



From the Editor

With the completion of processing of all the papers submitted to the Bulletin of the Astronomical Society of India during 2011, we find that we have accepted a bit under forty per cent of the contributed papers. We take each contributed submission very seriously, and many such papers are reviewed independently by two reviewers before arriving at a decision. We do our best to be fair to the authors while endeavouring to maintain a good academic standard for the Bulletin. In addition to the contributed papers, the Bulletin also publishes reviews by leading workers in the field, which are also refereed. In the contributed submissions, we look for new and significant results in either observational, theoretical or technical developments before accepting a manuscript for publication. In this context, I would like to draw the attention of our readers to an editorial by Michael Berry (2012, Proc. R. Soc. A, 468, 1) titled 'Papers we reject'. The Proceedings of the Royal Society is a prestigious journal with the rejection rate approaching eighty per cent. Their "main reasons for rejection are ... papers are too specialized or report advances that are incremental rather than fundamental", although as Michael Berry states "there are some good papers we simply do not have space for." Some of the thoughts expressed in this editorial perhaps have a more wide-ranging relevance.

On another note, a special issue of the Bulletin devoted to studies of novae at different wavelengths, and consisting of both review and research articles by many leading workers in the field is planned for 2012 September. The papers which have so far been scheduled to appear in this issue are listed in our web page (<http://www.ncra.tifr.res.in/basi/accepted.htm>). Others wishing to contribute research/review articles on this theme are requested to contact either of the editors of this issue: djs@ncra.tifr.res.in (D.J. Saikia) or gca@iiap.res.in (G.C. Anupama). Members of the Astronomical Society of India who have opted for soft copies of BASI, but would like a hard copy of this special issue are requested to e-mail us (either basi@iiap.res.in or basi@ncra.tifr.res.in).

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