DESCRIPTION

*Engineering* is an international open-access journal that was launched by the Chinese Academy of Engineering (CAE) in 2015. Its aims are to provide a high-level platform where cutting-edge advancements in engineering R&D, current major research outputs, and key achievements can be disseminated and shared; to report progress in engineering science, discuss hot topics, areas of interest, challenges, and prospects in engineering development, and consider human and environmental well-being and ethics in engineering; to encourage engineering breakthroughs and innovations that are of profound economic and social importance, enabling them to reach advanced international standards and to become a new productive force, and thereby changing the world, benefiting humanity, and creating a new future.

We are interested in: (1) News & Highlights— This section covers engineering news from a global perspective and includes updates on engineering issues of high concern; (2) Views & Comments— This section is aimed at raising academic debates in scientific and engineering community, encouraging people to express new ideas, and providing a platform for the comments on some comprehensive issues; (3) Research— This section reports on outstanding research results in the form of research articles, reviews, perspectives, and short communications regarding critical engineering issues, and so on. All manuscripts must be prepared in English, and are subject to a rigorous and fair peer-review process. Accepted papers will immediately appear online, and will be translated into Chinese.

The contents of our journal are based on the disciplines covered by the nine CAE divisions:

- Mechanical and Vehicle Engineering
- Information and Electronic Engineering
- Chemical, Metallurgical, and Materials Engineering
- Energy and Mining Engineering
- Civil, Hydraulic, and Architecture Engineering
- Agriculture
- Environment&Light and Textile Industries Engineering
- Medical and Health Care
- Engineering Management

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

The CAE is the highest honorary and consultative academic institution in engineering science and technology in China. It consists of more than 800 CAE members, and is devoted to promoting the development of engineering science. Academic research spearheads the development of engineering science and technology. To better lead engineering development and to provide a high-level international platform for engineering exchanges, the CAE worked with world-renowned engineering experts and scholars to launch Engineering. This initiative has received continuous responses and strong support from UNESCO, the International Council of Academies of Engineering and Technological Sciences (CAETS) member academies, and celebrated experts and scholars. The contents of our journal are based on the disciplines covered by the nine CAE divisions:

1. Mechanical and Vehicle Engineering
2. Mechanical engineering
3. Weapons science and technology
4. Vessel and ocean engineering
5. Power and electrical equipment engineering and technologies
6. Aeronautics and astronautics
7. Transport engineering
8. Information and Electronic Engineering
9. Electronic science and technology
10. Information and communication engineering
11. Optical engineering and technology
12. Computer science and technology
13. Instrument science and technology
14. Control science
15. Chemical, Metallurgical, and Materials Engineering
16. Chemical engineering and technology
17. Materials science and engineering
18. Metallurgical engineering and technology
19. Energy and Mining Engineering
20. Nuclear science, technology, and engineering
21. Energy and electric science, technology
22. Marine science and engineering
23. Agriculture Crop science
24. Forestry Agro-biological engineering
25. Agricultural engineering
26. Horticulture
27. Forestry engineering
28. Agricultural resources
29. Animal husbandry
30. Plant protection
31. Veterinary science
32. Applied ecology
33. Fisheries
34. Medical and Health Care
35. Basic medicine
36. Medical informatics and biomedical engineering
37. Clinical medicine
38. Oral medicine
39. Traditional Chinese medicine
40. Public health & preventive medicine
41. Pharmaceutical engineering
42. Engineering Management

IMPACT FACTOR

2018: 4.568 © Clarivate Analytics Journal Citation Reports 2019

ABSTRACTING AND INDEXING

Scopus
Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ)
Science Citation Index Expanded

EDITORIAL BOARD

Editor-in-Chief
Raj Reddy, Carnegie Mellon University, USA
Ji Zhou, Chinese Academy of Engineering, China

Executive Editor-in-Chief
Jianfeng Chen, Chinese Academy of Engineering, China

Associate Editor
Robin Batterham, University of Melbourne, Australia
Gang Chen, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, USA
Lance A Davis, National Academy of Engineering (NAE), Washington, USA
Hideaki Koizumi, The Engineering Academy of Japan, Japan
Jinghai Li, National Natural Science Foundation of China, China
Ulrich W. Suter, Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule (ETH) Zürich, Switzerland
Hailing Tu, General Research Institute for Nonferrous Metals, China
Chen Wang, Chinese Academy of Engineering, China
Editorial Board Office Director

Ning Ding, Chinese Academy of Engineering, China

Editorial Staff

Minxuan Kuang, Engineering Science Press, China
Jingsong Pan, Higher Education Press, China
Xiaojing Shen, Engineering Science Press, China
Jiaming Wu, Engineering Science Press, China
Nan Zhang, Engineering Science Press, China
Haichuan Zhou, Engineering Science Press, China
Zhuo Zhou, Engineering Science Press, China

