publications/journal articles, informal ‘brown-bag’ sessions and so on) then woven into the learning materials that make up core learning experiences for undergraduates and postgraduates alike, is part and parcel of being an Academic member of staff at Newcastle University in Singapore.

The information provided below is a list of research output which has been uploaded to the MyImpact system and highlights the accomplishments of members of Academic staff in Singapore and so, adds to the’ circle of knowledge’.

‘Successes’ can come in many guises, administrative, personal and academic, they can be created and shared in many different ways. In addition to this Celebrating Success report, Celebrating Success posters were and continue to be created, as another medium to share the successes of the team at NU in Singapore. See Appendix A for samples of these celebratory posters.

Please note, where two members of staff in Singapore have collaborated on a publication, book etc. but are from different Schools, the item will appear in both School sections.

2.1 Articles by Academics

2.1.1 Agriculture, Food & Rural Development

Dr. Iain Brownlee
Chater PI, Wilcox MD, Brownlee IA, Pearson JP. Alginate as a protease inhibitor in vitro and in a model gut system; selective inhibition of pepsin but not trypsin. Carbohydrate Polymers 2015, 131, 142-151.


Dr. Mei-Yen Chan

2.1.2 Chemical Engineering & Advanced Materials

Dr Nasir Al-Lagtah
(http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1875510015002851)

(http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1878535215002051)


Dr Sagheer Onaizi
2.1.3 Electrical & Electronic Engineering

Dr. Wai Lok Woo

doi: 10.1109/JESTPE.2015.2443187


DOI:http://dx.doi.org/10.1121/1.4903913

N. Tengtrairat, W.L. Woo, Single-channel separation using underdetermined blind autoregressive model and least absolute deviation, Neurocomputing, Volume 147, 5 January 2015, Pages 412-425, ISSN 0925-2312, [http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.neucom.2014.06.043](http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.neucom.2014.06.043)


Dr. Khalid Abidi
doi: 10.1109/JESTPE.2015.2443187

Dr. Thillainathan Logenthiran
doi: 10.1109/JESTPE.2015.2443187


Dr. Van-Tung Phan
doi: 10.1109/JESTPE.2015.2443187


Dr. Naayagi Ramasamy
doi: 10.1109/JESTPE.2015.2443187

Dr. Charles Su
2.1.4  Marine Science & Technology

Prof. Ehsan Mesbahi


Dr. Burak Cerik


Dr. Cheng Chin Siong


Dr. Arun Dev
**Dr. Ivan Tam**


**Dr. Xin Wang**

**2.1.5 Mechanical & Systems Engineering**

**Dr. Michael Lau**


**Dr. Eugene Wong**


2.2 Books by Academics

2.2.1 Electrical & Electronic Engineering

Dr. Khalid Abidi

2.3 Book Chapters by Academics

2.3.1 Mechanical & Systems Engineering

Dr. Kheng-Lim Goh

2.4 Conference Proceedings by Academics

2.4.1 Faculty of Science, Agriculture & Engineering

Prof. Chris Phillips

2.4.2 Agriculture, Food & Rural Development

Dr. Iain Brownlee


2.4.3 Chemical Engineering & Advanced Materials

Dr. Ming Tham

Dr Nasir Al-Lagtah

2.4.4 Electrical & Electronic Engineering

Dr. Wai Lok Woo
Yang Thee Quek; Woo, W.L.; Logenthrian, T., "DC appliance classification and identification using k-Nearest Neighbours technique on features extracted within the 1st second of current waveforms," Environment and Electrical Engineering (EEEIC), 2015 IEEE 15th International Conference on , pp.554-560, 10-13 June 2015 doi: 10.1109/EEEIC.2015.7165222


Zuchang Gao; Cheng Siong Chin; Wai Lok Woo; Junbo Jia; Wei Da Toh, "Lithium-ion battery modeling and validation for smart power system," in Computer, Communications, and Control Technology (I4CT), 2015 International Conference on , vol., no., pp.269-274, 21-23 April 2015 doi: 10.1109/I4CT.2015.7219579


Charles O. Ukpai ; Satnam S. Dlay ; Wai L. Woo; Pupil segmentation using active contour with shape prior. Proc. SPIE 9443, Sixth International Conference on Graphic and Image Processing (ICGIP 2014), 94432J (March 4, 2015); doi:10.1117/12.2180065.


