



EDITOR-IN-CHIEF'S PREFACE

Readers who look at the inside front cover of JSV from time to time will already be aware that Dr. Maurice Petyt of I.S.V.R. joined the editorial staff as Editor at the Southampton office some months ago. It is nonetheless a great pleasure to me to extend to him this public and warm welcome. His accession means that he and the Editor-in-Chief together can manage better to keep the JSV "weekly shop" open for business. In addition the editorial judgment "database" at Southampton is considerably broadened, as the areas of expertise of the Editor and Editor-in-Chief are complementary.

I also warmly welcome the appointment to the Editorial Board of Professor B. A. T. Petersson, of Loughborough University. His areas of expertise have a reasonable overlap with those of the late Professor Manfred Heckl. He also helps lower the average age of Editorial Board members! We all realize that more could be done in this latter respect.

In addition to these editorial matters, I hope readers and authors will have noticed that during the past second year of weekly publication, the delay between acceptance and publication of a paper has dropped from around 10 months to as low as six months. With continued weekly publication in 1997 and the flexibility in issue sizes, it can be expected that authors can look forward to a rapidity of publication at least comparable to that currently being attained.

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