



INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF HYDROGEOLOGISTS
the worldwide groundwater organisation

Publishing in Hydrogeology Journal

Clifford Voss
HJ Executive Editor



INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF HYDROGEOLOGISTS

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Early Career Hydrogeologists' Network (ECHN) and
Hydrogeology Journal (HJ) Session

Tips for writing a knock-out paper
Meet the editor(s) of Hydrogeology Journal –
Question time for Early Career Hydrogeologists

Tuesday 17th September 2013
IAH Congress 2013, Perth, Australia



http://www.linkedin.com/groups?gid=3717583&trk=hb_side_g



INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF HYDROGEOLOGISTS

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Speakers: Clifford Voss (HJ Executive Editor)

Vincent Post (HJ Editor)

Luk Peeters, Menggui Jin
(HJ Associate Editors)

Chairs: John Chilton (Former HJ Associate Editor)
Judith Flügge (ECHN Director)

Organizer: Viviana Re (ECHN Co-Director)



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Publishing in Hydrogeology Journal

- Worldwide forum for hydrogeology and related sciences
- Theory and practice
- Inclusive of studies and authors in all countries
- Peer-reviewed articles (3+ reviews)
- English language support



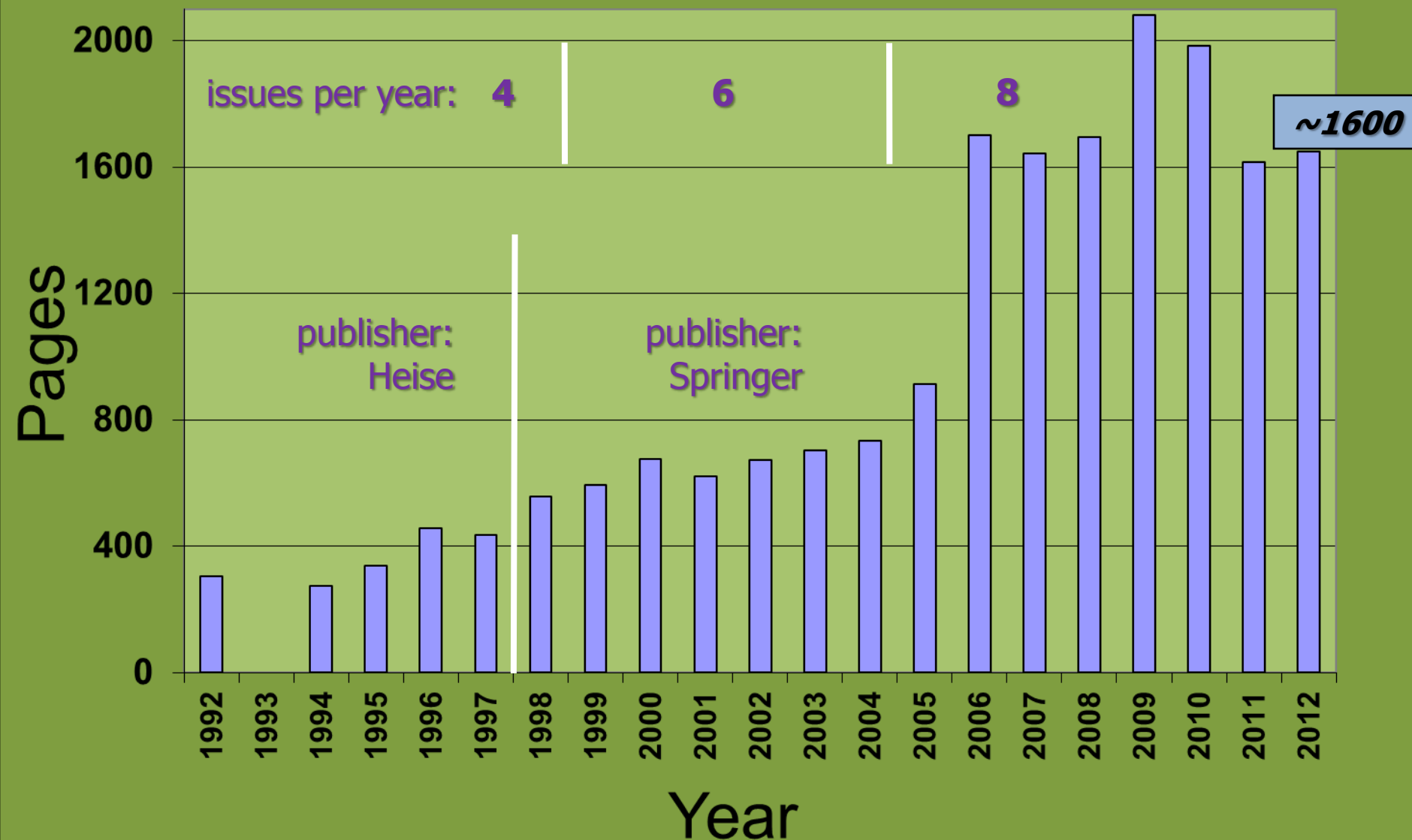
Publishing in Hydrogeology Journal

- In 20 years:
Published >**1600 articles**
Authors from >**65 countries**
- Currently submitted
~ 400 manuscripts/year
- Accepted for publication
~ 30% of those submitted
(~ 120 each year)



Hydrogeology Journal

Printed pages per year



HJ – ISI Impact Factor





Location of Studies Reported in a 2-year period (2005-2006)

Argentina	2	Ireland	1	Pakistan	1
Australia	4	Italy	2	Palestine	3
Bangladesh	1	Japan	1	Poland	1
Belgium	1	Jordan	1	Portugal	2
Canada	4	Korea	1	Saudi Arabia	1
Chad	1	Kyrgyzstan	1	Spain	2
China	7	Lebanon	1	Sweden	1
Egypt	1	Lithuania	1	Switzerland	1
Ethiopia	1	Mexico	5	Turkey	2
Finland	1	New Zealand	1	UK	1
Germany	1	Nicaragua	1	USA	12
Greece	1	Nigeria	2	Vietnam	1
India	10	Norway	1	Zimbabwe	1
Iran	1	Oman	2		

HJ Theme Issues

		Guest Editors
1998	Tribute to Eugene S. Simpson	Shlomo Neuman and Michael Campana
1999	Groundwater as a Geologic Agent	Joseph Toth
2000	Groundwater and Microbial Processes	Barbara Bekins
2001	Confining Units	Vicki Remenda
2002	Groundwater Recharge	Bridget Scanlon and Peter Cook