Dr. Khalid Abidi


Dr. Thillainathan Logenthiran

Yang Thee Quek; Woo, W.L.; Logenthrian, T., "DC appliance classification and identification using k-Nearest Neighbours technique on features extracted within the 1st second of current waveforms," Environment and Electrical Engineering (EEEIC), 2015 IEEE 15th International

**Dr. Naayagi Ramasamy**


**2.4.5 Marine Science & Technology**

**Prof. Ehsan Mesbahi**


**Dr. Cheng Chin Siong**


Zuchang Gao; **Cheng Siong Chin**; Wai Lok Woo; Junbo Jia; Wei Da Toh, "Lithium-ion battery modeling and validation for smart power system," in Computer, Communications, and Control Technology (I4CT), 2015 International Conference on , vol., no., pp.269-274, 21-23 April 2015 doi: 10.1109/I4CT.2015.7219579


**Dr. Arun Dev**


**2.4.6 Mechanical & Systems Engineering**

**Dr Kheng – Lim Goh**

**Dr Didier Talamona**
Dr Eugene Wong

### 2.5 Newspaper, Radio, Newsletter or Online Contribution by Academics

#### 2.5.1 Agriculture, Food & Rural Development

- The Asia Pacific Food Industry publication shared the Workforce Development Agency’s announcement in April 2015, of the SkillsFuture Earn and Learn initiative that mentioned NU’s involvement with the STEP scholarship – two WDA scholarship holders will be joining NU in Singapore in January 2016.

#### 2.5.2 Chemical Engineering & Advanced Materials

- A *Making green plastics viable for everyday use* clipping shared the research of Dr. Nasir Al-Lagtah and was released in the Straits Times on the 1st November 2014. Dr. Al-Lagtah’s research provided insight into processes which could make plastics environmentally friendly. There has been additional pick up of the NUIS press release. The coverage in China Plastic and Rubber Journal as well as Plastikcity (syndicated from PRW).

You may also wish to access the articles from the following links;

- Singapore university finds improved way to produce bioplastics [http://www.adsalecprj.com/Publicity/MarketNews/lang-eng/article-67016288/Printing.aspx](http://www.adsalecprj.com/Publicity/MarketNews/lang-eng/article-67016288/Printing.aspx)
- Singapore scientists claim breakthrough in bioplastic production (syndicated from PRW – please see attached coverage) [http://www.plastikcity.co.uk/industry-news](http://www.plastikcity.co.uk/industry-news)

- Dr. Nasir’s research was highlighted as part of the TechInnovation event – coverage sent across two weeks ago.
2.5.3 Marine Science & Technology

- Dr. Ivan Tam has been awarded Certificate of Registration as IES Chartered Engineer (Marine & Offshore Engineering) from Deputy Prime Minister. He will be one of the four pioneering M&O Chartered Engineers in Singapore and will be a panel member in the interview of candidates who apply for Chartered Engineer status.

- Dr. Tam personally led a small team of engineers to visit the Jurong Rock Caverns (JRC) in April. It was reported in the Singapore Engineer which was a publication by IES.

2.6 Student Conference Research and Award/Prize Successes

2.6.1 Agriculture, Food & Rural Development

- Five abstracts accepted for presentation at the forthcoming ASEAN Food Conference 2015 (one oral presentation and 4 posters) based on undergraduate student projects and Research Scholarships
2.6.2 Chemical Engineering & Advanced Materials

- Yayasan MENDAKI (Council for the Development of Singapore Malay/Muslim Community) awards for academic excellence, recognised three CEAM undergraduate students (Muhammad Haiqal Bin Mohamed Ibrahim, Jahangier S/O Abusalih and Sheik Abdul Hafidz Bin Sheik A Hamid) who graduated with first class honours degrees.

- To commemorate Singapore’s 50th birthday, Spring Singapore organised the “Local Champion, Global Leaders” competition with the objective of paying tribute to the contribution of business and its workers who play a part in building our nation. Several NU students from CEAM have participated in the competition: Team Prima (and Dorothy Yeo, Sharmaine Koh and Shera Tan) and SINE (Samantha Liew, Nicholas Low and Yaseen Ahzhal Muqaffa Bin Hamzah). Their efforts were showcased at Suntec City Exhibition Hall from 5 Feb to 9 Feb 2015.

Team Prima went on to the finals and emerged as 1st runner up.
2.6.3 Electrical & Electronic Engineering

- Undergraduates from the School of EEE worked on the development of an electric buggy project as part of the FYP.

2.6.4 Mechanical & Systems Engineering

- Two teams of undergraduates from MSE, lead by Dr. Eugene Wong and Dr. Ahmed Qureshi, entered the SAFE awards which were sponsored by the Ministry of Home Affairs.


Keeping Singapore SAFE!

Students from the Bachelor of Engineering (Hons) in Mechanical Design & Manufacturing Engineering from Newcastle University won Bronze and Merit prizes in the Security Awareness For Everyone (SAFE) Programme. Organised by the Ministry of Home Affairs, it is a competition where students submit ideas and innovations that address safety and security challenges in Singapore.

The Bronze prize-winning project was “Aerial Surveillance Autonomous Platform”, a quadcopter which aids enforcement work by surveying hard-to-reach forested or crowded areas. The team comprised Mr Kok Wai Geng, Mr Mohammad Izwan bin Ismail, Ms Surianah binte Sulaiman Sujai, Mr Philemon Chor and Mr Nadeen Abu Musawwir (pictured above from left to right, with one of their supervisors, Dr Ahmed Qureishi, third from left).

