

QUANTITATIVE SEISMOLOGY, a.k.a. AKI & RICHARDS

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This presentation consists of two parts: The first part shows the strong influence of Prof. Keiiti Aki on the educational advancement in seismology by depicting the first author's memories of the book written by him and Prof. Paul G. Richards. It also gives a short description of the translation project of the second edition of that textbook into Japanese. In the latter part, we shall think of the active research life of Prof. Aki, with thanks, by briefly showing the audience the photographs taken during the second author's visit to him on the Reunion Island in the Indian Ocean in 2004.

When the first author (NK) was an undergraduate student at Kyoto University in 1992, he started learning seismology with the most prominent textbook, QUANTITATIVE SEISMOLOGY (1st ed., 1980), by Profs. Aki and Richards. It was already out of print by that time. So, he must borrow the book from a library and make a copy in part. It was very challenging for him to understand the details of the text because of two reasons: The first was its mathematical description; and the second was the language problem. It was very tough for Japanese students to read and understand a book written in English. They had been waiting for its translation into Japanese for a long time.

A decade had passed since then. In 2002, when NK and the second author (KU) were visiting scientists at Harvard University in the United States, the second edition of QUANTITATIVE SEISMOLOGY was published. Upon proposal by KU and acceptance by NK, the AKI-RICHA JAPANESE TRANSLATION PROJECT started for the sake of Japanese students. The third author (HA) at Ecole Normale Supérieure in Paris joined the project shortly later. Initiated in January 2003, the project was finished in June 2004. Eighteen months were needed for the full translation, which summed up to 909 pages (plus 35 extra pages)! The translation ZISINGAKU (seismology in Japanese) appeared in bookstores in August 2004 (publisher: Kokon Shoin, URL: <http://www.kokon.co.jp/h4052.htm>, ISBN4-7722-4052-7). The authors hope this translation will be helpful for Japanese students who are learning the theoretical basis of seismology and the great achievements of Prof. Aki.