DESCRIPTION

BBRC -- the fastest submission-to-online journal!

From Submission to Online in Less Than 3 Weeks!

Biochemical and Biophysical Research Communications is the premier international journal devoted to the very rapid dissemination of timely and significant experimental results in diverse fields of biological research. The development of the "Breakthroughs and Views" section brings the minireview format to the journal, and issues often contain collections of special interest manuscripts. BBRC is published weekly (52 issues/year).

Research Areas now include:
• Biochemistry
• Bioinformatics
• Biophysics
• Cancer Research
• Cell Biology
• Developmental Biology
• Immunology
• Molecular Biology
• Neurobiology
• Plant Biology
• Proteomics

Benefits to authors
We also provide many author benefits, such as free PDFs, a liberal copyright policy, special discounts on Elsevier publications and much more. Please click here for more information on our author services.

Please see our Guide for Authors for information on article submission. If you require any further information or help, please visit our Support Center

AUDIENCE

Biochemists, bioinformaticians, biophysicists, immunologists, cancer researchers, stem cell scientists and neurobiologists.
IMPACT FACTOR

2021: 3.322 © Clarivate Analytics Journal Citation Reports 2022

ABSTRACTING AND INDEXING

Scopus
Embase
EMBiology
Biological Abstracts
Chemical Abstracts
Current Contents - Life Sciences
Embase
PubMed/Medline
Science Citation Index
Web of Science

EDITORIAL BOARD

Editor-in-Chief
Wolfgang Baumeister, Max Planck Institute of Biochemistry, Martinsried, Germany
Structural Biology, Biophysics, Protein folding and degradation

Managing Editors
Zdravka Dragnevska
Karsta Heinze
Cristina Monterrubio-Martin

Special Content Editor
Ernesto Carafoli, University of Padua, Padova, Italy
Cell signaling, Calcium biochemistry, Bioenergetics, Mitochondria, Neuroscience

Editors
Christoph Alexiou, Erlangen University Hospital, Erlangen, Germany
Animal experiments, Imaging, Oncology, Regenerative Medicine (the Nanoscience related were: Nanomedicine, Nanoparticles: Synthesis-Characterisation-Application in biomedicine, Nanotoxicology, Cardiovascular Nanomedicine).
Ilya Bezprozvanny, The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, Dallas, Texas, United States of America
Synapse, calcium signaling, neurodegeneration
Zengyi Chang, Peking University, Beijing, China
Protein Chemistry and Degradation
Chin Ha Chung, Seoul National University School of Biological Sciences, Seoul, South Korea
Protein Biochemistry, Protein Degradation, Ubiquitin and Ubiquitin-like Proteins, Cancer
Vitaly Citovsky, Stony Brook University Department of Biochemistry & Cell Biology, Stony Brook, New York, United States of America
Gene Regulation and Chromatin Remodelling; Protein Degradation; Virology; Plant Biology, Plant biology
Bengt Fadeel, Karolinska Institute, Stockholm, Sweden
Nanotoxicology, Inflammation and immunotoxicology, Mechanisms of cell death
Félix M. Goñi, University of the Basque Country Department of Biochemistry, Leioa, Spain
Lipids
Barry Halliwell, National University of Singapore Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine, Singapore, Singapore
Oxidative stress; Bioenergetics/Mitochondria; Molecular Toxicology, Neurodegenerative diseases; Ergothioneine
Yong-Keun Jung, Seoul National University School of Biological Sciences, Seoul, South Korea
Apoptosis/cell death, Autophagy, Cell signaling, Neurodegenerative disease
Michael Lichten, Bethesda, Maryland, Maryland, United States of America
DNA Repair and Recombination, Gene regulation and chromatin remodeling, Yeast Genetics and Epigenetics
Konstantin A. Lukyanov, Skolkovo Institute of Science and Technology, Skolkovo, Russian Federation
Fluorescent proteins, Fluorescence labeling and imaging, Super-resolution fluorescence microscopy, Bioluminescence, Optogenetics

Anders Lund, University of Copenhagen, Copenhagen, Denmark
MicroRNA; Epigenetics; Gene Regulation and Chromatin Remodelling

Carlos Martinez-Alonso, Spanish Scientific Research Council, Madrid, Spain
Immunology and Inflammation, Cancer Research, Cell Biology