Receiving a Merit prize was the project “Mobile Screen for Traffic Operations”, a portable screen that can be assembled quickly to shield accident sites. The team comprised Ms Angelia Ang, Mr Koh Ih Chin, Mr Leong Wei Jian, Mr Ng Jun Keat, and Ms Nurul Asyqah binte Roslan.
3. DOCTORAL TRAINING CENTRE & POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH

3.1 Doctoral Training Centre Working Group
Formed approximately 24 months ago, the DTCWG meets every six months and is made up of academic staff, PGR professional support staff and a PGR representative. Matters discussed include: new PGRs joining NUIS, Induction, PGR support for conference travel, PGR training opportunities (including how staff in Singapore can contribute to the PGR research training and how this will be recognised under the workload model), the potential involvement of NUIS PGRs in the QAA process in the first quarter of 2016, updates on the ePortfolio system, Supervisory duties and requirements when staff leave, development of a Postgraduate Immersion Programme and a dedicated PGR Handbook for Singapore.

Discussions from the DTCWG feed into the Faculty Researcher Development Board via skype meetings with the Head of Academic Operations and the Senior Manager Research and Development. Celebrating this process and organisational success highlights how the teams in Singapore adapt and work with the existing Newcastle systems/committees and continue to work towards equivalence when providing support our PGR candidates in Singapore.

3.2 Master of Philosophy Programme
The first MPhil candidate joined NUIS in January 2014 and submitted their thesis for examination in June 2015.

Currently there are eight MPhil candidates (including the recently submitted candidate) representing four of the five schools.

3.3 Doctor of Philosophy Programme
The first PhD candidate joined NUIS in September 2013, and the first PhD candidate to complete and submit their thesis for examination did so in June 2015.

Currently there are 29 PhD candidates (including the recently submitted candidate) representing all five Schools who offer undergraduate programmes in Singapore, plus one candidate from the School of Computer Science.

The PGR Singapore cohort is a mixture of candidates who are self-funded, supported by their Schools, industry scholarships or supported by Singapore government scholarships.
3.4 Research Education for PGR Candidates

3.4.1 Live-link Workshops
The concept of live-link training sessions was first suggested by the Research team in Singapore to the Faculty Postgraduate Skills Development team late 2014. In the spring of 2015, a 14 week PGR live-link training programme was developed in Newcastle and implemented in Singapore. This enabled the PGR candidates in Singapore to gain valuable research training and credit points towards their annual progression.

A second 14 week PGR live-link programme started in the autumn term 2015, again, providing regular PGR training opportunities. Similar programmes are being developed for future semesters. See Appendix B

3.4.2 PGR Conference Travel
A number of the PGR candidates in Singapore are ‘self-funding’, that is they are not on a scholarship that may support them to, for example, travel to conferences. To support these candidates to enable them to share their research, further their research careers and highlight the research activity of Newcastle University, a PGR Conference Travel fund has been set aside to support candidates when no other financial support is available. Guidance notes and application form can be found in Appendix C

3.4.3 Postgraduate Immersion Programme (PIP)
After various discussions with PGR candidates in Singapore, it became evident that while some had visited the campus in Newcastle, many hadn’t and a large number were keen to do so to not only spend time with their UK based Supervisors, but also to experience all that actually is Newcastle University and Newcastle in general and, they wanted to do this as a group. At the PGR Research Retreat in June 2015, when Dr. Bryn Jones was presenting, the notion of a Postgraduate Immersion Programme (PIP) was raised and possible dates were discussed. It was difficult to find a suitable date for all, but the ‘best fit’ dates of 14-26 March 2016, was suggested and these are in fact the dates being worked towards.

Dr. Jones presented three possible scenarios to the Faculty Steering Group (FSG) with regards to the format of the PIP and also support (both academic/research training that could occur during the PIP and financial) that would be needed from the Faculty. In addition, he highlighted a critical mass requirement of 15 minimum PGR candidates to attend to make the PIP logistically and financially viable. Currently, 20 candidates have signed up.

The PIP will consist of a week of intense research training workshops and activities (similar to the intensive weeks arranged for PGRs who are in Newcastle) and a week with their School including
time with their UK based Supervisor (if applicable) and time with other Newcastle University PGRs in the School.

The achievement of developing the PIP (and its celebration as a success) can only be fully realised once the PGR candidates have returned from this overseas opportunity and provided feedback on the experiences they had. However, the effort and time spent by the teams in both Singapore and Newcastle should be recognised and acknowledged as a new researcher development opportunity is set up.

### 3.4.4 NUIS Postgraduate Researcher Handbook

While the PGR candidates in Singapore are admitted to the university in the same way as those situated in Newcastle and they follow all the processes in which Learning Agreements, PGR Proposals are approved and Annual Progression takes place, there are some areas where, due to distance from the main UK campus, the exact same processes cannot be followed. To guide the PGR candidates in Singapore, Dr. Gail de Blaquiere of the Faculty Postgraduate Skills Development team and Ms. Pauline Appleyard, Senior Manager, Research & Development, created the first Singapore focused PGR Handbook.

