

The International Internship

in King Mongkut's Institute of Technology Ladkrabang

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1. My purpose

I have 3 purposes of participating in this internship program.

- **Getting aggressiveness, independence and confidence**

I thought, to participate in international internships is a new challenge for me. I have never been to foreign countries even once until now. So, I thought to willingly participate in this internship give me not only language skills but also aggressiveness, independence and confidence.

- **This experience will be great help for me in the future**

Recently, even workers of Japanese companies have more opportunity to work in factories located overseas. I am thinking working abroad in the future, too. I would like to look at market and working environment overseas, and figure out the difference between Japan and overseas through this internship.

- **Improving foreign language skills**

I have learned English since I entered junior high school. I had TOEIC examinations too. I thought that my English skill is mainly reading and a little listening now. I would like to improve my speaking skill. I want to figure out my English skills level especially conversation now and goal to be achieved in future.

2. Dormitory life

I stayed student dormitory during this internship and I shared a room with Kawashima. He is a graduate student of engineering, information engineering, Mie-Univ. We are same faculty and same department in Mie-Univ. In KMITL, because we were assigned different laboratory, we stayed individually in daytime.

At night we had a dinner together. In weekend we went to sightseeing together too.

● Room's furnishings

- Work desk × 2, Bed × 2, Closet × 2
- Shower room(Only water)
- W.C.
- a veranda

We needed to buy something for laundry such as laundry detergent and hangers. In the dorm there were washing machines. We could use it by 20 baht. So we split the cost into 10 baht. We bought a hair dryer and shared it too, because outlet and voltage are different between Japan and Thailand. It was no problem to buy something for our usual life because they were cheaper than Japanese ones.

3. Laboratory and learning

I assigned Hybrid Computing Research Laboratory. There are doctorate, graduate, and applicant students in this laboratory. I learned ring resonator. In a month, we learn with a professor on every Wednesday and Friday. In other days, we learn in laboratory individually.

Ring resonator is used some optical devices. In this laboratory, they study characterizations or create practical technologies of ring resonator. This is very difficult for me. I could only learn basic theory in a month but I could get knowledge of technology I don't know. I saw research publication by doctorate students too. Everyone tackled publication seriously. After the publication, I talked with presenter. He said he was very nervous. Looking Thai student work style gave me motivation to learn.

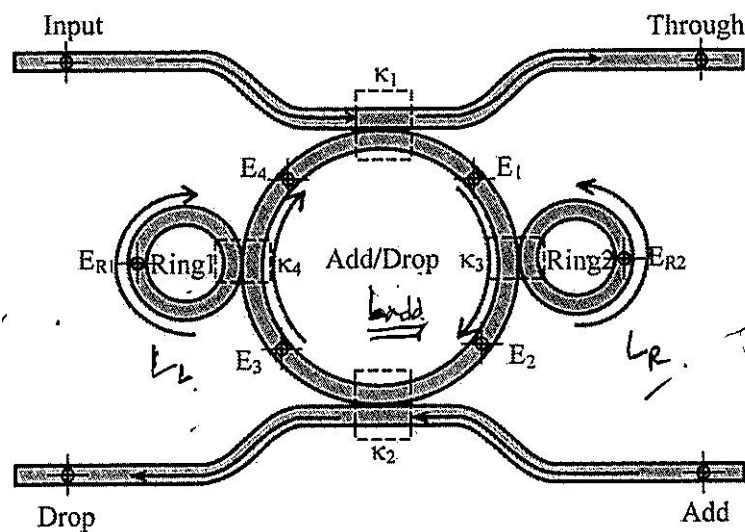


Fig1. Ring resonator

4. Club activity

I joined club activity at KMITL. This club name is "ESAN club". "ESAN" means "Northeast" in Thai and most of this club members come from northeast area of Thailand. This club is a volunteer club. They usually set up an elementary school or a library for country side in Thailand or do other events as club activities.

When I joined their activity, they had a club trip. We went to the sea and stayed in a camp for briefing session. In the daytime, we looked Thai Navy's ships and we played some games on a beach. I learned Thai music, dance, and some games there. I knew Thai students ordinary style too.



Fig2. In a port with club members

After dinner, a meeting started. Former members of this club joined this trip too. Former members stated their opinion or thought about activities, and students were all ears to the opinion. This meeting continued for 3 hours. I was deeply impressed with their attitude, because they worked hard on this meeting.

5. Sightseeing

In this internship, I visited many places.

First, it is The Wat Arun. The Wat Arun is a temple and "Arun" means "dawn". There is The Wat Arun by the Chao Phraya River, Bangkok. A lab member took me to there. I was very scared to go up this temple because this temple is very high and has steep stairs. I thought this temple very beautiful and majestic too when I saw it. Thai 10 Baht coin has a this temple's picture too. I thought that this relation similar to a relation between Japanese 10 yen coin and the Hoo-do of Byodoin Temple. So I guess that Thai people is familiar with this temple.

