

Acta Crystallographica Section B: Structural Science

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During the triennium 2002-2004 *Section B* of *Acta Crystallographica* published 2672 pages that included 280 full Research Papers, 27 Short Communications, and one Topical Review. In 2002 a special issue on Crystallographic Databases was published jointly with *Section D* of *Acta* (13 articles from *Section B*). The ratio of papers in *Section B* that discussed inorganic and molecular compounds was about 35:65 during the triennium, but the ratio varies from year to year.

A very positive development is the continuing increase of the impact factor from 1.73 for 2000 to 3.64 for 2003 (announced in 2004). This increase has brought *Section B* greater visibility and very favorable publicity. The heavily cited 2002 special issue on databases was an important factor in the rise of the impact factor.

Challenges to the competitive position of *Section B* have been identified. *Section B* must now compete for papers with the new journals *CrystEngComm* (started in 1999 by the Royal Society of Chemistry in Great Britain) and *Crystal Growth & Design* (started in 2001 by the American Chemical Society).

Technical changes during the triennium include an almost fully automated electronic submission and processing system that has lowered the time from submission to publication from 7.2 mo in 2001 to 4.8 mo in 2004. Color figures have become so common that the journal pages look quite different than they were three years ago.

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