

On the occasion of the 100th volume of the Proceedings of the Japan Academy, Series A (PJA-A)

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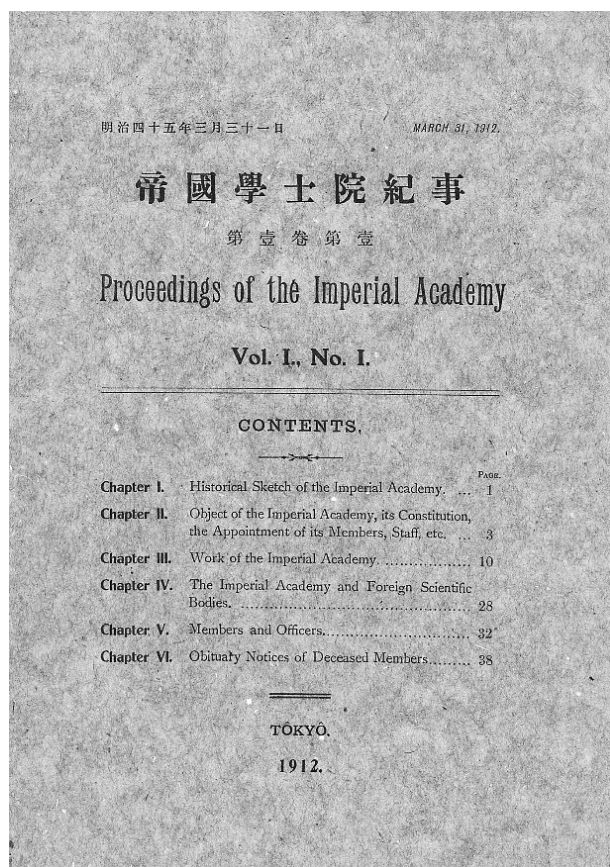
The Proceedings of the Japan Academy (PJA) commenced its publication in 1912 to record the proceedings of regular meetings of the Imperial Academy (now known as the Japan Academy) and to make them accessible to international readers. It became regular annual publications of 10 issues in 1926. It was later divided into the present Series A (PJA-A, mathematics) and Series B (PJA-B, all other branches of natural sciences) starting from volume 53 in 1977. Since then, both series have main-

tained the same volume numbering, and both have reached volume 100 this year. We thankfully acknowledge the article [Proc. Jpn. Acad., Ser. B 99 (2023) 228–240] by Dr. Masanori Iye on its history with remarkable analysis, which was specially prepared to celebrate the occasion.

The PJA-A serves the important purpose of disseminating not only the Japan Academy's activities but also contributions of mathematicians from all over the world to the international scientific community without any charge to authors or readers; it rapidly publishes original papers, résumés, or announcements (i.e. ones whose details to be published elsewhere) at most 6 pages long when published. The PJA-A has also been freely accessible at the website of the Project Euclid since May 2005.

In order to celebrate the volume 100, we publish the interview article of Dr. Hironaka by Dr. Kashiwara and Dr. Mori translated into English with Dr. Eriko Hironaka's cooperation. The original interview took place on September 13, 2009 to commemorate the 100th Japan Academy Prize.

The interview was focused on how Dr. Hironaka expanded his research activities from the time he went to Harvard University as a Ph.D. student till he submitted the paper on the resolution of singularities that led to his receiving the Fields Medal in 1970, that is, for the 5 years from 1957 till 1962. It actually describes how he managed to prepare and submit the monumental paper in only 2 years after he obtained the Ph.D. in 1960, where he expressed his deep gratitude to the three people: his Ph.D. advisor Oscar Zariski, Dr. Masayoshi Nagata, and Dr. Alexander Grothendieck. It also touched on how he had personal interaction with Dr. Kunihiko Kodaira as well, which itself was an interesting story in U.S.A. before they both became Members of the Japan Academy. We sincerely hope you can enjoy the interview article.



Proceedings of the Imperial Academy, Vol. 1, No. 1 (1912)