Preface

VLBI ties the world. It connects radio astronomers by coherence and covers the world by a network of friendship.

In September 93 we gathered at Kyoto, Japan to discuss on the possibilities that VLBI is opening up for astronomy. 93 is the year, when VLBA, a large dedicated VLBI array covering the territory of the USA, has started regular observations, two space VLBI projects, RADIOASTRON and VSOP are in progress, and mm-wave Global VLBI becomes routinely successful and is providing spatial resolutions of 50 microarcsec or better. We are on the turning point of the History and we gathered to see how we write the History.

Two types of oral sessions and a poster session were held, all very actively participated and then after heroic but almost desperate battles by the Editors this volume is here in your hands.

On behalf of the Organizing Committee, I wish to express thanks to URSI and IAU for sponsorship and a large number of semi-private or private organizations for material supports to which the Symposium owes its existence and success.

Finally I would like to point out that for an aperture of 10 AU in radius and for a wavelength of 1 mm, whole Universe is well within the Fresnel region.

It will not be a far future, when VLBI will be measuring the curvature of the Universe.

Masaki Morimoto
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