



CONTROL ENGINEERING PRACTICE

A Journal of IFAC, the International Federation of Automatic Control

AUTHOR INFORMATION PACK

TABLE OF CONTENTS

●	Description	p.1
●	Audience	p.2
●	Impact Factor	p.2
●	Abstracting and Indexing	p.2
●	Editorial Board	p.2
●	Guide for Authors	p.4



ISSN: 0967-0661

DESCRIPTION

Control Engineering Practice strives to meet the needs of industrial practitioners and industrially related academics and researchers. It publishes papers which illustrate the direct application of **control theory** and its supporting tools in all possible areas of **automation**. As a result, the journal only contains papers which can be considered to have made significant contributions to the application of **control techniques**. It is normally expected that practical results should be included, but where simulation only studies are available, it is necessary to demonstrate that the simulation model is representative of a genuine industrial application. Strictly theoretical papers will find a more appropriate home in *Control Engineering Practice's* sister publication, *Automatica*. *Control Engineering Practice* papers will tend to be shorter, and relevant to industrial readers.

In addition to purely technical applications papers the journal carries papers on topics linked to the application of automation, including social effects, cultural aspects, project planning and system design, and economic and management issues.

The scope of *Control Engineering Practice* matches the activities of **IFAC**:

- Aerospace • Marine systems • Communication systems • Biomedical engineering • Pulp and paper processing • Environmental engineering • Scientific instrumentation • Transportation and vehicles • Power generation and other utilities • Mining, mineral and metal processing • Chemical and biotechnical process control • Manufacturing technology and production engineering

The journal covers all applicable technologies:

- Robotics • Identification • Signal processing • Project management • Autonomous vehicles • Powertrains • Computer networking • Modelling and simulation • Human-computer systems • Components and instruments • Adaptive and robust control • Electromechanical components • Model-based control techniques • Fault detection and diagnostics • Software engineering techniques • Hydraulic and pneumatic components • Real-time and distributed computing • Intelligent components and instruments • Architectures and algorithms for control • Computer-aided systems analysis and design • Software design, verification, safety, etc. • Artificial intelligence techniques, including fuzzy control neural networks and genetic algorithms.

For more details on the International Federation of Automatic Control (IFAC), visit their home page at <http://www.ifac-control.org>

AUDIENCE

Automation and Control Engineers, Electronic and Electrical Engineers.

IMPACT FACTOR

2013: 1.912 © Thomson Reuters Journal Citation Reports 2014

ABSTRACTING AND INDEXING

Cambridge Scientific Abstracts
Current Contents/Engineering, Computing & Technology
Engineering Index Monthly
EBSCOhost
INSPEC
PubMed
Web of Science
Ei Compendex
Scopus
Science Citation Index Expanded
TEMA - Technik und Management
Gale Academic OneFile
Gale Infotrac Custom

EDITORIAL BOARD

Editor-in-Chief

A. Kugi, Inst. of Automation and Control, Technische Universität Wien, Gusshausstr. 27-29 376, 1040, Vienna, Austria

Deputy Editor-in-Chief

B. Huang, Dept. of Chemical and Materials Engineering, University of Alberta, 9107 - 116 Street, Edmonton, T6G 2V4, Alberta, Canada

Associate Editors

P. Albertos, Universitat Politècnica de València, Valencia, Spain
C. Aldrich, Curtin University, Perth, Western Australia, Australia
A. Alleyne, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Urbana, Illinois, USA
H. Asama, University of Tokyo, Tokyo, Japan
F. Assadian, Jaguar Cars Ltd, Coventry, England, UK
G. Balas, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA
C. Batlle, Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya (UPC), Barcelona, Spain
M. Blanke, Danmarks Tekniske Universitet (DTU), Lyngby, Denmark
X. Bombois, Delft University of Technology, Delft, Netherlands
C Bordons, Universidad de Sevilla, Seville, Spain
A. Chatterjee, Jadavpur University, Kolkata, West Bengal, India
B. Chaudhuri, Imperial College London, London, UK
Y.Q. Chen, University of California at Merced, Merced, California, USA
M.H. Costin, General Motors Corporation, Warren, Michigan, USA
I.K. Craig, University of Pretoria, Pretoria, South Africa
F. Cuzzola, Danieli Automation, Buttrio, UD, Italy
S. Daley, University of Sheffield, Sheffield, UK
F. Delli Priscoli, Università di Roma "La Sapienza", Roma, Italy
A. Desbiens, Université Laval, Pavillon Adrien-Pouliot, Quebec, Canada
L. Eriksson, Linköping University, Linköping, Sweden
I. Erlich, Universität Duisburg-Essen, Germany
P. Falcone, Chalmers University of Technology, Göteborg, Sweden
M. Ghanes, Ecole Nationale Supérieure de l'Electronique et de ses Applications France, Cergy-Pontoise Cedex, France
M. Gilson Bagrel, Centre de Recherche en Automatique de Nancy (CRAN), Vandoeuvre, France
T. Hagglund, Lund University, Lund, Sweden
J. Hahn, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Troy, New York, USA

