

## Reflections and Resolutions

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New Year is a time for reflection on the past and resolutions for the future. This year this editorial will cover the past year but also take a look to the future.

2005 was again a good year for the *European Journal of Inorganic Chemistry*. Although the number of submissions continue to rise (ca. 7% more by September), which kept all of us in the editorial office on our toes, we concentrated this year on reducing publication times. As a start in this ongoing effort, we have reduced the time from submission to online publication by 25–30%, depending on the type of article. The Short Communications, which are defined as brief reports on topics of high significance and urgency, have benefited the most and appear online about 100 days after submission, but on average only about a month faster than the other categories. By far the most time-consuming process is the peer review and revision. In this area a balance between speed and diligence will serve our science best. More on this topic later.

The number of downloads has also steadily increased over 2005. This statistic not only reflects the attention that a particular group has attracted to its work – this attention becomes concrete later when the articles are cited in the papers of other researchers. More reliably it shows the areas which are topical at present. Chart 1a lists the five Microreviews that were downloaded most often by mid November. In addition I would like to mention two from the issues that became available late in the year and which therefore have not had the opportunity to appear in the “Top 5” stakes (Chart 1b), but within one month of publication jumped into the top 50. Chart 2a and b (see page 6) give the Short Communications and Full Papers the same honours. Thus the hot topics range from supramolecular chemistry, molecular recognition and biomimetic ligands to catalysis, nanoscience and ionic ligands. Properties useful for applications, such as magnetism, porosity, electrochemistry and luminescence feature prominently. On these topics EurJIC will also be publishing Microreviews in the near future. In this issue you can read about triazine-based ligands in supramolecular chemistry. Coming are Microreviews on host–guest and intercalation chemistry of C<sub>60</sub>, catalysis in

ionic liquids, mesoporosity and model complexes for metalloenzymes.

Two projects, started as a result of the urging of readers, have been completed in 2005. Most often I have been asked at conferences about the online accessibility of predecessor journals to EurJIC. I am therefore pleased to announce that in January all issues from the inception of *Liebigs Annalen* and *Chemische Berichte* will become available electronically as part of the Chemistry Societies Backfile Collection: 27,100 articles from *Liebigs Annalen* (from 1832 to 1997) and 57,270 articles from *Chemische Berichte* (from 1868 to 1997) will be fully searchable. In addition the reference section has been tagged so that CrossRef allows jumping to the full-text of the citation, if the publisher is a member of CrossRef and the backfile is available (to find out more about CrossRef, see [www.crossref.org](http://www.crossref.org)). The other journals

Chart 1a. Most downloaded Microreviews published in 2005 (\* indicates the correspondence author).

1. Stabilization of Organometallic Species Achieved by the Use of N-Heterocyclic Carbene (NHC) Ligands; **N. M. Scott, S. P. Nolan\***, *Eur. J. Inorg. Chem.* **2005**, (10), 1815–1828.
2. Ordered Meso- and Macroporous Binary and Mixed Metal Oxides; **M. A. Carreon, V. Gulians\***, *Eur. J. Inorg. Chem.* **2005**, (1), 27–43.
3. Molecular Recognition: Use of Metal-Containing Molecular Clefts for Supramolecular Self-Assembly and Host-Guest Formation; **J. D. Crowley, B. Bosnich\***, *Eur. J. Inorg. Chem.* **2005**, (11), 2015–2025.
4. Luminescence from Lanthanide(3+) Ions in Solution; **A. Dossing\***, *Eur. J. Inorg. Chem.* **2005**, (8), 1425–1434.
5. Ionic Liquids with Fluorine-Containing Cations; **H. Xue, J. M. Shreeve\***, *Eur. J. Inorg. Chem.* **2005**, (13), 2573–2580.

Chart 1b. Microreviews from later issues that attracted a high number of downloads within one month.

1. Magnetic Nanoparticle Superstructures; **M. Giersig, M. Hildendorff**, *Eur. J. Inorg. Chem.* **2005**, (18), 3571–3583.
2. Continuous Homogeneous Catalysis; **D. Vogt et al.**, *Eur. J. Inorg. Chem.* **2005**, (20), 4011–4021.

Chart 2a. Most downloaded Short Communications (SC) and Full Papers (FP) published in 2005.