Contact Information

Editorial Board Office of Engineering, Academy of Engineering, 2# Bingjiaokou Hutong, Xicheng District, Beijing, 100088, China,

Tel.: 0086-10-59300284/0086-10-59300127/0086-10-59300126

Email: engineering@cae.cn

Editorial Board Members

Snow Barlow, University of Melbourne, Australia
Stephen P. Boyd, Stanford University, USA
Alec Broers, House of Lords, UK
Webster Cavenee, Ludwig Institute for Cancer Research, USA
Fener Chen, Fudan University, China
Saijuan Chen, Shanghai Jiao Tong University, China
Yong Cheng, Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS), China
Roland Clift, University of Surrey, UK
John C. Crittenden, Georgia Institute of Technology, USA
Junzhi Cui, Academy of Mathematics and Systems Science, CAS, China
Bill Davies, Lancaster University, UK
Wayen T. Davis, University of Tennessee, USA
Liuyun Ding, Huazhong University of Science and Technology, China
Dame Ann Dowling, Royal Academy of Engineering, UK
Yanliang Du, Shijiazhuang Tiedao University, China
Menachem Elimelech, Yale University, USA
K.S. Eric Forssberg, Lulea University of Technology, Sweden
Akira Fujishima, Tokyo University of Science, Japan
Arnold Ganser, Hannover Medical School, Germany
Don Grierison, University of Nottingham, UK
Min Gu, Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology, Australia
Dongming Guo, Dalian University of Technology, China
Jianbo Guo, China Electric Power Research Institute, China
Wendy Hall, University of Southampton, UK
Jiming Hao, Tsinghua University, China
Ronald W. Hardy, University of Idaho, USA
Jishan He, Central South University, China
Klaus R.G. Hein, University of Stuttgart, Germany
Michael R. Hoffmann, Caltech, USA
S-hixin Jack Hu, University of Michigan, USA
Norden E Huang, Central University, Taiwan, China
Zhuangde Jiang, Xi’an Jiaotong University, China
Shaozhong Kang, China Agricultural University, China
Ahsan Kareem, University of Notre Dame, USA
Sadasivam Kaushik, Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique, France
Solntsev Konstantin, Russian Academy of Sciences, Russia
Yoram Koren, University of Michigan, USA
Way Kuo, City University of Hong Kong, China
Michael. R. Ladisch, Purdue University, USA
Cato T. Laurencin, University of Connecticut Health Center, USA
Fred C. Lee, Virginia Tech, USA
Nicholas Robert Lemoine, Queen Mary University of London, UK
Juergen Leopold, Fraunhofer Institute for System and Innovation, Germany
Jiancheng Li, Wuhan University, China
Jun Li, Tsinghua University, China

