

NHM, 19(1): 106–113. DOI: 10.3934/nhm.2024005 Received: 25 July 2023 Revised: 20 December 2023 Accepted: 20 December 2023 Published: 17 January 2024

https://www.aimspress.com/journal/NHM

Editorial

2023 Annual Report

Networks and Heterogeneous Media Editorial Office*

AIMS Press, Springfield, MO 65801-2604, USA

* Correspondence: Email: nhm@aimspress.org.

1. The Journal

Networks and Heterogeneous Media (NHM) was founded in 2006 and has been growing successfully almost for 20 years. Responding to the journal's needs, NHM began its transformation at the end of 2022, officially changing to an OA publishing model in 2023 for the first time. From the start of the new submission system in August 2022 until December 20, 2023, the journal received a total of **330 submissions**, and **80 were online**, with a **rejection rate of 73%**, which shows that, despite the increase in publication, NHM has always maintained high standards and strict requirements. This would not have been possible without the support of our editor-in-chief and editorial board team. In the meantime, thanks to the whole EB for the work done, our editorial board has been enlarged this year with the inclusion of some outstanding young scholars. Next, journal development, manuscript processing, and future perspectives will be presented to share NHM's work and development this year.

Submission	Online	Reject/Withdraw
330	80	217/25

Data source from August 01, 2022–December 20, 2023.

2. Manuscript processing

Here you will find the processing time for each stage of the paper, the turnaround time for publication, and the national & regional statistics of the authors.

2.1 Manuscript processing time

The processing time of the manuscript comprises three measurement indicators: Average Publication Time (APT), Submission to First Decision Time (TFD), and Acceptance to Publication Time (ATOP). Each indicator includes annual average time and quarterly time.

1. APT

In the figure, the horizontal axis represents the quarter-year, the vertical axis represents the number of days, and the bar graph represents the average value of APT for each quarter. The red line indicates the annual average ATP for 2022, while the green line represents the same for 2023.



Since August 2023, the review period for NHM has been prolonged from 14 to 30 days. Consequently, it is evident that starting from the second quarter of 2023, the publication cycle of NHM has progressively extended from approximately 2.6 months to 4.8 months. Ideally, the Average Publication Time (APT) for a manuscript in an Open Access (OA) journal is around 60 days.

2. TFD

TFD is the time from receipt of the manuscript to the first decision, including the time for the editorial board to do a brief check and the reviewers to review the manuscript. The average TFD for 2023 is 58.75 days. It is worth noting that the editors also waited for reviewers for much longer than 14 days when the required review period was 14 days. Similarly, after the necessary review time of 30 days, editors waited much longer than 30 days for reviewers, and in some holiday months, such as Christmas, it even went to 45–60 days.



This section shows the average time from manuscript acceptance to publication, usually 10 days, which is influenced by the typesetting editor, the English editor, and the author's cooperation. The average ATOP for 2023 is 19.34 days.



2.2 Distribution of countries

This section presents the geographic distribution of submitted manuscripts and published manuscripts. The distribution of author groups, serving as an indicator of a journal's future focus, constitutes a broad and influential category. This strong group has the potential to enhance the journal's citation impact, fostering its growth and prosperity.



This view provides the counts of Submitted manuscripts per region and country. The region and country are derived by the affiliation of the author. The top 10 countries list is computed using Submitted articles descending for 2023.



Submissions to NHM are mostly from countries in Asia, such as China, Saudi Arabia, Pakistan, etc.; final publications are mostly from countries in Asia and Europe, such as China, India, France, Italy, etc.

3. Journal development

3.1 Editorial board countries and regions

Currently, NHM has 56 editorial board members from 14 countries on five continents, with the highest number of editorial board members from Europe, followed by Asia and North America.



Distribution of Editorial Board countries

This year we have joined six new members of the Editorial Board, whose information is shown in the table below. We welcome them and hope to attract more outstanding scholars to join our team.

Name	Position	Affiliation
Xian-Ming Gu	Associate Professor	School of Mathematics, Southwestern University of Finance
		and Economics (SWUFE), Chengdu, China
Dante Kalise	Senior Lecturer	Department of Mathematics, AMMP Section Imperial
		College London, UK
Emiliano Cristiani	Professor	Istituto per le Applicazioni del Calcolo, Consiglio Nazionale
		delle Ricerche, Rome, Italy
Eduardo Casas Renteria	Professor	Department of Applied Mathematics and Computer Science,
		E.T.S.I. Industriales and Telecommunication, University of
		Cantabria, Santander, Spain
Giuseppe Maria Coclite	Professor	Department of Mechanics, Mathematics and Management
		Polytechnic University of Bari, Italy
Delio Mugnolo	Professor	Faculty of Mathematics and Computer Science University of
		Hagen, Hagen, Germany

3.2 Article metrics

Statistics of the most cited manuscripts of Web of Science in the last five years and the last two years, where the "*" after the title indicates that the manuscript is from a special issue manuscript.