Hisao Masai, Tokyo Metropolitan Institute of Medical Science, Setagaya-Ku, Japan
DNA replication, G-quadruplex, cell cycle, genome stability, chromatin organization, Cdc7, Rif1, Claspin, PriA, Escherichia coli, Fission yeast

Tetsuro Matano, National Institute of Infectious Diseases, Shinjuku-Ku, Japan
Virology, Immunology, Vaccine, Retrovirus, COVID-19

Katsuhiko Mikoshiba, ShanghaiTech University, Shanghai, China
Neuroscience; Oxidative Stress and Antioxidants; Protein Folding

James Ntambi, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, Wisconsin, United States of America
Metabolic regulation, bile acid, liver metabolism, lipid signaling, lipid synthesis, beta-oxidation, fatty acid metabolism, membrane lipid, acetyltransferase, adipose tissue metabolism, peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor gamma coactivator 1-alpha (PGC-1a)(PPARGC1A), energy metabolism, dyslipidemia, gluconeogenesis, endoplasmic reticulum stress (ER stress), glucose metabolism, acetoacetate, metabolic syndrome

Sergio Pantano, Pasteur Montevideo Institute, Montevideo, Uruguay
Computational/Structural Biology, Molecular Simulations, Bioinformatics, Physical Virology

Duanqing Pei, Westlake University School of Life Sciences, Hangzhou, China
Cell Fate Control

Sven Pettersson, Karolinska Institute, Stockholm, Sweden

Jacques Pouysségur, Valrose Institute of Biology, Nice, France
Hypoxia Signalling; Cancer Biology; Bioenergetics/Mitochondria

Luigia Santella, Zoological Station Anton Dohrn, Napoli, Italy
Fertilization and Early Development, Cell and Developmental Biology, Oocyte Meiotic Maturation, Calcium Signaling

Igor Stagljar, University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario, Canada
Cancer signalling, Chemical biology, Cancer therapeutics, Protein-protein interactions, Proteomics, Systems biology, Membrane transport

Kiyoshi Takatsu, University of Toyama Department of Immunobiology and Pharmacology, Toyama, Japan
Immunology and Inflammation

Naoyuki Taniguchi, Osaka International Cancer Institute, Osaka, Japan
Glycobiology and Reactive Oxygen Species involved in disease prevention, diagnosis and treatment, Glycosyltransferases, N-glycan, Superoxide dismutases, Carbonic anhydrases, Maillard reaction, Cell surface proteins, Growth factor receptors, Keratan Sulfate, Cancer, COPD. Alzheimer's disease, Biochemistry, Glycobiology, Reactive oxygen and nitrogen species

William Vainchenker, Gustave Roussy, Villejuif, France
Stem cells, Hematological malignancies, Signaling, Cell biology

Liping Wang, Chinese Academy of Sciences Shenzhen Institutes of Advanced Technology, Shenzhen, China
Neuroscience

Eric Westhof, Institute of Molecular and Cellular Biology, Strasbourg, France
Relationships between sequences, three-dimensional structures, evolution and functions of RNA molecules, especially those with catalytic activity, RNA

Isaac P. Witz, Tel Aviv University, Tel Aviv, Israel
Cancer Biology; Stem cells

Alec Zhang, The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, Dallas, Texas, United States of America
Surface receptors and signaling, cancer; cancer immunology, and stem cells

Boris Zhivotovsky, Karolinska Institute Institute of Environmental Medicine, Stockholm, Sweden
Apoptosis/Cell Death, Autophagy, Cancer Biology
GUIDE FOR AUTHORS

INTRODUCTION
Biochemical and Biophysical Research Communications is the premier international journal devoted to the very rapid dissemination of timely and significant experimental results in diverse fields of biological research. Research Areas now include: Biochemistry, Biophysics, Cell Biology, Developmental Biology, Immunology, Molecular Biology, Neurobiology, Plant Biology, Proteomics.

Please note that BBRC does not favorably review manuscripts identifying a miRNA-target pair without additional insights into the repression mechanism or significant advances in understanding regulatory pathways. In addition, the following elements should be an integral part of the study:

In Silico prediction of miRNA targets must be experimentally verified using appropriate luciferase constructs and assays. To exclude non-functional miRNA/mRNA interactions, a reporter system including the whole 3'UTR of the target gene downstream of the "luciferase" or GFP should be considered. To maximize physiological relevance, any miRNA modulation should be validated by measuring the expression of the putative protein and should preferentially include miRNA inhibition rather than miRNA overexpression experiments.

