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Journal of Molecular Graphics and Modelling

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/JMGM



Editorial

Topical perspectives

In this issue, we introduce a new category of article – *Topical Perspectives*. These *Topical Perspective* articles are designed to summarize, in a definitive and authoritative manner, the status and future of an active, forefront area of molecular modeling, which can include new graphic programs, tools for doing computation, and new programming paradigms amongst others.

The first *Topical Perspective* is by the Klaus Schulten group at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign on "GPU-Accelerated Molecular Modeling Coming of Age." The timeliness of the GPU topic is highlighted by the fact that on Friday May 28, 2010 the number 2 supercomputer in the Top 500 list was a GPU-accelerated machine. This computer beat the LANL RoadRunner machine for the number 2 spot: http://www.top500.org/lists/2010/06/pressrelease. A second *Topical Perspective* on "Massive Threading and Parallelism in Visualization and Simulation" by Robert Farber from PNNL will appear shortly. We plan to make *Topical Perspectives* a regular feature in the journal.

The recommended length of a *Topical Perspectives* article is about that of a standard *JMGM* article, i.e., about 6–10 printed pages. Please note that color figures in these articles will be printed in the journal without additional charge. To support the 3D modeling aspects or experimental procedures in these perspectives, videos can be submitted, which will be embedded in the final article.

In general, the *Topical Perspectives* will result from invitations from the Editors, and will be peer reviewed and edited as regular articles. However, if you have an idea for the submission of a *Topical Perspectives* article, please contact one of the Editors; suggestions and self-nominations are most welcome.

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Available online 22 July 2010