2003	Hydromechanics in Geology and Geotechnics	Ove Stephansson
2004	Groundwater - from Development to Management	Karin Kemper
2005	The Future of Hydrogeology	Clifford Voss
2006	Social and Economic Aspects of Groundwater Governance	Ramon Llamas, Aditi Mukherji and Tushaar Shah
2007	Satellite and Remote Sensing in Hydrogeology	Jörn Hoffman and Per Sander
2009	Hydrogeoecology and Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems	Peter Hancock, Randall Hunt and Andrew Boulton
2010	Saltwater and Freshwater Interactions in Coastal Aquifers	Vincent Post and Elena Abarca
2011	Insights from Environmental Tracers in Groundwater Systems	Ward Sanford, Werner Aeschbach-Hertig and Andrew Herczeg
2012	The Economics of Groundwater Management	Peter Reinelt, Nicholas Brozović, Ejaz Qureshi and Petra Hellegers
2013	Cold Regions: Hydrogeology and Climate Change	Larry Hinzman, Georgia Destouni, Ming-Ko Woo

Hydrogeology Journal

MISSION

- Foster understanding of HYDROGEOLOGY
HYDROGEOLOGY – a practical science aimed at bettering the human situation on earth
- Describe worldwide hydrogeology progress
- Provide inexpensive, widely-accessible forum for scientists, researchers, engineers, and practitioners in developing and industrialized countries

Hydrogeology Journal

SCOPE

Theoretical + Applied Hydrogeologic Science

- Theoretical and field studies
- Scale: Local areas - short time periods to regional/global problems and geologic time
- New lab-field techniques/instrumentation
- Water-resource evaluations
- Reports of observed hydrogeologic phenomena

Hydrogeology Journal

SCOPE

Theoretical + Applied Hydrogeologic Science

- Overviews of hydrogeologic systems of interest in various regions
- State-of-the-art-reviews
- Philosophy of scientific methods in hydrogeology

Hydrogeology Journal

SCOPE

Theoretical + Applied Hydrogeologic Science

- Interaction between populations and hydrogeologic systems
- Economics of hydrogeologic systems
- Ramifications of hydrogeology on environmental protection and optimal employment of natural resources
- History of hydrogeology
- Biographies of eminent hydrogeologists

Hydrogeology Journal

SCOPE

*Mainstream HJ paper integrates
subsurface hydrology and geology
with other supporting disciplines:*

geochemistry, geophysics, geomorphology,
geobiology, surface-water hydrology,
tectonics, mathematics, numerical modeling,
economics, sociology, ...

