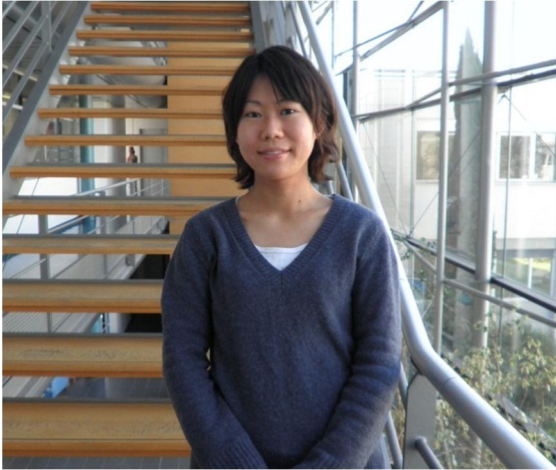


## Portrait of Miki Shimbo

**M**iki Shimbo joined the Montcouquiol team on the 1<sup>st</sup> march, as a master 2 student. She came from the University of Tsukuba near Tokyo, Japan.



The University of Tsukuba started an exchange program this year to improve the collaboration between their university and Bordeaux 2. They mostly send PhD or Post-docs students but they can also send master students as Miki. She followed her university path there from 18 to 23. This is a countryside university, but an important enough one to attract her when she had to choose a college to go to with her scientific ambition.

She is, obviously, here to study Neurosciences and neurons development. Together with Jerome Ezan, a recently hired postdoc coming back from the US, she will experiment in utero electroporation in embryonic mice in order to discover new genes involved in neuronal migration. As she needed to improve her English and science skills, Miki took the opportunity and feels very lucky to be in a place where she can do both at the same time. She stays here from the 1<sup>st</sup> of March to the end of December: 10 months.

After graduating in Japan, Miki's goal was to go and work for a company but in a capacity that would allow her to travel a lot. However being here made her realize that Europe offers a better situation for PhDs. There are a lot of chances to discover other research projects, countries, and people, through seminars for examples. Exchange is everywhere! But for now, it is not a time to make decisions, she keeps thinking about her future.

Even though, she had already come to France it was only for a few days to visit Paris... And the language barrier was still the most frightening element for her before coming here. In Japan, even though English is taught, there is practically no chance to practice, so she was worried of her poor level.

But don't judge a book by its cover, not only does she know English but she is currently learning French!