

Dear Inaba-san,

thinking back to my time in Japan and at the Research Center for Structural Thermodynamics it feels like I experienced the worth of 10 years in just six months. There was just so much that happened there. I traveled Japan, became to know some of the (modern) Japanese culture and the Japanese mentality, and also learned about the research at the Research Center for Structural Thermodynamics.

I am grateful, that I was able to have met you Professor Inaba and for all of your support. At the time, when I experienced some personal hardship you offered your support helped me a lot.

I also thank Miyazaki-san, who helped me with my research. As a striving chemical engineer, it was very interesting to do research in a field I would normally not associate with. Yet, I count the research I have done in Japan as a success in my life and I am glad to have done it. It even resulted in an offer by the laboratory of physical chemistry at the Technical University of Munich, because of the thesis I wrote about my work in Japan.

I am also happy to have met Suzuki-san. Today I still miss the numerous discussions we had about culture, psychology, science, and many more topics. He supported me when I needed it and helped me find out what science should be really about. We often laughed together and I know, that I found a good friend in him, whom I want to meet again in the future.

Of course, I am also grateful to my tutor Yoshida-san, who helped me with the hurdles of the Japanese language. He also organized the various parties for the staff of the laboratory and thus allowed me to enjoy Okonomiyaki, Takoyaki, Nabe, sweet potato, and Japanese beer. The memories of these parties are very precious to me. He was a little shy, but quite funny, once he had warmed up to me.

For the brief time I met him, I also enjoyed Nakakubo-san. While I tried to talk to him in Japanese, he tried to talk to me in English. Since we both were not so good in those languages, the result was usually very funny and caused numerous spectators.

I also would like to thank all the other members of Research Center of Structural Thermodynamics for having me, supporting me and making me feel welcome.

I wish all of the members of the laboratory all the best for the future and success for their research. I really enjoyed my stay and when I come back to Osaka one day, I am looking forward to visiting you again.

Until then I remain

Sincerely Yours

Konrad Schindler