### 3.5 PGR awards/nominations & publications

- Mr. Antony Prince (CEAM) was nominated by his Supervisor Dr. Kamelia Boodhoo for 2015 IES Young Creators’ Award.
- Mr. Antony Prince (CEAM) and Dr. Kamelia Boodhoo were part of the team who undertook bio-fouling research and published in Nature – Self-cleaning Metal Organic Framework (MOF) based Ultra filtration membranes – A solution to bio-fouling in membrane separation process. September 2014.
- Ms. Karin Y.M. Tan (AFRD) was part of a team who undertook research into food products health claims – Tan, EM van der Beek, MY Chan, X.J. Zhao & L Stevenson (2015) Health claims on food products in Southeast Asia: regulatory frameworks, barriers, and opportunities Nutrition Reviews
- Mr Ng Kok Poh (EEE) presented at the IEEE Asia Pacific Conference on Wireless and Mobile 2015. His paper was entitled, “Energy-efficient Synchronization Algorithm for Duty-Cycle MAC Protocols”.
- Mr. Shahrain Mahmood (MSE) presented at the International Conference on Engineering Design 2015 – Design for Life. His paper was entitled, “Design for Scalability and Strength Optimisations for Components created through FDM process”
- Ms. Karin Y.M. Tan (AFRD) received sponsorship from the International Life Sciences Institute (ILSI) Southeast Asia Region, and ILSI SEA Region Indonesia Country Committee,
Indonesian National Agency Drug and Food Control and Bogor Agricultural University, Department of Family and Consumer Sciences to present in Bali, Indonesia.

- Mr. Keith Fwa presented at the IEE ICCSE 2015 conference. His paper was entitled, “Automatic Detection of Frustration Novice Programmers from Contextual and Keystroke Logs”.

4. DEVELOPING PROCESSES TO LINK/ALIGN WITH NEWCASTLE

4.1 MyProjectProposals online system implementation
All research undertaken in the university must be internally approved and research undertaken at NUIS had, until recently, gone through a hard copy paper based system of approval. In April 2015, the process of aligning NUIS with the NU online system, started.

Working with the Research Enterprise Services team in Newcastle, the Singapore based team developed and delivered training on the system for those who needed it in Singapore, phased out the paper based long format proposal form and phased in the online system.

From the 1st January 2016, in line with Newcastle University in the UK, staff undertaking research will be using the online MyProjectProposals system.

4.2 Thesis examination process alignment
Section 3.2 and 3.3 shared PGR numbers and news regarding the success of the first MPhil and PhD submissions. In addition to the academic success for both the candidate and the supervisory team, this also heralds an administrative, process alignment success for the Research team in Singapore and the Research Student Support team in Newcastle.

Simple but effective process have been put in place in Singapore (and continue to be updated) to ensure the university thesis submission and examination process is in place, aligns with that of the established university system and upholds to exacting standards for auditing purposes.
5. CREATING LINKS, FUNDING AWARDS & COLLABORATIONS

5.1 Intellectual Property Intermediary (IPI) – TechInnovation 2015
IPI are a non for profit organisation who, with the backing of the Ministry of Trade and Industry, assist with the development of links between people and organisations who have ‘technology offers’ to solve ‘technology needs’ and vice versa. NUIS have signed an MOU with IPI and in September took part in the TechInnovation 2015 event showcasing research work undertaken by staff in Singapore.

The research team in Singapore have created a link with Business Development colleagues in Newcastle, the Research and Enterprise Support team and IPI to offer a platform for sharing knowledge and solutions with a view to developing international research opportunities.

5.2 NewRail
In the past 20 years the mass rapid transit (MRT) rail network in Singapore has been growing at a steady rate; these networks are currently being subjected to in-depth maintenance work and this work will continue as long as the MRT system is in operation, that is the foreseeable future. Over the next 20 years more lines are being tendered, commissioned and brought into use. More rail networks means a greater need to engage qualified rail personnel at all levels with the above development in mind. The research team in Singapore has been working with the NewRail team in Newcastle to develop both research and professional development opportunities with the Land Transport Authority, local education providers and local rail operators.
5.3 Global Excellence Fund (GEF)
Dr. Cheng Siong Chin has been awarded £10,000 to complete research in the area of Non-invasive Fouling Recognition System with Nanyang Technological University as a partner.

5.4 Robotic Waiter System for the food and beverage industry
Dr. Michael Lau and a team from Nanyang Polytechnic with industry collaborators from Yu Sin Engineering Work Pte Ltd were awarded funding to develop automated waiters.

5.5 Skills Future credit scheme
Under SkillsFuture Credit, all Singaporeans aged 25 years and above will receive learning credits to pay for course fees for work-skills-related courses supported by public agencies. The Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore will now include the maritime-courses conducted by Newcastle University in Singapore specifically, the Master of Science in Marine Technology (International) under the SkillsFuture Credit framework. Dr. Arun Dev has developed this initiative and is the point of contact for initial enquiries.

