

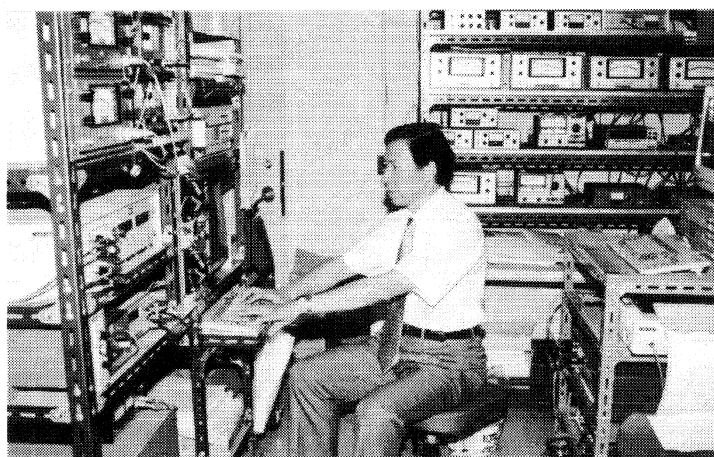
譚 志誠 (Tan Zhi-Cheng) 教授

(2000 年 1 月 1 日～12 月 31 日滞在)

1999 年 4 月に分子熱力学研究センターが設置された際、新たに助教授ポストと外国人研究員のポストが一つずつ純増された。外国人研究員には教授会の議を経て客員（助）教授の称号付与がなされる。国際化の時代にこの制度は有り難いことであり、早速候補者選びを行った。最低 3 ヶ月以上の連続勤務という条件が厳しく、せっかくの招待に感謝しつつも辞退されるケースが多かった。中国科学院・大連化学物理研究所の譚教授は以前、当センターに長期滞在されたことがあり、喜んで招待を受けられた。これは筆者の私見だが、科学・技術のグローバル化は当然として、少なくともここ当分は世界 3 極体制で事を進める重要さを感じている。3 極とは欧州・北米・アジアである。大国中国が日本を無視するようになった将来を想像すると、これはとてもゆゆしいことである。常にアジアの良きパートナーとして、互いに尊敬しあえる関係を築いていく努力を怠っては取り返しがつかなくなるであろう。化学熱力学の分野では、ほぼ 3 年毎に日中合同のシンポジウムを交互に開催し、そのような努力を続けている。来年は第 5 回を迎える。譚教授には日中の架け橋になっていただきたいとの思いから、1 年間の就任をお願いした。写真は熱容量測定中のスナップである。

滞在の後半に、ご夫人の王徳華さんと次男の譚林さんが合流し、大学近くの民間賃貸住宅に住まわれた。大連のような中国東北部は水餃子が有名である。譚夫人手作りの水餃子は抜群の味であった。譚林さんは大阪大学大学院基礎工学研究科情報数理系専攻にめでたく合格し、日本に残って大学院生活を送っている。

(徂徠道夫)



中國科學院大連化學物理研究所
DALIAN INSTITUTE OF CHEMICAL PHYSICS
CHINESE ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

Dalian October 27, 2001

Director, Professor Michio Sorai,
Research Center for Molecular Thermodynamics
Graduate School of Science, Osaka University
Toyonaka, Osaka 560-0043
JAPAN

Dear Professor Sorai,

It was my great honor to be invited by Professor Tadamitsu Kishimoto, President of Osaka University, and you, Director of the Research Center for Molecular Thermodynamics, as the first Visiting Professor from foreign countries to join the newly founded institute for one year. It gives me a great pleasure to write my impressions about the stay in your institute during the period of January 1- December 31, 2000.

First of all, I would like to express my sincere thanks to President Kishimoto and you for your kind invitation, which made me spend a colorful and fruitful one year stay in Japan.

As one of the leading scientists in China concerned with chemical thermodynamics and calorimetry I have been pursuing in this field for more than 30 years. I have paid much attention to the long history of development of chemical thermodynamic research at Osaka University, and I learned that there were three successive developing stages in this area. The first one is the Chemical Thermodynamic Laboratory which was founded on April 1, 1979. The second one is the Microcalorimetry Research Center, which was established on May 1, 1989. The third one is the Research Center for Molecular Thermodynamics newly founded on April 1, 1999.

