



20.1 Report on the ISPRS International Journal of Geo-Information

Wolfgang Kainz, Editor in Chief

1. Highlights

- ISPRS IJGI is covered by **Science Citation Index Expanded** (Web of Science) and **Scopus**.
- The total number of pdf downloads increased significantly year by year.
- The number of published papers increased year by year.
- The number of submissions increased significantly year by year.
- 20 Special Issues were open for submission in 2016.
- Five volumes have been published since 2012. Volume 1 (2012) has 3 issues; volumes 2 (2013) to 4 (2015) have 4 issues; as of 2016 we moved to monthly issues.

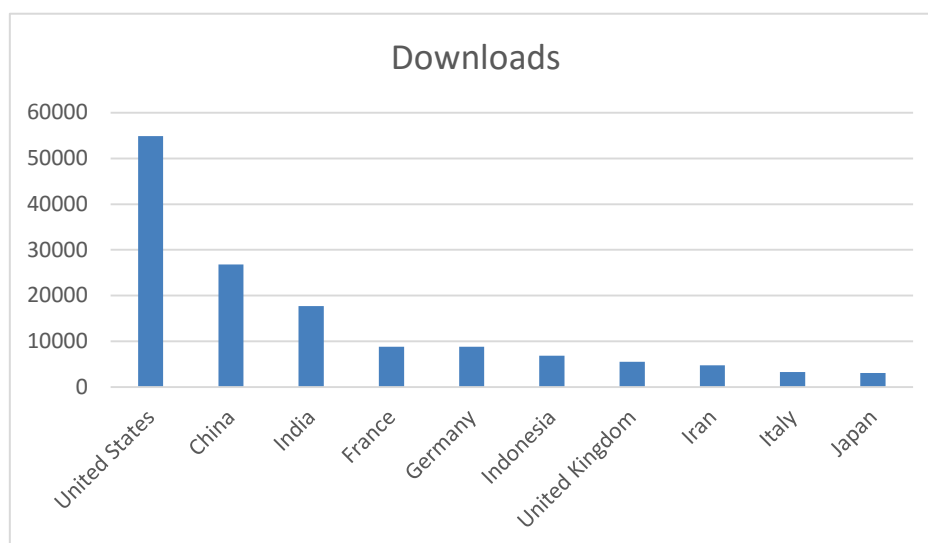
2. Online Readership

The total number of downloads of *IJGI* papers increases year by year, especially those of 2015. Compared with the data in 2014, we have noticed an increase by over 116% in 2015. The top ten downloaded papers during the last four years are listed in Appendix 1.

Year	2012 (June to December)	2013	2014	2015	2016 (January to April)
Downloads	5,081	31,494	45,532 *	98,220 *	65,456

* The visits data was counted by Google Analytics (GA)

The country downloading the most *IJGI* articles during the past four years was United States with 25.3% of the total number of downloads. Please see below information about top 10 accessing countries.