6 TEACHING & LEARNING SUCCESSES
- Dr. Sagheer Onaizi - CASAP M2 result; Fellowship of the HE Academy; Completing CASAP - Descriptor 2 of the UK Professional Standards Framework.
- Dr. Didier Talamona and Dr. Ahmed Qureshi were nominated as a partner for STEM Education, a Singapore government’s initiative to bring Applied Learning in Engineering and Science to secondary schools.
- Dr. Li Chuanzhao has been promoted to Senior Lecturer.
- The following people were nominated for the Newcastle University Teaching Excellence Awards (TEA)
  - Dr. Arun Dev – Support Staff of the Year
  - Dr. Li Chuanzhao - Support Staff of the Year and Contribution to Outstanding Feedback
  - Dr. Dawn Jones – Contribution to Pastoral Support and Contribution to Outstanding Feedback
  - Mr. Soo Hangjian – Support Staff of the Year
  - Dr. Iain Brownlee – Innovative Teaching Methods
  - Ms. Ong Lifang – Support Staff of the Year
  - Ms. Suzana Mohamed-Asri – Support Staff of the Year
  - Dr. Wang Xin - Innovative Teaching Methods
  - Mrs. Wu Xiuqi - Support Staff of the Year
7 OTHER ESTEEM INDICATORS AND SUCCESSES

• Dr. Cindy Lee Lai Yeng (CEAM)
  o Editorial Board member of Advanced Powder Technology (Elsevier)
  o Reviewer for Advanced Powder Technology (Elsevier)
  o Reviewer for Chemical Engineering Science (Elsevier)
  o Reviewer for Fibers (http://www.mdpi.com/journal/fibers)

• Dr. Cindy Lee Lai Yeng (CEAM) and Dr. Iain Brownlee (AFRD) presented and shared their research at the IPI sponsored TechInnovation 2015 event (http://www.techinnovation.com.sg/)

• Dr. Woo Lok - Chair of the organising committee for the International Conference Progress in Applied Mathematics in Science and Engineering. http://piamse.com/

• Dr. Eugene Wong
  o National Serviceman of the Year 2015.

• Dr. Naayagi Ramasamy – elevated to Senior Member of IEEE. Of the 433,000 members, only 9% are at the level.
• Dr. Phan Van Tung – received an invitation to visit the Centre for Functional Nanomaterials, Brookhaven National Laboratory, New York, U.S.A. with a view to building research links.
Appendix A. Samples of Celebrating Success posters
Biological activity of alginate and its effect on pancreatic lipase inhibition as a potential treatment for obesity

Abstract. Alginites are derived from a native algae and have been shown to inhibit digestive enzymes in vitro and therefore could be used as an obesity treatment. The current study aims to assess whether alginate is a potential treatment for obesity. The study is a systematic review of the effects of alginate and its derivative on the inhibition of lipase activity. The results show a potential for alginate as a potential treatment for obesity. After 14 days of a model test, the alginate concentration in the medium decreased from 0.3% to 0.1%, which indicates a potential for alginate to be used as a potential treatment for obesity. Further research is needed to confirm these findings.

http://www.nature.com/scientificreports/reports/scientificreports-0000054

Finite Time Analysis of a Tri-Generation Cycle

Abstract. A review of the literature indicates that current tri-generation cycles show low thermal performance, even when optimised for maximum useful output. This paper presents a Finite Time Analysis of a tri-generation cycle that is based upon coupled Carnot cycles. The analysis applies equally well to Carnot cycles or any cycle that exhibits convective heat transfer with the environment and is internally reversible. It is shown that it is possible to obtain a significant higher energy utilisation factor with this type of cycle by considering the energy transferred during the performance of the Carnot cycle and expanding processes as useful processes thus making the energy utilisation of the cycle higher than the energy utilisation of the Carnot cycle. The cycle is shown to have the highest energy utilisation factor when energy is supplied from a low temperature heat source and in this case the output is biased towards heating and cooling.

http://www.nature.com/srep/reports/srep0000054

Zi Jie is IMechE Mechatronics Student of the Year

Mr Chong Zi Jie is our graduate and currently doing his PhD at Newcastle University in UK, has just won the prestigious IMechE mechatronics student year award this year.

http://www.nature.com/reports/reports/nature0000054

Advanced Discrete-Time Control

Abstract. This book covers a wide spectrum of systems such as linear and nonlinear multivariable systems as well as control problems such as disturbances, uncertainty and time-delays. The purpose of this book is to provide researchers and practitioners a manual for the design and application of advanced discrete-time control systems. The book presents six different control approaches depending on the type of system and control problem. The first and second approaches are based on sliding mode control (SMC) theory and are intended for linear systems with exogenous disturbances. The third and fourth approaches are based on adaptive control theory and are used for linear/nonlinear systems with periodically varying parameters, uncertainty, or systems with input nonlinearities. The fifth approach is based on linear learning control (LLC) theory and is aimed at solving linear/infinite systems with repetitive tasks and the final approach is based on fuzzy logic control (FLC) and is intended for highly uncertain systems with heuristic control knowledge. Detailed numerical examples are provided in each chapter to illustrate the design procedure for each control method. A number of practical control applications are also presented to show the problem solving process and effectiveness with the advanced discrete-time control approaches introduced in this book.

http://www.nature.com/reports/reports/nature0000054

SG50 Local Champions Global Leaders

To commemorate Singapore's 50th birthday, Senggang Singapore imparted the "Local Champions, Global Leaders" cornerstone with the objective of paying tribute to the contribution of business and its workers who play a part in building our nation.