Types of paper
BBRC accepts short communications. Special content, such as reviews and thematic issues, are by invitation-only.

Contact details for submission
Papers should be submitted using the BBRC online submission system https://www.editorialmanager.com/BBRC/default.aspx. Authors who have questions regarding the electronic submission process could visit our support center.

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

Ethics in publishing
Please see our information on Ethics in publishing.

Studies in humans and animals
If the work involves the use of human subjects, the author should ensure that the work described has been carried out in accordance with The Code of Ethics of the World Medical Association (Declaration of Helsinki) for experiments involving humans. The manuscript should be in line with the Recommendations for the Conduct, Reporting, Editing and Publication of Scholarly Work in Medical Journals and aim for the inclusion of representative human populations (sex, age, and ethnicity) as per those recommendations. The terms sex and gender should be used correctly.

Authors should include a statement in the manuscript that informed consent was obtained for experimentation with human subjects. The privacy rights of human subjects must always be observed.

All animal experiments should comply with the ARRIVE guidelines and should be carried out in accordance with the U.K. Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act, 1986 and associated guidelines, EU Directive 2010/63/EU for animal experiments, or the National Research Council's Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals and the authors should clearly indicate in the manuscript that such guidelines have been followed. The sex of animals must be indicated, and where appropriate, the influence (or association) of sex on the results of the study.

Declaration of competing interest
Corresponding authors, on behalf of all the authors of a submission, must disclose any financial and personal relationships with other people or organizations that could inappropriately influence (bias) their work. Examples of potential conflicts of interest include employment, consultancies, stock ownership, honoraria, paid expert testimony, patent applications/registrations, and grants or other funding. All authors, including those without competing interests to declare, should provide the relevant information to the corresponding author (which, where relevant, may specify they have nothing to declare). Corresponding authors should then use this tool to create a shared statement and upload to the submission system at the Attach Files step. Please do not convert the .docx template to another file type. Author signatures are not required.
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, a published lecture or academic thesis, see ‘Multiple, redundant or concurrent publication’ for more information), 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 compliance, your article may be checked by Crossref Similarity Check and other originality or duplicate checking software.

Preprints
Please note that preprints can be shared anywhere at any time, in line with Elsevier’s sharing policy. Sharing your preprints e.g. on a preprint server will not count as prior publication (see ‘Multiple, redundant or concurrent publication’ for more information).

Use of inclusive language
Inclusive language acknowledges diversity, conveys respect to all people, is sensitive to differences, and promotes equal opportunities. Content should make no assumptions about the beliefs or commitments of any reader; contain nothing which might imply that one individual is superior to another on the grounds of age, gender, race, ethnicity, culture, sexual orientation, disability or health condition; and use inclusive language throughout. Authors should ensure that writing is free from bias, stereotypes, slang, reference to dominant culture and/or cultural assumptions. We advise to seek gender neutrality by using plural nouns (“clinicians, patients/clients”) as default/wherever possible to avoid using “he, she,” or “he/she.” We recommend avoiding the use of descriptors that refer to personal attributes such as age, gender, race, ethnicity, culture, sexual orientation, disability or health condition unless they are relevant and valid. When coding terminology is used, we recommend to avoid offensive or exclusionary terms such as "master", "slave", "blacklist" and "whitelist". We suggest using alternatives that are more appropriate and (self-) explanatory such as "primary", "secondary", "blocklist" and "allowlist". These guidelines are meant as a point of reference to help identify appropriate language but are by no means exhaustive or definitive.

Authorship
All authors should have made substantial contributions to all of the following: (1) the conception and design of the study, or acquisition of data, or analysis and interpretation of data, (2) drafting the article or revising it critically for important intellectual content, (3) final approval of the version to be submitted.

Changes to authorship
Authors are expected to consider carefully the list and order of authors before submitting their manuscript and provide the definitive list of authors at the time of the original submission. Any addition, deletion or rearrangement of author names in the authorship list should be made only before the manuscript has been accepted and only if approved by the journal Editor. To request such a change, the Editor must receive the following from the corresponding author: (a) the reason for the change in author list and (b) written confirmation (e-mail, 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.

Only in exceptional circumstances will the Editor consider the addition, deletion or rearrangement of authors after the manuscript has been accepted. While the Editor considers the request, publication of the manuscript will be suspended. If the manuscript has already been published in an online issue, any requests approved by the Editor will result in a corrigendum.

