

EDITORIAL

This issue contains the first minireview published in *Journal of Computational Physics*. Minireviews are brief review articles that are intended to provide a roadmap to the future in new or rapidly changing fields. For example, the minireview in this issue argues the case for better tools in computational electromagnetics. Minireviews will appear at the end of the issue under their own heading, as will their titles in the table of contents.

The editors of *JCP* will be pleased to consider submitted minireviews. The reviews should be short, ten or fewer manuscript pages, with a brief reference list. They may be on any topic consistent with the mission of *JCP*, “to publish material that will assist in the reliable and accurate solution of scientific problems by numerical computation.” They should be prospective rather than retrospective, readable, interesting, and concise. Readers of *JCP* should, as a matter of course, turn to the minireviews to find out what is new and interesting in computational physics. Minireviews will be sent to referees, but the review process and publication upon acceptance will be expedited.

These past two years, the editors and the publishers have made progress in providing more timely publication in *JCP*. For example, the average time from submission until return of the reviews to the authors averaged less than four months last year, compared with five months the year before. There are more pages in each issue this year, so that the time from acceptance to publication is expected to decrease substantially. We now distinguish between major and minor revisions. In the case of minor revisions, we expect to accept the revised manuscript without further review, and we ask the authors to make their revisions within a month. In the case of major revisions, we expect the revised manuscript to differ substantially from the original, and we base our final decision on a second round of reviews. We discourage multiple revisions. They burden our editors and reviewers, and they introduce such long delays that multiply revised articles are unlikely to be timely when they finally appear in print.

Readers of *JCP* may find the *JCP* world-wide-web home page useful. On the home page are current meeting notices, an author index for the years 1990–1996, and a list of newly accepted *JCP* manuscripts. The home page may be accessed through the Academic Press home page (<http://www.apnet.com>), or directly at <http://gnarly.lanl.gov/Jcp/Jcp.html>.

I express my deep appreciation for Jan Muir’s many contributions to the smooth running of the journal. Jan is leaving Los Alamos shortly, and I will miss her. As my assistant, she has been the author’s advocate and has made sure that no author is forgotten.

J. U. Brackbill
Editor