Student teams from local universities and polytechnics participated in a local competition and promoted their story from the students' point of view— the environmental footprint of their work and its contributions to the company in Singapore.

For more information on the competition, please visit http://www.senggang.com.sg/

Several IM Students from CESVP have participated in the competition. Team Prino (Gle, Deyo Hoo, Shanghong Fu and Shane Tan) and SMS Governor Lida, Nicholas Low and Siewen Chiai (Imsu, Shanshui, Shi, and Chang), their efforts were showcased at Senggang City Exhibition Hall from 3 Feb to 19 Feb. We congratulate them for their hard work and effort.

http://www.nature.com/reports/reports/nature0000054

SAF NSMan of the Year Award 2015

We are happy to share with you all that Dr Eugene Wong was awarded the Singapore Armed Forces National Service Man of the Year Award 2015, 1st July 2015, at the SAF 50 Parade.

http://www.nature.com/reports/reports/nature0000054
Successful Buggy Project

We would like to congratulate Dr. Van Tung Pham, Dr. Naveen Varma and their NUS students for the success of the Buggy project this year. All students have put their best effort to compete in the race and they were all excited and cheerful. Students were very proud of their achievements and this was made possible with the supervision and coaching of the Academic Staff.

Chartered Engineer in Singapore

We would like to announce Dr. Van Tung for receiving the Certificate of Registration as IE Singapore Chartered Engineer (Marine & Offshore Engineering) from Deputy Prime Minister last 27th July 2013. We will be one of the few pioneering Marine & Offshore Chartered Engineers in Singapore.

Further information about the IE Singapore Chartered Engineering scheme can be found from the following websites:

http://www.charterengineer.sg/
http://www.charterengineer.ie/CharteredEngineer20130727/CharteredEngineer201307271031.pdf

The Institution of Engineers Singapore

Energy-efficient Synchronization Algorithm for Duty-Cycle MAC Protocols

Abstract. Different variants of duty-cycle MAC protocols have been designed for wireless sensor networks to reduce energy consumption. However, the synchronization process of these protocols consumes a significant amount of energy. In this paper, we propose a new energy-efficient synchronization algorithm referred to as E-Sync that can be easily integrated with duty-cycle MAC protocols. We compare E-Sync with fixed period synchronization (F-Sync) algorithm and Intelligent Network Synchronization (INS) algorithm and show that E-Sync outperforms F-Sync and INS in energy-efficiency over a wide range of node densities. Analytical models that describe the energy consumption behavior and synchronization performance of these synchronization algorithms are also presented.

Ultimate strength of locally damaged steel stiffened cylinders under axial compression

Abstract. This paper focuses on the load-carrying behaviour of large diameter thin-walled stiffened cylinders with local damage when subjected to axial compressive loading. The case considered in this study corresponds to the residual strength assessment of columns of floating offshore structures with damage resulting from collisions with supply vessels. Numerical simulations of axial compression tests, which examine the collapse behaviour and the ultimate strength of ring- and orthogonally stiffened cylinders dented by a knife-edged indenter, are presented. The behaviour of eight small-scale ring-stiffened cylinders and four orthogonally stiffened cylinder specimens is assessed. Finite element analyses were performed using the ABAQUS FE software package, and a close agreement between the experimental test results and the numerical predictions was achieved. To assess the factors influencing the ultimate strength under axial compression and to clarify the progressive collapse behaviour, further analyses were performed on designs of ring- and orthogonally stiffened cylinders, considering both intact and damaged conditions.

Simulated Working Environment (SWE) at the Caterpillar site (UK)

In order to have a more successful outcome, there are 30 students required to train in both Manufacturing and teamwork building. This year, a total of 72 students will visit the simulated working environment (SWE) at the Caterpillar site as part of a structured employment or events package in Industry-Universities.

The students all study Manufacturing at the Institute of Technology, Limerick in partnership with students from universities in the UK. In the coming weeks of their placement, they will have the chance to work alongside real people with first-hand experience of the daily pressures they will encounter within a manufacturing environment.

