Computational and Structural Biotechnology Journal (CSBJ) is an online journal publishing research articles and reviews after full peer review. All articles are published, without barriers to access, immediately upon acceptance. The journal places a strong emphasis on functional and mechanistic understanding of how molecular components in a biological process work together through the application of computational methods. Structural data may provide such insights, but they are not a pre-requisite for publication in the journal. Specific areas of interest include, but are not limited to:

- Structure and function of proteins, nucleic acids and other macromolecules
- Structure and function of multi-component complexes
- Protein folding, processing and degradation
- Enzymology
- Computational and structural studies of plant systems
- Microbial Informatics
- Genomics
- Proteomics
- Metabolomics
- Algorithms and Hypothesis in Bioinformatics
- Mathematical and Theoretical Biology
- Computational Chemistry and Drug Discovery
- Microscopy and Molecular Imaging
- Nanotechnology
- Systems and Synthetic Biology

While all general topics related to Computational and Structural Biology are welcomed, the editors reserve the right to pre-screen submissions based on the suitability of the topic of a submission and, therefore, the right as whether a manuscript will be processed/reviewed or not. Even though experimental validation is not required for publication, reliability and significance of biological discovery are validated and enriched by experimental studies.

The journal welcomes the submission of manuscripts that meet the general criteria of significance and scientific excellence, and enables the rapid publication of papers under the following categories:
- Research articles
- Review articles
- Mini Reviews
- Highlights
- Communications
- Software/Web server articles
- Methods articles
- Database articles
- Book Reviews
- Meeting Reviews
ABSTRACTING AND INDEXING

CAB Abstracts
Dairy Science Abstracts
Environmental Impact
Global Health
Nutrition Abstracts and Reviews Series A: Human and Experimental
Plant Breeding Abstracts
Protozoological Abstracts
Sugar Industry Abstracts
PubMed Central
Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ)
SHERPA / RoMEO
CAS
CrossRef
ProQuest
CiteULike
Scopus
CABI Information
PubMed
National Library of Medicine
AgBiotechNet
Animal Production Database
Agricultural Engineering Abstracts
Animal Science Database
Biofuels Abstracts
Horticultural Science Abstracts
Nutrition and Food Sciences Database
Parasitology Database
Plant Genetics and Breeding Database
Mendeley
LOCKSS
ImpactStory

EDITORIAL BOARD

Editor-in-Chief
Gianni Panagiotou, Hans Knöll Institute, Jena, Germany

Journal Manager
D.B.R.K. Gupta Udatha, Oslo Cancer Cluster, Norway

Associate Editors
Hal Alper, The University of Texas at Austin, United States
Jeyaprakash Arulananandam, Wellcome Trust Centre for Cell Biology, United Kingdom
Jose M. Barral, University of Texas Medical Branch, United States
Darren Boehning, The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston, United States
Matthew F. Bush, University of Washington, United States
Champak Chatterjee, University of Washington, Seattle, United States
Songye Chen, California Institute of Technology, United States
Kevin Critchley, University of Leeds, United Kingdom
Mingdong Dong, Aarhus Universitet, Denmark
Douglas Fairlie, Olivia Newton-John Cancer Research Institute, Australia
Henrik Flyvbjerg, Technical University of Denmark, Denmark
Joachim Frank, Columbia University, United States
Evripidis Gavathiotis, Albert Einstein College of Medicine, United States
Markus Hergrard, Technical University of Denmark, Denmark
Deborah F. Kelly, Virginia Tech Carilion Research Institute, United States
Douglas Kojetin, The Scripps Research Institute, United States
Julien Lescar, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore
Bin Liu, Yale University, United States
Goran Malojcic, Syros Pharmaceuticals, Inc., United States
Erika Jazmin Mancini, University of Oxford, United Kingdom
John A. McLean, Vanderbilt University, United States
Marc C. Morais, University of Texas Medical Branch, United States
Grzegorz M. Popowicz, Max Planck Institute for Biochemistry, Germany
Vijay S. Reddy, The Scripps Research Institute, United States
Yizhi Jane Tao, Rice University, United States
Niels Tommerup, University of Copenhagen, Denmark
Silas G. Villas-Boas, The University of Auckland, Auckland, New Zealand
Karen Wing Yee Yuen, The University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong
Dejian Zhou, University of Leeds, United Kingdom

