

A short-term visit to the group of Prof. Akutsu

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My two-month stay in the group of Prof. Akutsu at the Bioinformatics Center at Kyoto University started with a welcome dinner for new students. After this smooth introduction to Japanese cuisine, culture and conversation, the main focus changed to the analysis of Boolean networks. In my PhD project, I annotate the molecular network of the cell cycle of *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* and use Boolean models for network analysis. These models are not only interesting from a biological point of view, but also for addressing remaining challenges in Boolean network analysis. These challenges include the determination of global states in relatively large Boolean networks and became a target for the expertise of Prof. Akutsu's group.

I am grateful to Prof. Akutsu for inviting me and sharing his ideas and knowledge, I am looking forward to the continuation of our collaboration. I am also grateful to the students I met and worked with! I enjoyed the welcoming and friendly environment in the group and appreciate the discussions as well as joint cultural explorations during the weekends. Also, I greatly acknowledge the generous funding that made the research visit possible!

The visit to Prof. Akutsu's group ended, like it started, with a dinner.

