



From 2005 to 2007: two flourishing years

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Spring 2005 was the first time I visited IMS. I was still a PhD student, and I came here for a three months scientific exchange. After my PhD, I came back here in 2006 as a CREST researcher for my post-doc. After one marvelous year of work here, I will soon return to France to start a permanent position in Bordeaux. I want to share my experience at IMS and to express the gratitude I feel for this institute and its members.

First of all, the strong will of the IMS researchers and the passion for their work is probably what I will remember the most: "*Labor omnia vincit improbus.*" IMS is indeed an active place, in constant evolution, with the permanent concern to aim – to my personal feeling – at the highest quality of science, in both applied and fundamental research in the many diverse fields covered by or involving the molecular science. Moreover the research groups are running ambitious projects and fruitful collaborations at the internal, national and international level.

The IMS regularly organizes high quality seminars and symposiums, with the involvement of the most active and representative actors of modern science. No need to say that it is of prime

importance for the scientific community. Both experimental and theoretical topics were proposed to the audience, from biophysics to synchrotron experiments, via coherent control, photo-physics or -chemistry, surface, and intense laser field science. Beside the scientific aspect, the warmth and conviviality around these events are adequate and appropriate for meeting new researchers, collaborators or simply new friends.

The facilities available for scientists are impressive, and the instruments are the state of the art in most of the areas of research. Very few research institutes or universities around the world can be proud to own a synchrotron facility, a laser center and a computation center at the same time: IMS is one of those. It is also worthy to note that the IMS library provides a large access to numerous on-line journals: nowadays it is a priceless tool for an efficient research.

The administrative staff is also very kind and efficient. Without their precious and invaluable help, many things would not be possible, especially as a foreigner in Japan.

Secondly, the city of Okazaki is nice and quiet. The river banks are an important place all year long: cherry blossom, fireworks and other delicious enjoyable moments. Rokusho Jinja is not only the nearest but also one of the most beautiful shrines in this city. All of these strongly contributes to



the warm atmosphere and offers nice conditions for working and living here. According to me, luckily this area of Japan also seems to be safer as far as the earthquake activity is concerned. And it is not a negligible advantage when you are daily conducting interferometric measurements as we do!

During my work here, I could indeed investigate the fascinating quantum world of molecular wavepacket by means of ultrashort laser pulses. Generally speaking, I could extend my prior knowledge of light-matter interaction. For instance we have used the development of pulse shaping techniques in order to manipulate the evolution of nuclei in molecules or condensed phase.

In the future, I wish it would be possible for me to continue further collaborations with IMS for all the reasons I have explained above.

Finally, I would like to thank deeply and sincerely Prof. Kenji Ohmori, for his kindness and the great opportunity he offered me to work in his group.

I would also like to thank all the members of the Department of Photo-Molecular Science for the kind scientific and personal discussions we had.