Editorial Board Members
Rafi Ahmad, Medivir AB, Sweden
Rinti Banerjee, Indian Institute of Technology- Mumbai, India
Danail Bonchev, Virginia Commonwealth University, United States
Martin Henry Brinkworth, University of Bradford, United Kingdom
Kuo-Chen Chou, Gordon Life Science Institute, United States
Paul Christakopoulos, Luleå University of Technology, Sweden
Mustafa Culha, Yeditepe University, Turkey
Sandra de Macedo Ribeiro, Universidade do Porto, Portugal
Alberto Del Rio, Università di Bologna, Italy
Sundar Durai, Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Delhi, India
Natalja Fjodorova, National Institute of Chemistry Slovenia, Slovenia
Peter Fojan, Aalborg University, Denmark
Humberto González Díaz, Basque Foundation for Science, Spain
Zhijian Huang, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, United States
Mikhail Kudryashev, University of Basel, Switzerland
Suneel Kumar B.V.S., GVK Biosciences Private Limited, India
Michael Lewis, Saint Louis University, United States
Gan-Guang Liou, National Health Research Institutes, Taiwan, Province of China
Hong Yan Liu, University of Washington, United States
Ivan B. Lomakin, Yale University, United States
Gerd Moe-Behrens, Leukippos Institute for Synthetic Biology, Germany
Agnes Ostafin, The University of Utah, United States
Alejandro Perálvarez-Márín, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Spain
Florbela Pereira, New University of Lisbon, Portugal
Yovani Marrero Ponce, Central University of Las Villas, Cuba
Vasilis J. Promponas, University of Cyprus, Cyprus
Krishna Rajarathnam, University of Texas Medical Branch, United States
Sureshkumar Ramasamy, California Institute of Technology, United States
Kunal Roy, Jadavpur University, India
Hong-Bin Shen, Shanghai Jiao Tong University, China
Thereza A. Soares, Federal University of Pernambuco, Brazil
Svetla Stoilova-McPhie, University of Texas Medical Branch, United States
Hak-Joon Sung, Vanderbilt University, United States
Anil Kumar Suresh, Beckman Cancer Research Hospital and Institute, United States
Tobias von der Haar, University of Kent, United Kingdom
Bing Wang, Tongji University, China
Stanley J. Watowich, University of Texas Medical Branch, United States
Troy Wymore, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, United States
Jinwei Zhang, National Institutes of Health, United States
Chen Yu Zong, National University of Singapore, Singapore
GUIDE FOR AUTHORS

INTRODUCTION

Computational and Structural Biotechnology Journal (CSBJ) (ISSN 2001-0370) is an online journal publishing research articles and reviews after full peer review. All articles are published, without barriers to access, immediately upon acceptance. The journal places a strong emphasis on functional and mechanistic understanding of how molecular components in a biological process work together through the application of computational methods. Structural data may provide such insights, but they are not a pre-requisite for publication in the journal. Specific areas of interest include, but are not limited to:

- Structure and function of proteins, nucleic acids and other macromolecules
- Structure and function of multi-component complexes
- Protein folding, processing and degradation
- Enzymology
- Algorithms and Hypothesis in Bioinformatics
- Mathematical and Theoretical Biology
- Computational Chemistry and Drug Discovery
- Microscopy and Molecular Imaging
- Nanotechnology
- Systems and Synthetic Biology

Types of article

Editorials Research articles Review articles Mini Reviews Software/Web server articles Methods articles Database articles Highlights Communications Book Reviews Meeting Reviews

Contact details for submission

dbrk.gupta@csbj-rncsb.org

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

Ethics in publishing

Please see our information pages on Ethics in publishing and Ethical guidelines for journal publication.

Declaration of interest

All authors 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. Authors must disclose any interests in two places: 1. A summary declaration of interest statement in the title page file (if double-blind) or the manuscript file (if single-blind). If there are no interests to declare then please state this: 'Declarations of interest: none'. This summary statement will be ultimately published if the article is accepted. 2. Detailed disclosures as part of a separate Declaration of Interest form, which forms part of the journal's official records. It is important for potential interests to be declared in both places and that the information matches. More information.

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 'Multiple, redundant or concurrent publication' section of our ethics policy 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 originality, your article may be checked by the originality detection service Crossref Similarity Check.

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.

**Copyright**

Upon acceptance of an article, authors will be asked to complete an 'Exclusive License Agreement' (see more information on this). Permitted third party reuse of 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.

**Copyright**

Upon acceptance of an article, authors will be asked to complete an 'Exclusive License Agreement' where authors will retain copyright (for more information on this 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, including copyright; for details you are referred to http://www.elsevier.com/OAauthoragreement.

