

My wonderful stay in LA

Name: Koyo Ueno

Affiliation at Nagoya University: Department of Materials Chemistry

Participated program: Long course 2023-2024 (Sep 2023-Mar 2024)



Research theme:

Investigation of Ionic conductivity of Ionogel Electrolyte on separator

Pseudocapacitance of T-Nb₂O₅ Nanoparticles

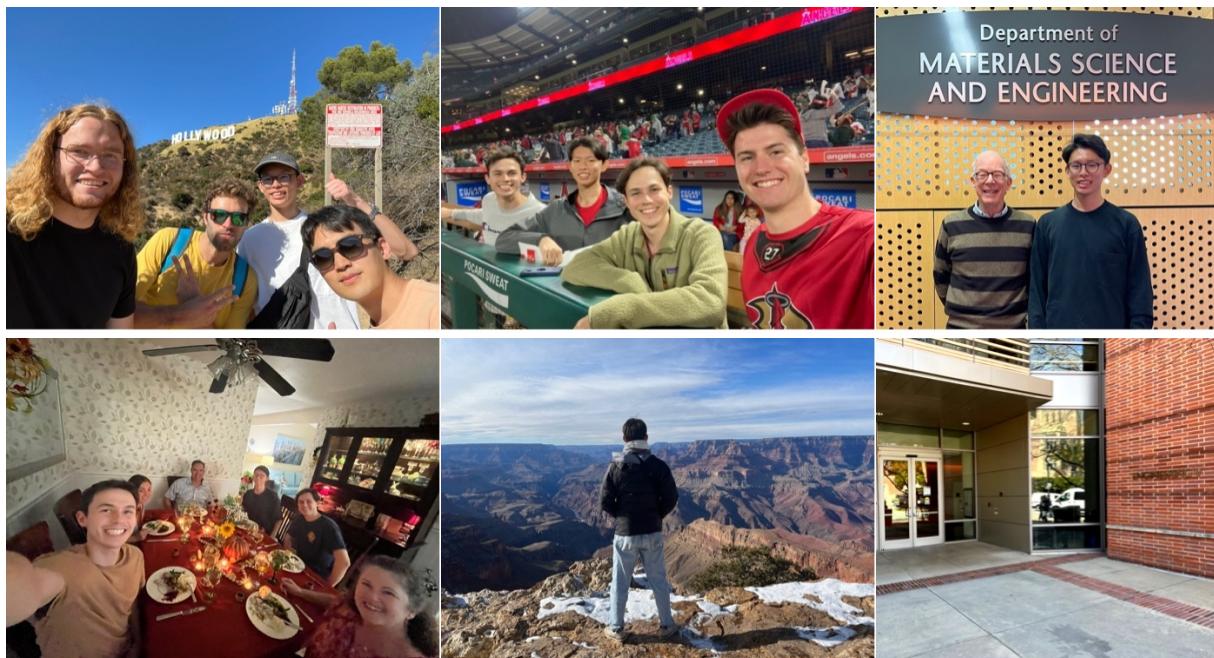
Advisor at the visiting university: Prof. Bruce Dunn

Affiliation at visiting university: Department of Material Science and Engineering, University of California, Los Angeles

These 7-months stay in LA were amazing. I am so happy to have had a great experience of not only research but also living in an environment that used to be unfamiliar to me. I tried wider variety of research than before by studying in different lab. I learned how students at UCLA work. What was most impressive was how friendly the people in my department were. When I had questions about my research, I often enjoyed discussing them with my lab members. Even when my English was not good, they tried to listen carefully and gently answered my question. Also, I broadened my knowledge by attending weekly seminars held for the department. Usually, a professor from other universities makes about an hour of presentation, and 30-40 students, researchers, and some faculties attend. At the beginning of my stay, I did not have the experience of listening to academic presentations in English so it was so difficult to understand. However, as I attended more times to the seminar, I learned to understand the talk and felt more confident.

Other than research, I enjoyed many “American” activities, including unique foods, watching sports, hiking, and gun shooting as well. I was so lucky to live with great roommates. I randomly found the apartment I lived in on Facebook. I had 5 roommates except me, and all of them are from California. I often hung out with them on weekends. Some of them are really interested in Japanese culture, especially Japanese food. We spent a lot of time eating dinner and talked about our different cultures. I also enjoyed the holiday activities. On Thanksgiving days, my roommates invited me to their family’s house and we cooked a fancy dinner. Also, a church where my roommate and I sometimes went held a Christmas party. Throughout these activities, I learned American culture and improved my English.

Overall, I had great experiences with JUACEP program. This stay in the US changed my life in a good way. I strongly recommend people to challenge studying abroad and experience new things.



Findings through JUACEP in NCSU

Name: Katio Usami

Affiliation at Nagoya University: Dept. Aerospace Engineering

Participated program: Long-term course 2023

Research theme: Estimation for Multiple Oscillators' Global Coupling by Phase-Reduction Analysis



Advisor at the visiting university: Prof. Chi-An Yeh

Affiliation at visiting university: Dept. Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering, NCSU

1. In our laboratory

My visiting program was accepted by Prof. Chi-An Yeh. This group focuses on CFD, but my research at NU isn't related to it. That's why I was concerned about whether I could do it well or not before arriving. However, he supervised me and gave me an interesting research topic. I am enjoying conducting my research. We had weekly group meetings to explain and discuss our own research progress. I was gradually getting used to it. Apart from research, my colleagues always invited me to play table tennis, go to nightclubs, or eat out for fun. Additionally, when I was going through some problems and feeling down, they listened to me and encouraged me to go shopping to change my mood. I think the reason why I could have fun during my visit is that I like this group, and I am grateful to them.

2. In NCSU

I joined some clubs to gain experience, such as the English conversation club, cosplay club, Japanese culture club, and so on. During these activities, I met many people with diverse personalities and cultures and made some friends. I went to parties, shopping trips, concerts, and soccer games with them on weekends. In the international student's club, they invited us to celebrate Halloween, Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's. I had valuable experiences that I couldn't have had in Japan.

3. Daily life in Raleigh

I lived in a share house with two people, a sibling pair consisting of an older sister and a younger brother from Afghanistan. Through this connection, I sometimes attended parties held by the Afghan community. The older sister would occasionally cook traditional Afghan dinners for us. In return, I made Japanese dishes, which I bought from Asian restaurants. This was the first time I had lived alone in my life, so every household chore was challenging for me. However, my cooking skills improved during this stay.

4. For travel

Watching the Ball Drop was on my bucket list, so I went to New York for the New Year's Eve of 2024. The night bus took a long time in such noisy conditions, and I had to stand in line to enter Times Square for ten hours, wearing diapers because once I left the line, I couldn't get back in. But it was definitely worth the wait. The sight of everyone there celebrating Happy New Year was spectacular, and I will always cherish that beautiful scenery in my heart.

