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## Editorial

Bharath Sriraman

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## Editorial

Bharath Sriraman<sup>1</sup>

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This issue of *The Mathematics Enthusiast* has a perfect number of journal articles! The six articles range from topics in mathematics [Number theory, Complexity of Algorithms, Calculus] to topics in mathematics education [problem solving and aesthetics] and one on mathematics philosophy which examines the foundations of modern theorem proving.

The secret life of  $1/n$  forges deep connections between number theory and algebra as well as analysis. It is the feature article of this issue for the simple reason that even a seemingly simple experimental observation in mathematics can be pursued to substantial depths- in this case decimal expansions connections to primitive roots and class numbers, something any mathematics enthusiast would appreciate. A reader that has encountered André Weil's slim volume "*Number Theory for Beginners*" might appreciate the contrast of Lyon's approach to that in the aforementioned book, where primitive roots are introduced using a strictly algebraic approach on p.47. Interestingly enough Weil's book was based on the compilation of notes by Maxwell Rosenlicht (his assistant at that time) from a 10-week introductory course in number theory taught at the University of Chicago in 1949. Suffice it to say that anyone who works through Weil's book today is ready for a graduate course in algebraic number theory. Similarly the reader who digests Lyon's approach would appreciate the necessity of learning algebra!

The five other articles in this issue are also delightful reading. We hope you enjoy this issue.

### Reference

Weil, A. (1979). *Number theory for beginners (with the collaboration of Maxwell Rosenlicht)*. Springer-Verlag, Berlin.

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