

Dear Reader, Dear Author,

with the current volume number 343 in 2022, *Astronomische Nachrichten / Astronomical Notes (AN)* now looks back to 200 years of publishing. However, like last year, we are still in the familiar Covid pandemic situation and continue suffering from its many restrictions and side effects. Also science is affected, or equivalently said, the writing and submitting of new scientific papers and its related work around. We noticed less submissions of regular paper in 2021 compared to the years before but an increase in special-issue papers, and likely will see the same trend in 2022. Yet volume 342 (2021) covered ten issues with approximately 150 peer-reviewed research articles with a total of nearly 1200 pages.

As before, the [Leibniz-Institute for Astrophysics Potsdam \(AIP\)](#) continues to host the editorial office in close collaboration with [Wiley-VCH GmbH](#) in Berlin. It again covered a large variety of topics from instrumentation projects and observing campaigns to theoretical studies and numerical simulations. AN's most recent ISI-Journal Impact Factor is now 0.66.

Three special issues were edited in 2021, and similar will be the case in 2022. One issue was the 6th Workshop of Compact Steep Spectrum and Gigahertz-Peaked Spectrum Radio Sources (CSSGPS2020) organized by a team around Magdalena Kunert-Bajraszewska of Torun, Poland, which appeared as double issue 9-10 in volume 342. Another one was IWARA2020 on "From Quarks to Cosmos", the 9th International Workshop on Astronomy and Relativistic Astrophysics organized by a team around Peter Otto Hess from Mexico and Cesar A. Zen Vasconcellos from Brazil, which took place in Mexico City in September 2020. It appeared as issue 1-2 in volume 342 and featured another issue just for the many review articles (issue 5 in 2021).

From 2022 on, AN is moving from sequential page numbering to the use of eLocators, which are already widely used in publishing. An eLocator is a unique identifier for an online article and serves the same function as page numbers in the print world. The eLocator appears as the final identifier in a citation, replacing the page number; it is an equally reliable means of research and citation.

Another change concerns the paper submission portal for authors. AN articles are managed via the ScholarOne system which includes a modern submission portal (<https://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/asna>). So far it was possible to submit articles also via our independent upload form or simply as an attachment via e-mail (an@aip.de). All this will remain possible in 2022 but we now introduce a time limit when we switch paper submission to solely via ScholarOne, that is Jan. 1, 2023.

As already introduced last year, AN entered the article [open access](#) era as it benefits from a number of agreements Wiley has in place with institutions. Authors from an institution affiliated with an open access deal may publish primary research and review articles open access at no charge to the author. Current [open access deals](#) exist with institutions from Austria, Finland, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Norway, Spain, Sweden, The Netherlands, and the UK. The effect of these open access initiatives becomes evident in an increased number of open access articles in AN as well as increased usage numbers. However, as a consequence of increasing open access content, our series of free editor's choice articles has been discontinued. As a so-called hybrid journal, AN remains a subscription-based journal. Except for open access articles, no page charges are being levied.

Sincerely yours,
Klaus G. Strassmeier, Editor-in-Chief
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