T. Hamel, Universite Nice-Sophia Antipolis, Sophia-Antipolis, France
V. Havlena, Honeywell Prague, Prague, Czech Republic
E. Hellstrom, Ford Research & Advanced Engineering, Dearborn, Michigan, USA
K.A. Hoo, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, Texas, USA
A. Horch, ABB Corporate Research, Ladenburg, Germany
G.W. Irwin, Queen's University Belfast, Belfast, UK
T. Jones, Stellenbosch University, Stellenbosch, South Africa
N.E. Kahveci, AVL Research & Engineering, Turkey
T. Kawabe, Kyushu University, Fukuoka, Japan
E. Kerrigan, Imperial College London, London, UK
R. King, Technische Universität Berlin (TUB), Berlin, Germany
M. Kinnaert, Université Libre de Bruxelles (ULB), Brussels, Belgium
P. Korba, ABB Switzerland Ltd, Daettwil, Switzerland
T.H. Lee, National University of Singapore, Singapore, Singapore
B. Lennox, University of Manchester, Manchester, England, UK
X. Li, Fudan University, Shanghai, China
G. Lightbody, University College Cork, Cork, Ireland
S. Liu, Technische Universität Kaiserslautern, Kaiserslautern, Germany
S. Longhi, Università Politecnica delle Marche, Ancona, Italy
A. Lynch
M. Maggiore, University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario, Canada
G. Magnani, Politecnico di Milano, Milano, Italy
O.P. Malik, University of Calgary, Calgary, Alberta, Canada
C. Manzie, University of Melbourne, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia
I. Mareels, University of Melbourne, Parkville, Victoria, Australia
C. Melchiorri, Università di Bologna, Bologna, Italy
L. Menini, Università di Roma Tor Vergata, Rome, Italy
T. Meurer, Christian-Albrechts-Universität zu Kiel (CAU), Kiel, Germany
T. Morton, Senergy Econnect Australia Pty Ltd, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia
Z. Nagy, Loughborough University, Loughborough, UK
J. Normey-Rico, Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina, Santa Catarina, Brazil
A. Pashkevich, Université de technologie de Troyes, Troyes, France
C.E. Pereira, Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul, Porto Alegre RS, Brazil
I. Polushin, University of Western Ontario, London, Ontario, Canada
M-N. Pons, ENSICAEN, Nancy, France
C. Rabbath, DRDC - Valcartier, Quebec, Quebec, Canada
T. Reisinger, ABB Corporate Research Center - Germany, Ladenburg, Baden-Württemberg, Germany
G. Rizzo, Università degli Studi di Salerno, Fisciano SA, Italy
J.Z. Sasiadek, Carleton University, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada
S. Savaresi, Politecnico di Milano, Milano, Italy
O. Sawodny, Universität Stuttgart, Stuttgart, Germany
G. Schitter, Technische Universität Wien, Vienna, Austria
K. Schlacher, Johannes-Kepler-Universität Linz, Linz, Austria
A. Sciarretta, Institut Français du Pétrole (IFP), Rueil-Malmaison, France
P.J. Seiler, Aerospace and Engineering Mechanics, Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA
N. Sepehri, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada
H. Siguerdidjane, SUPELEC Ecole Supérieure D'Electricite - University Paris Sud, Gif-sur-Yvette, France
J.D. Stigter, Wageningen Universiteit, Wageningen, Netherlands
M. Sumner, Nottingham, Nottingham, England, UK
A. Tayebi, Lakehead University, Thunder Bay, Ontario, Canada
H. Tsang, Ford Motor Company, Michigan, USA
C.M. Verrelli, Università degli Studi di Roma Tor Vergata, Rome, Italy
J. Wang, Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio, USA
Y. Xi, Shanghai Jiao Tong University, Shanghai, China
J. Yi, Rutgers University, Piscataway, New Jersey, USA
J. Yu, McMaster University, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada
J. Zaytoon, Université de Reims Champagne-Ardenne, Reims Cedex 2, France
J. Zhao, Dalian University of Technology, Dalian, China

GUIDE FOR AUTHORS

Your Paper Your Way

We now differentiate between the requirements for new and revised submissions. You may choose to submit your manuscript as a single Word or PDF file to be used in the refereeing process. Only when your paper is at the revision stage, will you be requested to put your paper in to a 'correct format' for acceptance and provide the items required for the publication of your article.

