

## Chance and Necessary in a History

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On November 22 1993, about seven years ago, 22 persons belonged to industrial companies gathered at the annual meeting of the Crystallographic Society of Japan held in Gakushuin University according to the two persons' appeal, Dr. Kazuo Koyano (Teijin Limited) and Dr. Toshio Akimoto (Chugai Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd.). And we discussed about how we should do in order to use regularly the synchrotron radiation focusing on Spring-8 at Harima. At that time its construction work had already been started and its utilization was planed to be start after several years. This was the first action of the industrial world in our country, which had taken delay remarkably to European and American in the field of the protein crystal structure analysis, and was the first meeting of the round-table conference for the synchrotron-radiation protein crystallographer in industry. This round-table conference is hibernating now, after changing the secretaries to the four persons of Dr. Tomohiro Sato (Shionogi & Co., Ltd.), Dr. Toshiharu Tada (Fujisawa Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd.), Hiroyuki Kurihara (Yamanouti Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd.), and me at next year and holding seven ~ eight meetings.

At that time, I was blessed to have the opportunity of experiment in PF. When I suddenly leaked to Professor Sakabe suddenly, saying "We are looking about the synchrotron-radiation beam line for private enterprises to able to use", it turned out that Professor Sakabe also considered the construction of such beam line. After that, the common work with Professor Sakabe strove and TARA Sakabe Project, present Structural Biology Sakabe Project, was born. As I think again at now, I wonder what Sakabe Project have become, if the graduate laboratory of Dr. Koyano and me was not same and/or if Professor Sakabe was absent at the time of the experiment in PF. I feel a mystical thing for the chance and necessary in a history, just as the Japanese phrase "KAIKOU".

Time passes and it has become at the beginning of the 21st century. Protein crystallographers will be forced to be in the prosperity of the structural genome science. In order to make structure genome science successful, high throughput structural analysis must be made possible, being accompanied by new technology in each process of structure analysis such as protein expression, purification, crystallization, data collection, phase determination, model building, and refinement. Some of them will surely become useful approaches for drug discoveries based on the 3-dimensional coordinates of the protein, which currently performed by the trial and error. I want to establish the route for a drug discovery without dazzling an eye by the prosperity. What kind of chance and necessary shall I meet there?