

## EDITORIAL FOREWORD

Since the Journal of Mathematical Chemistry was first published in January 1987, it has provided a forum for research results in one of the most fertile, interdisciplinary fields of modern science. The Journal has become an important medium for the exchange of scientific information over the whole spectrum of mathematical chemistry. The scope of the Journal of Mathematical Chemistry includes all subjects at the interface of chemistry and mathematics, as illustrated by the variety of areas represented by the members of the Editorial Advisory Board.

Since the launching of the Journal of Mathematical Chemistry by the founding editor, Dr. D.H. Rouvray, the number of manuscript submissions has increased considerably and, consequently, some reorganization has become necessary. From January 1st 1990, the editorial work has been carried out jointly by the two new Editors-in-Chief, Dr. Paul G. Mezey and Dr. Nenad Trinajstić. Several additional changes are to be introduced for 1991. In order to reflect the broadening scope of the Journal, the Editorial Advisory Board has been expanded. We would like to extend a special welcome to the new members of the Board, whose expertise will ensure better and more comprehensive representation of the diverse areas of mathematical chemistry. The Journal of Mathematical Chemistry has become the official journal of the International Society of Mathematical Chemistry and, upon paying the full membership fee, members of the society will receive a personal subscription to the Journal. Further evidence of the growth of the Journal is apparent in our plan to publish three volumes per year, effective 1991, as compared to the two volumes published in 1990 and the single volumes published in the previous years.

The Journal of Mathematical Chemistry will continue to strive for a balanced representation of the diverse areas at the interface between chemistry and mathematics, a tradition established during our first four years of operation. Mathematical chemistry is a truly interdisciplinary subject with connections to a variety of fields of science, ranging from mathematical physics, theoretical chemistry, and quantum mechanics to experiment planning, drug design, and molecular engineering. Mathematical chemistry benefits from and contributes to all these branches of science. However, this rapidly developing field of chemistry has acquired its own identity and cannot always rely on the models and techniques of related disciplines, such as mathematical physics. Chemistry frequently deals with entities that are much more complex than those typically studied in physics. Even a simple organic molecule of moderate size may exhibit a wealth of intricate properties and confront us with challenging, novel

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mathematical problems. It is, therefore, justified and also rewarding to adapt existing mathematical techniques and to develop new approaches tailored to the special needs of both experimental and theoretical chemistry. The role of the Journal of Mathematical Chemistry is to help achieve these goals and, in doing so, we shall continue to rely on the conscientious work of the Editorial Advisory Board, the referees, and most important of all, our authors.

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