To find out more, please visit the Preparation section below.

INTRODUCTION

Control Engineering Practice strives to meet the needs of industrial practitioners and industrially related academics and researchers. It publishes papers which illustrate the direct application of control theory and its supporting tools in all possible areas of automation. As a result, the journal only contains papers which can be considered to have made significant contributions to the application of control techniques. It is normally expected that practical results should be included, but where simulation only studies are available, it is necessary to demonstrate that the simulation model is representative of a genuine industrial application. Strictly theoretical papers will find a more appropriate home in *Control Engineering Practice's* sister publication, *Automatica*. *Control Engineering Practice* papers will tend to be shorter, and relevant to industrial readers.

In addition to purely technical applications papers the journal carries papers on topics linked to the application of automation, including social effects, cultural aspects, project planning and system design, and economic and management issues.

The scope of *Control Engineering Practice* matches the activities of IFAC:

• Aerospace • Marine systems • Communication systems • Biomedical engineering • Pulp and paper processing • Environmental engineering • Scientific instrumentation • Transportation and vehicles • Power generation and other utilities • Mining, mineral and metal processing • Chemical and biotechnical process control • Manufacturing technology and production engineering

The journal covers all applicable technologies:

- Robotics
- Identification
- Signal processing
- Project management
- Autonomous vehicles
- Powertrains
- Computer networking
- Modelling and simulation
- Human-computer systems
- Components and instruments
- Adaptive and robust control
- Electromechanical components
- Model-based control techniques • Fault detection and diagnostics
- Software engineering techniques
- Hydraulic and pneumatic components
- Real-time and distributed computing
- Intelligent components and instruments
- Architectures and algorithms for control
- Computer-aided systems analysis and design
- Software design, verification, safety, etc.
- Artificial intelligence techniques, including fuzzy control neural networks and genetic algorithms.

Types of Paper

Original research papers that illustrate the direct application of control theory and its supporting tools in all possible areas of automation. As a result, the journal only contains papers that can be considered to have made significant contributions to the application of control techniques. It is normally expected that practical results should be included, but where simulation only studies

are available, it is necessary to demonstrate that the simulation model is representative of a genuine industrial application. Strictly theoretical papers will find a more appropriate home in *Control Engineering Practice's* sister publication *Automatica*. *Control Engineering Practice* papers will tend to be shorter, and relevant to industrial readers. In addition to purely technical applications papers the journal carries papers on topics linked to the application of automation, including social effects, cultural aspects, project planning and system design, and economic and management issues.

Papers from Conference

Papers submitted to IFAC journals with prior publication in any copyrighted conference proceedings must be substantially different from the conference publication. Authors should indicate in the cover letter in detail how the journal paper differs from the relevant conference paper or papers. In particular, the additional original contribution in the journal paper has to be pointed out explicitly. In the journal paper, the conference paper has to be cited and discussed as any other paper in the list of references.

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

Ethics in publishing

For information on Ethics in publishing and Ethical guidelines for journal publication see <http://www.elsevier.com/publishingethics> and <http://www.elsevier.com/journal-authors/ethics>.

Conflict of interest

All authors are requested to disclose any actual or potential conflict of interest including any financial, personal or other relationships with other people or organizations within three years of beginning the submitted work that could inappropriately influence, or be perceived to influence, their work. See also <http://www.elsevier.com/conflictsofinterest>. Further information and an example of a Conflict of Interest form can be found at: http://help.elsevier.com/app/answers/detail/a_id/286/p/7923.

Submission declaration and verification

Submission of an article implies that the work described has not been published previously (except in the form of an abstract or as part of a published lecture or academic thesis or as an electronic preprint, see <http://www.elsevier.com/postingpolicy>), that it is not under consideration for publication elsewhere, that its publication is approved by all authors and tacitly or explicitly by the responsible authorities where the work was carried out, and that, if accepted, it will not be published elsewhere in the same form, in English or in any other language, including electronically without the written consent of the copyright-holder. To verify originality, your article may be checked by the originality detection service CrossCheck <http://www.elsevier.com/editors/plagdetect>.

Changes to authorship

This policy concerns the addition, deletion, or rearrangement of author names in the authorship of accepted manuscripts:

Before the accepted manuscript is published in an online issue: Requests to add or remove an author, or to rearrange the author names, must be sent to the Journal Manager from the corresponding author of the accepted manuscript and must include: (a) the reason the name should be added or removed, or the author names rearranged and (b) written confirmation (e-mail, fax, letter) from all authors that they agree with the addition, removal or rearrangement. In the case of addition or removal of authors, this includes confirmation from the author being added or removed. Requests that are not sent by the corresponding author will be forwarded by the Journal Manager to the corresponding author, who must follow the procedure as described above. Note that: (1) Journal Managers will inform the Journal Editors of any such requests and (2) publication of the accepted manuscript in an online issue is suspended until authorship has been agreed.

