DESCRIPTION

The Journal of Rare Earths reports studies on the 17 rare earth elements. It is a unique English-language learned journal that publishes works on various aspects of basic theory and applied science in the field of rare earths (RE). The journal accepts original high-quality original research papers and review articles with inventive content, and complete experimental data. It represents high academic standards and new progress in the RE field. Due to the advantage of abundant RE resources of China, the research on RE develops very actively, and papers on the latest progress in this field emerge every year. It is not only an important resource in which technicians publish and obtain their latest research results on RE, but also an important way of reflecting the updated progress in RE research field.

The Journal of Rare Earths covers all research and application of RE rare earths including spectroscopy, luminescence and phosphors, rare earth catalysis, magnetism and magnetic materials, advanced rare earth materials, RE chemistry & hydrometallurgy, RE metallography & pyrometallurgy, RE new materials, RE solid state physics & solid state chemistry, rare earth applications, RE analysis & test, RE geology & ore dressing, etc.

IMPACT FACTOR

2018: 2.846 © Clarivate Analytics Journal Citation Reports 2019

ABSTRACTING AND INDEXING

Science Citation Index
Ei Compendex
Scopus
Corrosion Abstracts
Referativnyi Zhurnal VINTI-RAN (Russian Academy of Sciences)
Current Bibliography on Science and Technology (Japan)
MA
INSPEC
EDITORIAL BOARD

Editor-in-Chief
Chun-Hua Yan, Peking University, Beijing, China

Associate Editors-in-Chief
J-C Bünzli, Swiss Federal Institute of Technology, Switzerland
Hongjie Zhang, Changchun Institute of Applied Chemistry, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Changchun, China

Executive Associate Editor-in-chief
Songtao Huang, General Research Institute for Nonferrous Metals (GRINM), Beijing, China

Chairman
Chunlong Li, The Chinese Society of Rare Earths, China

Vice-Chairman
Jingkao Niu, The Chinese Society of Rare Earths, China

Advisors
Wenjiang Ding, Shanghai Jiao Tong University, China
Yong Gan, Chinese Academy of Engineering, China
Song Gao, Peking University, China
Chunhui Huang, Peking University, China
Lemin Li, Peking University, China
Wei Li, Central Iron & Steel Research Institute, China
Yongxiu Li, Nanchang University, China
Jiazuang Ni, The Chinese Society of Rare Earths
Bao-Gen Shen, Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS), China
Hailing Tu, General Research Institute for Nonferrous Metals (GRINM)
Zhenxi Wang, Beijing Zhongke SanHuan Hi-tech Co. Ltd., China
Yingchang Yang, Peking University, China
Guocheng Zhang, General Research Institute for Nonferrous Metals (GRINM), China

