

Instructions for authors

Article categories

EPJ E publishes **Regular Articles**, which are original research papers that report results in the domain of Soft Matter and Biological Physics. Besides them, EPJ E publishes also **Colloquia**, that describe the development of new areas of research or the impact of new and promising experimental or theoretical methods in the fields that are within the spectrum of topics covered by the journal. While not as extensive and complete as reviews in the usual sense, they are intended to suitably introduce new research directions and techniques in their early stages of development, and to a wider audience. There is no explicit constraint regarding the length of such manuscripts, although 20 printed pages would be the most usual length. All invited/submitted manuscripts will undergo the same refereeing procedure as all other contributions submitted to the journal. For accepted colloquium papers, authors will receive a honorarium of EUR 200,-- and colour figures will be free of charge.

The submission stage

The web-based submission (and resubmission), including via a preprint server, is preferred over other methods. The member of the Editorial Board or the Editor-in-Chief to whom the manuscript should be forwarded may be indicated in the submission form. Additionally authors are encouraged to suggest a list of possible referees (not more than 5). The content of the article should not be submitted simultaneously to another journal.

Electronic submission

Authors are asked to **submit** their paper **electronically** through the website (Inquiry System):

<https://articlestatus.edpsciences.org/is/epje/>

Authors can eventually submit their manuscript via e-mail, but only through the Editorial Office at:

epje@edpsciences.org

How to prepare a manuscript

There is no general limitation of the overall size nor of the number of figures, nor of the level of details considered to be necessary. However, the appropriate length of a manuscript depends on the information presented in the paper. A manuscript should consist of the following content.

Title

The title should be simple, concise and informative with only the first word capitalized. A shortened version of the title consisting of a maximum of 75 characters (including spaces) for running headers should also be provided.

Author(s) name(s) and affiliation(s)

A list of all authors, as well as corresponding addresses, should be provided. Each address should be preceded by a numerical superscript corresponding to the same superscript after the name of the author concerned. Addresses should contain all information necessary for an effective mail delivery. E-mail should also be provided to speed up communication between readers and authors. This information will be published unless authors request otherwise.

Abstract

An abstract should accompany each manuscript; it should be completely self-consistent (*i.e.*, with no figure, table, equation or reference citations), not exceeding 200 words and written as a single paragraph. Mathematical expressions should be avoided, if possible.

Classification numbers

Starting from 2010 PACS numbers are not required since they are no longer published in EPJ journals.

Main body of the paper

The body of the paper could be divided into sections. Sections should be numbered with arabic (not roman) numerals. Subsections (second level) should be numbered 1.2, 1.3, etc., and sub-subsections (third level) 1.1.1, 1.1.2, etc. Appendices should be numbered A, B, etc. All sections must have a short descriptive title, in which only the first word should be capitalized. Equations, tables, figures, and references should follow a sequential numerical scheme in order to ensure a logical development of the subject matter. Standard copy-editing corrections are inserted by the Production Staff. For details, see the internationally agreed standards adopted by the International Union of Pure and Applied Physics (IUPAP) or defined by the International Organization of Standardization (ISO). However, sticking to the following main rules shall hasten the production procedure.

- Whichever spelling you choose (British or American English) please be consistent throughout.
- Use hyphens consistently and avoid unnecessary ones.
- The words "section(s)", "equation(s)", "figure(s)" and "reference(s)" are abbreviated as "sect(s)", "fig(s)", "eq(s)" and "ref(s)" unless they are the first word of a sentence. The word "table" is always written in full.
- Latin expressions, such as, *e.g.*, *i.e.*, *et al.*, *versus* (*vs.*) should be set in italic.
- Chemical formulas, units of measure and acronyms should be set in roman.
- Mathematical symbols should be set in italic except:
 - differentials,
 - standard mathematical functions (exp, log, sin, cos, ...),
 - Im and Re for imaginary and real.
- Vectors and tensors should be set in bold and sans-serif bold, respectively.
- Long exponential equations are better set as $\exp(\dots)$ instead of e^{\dots} .
- For fractions in the text use the solidus putting only the parentheses necessary to avoid ambiguities.
- For normal units use the standard SI abbreviations (*e.g.*, s instead of seconds, ...).

