Findings through JUACEP

Name: Maria Acuña
Affiliation at home country: Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering, New York University Tandon School of Engineering
Participated program: Summer Course 2024

Research theme: SWBLI Mitigation via Cryogenic Cooling: Numerical and Experimental Analysis
Advisor at Nagoya Univ: Assoc. Prof. K. Kinefuchi
Affiliation at Nagoya Univ.: Department of Aerospace Engineering, Graduate School of Engineering

Through JUACEP, I had the incredible opportunity to conduct research at Nagoya University whilst also being able to experience Japanese culture and travel around Japan. Nagoya University has been on my radar for a few years now. When I was an undergraduate, I was meant to do an exchange at Nagoya University as part of my degree, however, due to the pandemic, I was unable to do so. As such, when the opportunity was presented to study here as a graduate student, it was one that I could not turn down.

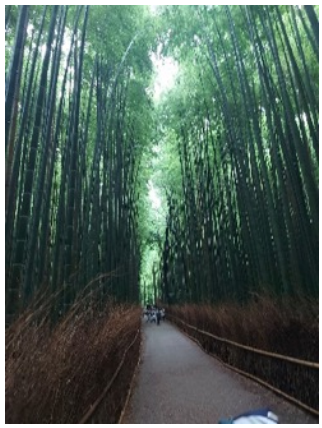
Prior to coming to Nagoya, I had limited research experience. I was excited to see the laboratory setup at the university, as my home university in New York does not have nearly as much emphasis on physical experimentation. As such, the work I have done here has provided me with much needed experience. From the first day of the program, the members of my lab were warm and welcoming. They always made an effort to make us feel included. The environment was a very kind one, and there was always someone to answer any question I might have, whether it be regarding research or life in Japan.

Furthermore, during my stay in Japan, I also was able to visit Kyoto, Osaka, and Tokyo. Through these trips, I was able to learn more about the rich history and traditions of Japan, as well as witness the vibrant culture unique to each city. From the shrines in Kyoto, to the nightlife of Osaka, to the vibrancy of Tokyo, Japan truly has incredible sights to behold. These experiences were priceless to me and will remain as very fond memories.

My stay in Japan

Name: Mohamed Mokhtar Diop
Affiliation at home country: Polytechnique Montréal
Participated program: Summer Course 2024
Research theme: Comparative study between recycled and virgin carbon fibers properties
Advisor at Nagoya Univ: Prof. YOSHIMURA Akinori
Affiliation at Nagoya Univ.: Aerospace Engineering

Having been able to come to Japan was an incredible opportunity for me. I liked the culture and most importantly the kindness and politeness of people, that's the main thing that sticks out for me.
I had the chance to visit a lot of beautiful places such as Nagoya, Kyoto, Gifu and Hamamatsu. They show the richness of the Japanese territory.
I will go back to Canada with a lot of good memories that will stay with me for the rest of my life. I don't forget to mention the people I shared these experiences with, who from now on will be part of my circle of friends.



People are very welcoming, polite and kind. I knew a little bit about the characteristics of the Japanese but that doesn't keep from being amazed by it.

I would like to give a special shoutout to my advisor Pr. YOSHIMURA Akinori who agreed to welcome me, consider me as one of his students and shared his knowledge with me. His pieces of advice have been very helpful. I wouldn't be grateful if I didn't mention my labmates who helped me a lot throughout this journey. They helped me to find solutions to the issues I faced within the frame of this internship. They usually put their own work aside just to assist me in my research. I want also to extend my thanks to all the other students from the other university I have met along the way. Finally, my last words go to the JUACEP office without whom I wouldn't be able to live this experience.

Findings through JUACEP

Name: Edith Shear
Affiliation at home country: Department of Aerospace Engineering, The University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
Participated program: Summer 2024

Research theme: Small Scale Thrust Characteristics of Diverging Magnetic Field Thrusters
Advisor at Nagoya University: Assoc Prof. K. Kinefuchi
Affiliation at Nagoya University: Department of Aerospace Engineering, Graduate School of Engineering

From day one, I have enjoyed the environment of my laboratory. They have been very open and welcoming. I surprisingly ended up meeting someone who had also attended the same undergraduate university as me. Although we didn't know each other during our time there, we ended up crossing paths years later here on the other side of the world., what a sign from the universe! My PI has been very enthusiastic and helpful throughout my entire process, along with my lab supervisors. I have enjoyed the work that is done here deeply and it has pushed me to return to similar labs at my home university.

