Dear !AUTHOR\_NAMES!,

As the year is coming to a close I would like to share our sincere appreciation for you being part of our esteemed authors in [*Astrophysics and Space Science*](https://www.springer.com/journal/10509) (Ap&SS), a Springer Nature journal.

I am glad to share that your !PAPER\_YEAR! article entitled **!PAPER\_TITLE!** is among the 50 Ap&SS papers with highest *average citations per year* (!CITPERYEAR!) within the last 5 years, summing a total of !TOTCIT! citations until the moment, according to the Web of Science database. We congratulate you for the impact and success of your work. At Ap&SS, we are committed to publishing high-quality contributions on the broad-scoped areas of astronomy, astrophysics, and planetary science, as well as to helping our authors to widely promote their research results.

In addition, I would like to share some words about this year’s Ap&SS accomplishments and some plans for the journal development moving forward.

In 2021 Clarivate released the journal impact factor for the previous year, and we have reached the mark of 1.83, a rise of 28% in our journal impact factor compared to the year before. As much as we know that impact factors not often can be used to measure a journal’s quality content, we believe this is partly a result of our increasing editorial standards. We certainly hope that the upward trend will continue over the coming years.

Over the past months, we have started to see a move in some of the big astronomy publishers toward adopting a full gold open access (OA) model. At Ap&SS, although we do support OA publishing and even encourage authors to benefit from [Springer Nature’s transformative deals](https://www.springernature.com/gp/open-research/institutional-agreements), we are still a hybrid journal. This means that we still provide the option for authors to publish completely free-of-charge, under a subscription model. We believe that specially for authors of developing countries, this represents a big advantage.

At the moment, we have two excellent topical collections are on their way to be finalized: “[Plasma, Particles, and Photons: ISM Physics Revisited](https://link.springer.com/collections/jfhfihfabg)”, and “[Unexplained Spectral Phenomena in the ISM](https://link.springer.com/collections/jgadebfeaa)”. More of these collections are also being planned. Please visit our [full collections page](https://link.springer.com/journal/10509/collections) if you want to learn more.

We would like to encourage you and your colleagues to propose ideas for review papers and topical collections. We prepared a short [Call for Topical Collections page](https://www.springer.com/journal/10509/updates/19930214) to guide this effort. If you are unable to provide any ideas at this time, we would very much appreciate if you could encourage some of your colleagues to do so. As guest editors, they will have full support from our editorial office.

Wishing you a pleasant end of year and happy holidays.

With best regards,

Fabio P. Santos

(Publishing Editor of Ap&SS)

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**Dr. Fábio P. Santos**

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Branch of Springer-Verlag GmbH, Heidelberger Platz 3, 14197 Berlin, Germany

Registered Office: Berlin / Amtsgericht Berlin-Charlottenburg, HRB 91881 B

Directors: Martin Mos, Dr. Ulrich Vest, Dr. Niels Peter Thomas  
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