After the accepted manuscript is published in an online issue: Any requests to add, delete, or rearrange author names in an article published in an online issue will follow the same policies as noted above and result in a corrigendum.

Copyright

This journal offers authors a choice in publishing their research: Open access and Subscription.

For subscription articles

Upon acceptance of an article, authors will be asked to complete a 'Journal Publishing Agreement' (for more information on this and copyright, see <http://www.elsevier.com/copyright>). An e-mail will be sent to the corresponding author confirming receipt of the manuscript together with a 'Journal Publishing Agreement' form or a link to the online version of this agreement.

Subscribers may reproduce tables of contents or prepare lists of articles including abstracts for internal circulation within their institutions. Permission of the Publisher is required for resale or distribution outside the institution and for all other derivative works, including compilations and translations (please consult <http://www.elsevier.com/permissions>). If excerpts from other copyrighted works are included, the author(s) must obtain written permission from the copyright owners and credit the source(s) in the article. Elsevier has preprinted forms for use by authors in these cases: please consult <http://www.elsevier.com/permissions>.

For open access articles

Upon acceptance of an article, authors will be asked to complete an 'Exclusive License Agreement' (for more information see <http://www.elsevier.com/OAauthoragreement>). Permitted reuse of open access articles is determined by the author's choice of user license (see <http://www.elsevier.com/openaccesslicenses>).

Retained author rights

As an author you (or your employer or institution) retain certain rights. For more information on author rights for:

Subscription articles please see <http://www.elsevier.com/journal-authors/author-rights-and-responsibilities>.

Open access articles please see <http://www.elsevier.com/OAauthoragreement>.

Role of the funding source

You are requested to identify who provided financial support for the conduct of the research and/or preparation of the article and to briefly describe the role of the sponsor(s), if any, in study design; in the collection, analysis and interpretation of data; in the writing of the report; and in the decision to submit the article for publication. If the funding source(s) had no such involvement then this should be stated.

Funding body agreements and policies

Elsevier has established agreements and developed policies to allow authors whose articles appear in journals published by Elsevier, to comply with potential manuscript archiving requirements as specified as conditions of their grant awards. To learn more about existing agreements and policies please visit <http://www.elsevier.com/fundingbodies>.

Open access

This journal offers authors a choice in publishing their research:

Open access

- Articles are freely available to both subscribers and the wider public with permitted reuse
- An open access publication fee is payable by authors or their research funder

Subscription

- Articles are made available to subscribers as well as developing countries and patient groups through our access programs (<http://www.elsevier.com/access>)
- No open access publication fee

All articles published open access will be immediately and permanently free for everyone to read and download. Permitted reuse is defined by your choice of one of the following Creative Commons user licenses:

Creative Commons Attribution (CC BY): lets others distribute and copy the article, to create extracts, abstracts, and other revised versions, adaptations or derivative works of or from an article (such as a translation), to include in a collective work (such as an anthology), to text or data mine the article, even for commercial purposes, as long as they credit the author(s), do not represent the author as endorsing their adaptation of the article, and do not modify the article in such a way as to damage the author's honor or reputation.

Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike (CC BY-NC-SA): for non-commercial purposes, lets others distribute and copy the article, to create extracts, abstracts and other revised versions, adaptations or derivative works of or from an article (such as a translation),

to include in a collective work (such as an anthology), to text and data mine the article, as long as they credit the author(s), do not represent the author as endorsing their adaptation of the article, do not modify the article in such a way as to damage the author's honor or reputation, and license their new adaptations or creations under identical terms (CC BY-NC-SA).

Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivs (CC BY-NC-ND): for non-commercial purposes, lets others distribute and copy the article, and to include in a collective work (such as an anthology), as long as they credit the author(s) and provided they do not alter or modify the article.

To provide open access, this journal has a publication fee which needs to be met by the authors or their research funders for each article published open access.

Your publication choice will have no effect on the peer review process or acceptance of submitted articles.

The open access publication fee for this journal is **\$3100**, excluding taxes. Learn more about Elsevier's pricing policy: <http://www.elsevier.com/openaccesspricing>.

Language (usage and editing services)

Please write your text in good English (American or British usage is accepted, but not a mixture of these). Authors who feel their English language manuscript may require editing to eliminate possible grammatical or spelling errors and to conform to correct scientific English may wish to use the English Language Editing service available from Elsevier's WebShop (<http://webshop.elsevier.com/languageediting/>) or visit our customer support site (<http://support.elsevier.com>) for more information.

