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News Koninklijk Wiskundig Genootschap

Indagationes Mathematicae: A status report

Indagationes Mathematicae is the international peer reviewed mathematics journal of the KWG. The Editor-in-Chief Jan van Neerven describes this article some recent changes in the editorial process and policies, and reports on the journal's present performance.

Formerly published by the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences (KNAW), *Indagationes Mathematicae* has been transferred in 2010 to the Royal Dutch Mathematical Society (KWG) [1], which is now in charge of its editorial policies. A history of the journal has been written by Jaap Korevaar and Rob Tijdeman [2]. Inda-

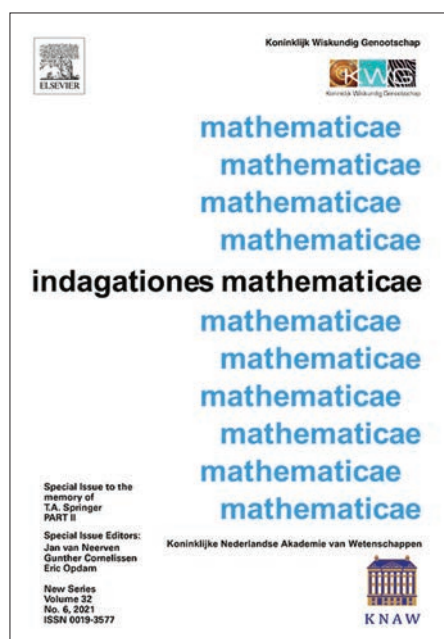
gationes's aims and scope (see [8]) include

"...the publication of original mathematical research papers of high quality and of interest to a large segment of the mathematics community."

Review papers of high quality are welcomed as well. Indagationes publishes six

issues per year of approximately 200–250 pages each, some of them being Special Issues dedicated to important events in the Dutch mathematics community (see the box below). Around 250–300 submissions are received yearly, of which approximately 25% gets accepted; this figure includes regular and Special Issues.

On behalf of the KWG, the journal is published by Elsevier, which pays royalties to the KWG based on page views and downloads.



Recent and upcoming Specials Issues

Special Issue dedicated to the memory of J.W. Cohen (expected 2022)

Editors: Onno Boxma and Michel Mandjes

Special issue to the memory of T.A. Springer (3 issues, 2021–22)

Editors: Gunther Cornelissen, Eric Opdam

Special Issue in memory of Hans Duistermaat (2021)

Editors: Gunther Cornelissen, Jan van Neerven

Special Issue dedicated to the memory of Wim Luxemburg (2020)

Editors: Peter G. Dodds, Ben de Pagter, Anton R. Schep

Aperiodic Patterns in Crystals, Numbers, and Tiles (2018)

Editors: Carlo Carminati, Alex Clark, Robbert Fokkink, Cor Kraaikamp, Tom Schmidt, Rob Tijdeman

L. E. J. Brouwer, 50 years later (2 issues, 2017–18)

Editors: Dirk van Dalen, Geurt Jongbloed, Jan Willem Klop, Jan van Mill

Special Issue on Automatic Sequences, Number Theory, and Aperiodic Order (2017)

Editors: Valérie Berthé, Frits Beukers, Alex Clark, Robbert Fokkink, Cor Kraaikamp

Policy and Editorial Board

The editorial board has been rejuvenated, internationalised, diversified and restructured (see the box below). To begin with the latter, four ‘Editors’ (covering Geometry & Number Theory, Algebra & Discrete Mathematics, Probability & Statistics, and Analysis) have been appointed to serve as intermediates between the Editor in Chief and the board of approximately 25 Associate Editors. Their task is to screen incoming submissions for mathematical quality and relevance, and hand over the strong papers to one of the Associate Editors for the actual handling. By default two referee reports are solicited.