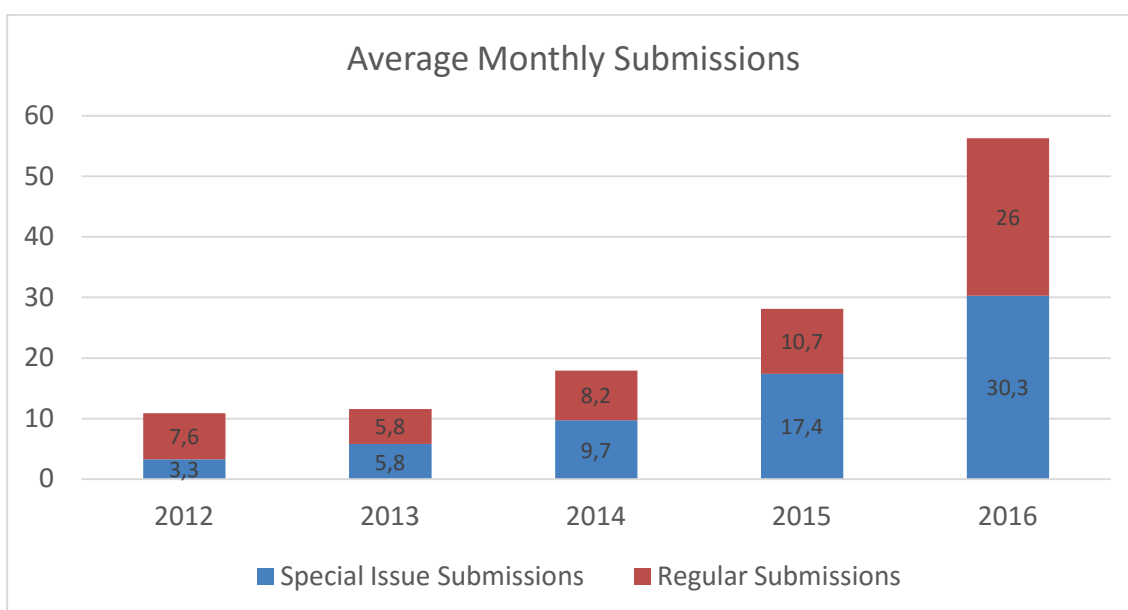
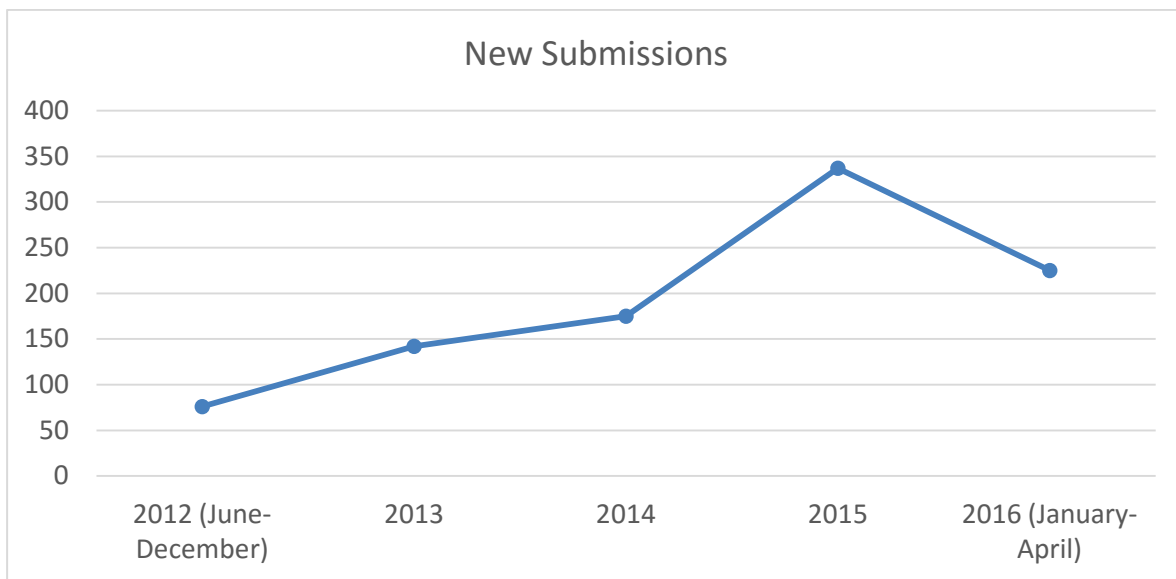
The most downloaded article from 2012 till now was “GIS-Based Planning and Modeling for Renewable Energy: Challenges and Future Research Avenues” (<http://www.mdpi.com/2220-9964/3/2/662>) by Bernd Resch, Günther Sagl, Tobias Törnros, Andreas Bachmaier, Jan-Bleicke Eggers, Sebastian Herkel, Sattaya Narmsara and Hartmut Gündra, published in Volume 3, Issue 2 as part of the Special Issue “GIS for Renewable Energy”, and was downloaded 4,270 times. For a top 10 list of most downloaded articles published from 2012 to 2016, please see Appendix 1.

