BULLETIN (New Series) of the American Mathematical Society

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These are, by definition, papers which present a clear and insightful exposition of significant aspects of contemporary mathematical research. Gibbs lectures, Progress in Mathematics lectures, and retiring presidential addresses will be included in this section. Manuscripts should be submitted to Professor Richard S. Palais, Department of Mathematics, Brandeis University, Waltham, MA 02154-9110.

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The purpose of this department is to publish quickly and disseminate widely significant new mathematics. A Research Announcement should be designed to communicate its contents to a broad mathematical audience and should meet high standards for clarity as well as mathematical content. It should begin with an abstract containing a brief technical description of the new material. Then there should be an introductory section addressed to nonexperts describing the motivation, background, and significance of the results announced. Following the statement of results, there should follow a sketch of proofs which may be addressed to experts. Having colleagues, including nonexperts, proofread a manuscript can be an effective way to improve readability. An announcement should normally not exceed 8 journal pages, and preferably not exceed 6 pages. Authors should send five (5) copies of each manuscript to Professor Frank Quinn, Department of Mathematics, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Blacksburg, VA 24061-0123. Under ideal conditions, papers appear about 7 months after submission.
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RESEARCH JOURNALS

Submission information for these journals is included in the April and October issues of this BULLETIN.

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Journal of the American Mathematical Society is devoted to research articles of the highest quality in all areas of pure and applied mathematics.

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Proceedings of the American Mathematical Society is a monthly journal devoted entirely to research in pure and applied mathematics, principally to the publication of original papers of moderate length. A department called Shorter Notes was established for the purpose of publishing very short papers of an unusually elegant and polished character for which there is normally no other outlet.

Transactions of the American Mathematical Society is a monthly journal devoted entirely to research in pure and applied mathematics and, in general, includes longer papers than those in the PROCEEDINGS.

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Mathematical Reviews is a monthly journal devoted to abstracts and reviews of the current mathematical literature of the world. Abstracts and reviews are grouped according to the 1991 Mathematics Subject Classification scheme. The subscription includes an annual author and subject index.

Notices of the American Mathematical Society, published ten times a year, contains programs and reports of the meetings of the Society, reports on Society business, communications to the membership, and news items and information of interest to the mathematical community.
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To encourage the submission of manuscripts in electronic form using \TeX\ and the \texttt{AMS-\TeX} macro package, the Executive Committee of the Council has adopted a policy that allows for accelerating the publication date of such manuscripts by as much as 20 weeks, which is approximately equal to the time normally needed by the Society for copyediting, typesetting, and proofreading an average manuscript.

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REMARKS ON RESEARCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

The BULLETIN of the American Mathematical Society is the only research mathematical journal received as a privilege of membership in the Society. Its circulation is larger, by an order of magnitude, than that of most journals, in particular specialized journals. Thus, a BULLETIN Research Announcement should contain results of sufficient depth and import to be of interest to a wide mathematical audience. And, consequently, beyond basic mathematical standards, Research Announcements should meet high standards for style.

Beyond general exhortations to write clearly and precisely, the following more specific suggestions are offered.

1. Keep in mind that you are writing for as wide an audience as possible. Avoid the shorthand and jargon of your area as much as you can. Carefully introduce the terminology needed to understand the main results. If space considerations prevent a full development of the concepts, delineate clearly what you are not explaining and provide references to it in the literature. Consider an Announcement an opportunity to explain your area of research to the world at large.

2. Do not confuse a graceful style with a sloppy style. Although a light touch or a colorful phrase can relieve the tedium of definitions, excessive breeziness and imprecision confuse readers who have only a casual knowledge of the subject. We say this not to encourage pedantic writing but to discourage obscure writing. Your results should be stated precisely with all important concepts and notations made clear.

3. Ask a colleague to review your manuscript before you submit it. Even better, ask two colleagues, one whose work is very close to yours, one whose work is farther away. (If you can't get two people you know to read your work before it is published, how many will want to read it after?) Ask for suggestions on how to improve the readability.
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