

FOREWORD

The MATH/CHEM/COMP 1994 International Course and Conference, the ninth in the series, was held in Dubrovnik, Croatia, from June, 26 - July 1, 1994. Due to the war that raged in this part of Croatia, two previous conferences were moved to a more peaceful environment in Rovinj. The Conference now returns back to Dubrovnik, where it was originally organized. All lectures took place in the Inter-University Center (IUC), the very same building which was burned down by the Serbian and Montenegrin fascists on the St. Nicholas day (December 5, 1991). At that time the building was in flames for three days and the complete IUC library was lost. The building has been renewed and, surprisingly enough, the trees in the inner yard have recovered and seem to be undamaged by the fire.

In spite of some reservations due to the vicinity of the front line, the conference was attended by a relatively large number of foreign participants. Most morning lectures provoked vivid discussions on various topics on the interface between mathematics, chemistry and computer sciences. The majority of participants attended also afternoon courses on molecular codes (M. Randić), application of group theory to chemical problems (L. Klasinc), concrete mathematics (D. Svrtan), and on the application of adapted wavelet transform to signal analysis and computation in chemical applications (M. V. Wickerhauser). Guest editors of the Proceedings hope that the readers of *Croatica Chemica Acta* will share their opinion, which was also expressed by most of the participants, that MATH/CHEM/COMP'94 was a successful and important meeting.

Organization of the MATH/CHEM/COMP 1994 was made possible by the help of the Department of Physical Chemistry of the Rugjer Bošković Institute (Zagreb, Croatia) and the Resource Use Institute, Pitlochry (Scotland, United Kingdom). Financial support of the Ministry of Science and Technology of the Republic of Croatia is gratefully acknowledged. Special gratitude for their financial support is addressed to the International Science Foundation (Washington, USA) and to the Open Society (Zagreb, Croatia). Many thanks also go to "Tvornica duhana", Zagreb, "Franck", Zagreb and "Pliva", Zagreb. We particularly appreciate the individual support of Professor Peter Csavinszky (Orono, USA), who was unfortunately unable to attend the Conference in person. Lastly, special thanks go to Professor Vladimir Simeon and Professor Nenad Trinajstić for their patience and continuous encouragement, and to Dr. Biserka Kašnar and Mrs. Vera Mikulčić for their assistance in editing this issue of *Croatica Chemica Acta*.

During the MATH/CHEM/COMP conference, Professor M. V. Diudea of the Babes-Bolyai University (Cluj, Romania) wrote a poem about Dubrovnik. This poem can best convey the atmosphere in this ancient Croatian city after it has been systematically and indiscriminately destroyed by the Serbian and Montenegrin fascists. On the historical scale, this proves to be the third time in several hundreds of years that the destruction of Dubrovnik has come from the very same side.

Tomislav Živković

Dubrovnik 1994

harbour without ships
sea under a hateful fate
ships without harbour

shores as ruins
ash of suiciding stars
shivers of the sun

overfeeling blue
a tempting smell of woman
adriatic sea

M. V. Diudea