**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 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 is an open access journal: all articles will be immediately and permanently free for everyone to read and download. To provide open access, this journal has an open access fee (also known as an article publishing charge APC) which needs to be paid by the authors or on their behalf e.g. by their research funder or institution. Permitted third party (re)use is defined by the following Creative Commons user licenses:

**Creative Commons Attribution (CC BY)**

Lets others distribute and copy the article, create extracts, abstracts, and other revised versions, adaptations or derivative works of or from an article (such as a translation), include in a collective work (such as an anthology), 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.

The open access publication fee for this journal is **EUR 1100**, 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.
**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.

**Submit your article**
Please submit your article via [https://www.evise.com/profile/api/navigate/CSBJ](https://www.evise.com/profile/api/navigate/CSBJ)

**Referees**
Please submit, with the manuscript, the names, addresses and e-mail addresses of three potential referees. Note that the editor retains the sole right to decide whether or not the suggested reviewers are used.

**PREPARATION**

**Peer review**
This journal operates a single blind review process. All contributions will be initially assessed by the editor for suitability for the journal. Papers deemed suitable are then typically sent to a minimum of two independent expert reviewers to assess the scientific quality of the paper. The Editor is responsible for the final decision regarding acceptance or rejection of articles. The Editor's decision is final. More information on types of peer review.

**Use of word processing software**
It is important that the file be saved in the native format of the word processor used. The text should be in single-column format. Keep the layout of the text as simple as possible. Most formatting codes will be removed and replaced on processing the article. In particular, do not use the word processor's options to justify text or to hyphenate words. However, do use bold face, italics, subscripts, superscripts etc. 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: [http://www.elsevier.com/guidepublication](http://www.elsevier.com/guidepublication)). Note that source files of figures, tables and text graphics will be required whether or not you embed your figures in the text. 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](http://www.ctan.org/tex-archive/macros/latex/contrib/elsarticle)) to prepare your manuscript and BibTeX ([http://www.bibtex.org](http://www.bibtex.org)) to generate your bibliography.

For detailed submission instructions, templates and other information on LaTeX, see [http://www.elsevier.com/latex](http://www.elsevier.com/latex).

**Your Paper Your Way**

**Nearly one in three researchers chose "preparing manuscripts" as the most frustrating work activity°**

We know that you may submit your paper up to five times before it is accepted to be published and that you may spend about three hours per paper to format the references. Most journals require that you format your submission to the exact requirements listed in the Guide for Authors. Reviewers do not need this to evaluate the scientific content of your paper; in reality they are used to different styles as they review manuscripts for various titles. Journal style is often enforced upon the initial submission for legacy reasons.

We now differentiate the requirements for new and revised submissions.
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 lay-out 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.

**Formatting requirements**

For your initial submission, there are no strict formatting requirements but all manuscripts must contain the essential elements needed to evaluate your manuscript, for example Abstract, Keywords, Introduction, Materials & Methods, Results, Conclusions, Artwork and Tables with Captions. Please divide the article into clearly defined sections.

We will not enforce strict requirements on reference formatting either. References can be in any style or format as long as the style is consistent. Author(s) name(s), journal title / book title, article title (where required), year of publication, volume & issue / book chapter and the pagination must be present. The reference style required by the journal will be applied to the published version by Elsevier.

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

Only when your paper reaches final revision stage, will you be requested to deliver the "correct format" for acceptance and provide the items required for the publication of your article.

**Article Types**

The character limits mentioned below should be considered as a guideline but not as a strict limit.

**RESEARCH ARTICLES**

Research articles contain a maximum total character count of 80,000 (including spaces). Figures along with figure legends and tables should be placed at appropriate positions embedded in the text of the manuscript. The text should be single spaced with Times New Roman & Font size 12.

**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.

Appendices
If there is more than one appendix, they should be identified as A, B, etc. Formulae and equations in appendices should be given separate numbering: Eq. (A.1), Eq. (A.2), etc.; in a subsequent appendix, Eq. (B.1) and so on. Similarly for tables and figures: Table A.1; Fig. A.1, etc.

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. You can view Example Graphical Abstracts on our information site. Authors can make use of Elsevier's Illustration Services to ensure the best presentation of their images and in accordance with all technical requirements.

Highlights
Highlights are a short collection of bullet points that convey the core findings of the article. Highlights are optional 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). You can view example Highlights 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.

