

### PENG Jia Xin

PhD Student, Mechanical Engineering

Participating program : ESEP-G2019

Home university at the time of participation : National University of Singapore

Laboratory : Shiomi · Lee · Asano Lab <https://www.phonon.t.u-tokyo.ac.jp/?lang=en>

#### Why I Chose to Pursue Admission to UTokyo

During my time with ESEP-G, I had a taste of life in Japan and was captivated by the clean environment, efficient public transportation, and convenient access to nature. In the short span of 6 weeks, I formed lasting friendships with both my lab members and fellow ESEP mates. I was also impressed by the lab environment at UTokyo. My professors were not only kind but spoke fluent English, and the students were always supportive and worked collaboratively. The strong sense of team spirit in the lab made a lasting impression on me, influencing my decision to return for a Master's and continue on to a PhD.



#### Current Status

I am now a PhD student at UTokyo, and my journey so far has been incredibly rewarding. I've had the chance to work on a project with a well-known Japanese electronics company, which offered valuable industry insights and deepened my expertise. Additionally, I traveled to the U.S. for university-led visits to companies and collaborated with researchers in Sweden, even visiting for joint research. Conducting experiments at a large-scale synchrotron facility has been another highlight of my academic career.

Daily lab life is fulfilling, with lab mates who support each other academically and join together for sports and hiking. Outside the lab, I continue to experience the warmth and kindness of Japanese people—my homestay in Ishikawa, where my hosts went out of their way to make me feel at home, is a memorable example of this.

#### Message to applicants

If you're considering studying in Japan, the University of Tokyo's Engineering Summer Education Program offers an incredible preview of what to expect. By being proactive, making friends, and staying open to new cultural experiences, you'll make it a memorable experience and you can truly make the most of life here.