Report of my participation to ELAVIO 2012 Rio Grande de Sul (Brazil) 5–10 Fabruary 2012

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The ELAVIO, the Latin American Operations Research Summer School, is a annual summer school organized by the ALIO (Sociedad Latino americana de Investigacin Operativa) that aims at encouraging and supporting collaborative research among graduate students. This year, the Hotel Vila Michelon (Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil) was the venue for the school, which was organized by Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul, Federal University of Santa Maria, and Federal University of Pampa; the school's website is http://www.inf.ufrgs.br/elavio2012/elavio2012/main.html

During the school, there were several lectures directly related to my research that have helped me answering some questions that I had. Amongst others, there were lectures on "branch-and-price-and-cut" algorithms by Marcus Poggi from PUC-Rio (Brazil), lectures on "Website morphing" by Guilherme Liberali from Erasmus University of Rotterdam, and lectures on "Problem solving with GRASP" by Mauricio Resende. I have had an opportunity to present my recent work and to meet graduates from South America. Below, I list some additional important events:

- 1. I gave an oral presentation of my work entitled: "A simulated annealing algorithm for testing the collective consumption model" in front of an audience of more than twenty active people. The presentation was followed by some interesting questions that will help me improve the quality of that work.
- 2. I met Prof. Guilherme Liberali from Erasmus University of Rotterdam. We have similar interests about the use of operations research techniques for solving online advertisements. There is a real possibility for collaboration in the near future.
- 3. I also met Prof. Marcus Poggi from PUC-Rio (Brazil) whose research interests include the use of branch-and-price algorithm for solving combinatorial optimization problems.

In addition to the above important points, I have had a lot of short discussions with several graduates from different countries. Since the basic principle of research is the sharing principle, attending this summer school has helped me deepen my knowledge of different applications of operations research, but has also helped me to be aware of some latest developments in the field. I would then like to acknowledge EURO and IFORS, which have made my participation to this summer school a reality through the grant that I received.