

Summary for the ERI long-term visiting fellowship

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With the generous support of the ERI long-term visiting fellowship, I embarked on my inaugural visit to ERI, where I collaborated with Prof. Nishida, a distinguished expert in ambient noise interferometry and environmental seismology. Given the demanding schedule of teaching and research at ANU, my trip was divided into two phases: the first spanning from April 1st to July 31, 2023, and the second from December 3rd, 2023, to January 6th, 2024.

The research stint at ERI proved to be highly productive, facilitated by the flexibility of the visit, allowing for the exploration of novel research ideas. Collaborating with Nishida-san, we delved into several innovative projects on seismic noise monitoring and imaging, including 1) conducting seismic monitoring using asynchronized stations, 2) utilizing a microseism catalog for subsurface imaging, and 3) investigating the magmatic plumbing systems beneath arc volcanoes in the Tohoku region. Although not all projects yielded immediate positive results, our commitment to their development remains steadfast. I had the opportunity to present two of these projects during the 2023 AGU meeting in San Francisco.

In addition to engaging with researchers at ERI and the Department of Earth and Planetary Science, the fellowship facilitated interactions with other ERI visiting fellows, many of whom have become valued friends. I conducted two seminars at ERI, one for the volcano group in May and another for the ERI Friday seminar in June. The hybrid format of these seminars allowed for broader outreach, enhancing the visibility of my research. With the support of the visiting program, and guided by my host, I visited researchers at Tohoku University and JAMSTEC, opening new opportunities for future collaborations. Furthermore, I attended the JpGU conference in May, a novel experience that provided a unique opportunity to meet esteemed researchers such as Profs. Kazunori Yoshizawa, Toshiro Tanimoto, Pengda Zhao, and Shun Karato.

Living in a country with a distinct language presented its challenges, but the international officers at ERI provided invaluable assistance, making my time at ERI and in Japan enjoyable. I extend my sincere appreciation to Yamada-san for her exceptional kindness in managing my intricate schedule, numerous emails, and logistical details.

As the conclusion of my ERI visit approaches, a tinge of melancholy sets in. While it marks the end of my visiting fellowship, I view it as the commencement of long-term collaborations, both with my host and ERI in general. Currently, my master's student is applying for the Sakura research program in 2024, and my Ph.D. student is actively engaged in a research project in collaboration with Nishida-san, possibly leading to a short research visit to ERI in 2024. I wish to highlight the excellence of the visiting fellowship program and commit to promoting it to enable more researchers to benefit from this outstanding opportunity.