3. Publication Statistics

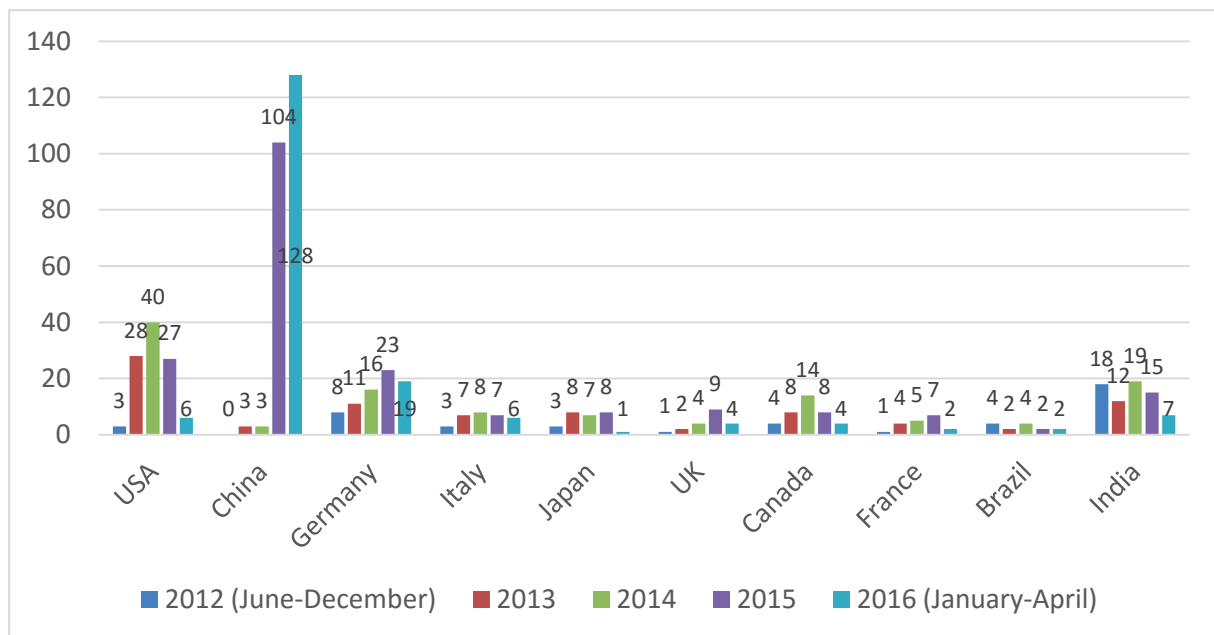
New Submissions Distribution

From June 2012 till now, we have received 955 submissions, 50% of which are special issue submissions and 50% are regular submissions.

Please see the figures below that show the yearly submission data and the average number of monthly submission data from 2012 to 2016.



The figure below shows the geographical distribution of new submissions from 2012 to 2016. We received submissions from 42 countries. Authors from China are the largest contributors with 45%, followed by authors from USA (19.7%), Germany (14.6%), and India (13.4%).



*Please note that this graph includes only the top 10 contributing countries. There are many other countries which contributed smaller amounts of papers in past four years.

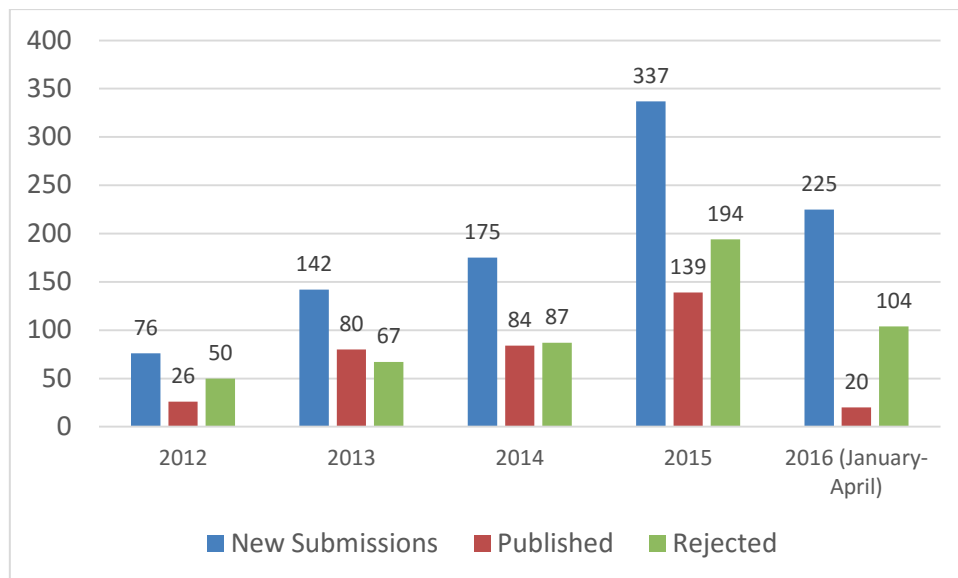
Trend in Submissions and Rejection Rates

The number of submissions keeps increasing from 2012 till now. Please see in the following table and graph a representation of the trends in submissions, accepted and rejected papers from 2012 till now.