cutout
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Author Name</th>
<th>Institution/University</th>
<th>Country</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Norman Li</td>
<td>NL Chemical Technology, Inc, USA</td>
<td>USA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Renhan Li</td>
<td>Chinese Academy of Engineering, China</td>
<td>China</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charles M. Lieber</td>
<td>Harvard University, USA</td>
<td>USA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chain-Tsuan Liu</td>
<td>City University of Hong Kong, China</td>
<td>China</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ke Liu</td>
<td>Center for China and Globalization, China</td>
<td>China</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wenhong Liu</td>
<td>Hefei Institutes of Physical Science, CAS, China</td>
<td>China</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zhihong Liu</td>
<td>Nanjing General Hospital of Nanjing Military Command, China</td>
<td>China</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philip Lloyd</td>
<td>Cape Peninsula University of Technology, South Africa</td>
<td>South Africa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kangsen Mai</td>
<td>Ocean University of China, China</td>
<td>China</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yiu-Wing. Mai</td>
<td>The University of Sydney, Australia</td>
<td>Australia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Herbert Mang</td>
<td>TU Wien, Austria</td>
<td>Austria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Torgeir Moan</td>
<td>Norwegian University of Science &amp; Technology, Norway</td>
<td>Norway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. D. Mote</td>
<td>National Academy of Engineering (NAE), USA</td>
<td>USA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Venkatesh Narayanamurti</td>
<td>Harvard Kennedy School, USA</td>
<td>USA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weidou Ni</td>
<td>Tsinghua University, China</td>
<td>China</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lars Gunnar Nilsson</td>
<td>Linköping University, Sweden</td>
<td>Sweden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guang Ning</td>
<td>Shanghai Jiao Tong University, China</td>
<td>China</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yunhe Pan</td>
<td>Zhejiang University, China</td>
<td>China</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preben Terndrup Pedersen</td>
<td>Technical University of Denmark (DTU), Denmark</td>
<td>Denmark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nicholas Peppas</td>
<td>University of Texas at Austin, USA</td>
<td>USA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>V. N. Pochukaev</td>
<td>TSIINMash, Russian Federation</td>
<td>Russia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William Geraint Price</td>
<td>University of Southampton, UK</td>
<td>UK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Pui</td>
<td>University of Minnesota, USA</td>
<td>USA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baldev Raj</td>
<td>Indian Institute of Science, India</td>
<td>India</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frieder Seible</td>
<td>Monash University, Australia</td>
<td>Australia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surendra P. Shah</td>
<td>Northwestern University, USA</td>
<td>USA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zuyan Shen</td>
<td>Tongji University, China</td>
<td>China</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paul M. Siffert</td>
<td>E-MRS, France</td>
<td>France</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ponisseril Somasundaran</td>
<td>University of Columbia, USA</td>
<td>USA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jurg Steinbach</td>
<td>Technical University of Brandenburg, Germany</td>
<td>Germany</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thomas Stocker</td>
<td>University of Bern, Switzerland</td>
<td>Switzerland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yukio Tamura</td>
<td>Beijing Jiaotong University, China</td>
<td>China</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jiubin Tan</td>
<td>Harbin Institute of Technology, China</td>
<td>China</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Man-Chung Tang</td>
<td>T.Y. Lin International, USA</td>
<td>USA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ian Townend</td>
<td>CoastalSEA, UK</td>
<td>UK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fumitaka Tsukihashi</td>
<td>The University of Tokyo, Japan</td>
<td>Japan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mark van Loosdrecht</td>
<td>University of Technology Delft, Netherlands</td>
<td>Netherlands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jeffrey Wadsworth</td>
<td>Battelle Memorial Institute, USA</td>
<td>USA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jingkang Wang</td>
<td>Tianjin University, China</td>
<td>China</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yuzhong Wang</td>
<td>Sichuan University, China</td>
<td>China</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eicke R. Weber</td>
<td>Fraunhofer Institute for Solar Energy Systems (ISE), Germany</td>
<td>Germany</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shilie Weng</td>
<td>Shanghai Jiao Tong University, China</td>
<td>China</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ching-Ping Wong</td>
<td>The Chinese University of Hong Kong, China</td>
<td>China</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mang Qing Wu</td>
<td>China Electronics Technology Group Corporation, China</td>
<td>China</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Qiao Xiang</td>
<td>Aero Engine Corporation of China, China</td>
<td>China</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Henry T. Yang</td>
<td>University of California, Santa Barbara, USA</td>
<td>USA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shuizi Yang</td>
<td>Huazhong University of Science and Technology, China</td>
<td>China</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Victor C. Yang</td>
<td>University of Michigan, USA</td>
<td>USA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aibing Yu</td>
<td>Monash University, Australia</td>
<td>Australia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fusuo Zhang</td>
<td>China Agricultural University, China</td>
<td>China</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Si Zhang</td>
<td>South China Sea Institute of Oceanology, China</td>
<td>China</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Huaibei Zhou</td>
<td>Wuhan University, China</td>
<td>China</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jesse Zhu</td>
<td>University of Western Ontario, Canada</td>
<td>Canada</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
GUIDE FOR AUTHORS

INTRODUCTION

TYPES_OF_ARTICLE
Contributions are classified as: News Correspondence Research Paper Review Article Opinion Paper Editorial Erratum

Submission checklist
You can use this list to carry out a final check of your submission before you send it to the journal for review. Please check the relevant section in this Guide for Authors for more details.

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

All necessary files have been uploaded:

Manuscript:
• Include keywords
• All figures (include relevant captions)
• All tables (including titles, description, footnotes)
• Ensure all figure and table citations in the text match the files provided
• Indicate clearly if color should be used for any figures in print

Graphical Abstracts / Highlights files (where applicable)

Supplemental files (where applicable)

Further considerations
• Manuscript has been 'spell checked' and 'grammar checked'
• All references mentioned in the Reference List are cited in the text, and vice versa
• Permission has been obtained for use of copyrighted material from other sources (including the Internet)
• A competing interests statement is provided, even if the authors have no competing interests to declare
• Journal policies detailed in this guide have been reviewed
• Referee suggestions and contact details provided, based on journal requirements

For further information, visit our Support Center.

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

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

The work described in your article must have been carried out in accordance with The Code of Ethics of the World Medical Association (Declaration of Helsinki) for experiments involving humans (https://www.wma.net/policies-post/wma-declaration-of-helsinki-ethical-principles-for-medical-research-involving-human-subjects/) and EU Directive 2010/63/EU for animal experiments (http://ec.europa.eu/environment/chemicals/lab_animals/legislation_en.htm). This must be stated at an appropriate point in the article.

