

留学生として日本に来て

博士後期課程環境共生系専攻 Vaibhav Katiyar

My name is Vaibhav Katiyar. Currently, I am second year Doctoral student, majoring in Environmental engineering at Yamaguchi University. I came to Ube in 2018, for pursuing PhD on the topic of disaster management using space technologies and machine learning. I am from Kanpur, India. Kanpur is the small city in northern province (named as Uttar Pradesh) of India, the same province where famous Tajmahal is situated. Kanpur has been famous for its textile and leather industry.

I am currently the member of Space technology utilization lab, which has been headed by Prof. Masahiko Nagai. Our lab mainly focusing in utilizing various kind of remote sensing tools such as UAV and data such as satellite images to solve the environmental problems mainly related with various kind of disasters. I am working on disaster evacuation support system which can help to the emergency response authorities as well as to the normal citizens. I am using Satellite images from the Japanese satellite ALOS-2 and making a model for flooded area detection with the help of deep learning. This kind of artificial intelligent system can help when

there is large scale of disaster happen such as recent Hagibis typhoon or in cases of remote areas. Japan has great expertise in handling the natural disaster and various expert professors are here. This was one of the main reasons for me to come to Japan for my research studies.

This lab is truly having international character. Out of 20 members 40-50% belongs to different countries, coming from more than five countries. This gives chance to not only develop close collaboration with different countries' research labs and universities but also helps to learn about cultures of other nations. While we focus on our respective research, we also enjoy being together and arranging various kinds of parties such as potluck party with each nationals' local dish or 花見(sakura viewing) or BBQ. Diversity makes these parties more fun and uplifting the spirit of all the members. Our lab practically shows unity in diversity.



Lab discussion with Prof. Masahiko Nagai



Lab party

Before coming to Yamaguchi University for my PhD, I had finished my masters from Asian Institute of Technology in Thailand. I had also worked as a researcher in National Institute for Research in Computer Science and Automation (INRIA), Sophia Antipolis, France. These all experiences of mine had increased my desire to know more about the culture and people of the different places. This is why after coming to Japan, I have been participating in various kind of activities such as みかん狩り (Orange picking), 茶道 (tea ceremony), Mochi making, Beach cleaning, City exploration with locals, get-together with high school students and others.

Ube city is a nice place to focus on study as it is a quiet and natural place. Easy access to Tokiwa park from engineering campus provides a much-needed break from the continuous stress of research. Along with it, all the basic necessities can be accessed in close proximity, so I have never faced any problem in staying here. Though, language limitation does create some restriction but with the help of my friends, colleagues, international-support staff at university



Me during Hanabi
(花火大会)

and friendly locals, I am able to manage everything. Moreover, I am taking Nihongo classes which does help me to understand basic keywords and sentences. Though, I am still far from being able to communicate in Nihongo, as it is a difficult language for me to learn. However, I have resolve to learn the language sooner so that I can interact with the locals with more freedom and grasp more about Japan. Ultimately, my goal is to learn more, make many friends and create lot of good memories in the land of the rising sun.



Visiting 国立研究開発法人 防災科学技術研究所
with lab mates