Members of Editorial Board
Ana de Bettencourt-Dias, University of Nevada at Reno, USA
Koen Binnemans, Dept. of Chemistry, KU Leuven, Belgium
John A. Capobianco, John Molson School of Business, Concordia University, Quebec, Canada
Luis D. Carlos, Physics Dept., Universidade de Aveiro, Portugal
Chi-Ming Che, State Key Laboratory of Synthetic Chemistry, The University of Hong Kong, China
Jun Chen, Nankai University, China
Xueyuan Chen, Fujian Institute of Research on the Structure of Matter, Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS), China
Yungui Chen, Sichuan University, China
Dante Gatteschi, Università degli Studi di Firenze, Italy
Zhengping Hao, Research Center for Eco-Environmental Sciences (RCEES), Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS), China
Jorma Holsa, University of Turku, Finland
Boping Hu, Beijing Zhongke SanHuan Hi-tech Co. Ltd., China
Xiaowei Huang, General Research Institute for Nonferrous Metals (GRINM)
Nobuhito Imanaka, Osaka University, Japan
Jianzhong Jiang, Beijing University of Science and Technology, China
Lijun Jiang, General Research Institute for Nonferrous Metals (GRINM)
Tao Jiang, Central South University, China
Dayong Jin, University of Technology Sydney, Australia
Xingguo Li, Peking University, China
Chunfa Liao, Jiangxi University of Science and Technology, China
Jun Lin, Changchun Institute of Applied Chemistry, Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS), China
Stefan Lis, Uniwersytet im. Adam Mickiewicza w Poznaniu, Poland
Rui-Shi Liu, Department of Chemistry, National Taiwan University, Taiwan
Guanzhong Lu, School of Chemistry and Molecular Engineering, East China University of Science and Technology, China
Andries Meijerink, Debye Inst., Universiteit Utrecht, Netherlands
Jian Meng, Changchun Institute of Applied Chemistry, Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS), China
Xujun Mi, General Research Institute for Nonferrous Metals (GRINM), China
Ritsuro Miyawaki, National Museum of Nature and Science, Japan
Masato Murakami, Dept. of Materials Science and Engineering, Shibaura Institute of Technology, Japan
Zuoren Nie, Beijing University of Technology, China
Xiaogang Qu, Laboratory of Chemical Biology and State Key Laboratory of Rare Earth Resource Utilization, Changchun Institute of Applied Chemistry, China
Guohao Ren, Shanghai Institute of Ceramics, Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS), China
Huiping Ren, Inner Mongolia University, China
Wieslaw Strek, Inst. of Low Temperature and Structure Research, Polish Academy of Sciences in Wroclaw, Poland
Cheng-Yong Su, School of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering, Sun Yat-Sen University, China
Jirong Sun, Inst. of Physics, Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS), China
Ling-Dong Sun, College of Chemistry and Molecular Engineering, Peking University, China
Mingliang Tong, School of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering, Sun Yat-Sen University, China
Alessandro Trovarelli, Dipart. di Chimica, Fisica e Ambiente, Università degli Studi di Udine, Italy
Ligen Wang, General Research Institute for Nonferrous Metals (GRINM), China
Xiao-jun Wang, Dept. of Physics, Georgia Southern University, Georgia, USA
Xianran Xing, Beijing University of Science and Technology, China
Dongfeng Xue, Changchun Institute of Applied Chemistry, Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS), China
Aru Yan, Ningbo Institute of Industrial Technology, Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS), China
Xiaoda Yang, School of Pharmaceutical Science, Peking University, China
Zhanfeng Yang, Baotou Research Institute of Rare Earths, China
Anwen Zhang, The Chinese Society of Rare Earths, China
Hong Zhang, Department of General Practice and Elderly Care Medicine, University of Amsterdam, Netherlands
Dongliang Zhao, Central Iron & Steel Research Institute, China
Zhen Zhao, China University of Petroleum, China
Zhiping Zheng, University of Arizona, USA
Weidong Zhuang, General Research Institute for Nonferrous Metals (GRINM)
GUIDE FOR AUTHORS

Types of article
Journal of Rare Earths published monthly with 96 papers is a unique international science and technology journal which presents original high quality works on various aspects of basic theory and applied science in the field of rare earths. The journal accepts contributions from authors both in China and abroad. Therefore, it provides an international forum for the scientists and experts who are engaged or interested in the researches of rare earths and the related disciplines. Journal of Rare Earths publishes original research papers, reviews, notes and letters which reflect the latest progresses in the fields of spectroscopy, luminescence and phosphors, rare earth catalysis, magnetism and magnetic materials, advanced rare earth materials, chemistry & hydrometallurgy, metallography & pyrometallurgy, rare earth applications, geology & ore dressing, etc.

Journal of Rare Earths has been indexed/abstracted in SCI, EI, MA, Corrosion Abstracts, Japanese Science and Technology Agency (JST, Jap.), Abstract Journal(AJ, Russ.), Cambridge Scientific Abstracts (CSA, UK, Scopus, etc.)

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.

Copyright
Thank you for submitting your manuscript to Journal of Rare Earths. Because our journal is color-printed for all manuscripts accepted for publication, a per-page charge for each accepted submission will be required to be paid by authors. The publication charge and color fees in JRE are $100 per printed page after the submission is accepted. Authors are required to confirm at the time of submission that if they agree to pay the publication charge and color fees.
By submitting a manuscript, the authors agree that the copyright for their article is transferred to the publisher if and when the article is accepted for publication. It is the author's responsibility to obtain written permission to reproduce material which will be appeared in another 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 should complete the declaration of interest statement using this template and upload to the submission system at the Attach/Upload Files step. If there are no interests to declare, please choose: 'Declarations of interest: none' in the template. This statement will be published within the article if accepted. 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.

**Preprints**

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

**Use of inclusive language**

Inclusive language acknowledges diversity, conveys respect to all people, is sensitive to differences, and promotes equal opportunities. 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').