Year	New Submissions	Accepted Papers (published)	Rejected Papers (=Rejected before and after review)	Rejection Rate*
2012	76	27	50	64.9%
2013	142	80	67	45.6%
2014	175	84	87	50.9%
2015	337	139	194	58.3%
2016	225	20	104	83.9%

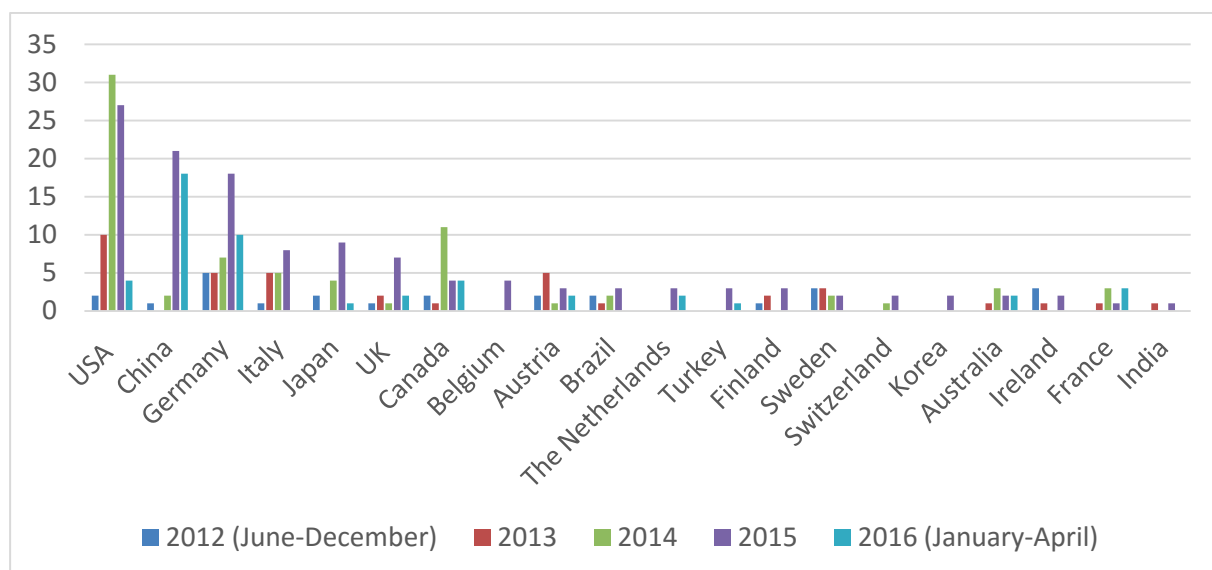
*The number of accepted papers, rejected papers and rejection rate are from the submissions received in a year, not from the total decisions made in a year, as some of the submitted papers may have still been under review when we calculated.

The main reason for rejecting manuscripts before peer review is that manuscripts are of poor quality, such as poor language, insufficient references, too short in length (some research articles are less than seven pages, without figures and tables), *etc.*