Article transfer service
This journal uses the Elsevier Article Transfer Service to find the best home for your manuscript. This means that if an editor feels your manuscript is more suitable for an alternative journal, you might be asked to consider transferring the manuscript to such a journal. The recommendation might be provided by a Journal Editor, a dedicated Scientific Managing Editor, a tool assisted recommendation, or a combination. If you agree, your manuscript will be transferred, though you will have the opportunity to make changes to the manuscript before the submission is complete. Please note that your manuscript will be independently reviewed by the new journal. More information.
**Copyright**
Upon acceptance of an article, authors will be asked to complete a 'Journal Publishing Agreement' (see more information on this). 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. 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.

For gold open access articles: Upon acceptance of an article, authors will be asked to complete a 'License Agreement' (more information). Permitted third party reuse of gold open access articles is determined by the author's choice of user license.

**Author rights**
As an author you (or your employer or institution) have certain rights to reuse your work. More information.

Elsevier supports responsible sharing
Find out how you can share your research published in Elsevier journals.

**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, it is recommended to state this.

Elsevier journals comply with current NIH public access policy.

**Open access**
Please visit our Open Access page for more information.

**Elsevier Researcher Academy**
Researcher Academy is a free e-learning platform designed to support early and mid-career researchers throughout their research journey. The "Learn" environment at Researcher Academy offers several interactive modules, webinars, downloadable guides and resources to guide you through the process of writing for research and going through peer review. Feel free to use these free resources to improve your submission and navigate the publication process with ease.

**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 Author Services.

**Submission**
Our online submission system guides you stepwise through the process of entering your article details and uploading your files. The system converts your article files to a single PDF file used in the peer-review process. Editable files (e.g., Word, LaTeX) are required to typeset your article for final publication. All correspondence, including notification of the Editor's decision and requests for revision, is sent by e-mail.

**Peer Review Policy**
The practice of peer review is to ensure that good science is published. It is an objective process at the heart of good scholarly publishing and is carried out on all reputable scientific journals. Our Editorial Board therefore plays a vital role in maintaining the high standards of BBRC while ensuring that it retains the speed of publication necessary for a rapid communication journal.

**Type of Peer Review**
**How long does the review process take?**
Authors of manuscripts can expect an accept or reject decision normally within 2 weeks of receipt. Publication will then take place immediately unless the author has, upon submission, requested an embargo.

**Mini Reviews**
This section includes invited mini reviews, commentaries, and views on relevant subject matter, not simply short papers. Authors should only submit a manuscript for this section if invited by an Editor. In the cover letter authors should indicate that they are "submitting a manuscript for the Mini Reviews section," and the name of the commissioning Editor. The authors of mini reviews may, if they wish, include a limited number of annotated references. Two hypothetical examples follow:


**PREPARATION**

**Queries**
For questions about the editorial process (including the status of manuscripts under review) or for technical support on submissions, please visit our Support Center.

**Use of wordprocessing software**
Please submit your paper in Word Document format. Include a cover letter with your submission to appear before the manuscript. It should be in letter format and address the submission to BBRC, including a brief outline of the manuscript and why you think it is important to the readers of BBRC. The text of the manuscript should be in single-column format and include page numbers. Keep the layout of the text as simple as possible. Please do not include any line numbers or running headers or footers such as the manuscript title or corresponding author name. Please remove any "hidden edits" from your paper prior to submission by using track changes then accept changes. Most formatting codes will be removed and replaced on processing the article. In particular, do not use the wordprocessor's options to justify text or to hyphenate words. However, do use bold face, italics, subscripts, superscripts etc. Do not embed "graphically designed" equations or tables, but prepare these using the wordprocessor's facility. When preparing tables, if you are using a table grid, use only one grid for each individual table and not a grid for each row. If no grid is used, use tabs, not spaces, to align columns. The electronic text should be prepared in a way very similar to that of conventional manuscripts (see also the Guide to Publishing with Elsevier: https://www.elsevier.com/guidepublication). Do not import the figures into the text file but, instead, indicate their approximate locations directly in the electronic text and on the manuscript. See also the section on Electronic illustrations.

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

**Manuscript size and length**
Manuscripts should be double-spaced throughout, with a minimum of 1-inch margins. We prefer concise articles of no more than 6,000 words and up to six display items, including all figures and tables. The 6,000 word count includes the title page, all sections of the manuscript (including the references), and the figure and table legends. Papers that exceed these limits may be sent back to authors for revision.

