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Do you think the program and the educational environment helped promote your research?



The program and the educational environment do provide me with a great opportunity to broaden my view. There are three professors in my lab, and each of them is an expert in their specific domain. I really learned a lot from them. Also, as we are more like "researchers" at Tohoku University than at INSA de Lyon, we also have the opportunity

to join academic conferences and even share our own work as posters. I myself listened to the ICFP conference in 2021 and joined the PPL workshop in Nagoya this year.

I arrived when covid was still a thing, so most of the lab members worked remotely (as we are studying computer science, a computer is all we need). I haven't met with most of them until this year, or at least not that often. But this year's April we began the school year with a picnic under the cherry blossoms with all lab members, which was a great experience. As I've already got enough credits, I'm not sure how courses are organized post-covid.



Graduate School of Information Sciences

Suggestions for students before traveling to Sendai

My suggestion for new arrivals is new students should contact the Incoming Student Exchange Division or the Life Support Section in advance to ensure preparation for their appearance if you are arriving not during the workdays. Other than that, Japan is a developed country and has goods from all over the world, so there's not much to be

prepared beforehand.

The Shinkansen (新幹線) ticket covers the train from the Shinkansen station to any other JR train station in that city. So for students who live in UH Sanjo coming by Shinkansen(新幹線) from Tokyo, they may choose to take the train of the Senzansen (仙山線) and descend at the Kitayama (北山) station, which is covered by the train ticket to Sendai.

Taking a bus to the UH Sanjo is always a good idea at the No.9 bus stop (のりば 9). However, the bus system in Japan is difficult to understand for newcomers, which took me some time to figure out when I first arrived.

As which gate for mounting the bus is different in Japan, it's also worth mentioning that we mount at the back door in Sendai where we take a ticket from a machine next to the back door. We press the button to indicate that we'd like to get off at the next stop, and we put the ticket with the fee together into the machine next to the driver and descend from the front door. If one possesses the Suica card, one may swap one's phone before the machine next to the back door when mounting the bus, and swap again to complete the journey when descending from the front door.



Snowscape in UH Sanjo



Unit Room

It would also help to use the Navitime app, which can sometimes provide extra information than Google Maps. By the way, "Felica" is used in Japan, so some foreign Android phones may not be able to use electronic money like Suica.

There are introductions for international students on Google Classroom. They should describe better than I do here, so do check them before departure. There are also all kinds of consulting services provided by the university: for student life, mental health, physical health, future careers, etc. So make use of them during the study.

Living in Sendai: Experience Advice, and leisure



Naruko Gorge

I'm not the outgoing type, but there are a lot of activities organized for foreign students. For example, there are events for visiting Jinja or the statue of Kannon, and there are events for playing basketball or going to a Chinese restaurant, or just talking together. There's also an exchange club for French students and Japanese students.

Sendai city and Miyagi prefecture have a lot of places of interest around it, such as the Sakura in Funaoka (Shibata Cho), the islands of Matsushima, and Yamadera temple (Yamagata prefecture) etc., all can be visited in a one-day trip. Sendai City is also not that far from Tokyo (around 350km). One can always enjoy one's stay here.

Career paths



Lu Xun: Chinese writer, literary critic

I'm going to find a job as I'm not sure what project I can do for the doctoral research. A suggestion might be to prepare early if one wants to find a job in Japan. For students graduating in 2024 April, for example, they may start joining the internship (which usually lasts only one day for students to know the company and the career well, contrary to that in France or other countries) during the summer or winter of 2022. Some posts may be available since the autumn of 2022, and most posts are released in April of 2023, which is the time when every Japanese student is busy finding jobs.

Tip for INSA students: do remember to find your supervisor for PFE early, or professors may all be occupied.



Local train to Naruko Hot Spring



Ogawara Funaoka Castle Ruins Park