

Editorial

AIMS Materials Science: State of the Journal Report in 2020 and plan in 2021

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Abstract: This editorial note is dedicated to the 2020 Journal report of AIMS Materials Science, which was run by AIMS Press. After a brief summary about the annual development in 2020, future developments of the journal in 2021 are proposed.

1. Journal annual report

On behalf of the *AIMS Materials Science* editorial team, we are happy to report that the Citescore for *AIMS Materials Science* for 2020 is 2.1, which places the journal in a good place in the field of materials science. While the number of submissions continued an upward trend from 2018 to 2020, the number of articles published kept steady (slightly decrease as shown in Figure 1) to improve the quality of the published papers. The number of citations also increased (Figures 2). Tables 1 and 2 list the top 10 articles with highest HTML views and highest citations, respectively. Our acceptance rate for 2020 was 32.4% and the median time from first submission to publication was 86.5 days, a first decision was provided to authors approximately 49 days after submission. Collectively, the journal statistics suggest that *AIMS Materials Science* continues to be an important resource for researchers in the field of Materials Science. We are grateful to those who served on the journal staff and its editorial board as well as reviewers for providing the support and feedback necessary to find, develop and publish high-quality materials.

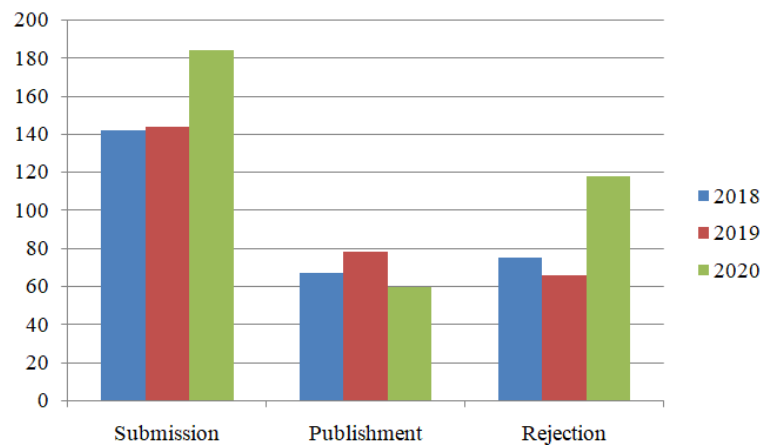


Figure 1. Number of submissions and publications in the past 3 years.

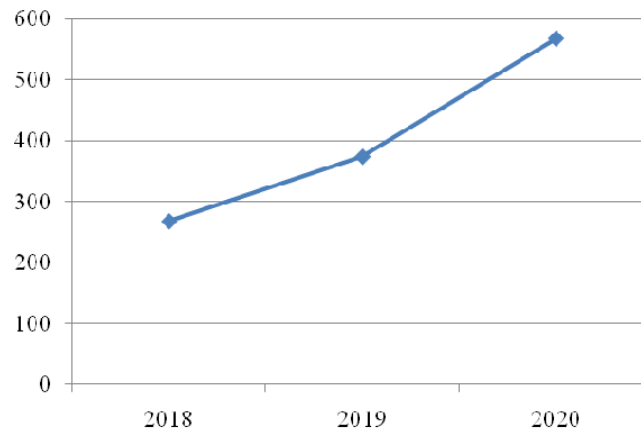


Figure 2. Citations of AIMS Materials Sciences papers in the past 3 years.

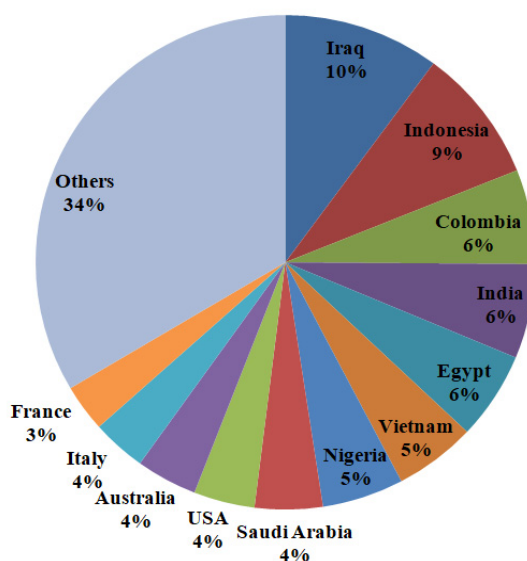
Table 1. The top 10 articles with highest HTML views.