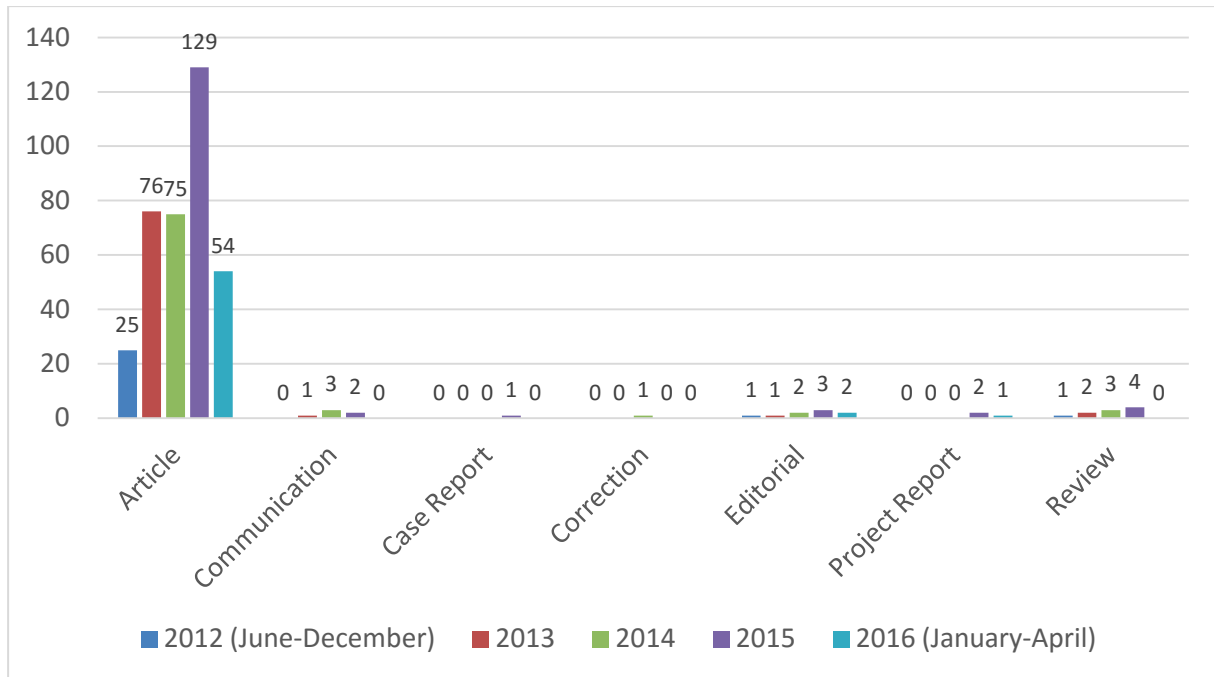
Contributing Countries

The following figure shows the number of published papers by corresponding author’s country. Manuscripts from USA (21.2%), Germany (12.9%), Canada (6.3%), and Italy (5.4%) seem more likely to be accepted. Although there are 12% of published papers from China, comparing with the submissions (45% submissions are from China), the acceptance rate is low.



Type of Published Papers

Among all the different types of contributions the percentages of published articles in each year were: 92.6% (2012), 95% (2013), 89.3% (2014), 91.5% (2015), 94.7% (2016).



Turnaround Time

The average publication time (submission to online publication) for 2012 was **112.3** days, for 2013 was **95.6** days, for 2014 was **107.2** days, for 2015 was **116** days and for 2016 was **92.5** days. The shortest time was 35 days and the longest, 329 days. The main factors affecting the processing time are: 1) paper quality (the most important factor); 2) revision time; 3) review time; 4) decision time. Rapid publication is very important, not only for authors, but also for the journal reputation. We need to improve the processing speed while ensuring peer review quality.

Special Issues

During last four years, we have 22 special issues closed with more than five papers published. In 2016, there are 20 Special Issues open for submission: (the numbers in brackets represent papers still in process).

Special Issue Title	Guest Editors	Deadline	Papers Published (Under Processing)
Big Data for Urban Informatics and Earth Observation	Jamal Jokar Arsanjani, Ming-Hsiang (Ming) Tsou	2016-04-30	2(3)
Unmanned Aerial Vehicles in Geomatics	Gonzalo Pajares Martinsanz	2016-04-30	2(3)
Recent Trends in Spatial Analysis and Modelling of Built-Environment Characteristics	Martin Behnisch, Gotthard Meinel	2016-03-31	0(9)
Research Data Management	Constanze Curdt, Christian Willmes, Georg Bareth	2016-01-31	11(6)
Geo-Information Fostering Innovative Solutions for Smart Cities	Jochen Schiewe	2015-10-31	7
Advances in Spatio-Temporal Data Analysis and Mining	Emmanuel Stefanakis, Yaolin Liu, Phaedon Kyriakidis	2015-10-01	5
Multi-Dimensional Spatial Data Modeling	François Anton	2015-9-30	6(1)
Bridging the Gap between Geospatial	Songnian Li, Suzana	2015-8-31	8(4)

Special Issue Title	Guest Editors	Deadline	Papers Published (Under Processing)
<u>Theory and Technology</u>	Dragicevic, Xiaohua Tong		
<u>Borderlands Modeling and Analysis</u>	Xiao-guang Zhou, Weihua Dong	2015-5-31	5
<u>20 Years of OGC: Open Geo-Data, Software, and Standards</u>	Steve H.L. Liang, Mohamed Bakillah	2015-4-30	7
<u>Geoinformation for Disaster Risk Management</u>	Christoph Aubrecht	2015-4-30	17
<u>Open Geospatial Science and Applications</u>	Suchith Anand, Thierry Badard, Franz-Josef Behr, Serena Coetzee, Luciene Delzari, Barend Kobben	2015-1-30	9
<u>Selected Papers from the ISPRS Tracking and Imaging Challenge 2014</u>	Stephan Winter, Alper Yilmaz, Monika Sester	2015-1-15	5
<u>Recent Developments in Cartography and Display Technologies</u>	Julia Siemer	2014-12-15	5
<u>Spatial Analysis for Environmental Applications</u>	Linda See	2014-11-30	7
<u>GIS for Sustainable Urban Transport</u>	Mark Zuidgeest, Martin van Maarseveen, Mark Brussel	2014-10-30	7
<u>Remote Sensing and Geospatial Technologies in Public Health</u>	Fazlay S. Faruque	2014-7-30	15
<u>Geoweb 2.0</u>	Alexander Zipf, Bernd Resch	2014-7-18	5
<u>Geographic Information Science and Remote Sensing Techniques for Sustainable Urban and Regional Planning</u>	Beniamino Murgante, Giuseppe Borruso, Maurizio Pollino, Federico Martellozzo	2014-5-31	5
<u>GIS for Renewable Energy</u>	Martin Raubal	2014-2-28	10
<u>GIS in Public Health</u>	Stefania Bertazzon	2013-11-30	5
<u>Coastal GIS</u>	Timothy Nyerges	2013-9-30	10
<u>Indoor Positioning and Indoor Navigation</u>	Harald Sternberg	2013-3-31	7
<u>Collaborative Mapping</u>	Linda See, Steffen Fritz, Jan De Leeuw	2013-4-30	7
<u>Geospatial Monitoring and Modelling of Environmental Change</u>	Duccio Rocchini	2012-12-31	8