PREPARATION

NEW SUBMISSIONS

Submission to this journal proceeds totally online and you will be guided stepwise through the creation and uploading of your files. The system automatically converts your files to a single PDF file, which is used in the peer-review process.

As part of the Your Paper Your Way service, you may choose to submit your manuscript as a single file to be used in the refereeing process. This can be a PDF file or a Word document, in any format or layout that can be used by referees to evaluate your manuscript. It should contain high enough quality figures for refereeing. If you prefer to do so, you may still provide all or some of the source files at the initial submission. Please note that individual figure files larger than 10 MB must be uploaded separately.

Please note that the instructions related to Abbreviations, Abstract, Graphical abstract, Keywords, Math formulae and Units still apply to all new submissions.

References

There are no strict requirements on reference formatting at submission. References can be in any style or format as long as the style is consistent. Where applicable, author(s) name(s), journal title/book title, chapter title/article title, year of publication, volume number/book chapter and the pagination must be present. Use of DOI is highly encouraged. The reference style used by the journal will be applied to the accepted article by Elsevier at the proof stage. Note that missing data will be highlighted at proof stage for the author to correct.

Formatting requirements

There are no strict formatting requirements but all manuscripts must contain the essential elements needed to convey your manuscript, for example Abstract, Keywords, Introduction, Materials and Methods, Results, Conclusions, Artwork and Tables with Captions.

If your article includes any Videos and/or other Supplementary material, this should be included in your initial submission for peer review purposes.

Divide the article into clearly defined sections.

REVISED SUBMISSIONS

Use of word processing software

Regardless of the file format of the original submission, at revision you must provide us with an editable file of the entire article. Keep the layout of the text as simple as possible. Most formatting codes will be removed and replaced on processing the article. The electronic text should be prepared in a way very similar to that of conventional manuscripts (see also the Guide to Publishing with Elsevier: <http://www.elsevier.com/guidepublication>). See also the section on Electronic artwork.

To avoid unnecessary errors you are strongly advised to use the 'spell-check' and 'grammar-check' functions of your word processor.

LaTeX

You are recommended to use the Elsevier article class *elsarticle.cls* (<http://www.ctan.org/tex-archive/macros/latex/contrib/elsarticle>) to prepare your manuscript and BibTeX (<http://www.bibtex.org>) to generate your bibliography.

For detailed submission instructions, templates and other information on LaTeX, see <http://www.elsevier.com/latex>.

Article structure

Subdivision - numbered sections

Divide your article into clearly defined and numbered sections. Subsections should be numbered 1.1 (then 1.1.1, 1.1.2, ...), 1.2, etc. (the abstract is not included in section numbering). Use this numbering also for internal cross-referencing: do not just refer to 'the text'. Any subsection may be given a brief heading. Each heading should appear on its own separate line.

Introduction

State the objectives of the work and provide an adequate background, avoiding a detailed literature survey or a summary of the results.

Material and methods

Provide sufficient detail to allow the work to be reproduced. Methods already published should be indicated by a reference: only relevant modifications should be described.

Theory/calculation

A Theory section should extend, not repeat, the background to the article already dealt with in the Introduction and lay the foundation for further work. In contrast, a Calculation section represents a practical development from a theoretical basis.

Results

Results should be clear and concise.

Discussion

This should explore the significance of the results of the work, not repeat them. A combined Results and Discussion section is often appropriate. Avoid extensive citations and discussion of published literature.

Conclusions

The main conclusions of the study may be presented in a short Conclusions section, which may stand alone or form a subsection of a Discussion or Results and Discussion section.

Essential title page information

- **Title.** Concise and informative. Titles are often used in information-retrieval systems. Avoid abbreviations and formulae where possible.
- **Author names and affiliations.** Where the family name may be ambiguous (e.g., a double name), please indicate this clearly. Present the authors' affiliation addresses (where the actual work was done) below the names. Indicate all affiliations with a lower-case superscript letter immediately after the author's name and in front of the appropriate address. Provide the full postal address of each affiliation, including the country name and, if available, the e-mail address of each author.
- **Corresponding author.** Clearly indicate who will handle correspondence at all stages of refereeing and publication, also post-publication. **Ensure that phone numbers (with country and area code) are provided in addition to the e-mail address and the complete postal address. Contact details must be kept up to date by the corresponding author.**
- **Present/permanent address.** If an author has moved since the work described in the article was done, or was visiting at the time, a 'Present address' (or 'Permanent address') may be indicated as a footnote to that author's name. The address at which the author actually did the work must be retained as the main, affiliation address. Superscript Arabic numerals are used for such footnotes.

Abstract

A concise and factual abstract is required. The abstract should state briefly the purpose of the research, the principal results and major conclusions. An abstract is often presented separately from the article, so it must be able to stand alone. For this reason, References should be avoided, but if essential, then cite the author(s) and year(s). Also, non-standard or uncommon abbreviations should be avoided, but if essential they must be defined at their first mention in the abstract itself.

