



# Editorial

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Scientific publishing is presently changing. Rapid and free access to scientific information has become a major requirement. The Open Access model of publishing scientific papers in journals has been developed to meet these requirements. The advantages are: readers can access papers without paying or leaving their desks, publishers are still able to fund their activities, funding bodies can present results to the taxpayers and – last but not least – authors and research institutions are free to distribute their papers for non-commercial purposes.

As one of the oldest scientific journals in the field of meteorology, Meteorologische Zeitschrift (MetZet) has now decided to switch to this new publication model as well: from this year onwards, MetZet is a full Open Access journal. Authors or their institutions pay a publication fee so that all papers are freely available to everybody via the internet. Those who like to have a printed copy delivered to their door can still order a printed edition at cost price. The change toward Open Access strategy does not mean any change to the scientific quality of the information published in MetZet. The peer review system will be fully maintained in the future and the visual appearance of the papers published in this journal will also be unaltered. The classical typesetting will be continued in order to offer an easily readable paper to our readers. Additional features will be available from the home page of the journal at <http://www.schweizerbart.de/journals/metz> where all previously published issues are accessible. A search engine allows for searching the titles and text of all MetZet papers.

The publication fee is split into two parts. There will be a basic fee of presently € 140 which applies to all papers and which essentially serves to finance the handling of the manuscript, the maintenance of the electronic submission and review system, and the allocation of the DOI number. In addition, there will be a fee of € 119 per published pages. This second fee serves the preparation, typesetting and electronic publishing of the final manuscript. Our financial model offers a reasonable price for short papers as well as a very competitive price for longer articles. There are no longer any additional fees for coloured figures. When comparing this new financial model to the old subscription model, it turns out that both authors and readers win. Authors usually pay less than before (except for rather short papers) and readers do not pay at all.

The global distribution of modern Open Access journals requires a reasonably good use of the English language in order to convey the scientific content to everybody who is interested. Papers from non-native English speakers among the authors who do not have the opportunity to get language editing beforehand will be edited by the publisher for a small cost price per published page. The current prices are available from the authors' instructions.

We hope that this new MetZet will be the ideal platform for the communication of your scientific results in future.

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Editor-in-Chief

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