Editorial

Preface: Levon Khachatrian's legacy in extremal combinatorics

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In Yerevan, Armenia, June 2–3, 2014, the National Academy of Sciences of Armenia jointly with the American University of Armenia organized a memorial workshop on extremal combinatorics, cryptography, and coding theory dedicated to the 60th anniversary of the birth of the great mathematician Levon Khachatrian.

Professor Khachatrian started his academic career at the Institute for Problems of Informatics and Automation of National Academy of Sciences of Armenia. From 1991 until his untimely passing in 2002, he worked for the University of Bielefeld, Germany, where his talent flourished working with Professor Rudolf Ahlswede. Professor Khachatrian's most remarkable results include solutions to problems in extremal combinatorics posed by Paul Erdős over 40 years ago. These problems had attracted the attention of many top scientists in combinatorics and number theory.

The workshop well represented the wide areas of research of Levon Khachatrian in combinatorics and theoretical computer science. The speakers not only recalled his mathematical results and showed important recent consequences of these works, but recounted their personal memories of this nice, modest genius, who passed away so early.

The present collection is based on this workshop in Professor Khachatrian's memory. It tries to cover the areas he worked on. Its goal is to pay tribute to our unforgettable colleague and friend.

Levon Khachatrian 1954–2002

Levon Khachatrian with Paul Erdős and Rudolf Ahlswede at Bielefeld University 1995

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