Graphical abstract

Although a graphical abstract is optional, its use is encouraged as it draws more attention to the online article. The graphical abstract should summarize the contents of the article in a concise, pictorial form designed to capture the attention of a wide readership. Graphical abstracts should be submitted as a separate file in the online submission system. Image size: Please provide an image with a minimum of 531 × 1328 pixels (h × w) or proportionally more. The image should be readable at a size of 5 × 13 cm using a regular screen resolution of 96 dpi. Preferred file types: TIFF, EPS, PDF or MS Office files. See <http://www.elsevier.com/graphicalabstracts> for examples.

Authors can make use of Elsevier's Illustration and Enhancement service to ensure the best presentation of their images and in accordance with all technical requirements: [Illustration Service](#).

Highlights

Highlights are mandatory for this journal. They consist of a short collection of bullet points that convey the core findings of the article and should be submitted in a separate editable file in the online submission system. Please use 'Highlights' in the file name and include 3 to 5 bullet points (maximum 85 characters, including spaces, per bullet point). See <http://www.elsevier.com/highlights> for examples.

Keywords

Immediately after the abstract, provide a maximum of 6 keywords, using American spelling and avoiding general and plural terms and multiple concepts (avoid, for example, 'and', 'of'). Be sparing with abbreviations: only abbreviations firmly established in the field may be eligible. These keywords will be used for indexing purposes.

Abbreviations

Define abbreviations that are not standard in this field in a footnote to be placed on the first page of the article. Such abbreviations that are unavoidable in the abstract must be defined at their first mention there, as well as in the footnote. Ensure consistency of abbreviations throughout the article.

Acknowledgements

Collate acknowledgements in a separate section at the end of the article before the references and do not, therefore, include them on the title page, as a footnote to the title or otherwise. List here those individuals who provided help during the research (e.g., providing language help, writing assistance or proof reading the article, etc.).

Units

Follow internationally accepted rules and conventions: use the international system of units (SI). If other units are mentioned, please give their equivalent in SI.

Math formulae

Please submit math equations as editable text and not as images. Present simple formulae in line with normal text where possible and use the solidus (/) instead of a horizontal line for small fractional terms, e.g., X/Y. In principle, variables are to be presented in italics. Powers of e are often more conveniently denoted by exp. Number consecutively any equations that have to be displayed separately from the text (if referred to explicitly in the text).

Footnotes

Footnotes should be used sparingly. Number them consecutively throughout the article. Many word processors build footnotes into the text, and this feature may be used. Should this not be the case, indicate the position of footnotes in the text and present the footnotes themselves separately at the end of the article.

Artwork

Electronic artwork

General points

- Make sure you use uniform lettering and sizing of your original artwork.
- Preferred fonts: Arial (or Helvetica), Times New Roman (or Times), Symbol, Courier.
- Number the illustrations according to their sequence in the text.
- Use a logical naming convention for your artwork files.
- Indicate per figure if it is a single, 1.5 or 2-column fitting image.
- For Word submissions only, you may still provide figures and their captions, and tables within a single file at the revision stage.
- Please note that individual figure files larger than 10 MB must be provided in separate source files. A detailed guide on electronic artwork is available on our website:

<http://www.elsevier.com/artworkinstructions>.

You are urged to visit this site; some excerpts from the detailed information are given here.

Formats

Regardless of the application used, when your electronic artwork is finalized, please 'save as' or convert the images to one of the following formats (note the resolution requirements for line drawings, halftones, and line/halftone combinations given below):

EPS (or PDF): Vector drawings. Embed the font or save the text as 'graphics'.

TIFF (or JPG): Color or grayscale photographs (halftones): always use a minimum of 300 dpi.

TIFF (or JPG): Bitmapped line drawings: use a minimum of 1000 dpi.

TIFF (or JPG): Combinations bitmapped line/half-tone (color or grayscale): a minimum of 500 dpi is required.

Please do not:

- Supply files that are optimized for screen use (e.g., GIF, BMP, PICT, WPG); the resolution is too low.
- Supply files that are too low in resolution.
- Submit graphics that are disproportionately large for the content.

Color artwork

Please make sure that artwork files are in an acceptable format (TIFF (or JPEG), EPS (or PDF), or MS Office files) and with the correct resolution. If, together with your accepted article, you submit usable color figures then Elsevier will ensure, at no additional charge, that these figures will appear in color online (e.g., ScienceDirect and other sites) regardless of whether or not these illustrations are reproduced in color in the printed version. **For color reproduction in print, you will receive information regarding the costs from Elsevier after receipt of your accepted article.** Please indicate your preference for color: in print or online only. For further information on the preparation of electronic artwork, please see <http://www.elsevier.com/artworkinstructions>.

