
ANNOUNCEMENT

Electronic Author Status Inquiry System

We are pleased to announce that effective 1 August 1995, authors of many manuscripts under consideration by APS journals will be able to obtain immediate information on the status of their papers via electronic mail or the World Wide Web—24 hours a day, 7 days a week—via a new, automatic Author Status Inquiry System.

◦ Information will be available regarding manuscripts submitted to *Physical Review A, C, D, E*, and *Letters*. *Physical Review B* is not included (it is currently understaffed and its editors are reluctant to introduce a perturbation in its editorial process at this time; they intend to await the results of the experiments being performed in the other journals). Comments and Replies are not included for any journal (the consideration of these is sufficiently complex as to defy easy summary via an automatic program, at least in this initial release).

- To use the system via electronic mail:

send an e-mail message to status@aps.org

use as the subject line the manuscript code number followed by the last name of the first author; for example:

LA1234 Jones

the body of the message should be empty (no human will read it)

- To use the system via the World Wide Web:

access the URL directly:

<http://publish.aps.org/STATUS/status.html>

or follow the 'Manuscript Status' links from the APS research-journals home page, whose URL is:

<http://publish.aps.org>

◦ All active manuscripts (other than Comments and Replies) submitted to the above journals will be included, unless the authors notify the Editorial Office that they do not wish their papers included.

◦ This system is intended to better serve our authors and to greatly reduce the time our staff must devote to answering status inquiries by phone or e-mail. The information supplied by the automatic system is drawn from the same database as used by those responding to such inquiries. In nearly all cases, the automatic system will supply at least as much information as has been available via phone or e-mail query in the past; in most cases, *more* information will be available. Therefore:

If you want to inquire regarding status of your paper, **always** (after 1 August) first use the automatic system.

If you feel the need for clarification of the information obtained from the automatic system, **do not telephone**.

To request clarification, you may use a service available on the Web interface or you may send an e-mail message to prX@aps.org (where $X = a, c, d, e$, or l denotes the journal considering the manuscript); use as the subject line, for example,

Status LA1234 Jones

Do not send another e-mail message to status@aps.org as no human will read it. Responses to messages to prX@aps.org will require human action, and should be expected within a few days. Please do not send such messages unless necessary, as that would defeat the purpose of the automatic system.

◦ In addition to showing information about the status of the review process, the automatic system will display other information from our database concerning the manuscript: Title; authors; addresses (postal and e-mail), phone, and FAX numbers of authors; journal section; PACS numbers. Authors will have an opportunity to check this information and as needed submit corrections, via a service available on the Web interface or via an e-mail message to prX@aps.org with subject line, for example,

Correction LA1234 Jones

◦ We encourage general comments and suggestions regarding this system. Use a service available on the Web interface, or send an e-mail message to feedback@aps.org (do not use this address for communications regarding a specific manuscript). Comments will be collected and reviewed, but *not* necessarily acknowledged or responded to. Effort on this project is limited, and evolution of the service can be expected to be slow.