

JSPS Short Term Postdoctoral Fellowship – Marios Sergidesa

Host:

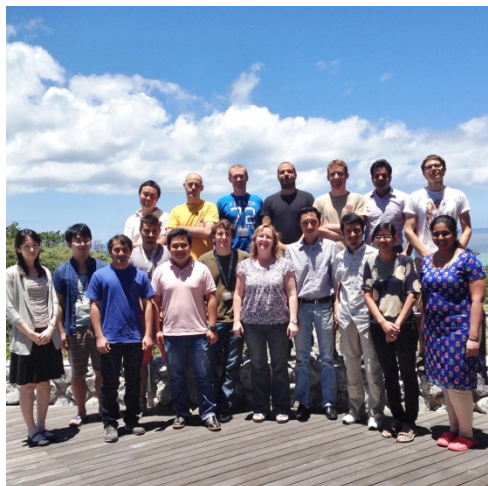
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My project's central motivation was to undertake a focused experimental and theoretical effort to explore light-induced coupling between evanescent field traps and a range of structures, including arbitrary shaped dielectric particles, viruses, bacteria, and other biological molecules. Furthermore, using higher order optical modes, we aimed to tailor the evanescent field and to study the optical binding of complex arrays of colloidal particles in the vicinity of the nanofibre, as well as their response to transfer of angular momentum.

Everything at OIST was organised in a professional manner. I was glad to have had the chance to work with equipment that would otherwise be unavailable at institutions that I had been in before. OIST is such that there are no boundaries between disciplines which gave me the opportunity to work with people from many different fields. The relocation team was more than helpful, and I never found myself having any difficulties with every day arrangements. In addition, OIST provides Japanese language classes for its members, which I took while I was there. This helped me to interact with local people and share our experiences.

Apart from the opportunity to conduct outstanding research, the Fellowship allowed me to explore the beautiful islands of the Okinawa prefecture and experience Japanese culture during my year long stay. Diving, fishing and hiking are just a few of the many activities that one can enjoy in the southern islands of Japan. Furthermore, visiting mainland Japan from Okinawa is not difficult. I had the chance to visit cities like Tokyo, Kyoto, and Hiroshima, which have so many different things to offer.

Overall, my stay in Okinawa, and Japan in general, was useful and constructive, and for this reason I pursued a postdoctoral position at OIST. For all this I would like to thank JSPS for starting this new chapter in my life. I would strongly encourage anyone to apply for the JSPS Fellowships as it provides a great opportunity to study their fields in a different environment and experience Japan.



Light-Matter Interactions Unit



Okinawa Institute of Science and Technology
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