

2021 R&D Journal Editorial Letter

Kristiaan Schreve (Editor)

2021 was a good improvement over 2020. The new papers received is still low, but picking up from 2020. The required number of 10 papers were published. Interestingly, four papers had at least one international author. The slump in 2020 was not a problem for the caretakers of the SciELO index and they informed me that quite a number of journals struggled in 2020. Nonetheless, it is good to have the numbers up again.

Two new editorial board members must still be appointed. This is a matter that stands over from 2018.

Table 1 Summary Turnover Statistics

Year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Papers received	19	16	10	22	8	24	6	9
Papers rejected by editor before review	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Papers rejected (Total)	10	5	2	4	2	5	4	1
Papers published	7	11	6	12	10	10	3	10
Total Processing time (avg) [months]	8.7	6.1	6.5	7.1	7.6	4.3	8.1	6.2
Time to do first review (avg) [months]	7.5	3.6	3.8	3.8	4.5	2.9	5.7	3.6
Reviewers contacted (average)	4.9	5.7	6.0	5.2	6.1	4.2	3.2	3.8
Reviewers contacted (Total)	89	97	48	94	85	71	29	73
Reviews received (average)	1.6	1.6	2.6	2.5	2.6	1.6	1.9	1.6
Reviews received (Total)	29	27	21	45	37	27	17	30
Reviewers used with Non-SA address (Total)	4	8	5	6	8	9	0	3

We must acknowledge the great efforts of our reviewers for the quality of the reviews we regularly receive. We work hard to select reviewers from all over the world who are specialists in their respective fields.

Most importantly, we thank and congratulate the authors who contributed in 2021. Their publications are listed at the end of this letter.

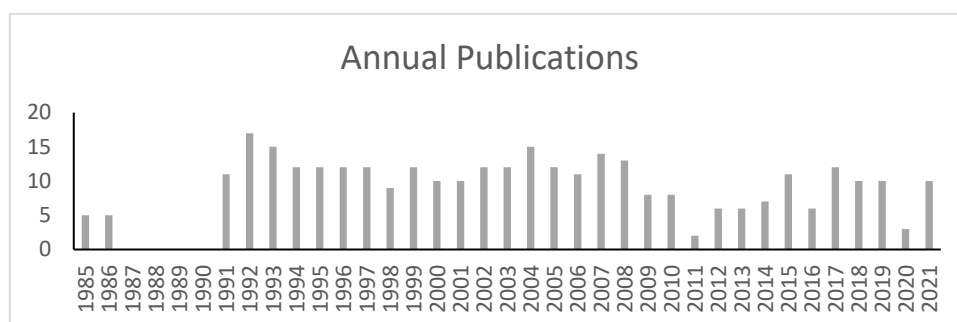


Figure 1 Annual number of publications since start of the journal.

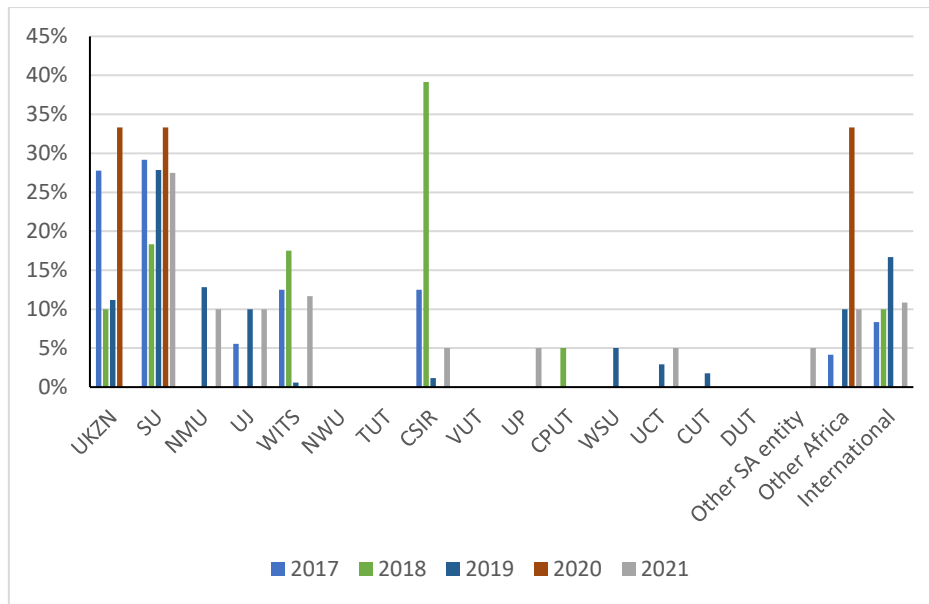


Figure 2 Author Affiliation: Percentage Authors per Paper (Published Papers)