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, using superscript Arabic numbers. Many wordprocessors 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. Do not include footnotes in the Reference list.

Table footnotes- Indicate each footnote in a table with a superscript lowercase letter.

Artwork
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 printed version.
• Submit each illustration as a separate file.
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
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 on the Web (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 on the Web only. For further information on the preparation of electronic artwork, please see [http://www.elsevier.com/artworkinstructions](http://www.elsevier.com/artworkinstructions).

Please note: Because of technical complications which 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.

**Illustration services**

Elsevier's [WebShop](http://www.elsevier.com) offers Illustration Services to authors preparing to submit a manuscript but concerned about the quality of the images accompanying their article. Elsevier's expert illustrators can produce scientific, technical and medical-style images, as well as a full range of charts, tables and graphs. Image 'polishing' is also available, where our illustrators take your image(s) and improve them to a professional standard. Please visit the website to find out more.

**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.

**Reference links**

Increased discoverability of research and high quality peer review are ensured by online links to the sources cited. In order to allow us to create links to abstracting and indexing services, such as Scopus, CrossRef and PubMed, please ensure that data provided in the references are correct. Please note that incorrect surnames, journal/book titles, publication year and pagination may prevent link creation. When copying references, please be careful as they may already contain errors. Use of the DOI is encouraged.

**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.

**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 and Zotero, as well as EndNote. Using the word processor 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.

Users of Mendeley Desktop can easily install the reference style for this journal by clicking the following link:

http://open.mendeley.com/use-citation-style/computational-and-structural-biotechnology-journal

When preparing your manuscript, you will then be able to select this style using the Mendeley plug-ins for Microsoft Word or LibreOffice.

**Reference style**

References are listed and numbered in the order that they appear in the text. In the text, citations should be indicated by the reference number in brackets. Multiple citations within a single set of brackets should be separated by commas. Where there are three or more sequential citations, they should be given as a range. Example: "... has been shown previously [1,4-6,22]." Make sure the parts of the manuscript are in the correct order before ordering the citations.

Since all references will be linked electronically to the papers they cite, proper formatting of the references is crucial. Please use the following style for the reference list:

**Published Papers**


Please list the first five authors and then add "et al." if there are additional authors. Use of a DOI number to the full-text article is acceptable as an alternative to or in addition to traditional volume and page numbers.

**Accepted Papers**


**Electronic Journal Articles**


**Books**


**Book Chapters**


**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 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.

REVIEW ARTICLES
Review articles deal with topics of high current interest in any area of biotechnology. Rather than an assembly of detailed information with a complete literature survey, a critically selected treatment of the material is desired; unsolved problems and possible developments should also be discussed. The first section of the Review (Introduction), should primarily introduce the nonspecialist to the subject in a clear way. A Review should conclude with a section entitled Summary and Outlook, in which the achievements of and new challenges for the subject are presented succinctly.

Length: A Review should not be of more than 75000 characters, including footnotes, literature citations, tables, and legends. If a longer article is planned, the agreement of the editor should be sought as early as possible.

MINIREVIEWS
A Minireview (up to 35000 characters) should present current topics in a concise review style. Minireviews offer the flexibility to treat topics at a time, and in a suitable manner, when a Review would still be premature or inappropriate.

HIGHLIGHTS
In Highlights very important new results of original research should be described, in general by a third person, with a view to instruct and to highlight their significance. The results should be presented clearly, but as succinctly as possible, without the comprehensive details required for an original article. Highlights should include only essential formulas and figures as well as not more than 15 references. A Highlight should not be longer than three pages (up to 12000 characters).

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).
**Mendeley Data**
This journal supports Mendeley Data, enabling you to deposit any research data (including raw and processed data, video, code, software, algorithms, protocols, and methods) associated with your manuscript in a free-to-use, open access repository. During the submission process, after uploading your manuscript, you will have the opportunity to upload your relevant datasets directly to Mendeley Data. The datasets will be listed and directly accessible to readers next to your published article online.

For more information, visit the Mendeley Data for journals 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.

**COMMUNICATIONS**
Communications are short notes on experimental and/or theoretical studies in all areas of focus of CSBJ. The results must be of general interest or at least contribute to the development of an important area of research. The essential findings presented in a Communication or significant parts of them may not already have appeared in print or in electronic online systems (for example, in online resources, in reviews, proceedings, or preprints). Authors are welcomed to suggest referees.