**Changes to authorship**

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

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

**Article transfer service**

This journal is part of our Article Transfer Service. This means that if the Editor feels your article is more suitable in one of our other participating journals, then you may be asked to consider transferring the article to one of those. If you agree, your article will be transferred automatically on your behalf with no need to reformat. Please note that your article will be reviewed again by the new journal. 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
Please visit our Open Access page from the Journal Homepage for more information.

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

Language (usage and editing services)
Please write your text in good English (American or British usage is accepted, but not a mixture of these). Authors who feel their English language manuscript may require editing to eliminate possible grammatical or spelling errors and to conform to correct scientific English may wish to use the English Language Editing service available from Elsevier's Author Services.

Submission
Submission to this journal proceeds totally online. Use the following guidelines to prepare your article. Via the homepage of this journal (https://www.evise.com/profile/api/navigate/JRE) you will be guided stepwise through the creation and uploading of the various files. The system automatically converts source files to a single Adobe Acrobat PDF version of the article, which is used in the peer-review process. Please note that even though manuscript source files are converted to PDF at submission for the review process, these source files are needed for further processing after acceptance. All correspondence, including notification of the Editor's decision and requests for revision, takes place by e-mail and via the author's homepage, removing the need for a hard-copy paper trail. If you are unable to provide an electronic version, please contact the editorial office prior to submission [e-mail: jrechina@263.net, xtxb@grinm.com].

Additional information
Tables and figures may be presented with captions within the main body of the manuscript; if so, figures should additionally be uploaded as high resolution files.

PREPARATION
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.

LaTeX
You are recommended to use the Elsevier article class elsarticle.cls to prepare your manuscript and BibTeX to generate your bibliography.
Our LaTeX site has detailed submission instructions, templates and other information.

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.

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.

Keywords
Authors are invited to submit keywords associated with their paper. 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, yyyy]; the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Seattle, WA [grant number zzzz]; and the United States Institutes of Peace [grant number aaaa].

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

If no funding has been provided for the research, 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.

Nomenclature and units
Follow internationally accepted rules and conventions: use the international system of units (SI). If other quantities are mentioned, give their equivalent in SI. You are urged to consult IUPAC: Nomenclature of Organic Chemistry for further information.

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.
• Ensure that color images are accessible to all, including those with impaired color vision.

A detailed guide on electronic artwork is available. **You are urged to visit this site; some excerpts from the detailed information are given here.**

Formats
If your electronic artwork is created in a Microsoft Office application (Word, PowerPoint, Excel) then please supply 'as is' in the native document format.
Regardless of the application used other than Microsoft Office, when your electronic artwork is finalized, please 'Save as' or convert the images to one of the following formats (note the resolution requirements for line drawings, halftones, and line/halftone combinations given below):
EPS (or PDF): Vector drawings, embed all used fonts.
TIFF (or JPEG): Color or grayscale photographs (halftones), keep to a minimum of 300 dpi.
TIFF (or JPEG): Bitmapped (pure black & white pixels) line drawings, keep to a minimum of 1000 dpi.
TIFF (or JPEG): Combinations bitmapped line/half-tone (color or grayscale), keep to a minimum of 500 dpi.
**Please do not:**
• Supply files that are optimized for screen use (e.g., GIF, BMP, PICT, WPG); these typically have a low number of pixels and limited set of colors;
• Supply files that are too low in resolution;
• Submit graphics that are disproportionately large for the content.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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
Journals

Books

Conference proceedings

Journal abbreviation source
Journal names should be abbreviated according to
List of title word abbreviations: http://www.issn.org/2-22661-LTWA-online.php
CAS (Chemical Abstracts Service): http://www.cas.org/

**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](http://www.cas.org/).

**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](http://www.elsevier.com/).

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](http://www.elsevier.com/).

**Graphical abstract**
A Graphical abstract is optional and should summarize the contents of the article in a concise, pictorial form designed to capture the attention of a wide readership online. Authors must provide images that clearly represent the work described in the article. Graphical abstracts should be submitted as a separate file in the online submission system. Image size: Please provide an image with a minimum of 531 × 1328 pixels (h × w) or proportionally more. The image should be readable at a size of 5 ×13 cm using a regular screen resolution of 96 dpi. Preferred file types: TIFF, EPS, PDF or MS Office files. See https://www.elsevier.com/graphicalabstracts for examples.

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

**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](http://www.elsevier.com/).
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. To ensure a fast publication process of the article, we kindly ask authors to provide us with their proof corrections within two days. 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, 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 Author Services.

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