1. SC: Co<sup>II</sup> Complexes of Triazine-Based Tridentate Ligands with Positive and Attractive Co<sup>II/III</sup> Redox Couples; **G. S. Hanan** et al., *Eur. J. Inorg. Chem.* **2005**, (7), 1223–1226.
2. FP: A New Ligand for the Formation of Triangular Building Blocks in Supramolecular Chemistry; **I. M. Müller, D. Möller**, *Eur. J. Inorg. Chem.* **2005**, (2), 257–263.
3. FP: Solvothermal Synthesis of NiS 3D Nanostructures; **Y. Qian** et al., *Eur. J. Inorg. Chem.* **2005**, (4), 653–656.
4. FP: *N*-Ferrocenyl-Substituted Planar-Chiral *N*-Heterocyclic Carbenes and Their Pd<sup>II</sup> Complexes; **A. Togni** et al., *Eur. J. Inorg. Chem.* **2005**, (2), 347–356.
5. FP: Carbon-Rich Ruthenium Complexes Containing Bis(allynylidene) and Mixed Alkynyl-Allynylidene Bridges; **S. Rigaut, D. Touchard, P. H. Dixneuf** et al., *Eur. J. Inorg. Chem.* **2005**, (3), 447–460.
6. SC: Preparation and Characterization of Ag@TiO<sub>2</sub> Core-Shell Nanoparticles in Water-in-Oil Emulsions; **F. Liu** et al., *Eur. J. Inorg. Chem.* **2005**, (9), 1643–1648.
7. FP: Three-Dimensional Lanthanoid-Containing Coordination Frameworks: Structure, Magnetic and Fluorescent Properties; **X.-Z. You, S. Gao** et al., *Eur. J. Inorg. Chem.* **2005**, (4), 766–772.
8. FP: Synthesis, Structure, and Photophysical and Electrochemical Properties of Cyclometallated Iridium(III) Complexes with Phenylated Bipyridine Ligands; **K. Kam-Wing Lo, V. Guerschais** et al., *Eur. J. Inorg. Chem.* **2005**, (1), 110–117.
9. FP: A Structural and Magnetic Investigation of Ferromagnetically Coupled Copper(II) Isophthalates; **P. Cheng** et al., *Eur. J. Inorg. Chem.* **2005**, (12), 2297–2305.
10. FP: Bis(1-methylimidazol-2-yl)propionates and Bis(1-methylbenzimidazol-2-yl)-propionates: A New Family of Biomimetic N,N,O Ligands – Synthesis, Structures and Cu<sup>II</sup> Coordination Complexes; **R. J. M. Klein, G. van Koten** et al., *Eur. J. Inorg. Chem.* **2005**, (4), 779–787.

Chart 2b. Short Communications (SC) and Full Papers (FP) from later issues that attracted a high number of downloads within one month.

1. SC: Self-Assembly of 1-D Coordination Polymers Using Organometallic Linkers and Exhibiting Argentophilic Interactions AgI...AgI; **H. Amouri** et al., *Eur. J. Inorg. Chem.* **2005**, (19), 3808–3810.
2. FP: Structures, Photoluminescence and Theoretical Studies of Two Zn<sup>II</sup> Complexes with Substituted 2-(2-Hydroxyphenyl)benzimidazoles; **S.-L. Zheng, X.-M. Chen** et al., *Eur. J. Inorg. Chem.* **2005**, (18), 3734–3741.
3. FP: Multiple Regulated Assembly, Crystal Structures and Magnetic Properties of Porous Coordination Polymers with Flexible Ligands; **L. P. Jin, S. Gao** et al., *Eur. J. Inorg. Chem.* **2005**, (20), 4150–4159.
4. FP: Self-Assembly and Characterization of Grid-Type Copper(I), Silver(I), and Zinc(II) Complexes; **V. Patroniak, J. M. Lehn** et al., *Eur. J. Inorg. Chem.* **2005**, (20), 4168–4173.

included in the Chemistry Societies Backfile Collection are *Angewandte Chemie* and the first three volumes of *Chemistry – A European Journal*. In total the Chemistry Societies Backfile Collection comprises more than 872,000 pages (see <http://www3.interscience.wiley.com/cgi-bin/collectionhome/CSCOL/HOME>).

