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DESCRIPTION

*Journal of Chromatography A* publishes research papers and critical reviews on all aspects of fundamental and applied separation science. The scope includes chromatography and related techniques (e.g. field-flow fractionation), electromigration techniques, hyphenated and other multi-dimensional techniques, sample preparation, and detection methods such as mass spectrometry. *Journal of Chromatography A* accepts manuscripts describing fundamental research on all aspects of separation science theory and methodology, instrumental developments and analytical and preparative applications of general interest. In determining the suitability of submitted articles for publication, particular scrutiny will be placed on the degree of novelty and significance of the research and the extent to which it adds to existing knowledge in separation science. Papers reporting routine separation methods or straightforward extensions of these methods to new sample matrices will normally not be published. Review articles are invited by the editors. Potential authors may also propose a review article in writing to the editors or the editorial office by providing a brief outline of the subject matter and the proposed content. Review articles should be sufficiently broad in scope, but should be specific enough to permit discussion at an appropriate depth. Above all, reviews should be critical rather than enumerative and should provide the reader with expert opinion regarding the relative merits of the various published approaches to the topic under review. The same criteria are applied for acceptance of manuscripts, irrespective of whether these are submitted for regular issues, special issues, or symposium issues.

AUDIENCE

Analytical Chemists, Biochemists, Clinical Chemists. All those who are concerned with the separation and identification of mixtures or compounds in mixtures.
ABSTRACTING AND INDEXING

Analytical Abstracts
Deep-Sea Research/Part B: Oceanographic Literature Review
Biochemical Abstracts
BIOSIS Citation Index
Chemical Abstracts
Chemical Titles
Chromatography Abstracts
Current Contents - Life Sciences
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INTRODUCTION

*Journal of Chromatography A* provides a forum for the publication of original research and critical reviews on all aspects of fundamental and applied separation science. The scope of the journal includes chromatography and related techniques, electromigration techniques (e.g. electrophoresis, electrochromatography), hyphenated and other multi-dimensional techniques, sample preparation, and detection methods such as mass spectrometry. Contributions consist mainly of research papers dealing with the theory of separation methods, instrumental developments and analytical and preparative applications of general interest.

*Journal of Chromatography A* welcomes the submission of research papers which report on studies concerning the development of new and significant advances in separation science. Manuscripts detailing fundamental research on all aspects of separation science theory and methodology are especially encouraged. In determining the suitability of submitted articles for publication, particular scrutiny will be placed on the degree of novelty and significance of the research and the extent to which it adds to existing knowledge in separation science. Papers describing the use of routine separation methods or straightforward extensions of these methods to new sample matrices will normally not be published unless new developments are described which are demonstrated to give clear and considerable advantages over existing methods. As part of the Introduction section to each manuscript, authors must address the question of how their proposed methodology compares with previously reported methods and this comparison must show that significant advances are proposed.

Where new analytical methods are described, authors are encouraged to apply these methods to a sample matrix of suitable analytical complexity. In such cases appropriate validation of the method should be provided, together with proper statistical treatment of data. Analytical performance characteristics of new methods should be given, including sensitivity, tested limits of detection or quantification, accuracy, precision, and specificity.

*Journal of Chromatography A* applies the same criteria for acceptance of manuscripts to all types of submissions, irrespective of whether these are submitted for regular issues, special issues, or symposium issues.

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- Regular research papers (full-length), Review articles, Short Communications, Concept Papers, Discussions and Letters to the Editor.

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**Review articles** are invited by the editors or may be proposed in writing to the editors or the editorial office, who welcome suggestions for review topics. Potential authors will be asked to provide a brief outline of the subject matter of the proposed review. Review articles should be sufficiently broad in scope to appeal to a wide cross-section of the journal's readership, but should be specific enough to permit discussion at an appropriate depth. Above all, reviews should
be critical rather than enumerative and should provide the reader with expert opinion regarding the relative merits of the various published approaches to the topic under review. Figures and Tables are encouraged in review articles.

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Reporting sex- and gender-based analyses

Reporting guidance

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Sex generally refers to a set of biological attributes that are associated with physical and physiological features (e.g., chromosomal genotype, hormonal levels, internal and external anatomy). A binary sex categorization (male/female) is usually designated at birth ("sex assigned at birth"), most often based solely on the visible external anatomy of a newborn. Gender generally refers to socially constructed roles, behaviors, and identities of women, men and gender-diverse people that occur in a historical and cultural context and may vary across societies and over time. Gender influences how people view themselves and each other, how they behave and interact and how power is distributed in society. Sex and gender are often incorrectly portrayed as binary (female/male or woman/man) and unchanging whereas these constructs actually exist along a spectrum and include additional sex categorizations and gender identities such as people who are intersex/have differences of sex development (DSD) or identify as non-binary. Moreover, the terms "sex" and "gender" can be ambiguous—thus it is important
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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.

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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.

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

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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.

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

Highlights should be submitted in a separate editable file in the online submission system. Please use 'Highlights' in the file name and include 3 to 5 bullet points (maximum 85 characters, including spaces, per bullet point).

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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.

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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.

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.).

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

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Widely accepted symbols, abbreviations and units (SI) should be used. Symbols and abbreviations that need not be defined are listed in Appendix 1. For all other symbols and abbreviations, the full expression followed by the abbreviation should be given the first time it appears in the text. Abbreviations used in tables and figures should be explained in the captions. In general, the recommendations of the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC) should be followed (see http://www.iupac.org) and attention should be given to the recommendations of
the Analytical Chemistry Division in the journal Pure and Applied Chemistry: Nomenclature for Chromatography, Pure Appl. Chem., 65 (1993) 819-872. Special attention should be given to the use of the terms **repeatability** and **reproducibility**; these are often confused. Decimal points should be indicated by full stops. All decimal numbers smaller than unity should include a leading zero (e.g. 0.11). Company-specific research codes for compounds should not be used; after a full definition of the compound (possibly including such codes) in the Introduction, it may be further indicated by a bold-face Roman or Arabic numeral.

**Appendix 1: Abbreviations and symbols that may be used without definition**

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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).

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- Supply files that are too low in resolution;
- Submit graphics that are disproportionately large for the content.

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