Submissions should be organized as follows:

**Cover letter**
**Title page**
Manuscript text: Abstract Keywords Introduction Materials and Methods Results Discussion Acknowledgements References Figure/Table Legends Figures/Tables Supplementary Material

Provide sufficient details to allow the work to be reproduced by an independent researcher. Methods that are already published should be summarized, and indicated by a reference. If quoting directly from a previously published method, use quotation marks and also cite the source. Any modifications to existing methods should also be described. Any Methods exclusively used for supplemental figures may be described in the supplemental material, however Methods pertaining to figures in the main text should be presented in the main text.

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 details to allow the work to be reproduced by an independent researcher. Methods that are already published should be summarized, and indicated by a reference. If quoting directly from a previously published method, use quotation marks and also cite the source. Any modifications to existing methods should also be described.

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.

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.** Please clearly indicate the given name(s) and family name(s) of each author and check that all names are accurately spelled. You can add your name between parentheses in your own script behind the English transliteration. 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. This responsibility includes answering any future queries about Methodology and Materials. Ensure that the e-mail address is given and that contact details are 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.

Highlights
Highlights are mandatory for this journal as they help increase the discoverability of your article via search engines. They consist of a short collection of bullet points that capture the novel results of your research as well as new methods that were used during the study (if any). Please have a look at the examples here: example Highlights.

Highlights 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).

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. You can view Example Graphical Abstracts on our information site.

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.

Western blots images
Biochemical and Biophysical Research Communications may ask for submission of the whole uncropped images of the original western blots in triplicate that contributed to the quantitative analysis, from which figures have been derived. Please see Example of original western blot for three repeats

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.).

Formatting of funding sources
List funding sources in this standard way to facilitate compliance to funder's requirements:

Funding: This work was supported by the National Institutes of Health [grant numbers xxxx, yyyy]; the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Seattle, WA [grant number zzzz]; and the United States Institutes of Peace [grant number aaaa].

It is not necessary to include detailed descriptions on the program or type of grants and awards. When funding is from a block grant or other resources available to a university, college, or other research institution, submit the name of the institute or organization that provided the funding.

If no funding has been provided for the research, it is recommended to include the following sentence:

This research did not receive any specific grant from funding agencies in the public, commercial, or not-for-profit sectors.

Standards for Reporting Enzymology Data (STRENDA)
This journal follows the recommendations of the STRENDA (Standards for Reporting Enzymology Data) Commission of the Beilstein-Institut for the reporting of kinetic and equilibrium binding data. Detailed guidelines can be found at (http://www.strenda.org/documents.html) or in this pdf file. All reports of kinetic and binding data must include a description of the identity of the catalytic or binding entity (enzyme, protein, nucleic acid or other molecule). This information should include the origin or source of the molecule, its purity, composition, and other characteristics such as post-translational modifications, mutations, and any modifications made to facilitate expression or purification. The assay methods and exact experimental conditions of the assay must be fully described if it is a new assay or provided as a reference to previously published work, with or without modifications. The temperature, pH and pressure (if other than atmospheric) of the assay must always be included, even if previously published. In instances where catalytic activity or binding cannot be detected, an estimate of the limit of detection based on the sensitivity and error analysis.
of the assay should be provided. Ambiguous terms such as "not detectable" should be avoided. A description of the software used for data analysis should be included along with calculated errors for all parameters.

First-order and second-order rate constants: see pdf for full instructions.

Footnotes
Footnotes should be used sparingly. Number them consecutively throughout the article. Many word processors can build footnotes into the text, and this feature may be used. Otherwise, please indicate the position of footnotes in the text and list the footnotes themselves separately at the end of the article. Do not include footnotes in the Reference list.

Artwork
Image manipulation
Whilst it is accepted that authors sometimes need to manipulate images for clarity, manipulation for purposes of deception or fraud will be seen as scientific ethical abuse and will be dealt with accordingly. For graphical images, this journal is applying the following policy: no specific feature within an image may be enhanced, obscured, moved, removed, or introduced. Adjustments of brightness, contrast, or color balance are acceptable if and as long as they do not obscure or eliminate any information present in the original. Nonlinear adjustments (e.g. changes to gamma settings) must be disclosed in the figure legend.

