



## *Editorial*

Araki Fujihiko was born in 1932, son of Araki Gentaro, physics professor at Kyoto University. He published his first paper (on atomic spectroscopy) in 1954 with his father, while still an undergraduate student – henceforth spelling his name “Huzihiro.” His next publication dates to 1957, when he worked with Yukawa as an M.Sc. student.

In 1960, Araki prepared his Ph.D. in Princeton (the first by a Japanese student in theoretical physics). His thesis on the “Hamiltonian Formalism and Canonical Commutation Relations in Quantum Field Theory” was a milestone. Most of his subsequent publications (over 150 in number) deal with quantum field theory and statistical mechanics from an operator algebra point of view. They represent pioneering work in these domains. Araki left his mark in many areas, including the  $C^*$ -approach to lattice models, the theory of von Neumann factors of type III (the Araki-Woods factors), the theory of algebras of local observables, the properties of KMS states, and scattering theory. Araki’s trademark is insight, combined with overwhelming technical power; this thread is manifest throughout his work.

In addition to this very important scientific activity, Araki is one of the most efficient organizers in the scientific community, dating even from 1966, when he first became professor at Kyoto University, to major conferences in 1974 and 1975

in Kyoto. He is or has been editor of the most important journals in mathematical physics; he is the main author of the Constitution of the International Association of Mathematical Physics; he is or has been a member of numerous committees; and he was central in the organization of the International Congress of Mathematicians in Kyoto in 1990. He has recently been elected Director of the R.I.M.S. at Kyoto University. Araki is exceptionally curious about all cultures of the world, yet deeply Japanese. All this adds up to a wonderful personality which gained him many friends – among whom we are happy to count ourselves. It is a pleasure to dedicate this issue to Huzihiro Araki. We wish him many more productive years.

Alain Connes  
Moshe Flato  
Heisuke Hironaka  
Arthur Jaffe  
Vaughan Jones