**Length:** The maximal length of a Communication, inclusive of all literature citations, footnotes, and tables, is 15000 characters; formulas and figures may be added. Longer Communications will be accepted only if their quality warrants special consideration and a written justification of their length is provided. Details that are of importance to the referees and to specialists, but not to most of the readers, should be submitted as Supporting Information. Copies of cited publications not yet available publicly should be submitted along with the manuscript. Unpublished results and lectures should only be cited for exceptional reasons.

The identity and purity of all new compounds must be fully characterized by appropriate analytical methods (NMR spectroscopy, X-ray crystal structure analysis, elemental analysis, etc). These data should be given in the Supporting Information in the event that they exceed the scope of the experimental section.

Manuscripts containing animal experiments must include a statement that permission was obtained from the relevant national or local authorities. The institutional committees that have approved the experiments must be identified and the accreditation number of the laboratory or of the investigator given where applicable. If no such rules or permissions are in place in the country where the experiments were performed, then this must also be clearly stated. Manuscripts with experiments with human subjects or tissue samples from human subjects must contain a disclaimer in the Experimental Section to state that informed, signed consent was obtained from either the patient or next of kin.

A Communication returned to the author for revision should be returned to the editorial office within three weeks. If more time is needed the editor must be informed.

Communications should not be divided into sections. However, experimental details or methods should be summarized concisely under the heading Experimental Section or Methods. The first paragraph of a Communication should be formulated as an introduction that provides the nonspecialist reader with a general idea of the state of the art of the field and allows the importance of the results to be put into perspective. In the final paragraph the results should be summarized succinctly and one sentence should be devoted to their significance and if appropriate to the next challenges.

**SOFTWARE, WEBSERVER AND DATABASE ARTICLES**
Software articles, Web server articles and Database Articles should provide an indispensable resource for the experimental practitioner seeking awareness of the disparate sources of data and analytical tools of computational biology. Large-scale instrumentation and computerisation is reducing the time that needs to be spent in the laboratory. Instead, the rate-limiting step is the analysis and interpretation of data. An essential criterion for the publication of papers is that they provide practical guidance to the users of bioinformatics software and databases. Another prerequisite for publication is that the results described in the paper must be reproducible when peer reviewers or editors choose to run the software on the deposited dataset using the parameters provided. Enhancements to existing published open source software will only be considered if those enhancements bring exceptional new capabilities.

**SOFTWARE, WEBSERVER AND DATABASE REVIEWS**
Software and Database Reviews are expected to be broad and to cover a variety of approaches to a specified biological problem or research area.

**METHODS ARTICLES**

Methods articles should report novel techniques or significant advances in existing techniques that are relevant to CSBJ's core subject areas. These should be highly significant and useful, and contain an example of utility. New applications of existing technologies are discouraged.

**BOOK REVIEWS**

An informative Book Review should provide answers to the following questions: Has the area of research covered in the book been the focus of recent research efforts, or does the book provide a fresh look at an already established area? Does the book have other merits, or is it unnecessary? Are the many aspects of the book’s topic appropriately weighted? What benefits does the book offer to different types of readers?

**MEETING REVIEWS**

A Meeting Review should deal with the following questions: Why is the presented field of research currently of particular interest? How has it developed over the past few years? What are the most important unanswered questions? Which contributions were the highlights of the conference? Among the answers given to the most important questions of the field, is there one that represents the "biggest leap forward"? Have any new research topics arisen? Are there any (new) prospects in the application of developments in the field?

**Interactive plots**

This journal enables you to show an Interactive Plot with your article by simply submitting a data file. Full instructions.

**Interactive Network Viewer**

This journal enables you to enrich your online article by including interactive network diagrams created with the latest version of Cytoscape. Each network should be exported from Cytoscape as a ZIP file containing a pair of network (.cyjs) and visual style (.json) files, which is most easily done using the green "SD" button. The recommended maximum file size of a dataset is 150 MB or less. Once the article is accepted, your ZIP datasets will appear as supplementary material on ScienceDirect and will be visualized inside the Cytoscape application which is displayed alongside your article. Readers will then be able to interactively explore your networks while reading the article. Please note that you must use the latest available version of Cytoscape. More information.

**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
- Phone numbers

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’
- 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 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.

Online proof correction

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.

Online proof correction

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 upload all of your corrections within 48 hours. 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. Note that Elsevier may proceed with the publication of your article if no response is received.

Offprints

The corresponding author, at no cost, will be provided with a PDF file of the article via e-mail (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). 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. 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.

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.

© Copyright 2018 Elsevier | https://www.elsevier.com