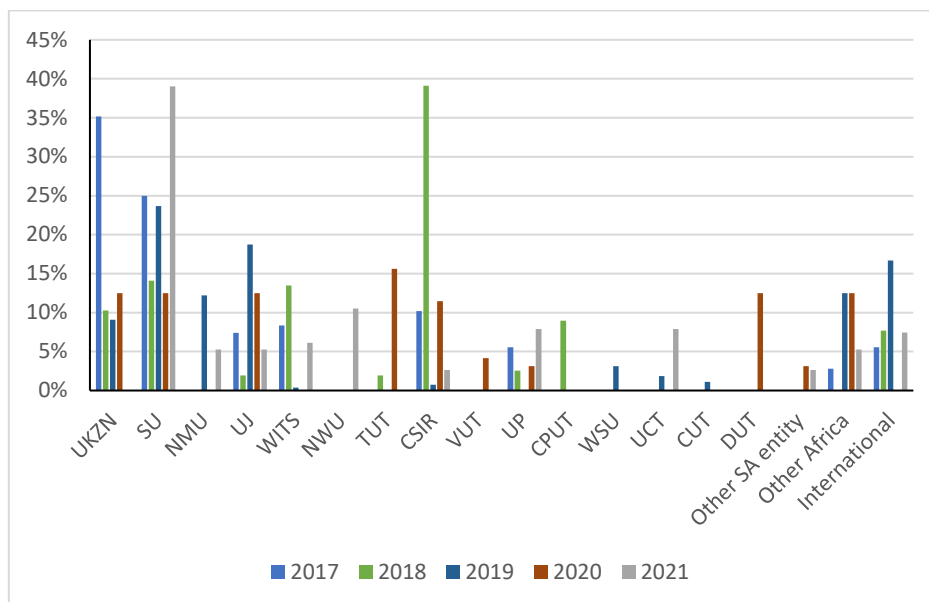


Figure 3 Author Affiliation: Percentage Authors per Paper (Submitted Papers)

2021 Publications

S. Poprawa, L. Dala. **Monte Carlo Simulation of Supply and Demand for Payload Limited Routes.** *R&D Journal*, 37:1-8, 2021.

L. van der Westhuizen, I. A. Gorlach. **Performance Optimisation of Coal-fired Boiler Control using Flownex® Simulation Environment and AI.** *R&D Journal*, 37:9-18, 2021.

N. Agenbag, C. McDuling. **Fatigue Life Testing of Locally Additive Manufactured AlSi10Mg Test Specimens.** *R&D Journal*, 37:19-25, 2021.

B. Rajkumarsingh and D. Totah. **Drowsiness Detection using Android Application and Mobile Vision Face API.** *R&D Journal*, 37:26-34, 2021.

G. M. Bekkera, C. J. Meyerb, S. J. van der Spuy. **Performance Enhancement of an Induced Draught Axial Flow Fan Through Pressure Recovery.** *R&D Journal*, 37:35-44, 2021.

A. Potgieter, M. Bhamjee, S. Kruger. **Modelling of a Heated Gas-solid Fluidised Bed using Eulerian Based Models.** *R&D Journal*, 37:45-57, 2021.

N. Basson, W. F. Fuls. **Over-attenuation and Short-term Overheating in Pendant-type Superheaters.** *R&D Journal*, 37:58-69, 2021.

A. Chen, K-J. Kang, F. Kienhöfer. **The Structural Design of a High-Performance WBD Brake Disc.** *R&D Journal*, 37:70-79, 2021.

F. H. Bresler, J. H. Müller, G. Venter. **Investigating an Inverse Finite Element Approach for Characterising Soft Materials.** *R&D Journal*, 37:80-88, 2021.

M.R. Meas, J.F. Bruwer, M.L. Combrinck, T.M. Harms. **Simulating Turbulent Air Flow Past a Hemispherical Body.** *R&D Journal*, 37:89-95, 2021.

Table 2 Full Turnover Statistics

Year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Papers received	19	16	10	22	8	24	6	9
Papers rejected by editor before review	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Papers rejected after review	5	5	2	4	2	5	4	1
Papers rejected (Total)	10	5	2	4	2	5	4	1
Papers published	7	11	6	12	10	10	3	10
Papers under review	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Papers provisionally accepted	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3
Papers withdrawn		1	0	2	2	2	1	2
Total Processing time (min) [months]	0	0	2	1	3	0	0	0
Total Processing time (max) [months]	27	21	13	25	13	10	20	24
Total Processing time (avg) [months]	8.7	6.1	6.5	7.1	7.6	4.3	8.1	6.2
Time to do first review (min) [months]	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Time to do first review (max) [months]	27	12	9	8	11	8	9	15
Time to do first review (avg) [months]	7.5	3.6	3.8	3.8	4.5	2.9	5.7	3.6
Final Manuscript (min) [months]	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Final Manuscript (max) [months]	4	4	2	8	6	3	0	20
Final Manuscript (avg) [months]	0.6	0.9	0.5	1.3	1.4	0.4	0.0	1.9
Final Proof Prep (min) [months]	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Final Proof Prep (max) [months]	5	6	10	10	5	5	13	4
Final Proof Prep (avg) [months]	0.6	1.5	2.3	1.7	1.5	0.8	2.4	0.6
Reviewers contacted (min)	0	0	3	2	0	0	1	0
Reviewers contacted (max)	16	16	14	11	17	15	6	8
Reviewers contacted (average)	4.9	5.7	6.0	5.2	6.1	4.2	3.2	3.8
Reviewers contacted (Total)	89	97	48	94	85	71	29	73
Reviewers declined (min)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Reviewers declined (max)	3	7	7	3	4	5	1	3
Reviewers declined (average)	0.7	1.5	1.4	0.6	1.2	0.8	0.3	0.5
Reviewers declined (Total)	12	26	11	10	17	14	3	10
Reviews received (min)	0	0	2	2	0	0	1	0
Reviews received (max)	3	3	4	5	5	3	3	3
Reviews received (average)	1.6	1.6	2.6	2.5	2.6	1.6	1.9	1.6
Reviews received (Total)	29	27	21	45	37	27	17	30
Reviewers used with Non-SA address (Total)	4	8	5	6	8	9	0	3