

Instructions to authors

Preparation of manuscripts: The following are the stylistic requirements for an acceptable manuscript.

(1) *Length:* Manuscripts normally should not exceed the equivalent of 2500 words including tables, plus references and figure captions, and no more than five figures. They should be typed double-spaced with wide margins. All pages should be numbered.

(2) *Address:* The name(s) of the author(s) and the name and address of the institute where the research work was done should be indicated on the manuscript. The name, full postal address, fax number and e-mail address of the author to whom correspondence is to be addressed should be given at the bottom of the first page of the manuscript.

(3) *Abstract:* An abstract of at most 100 words is required. It should be self-contained (no footnotes or references) and present the essence of the results.

(4) *Electronic manuscripts:* An electronic version (any format) of the accepted manuscript is crucial for fast processing. It may be submitted on a diskette with the manuscript. The type of operating system and word-processor should be indicated. For LaTeX articles, the general Elsevier style file should be used (obtainable from <http://www.elsevier.com/locate/latex>).

(5) *Symbols and units:* The use of SI units is strongly recommended. A useful guide is: *Quantities, Units and Symbols in Physical Chemistry*, 2nd edn. prepared by I. Mills, T. Cvitas, K. Homann, N. Kallay and K. Kuchitsu, Blackwell/IUPAC, Oxford, 1993.

(6) *Illustrations:* The figures in the master set should be supplied separate from the main text. The line drawings should be original printer/plotter output or drawn in black ink, with careful lettering, large enough (3–5 mm) to remain legible after reduction for printing. The photographs should be high-contrast originals; any scale markers should be inserted on the photograph itself, not drawn below it. Each figure should have a number and a caption; the captions

themselves should be collected on a separate sheet. Text graphics such as chemical structures should also be supplied on separate pages.

(7) *Colour illustrations:* Submit colour illustrations as original photographs, high-quality computer prints or transparencies, close to the size expected in publication, or as 35 mm slides. Polaroid colour prints are *not* suitable. If, together with your accepted article, you submit usable colour figures then Elsevier will ensure, at no additional charge, that these figures will appear in colour on the web (e.g., ScienceDirect and other sites) regardless of whether or not these illustrations are reproduced in colour in the printed version. For colour reproduction in print, you will receive information regarding the costs from Elsevier after receipt of your accepted article. For further information on the preparation of electronic artwork, please see <http://authors.elsevier.com/artwork>.

Please note: Because of technical complications which can arise by converting colour figures to ‘grey scale’ (for the printed version should you not opt for colour in print) please submit in addition usable black and white prints corresponding to all the colour illustrations.

(8) *Equations:* Displayed equations should be formatted with the journal text column width of 7.5 cm in mind. If necessary notation should be adapted by introduction of suitable abbreviations of component expressions. Special attention should be given to characters that can be confused, such as: l (ell), 1 (one); o (lower case), O (capital), 0 (zero), degree; etc.

(9) *Tables:* Each table should be numbered and typed on a separate sheet together with its caption. Tables should have a clear structure, with simple column headings giving all units.

(10) *References:* In the text, reference to other parts of the paper should be made by section or equation

number, not by page number. References to other papers should be consecutively numbered in the text and listed numerically at the end of the paper. Multiple references should be avoided, i.e. each paper referred to should be given its own reference number. The total number of references should not exceed 35. The references should be as complete as possible (et al. may be used in the text but not in the list), and presented as in these examples:

For a book:

N. Watanabe, T. Nakajima, H. Touhara, Graphite Fluorides, Elsevier, Amsterdam, 1988.

For a paper in a journal: S. Grimme, S.D. Peyerimhoff, Chem. Phys. 204 (1996) 411.

For a paper in a contributed volume:

J.L. Durant, Jr., in: R.G. Compton, G. Hancock (Eds.), Research in Chemical Kinetics, Elsevier, Amsterdam, 1995, p. 69.

For an unpublished paper:

C.E.H. Dessent, Ph.D. Thesis, Yale University, New Haven, CT, 1997.

(11) *Footnotes*: These should be used sparingly and preferably be incorporated as text remarks. References should never be used for footnotes.

(12) *Preparation of supplementary data*. Elsevier now accepts electronic supplementary material to support and enhance your scientific research. Supplementary

files offer the author additional possibilities to publish supporting applications, movies, animation sequences, high-resolution images, background datasets, sound clips and more. Supplementary files supplied will be published online alongside the electronic version of your article in Elsevier web products, including ScienceDirect: <http://www.sciencedirect.com>. In order to ensure that your submitted material is directly usable, please ensure that data is provided in one of our recommended file formats. Authors should submit the material in electronic format together with the article and supply a concise and descriptive caption for each file. For more detailed instructions please visit our Author Gateway at <http://authors.elsevier.com>.

Files can be stored on 3½ inch diskette, ZIP-disk or CD (either MS-DOS or Macintosh).

Further information

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