

Dr. Sarkar and Dr. Hu attend international wind engineering workshop

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The Department of Aerospace Engineering had two representatives at the U.S.–Japan workshop on wind engineering in May at the University of Tokyo. Dr. Hui Hu and Dr. Partha Sarkar participated in the sixth international workshop, with this year’s theme being “Windstorm Hazard Reduction of Critical Infrastructure.”

Participants visited the world’s largest tower, the Tokyo Skytree

With both the United States and Japan suffering from severe wind storm disasters in recent years, the workshop’s major objective was to identify the challenges and solutions for reducing those disasters. Dr. Sarkar was one of the organizers of the event, bringing together seventeen members of the U.S. delegate with seventeen members of the Japanese delegate to form the conference.

Dr. Hu presented on the fluid-structure interactions of wind turbines in violent wind storms. Dr. Hu explained how wind turbines react during tornado-like winds, microburst-like winds, as well as ice storms. In addition to viewing other presentations during the workshop, Dr. Hu and Dr. Sarkar were also able to interact with other participants and discuss possible future opportunities for collaboration.



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One of the events that Dr. Sarkar organized for all participants was a technical tour to the Honjo Life Safety Learning Center and the Tokyo Skytree, which is the tallest tower in the world. The participants heard from the chief designer of the tower about the philosophies and methodologies in designing the tower to better resist damage from wind and earthquakes.