

Editorial foreword

This collection of papers in the current volume of the *Journal of Mathematical Chemistry* is dedicated to Professor Frank Harary, the pioneer of discrete mathematics, and in particular, graph theory. Frank, a long-time member of our Editorial Board, has turned 80 this March, although you could not tell this from his scientific activities, whirlwind travels, sense of humor, and other wonders of life. His phenomenal number of direct contributions as well as his motivating influence in the advances and applications of graph theory to a wide range of sciences, including chemistry, have been and continue to be a rich source of ideas. His love of mathematics, in particular, mathematical games is a subject of legends, and he is famous for his puns and rhymes involving numbers. Knowing this, three years ago I have written a small poem for his 77th birthday; the punchline of this poem is as valid today as ever:

For Frank Harary's 77th Birthday

*Seventy seven
Is five times eleven,
Prime times prime,
There is truth in rhyme,
You are in your prime!*

When in a lecture Frank says "Let us choose a graph at random", he always chooses the same graph, a graph that has become known as "The Random Graph". Frank also loves square dancing. Accordingly, two little poems for the present occasion of his 80th birthday follow:

For Frank, The Top Rank!

*Eighty years of math insights,
Profound graphs and heartfelt laughs,
Graphs, Digraphs, and Multigraphs,
Monographs and Random Graphs,
Graphs and laughs,
Thank for Frank, The Top Rank,
The Idea-Bank!*

Frank Harary, Eighty, Mighty!

Four squared times five,

Will not stop

Frank square dance live

On the spot!

Dear Frank, go on, graph and laugh, square dance and all, Happy Birthday!

Paul G. Mezey
Editor-in-chief