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 competing interests 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, 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 originality, your article may be checked by the originality detection service Crossref Similarity Check.

Use of inclusive language
Inclusive language acknowledges diversity, conveys respect to all people, is sensitive to differences, and promotes equal opportunities. Articles should make no assumptions about the beliefs or commitments of any reader, should contain nothing which might imply that one individual is superior to another on the grounds of race, sex, culture or any other characteristic, and should use inclusive language throughout. Authors should ensure that writing is free from bias, for instance by using 'he or she', 'his/her' instead of 'he' or 'his', and by making use of job titles that are free of stereotyping (e.g. 'chairperson' instead of 'chairman' and 'flight attendant' instead of 'stewardess').

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.

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.

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 then this should be stated.

Open access
This is an open access journal: all articles will be immediately and permanently free for everyone to read and download. Permitted reuse is defined by your choice of one of the following 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.

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

Open Access Publication Fee
As an open access journal with no subscription charges, a fee is payable by the author or research funder to cover the costs associated with publication. This ensures your article will be immediately and permanently free to access by everyone.
The open access publication fee for this journal is USD 1000, excluding taxes.

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 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.

PREPARATION

Peer review
This journal operates a single blind review process. All contributions are 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). 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.

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 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.

**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.** 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 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.
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.

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.).

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, yyy]; 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, please include the following sentence:

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

Math formulae

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

Footnotes

Footnotes should be used sparingly. Number them consecutively throughout the article. Many word processors 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

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.

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/halftone (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.

Illustration services
Elsevier's WebShop 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 highly encouraged.

A DOI is guaranteed never to change, so you can use it as a permanent link to any electronic article. An example of a citation using DOI for an article not yet in an issue is: VanDecar J.C., Russo R.M., James D.E., Ambhe W.B., Franke M. (2003). Aseismic continuation of the Lesser Antilles slab beneath northeastern Venezuela. Journal of Geophysical Research, https://doi.org/10.1029/2001JB000884. Please note the format of such citations should be in the same style as all other references in the paper.

**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 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.
- **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:

Note shortened form for last page number. e.g., 51–9, and that for more than 6 authors the first 6 should be listed followed by 'et al.' For further details you are referred to 'Uniform Requirements for Manuscripts submitted to Biomedical Journals' (J Am Med Assoc 1997;277:927–34) (see also Samples of Formatted 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).

**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 in Brief**
You have the option of converting any or all parts of your supplementary or additional raw data into one or multiple data articles, a new kind of article that houses and describes your data. Data articles ensure that your data is actively reviewed, curated, formatted, indexed, given a DOI and publicly available to all upon publication. You are encouraged to submit your article for Data in Brief as an additional item directly alongside the revised version of your manuscript. If your research article is accepted, your data article will automatically be transferred over to Data in Brief where it will be editorially reviewed and published in the open access data journal, Data in Brief. Please note an open access fee of 500 USD is payable for publication in Data in Brief. Full details can be found on the Data in Brief website. Please use this template to write your Data in Brief.

**MethodsX**
You have the option of converting relevant protocols and methods into one or multiple MethodsX articles, a new kind of article that describes the details of customized research methods. Many researchers spend a significant amount of time on developing methods to fit their specific needs or setting, but often without getting credit for this part of their work. MethodsX, an open access journal, now publishes this information in order to make it searchable, peer reviewed, citable and reproducible. Authors are encouraged to submit their MethodsX article as an additional item directly alongside the revised version of their manuscript. If your research article is accepted, your methods article will automatically be transferred over to MethodsX where it will be editorially reviewed. Please note an open access fee is payable for publication in MethodsX. Full details can be found on the MethodsX website. Please use this template to prepare your MethodsX article.

**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.

**AFTER ACCEPTANCE**

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

If you do not wish to use the PDF annotations function, you may list the corrections (including replies to the Query Form) and return them to Elsevier in an e-mail. Please list your corrections quoting line number. If, for any reason, this is not possible, then mark the corrections and any other comments (including replies to the Query Form) on a printout of your proof and scan the pages and return via e-mail. Please use this proof only for checking the typesetting, editing, completeness and correctness of the text, tables and figures. Significant changes to the article as accepted for publication will only be considered at this stage with permission from the Editor. We will do everything possible to get your article published quickly and accurately. It is important to ensure that all corrections are sent back to us in one communication: please check carefully before replying, as inclusion of any subsequent corrections cannot be guaranteed. Proofreading is solely your responsibility.
**Offprints**
The corresponding author will be notified and receive a link to the published version of the open access article on ScienceDirect. This link is in the form of an article DOI link which can be shared via email and social networks. For an extra charge, paper offprints can be ordered via the offprint order form which is sent once the article is accepted for publication. Both corresponding and co-authors may order offprints at any time via Elsevier’s Webshop. 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