The journal has started a pilot to screen for any image irregularities, during which images may be sent to a third-party service. If there is a question about an image, the editor may ask for original data or images. Ultimately, if these are not satisfactory, we may decide not to accept the manuscript. As the final step before submission, we encourage you to check all images once more and connect all of the data in the figures to the original, unprocessed data. Advice on avoiding common mistakes is available here.

Electronic artwork
General points
• Make sure you use uniform lettering and sizing of your original artwork.
• Embed the used fonts if the application provides that option.
• Aim to use the following fonts in your illustrations: Arial, Courier, Times New Roman, Symbol, or use fonts that look similar.
• Number the illustrations according to their sequence in the text.
• Use a logical naming convention for your artwork files.
• Provide captions to illustrations separately.
• Size the illustrations close to the desired dimensions of the published version.
• Submit each illustration as a separate file.
• Ensure that color images are accessible to all, including those with impaired color vision.

A detailed guide on electronic artwork is available.

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

Formats
If your electronic artwork is created in a Microsoft Office application (Word, PowerPoint, Excel) then please supply 'as is' in the native document format.
Regardless of the application used other than Microsoft Office, 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 all used fonts.
TIFF (or JPEG): Color or grayscale photographs (halftones), keep to a minimum of 300 dpi.
TIFF (or JPEG): Bitmapped (pure black & white pixels) line drawings, keep to a minimum of 1000 dpi.
TIFF (or JPEG): Combinations bitmapped line/half-tone (color or grayscale), keep to a minimum of 500 dpi.

Please do not:
• Supply files that are optimized for screen use (e.g., GIF, BMP, PICT, WPG); these typically have a low number of pixels and limited set of colors;
• 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. Further information on the preparation of electronic artwork.

Figure captions
Ensure that each illustration has a caption. Supply captions separately, not attached to the figure. 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.

Tables
Please submit tables as editable text and not as images. Tables can be placed either next to the relevant text in the article, or on separate page(s) at the end. Number tables consecutively in accordance with their appearance in the text and place any table notes below the table body. Be sparing in the use of tables and ensure that the data presented in them do not duplicate results described elsewhere in the article. Please avoid using vertical rules and shading in table cells.

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.

Data references
This journal encourages you to cite underlying or relevant datasets in your manuscript by citing them in your text and including a data reference in your Reference List. Data references should include the following elements: author name(s), dataset title, data repository, version (where available), year, and global persistent identifier. Add [dataset] immediately before the reference so we can properly identify it as a data reference. The [dataset] identifier will not appear in your published article.

Preprint references
Where a preprint has subsequently become available as a peer-reviewed publication, the formal publication should be used as the reference. If there are preprints that are central to your work or that cover crucial developments in the topic, but are not yet formally published, these may be referenced. Preprints should be clearly marked as such, for example by including the word preprint, or the name of the preprint server, as part of the reference. The preprint DOI should also be provided.

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
Most Elsevier journals have their reference template available in many of the most popular reference management software products. These include all products that support Citation Style Language styles, such as Mendeley. Using citation plug-ins from these products, authors only need to select the appropriate journal template when preparing their article, after which citations and bibliographies will be automatically formatted in the journal's style. If no template is yet available for this journal, please follow the format of the sample references and citations as shown in this Guide. If you use
reference management software, please ensure that you remove all field codes before submitting the electronic manuscript. More information on how to remove field codes from different reference management software.

Reference style

Text: Indicate references by number(s) in square brackets in line with the text. The actual authors can be referred to, but the reference number(s) must always be given.

Example: '..... as demonstrated [3,6]. Barnaby and Jones [8] obtained a different result ....'

List: Number the references (numbers in square brackets) in the list in the order in which they appear in the text.

Examples:

Reference to a journal publication:

Reference to a journal publication with an article number:

Reference to a book:

Reference to a chapter in an edited book:

Reference to a website:

Reference to a dataset:

Reference to software:

You must also list a minimum of 3 authors associated with a cited work before using "et al." in each of your references.

Journal abbreviations source

Journal names should be abbreviated according to the List of Title Word Abbreviations.

Video

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 file in one of our recommended file formats with a preferred maximum size of 150 MB per file, 1 GB in total. Video and animation files supplied will be published online in the electronic version of your article in Elsevier Web products, including ScienceDirect. 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. 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.