1. Most Cited Articles, 2023 (Last Five Years)

Title	Authors	Publication Year	Total Citations	Average per Year
Multiscale models of COVID-19 with mutations	Nicola Bellomo,	2022	29	14.5
and variants*	Diletta Burini,		_/	1.10

	Nisrine Outada			
Emergent behavior of cucker-smale model with	Young-Pil Choi,	2010	21	4.2
normalized weights and distributed time delays	Cristina Pignotti	2019	21	4.2
Non-local multi-class traffic flow models	Felisia Angela Chiarello,	2010	17	3.4
Non-local multi-class traine now models	Paola Goatin	2019	17	
Opinion formation in voting processes under	Sergei Yu Pilyugin,	2010	16	3.2
bounded confidence	M. C. Campi	2017	10	5.2
	Luis Almeida,			
Energy and implicit discretization of the Fokker-	Federica Bubba,	2019	16	3.2
Planck and Keller-Segel type equations*	Benoit Perthame,	2017	10	5.2
	Camille Pouchol			
	Hyeontae Jo,			
Deep neural network approach to forward-inverse	Hwijae Son,	2020	13	3.25
problems	Hyung Ju Hwang,	2020	15	
	Eun Heui Kim			
	Jose Antonio Carrillo,			
Relative entropy method for the relaxation limit of	Yingping Peng,	2020	11	2 75
hydrodynamic models*	Aneta Wroblewska-	2020	11	2.15
	Kaminska			
Homogenization of Bingham flow in thin porous	Maria Anguiano,	2020	11	2.75
media	Renata Bunoiu	2020	11	
Incompressible limit of a continuum model of	Pierre Degond,			
tissue growth for two cell populations	Sophie Hecht,	2020	11	2.75
ussue growin for two cen populations	Nicolas Vauchelet			
Existence results and stability analysis for a	Vaibhay Mehandiratta			
nonlinear fractional boundary value problem on a	Mani Mehra	2021	10	3 33
circular ring with an attached edge: a study of	Guenter Leugering	2021	2021 10	
fractional calculus on metric graph	Guenner Deugernig			

Note: "*" Stands for Contributions to the Special Issue. Last Updated: December 2023 Source: Web of Science

2. Most Cited Articles, 2023 (Last Two Years)

Title	Authors	Publication Year	Total Citations	Average per Year
Multiseele models of COVID 10 with	Nicola Bellomo,			
mutations and variants*	Diletta Burini,	2022	29	14.5
mutations and variants.	Nisrine Outada			
Compactness property of the linearized	Stephane Brull,			
Boltzmann operator for a diatomic single	Marwa Shahine,	2022	5	2.5
gas model	Philippe Thieullen			
An sir-like kinetic model tracking	Rossella Della Marca,	2022	5	2.5

individuals' viral load*	Nadia Loy,				
	Andrea Tosin				
	Prateek Kunwar,				
A study of computational and concentual	Oleksandr Markovichenko,				
A study of computational and conceptual	Monique Chyba,	2022	5	2.5	
complexities of compartment and agent	Yuriy Mileyko,	2022	5	2.3	
based models*	Alice Koniges,				
	Thomas Lee				
Homogenization of nonlinear nonlocal					
diffusion equation with periodic and	Juniong Unen,	2023	3	3	
stationary structure	Yandin Tang				
Global solution to the Cauchy problem of	Callerer Ca				
fractional drift diffusion system with	Calnong Gu,	2023	3	3	
power-law nonlinearity	Yandin Tang				
T 7 • .•	Rinaldo M. Colombo,				
vaccination strategies through intra-	Francesca Marcellini,	2022	3	1.5	
compartmental dynamics*	Elena Rossi				
A measure model for the spread of viral	Xiaoqian Gong,	2022	2	15	
infections with mutations*	Benedetto Piccoli	2022	3	1.5	
	Qi Luo,				
	Ryan Weightman,				
	Sean T. McQuade, Mateo Diaz,				
Ortimization of an article for COMP					
10 in the midet of a new demis*	Emmanuel Trelat,	2022	3	1.5	
19 in the midst of a pandemic*	William Barbour,				
	Dan Work,				
	Samitha Samaranayake,				
	Benedetto Piccoli				
Asymptotic flocking of the relativistic	Hyamiin Ahn	2023	2	2	
Cucker-Smale model with time delay	rryunjin Ann	2023	<i>L</i>	۷	

Note: "*" Stands for Contributions to the Special Issue. Last Updated: December 2023 Source: Web of Science

3.3 Special issues

Only the number of submissions and rejections, publications for the special issue were counted from August 1, 2022, to December 20, 2023.

Special Issue Submissions	Rejection and withdrawal	Published
136	53/12	60

The data counts the submissions, rejections, and published manuscripts for special issues established in 2023.

Title	Established	Contribute	Accept	Reject
Recent advances in numerical methods for integer-and	2022 08 23	17	20	18
fractional-order PDEs	2022-08-23	47	29	10
Nonlocal conservation laws	2022-08-24	7	5	1
New trends on discrete networks	2022-09-27	31	12	15
Traffic and autonomy	2023-01-11	7	7	0
Advanced Mathematical Methodologies to Manage Pandemics	2023-05-04	9	2	3
Interdisciplinary Approaches for Understanding Networks and	2023-05-09	17	5	11
Heterogeneous Media				
Numerical Simulation and Mathematical Modelling	2023-11-03	14	0	6
Nonlinear PDEs in material science	2023-11-16	0	0	0
Analysis of Analytical, Computational and ML-based	2022 11 20	0	0	0
Approaches for Differential and Integral Equations	2023-11-29	U	0	U

4. Summary and perspective

4.1. Summary

The successful publication of 80 excellent papers in 2023, the first year of the official conversion to an OA journal, would not have been possible without the support of the editorial board members, the editor-in-chief, and the contributions of authors and reviewers. Although the impact factor has dropped a bit from the previous year, it is believed that it will gradually increase.

4.2. Perspective

At present, there are some problems that we need to improve in the next step: the manuscript processing cycle is longer than other OA journals; the editorial board needs to be further expanded, and the promotion of the journal needs to be further improved.

Next year, everything will be better.



©2023 the Author(s), licensee AIMS Press. This is an open access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution License (https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0)