There are currently 21 Special issues open for submissions:

Special Issue	Guest Editor	Deadline
<u>Spatial Ecology</u>	Duccio Rocchini	2016-05-31
<u>Geographic Information Retrieval</u>	Kathleen Stewart, Alexander Klippel	2016-05-31
<u>Mathematical Morphology in Geoinformatics</u>	Beatriz Marcotegui	2016-06-30
<u>Location-Based Services</u>	Georg Gartner, Haosheng Huang	2016-06-30
<u>Geosensor Networks and Sensor Web</u>	Silvia Nittel	2016-07-31

Special Issue	Guest Editor	Deadline
<u>3D Indoor Modelling and Navigation</u>	Sisi Zlatanova, Kourosh Khoshelham, George Sithole	2016-08-31
<u>Web/Cloud Based Mapping and Geoinformation</u>	Bert Veenendaal, Maria Antonia Brovelli, Serena Coetzee, Peter Mooney	2015-09-30
<u>Recent Advances in Geodesy & Its Applications</u>	Zhao-Liang Li, Jose A. Sobrino, Chao Ren	2015-09-30
<u>Geospatial Semantics and Semantic Web</u>	E. Lynn Usery, Dalia Varanka	2016-09-30
<u>Geospatial Big Data and Transport</u>	Bin Jiang, Constantinos Antoniou	2016-09-30
<u>Advances and Innovations in Land Use/Cover Mapping</u>	Qiming Zhou, Zhilin Li	2016-10-31
<u>Volunteered Geographic Information</u>	Alexander Zipf, David Jonietz, Vyron Antoniou, Linda See	2016-11-30
<u>Advances in Geo-Information for Environmental Forensics and Environmental Risk Management in the Anthropocene</u>	Jason K. Levy	2016-11-30
<u>Analysis and Applications of Global Land Cover Data</u>	Jun Chen, Songnian Li, Shu Peng	2016-12-1
<u>Intelligent Spatial Decision Support</u>	Shih-Lung Shaw, Qingquan Li, Yang Yue	2016-12-31
<u>Frontiers in Spatial and Spatiotemporal Crime Analytics</u>	Marco Helbich, Michael Leitner	2016-12-31
<u>Applications of Internet of Things</u>	Chi-Hua Chen, Kuen-Rong Lo	2016-12-31
<u>Intelligent Spatial Decision Support</u>	Shih-Lung Shaw, Qingquan Li, Yang Yue	2016-12-31
<u>Smart Solutions for Disaster Risk Reduction: Big Data Concepts for Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR)</u>	Milan Konecny	2017-1-31
<u>Spatiotemporal Computing for Sustainable Ecosystem</u>	Yichun Xie, Xinyue Ye	2017-2-28
<u>Research and Development Progress in 3D Cadastral Systems</u>	Peter van Oosterom, Efi Dimopoulou	2017-03-31

4. Editorial Board

Changes in the Editorial Board

Dr. George P. Petropoulos, Dr. Jamal Jokar Arsanjani, Dr. Tanvir Islam and Dr. Tao Cheng joined the Editorial Board from 2014 till now. Dr. Martien Molenaar resigned because of retirement. The size of the board is now 31 members.