My experience in Japan has been nothing short of amazing. This is my second time going abroad for a summer research program and it has reminded me of everything I love about participating in international research along with exploring new cultures, interacting with new people, and seeing new places. I've cherished my cohort and have made many friends during this journey. It brings me joy to know that some of them will be coming back with me to my home university, and for those who won't it has been a definite pleasure knowing. We've shared a lot of memories, both in the lab and immersing ourselves in all the vibrant colors of Japan.

Over the weekends, I had the opportunity to travel from Nagoya to Kyoto, Osaka, and even Tokyo, and it's been an amazing experience overall. I truly believe that this program has further changed me, encouraging me to grow as a researcher and an individual. As a result of the lasting impression Japan has left on me, I will be bringing Japan’s lasting imprint home.

Findings through JUACEP

Name: Rosemary He
Affiliation at home country: Computer Science, UCLA
Participated program: Summer Course 2024

Research theme: Statistical testing, generative AI
Advisor at Nagoya Univ: Prof. Takeuchi Ichiro
Affiliation at Nagoya Univ.: Department of Mechanical Systems Engineering

I applied to the program in hopes of gaining experience and insight into studying and working in Japan as a researcher. I had visited Japan before and enjoyed it so much that I began thinking the possibility of living in Japan long term. I had researched online and while there were different voices, the main theme was that Japan's culture and work environment are very different from the United States, which is something that cannot be discovered on a vacation. With that in mind, I started my program of 10 weeks in hopes to find out if living in Japan would be a good fit for me.

Though I was a bit nervous about starting research in a new environment and expectations, my professor at Nagoya University was so welcoming and thoughtful that the nervousness quickly went away. As my professor was well traveled and had studied abroad, I found my interactions with him very similar to my advisors back home. A difference I noticed between research labs in Japan and US is that Japanese labs are quite big (for example my lab had 40 members from undergraduates to professors) and you don't get to interact with most of the students often. For instance, my group worked on statistical testing methods while another group worked on computer vision. In the US, lab meetings are usually weekly and all students in the lab would join and share their research. As such, I mainly interacted with members of my research group, who were very kind in guiding my research and helping me through the project. Though there were some language barriers (I really wished I could speak better Japanese), everyone was so welcoming and accommodating that I wish I could stay in the lab for longer. As such, I would gladly return if given the opportunity.

Outside my research life, I traveled all over Japan [8 weekends + Obon] during my free time. It was so wonderful! The summer heat can be a bit much, but I visited so many beautiful places that I would not have had the chance to. From scuba diving in Okinawa to biking along the Shimanami Kaido, I got to appreciate Japan's beautiful nature and scenery, and best of which the food. Nagoya has so much to offer as well, from shopping in Osu to beautiful castles, I came to the program thinking I would travel solo but made many friends through the program that made the journey even more fun.

As 10 week flies by and I begin to reflect this summer, I am very glad to join the program and learned so much more than I expected. With limited experience, I would consider working and living in Japan and have become a little more confident in my ability to enjoy myself here.

Findings through JUACEP

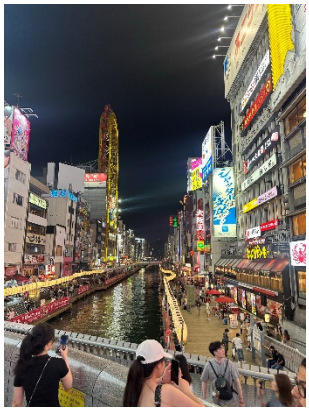
Name: James Fernandez
Affiliation at home country: Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering, North Carolina State University
Participated program: Summer Course 2024
Research theme: Synchronization of Dual Rotating Detonation Engines with Straight and Diverging Nozzles
Advisor at Nagoya Univ: Prof. Jiro Kasahara
Affiliation at Nagoya Univ.: Department of Aerospace Engineering, Graduate School of Engineering, Nagoya University

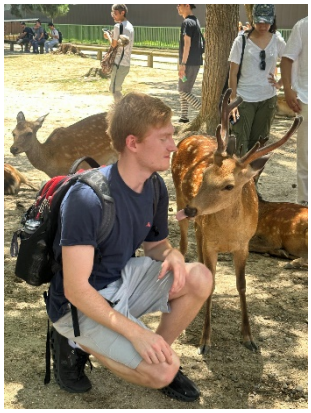
Beginning the application process for the JUACEP program I was very nervous, because I had never left the United States before and a 10-week trip seemed intimidating. Following the program, I can proudly say it was one of the best decisions I have ever made! This program provided me with both cultural and research related experiences I will always remember and appreciate.