Please note: Because of technical complications that can arise by converting color figures to 'gray scale' (for the printed version should you not opt for color in print) please submit in addition usable black and white versions of all the color illustrations.

Figure captions

Ensure that each illustration has a caption. A caption should comprise a brief title (**not** on the figure itself) and a description of the illustration. Keep text in the illustrations themselves to a minimum but explain all symbols and abbreviations used.

Text graphics

Text graphics may be embedded in the text at the appropriate position. If you are working with LaTeX and have such features embedded in the text, these can be left. See further under Electronic artwork.

References

Citation in text

Please ensure that every reference cited in the text is also present in the reference list (and vice versa). Any references cited in the abstract must be given in full. Unpublished results and personal communications are not recommended in the reference list, but may be mentioned in the text. If these references are included in the reference list they should follow the standard reference style of the journal and should include a substitution of the publication date with either 'Unpublished results' or 'Personal communication'. Citation of a reference as 'in press' implies that the item has been accepted for publication.

Web references

As a minimum, the full URL should be given and the date when the reference was last accessed. Any further information, if known (DOI, author names, dates, reference to a source publication, etc.), should also be given. Web references can be listed separately (e.g., after the reference list) under a different heading if desired, or can be included in the reference list.

References in a special issue

Please ensure that the words 'this issue' are added to any references in the list (and any citations in the text) to other articles in the same Special Issue.

Reference management software

This journal has standard templates available in key reference management packages EndNote (<http://www.endnote.com/support/enstyles.asp>) and Reference Manager (<http://refman.com/support/rmstyles.asp>). Using plug-ins to wordprocessing packages, authors only need to select the appropriate journal template when preparing their article and the list of references and citations to these will be formatted according to the journal style which is described below.

Reference formatting

There are no strict requirements on reference formatting at submission. References can be in any style or format as long as the style is consistent. Where applicable, author(s) name(s), journal title/book title, chapter title/article title, year of publication, volume number/book chapter and the pagination must be present. Use of DOI is highly encouraged. The reference style used by the journal will be applied to the accepted article by Elsevier at the proof stage. Note that missing data will be highlighted at proof stage for the author to correct. If you do wish to format the references yourself they should be arranged according to the following examples:

Journal abbreviations source

Journal names should be abbreviated according to the List of Title Word Abbreviations: <http://www.issn.org/services/online-services/access-to-the-ltwa/>.

Video data

Elsevier accepts video material and animation sequences to support and enhance your scientific research. Authors who have video or animation files that they wish to submit with their article are strongly encouraged to include links to these within the body of the article. This can be done in the same way as a figure or table by referring to the video or animation content and noting in the body text where it should be placed. All submitted files should be properly labeled so that they directly relate to the video file's content. In order to ensure that your video or animation material is directly usable, please provide the files in one of our recommended file formats with a preferred maximum size of 50 MB. Video and animation files supplied will be published online in the electronic version of your article in Elsevier Web products, including ScienceDirect: <http://www.sciencedirect.com>. Please supply 'stills' with your files: you can choose any frame from the video or animation or make a separate image. These will be used instead of standard icons and will personalize the link to your video data. For more detailed instructions please visit our video instruction pages at <http://www.elsevier.com/artworkinstructions>. Note: since video and animation cannot be embedded in the print version of the journal, please provide text for both the electronic and the print version for the portions of the article that refer to this content.

AudioSlides

The journal encourages authors to create an AudioSlides presentation with their published article. AudioSlides are brief, webinar-style presentations that are shown next to the online article on ScienceDirect. This gives authors the opportunity to summarize their research in their own words and to help readers understand what the paper is about. More information and examples are available at <http://www.elsevier.com/audioslides>. Authors of this journal will automatically receive an invitation e-mail to create an AudioSlides presentation after acceptance of their paper.

Supplementary data

Elsevier accepts electronic supplementary material to support and enhance your scientific research. Supplementary files offer the author additional possibilities to publish supporting applications, high-resolution images, background datasets, sound clips and more. Supplementary files supplied will be published online alongside the electronic version of your article in Elsevier Web products, including ScienceDirect: <http://www.sciencedirect.com>. In order to ensure that your submitted material is directly usable, please provide the data in one of our recommended file formats. Authors should submit the material in electronic format together with the article and supply a concise and descriptive caption for each file. For more detailed instructions please visit our artwork instruction pages at <http://www.elsevier.com/artworkinstructions>.