Editorial Board Members and Other ISPRS Members Contributions

Special Issues

Eight Editorial Board members and another 20 ISPRS members helped edit 21 special issues in past four years. They are: Sisi Zlatanova (Editorial Board member), Qiming Zhou (Editorial Board member), Josef Strobl (Editorial Board member), Michael Leitner (Editorial Board member), Milan Konecny (Editorial Board member), Bin Jiang (Editorial Board member), Christoph Aubrecht (Editorial Board member), Monika Sester (Editorial Board member), Marguerite Madden, Stephan Winter, Alper Yilmaz, Suchith Anand, Steve H.L. Liang, Mohamed Bakillah, Xiao-Guang Zhou, Weihua Dong, Songnian Li, Suzana Dragicevic, Xiaohua Tong, François Anton, Emmanuel Stefanakis, Yaolin Liu, Maria Antonia Brovelli, Yang Yue, Jun Chen, Songnian Li.

Submission Contribution

13 Editorial Board members contributed manuscripts to IJGI in past four years.

Review

11 Editorial Board members reviewed manuscripts for IJGI in past four years.

Decision

14 Editorial Board members made decisions for IJGI in past four years. The detailed information can be found in following table:

First Name	Last Name	Submission	Review	Decision	Special Issue
Ozgun	Akcay	2	0	2	0
Christoph	Aubrecht	0	1	19	1
Emmanuel	Baltsavias	0	0	0	0
Norbert	Bartelme	0	1	2	0
Jun	Chen	3	0	0	1
Tao	Cheng	0	0	0	0
Mahmoud R.	Delavar	4	2	1	0
Manfred	Ehlers	0	0	0	0
Sérgio	Freire	0	1	3	0
Chris	Gold	1	0	0	0
Bin	Jiang	4	0	4	1
Marinos	Kavouras	0	0	1	0
Milan	Konecny	0	1	0	1
Michael	Leitner	1	2	2	1
Marguerite	Madden	1	1	1	4
Ammatzia	Peled	1	0	1	0
Monika	Sester	1	0	0	1
Wenzhong	Shi	0	0	0	0
Andrew	Skidmore	0	0	0	0
Josef	Strobl	2	1	1	0
Xinming	Tang	0	0	0	0
Vladimir	Tikunov	0	0	0	0
Wolfgang	Wagner	1	1	0	0
Qiming	Zhou	1	0	5	1
Sisi	Zlatanova	3	0	4	2
Carlos	Granell Canut	1	8	0	0
Jason K.	Levy	0	0	0	1
George P.	Petropoulos	0	0	0	0
Jamal Jokar	Arsanjani	0	2	0	0
Tanvir	Islam	0	0	1	0

5. Indexing

The journal has been covered by Science Citation Index Expanded (Web of Science) since April 2015, the theoretical IF for 2015 is 0.9938. The journal also been covered by Scopus in 2016.

<i>Journal Name:</i>
<i>ISPRS International Journal of Geo-Information</i>

(excluding corrections, retractions, editorials; query mdpi.com journal page)

Papers published 2013	79
Papers published 2014	81
Sum	160

Citations in 2015 to articles published in 2013	87
Citations in 2015 to articles published in 2014	72
Sum	159

Theoretical IF (2015)	0.9938
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Please see Appendix 2 for the top 10 most cited papers published from 2016 till now.

6. Marketing and Promotions

From 2012 till now, 36 call-for-papers campaigns were carried out. We invited former authors and reviewers of IJGI and other potential authors to publish papers. *ISPRS IJGI* was promoted at conferences through various activities:

Name of the Conference	Activity
ISPRS WG VIII/2-Health Symposium, 24–30 August 2013	Special issue promotion
ISPRS/IGU/ICA Joint Workshop on Borderlands Modeling and Understanding for Global Sustainability, 5–6 December 2013	Special issue promotion
PECORA 19, 17-20 November 2014	Journal flyers distributed
2014 ISPRS TC II Midterm Symposium, 6–8 October 2014	Special issue promotion
Data Management Workshop, 28–29 November 2014	Special issue promotion
International Land Use Symposium (ILUS) 2015, 11–13 November 2015	Sponsorship of "get together".
International Workshop on Image and Data Fusion (IWIDF 2015), 21–23 July 2015	EiC travel grant
XXIII ISPRS Congress, 12–19 July 2016	Booth and Editorial board member meeting

7. Conclusions and Areas for Development

IJGI had a very positive performance in the past four years, showing growth in all its performance indicators: number of published papers, submissions, number of pdf downloads. In 2016 we will continue to work towards further improving the quality of the papers published, reducing the processing speed, improving the number of published papers, enhancing the brand of the journal, and increasing the readership of the journal. We will also promote among authors and at different venues the news about the forthcoming Impact Factor.

