

Elegant Structures in Computation To Andrzej Ehrenfeucht on His 85th Birthday

Preface

This special issue celebrates the 85th birthday of Andrzej Ehrenfeucht, an iconic scientist. He has contributed many seminal results and opened new research directions in mathematical logic, theoretical computer science, and natural computing. His research is characterized by originality and elegance – he is famous for discovering unique approaches to and elegant structures within problems he works on.

Andrzej is a mathematician and computer scientist, but he is also very knowledgeable in many areas of science including biology, physics, linguistics, psychology, history, geology, and paleontology. Knowing and understanding the world around us is the driving force of his life. The breadth of his knowledge and creativity is amazing, he is often referred to as a personification of science – he lives for and by science. With this deep and broad knowledge he is a genuinely interdisciplinary scientist who continuously discovers and pursues relationships between phenomena in various, sometimes seemingly distant, disciplines of knowledge.

Andrzej is also an expert in the history and teaching of mathematics. Together with his life partner Patricia Bagget he is doing pioneering research in this area.

His scientific influence is enormous and he enjoys the respect and exceptional admiration of the international scientific community. We have witnessed this also when working on this special issue – the response to our invitations to contribute was overwhelmingly enthusiastic. We would like to thank all contributors and referees for their work for this issue.

At the age of 85 Andrzej is still as creative and original as he always was. We are delighted and feel honored to have the opportunity to edit this special issue. We join with the broad international scientific community in wishing Andrzej a future of good health, fun and satisfaction in pursuing research in his own unique and admirable way.

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