to explain observed or expected phenomena

Hydrogeology Journal

SCOPE

*Mainstream HJ paper integrates
subsurface hydrology and geology
with other supporting disciplines*

Focus of paper must be 'hydrogeology'
(usually interaction of water and geology)

Focus of paper may not be
'supporting discipline'

HJ HISTORY

Applied Hydrogeology

Year	Publisher	Editor	Office	Staff
1992	Heise	Simpson		
1994		Voss/Wilson	Wilson	

Hydrogeology Journal

HJ HISTORY

Hydrogeology Journal

Year	Publisher	Executive Editor	Office	Editors
1995	Heise	Voss/Wilson	Wilson	
1998	Springer			
2001		Voss/Schneider	1 at IAH	
2002		Voss/Schneider /Olcott		
2005		Voss		4 Managing Editors 1 Technical Editor
2006			1 at Springer	

HJ - Current Staff

- **Editors**
 - **Executive Editor**
 - **Cliff Voss – USA**
 - **Editors**
 - **Shemin Ge – USA → Liz Screaton – USA**
 - **Jimmy Jiao – China**
 - **Vincent Post – Australia**
 - **Maria Schafmeister – Germany**
- **Editorial Office**
 - **Manager**
 - **Susanne Schemann – Germany**
 - **Technical Editorial Advisor**
 - **Sue Duncan – UK**
- **Abstract Translation Managers**
 - **Han Zaisheng – China**
 - **Norbert Megerlin – France**
 - **Antonio Chambel – Portugal**
 - **Eduardo Kruse – Argentina**



HJ Editorial Board 2012

Argentina	1	Italy	1
Australia	4	Japan	1
Austria	1	Mexico	2
Canada	3	South Korea	2
China	7	Spain	1
Germany	7	Switzerland	2
Hungary	1	Turkey	1
India	1	UK	1
Israel	1	USA	26

Associate Editors
TOTAL 63



Languages of HJ Titles and Abstracts

English – with IAH translations to:

- French
- Spanish
- Chinese (added in 2007)
- Portuguese (added in 2007)

Time to publication

- 1st Decision following submittal
 - within **4 months**
- Publication
 - ONLINE
 - (Springer HJ Website) **10 months** from submittal
 - in PAPER journal
 - 2 – 3 months** later

New HJ Developments

- Editors' Choice Articles
 - 5 articles each year
 - selected for recognition and Open Access
- Review Articles – (State of the Art Treatises)
 - Hydrogeology of a Region
 - Hydrogeologic Science
 - Pedagogy
- Open Choice (open online public access)

HJ - Types of Articles Published

■ PAPER	<i>idea</i>	45 %
■ REPORT	<i>place</i>	42 %
■ TECHNICAL NOTE	<i>method</i>	3 %
■ COMMENT/REPLY	<i>discussion</i>	3 %
■ ESSAY	<i>opinion</i>	3 %
■ PROFILE	<i>person</i>	1 %



Manuscript flow

- Author submits online
- Editorial Office (EO) content/format check
- EO assigns Editor (1 of 4 EDs)
- ED
 - Reviews for HJ scope (reject or review?)
 - Selects Associate Editor (AE)



Manuscript flow

■ AE

- Reviews for technical content
- Selects 3 Reviewers (RVs)
- RVs conduct technical review
- AE compiles reviews and makes Recommendation

■ ED makes publication decision

- Accept
- Accept with Major or Minor Revisions
- Reject



Manuscript flow

- Author revises and resubmits online
- ED reviews revision, makes pub decision
- When Accepted by ED, manuscript goes to Technical Editorial Advisor (TEA)



Manuscript flow

■ TEA

- Interacts with author regarding expression and HJ style (author revises manuscript)
- Issues Final Accept decision – to SPRINGER

■ SPRINGER

- Copy editing, proof production
- (Author reviews proof)
- Publishes article “Online First”
- Publishes article in paper journal (content selected/organized by Exec Editor)

Editors' Tips

How to structure a manuscript

■ **ABSTRACT**

- Statement of scientific fact and scientific method
- 1st sentence should summarize main finding
- NOT 'we did this and this', NOT summary of paper.

