A Prolific First Five Years

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THE JOURNAL OF PHYSICAL CHEMISTRY Letters

Editorial

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A Prolific First Five Years

The Journal of Physical Chemistry Letters (*JPCL*) is now 5 years old. Within this short period, *JPCL* has emerged as one of the eminent journals in the discipline by disseminating significant scientific advances in physical chemistry, chemical physics, and materials science. Our authors use our streamlined editorial processes to publish their important new scientific advances at a fast pace and thus are able to publish their research results first. We have consistently maintained a rapid publication time (the average time is 35 days from submission to paginated paper on the web) and thus offer authors the opportunity to stay ahead of the competition. Our immediacy index (1.663 in 2013) demonstrates the immediate impact our published papers have had during their publication year.

The journal has seen a steady growth in the numbers of published papers and citations (Figure 1). During the first 5 years, we published over 3000 research papers and garnered more than 45000 citations (the average citations per paper is ~14 and the h5 index is 73). The 2013 impact factor of 6.687 (per JCR database of Thomson Reuters) or 6.854 (based on 7958 citations in 2013 for 1161 published articles in 2011 and 2012 per the Web of Science Core Collection database of Thomson Reuters) shows the ability of the journal to attract high scientific quality papers that appeal to a broad readership. Table 1 lists the two most cited papers of *JPCL* published each year since its inception in 2010.

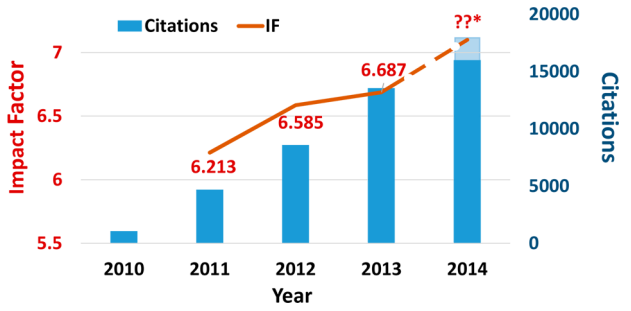

Figure 1. Impact factor and citations of *JPCL* during the last 5 years. (*The citation values for 2014 are during the period of Jan–Nov 2014. Source: Web of Science Database.)

In addition to outstanding research papers, our Editorials and Guest Commentaries offer a broader outlook on the theme of the Perspectives. The Editorial series on publication protocols was recently compiled as a Virtual Issue, "Mastering the Art of Scientific Publication", and represents the collaborative effort of *JPC Letters*, *Chemistry of Materials*, and *ACS Nano* (http://pubs.acs.org/page/vi/art_of_scientific_publication.html?ref=viPublishing-jpchax). The collection features 20 Editorials offering important tips for composing effective scientific publications. The Virtual Issues, *Organic Metal Halide Perovskite Photovoltaics* jointly with *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* (http://pubs.acs.org/JACSbeta/jvi/issue27.html) and *Ion Pairing: From Water Clusters to the Aqueous Bulk* jointly with *J. Phys. Chem. A* and *B* (http://pubs.acs.org/page/vi/ion_pairing.html) have provided our readers a collection of important published papers on the emerging themes of physical chemistry.

The thematic Perspectives published in *JPCL* continue to provide the latest developments and scientific challenges of the prominent research areas in physical chemistry. A few representative Perspective topics covered during 2014 include new spectroscopy techniques, plasmon resonances of semiconductors, protein aggregation, energy storage, light–energy conversion, photocatalysis, and a new class of nanomaterials. The catalog of these Perspectives can be accessed at http://pubs.acs.org/page/jpclcd/perspectives/index.html. The Perspectives in the current issue present themes related to light–energy conversion. The topics of organic photovoltaics and quantum dot solar cells discussed in these Perspectives provide insight into the current developments and scientific challenges in improving the photoconversion efficiencies.

JPCL is very active in propagating research highlights through multimedia and social media (Facebook and Twitter). We have successfully incorporated Perspective videos and *ACS LiveSlides* features as part of the published work. To date, we have published almost 90 Perspective videos (http://pubs.acs.org/page/jpclcd/video/perspectives.html) and more than 220 *ACS LiveSlides* presentations (http://pubs.acs.org/page/jpclcd/acsliveslides.html). These innovative multimedia features offer our authors opportunities to showcase their findings to the broader readership. Extensive downloads of these features attests to their popularity. We would like to thank the authors who have contributed these high-quality videos and slide presentations. The high impact of many papers shows the important role multimedia will play in future publications.

ACS Editors' Choice articles, a new feature introduced in 2014, also highlight major research breakthroughs in physical chemistry. In 2014, *JPCL* had 17 articles selected for *ACS Editors' Choice*; these articles have been released as open access online. The 17 selections represent emerging research topics with new scientific advances as judged by the Editors. We look forward to the opportunity in the new year to continue selecting some of our best work to appear fully open access online at no cost to the authors. The full listing of selections is available at http://pubs.acs.org/editorschoice/.

Many of our authors consistently publish multiple papers every year and consider *JPCL* as one of their favorite journals to publish new scientific findings. The list in Table 2 recognizes the authors (and their co-workers) who have published more than 12 papers with 12 or more average citations.

Moving forward, we will continue to provide new features to offer our authors additional educational and discussion tools. Starting in 2015, we will introduce a new editorial feature, *Viewpoint*, to provide educational insight into a research problem or to express independent views on a

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Our authors use our streamlined editorial processes to publish their important new scientific advances at a fast pace and thus are able to publish their research results first.

popular research theme. Through *Viewpoint* manuscripts, we hope to present tutorials and discussions that would be of immediate interest to the broad readership. Another change you will see this year is the streamlined topical headers for the individual journal sections (Table 3). The six new sections will offer our authors and readers better categorized topics that continue to cover the same areas of *The Journal of Physical Chemistry A/B/C* with a broader context.