Title	Views
Degradation properties and metabolic activity of alginate and chitosan polyelectrolytes for drug delivery and tissue engineering applications	9091
Smart systems related to polypeptide sequences	6069
Tunnel oxide passivated rear contact for large area n-type front junction silicon solar cells providing excellent carrier selectivity	5740
Inorganic alkali lead iodide semiconducting $APbI_3$ ($A = Li, Na, K, Cs$) and NH_4PbI_3 films prepared from solution: Structure, morphology, and electronic structure	5631
Possibilities and challenges of scanning hard X-ray spectro-microscopy techniques in material sciences	5586
Encapsulation of probiotics: Insights into academic and industrial approaches	5557
Composite anodes for lithium-ion batteries: status and trends	4988
Optical properties of lanthanides in condensed phase, theory and applications	4940
The directed preparation of TiO_2 nanotubes film on FTO substrate via hydrothermal method for gas sensing application	4902
Process, structure, property and applications of metallic glasses	4734

Table 2. The top 10 articles with highest citations.

Title	Citations
Degradation properties and metabolic activity of alginate and chitosan polyelectrolytes for drug delivery and tissue engineering applications	54
Photoactivated fuel cells (PhotoFuelCells). An alternative source of renewable energy with environmental benefits	35
Optical properties of lanthanides in condensed phase, theory and applications	33
Encapsulation of probiotics: insights into academic and industrial approaches	27
A review on smart self-sensing composite materials for civil engineering applications	26
Nanocellulose as a promising sustainable material for biomedical applications	26
A review on analytical failure criteria for composite materials	25
Inorganic alkali lead iodide semiconducting $APbI_3$ ($A = Li, Na, K, Cs$) and NH_4PbI_3 films prepared from solution: Structure, morphology, and electronic structure	23
Overview of thin film deposition techniques	23
Titania based nanocomposites as a photocatalyst: A review	19

In 2020, we received 184 submissions, of which 56 have been published online and 11 are still processing. In total, we published 60 papers which consists of 48 research papers, 11 review papers, and 1 editorial in 2020. Figure 3 shows the diversity of the author distribution. It is pleasing to see so many countries represented among our authors.

**Figure 3.** Author's country of origin distribution.

The journal's Editorial Board is now made up of 92 senior expert members representing a diverse range of research experience, expertise and countries, and 16 members have joined in 2020. More than 80 percent of our EB members are coming from USA, China, Italy, Canada, Australia, Germany, Spain, Japan, and UK (Figure 4). In the term of editorial board, most members contributed a lot to our journal.

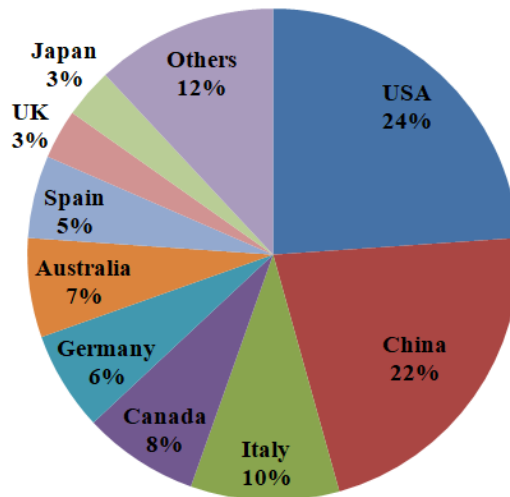


Figure 4. Country distribution of editorial board members.

Finally, it has been a great year at AIMS Materials Science. Your support of the journal has been fantastic. It is through your efforts that the journal continues to be a useful resource for academics, students, and engineers. We are greatly appreciative of your hard work. Do not hesitate to contact us with ideas, comments, criticisms, words of wisdom, etc., on how to better serve the materials research community.

2. Plan in 2021

The goal for us to run this journal is to secure the best scientific authors and papers that ensures AIMS Materials Science to attract more citations and to stay at the forefront of professional publications in materials, so that we provide the scientific community with a high-quality journal that will address global challenges and new frontiers in the field of materials science and engineering. To achieve this goal, following major developments are considered in 2021:

Firstly, the further development of journal is inseparable from citations. In 2021, we hope to attract more reputable scholars in the materials science field to contribute, especially these authors from developed countries and regions which may be helpful in increasing citescors. We will set up more special issues and topics to call for papers. Whether you have suitable topics, candidates for the guest editor of special issue, or authors with the intention to submit, please do not hesitate to recommend them for us.

Secondly, we will continue to look for more outstanding editorial board members in the field of materials science, especially in the processing of metal and alloy materials, carbon materials, nanomaterials, and polymers and polymer technology, etc. If you have any suitable names, please do not hesitate to recommend them to us, either.

Thirdly, to make the journal increase their visibility, availability, and readership, we will explore the effective ways by which journals can get their publication indexed by more leading databases such as Web of Science.

Finally, we need to reduce the processing time of our journal. Our goal is to reduce the publication medium time from 86 days to 76 days in 2021.



AIMS Press

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