



THE ROCKEFELLER UNIVERSITY

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JOSHUA LEDERBERG

PRESIDENT

Professor David Barnette  
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Dear Professor Barnette:

Nature (9/25/86) brought to my attention your book on... polyhedra..., which I have been enjoying very much, and will commend to others.

You may be interested that the chemists have finally gone out of their way to synthesize a non-planar-graph molecule (see enclosure). These instances are remarkable enough, we can list them as odd exceptions.

The systematics of graphs is still not what I would like it to be. We have to cheat\* to accommodate the tetravalent nodes that do crop up. But the system we have makes do, well enough.

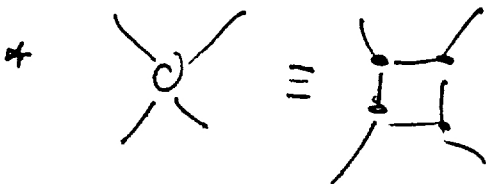
It was good to hear of you.

Yours sincerely,

*Joshua Lederberg*  
Joshua Lederberg

Encl.

P.S. Biochemical combinatorics focusses these days on linear strings but long ones like the human DNA,  $3 \times 10^9$  units long. There is lots to do in graph matching (under point mutations, deletions, transpositions...) in that sphere.



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~~Oxford University Press:1985. Pp.404. ISBN 0-19-859640-5. Hbk £25; pbk £12.50.~~  
Map Coloring, Polyhedra, and the Four Color Problem. Dolciani Mathematical Expositions, No.8. By DAVID BARNETTE. The Mathematical Society of America:1986. Pp.168. Hbk ISBN 0-883853094. £27.60  
Markov Processes: Characterization and Convergence. By STEWART N. ETHIER and THOMAS G. KURTZ. Wiley:1986. Pp.534. Hbk ISBN 0-471-08186-8. £49.10. \$47.50