Supplementary material

Supplementary material such as applications, images and sound clips, can be published with your article to enhance it. Submitted supplementary items are published exactly as they are received (Excel or PowerPoint files will appear as such online). Please submit your material together with the article and supply a concise, descriptive caption for each supplementary file. If you wish to make changes to
supplementary material during any stage of the process, please make sure to provide an updated file. Do not annotate any corrections on a previous version. Please switch off the 'Track Changes' option in Microsoft Office files as these will appear in the published version.

**Research data**

This journal encourages and enables you to share data that supports your research publication where appropriate, and enables you to interlink the data with your published articles. Research data refers to the results of observations or experimentation that validate research findings. To facilitate reproducibility and data reuse, this journal also encourages you to share your software, code, models, algorithms, protocols, methods and other useful materials related to the project.

Below are a number of ways in which you can associate data with your article or make a statement about the availability of your data when submitting your manuscript. If you are sharing data in one of these ways, you are encouraged to cite the data in your manuscript and reference list. Please refer to the "References" section for more information about data citation. For more information on depositing, sharing and using research data and other relevant research materials, visit the research data page.

**Data linking**

If you have made your research data available in a data repository, you can link your article directly to the dataset. Elsevier collaborates with a number of repositories to link articles on ScienceDirect with relevant repositories, giving readers access to underlying data that gives them a better understanding of the research described.

There are different ways to link your datasets to your article. When available, you can directly link your dataset to your article by providing the relevant information in the submission system. For more information, visit the database linking page.

For supported data repositories a repository banner will automatically appear next to your published article on ScienceDirect.

In addition, you can link to relevant data or entities through identifiers within the text of your manuscript, using the following format: Database: xxxx (e.g., TAIR: AT1G01020; CCDC: 734053; PDB: 1XFN).

**Research Elements**

This journal enables you to publish research objects related to your original research – such as data, methods, protocols, software and hardware – as an additional paper in Research Elements.

Research Elements is a suite of peer-reviewed, open access journals which make your research objects findable, accessible and reusable. Articles place research objects into context by providing detailed descriptions of objects and their application, and linking to the associated original research articles. Research Elements articles can be prepared by you, or by one of your collaborators.

During submission, you will be alerted to the opportunity to prepare and submit a Research Elements article.

More information can be found on the Research Elements page.

**Data statement**

To foster transparency, we encourage you to state the availability of your data in your submission. This may be a requirement of your funding body or institution. If your data is unavailable to access or unsuitable to post, you will have the opportunity to indicate why during the submission process, for example by stating that the research data is confidential. The statement will appear with your published article on ScienceDirect. For more information, visit the Data Statement page.

**Submission checklist**

It is hoped that this list will be useful during the final checking of an article prior to sending it to the journal's Editor for review. Please consult this Guide for Authors for further details of any item.

**Ensure that the following items are present:**

One Author designated as corresponding Author:
- E-mail address
- Full postal address
- Telephone and fax numbers
All necessary files have been uploaded
- Research Highlights
- Keywords
- All figure captions
- All tables (including title, description, footnotes)
Further considerations
- Manuscript has been "spellchecked" and "grammar-checked"
- References are in the correct format for this journal
- 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 Web)
- Color figures are clearly marked as being intended for color reproduction on the Web (free of charge) and in print or to be reproduced in color on the Web (free of charge) and in black-and-white in print
- If only color on the Web is required, black and white versions of the figures are also supplied for printing purposes
For any further information please visit our customer support site at service.elsevier.com.

AFTER ACCEPTANCE

Online proof correction
To ensure a fast publication process of the article, we kindly ask authors to provide us with their proof corrections within two days. Corresponding authors will receive an e-mail with a link to our online proofing system, allowing annotation and correction of proofs online. The environment is similar to MS Word: in addition to editing text, you can also comment on figures/tables and answer questions from the Copy Editor. Web-based proofing provides a faster and less error-prone process by allowing you to directly type your corrections, eliminating the potential introduction of errors.
If preferred, you can still choose to annotate and upload your edits on the PDF version. All instructions for proofing will be given in the e-mail we send to authors, including alternative methods to the online version and PDF.
We will do everything possible to get your article published quickly and accurately. 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. 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.

AUTHOR INQUIRIES
Visit the Elsevier Support Center to find the answers you need. Here you will find everything from Frequently Asked Questions to ways to get in touch.
You can also check the status of your submitted article or find out when your accepted article will be published.