

conference REPORT

AsiaBSDCon 2018

This was my first time participating in a major international conference and the experience truly exceeded my expectations. I arrived in Tokyo a day before the Paper Sessions started because I also wanted to attend the bhyvecon meeting. bhyvecon was about the FreeBSD hypervisor, bhyve, the subject of the paper I later presented. At the main AsiaBSD-Con conference I was very excited to have an opportunity to talk with other attendees about my work porting bhyve to the ARMv8-A architecture. The project is ongoing and the questions I received helped me more clearly outline my immediate goals for the project.

The keynote presentation was a highlight. I like kernel programming, and after attending the talk I was able to attach a clearer meaning and purpose to anykernels and unikernels.

The people I met at AsiaBSDCon were all passionate about their various projects, I enjoyed the conference a lot, and I can't wait to participate again next year.

Alexandru Elisei is studying for his Bachelor's Degree in Computer Science at University Politehnica of Bucharest. He is very passionate about computers and open source software and he has made contributions to various open source projects, including Moodle and Gentoo.



AsiaBSDCon 2018 was my first BSD conference and it was amazing. I met a lot of people from the BSD community and learned of many interesting projects.

The second day after I arrived in Tokyo, I participated at bhyvecon, a conference where BSD users talk about bhyve, FreeBSD's hypervisor. Since the project I'm working is related to bhyve, I knew that would be a great opportunity to find out new things and to meet and talk with bhyve users. It was, indeed, an interesting experience.

I attended both paper presentation days. It was amazing to see so many people developing such interesting features for BSD products and talking about new features and project ideas. I had the opportunity to present the work I'd done for the "Save and Restore feature for bhyve" project, an ongoing project at University POLITEHNICA of Bucharest. This particular feature allows you to snapshot a bhyve guest and to restore that saved state in the future—an important first step towards a live migration feature. At AsiaBSDCon2018 I presented two new features from the "Save and Restore feature for bhyve" project. The first one is related to saving and restoring virtual devices' states, and the second one is related to saving and restoring the virtual machine's CPU state for AMD CPUs.

I found it very interesting that there were projects represented at the conference that used BSD-like operating systems and that you could interact with their developers. A project I liked very much was one that used FreeBSD on RaspberryPi to control a toy car.

Elena Mihailescu is currently pursuing a Master's degree in Security of Complex Networks at The Faculty of Automatic Control and Computer Science, University POLITEHNICA of Bucharest. Her domains of interest include operating systems internals and computer security. She started working on FreeBSD virtualization in September 2017 when she began implementing a Save and Restore feature for bhyve for AMD CPUs.