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Editorial

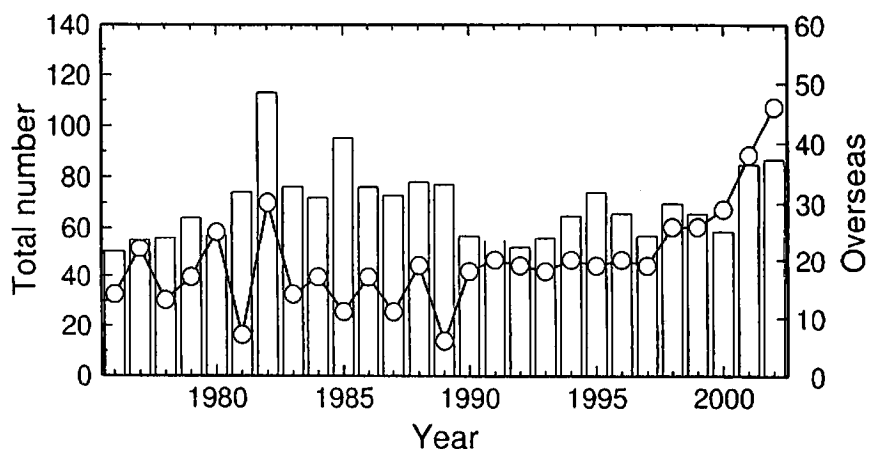
This is the third year of the 21 century. The Journal of the Meteorological Society of Japan (JMSJ) has undergone major reforms since 2001. JMSJ has become a 100% English-language journal since 2001, inviting many papers from overseas to establish a reputation as an international journal. JMSJ started an online journal since 2002, publishing and disseminating papers in electronic form through the internet. The program is called J-STAGE (<http://jmsj.jstage.jst.go.jp/ja/>) available to any reader in the world.

The figure attached describes the total number of papers published in JMSJ for each year since 1976 (bars). The number varies between 50 and 100. The white dots denote the ratio (%) of the papers contributed from overseas. Note that the ratio of papers from overseas has increased from approximately 20% to 50% in last few years. JMSJ is now read internationally. The citation index is also growing larger with an increased impact factor by the ISI.

The next challenge of JMSJ in 2003 is to reform the review process and its standard, responding to the rapid advancement in science and technology. The editorial committee is committed to accelerating the review process especially for the Notes section. The urgent research reports are encouraged to submit as Notes. On Notes, an editorial decision concerning publication will be made within four months after the submission.

On behalf of the society, we would like to thank our readers for their strong support in subscribing to JMSJ. We hope that the journal will improve further its quality and a good reputation in the meteorology community in coming years.

Papers in JMSJ



Hiroshi L. Tanaka
Chief Editor