Reduction of Hull Resistance with Thin Film Ice Lubrication Technology

Abstract. The reduction of hull resistance is a key factor in determining the economic viability of a ship. In the past, the use of novel lubrication technologies has been a potential approach to lowering frictional resistance, and the use of thin film ice lubricants as a potential alternative to oil lubrication has gained some interest. However, it has been reported that the frictional resistance of ships against ice is higher than that against water. The objective of the present work is to investigate the potential of using thin film ice lubricants in reducing the frictional resistance of ships. The work has been conducted in a high-speed centrifuge that has a rotating drum with a diameter of 1.2 m and a maximum speed of 2000 rpm. The experimental results show that the frictional resistance of ships against ice is lower than that against water, and that the use of thin film ice lubricants can further reduce the frictional resistance of ships against both water and ice.
Appendix B: PGR Live Training Schedule

Live Training Sessions 2015-16

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Facilitator</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Venue</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15/10/2015</td>
<td>16.00</td>
<td>Bryn Jones</td>
<td>C2: Research Degrees at Newcastle University</td>
<td>NYP - NUIS Meeting Room</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22/10/2015</td>
<td>16.00</td>
<td>Sam James</td>
<td>A2: Statistics 1</td>
<td>NYP - NUIS Meeting Room</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29/10/2015</td>
<td>16.45</td>
<td>Simon Cotterill</td>
<td>C2: Using ePortfolio</td>
<td>MR7E – NYP Meeting Room</td>
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<tr>
<td>05/11/2015</td>
<td>16.45</td>
<td>Sam James</td>
<td>A2: Statistics 2</td>
<td>NYP - NUIS Meeting Room</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/11/2015</td>
<td>16.45</td>
<td>Victoria Mountford</td>
<td>A3: Innovation and Creativity</td>
<td>NYP - NUIS Meeting Room</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19/11/2015</td>
<td>16.45</td>
<td>Sam James</td>
<td>A2: Statistics 3</td>
<td>NYP - NUIS Meeting Room</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26/11/2015</td>
<td>16.45</td>
<td>Bryn Jones</td>
<td>C2: Writing your PhD Project Proposal</td>
<td>NYP - NUIS Meeting Room</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03/12/2015</td>
<td>16.45</td>
<td>Sam James</td>
<td>A2: Statistics 4</td>
<td>NYP - NUIS Meeting Room</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/12/2015</td>
<td>16.45</td>
<td>Gail de Blaquiere</td>
<td>C1: Good Practice in Your Research</td>
<td>NYP - NUIS Meeting Room</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17/12/2015</td>
<td>16.45</td>
<td>Sam James</td>
<td>A2: Statistics 5</td>
<td>NYP - NUIS Meeting Room</td>
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<tr>
<td>13/01/2016</td>
<td>16.45</td>
<td>Sue Vecsey</td>
<td>A1: Presentation Skills Using PowerPoint</td>
<td>NYP - NUIS Meeting Room</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27/01/2016</td>
<td>16.45</td>
<td>Katie Wray</td>
<td>D3: Project ACTION: a 2016 Enterprise Project Funding Opportunity</td>
<td>NP - NUIS Meeting Room</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/02/2016</td>
<td>16.45</td>
<td>Helen Webster</td>
<td>D2: Academic Writing 1</td>
<td>NYP – NUIS Meeting Room</td>
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<tr>
<td>24/02/2016</td>
<td>16.45</td>
<td>Library Team</td>
<td>A1: Library</td>
<td>NYP – NUIS Meeting Room</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09/03/2016</td>
<td>16.45</td>
<td>Helen Webster</td>
<td>D2: Academic Writing 2</td>
<td>NYP – NUIS Meeting Room</td>
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</table>

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## Spring – Summer 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
<th>TOPIC</th>
<th>PRESENTER</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>09-Apr-15</td>
<td>16:30 - 18:00</td>
<td>NYP Meeting Room</td>
<td>PG Dean intro to VC programme</td>
<td>Bryn Jones, Elaine Urwin, Gail de Blaquiere</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16-Apr-15</td>
<td>16:30 - 18:00</td>
<td>NYP Meeting Room</td>
<td>Stats 1 - Data Types and Descriptive Statistics</td>
<td>Stacey Aston</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23-Apr-15</td>
<td>16:30 - 18:00</td>
<td>NYP Meeting Room</td>
<td>Stats 2 - Graphical Displays</td>
<td>Stacey Aston</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30-Apr-15</td>
<td>16:30 - 18:00</td>
<td>NYP Meeting Room</td>
<td>Stats 3 - Sampling Strategies</td>
<td>Stacey Aston</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>07-May-15</td>
<td>16:30 - 18:00</td>
<td>Held at NP</td>
<td>Stats 4 - Introduction to the Theory of Hypothesis Testing</td>
<td>Sam James</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14-May-15</td>
<td>16:30 - 18:00</td>
<td>Remote Link in only</td>
<td>Stats 5 - Examining Confidence Intervals</td>
<td>Sam James</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21-May-15</td>
<td>16:30 - 18:00</td>
<td>NYP Meeting Room</td>
<td>Stats 6 - Example Hypothesis Tests</td>
<td>Sam James</td>
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<tr>
<td>28-May-15</td>
<td>16:30 - 18:00</td>
<td>NYP Meeting Room</td>
<td>Enterprise and Entrepreneurship</td>
<td>Kellie Forbes-Simpson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11-Jun-15</td>
<td>16:30 - 18:00</td>
<td>NYP Meeting Room</td>
<td>Library - Research Information</td>
<td>Moira Bent/ Jenny Campbell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18-Jun-15</td>
<td>16:30 - 18:00</td>
<td>NYP Meeting Room</td>
<td>Academic Writing 1</td>
<td>Helen Webster</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25-Jun-15</td>
<td>16:30 - 18:00</td>
<td>NYP Meeting Room</td>
<td>Academic Writing 2</td>
<td>Helen Webster</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02-Jul-15</td>
<td>16:30 - 18:00</td>
<td>NYP Meeting Room</td>
<td>Presentation Skills using PowerPoint</td>
<td>Rebecca McCready</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Appendix C: PGR Conference Travel Guidance notes and application form

