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This journal is devoted to articles of the following types:

Research-Expository Surveys

These are, by definition, papers that 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.

Research Reports

These are brief, timely reports on important mathematical developments. They are normally solicited and often written by a disinterested expert.

Book Reviews

Book Reviews are accepted for publication by invitation only. Unsolicited manuscripts will not be considered.

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For Research-Expository Surveys and Research Reports, the first page must consist of a *descriptive title*, followed by an *abstract* that summarizes the article in language suitable for workers in the general field (algebra, analysis, etc.). The *descriptive title* should be short but informative; useless or vague phrases such as “some remarks about” or “concerning” should be avoided. The *abstract* should be a brief technical description of the new material. Then, for Research Reports 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 be a sketch of proofs that may be addressed to experts. Included with the footnotes in each paper, there should be the 1991 *Mathematics Subject Classification* representing the primary and secondary subjects

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Screens should be set to values between 15% and 85%. Screens which fall outside of this range are too light or too dark to print correctly.

TeX files available. Beginning with the January 1992 issue of the *Bulletin* and the January 1996 issues of *Transactions*, *Proceedings*, *Mathematics of Computation*, and the *Journal of the AMS*, TeX files can be downloaded from e-MATH, starting from URL <http://www.ams.org/journals/>. Authors without Web access may request their files at the address given below after the article has been published. For *Bulletin* papers published in 1987 through 1991 and for *Transactions*, *Proceedings*, *Mathematics of Computation*, and the *Journal of the AMS* papers published in 1987 through 1995, TeX files are available upon request for authors without Web access by sending e-mail to file-request@ams.org or by contacting the Electronic Prepress Department, American Mathematical Society, P.O. Box 6248, Providence, RI 02940-6248. The request should include the title of the paper, the name(s) of the author(s), the name of the publication in which the paper has or will appear, and the volume and issue numbers if known. The TeX file will be sent to the author making the request after the article goes to the printer. If the requestor can receive Internet e-mail, please include the e-mail address to which the file should be sent. Otherwise please indicate a diskette format and postal address to which a disk should be mailed. **Note:** Because TeX production at the AMS sometimes requires extra fonts and macros that are not yet publicly available, TeX files cannot be guaranteed to run through the author’s version of TeX without errors. The AMS regrets that it cannot provide support to eliminate such errors in the author’s TeX environment.

Any inquiries concerning a paper that has been accepted for publication should be sent directly to the Electronic Prepress Department, American Mathematical Society, P. O. Box 6248, Providence, RI 02940-6248.

Research-Expository Surveys

This section is intended for reasonably broad expository surveys of a currently active area of mathematical research. To stress this fact, the name of the section

has been changed from “Research-Expository Papers” to “Research-Expository Surveys”. The level of exposition is expected to be such that a graduate student—or a research mathematician from a remote area—will be able to read an article in order to get an overview of a subject. A well-written article will include motivating problems and examples, some indication of the historical development of the subject, and of course the results and open problems that make it an interesting and exciting area of mathematics. In most cases proofs should be at most briefly sketched, and there should be a good bibliography whose main aim should be helping those wishing to pursue the subject further. Usually Research-Expository Surveys will be at most 40 pages long.

Certain of the Society’s Lecture Series, including the Gibbs Lectures, Colloquium Lectures, and Progress in Mathematics Lectures, traditionally appear in the Research-Expository Surveys, and those invited to give these lectures are informed of this tradition and of the above guidelines. Research-Expository Surveys are also frequently solicited by the Editorial Board, but unsolicited manuscripts are also encouraged; in particular, those invited to give invited hour addresses at meetings of the Society should consider writing up their lecture in a manner that meets the requirements of the preceding paragraph and submitting their manuscripts for consideration by the Editorial Board for the Research-Expository Surveys.

Research Reports

A Research Report is a timely, short (4–8 pages) report on a recent accomplishment in mathematical research. It should be written so as to be understandable by mathematicians who are not experts in the subject matter of the Report. The context giving significance to the research being reported on should be made clear, and the consequences or potential consequences should be described. Usually only the barest hint of the methods of proof should be given, although elements of the proof which are novel should be included. In any case, references should be given so that an interested reader can find the details. It is expected that Research Reports will frequently be written by specialists other than the individuals immediately involved in the research.

Research Reports are normally solicited by the Editor for Research Reports and the Board of Associate Editors. They cordially invite suggestions for topics and reporters. Unsolicited manuscripts, submitted to the Editor for Research Reports, will also be considered.

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