

FOREWORD

The MATH/CHEM/COMP'97 (MCC'97) International Course & Conference, the twelfth in a series of meetings on the interfaces between mathematics, chemistry and computer sciences, was held at the Inter-University Center in Dubrovnik, and had attracted 60 people. A great friend of these meetings, the late Dr. Marko Razinger, was missed by all participants, and this issue is dedicated to his memory. The first day of the MCC'97 was devoted to topics where Marko was active, and Professors Marjana Novič, Stane Pejovnik, Tomaž Pisanski, Tom Šolmajer and other colleagues from Ljubljana as well as the Editors pointed out how great he was as a friend, scientist and the pioneer of chemometrics in Slovenia and Croatia.

A variety of topics of interest for chemistry and physics were covered, especially those where mathematical and computational aspects are pronounced. The third day accommodated the *Fourth Croatian Meeting on Fullerenes*, while the *Minisymposium On Modelling in Medicine* was held on the fourth day of the MCC'97. Besides lectures, the meeting entailed also fine courses given by Professors Klein (Galveston), Ladik (Erlangen), McGlynn (Baton Rouge), Pisk (Zagreb), Simeon (Zagreb), and Veljan (Zagreb).

Besides the papers collected here, other contributions will appear as a special MCC'97 issue of the *Journal of Chemical Information and Computer Science*.

Organization of the MCC'97 was made possible by the help of the Inter-University Center (Dubrovnik), Rugjer Boskovic Institute (Zagreb) and Resource Use Institute (Pitlochry) and was held under the joint auspices of these institutions and the International Society of Mathematical Chemistry & International Society for Theoretical Chemical Physics. The financial support of the Ministry of Science & Technology of the Republic of Croatia, COST Secretariat (Bruxelles), Open Society Institute (Zagreb) and APO Agency (Zagreb) is gratefully acknowledged.

Many thanks go to Professor Nenad Trinajstić for his continuous support, Professor Jure Zupan (Ljubljana) for writing *In memoriam*, and to Dr. Biserka Žinić, Mrs. Vera Mikulčić and the referees for their assistance in shaping this issue, as well as to Prof. Mircea V. Diudea (Cluj) for the verses given below, which he wrote on the occasion of the twelfth MCC'97 meeting.

Ante Graovac and Dražen Vikić-Topić

Dubrovnik 1997

»often burned stones
often acute memories
the price of peace

trees without shadows
dry rivers crawling along
asylum in fog

people who tremble
keeping away from the storm
a place wanted warm«

M. V. Diudea

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As a tradition, both the *Croatian Crystallographic Association* and the *Slovenian Crystallographic Society* hold their joint annual meetings alternately in Croatia and Slovenia under the joint chairmanship of Professors Ljubo Golič and Boris Kamenar. When held in Slovenia, conference papers based upon the general lectures are published in *Acta Chimica Slovenica* and when in Croatia in our *Croatica Chemica Acta*. *Editorial Board of Croatica Chemica Acta* has kindly accepted and supported this agreement.

The *Fifth Slovenian – Croatian Crystallographic Meeting* was held at Zreče, Slovenia, from June 13 to 15, 1996. Five plenary lectures were given by Dr. H. D. Flack (Geneva), Professor H. Follner (Clausthal), Professor J. V. Brenčič (Ljubljana), Dr. Ž. Blažina (Zagreb), and Dr. P. Panjan (Ljubljana), and 512 scientific communications were presented by the crystallographers of both countries.

The *Sixth Croatian – Slovenian Crystallographic Meeting* was held in Umag, Croatia, from June 19 to 21, 1997. Altogether, 58 scientific papers were presented, including four by the participants from Austria and Bosnia and Herzegovina, as well as the following four plenary lectures:

Professor Pierluigi Orioli (Firenze), *Structural studies on the interactions between metal ions and biological molecules*,

Dr. Anton Meden (Ljubljana), *Crystal structure solution from powder diffraction data – state of the art and perspectives*,

Professor B. Ya. Kotur (Lviv), *Scandium metal systems and intermetallics*,

Dr. Mladen Vinković (Zagreb), *Synergy between crystallography and computational chemistry*.

This issue of *Croatica Chemica Acta* includes the first three lectures. Unfortunately, Dr. M. Vinković was unable to submit his contribution.

Many thanks to all contributors as well as the Editorial Board of *Croatica Chemica Acta*.

Boris Kamenar