

# Editorial: On the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Ocean Dynamics and farewell to Jörg-Olaf Wolff

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“Ocean Dynamics (OD)”, which is published today by Springer Nature, was founded in 2001 from the German language “Deutsche Hydrographische Zeitschrift (DHZ)” (Journal of Hydrography) which was previously published from 1948 until 2000 by Bundesamt Für Seeschifffahrt und Hydrographie (Federal Maritime and Hydrographic Agency). The first Chief Editors of OD were Gerd Becker and Jörg-Olaf Wolff. Today, when OD celebrates its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary since its inception, the journal is having another transition when Jörg-Olaf Wolff is retiring from his role as Editor-in-Chief. In the name of the publisher and the editorial board I would like to take this opportunity to thank Jörg for his tremendous work and dedication to the journal over the past 20 years – his efforts made OD an influential international journal in the field. Over those 20 years, the journal grew from publication of ~20-50 papers per year in the first 8 years to ~100-140 papers over the past 10 years (Fig. 1).

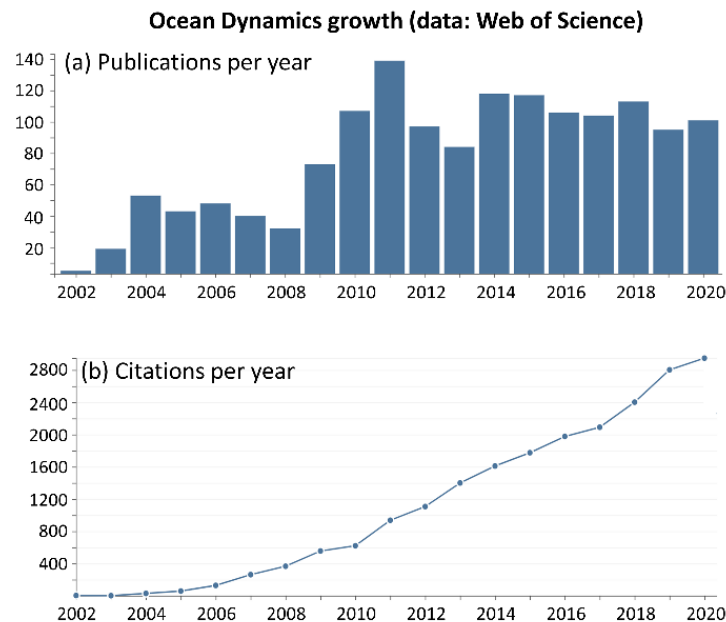


Fig. 1. The growth of Ocean Dynamics in **a.** publications and **b.** citations since the foundation of the journal in 2001 (data from Web of Science web site).

The last couple of years were especially challenging to scientific research and publication due to the impact of the global COVID-19 pandemic, so special thanks are also due to all the authors, editors, reviewers, and support personnel at Springer Nature who continued their hard work under difficult circumstances. A unique niche of Ocean Dynamics was the publication of substantial number of special issues dedicated to peer reviewed papers from international scientific conferences. Some 45 such “Topical Collections” were published in OD during the past 10 years from major international workshops, such as “International Liège Colloquium on Ocean Dynamics”, “International Workshop on Modeling the Ocean (IWMO)”, “Coastal Ocean Forecasting Science supported by GODAE”, “Joint Numerical Sea Modelling Group Workshop (JONSMOD)”, “Physics of Estuaries and Coastal Seas (PECS)”, “International Conference on Cohesive Sediment Transport”, “International Workshop on Wave Hindcasting and Forecasting” and more. Unfortunately, many international conferences were postponed during the pandemic, but we hope to continue this tradition of Topical Collections when these meetings return to normal. A special emphasis of OD was always its support of international collaborations in research, with a diverse editorial board and publication of many papers with co-authors representing a wide range of countries and regions. We hope to expand the authorship to have more scientists from developing countries and to expand publications to new cutting-age research areas- any suggestions for new Topical Collections will be greatly appreciated.

While the basic aims and scope of Ocean Dynamics, to publish high-quality peer-reviewed articles in areas of research that include theoretical, computational, and observational oceanography have not changed, there are a few areas where the journal can expand. These include for example, more interdisciplinary studies that encompass biological, chemical, and physical oceanography, studies on impacts of climate change including ocean dynamics-human interactions, and regional studies on bodies of water or coasts that have not been researched much in the past. Jörg-Olaf Wolff left us big shoes to fill, but with the help of the publisher, editors, reviewers, and scientists worldwide we hope to continue the success of Ocean Dynamics for decades to come. Thank you all from the new Editor-in-Chief.