MATLAB FIG files

MATLAB FIG files (optional): You can enrich your online articles by providing supplementary MATLAB figure files with the .FIG file extension. These files will be visualized using an interactive viewer that allows readers to explore your figures within the article. The FIG files can be uploaded in our online submission system, and will be made available to download from your online article on ScienceDirect. For more information, please see <http://www.elsevier.com/matlab>.

Interactive plots

This journal encourages you to include data and quantitative results as interactive plots with your publication. To make use of this feature, please include your data as a CSV (comma-separated values) file when you submit your manuscript. Please refer to <http://www.elsevier.com/interactiveplots> for further details and formatting instructions.

Submission checklist

The following list will be useful during the final checking of an article prior to sending it to the journal for review. Please consult this Guide for Authors for further details of any item.

Ensure that the following items are present:

One author has been designated as the corresponding author with contact details:

- E-mail address
- Full postal address
- Telephone

All necessary files have been uploaded, and contain:

- Keywords
- All figure captions
- All tables (including title, description, footnotes)

Further considerations

- Manuscript has been 'spell-checked' and 'grammar-checked'
- All references mentioned in the Reference list are cited in the text, and vice versa
- Permission has been obtained for use of copyrighted material from other sources (including the Internet)

Printed version of figures (if applicable) in color or black-and-white

- Indicate clearly whether or not color or black-and-white in print is required.
- For reproduction in black-and-white, please supply black-and-white versions of the figures for printing purposes.

For any further information please visit our customer support site at <http://support.elsevier.com>.

AFTER ACCEPTANCE

Use of the Digital Object Identifier

The Digital Object Identifier (DOI) may be used to cite and link to electronic documents. The DOI consists of a unique alpha-numeric character string which is assigned to a document by the publisher upon the initial electronic publication. The assigned DOI never changes. Therefore, it is an ideal medium for citing a document, particularly 'Articles in press' because they have not yet received their full bibliographic information. Example of a correctly given DOI (in URL format; here an article in the journal *Physics Letters B*):

<http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.physletb.2010.09.059>

When you use a DOI to create links to documents on the web, the DOIs are guaranteed never to change.

Proofs

One set of page proofs (as PDF files) will be sent by e-mail to the corresponding author (if we do not have an e-mail address then paper proofs will be sent by post) or, a link will be provided in the e-mail so that authors can download the files themselves. Elsevier now provides authors with PDF proofs which can be annotated; for this you will need to download Adobe Reader version 9 (or higher) available free from <http://get.adobe.com/reader>. Instructions on how to annotate PDF files will accompany the proofs (also given online). The exact system requirements are given at the Adobe site: <http://www.adobe.com/products/reader/tech-specs.html>.

If you do not wish to use the PDF annotations function, you may list the corrections (including replies to the Query Form) and return them to Elsevier in an e-mail. Please list your corrections quoting line number. If, for any reason, this is not possible, then mark the corrections and any other comments (including replies to the Query Form) on a printout of your proof and return by fax, or scan the pages and e-mail, or by post. Please use this proof only for checking the typesetting, editing, completeness and correctness of the text, tables and figures. Significant changes to the article as accepted for publication will only be considered at this stage with permission from the Editor. We will do everything possible to get your article published quickly and accurately. It is important to ensure that all corrections are sent back to us in one communication: please check carefully before replying, as inclusion of any subsequent corrections cannot be guaranteed. Proofreading is solely your responsibility.

Offprints

The corresponding author, at no cost, will be provided with a PDF file of the article via e-mail. For an extra charge, paper offprints can be ordered via the offprint order form which is sent once the article is accepted for publication. The PDF file is a watermarked version of the published article and includes a cover sheet with the journal cover image and a disclaimer outlining the terms and conditions of use.

Author discount: Contributors to Elsevier journals are entitled to a 30% discount on all Elsevier books (excluding major reference work), See <http://www.elsevier.com/homepage/booksbutler> for more information.

Offprints

The corresponding author, at no cost, will be provided with a personalized link providing 50 days free access to the final published version of the article on [ScienceDirect](#). This link can also be used for sharing via email and social networks. For an extra charge, paper offprints can be ordered via the offprint order form which is sent once the article is accepted for publication. Both corresponding and co-authors may order offprints at any time via Elsevier's WebShop (<http://webshop.elsevier.com/myarticleservices/offprints>). Authors requiring printed copies of multiple articles may use Elsevier WebShop's 'Create Your Own Book' service to collate multiple articles within a single cover (<http://webshop.elsevier.com/myarticleservices/booklets>).

AUTHOR INQUIRIES

You can track your submitted article at http://help.elsevier.com/app/answers/detail/a_id/89/p/8045/. You can track your accepted article at <http://www.elsevier.com/trackarticle>. You are also welcome to contact Customer Support via <http://support.elsevier.com>.

© Copyright 2014 Elsevier | <http://www.elsevier.com>