Editorial board

Editor in Chief:

Jan van Neerven (Delft)

Editors:

Gunther Cornelissen (Utrecht)
Monique Laurent (CWI/Tilburg)
Michel Mandjes (UvA)
Mark Veraar (Delft)

Associate Editors:

Jan Bouwe van den Berg (VU, Amsterdam)
Marius Crainic (Utrecht)
Karma Dajani (Utrecht)
Bas Edixhoven (Leiden)
Jan-Hendrik Evertse (Leiden)
Sara van de Geer (ETH Zurich)
Dion Gijswijt (Delft)
Remco van der Hofstad (Eindhoven)
Ross Kang (Nijmegen)
Arno Kuijlaars (Leuven)
Nelly Litvak (Eindhoven/Twente)
Tobias Müller (Groningen)
Karl Hermann Neeb (Erlangen)
Eric Opdam (UvA, Amsterdam)
Cecilia Salgado (Groningen)
Sebastiaan van Strien (Imperial College, London)
Walter van Suijlekom (Nijmegen)
Fedor Sukochev (UNSW, Sydney)
Sebastiaan Terwijn (Nijmegen)
Lola Thompson (Utrecht)
Frank Vallentin (Cologne)
Gert Vegter (Groningen)
Rob van der Vorst (VU, Amsterdam)
Jan Wiegerinck (UvA, Amsterdam)

Advisory Editor:

Henk Broer (Groningen)

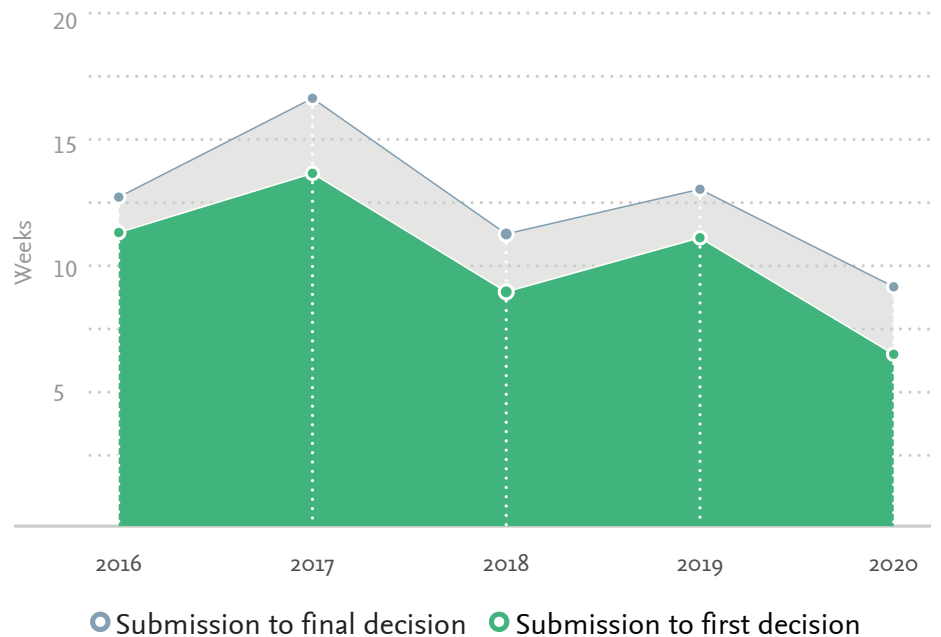


Figure 1 Review speed Indagationes Mathematicae [6].

With the appointment of fifteen new (mostly mid-career) Associate Editors, the editorial board is dynamic and relatively young. With an average submission-to-acceptance time of *6.8 weeks* and online publication time of *1 week* in 2020, papers get published comparatively fast (see Figure 1). Submissions whose lengths do not exceed fifteen pages enter a newly created *fast track* guaranteeing the authors a handling time of at most six months. Editors are appointed for a 4-year term.

Open Access and arXiv

Indagationes Mathematicae is a so-called ‘Hybrid Open Access journal’. As such it is included in Elsevier’s transformative agreements, which guarantee that papers submitted by corresponding authors affiliated with member institutions of participating organisations get published in Gold Open Access free of charge. All institutions hosting a mathematics department in the Netherlands and in many European countries fall under these agreements. In particular any paper submitted by a corresponding author at a Dutch university will be published in Gold Open Access free of charge. A complete list of participating organisations can be found on the website [7].

As of 2019, it was decided to only handle papers posted on the preprint server arXiv prior to submission. Providing the arXiv identifier is part of the submission procedure and submissions not complying with this requirement receive a desk reject. Effectively, this makes the journal into a Green Open Access journal. As it turned out, this policy had the further beneficial advantage of considerably decreasing the number of low-quality submissions — a problem that most general mathematics journal face. Statistical research carried out prior to the installation of this policy had revealed that nearly 100% of the pre-2019 submissions that were not posted on arXiv had been re-

erlands and in many European countries fall under these agreements. In particular any paper submitted by a corresponding author at a Dutch university will be published in Gold Open Access free of charge. A complete list of participating organisations can be found on the website [7].

