CHANGE IN FORMAT AND STYLE

Readers have undoubtedly noted some recent changes in layout in the Journal. On the inside rear cover of this issue we introduce a new set of INSTRUCTIONS FOR CONTRIBUTORS that we hope will facilitate both the preparation and reading of Journal articles. All papers submitted after January 1, 1986 must conform to these specifications.

The most obvious change is the removal of the Scope and Conclusions and Significance sections in full-length papers. These sections were intended to enable the general reader of the Journal to identify and appreciate interesting and important research results outside his or her field of specialization. Too often, however, this material has simply been repeated in the introductory sections of the paper. Papers will be required to contain an Introduction that is addressed to the general reader, ensuring that the intention of Scope/Conclusions and Significance is achieved without redundancy.

The other item of note is an expression of editorial policy. There has been a proliferation of multipart papers, perhaps in response to page limitations. This is wasteful, and it interferes with both the efficient expression and comprehension of ideas. Multipart papers are discouraged. Authors are expected to write concisely, and most papers should require no more than the prior 35 page limit on typescripts, including tables and figures; arbitrary maxima will not be imposed, however, on acceptable single papers that truly require additional space. Authors submitting multipart papers that are technically acceptable will normally be asked to combine the several parts into a single paper prior to publication.

Authors are now requested to submit five copies of paper manuscripts. Reviewers are no longer asked to return manuscripts with their reviews, but to destroy them after use; this is consistent with the policy followed by many journals and funding agencies regarding privileged review material.

Finally, keywords must be submitted with manuscripts. These keywords will be used for data retrieval and preparation of the annual index.

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Editor