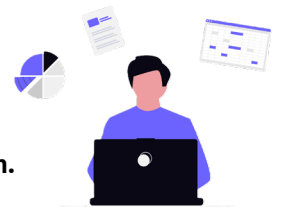


Building Careers at RIKEN: Interview with Francesco Antici



At R-CCS, young researchers who complete the internship program often go on to join research teams/units, where they actively contribute to ongoing projects. This time, we had the opportunity to interview one of them.

Could you please introduce yourself, including your name, team, and job title?

My name is Francesco Antici, I'm 28 years old and I come from Ancona, a small city in central Italy. I'm currently working as a postdoctoral researcher in the [Supercomputing Performance Research Team](#) in R-CCS, Kobe.

What motivated you to apply for the R-CCS international internship program?



I always looked up to the research conducted at Riken, and I wanted to have a chance to work alongside the skilled researchers working there. I strongly believed that interning there would have been a good opportunity for my career and personal growth.

How did you spend your time in research during your internship?

I mainly spent my time working at some collaboration projects with the hosting team and trying to share and learn as much as possible from my colleagues and other researchers at Riken.

What was the most memorable experience during your internship?

The most memorable experience was probably visiting Fugaku and seeing the whole computational facility, and getting the notification of acceptance for a paper (written in collaboration with my team at Riken) submitted to a prestigious conference.



What challenges did you face in research during your internship, and how did you overcome them?

Doing research and an internship abroad, and in a new environment, always comes with challenges related to adapting to a different working style and surroundings. However, with the help of my colleagues and Riken personnel, everything was made easier and settling in was smooth.

How do you feel about the atmosphere within the research team and working with your team leader and other young researchers?

The atmosphere is very welcoming and vibrant, it's the perfect environment for a young researcher to grow, collaborate and learn by more experienced researchers.



Why did you decide to continue working with RIKEN as a postdoctoral researcher after completing your internship?

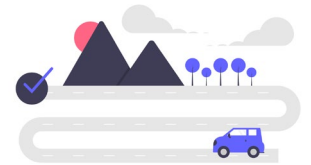
I decided to continue working at Riken since it's one of the best places to conduct research, get involved in exciting projects and collaborate with skilled researchers from all over the world. I believe it's an excellent opportunity for a young researcher to improve their skills and get experience.

What kind of work are you currently engaged in as a postdoctoral researcher at R-CCS?

I am working at bridging the gap between Artificial Intelligence and HPC to improve the performance and energy efficiency of the system and provide a secure and improved platform to use the system efficiently.

How do you spend your time outside of work?

Outside of work I like to play sports, like football and tennis, travel, hike and explore the surrounding areas.

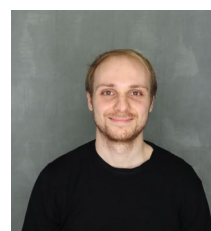


What are your plans, especially in terms of working with RIKEN?

For the future, I would like to try to grow as much as possible as a researcher, and as a person. I believe working at Riken is the best way to achieve that, and I'm looking forward to what's next.

Do you have any advice for those who will be joining the R-CCS international internship program?

My only advice is to try to come with an open mind and eager to learn. Interning at Riken can be a great opportunity for young researchers and therefore it's important to try and make the best out of all the opportunities (seminars, networking events, collaborations with the team, etc) one has.



Francesco Antici, a Postdoctoral Researcher at [Supercomputing Performance Research Team](#) at R-CCS and a former intern in the 2023 and 2024 R-CCS internship program.