I began this program very shortly after finishing my undergraduate degree at NC State and to this point had little to no experience with actual hands-on testing of detonation engines. My experiences in Prof. Kasahara's lab were very positive. My fellow lab mates happily and helpfully guided me through the testing process and aided me throughout my research. The lab environment was extremely accepting, filled with constant collaboration and enjoyable conversations. I was able to finish my tests with great results and feeling much more knowledgeable in the field.

I was very grateful to participate in the Japanese language course here as well. I found the class very enjoyable and felt more comfortable with general communication following each lecture. My favorite moment from the class was when I felt comfortable reading Katakana, and I would be able to recognize some English words while walking the streets of Japan.

My fellow JUACEP members in my group were very fun and adventurous people that I am very grateful to have met and explored Japan with. We tried to explore a new part of Japan every weekend. The first two weeks we explored Nagoya. We went to Nagoya Castle and Nagoya Port and saw the many beautiful things the city had to offer. After that we took a trip to Gifu and hiked throughout Yoro Falls admiring the beautiful waterfall and surroundings. One weekend we went to Kyoto and immersed ourselves in the culture by walking the historic streets and exploring shrines. At Fushimi Inari Taisha, our group was very happy to be interviewed by young Japanese students in an English class, curious about life in the America. Later, we explored Osaka, Nara, and Tokyo. Osaka was extremely vibrant and exciting, with great food and a very fun nightlife. Nara was my favorite experience. Walking throughout Nara Park and interacting with the deer was extremely peaceful and fun. Even reading about Nara Park, I had no idea how pleasant the experience would be. Tokyo was incredibly exciting. Walking through Shibuya crossing, shopping in the popular Japanese stores, and experiencing the nightlife was unforgettable. The most important realization I had through my time in Japan is that no matter where you are, the people are incredibly kind, and the food is going to be fantastic.





Findings through JUACEP

Name: Jacob Kokinda
Affiliation at home country: North Carolina State University, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering
Participated program: Summer Course 2024

Research theme: Ultra Short Pulse Fiber Lasers
Advisor at Nagoya Univ: Prof. Nishizawa Norihiko
Affiliation at Nagoya Univ.: Electronics Engineering

Having been to Japan before, as a tourist, I saw this program as an opportunity not only for my academic career but as a chance to experience what everyday life is like in Japan. I have always respected Japan for its lifestyle, societal structure, and cultural values. I have been studying the language for the past couple of years with the hopes of one day being able to stay in Japan for an extended period of time. Throughout my time here, I have been able to experience life as a local university student beyond just the fun things, including shopping for essentials at grocery/department stores, paying bills, taking daily public transportation, navigating communication with native people, etc. Having almost 3 months to think about how life is here in Japan, I have been able to confirm that it is a place in which I could see myself staying for a while and even calling home in the future.

Regarding my research experience in this program, it has been a great blessing working with talented people from a different background than mine. My research field, here at Nagoya University, is a slightly different but adjacent field to my own at North Carolina State University. I have learned a lot about this new field that will carry over to my projects back home and it has possibly even opened new doors for future career paths that I had not considered before.

In conclusion, this program has been infinitely valuable to my life beyond mere curiosity. It has helped me answer my own questions of where and how I want to continue my life after graduation and through what means will I achieve that. Perhaps the connections I have made and the knowledge I have gathered during my time with JUACEP, will one day be the key to reaching the life I have been searching for.

Findings through JUACEP

Name: Raphaël Plante
Affiliation at home country: Mechanical Engineering, Polytechnique Montréal
Participated program: Summer Course 2024

Research theme: Topological Optimization
Advisor at Nagoya Univ: Prof. T. Matsumoto
Affiliation at Nagoya Univ.: Computational Mechanics

Research: This program provided an opportunity for me to research a subject I was previously uncomfortable with. At such an advance academic level as that the research master is, it is rare to be able to completely change the subject of your study for the sake of personal knowledge. I had a lot of fun working on Topological Optimization. It reminded me of how much I loved calculus and helped me realize that I don't despise algebra as much as I thought.