Second, I visited ruins of the Ayutthaya Kingdom and The Elephant Palace. There are 8 Japanese students at this sightseeing. They were 3 Mie Univ students except me and 4 Univ of Electro-Communications in Tokyo students. The staff of KMITL took us to there.

The Ayutthaya Kingdom prospered in the 14th and 18th centuries, but in 1767 Burmese invaded and destroyed The Ayutthaya Kingdom. Therefore the Buddha statues in the ruins don't have head or other

parts of a body. The ruins reminded me the history. And there are unique notes. The notes say “Do Not” some action. I thought that the notes “Do Not Buddha image” and “Please do not stand over the Buddha’s head ” is very unique. I knew that Thai people think a great deal of Buddhism too.

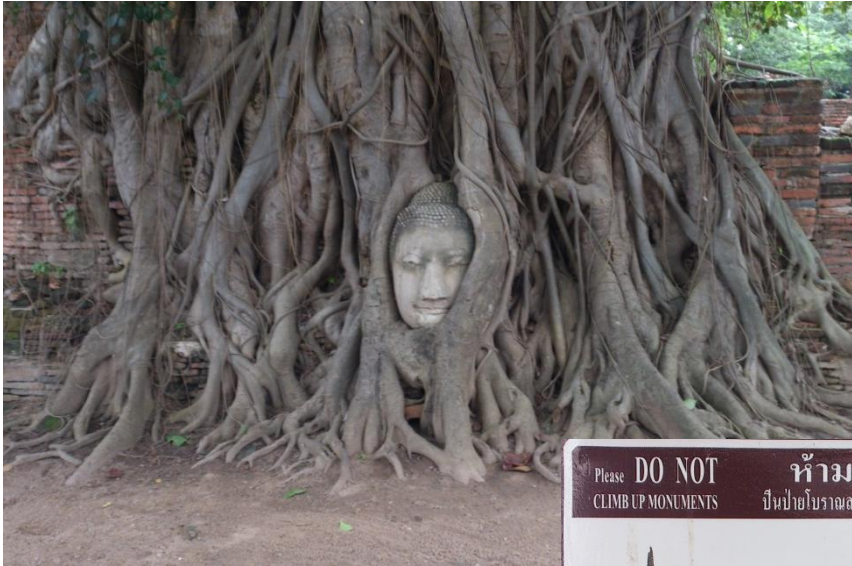


Fig3,4 Buddha’s head and Notes

6. Others(Transfer,Foods,etc)

In this internship, I used many means of transportation. I used train, subway, taxi and bus. They are familiar in Japan but there are other unique means in Thailand. For example, there is bike taxi in Thailand. Bike taxi is riding a motorbike by two or more people. It was very thrilling and I won't use it in future. There is water bus too. I used it when I visited The Wat Arun. Same means of transportation have a difference between Japan and Thailand. It's a train ticket. In Thailand, train tickets are IC cards or medals of plastic. They can be reused and be ecological.



Fig5. a train ticket

Most of Thai foods are very spicy but there are foods which are not spicy. "Khao Man Kai" is not spicy food. It's a dish that chicken is on the rice. This chicken is fried or boiled. It's common to Pour sauce on chicken. I became to like "Khao Man Kai" very much. Another favorite food is "Pad thai". It's a stir fried noodle in Thailand. This noodle is made from rice. Before eating, we pour Nam pla, vinegar, chili pepper or sugar we like. Chili pepper is added in this dish but "Pad thai" is not so spicy.



Fig6. "Pad thai"

Thai foods use various spices. Some are spicy ones and others have unique flavor. Therefore some people cannot eat some Thai foods.

I will take about social network service. I usually use "Line" to get in touch with familiar person in Japan.

Most of Japanese may use "Line" in the same way. In Thailand, "facebook" is more popular than "Line".

They often take a picture and upload on their facebook. When they get in touch with anyone, they use

"facebook" like "Line" for Japanese. My friend in Thailand said "There is server of "Line" in Japan but

servers of "facebook" are in all over the world." I thought it accurate too.

7. Conclusion

In this internship program, I could achieve my purpose.

First, I obtained aggressiveness, independence and confidence. I grew up physically and mentally.

Second, I could know studying environment in Thailand. I knew that Japanese company affect

Thailand especially in the field of car. I could imagine to work oversea in my future too.

Third, I could improve my English skills. I could speak with people using English word I knew. I could

make sure of my English level. I learn a little Thai too.

I came to like Thailand very much in this internship too. There are some reasons. Thai foods were

very delicious. Many places were new and exciting for me. Above all, people I met in Thailand were

very kindness for me. I'd like to go to Thailand again. I willingly help exchange students from foreign

countries too. I deeply appreciate everyone in KMITL accepted me willingly and every Mie

University staff gave me this opportunity.