Guidance note for PGR Student Conference Research Travel

Objectives
The primary objectives of the PGR Student Conference Research Travel Scheme are to:

- Support research of excellence by students
- Enhance the capacity of students undertaking research by ensuring funds are available to contribute to travel costs when students present their research work at conferences.

Eligibility Criteria
The following will be considered when assessing funding requests:

- Only current PGR students of NUIS are eligible to apply for funding.
- Students who have had a full paper accepted for presentation at a peer reviewed conference are eligible to apply for funding.
- Students are required to have the approval/support of their supervisor before they apply for funding.

Conditions of award

- The maximum amount of funding available is SG$2,000 per annum.
- If an accepted paper is written by more than one student, only one student may apply for funding for conference travel in relation to that paper.
- If a student has had more than one paper accepted for presentation at the named conference, the award amount remains at a maximum of SG$2,000.
- The award of SG$2,000 may be utilised for more than one conference, e.g. if there are funds remaining after an initial conference has been attended, providing another full paper is being presented (and published in conference proceedings or being submitted to a journal for publication consideration), the remaining funds to a maximum of SG$2,000 can be utilised.
- If the student has a scholarship in which travel to conferences is covered, this funding source must be utilised first before NUIS funds are awarded.
- Funding will be on a ‘first come first served’ basis and the award should be utilised in the financial year it was awarded.
- Retrospective requests will not be considered.
- At the discretion of the Head of Academic Operations and in exceptional circumstances, more than SG$2,000 can be awarded; a compelling case for support should be submitted with the applications form.
- Awarded funds may not be spent for purposes other than those costs highlighted in the application for funding.
Reporting Requirements
- Fund awardees and their supervisors are required to update the Senior Manager, Research & Development and the Head of Academic Operations, of the output from the conference e.g. full paper published in the conference proceedings or on the progress of the paper being accepted as a journal article.

How to apply for an award
- Requests for funding should be submitted using the PGR Conference/Research Travel form via the student’s supervisor/s to the Senior Manager, Research and Development (or their Nominee)
- Submitted documents should include:
  - Letter/email from the conference organiser confirming that the full paper has been accepted into the conference
  - Publication details e.g. conference proceeding/journal details
  - Summary of conference travel costs.
## PGR STUDENT CONFERENCE RESEARCH TRAVEL FORM

This form should be used by PGR students when applying for funding to attend conferences.

### Applicant’s details

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Applicant’s name:</th>
<th>Programme/Course:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Supervisor’s name:</td>
<td>Programme/Course end date:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Details of conference

- **Title of event**
- **Event venue and website details:**
  - Date of event: From [ ] To [ ]
- **I confirm that the full paper been accepted at the conference. Please tick Yes [ ]**
- **Conference proceedings/publication ISBN/DOI number [ ]**

**Please provide authors’ details**

1. **1st author name, programme/course/department:** [ ]
2. **2nd author name, programme/course/department:** [ ]
3. **3rd author name, programme/course/department:** [ ]

### Funding details

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Computation (where applicable) e.g. US$ to SG$</th>
<th>Amount ($)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Airfare/taxi/bus/train costs</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registration fee (student or early bird rate only)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accommodation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total amount</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Applicant’s signature and date

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Signature</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

### Application acknowledged and supported by Supervisor

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Signature</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

### Funding approval

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Approver</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Signature</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dean NUIS or Head of Academic Operations</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Please remember to:

- Provide a copy of the accepted paper and notification of publication of proceedings, conference proceedings, ISBN of journal etc
- Attach conference acceptance documentation
- Attach funding documents e.g. screen shot of conference registration cost, flight/train/bus ticket costs, accommodation costs.
- Ensure you upload your paper to the ePortfolio system
- Share your experiences/circulate your paper with your fellow students
Should you have any queries regarding this document please contact:

- Pauline Appleyard, Senior Manager, Research and Development.
  Tel: +65 6908 6058
  Email: pauline.appleyard@ncl.ac.uk

- Cecille Lintag, Research and Finance Administrator.
  Tel: +65 6908 6057
  Email: cecille.lintag@ncl.ac.uk