There were several editorial changes during 2014. We welcomed Dr. Zachary Pozun as the new Managing Editor of the *JPC* family of journals. We also welcomed Prof. Benedetta Mennucci to the editorial team of *JPCL*. Prof. Joan-Emma Shea took over the role of Deputy Editor of *JPC B*. We would like to thank her for serving *JPCL* as a Senior Editor. We would like to thank Ms. Constance Biegel, *JPCL* Coordinating Editor, administrative staff at our editorial offices, and the publication team at ACS Publications whose continued support behind the scene has helped us to publish each *JPCL* issue with great care and promptness.

Finally, we would like to thank our authors, reviewers, and readers for their full support during this early infancy period

Table 2. Authors with Multiple, High-Impact *JPCL* Papers[a]

author	no. of papers	cites	average citations
Goddard, W. A.	20	262	13.1
Bowman, J. M.	18	289	14.5
Truhlar, D. G.	16	294	18.4
Shao-Horn, Y.	16	394	24.6
Bisquert, J.	16	732	45.8
Pradhan, N.	15	372	23.3
Kamat, P. V.	15	1441	96.0
Hersam, M. C.	15	311	20.7
Durrant, J. R.	14	485	34.6
Zaban, A.	12	265	22.0
Liz-Marzan, L. M.	12	293	24.4
Jungwirth, P.	12	147	12.25

[a]**Source**: Web of Science, November 25, 2014.

Table 1. Most Cited *JPCL* Papers (Two Each of the Last 5 Years, 2010–2014)

Year	Title	Authors	Citation	Times Cited	
2010	Lithium - Air Battery: Promise and Challenges	Girishkumar, G.; McCloskey, B.; Luntz, A. C.; et al.	*J. Phys. Chem. Lett.* **2010**, *1*, 2193-2203	572	♦
	Photocatalytic Water Splitting: Recent Progress and Future Challenges	Maeda, Kazuhiko; Domen, Kazunari	*J. Phys. Chem. Lett.* **2010**, *1*, 2655-2661	455	♦
2011	Solvents' Critical Role in Nonaqueous Lithium-Oxygen Battery Electrochemistry	McCloskey, B. D.; Bethune, D. S.; Shelby, R. M.; et al.	*J. Phys. Chem. Lett.* **2011**, *2*, 1161-1166	296	♦
	Graphene-Based Nanoassemblies for Energy Conversion	Kamat, Prashant V.	*J. Phys. Chem. Lett.* **2011**, *2*, 242-251	262	♦
2012	Twin Problems of Interfacial Carbonate Formation in Nonaqueous Li-O-2 Batteries	McCloskey, B. D.; Speidel, A.; Scheffler, R.; et al.	*J. Phys. Chem. Lett.* **2012**, *3*, 997-1001	184	♦
	Manipulation of Charge Transfer Across Semiconductor Interface. A Criterion That Cannot Be Ignored in Photocatalyst Design	Kamat, Prashant V.	*J. Phys. Chem. Lett.* **2012**, *3*, 663-672	124	♦
2013	Perovskites: The Emergence of a New Era for Low-Cost, High-Efficiency Solar Cells	Snaith, Henry J.	*J. Phys. Chem. Lett.* **2013**, *4*, 3623-3630	156	♦ ♣
	Organometal Perovskite Light Absorbers Toward a 20% Efficiency Low-Cost Solid-State Mesoscopic Solar Cell	Park, Nam-Gyu	*J. Phys. Chem. Lett.* **2013**, *4*, 2423-2429	151	♦ ♣
2014	Anomalous Hysteresis in Perovskite Solar Cells	Snaith, Henry J.; Abate, Antonio; et al.	*J. Phys. Chem. Lett.* **2014**, *5*, 1511-1515	43	♦ ♣
	Role of the Selective Contacts in the Performance of Lead Halide Perovskite Solar Cells	Juarez-Perez, Emilio J.; Wussler, Michael; et al.	*J. Phys. Chem. Lett.* **2014**, *5*, 680-685	31	♦ ♣

Source: Web of Science Date: Dec. 19, 2014 .The papers are marked as ♦ Highly Cited Paper (top 1% in the field of Chemistry) and ♣ Hot Paper (top 0.1% in Chemistry) by the Web of Science.

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Table 3. New Sections of *JPCL* and Corresponding Subject Categories

section number	subject categories
1.	Clusters, Radicals, and Ions; Environmental Chemistry
2.	Spectroscopy and Photochemistry; General Theory
3.	Biophysical Chemistry, Biomolecules, and Biomaterials; Surfactants and Membranes
4.	Chemical and Dynamical Processes in Solution; Polymers, Glasses, and Soft Matter
5.	Energy Conversion and Storage; Plasmonics and Optoelectronics
6.	Surfaces, Interfaces, and Catalysis; Physical Properties of Nanomaterials and Materials

We have consistently maintained a rapid publication time (the average time is 35 days from submission to paginated paper on the web) and thus offer authors the opportunity to stay ahead of the competition.

of *JPCL*. We credit our success during the first 5 years to their continued support, regular input, and prompt feedback. We look forward to seeing this collaborative effort continue and to reaching more milestones in the coming years.

Best wishes for a happy and prosperous new year.

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University of Pisa
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University of Southern California
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Princeton University
Francisco Zaera
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Notes

Views expressed in this editorial are those of the authors and not necessarily the views of the ACS.

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