Lectures: By attending a few seminars, I was able to see the different applications of Topological Optimization.

Nagoya University: Nagoya University offered me a glimpse of campus life. My home university is not located on a campus; I live far away from it, and there are not many things to do around it. NU provided me with a life with roommates, a 15 -minute walk from the residence to the school, and a lot of places to eat and hang out nearby.

Environment: I was pleased with the work environment. Air conditioning was essential due to the intense heat I wasn't used to. I was provided with a screen monitor, a desk and a nice new chair. On the first day, my advisor, Prof. Matsumoto and my TA, Ryoji, took the time to walk me around the campus, which really made me feel welcomed.

Excursion: The excursion prepared by JUACEP was an interesting opportunity, as it allowed us to visit places we might not have considered, such as the power plant at JERA park and Mizkan museum. Toyota museum was a must, and I would have visited it regardless.

Life in Nagoya: The life in Nagoya is efficient. The public transportation system is reliable, making it easy to travel between different parts of the city. The city is also diverse. If you want to go out, the nightlife of Sakae is the way to go. If you want to relax, a few onsens are accessible, such as the one near Ozone Station.

Life in Japan: Life in Japan has been enjoyable. The context of the exchange allowed me to explore the country on weekends. I was able to climb Fushimi-Inari in Kyoto, see Nara's sacred deer, eat Takoyaki in Osaka, and experience the nightlife of Tokyo. The Shinkansen is a great way to travel across the country, but be aware: while the train can take you anywhere, your wallet may not.

Cultural differences: A major cultural difference I notice was the way Japanese students handle the heat. It seems that appearance is more important than comfort. With the thermostat oscillating around 35 °C, people would use a fan to cool their face, and a towel to wipe the sweat, all while wearing nice looking baggy pants and long-sleeve shirts. This is a true testament to fashion!

Impact of the JUACEP on my future Career: This program broadened my search for opportunities worldwide. Before this, I never thought of working or doing research anywhere other than Montreal. I now know how welcoming people can be, even if you are unfamiliar with their culture or language. Although I want to grow old in my home country, I will be the first to volunteer for international assignments, such as visiting Japan to meet clients, knowing I can build meaningful relationships.

Findings through JUACEP 2024

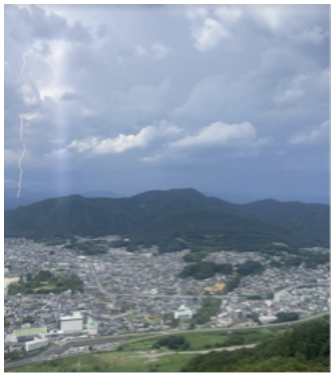
Name: Melody Polk
Affiliation at home country: Department of Nuclear Engineering, North Carolina State University

Participated program: Summer Course 2024

Research theme: Detection of Trace Radioisotopes through Cavity Ring-Down Spectroscopy
Advisor at Nagoya Univ: Prof. Tomita
Affiliation at Nagoya Univ.: Department of Applied Energy

The JUACEP 2024 experience in Japan was an excellent opportunity to advance my nuclear research knowledge and immerse myself in a new culture and environment. I am grateful for the support provided by the Tomita group and for the connections I made with the other international students in the lab. Spending the summer in Japan this program allowed enough time to explore multiple cities, and I thoroughly enjoyed the beautiful and culturally rich locations. While I initially expected to enjoy the city locations the most, I found the serene mountainous areas to be fascinating and some of my favorite locations.

One thing I will miss upon returning to the US, is Japan's advanced transportation system which made it easy to visit multiple major cities as well as smaller beach and mountain areas within a short period of time. In terms of my research, my work on cavity ring-down laser spectroscopy has broadened my understanding of techniques for measuring trace radioisotopes, which is relevant to nuclear engineering. Overall, experiencing a different culture and research environment was incredibly enriching, and I am thankful for the JUACEP opportunity.