Appendix 1

Top 10 of most downloaded articles published from 2012 till now:

#	Title	Author Name	Downloads
1	GIS-Based Planning and Modeling for Renewable Energy: Challenges and Future Research Avenues	Bernd Resch, Günther Sagl, Tobias Törnros, Andreas Bachmaier, Jan-Bleicke Eggers, Sebastian Herkel, Sattaya Narmsara and Hartmut Gündra	4,270
2	Transport Accessibility Analysis Using GIS: Assessing Sustainable Transport in London	Alistair C. Ford, Stuart L. Barr, Richard J. Dawson and Philip James	4,149
3	An Analysis of Geospatial Technologies for Risk and Natural Disaster Management	Luiz A. Manfré, Eliane Hirata, Janaína B. Silva, Eduardo J. Shinohara, Mariana A. Giannotti, Ana Paula C. Larocca and José A. Quintanilha	3,342
4	GIS-Based Analytical Tools for Transport Planning: Spatial Regression Models for Transportation Demand Forecast	Simone Becker Lopes, Nair Cristina Margarido Brondino and Antônio Néson Rodrigues da Silva	3,124
5	Indoor Positioning for Smartphones Using Asynchronous Ultrasound Trilateration	Viacheslav Filonenko, Charlie Cullen and James D. Carswell	2,551
6	Effects of Pansharpening on Vegetation Indices	Brian Johnson	2,358
7	Modeling Urban Land Cover Growth Dynamics Using Multi-Temporal Satellite Images: A Case Study of Dhaka, Bangladesh	Bayes Ahmed and Raquib Ahmed	2,253
8	A Conceptual Flash Flood Early Warning System for Africa, Based on Terrestrial Microwave Links and Flash Flood Guidance	Joost C. B. Hoedjes, André Kooiman, Ben H. P. Maathuis, Mohammed Y. Said, Robert Becht, Agnes Limo, Mark Mumo, Joseph Nduhiu-Mathenge, Ayub Shaka and Bob Su	2,174
9	Analyzing the Contributor Activity of a Volunteered Geographic Information Project—The Case of OpenStreetMap	Pascal Neis and Alexander Zipf	2,082
10	Pygrass: An Object Oriented Python Application Programming Interface (API) for Geographic Resources Analysis Support System (GRASS) Geographic Information System (GIS)	Pietro Zambelli, Sören Gebbert and Marco Ciolli	2,063

Appendix 2

Top 10 cited papers published from 2012 till now:

Authors	Article	Citations	Publication Year
Pascal Neis and Alexander Zipf	Analyzing the Contributor Activity of a Volunteered Geographic Information Project —The Case of OpenStreetMap	51	2012
Bayes Ahmed, and Raquib Ahmed	Modeling Urban Land Cover Growth Dynamics Using Multi-Temporal Satellite Images: A Case Study of Dhaka, Bangladesh	19	2012
Steven P. Jackson, William Mullen, Peggy Agouris, Andrew Crooks, Arie Croitoru and Anthony Stefanidis	Assessing Completeness and Spatial Error of Features in Volunteered Geographic Information	18	2013
Pascal Neis, Marcus Goetz and Alexander Zipf	Towards Automatic Vandalism Detection in OpenStreetMap	18	2012

Authors	Article	Citations	Publication Year
Xinlian Liang, Juha Hyypä, Harri Kaartinen, Markus Holopainen and Timo Melkas	Detecting Changes in Forest Structure over Time with Bi-Temporal Terrestrial Laser Scanning Data Role of Demographic, Infrastructure and Topo-Edaphic Factors	15	2012
Viacheslav Filonenko, Charlie Cullen and James D. Carswell	Indoor Positioning for Smartphones Using Asynchronous Ultrasound Trilateration	13	2013
David Fairbairn and Maythm Al-Bakri	Using Geometric Properties to Evaluate Possible Integration of Authoritative and Volunteered Geographic Information	11	2013
Jean-François Mas, Britaldo Soares Filho, Robert Gilmore Pontius, Michelle Farfán Gutiérrez and Hermann Rodrigues	A Suite of Tools for ROC Analysis of Spatial Models	9	2013
Sarah M. Lewis and Maggi Kelly	Mapping the Potential for Biofuel Production on Marginal Lands: Differences in Definitions, Data and Models across Scales	9	2014
Robert Hecht, Carola Kunze and Stefan Hahmann	Measuring Completeness of Building Footprints in OpenStreetMap over Space and Time	9	2013