Caution: Mathematical expressions often need to be displayed on two or more lines ("broken") because of the line length limitation of the two-column layout. There are situations where breaking an equation is *not possible or appropriate* (long fractions or matrices). Unbroken long equations are thus placed at the bottom or at the top of the concerned page(s) by the production staff according to the pagelayout (`\flaotequation`) with an appropriate citation in the text. For example:

See equation (8) above (below)

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There are 3 main types of footnotes:

- 1 Introductory footnotes (referring to new addresses of authors, address of corresponding author, ...) indicated with the following lower-case letters: _{a, b, c}, etc.
- 2 Footnotes to text material, which should be kept to a minimum, and which should be indicated by numerical superscripts: ^{1, 2, 3}, etc. They should be placed at the foot of the relevant page.
- 3 Footnotes to tables, which should be indicated by superscript lower case letters and placed in a list immediately below the concerned table.

Acknowledgments and appendices

The acknowledgments section should follow the main body of the paper and should precede any appendix. Appendices should be labelled A, B, etc. (Appendix A or Appendix A. Complex developments, when there is a title). Equations in the appendices should be numbered consecutively, but separately from those in the main body of the paper (A.1), (A.2), etc. In each appendix equations should be numbered separately (B.1), (B.2), etc.

References

It is important to check the accuracy of bibliographic information in references. This has become more important with the on-line version. Hyperlinks will be programmed to enable readers to jump directly to the material cited. If your reference citations are incorrect or incomplete (*e.g.*, missing author name, or an incorrect volume number or page), the associated hyperlinks may fail, and the usefulness of your paper in the on-line environment may be diminished.

References are quoted with arabic numerals in square brackets in order of appearance in the text. Literature citation of periodicals [1-3], books [4], proceedings [5] and preprints [6] should be organized according to the following examples. Note that journal names should be abbreviated according to the list of serial title word abbreviation of the ISDS (International Serial Data System) if available, otherwise full journal names are preferable.

1. J.M. Smith, R. Brown, C. Green, Eur. Phys. J. E **1**, 123 (2008).
2. J.M. Smith *et al.*, Z. Phys. A **4**, 123 (1997).
3. J.M. Smith, to be published in Riv. Nuovo Cimento.
4. J.M. Smith, *Molecular Dynamics*, 2nd edition (Springer, Berlin, Heidelberg, 1987).
5. J.M. Smith, *Proceedings of the 9th GIFCO Conference, Lecce, 2000*, edited by S. Aiello, Vol. **68** (SIF, Bologna, 2000).
6. J.M. Smith, DESY 98-123, 1998, unpublished.

If available the DOI (Digital Object Identifier) of the cited literature should be added at the end of the reference.

IMPORTANT: To ensure that the CrossRef facility can hyper-link to the articles quoted in the bibliography, **multiple references must not be used**. *I.e.*, a list of references under the same number is not allowed: **each reference has to be singly numbered**.

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Each caption should be written as a single brief paragraph without indentation. Figures and tables should be consecutively numbered with *arabic numerals* as they are cited in the text.

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Each figure should be cited in the text. The final quality of the illustration depends on the quality of the original artwork so that they must conform to the criteria given below:

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 - avoid too thin continuous or dotted lines or too heavy lettering and thick lines that may result unsightly after reduction (if any).
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Electronic multimedia files (animations, movies, audio, etc.) and other supplementary information (appendices, (large) tables, images, programmes, etc.) which is either too voluminous for printing or is designed specifically for the Web can be published online along with the article.

- Authors should submit the material in electronic format together with the article:
 - use standard file formats: MPEG-1 (.mpg) for audio, video and animations; PDF for text and presentations,
 - supply a concise and descriptive caption for each file,
 - make a specific mention of the supplementary material in the text (e.g., as shown in movie 2) and name your files accordingly, e.g., movie2.mpg.
- Electronic supplementary material will be published as received from the authors without any conversion, editing, or reformatting.

For more information, please contact the Editorial Office.

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File formats

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- www.epj.org,

- or via anonymous ftp from the ftp/servers:

```
· ftp.springer.de
  in the directory /pub/tex/latex/svjour/epj
· ftp.edpsciences.org
  in the directory /pub/epj
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and Word files.

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Figures

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 - the line strength should be greater than 0.3 pt (or higher if the figure needs scaling),
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