Findings through JUACEP

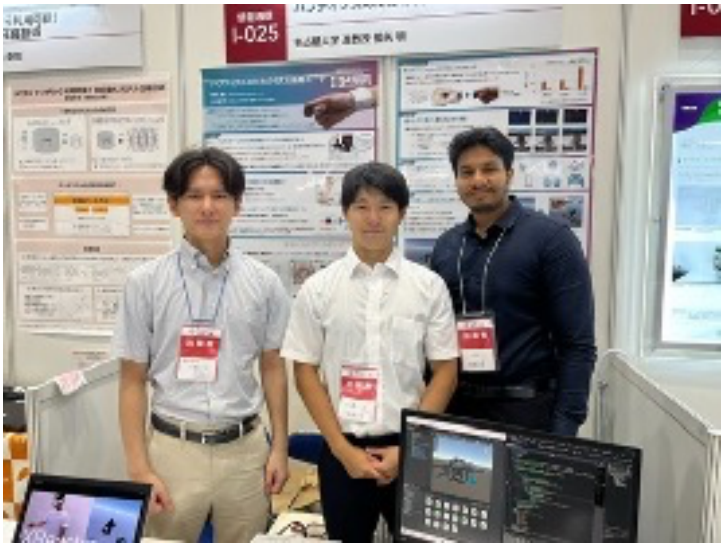
Name: Yukteshwar Ravi
Affiliation at home country: Mechatronics and Robotics & New York University
Participated program: Summer Course 2024
Research theme: Development of a Novel Haptic System Using a 3D Vibration Motor
Advisor at Nagoya Univ: Prof. Tsuyoshi Inoue
Affiliation at Nagoya Univ.: Mechanical Engineering

Choosing Japan for my summer internship is one of the best decisions I have made in my life.
As a kid growing up in India, watching *Dragon Ball Z* and Akira Kurosawa's movies, and being a huge fan of the infamous author Osamu Dazai, I always wanted to visit Japan. I was fascinated by their culture, the polite people, but never had the opportunity to actually visit the country. I was in my first year of a master's degree, chasing my American dream at NYU when I learned about the JUACEP program. When I received the acceptance, I was beyond thrilled, knowing that my dream of visiting Japan was finally going to come true.

When I first arrived, I discovered that almost no one knew English. This was both good and bad news for me. The bad news was that I would have to rely on others or phone apps; the good news was that I was finally going to be learning, or at least trying to learn, Japanese. Fortunately, the JUACEP program offered a 10-class Japanese course over 5 weeks, which was incredibly helpful, especially for navigating and ordering food in restaurants.

The research project was very engaging. My lab mates, along with my sensei who guided me step by step, helped me a lot. The lab environment was so friendly that it was hard to believe I was a foreign student. Whenever my sensei saw me working harder than usual, he would say, "Working and researching is fine, but please enjoy Japan, go around and explore the country, make yourself at home." And I took his advice very seriously. I worked in the lab with my fellow students five days a week, Monday to Friday, and we had breaks on Saturday and Sunday, during which, as my sensei suggested, I explored Japan and its rich culture. During my 3-month stay, I visited Tokyo, Kyoto, Gifu, Osaka, Kobe, Himeji, Hiroshima, Okinawa, Hokkaido, and fully explored Nagoya. Japan is more than just its world-famous places; it’s the people and culture—the countless kabuki (Japanese drama) I attended, bunraku shows (puppetry), izakayas, food, tea ceremonies, geisha performances, samurai history and experiences, various palaces and castles, the mountains, nature, beaches, anime fandom, and most importantly, their food. The list goes on endlessly. The people I met through this program—my fellow JUACEP students, my lab mates, and the staff—are some of the best people I have ever met in my life. I am truly going to miss them. And after everything, I feel like no matter how many times I repeat this cycle, I will never get tired of it.

Looking back, the JUACEP program has not only fulfilled a lifelong dream but has also profoundly influenced my outlook on life and my future career. Immersing myself in Japan's rich culture, engaging in meaningful research, and forging connections with new friends have all contributed to my growth as an individual and a professional. This experience has sparked a deeper appreciation for cross-cultural exchange and reinforced my desire to continue exploring and learning in this vibrant and dynamic world. I am confident that the lessons I've learned and the skills I've developed will guide me as I pursue more ambitious challenges in the future.



