

Foreword

Dear readers, colleagues and friends,

It is our great pleasure to present you a special issue of the *Croatica Chemica Acta* comprising papers dedicated to Professor Milan Randić (USA and Croatia) on the occasion of his 90th birthday and to the memory of Professor Mircea Diudea from Romania (November 11, 1950 – June 26, 2019). Some of these papers were presented at the International Course and Conference on the Interfaces among Mathematics, Chemistry and Computer Sciences (Math/Chem/Comp, MC2-32) held on June 7–11, 2021, in Dubrovnik, Croatia, which was jointly organized by the University of Zagreb, the Croatian Chemical Society and the Inter-University Center Dubrovnik.

Both Milan and Mircea were both participants and promoters of the Math/Chem/Comp conferences, and they have been active members of the International Academy of Mathematical Chemistry since its founding in 2005.

Over the years, Milan and Mircea have contributed to the *Croatica Chemica Acta* as both longtime members of the Editorial and Advisory Boards and prolific authors of high quality papers that have been frequently cited. Milan involvement with *Croatica* as a member of the Editorial and Advisory Boards commenced in the 1960s; since then he has published 52 papers in *Croatica* that have been cited 832 times thus far. Mircea has been a member of the Advisory Board of *Croatica Chemica Acta* since 1996; he has published 22 papers in *Croatica* that have been cited 833 times thus far.

In the course of his scientific and educational career, Professor Milan Randić established theoretical chemistry research in Croatia in 1960 at the Ruđer Bošković Institute in Zagreb. He has been an extraordinarily active promoter

of theoretical chemistry in Croatia, initiating connections and collaborations of Croatian chemists with numerous international research groups in that field. When he moved to the United States, he continued to maintain strong connections and permanent relationships with his former group at the Ruđer Bošković Institute. More details on the scientific activities of Professor Milan Randić can be found in the reminiscences written by Professors Roger B. Mallion from Canterbury, England, UK and by Professor Subhash C. Basak from the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, University of Minnesota, Duluth, USA.

Professor Mircea Diudea has carried out internationally recognized scientific research in theoretical chemistry at the Faculty of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering of “Babes-Bolyai” University, Cluj, Romania. More details on his career can be found in this issue in the Obituary written by Professor Mihai V. Putz from the West University of Timisoara, Romania and in the reminiscence by Professor Subhash C. Basak from the University of Minnesota, Duluth, USA.

We are honoured to have the opportunity to edit this special issue and we would like to thank all the authors for their contributions and the reviewers for their valuable work.

In the name of all people involved in completing this special issue, we thank Milan and Mircea for long-standing friendships and for the ideas that brought inspiration to many researchers in the field of mathematical and computational chemistry.

Bono Lučić, Hrvoj Vančik and Jerzy Cioślowski,
Editors of this special issue
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