■ **INTRO**

- Background
- Why this is interesting/important

■ **RESULTS**

- How/What you did (details often best in an Appendix)
- Presentation of findings (text, tables, figures)

■ **DISCUSSION**

- Interpretations, generalizations, (limitations)

■ **CONCLUSION**

- Clear re-statement of what was found
- Implications for this and other systems/cases/situations

Editors' Tips

Paper vs. Report

■ ***PAPER***

Transferable new findings

■ ***REPORT***

Application of existing methods/knowledge

Editors' Tips

Being concise

- Only include what is important to show/prove results
Don't include it, just because you did it...
(Remove extra stuff !)
- Avoid many details in main article
*Use **ESM** (Electronic Supplementary Material)*
- **COMMUNICATE!**
Try to write the essence of the paper in max 3 sentences.

Editors' Tips

How long, how many figures?

- Typical HJ Paper/Report:
 - ~ 12-14 journal pages
 - = 36-40 text-only pages (double-spaced)
 - = 30-35 text-only pages plus 10 figures
- If exceeded, author must shorten!
- Essays – have special length rules (max 4 journal pages)

Editors' Tips

English Language

- Manuscripts are reviewed for technical content – regardless of the quality of English language.
(but - poor language tends to make a negative impression on reviewers)
- To make it easier for reviewers, and to have the greatest chance of technical acceptance – authors who are concerned about their 'English' should find a capable colleague to review the 'English' before submittal.

Editors' Tips

Authorship

- No rules! Do whatever seems right.
- Possibilities:
 - Student listed first, if it is their project work
 - Main professor listed first, if this person led the project
 - Main professor listed last, indicating that all of the authors were guided by this person (work conducted by this professor's laboratory)
 - Person who wrote/organized most of the text comes first, irrespective of who did most work on project

Editors' Tips

Ethics

- **Avoid Plagiarism**
 - *unreferenced copying of information and ideas from others*
 - *unclear referencing of others' work*
- **Avoid Self-Plagiarism**
 - *publishing your own results in more than one place with no reference*
 - *'dual publication'*
- **Distributing your published HJ article**
 - Springer owns published version → **No redistribution** (unless author has purchased Open Choice)
 - You own only the **final submitted version** → Free distribution via web posting

Questions

Discussion

Questions & Discussion

Question 1:

How many papers of all submissions are rejected because they are not in the scope of HJ?

Answer:

About 40 %.

Questions & Discussion

Question 2:

Are conference papers “grey papers” or “white papers”?

Answer:

Conference papers are marginal cases of publications, depending on their accessibility. Conference proceedings with ISBN are quotable.

Questions & Discussion

Question 3:

Is it a problem to publish reports that are already posted online?

Answer:

It depends. You can for example publish short versions of longer research reports that are already published online.

Questions & Discussion

Question 4:

Is it ok to publish more than one paper out of one longer report?

Answer:

It depends on who you report to. Also, you need to distinguish the subjects of the papers properly. You could for example publish your results in one paper and then compare them to the results of other studies in another paper.

Questions & Discussion

Question 5:

What is the next HJ theme issue for 2014?

Answer:

The theme issue for 2014, on the subject of 'hydrogeology of shallow thermal systems', is in preparation and is planned to appear as the first issue of 2014. The issue will focus on hydrogeological complexity of geothermal systems, coupled heat and fluid modeling, sedimentary basins, and, aquifer thermal energy storage systems.

Questions & Discussion

Question 6:

Can everyone submit articles for a theme issue?

Answer:

No. Only invited articles are considered for publication in theme issues.

Questions & Discussion

Question 7:

Is there a shortcut to quickly publish papers for your thesis for theses that are composed of several (already) published articles?

Answer:

No.

Questions & Discussion

Question 8:

Is there a way to submit your paper in Latex format?

Answer:

No. Only Word format is accepted at the moment. There have been a few exceptions where HJ accepted Latex and in those cases, the interaction with the technical editor Sue Duncan was carried out via pdf – not ideal for effectively editing manuscripts for publication. Perhaps Latex format will be accepted in the future.

Questions & Discussion

Question 9:

Are articles and essays handled in the same way during the review process?

Answer:

Essays are handled differently during the review process. Their review is more flexible. The same applies for profiles and book reviews. Usually, these manuscript types mostly get reviewed by one reviewer before a publication decision is made by an Editor.

Questions & Discussion

Question 10:

How can you make sure you stay in the scope of HJ with your paper?

Answer:

HJ rejects papers that don't focus on hydrogeology or groundwater. If you are not sure about whether your paper is in the scope of HJ, you are welcome to contact the editor(s) beforehand and give an outline of the paper before submitting.

Questions & Discussion

Final advice:

Before submitting your manuscript to any journal – Give it to as many people as possible for scientific-technical review, proof-reading, advice and suggestions! It can only be improved and this would surely shorten the HJ review process and help your chances of having your manuscript accepted for publication!