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Editorial

THE *Journal of Guidance, Control, and Dynamics* is an applications-oriented journal. Continuing the efforts of my predecessor an objective of mine has been to increase the number of applications-oriented papers. Unfortunately, over the past several years, probably due to the shrinking aerospace business, there has been a decline in the number of applications-oriented papers. In an attempt to bring more applications to the attention of JGCD readers, in this issue there is a special section of papers on the control of the Hubble Space Telescope.

The Hubble Space Telescope was launched on April 25, 1990. Shortly thereafter, in addition to the mirror problem, large perturbations in the pointing were detected. Subsequent analysis identified that the problem was due to thermally induced deformations of the solar arrays that were initiated by passage in and out of eclipse. Under the sponsorship of NASA Marshall Space Flight Center (MSFC), studies were initiated to explore new controller designs that would minimize these undesired perturbations. Ms. Angelia Bukley of MSFC was the COTR for these studies. The results of these studies were presented at the 1993 AAS Rocky Mountain Section Guidance and Control Conference at Keystone, CO. When I heard these presentations I thought their applications orientation would be a good contribution to the JGCD. I asked Ms. Bukley to be in charge of putting together a special issue of these papers. She has done an excellent job and I want to thank her for her efforts.

Kyle T. Alfriend
Editor-in-Chief