



The next step

When we first launched the idea of a new mathematical journal we were told by our concerned colleagues that running a mathematical journal from a small country like Slovenia did not make much sense. That our Ph.D. students and post-docs should continue to seek publications in established mathematical journals was one of their arguments. Despite this skepticism we decided to stick to our original plan: produce a decent mathematical journal that would publish high-quality papers in mathematics from a discrete and concrete viewpoint, taking one step at a time. MathSciNet entered the first paper of *Ars Mathematica Contemporanea* less than 14 days after the first issue was completed on-line, well before the printed version was available in 2008. Only a few months later *ZentralblattMath* started to cover AMC. Two years later we were added to the SCOPUS database. And last but not least, in the second half of 2011 we received information that AMC had been accepted into Current Contents and SCI Expanded. Congratulations are in order and thanks to all who have contributed to this success: advisors, editors, authors, referees and readers.

The numbers of manuscripts that we are receiving has been increasing ever since our inclusion in the above Web of Science databases. Our future is secure, or so it seems. But there is a catch. The statistics shows that the most frequent 3-digit MSC code is 05 C, but we do not want to turn AMC into yet another graph theory journal! Our niche is elsewhere: we want to reach the rest of mathematics too; we just have a discrete viewpoint.

What else is new? Since there would be no mathematics without mathematicians, as of the previous issue we have begun publishing photos of mathematicians associated with our work. We will continue publishing two issues per volume, each having ten or more articles. Exceptions are special issues, usually edited by guest editors, but applying the same peer review standards.

If the number of papers in a special issue is too small (less than 10) or if the refereeing process of some papers would delay the publication of the special issue, we simply include those articles as a smaller group in a later regular issue. For example, last three papers of the current issue are associated with the CoNE Revisited conference (see Vol. 4, No. 1). The 8th and 9th papers were edited by the guest editor of that volume, who is also the author of the 10th paper.

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