

# Publication statistics through the end of 2020, the first COVID-19 year

V&A AISDL



December 31, 2020

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## The year 2020

The year 2020 placed a special mark on the contemporary working people worldwide with the arrival of COVID-19. The pandemic has caused tremendous challenges to humankind, with lockdowns and deaths having been reported in every corner of the world. Without approved vaccines, life has become chaotic and faced with overwhelming difficulties.

Our people at V&A AISDL are no exception. We had little choice but to face the reality of the pandemic and find whatever resources available to continue our work. Despite a great many problems caused by the once-in-a-century disease, at some points in 2020, we achieved the outcomes that we had not even expected in a normal year. One example is the article [25] published in early April 2020. It has since become our most-cited publication and certainly one of the world's highly cited ones. Also, for the first time, we have a paper published in *Nature* [6], one of the world's most respected scientific journals. *LSE Impact of Social Sciences* and *Nature Index* also featured our research during the year [9,29].

For the first time, our paper has been republished in the Spanish edition of *Scientific American*, the oldest scientific magazine in the United States, i.e., *Investigación y Ciencia* [7].

Nonetheless, the 2020 achievements require a long process of preparations and efforts. For AISDL, these should be reflected in our past works; thus, examining the past publications through 2020 could help us relearn the lessons and see what we've been through so far.

## Papers published till the 2020 year-end

Our serious academic research effort can be traced back to the turn of the millennium.

Most of the published works of ours, provided in the references, are peer-reviewed publications undertaken during the 2000-2020 period, except for very few reports such as the VIASM SciMath

Project papers [1,5] and several other articles published on *Stratfor* [111] and *CIMA-NED* [128]. But these have also undergone thorough vetting by experienced professionals and editors.

One item in the references is in the form of an officially published software package, the bayesvl R package on *The Comprehensive R Archive Network*, usually known as CRAN [64].

For easy tracking, from 2013 to 2020, publications are counted on an annual basis, while from 2012 back, the publications are summed up for one period.

Publications in 2020: [1-36]

Publications in 2019: [37-76]

Publications in 2018: [77-90]

Publications in 2017: [91-108]

Publications in 2016: [109-123]

Publications in 2015: [124-127]

Publications in 2014: [128-133]

Publications in 2013: [134-138]

From the first count through the end of 2012: [139-151]

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V&A has been up and running since mid-2015, inheriting the research tradition started since the EMISCOM R&D time back in 2003. Its AISDL initiative was decided in 2017 but has only become operational from the end of 2018, with several first successful implementations of Hamiltonian MC with Stan research studies. Since the advent of the bayesvl R package, AISDL has undertaken an increasing number of research studies each year and continued to sharpen the bayesvl as well as make further innovations to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of its research projects.

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