I was very fortunate to have five times to visit these three successive laboratories. In the period of June 2, 1987- May 31, 1988, I was invited by Professor H. Suga and JSPS as a visiting scholar to work at the Chemical Thermodynamic Laboratory. On that occasion, I was particularly impressed by the high quality of the research work carried out in this laboratory and a lot of sophisticated calorimeters developed by this laboratory. In 1990, 1996 and 1999, I visited the Microcalorimetry Research Center three times on the occasions of the 2nd Sino-Japanese Joint Symposium on Calorimetry and Thermal Analysis, the 14th ICCT and the 4th SJS-CTA, respectively. In these cases I was deeply impressed by a large number of splendid adiabatic micro-calorimeters, which were designed and constructed in this research center. All the calorimeters were fully automated and thereby very accurate and precise thermodyna-

mic data were acquired even with only very small amounts of samples, for instance, 1 mg in micro-combustion calorimeter.

Last year I stayed in your Research Center for Molecular Thermodynamics for one year. Thanks to your thoughtful arrangements, I participated in a plenty of scientific activities, including research projects, seminar, academic visits, domestic and international scientific conferences, and so on. Through these academic activities performed during the relatively long stay in Japan, I recognized clearly that ever since the era of professor S. Seki, continuing down through the important period of professor H. Suga and continuing now through the current days highlighted by professor M. Sorai and his many colleagues, your institution has been justly renowned internationally for the creativity, the reliability, and the high accuracy of the research work that you have accomplished. I have strong impression that the research efforts carried out in your center are of very high quality. The reputation of your center is so strong throughout the world that it becomes the leading laboratory concerning the thermodynamics all over the world.

In my opinion, thermodynamic is of fundamental importance for science and technology, and is still playing a crucial role in discovering some new phenomena in nature. The phase transition in hexagonal ice, for example, was discovered by Professor H. Suga and his colleagues with high precision adiabatic calorimeters. Since your laboratory has already been internationally recognized as a thermodynamic research center, hopefully, you will accept more scientists, specially young scholars, from over the world, who are eager to get the opportunity to join your research group, so as to greatly promote the development of this field. On the other hand, I, as a senior thermodynamicist, suggest that Japanese Government and the Ministry of Education should much more support the research center to make sure that it will be able to continue its outstanding work and excellent contribution to worldwide thermodynamics.

I believe that the new millennium will start with three-pole structure in the field of calorimetry and thermal analysis in the world: Europe, North America, and Asia, respectively. In the first two regions, as we know, a number of good communities in this field have already been established. However it is unfortunately not the case in Asia. In view of highly active research work in Japan and China and good partnership between Japan and China in this field, I wish, through intimate collaboration between our two countries, to establish a good community of our research field in Asia as early as possible. I highly appreciate the great effort you made, as a member of IUPAC 1.2 Commission on Thermodynamics and as the President of the Japan Society of Calorimetry and Thermal Analysis, to strongly support the Chinese invitation of the 18th IUPAC International Conference on Chemical Thermodynamics in 2004 (ICCT-2004) to Beijing. Since your Japanese Society has successful experiences about the organization of ICCT-1996 in Osaka, We hope you could provide us with the valuable knowledge, suggestions and collaboration when we are organizing ICCT-2004 in China.

When I look back to the time I spent in your laboratory, I feel I was living in a warm and friendly atmosphere. I would like to take this opportunity to express my heartfelt thanks to you, Prof. K. Saito, Prof. T. Matsuo, Prof. A. Inaba, Dr. Y. Miyazaki, Dr. Y. Nagano, Dr. Y. Nakazawa, Dr. T. Nakamoto, Ms. T. Abe and other members of your center for very kind help and wonderful hospitalities shown me during my stay in Japan. I look forward to our continued cooperation on future projects.

Best wishes and regards

Yours very sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Zhi-Cheng TAN". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Professor Zhi-Cheng Tan
Thermochemistry Laboratory,
DICP, CAS