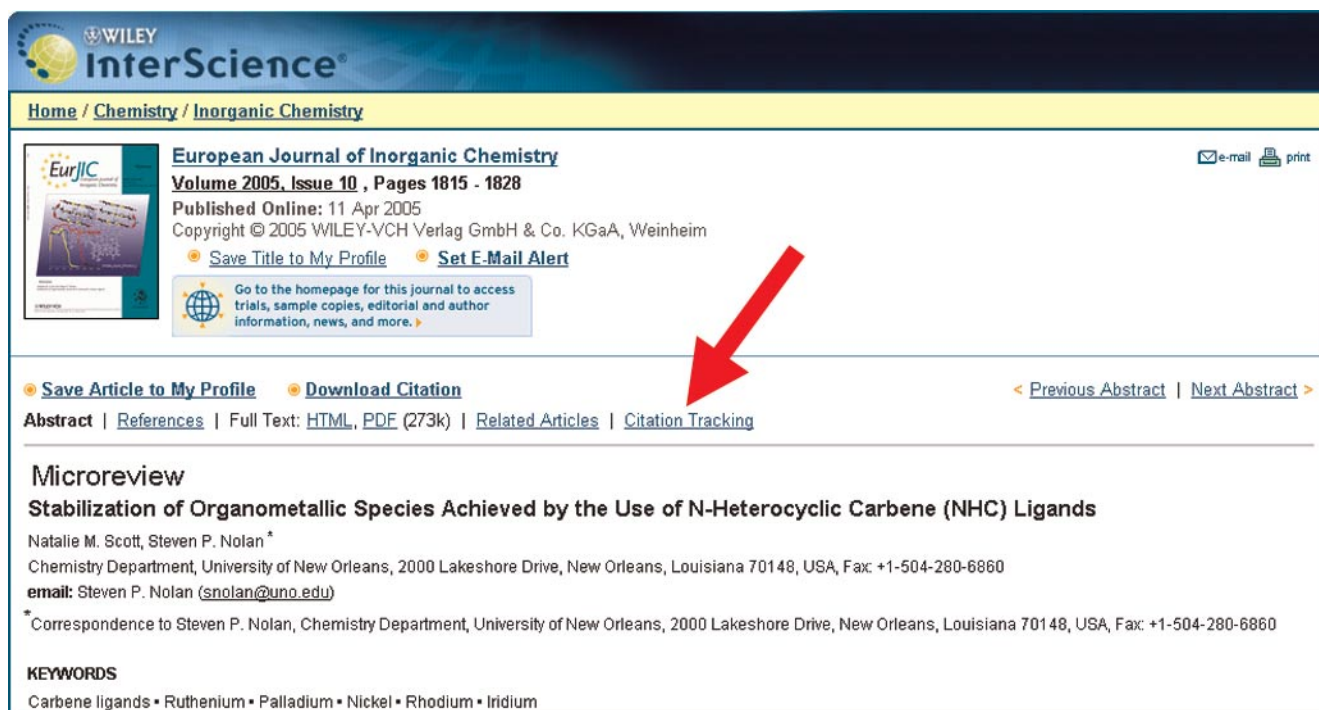
Thus retrospective literature researches can be performed from the convenience of your office desk. But forward-looking searches are useful, too. Often the quickest way to become aware of new research is to check the citations to an important paper in the field. Now with “Citation Tracking” in Wiley InterScience you can do just that with ease. From the Abstract or Reference link of any article you find a new link “Citation Tracking” (see Figure 1, page 7). A click provides a list of papers that cite the article. Not only articles in Wiley InterScience are found, but also articles from all CrossRef member publishers. And the lesson to be learned from these two projects? Continue to tell us what you would like to have from our journals – we take you seriously!

An important reaction to the reflection on the past year is gratitude to our Editorial and Advisory Board members, and our peer reviewers. Their expertise and sound advice is much appreciated. To all of them, and to our readers and authors, we wish every success in your research and good ideas from reading EurJIC.

Reminiscences on the less common events uncover areas where resolutions more substantial than the usual New Year's Resolution are required. This year brought a disheartening number of cases of plagiarism. Coincidence plays a large part in its discovery before publication. Two editors select the same referee, or a referee checks a citation or looks up a reference that appears pertinent. My sincerest thanks go to those referees whose conscientious review brought unacceptable behaviour to light. Such care takes time. In the interests of all involved in chemical research, peer review must not be rushed more than expedient. On the other hand, authors have the right to know the fate of their manuscript in a timely fashion. Informing an editor if the referee report will be delayed is also an ethical tenet.

Editors, societies and publishers cooperate closely to stamp out unethical practices. All steps directed at keeping the communication of our Science fair but efficient in these times of sharp competition must be welcomed. The American Chemical Society was pioneer and their Ethical Guidelines are prominent online as a link on all their journal pages. The initiative of the many European Chemical Societies to formulate unified Guidelines including measures to be taken against offenders is praiseworthy.

On confronting the problem of plagiarism in 2005 I was reminded of an experience of mine. After my degree in Chemistry I took an elective in the Humanities with several hundred fellow students at first semester level. I was expected to cite the same reference several times in one paragraph, although to me it was obvious from the context that the text was explaining one idea. The measures taken for failure to do so could not be overlooked by any student – zero credit for the assignment. The nature of the assignments in the Humanities lends itself far more readily than in the experimental sciences to education in this aspect essential to academia. Nevertheless, the difference is striking. Nowhere in my academic career in Chemistry did I receive as clear a message in the ethics of citation and the severity



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**Microreview**  
**Stabilization of Organometallic Species Achieved by the Use of N-Heterocyclic Carbene (NHC) Ligands**  
 Natalie M. Scott, Steven P. Nolan\*  
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**KEYWORDS**  
 Carbene ligands • Ruthenium • Palladium • Nickel • Rhodium • Iridium

Figure 1. Abstract page of an article in Wiley InterScience showing the Citation Tracking link.

of the measures for omission. Only at a much later stage in my studies did I become conscious of the importance of references, more through my exposure to the chemical literature than through mentoring. Yet I am sure my professors are convinced that they instilled into their students the culture of citation.

At the latest when the research of a student is included in a manuscript for publication, that student must be formally educated in the ethics of publishing and the consequences of violation. All senior authors need to take this responsibility

seriously, not only as an educational aim, but also as self-protection. No editor considers as excuse, or even extenuating circumstances, that the text was taken from the notes of a PhD student, although it is a fact that plagiarism has become more likely than in the days when "Copy and Paste" meant getting sticky with glue.

Changed circumstances always require an appraising reaction. This is as true in publishing as Newton's third law of motion. Let us make 2006 a turning point in awareness towards the ethics of our science.

*Karen J. Hudson*