METRICS

YEAR	CITESCORE	CITESCORE PERCENTILE	CITATIONS	DOCUMENTS
2020	1.7	69	528	319
2019	1.6	69	521	335
2018	1.2	61	409	335
2017	1.0	50	316	312
2016	0.8	42	219	263

Figure 2 Various metrics over the past 5 years [4].

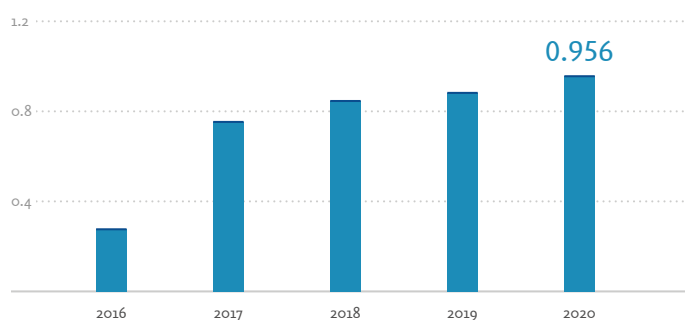


Figure 3 Impact factor over the past 5 years [5].

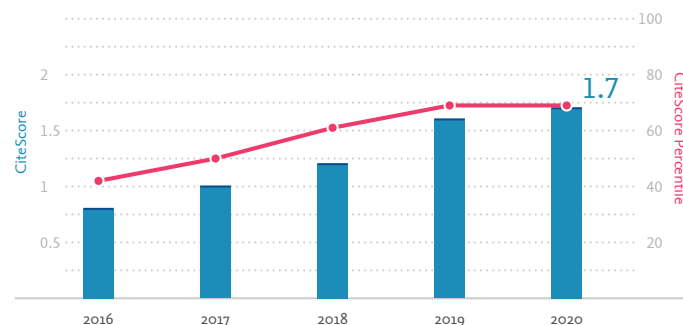


Figure 4 CiteScore over the past 5 years [4].

jected. The total volume of submissions has gone down by an estimated 25% due to this policy, but there has been no adverse effect on the volume of strong papers.

Special issues

Since 2011, 17 Special Issues have been published and several others are in various stages of planning. The most recent Special Issues are listed in the box on the first page. The full list is available on the journal's website [8] and include issues in memory of L.E.J. Brouwer (50 years later), Wim Luxemburg (memorial issue), Hans Duistermaat (10 years later), and Tonny Springer (10 years later). Articles for Special Issues are solicited by a guest editorial board on the basis of invitation-only. Ideas for future SI's are always welcome.

Stats

Some metrics about the journal's performance are presented in Figure 2. The cur-

rent journal's Impact Factor (the number of times an average paper in the journal is cited during the preceding two years) equals 0.956, representing an increase by 0.596 in the last five years, see Figure 3. The current CiteScore (the average citations in the past four years (2017–2020) received per article) equals 1.7, an increase

by 0.76 in the last five years, see Figure 4. (Elsevier uses the Clarivate metrics, <https://clarivate.com>).

Indagationes currently ranks among the Q2 (second quartile) journals. Although it is in good company (see Table 1), the long-term aim is to make it into the Q1 quartile: it is not uncommon that grant agencies impose an obligation to publish in Q1 journals only.

Submit a paper!

Despite good performance, speedy handling, and upward trends, the number of submissions from our own community remains very low: in the regular issues of both 2019 and in 2020, only around five papers have appeared with a Netherlands-based corresponding author, an average of one per issue. I close with expressing the hope that you, reader, after having read this article, will submit a paper to *Indagationes Mathematicae*. ☺

Journal	Impact Factor
Ann. Mat. Pura Appl.	0.969
Ann. Instit. Poincaré	0.968
Kyoto J. Math.	0.964
Math. Z.	0.964
Indag. Math.	0.956
J. Math. Soc. Japan	0.949
Period. Math. Hungar.	0.940
Israel J. Math.	0.907
Ark. Mat.	0.896

Table 1 Journals with comparable impact factor [3].

References

- Henk Broer, *Indagationes Mathematicae*, *Nieuw Archief voor Wiskunde* 5/12(4) (2011), 234.
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