Findings through JUACEP

Name: Seoyeong Park
Affiliation at home country: Department of Computer Science, North Carolina State University
Participated program: Summer Course 2024

Research theme: Clustering-Based Multitask Classification for Predictive Consumer Behavior Modeling
Advisor at Nagoya Univ: Prof. Nobuo Kawaguchi
Affiliation at Nagoya Univ.: Information and Communication Engineering

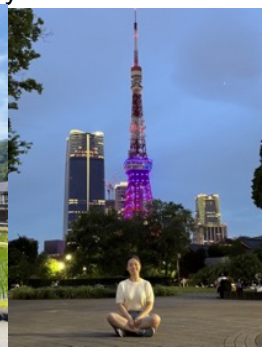
Ever since my first trip to Tokyo, it took five years to revisit Japan. I am incredibly thankful for the opportunity to return and experience life in Japan once more, this time as a researcher at a prestigious university. This summer at Nagoya, through the JUACEP program, I had the chance to significantly expand my research while working in the lab under the guidance of Professor Kawaguchi.

The time spent at Nagoya was transformative for my growth as a researcher. Under Professor Kawaguchi's mentorship, I delved deeply into my studies, generating ideas and achieving outcomes far beyond my initial expectations. The support from Professor Kawaguchi and Tahera was invaluable, as they provided extensive guidance and encouragement. My lab colleagues were incredibly welcoming, helping me to integrate into Japanese society and the lab environment. This program has undoubtedly solidified my future career path, giving me clarity and direction.



Balancing work and leisure, I made the most of my weekends by traveling extensively across Japan. I visited several fascinating cities, including Tokyo, Kyoto, Shizuoka, Uji, Nara, and, of course, Nagoya. The excursion organized by JUACEP was an extraordinary opportunity to explore places I might not have ventured to on my own. Despite the intense summer heat, Japan's beauty was ever-present, making each journey memorable.

Although my stay was just over two months, I immersed myself in daily life in Japan, gaining a profound appreciation for its culture and lifestyle. This experience was a blend of rigorous academic work and enriching cultural exploration, making it an unforgettable chapter in my life.

Findings through JUACEP

Name: Gavin Silveira
Affiliation at home country: Integrative Systems + Design, University of Michigan
Participated program: Summer 2024

Research theme: Energy Systems Engineering
Advisor at Nagoya Univ: Prof. Takeyoshi Kato
Affiliation at Nagoya Univ.: Electrical Engineering, Institute of Materials and Systems for Sustainability (IMaSS)

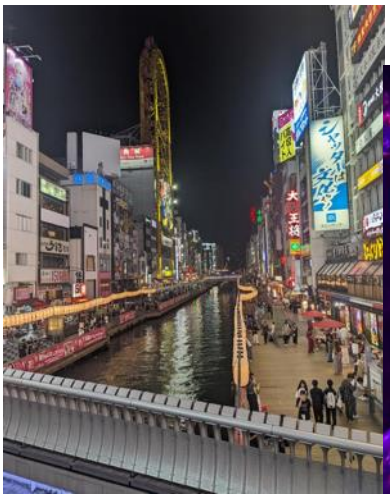
My research internship at Nagoya University was an exciting opportunity to collaborate with Japanese researchers working in the field of renewable energy systems. Despite the language barrier, my professors and labmates made sure to explain anything I needed to know so that I have a good understanding on the operation and standards of the Japanese power grid. This experience further enhanced my skill set and expertise to work on diverse energy projects in the future.

In addition, the internship allowed me to experience Japanese culture while living and working in Nagoya. Through Japanese language classes, I learned to read and write in Hiragana and Katakana, along with the basic reading and writing structure of Japanese.

Since Nagoya is centrally located in Japan, I was able to take advantage of the Shinkansen network of high speed trains to visit the nearby cities of Tokyo, Kyoto, and Osaka during down time and weekends. The areas around Nagoya are also beautiful, such as Yoro, Himakajima, and Hamamatsu, which are serviced by the regional JR lines. After the program, I will be traveling to Hiroshima and Kyushu before heading back to the US to finish my degree.

The JUACEP staff did a fantastic job in planning and executing all the logistics for the trip, including excursions and hands-on learning activities. All formalities including visa, housing, and university registration were handled efficiently.

The technical and cultural experience will be invaluable in my future career as I would like to work internationally on projects related to the development of renewable energy technologies. I expect that my career will allow me to return to Japan in the future, and I hope to be back soon!



