

Preface

The second Japan-China Seminar on Solar Physics was held in Sagamihara, Japan, on July 6-8, 1993. It was organized by National Astronomical Observatory of Japan (NAOJ).

Nineteen Chinese (sixteen of them from the mainland of China, two from Taiwan and one from U.S.A.) and more than 30 Japanese solar physicists attended this Seminar. The Chinese participants had an interesting time both in the sessions and outside. We were honoured to visit the ISAS YOHKOH Operation and Analysis Center, Mitaka and Norikura Observatories, Nobeyama Radio Observatory of NAOJ, and Hida Observatory of Kyoto University. The instruments of these organizations, in particular the Solar-A, have provided many important data for not only the Japanese but also all of the solar physicists in the world.

This meeting was very successful. Many significant observational results and valuable discussions had been reported by the Japanese participants. By these great achievements, the Japanese solar physicists have established their important position on solar physics in the world, and their research work is very conducive to the development of solar physics. On the other hand, the Chinese astronomers also introduced the new progress of Chinese solar physics made in these years.

This Seminar is the second one of the series. It played an important role in promoting scientific exchange and collaboration between Japanese and Chinese astronomers, as the first one had done. And it also had provided an excellent opportunity for the solar physicists of the two countries to meet and get to know each other better and closer.

Here I would like to express our thanks to Japanese Government for providing our official support. Special thanks are given to Prof. Hirayama, Prof. Sakurai, Prof. Hiei, Prof. Makita who made a great contribution for the success of the seminar. We also thank Dr. K. Ichimoto, H. Miyazaki, T. Okamoto, and many other Japanese participants and friends for their kind help.

As everyone knows, there is a long history in cultural exchange between China and Japan. I hope that more Japanese astronomers come to participate in the next Seminar on Solar Physics held in China.

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The collaboration in solar physics between the two countries was initiated almost ten years ago, as a research program co-sponsored by the Chinese Academy of Sciences and

Japanese Society for the Promotion of Sciences. At that time the Japanese solar scientists were working on the data from the Hinotori satellite, and Huairou Observatory was its very initial phase of instrument development. Ten years later, solar physics has flourished in China. The Huairou magnetograph, the Solar Tower of Nanjing University, and other facilities as well have been producing excellent data. In Japan we have Yohkoh satellite, the Nobeyama radio heliograph, and the Solar Flare Telescope at Mitaka. This series of cooperative research program is really timely, and all the participants enjoyed new pieces of data and lively discussions at the meeting.

The main topics of this workshop were the studies of three active regions, namely NOAA 7260, 7270, and 7321. These active regions were selected because they were particularly active ones in 1992, and good observational data were obtained in the observatories both in China and in Japan, as well as with the Yohkoh satellite. In addition to the studies of these active regions, more general research topics in solar physics, both observational and theoretical, were also presented. The official language of the workshop was (broken) English, and communications by using Kanji characters were found to be useful in many cases. The atmosphere of the Japan-China workshops are slightly different from other international meetings. It was surprising that the person most fluent in Chinese among non-Chinese participants is Dr. Alphonse Sterling!

We would like to thank Prof. Ai and all the Chinese participants for making this meeting so successful. Sometimes the processing of visa applications were slow and additional action was necessary to expedite these procedures. We thank Prof. Yoshihide Kozai, the director of our observatory, in helping us for this. The participation of Dr. H. Wang from U.S.A. was made possible by the donation from the family of Shingo Nagasawa, the late director of the Norikura Observatory. We are grateful to the local organizers Kazunari Shibata, Kiyoshi Ichimoto, Yoshinori Suematsu, Tetsuya Watanabe, Hideaki Miyazaki, Tomizo Okamoto, Issei Sano, Toshiko Iyama, Noriko Irie, and Hideko Nishino; without their efforts the meeting might not have proceeded as smoothly as it actually did.

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