An Unforgettable Chapter of my Life

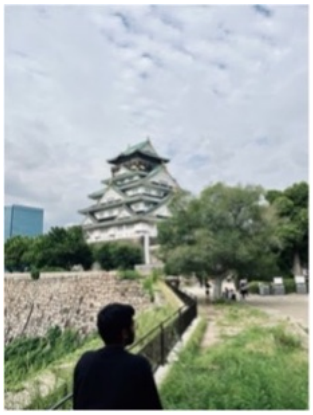
Name: Utkarsh Prakash Srivastava
Affiliation at home country: Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, New York University
Participated program: Summer Course 2024

Research theme: Region of Interest based Medical Image Compression
Advisor at Nagoya Univ: Prof. Toshiaki Fujii
Affiliation at Nagoya Univ.: Department of Information and Communication Engineering

Researching at Nagoya University, Japan, has been an extraordinary and enriching experience. Visiting Japan has been a long-time dream of mine, and spending ten weeks here has surpassed all my expectations. Immersing myself in Japanese culture, I have gained insights and experiences far beyond what any tourist could. The discipline, respect, and intricate traditions of Japanese culture have left me in awe.

Moreover, my lab at Nagoya University has been incredibly welcoming. The atmosphere in the lab, fostered by both professors and students, is unlike any other lab I have previously worked in. The environment is collaborative and supportive, with everyone contributing to a positive and productive work atmosphere. The kindness and camaraderie of the people here, always accompanied by laughter and good spirits, have made my time in the lab enjoyable and fulfilling. My labmates have become not only colleagues but friends, sharing both professional and personal experiences that have enriched my time here, whether in the lab or exploring the wonders of Japan together.

Overall, this journey has been a blend of professional growth and cultural discovery, making it an unforgettable chapter in my life.



Findings through JUACEP

Name: Luna Xiaoyue Wu
Affiliation at home country: Department of Mechanical Engineering, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, USA
Participated program: JUACEP Summer 2024

Research theme: Optimization of Robust Lidar SLAM framework for Predictive World Modeling Integration
Advisor at Nagoya Univ: Prof. Kazuya Takeda, Prof. Keisuke Fujii
Affiliation at Nagoya Univ.: Graduate School of Informatics, Nagoya University, Nagoya, Japan

Before coming to Japan, I had research experience in robotics and a strong interest in robot perception and Simultaneous Localization and Mapping (SLAM). However, my practical experience was limited to lecture slides. The University of Michigan is renowned for automotive research, and I knew Nagoya University was a top institution in Japan for transportation and automotive science. Over the past ten weeks, I gained extensive knowledge of 3D LiDAR SLAM both academically and practically. My research aimed to identify a suitable SLAM framework for a VAE predictive world model for road environments. I experimented with various SLAM frameworks in ROS 2 (Robot Operating System 2) and learned about the performance differences between ICP (Iterative Closest Point) and NDT (Normal Distributions Transform) scan matching.

During my research, I received tremendous support from my colleagues in the driver behavior group. Prof. Alexander Carballo provided invaluable guidance on SLAM, while Prof. Kento Ohtani from the machine learning group helped me settle into the lab. Thanks to Prof. Takeda and Prof. Ohtani, I also visited Map IV, a leading company in robotic mapping, where I received valuable advice on the SLAM framework I used.

For the excursion, the Toyota Commemorative Museum is my favorite. Staff explained functional sewing machines in detail, where some of them are over 90 years old. I learned how a car is being manufactured from the production line. As a student from Detroit the automotive city, I was thrilled to see huge molding machines running and robot arms soldering car parts.

Before arriving, I had heard that Nagoya was one of Japan's less exciting cities. However, I found its slower pace, lower living expenses, and convenient location between Tokaido and Kansai (Kyoto-Osaka) very appealing. Thanks to the Shinkansen, I visited various destinations like the Arashiyama bamboo forest in Kyoto, Uji's matcha parfaits, Toshodai-ji in Nara, the Hakone shrine, and Tokyo Disney Sea. In Nagoya, I enjoyed shopping in Osu, relaxing in Ozone onsen, and visiting nearby beaches with fellow JUACEP participants.

My experience in Japan has deepened my interest in pursuing a career here. I appreciate the respect for time and boundaries in Japanese work culture, which contrasts with the outgoing culture in the US. I am more determined to explore career opportunities in Japan, maybe starting with a Japanese internship next summer.

I am grateful to Prof. Kazuya Takeda, Prof. Keisuke Fujii and the JUACEP staff for making this experience possible. I have been granted such a valuable and productive summer, and it’s been a rewarding and unforgettable journey.