

Instructions for authors

Article categories

EPJ A publishes **Regular Articles**, which are original research papers that report results in the domain of Hadrons and Nuclei. Besides them, EPJ A publishes also Letters, Tools for Experiment and Theory/Scientific Notes and Reviews.

• **Letters/Letters to the Editor:** Letters must describe new and original work deserving rapid publication. Their aim is to concisely report on important theoretical, computational or experimental results or on sufficiently substantiated concepts, with a significant (potential) impact on the broader development in one of the fields covered by the journal. In order to allow a rapid refereeing and decision procedure and to better address a broad readership, Letters should not exceed 4 printed pages in EPJ A format, and should include no more than 4 figures and/or tables. Letters to the Editor are by invitation only and serve the purpose of initiating targeted, high-level discussions on open scientific issues, or on more speculative but truly innovative and promising ideas for the future development of the field. Their format style is similar to that of regular Letters. While external proposals for new, and comments on previously published Letters to the Editor are possible, the decision to act on them rests solely with the editors in charge of this section. Letters will, by default, be published with immediate **Open Access** without incurring any fee.

• **New Tools and Techniques:** are articles presenting original and new developments of particle detectors, readout electronics, computational methods, theoretical frameworks or analysis tools. An important subgroup are articles detailing specific aspects of importance to understand and assess either the formalism sketched in a theoretical resp. computational paper, or the analysis tools that lead to the physics results presented in experimental collaboration papers. Direct relevance to physics topics within the "Aims and Scopes" must be demonstrated. Technical details (including but not limited to construction drawings, electronic circuit diagrams or computer codes) may be added as electronic-only supplementary material.

• **Reviews:** are by invitation only through the Editorial Board. There is no general limit to the overall length—they may contain, but should not be restricted to, original work. Reviews will fall into one of the following categories: 1) Comprehensive reviews of major topics within the "Aims and Scope" of EPJA and EPJC. Their primary assets will be pedagogical exposition, synthesis of key developments, and the inclusion of a definitive and representative bibliography. 2) Technical papers presenting an extensive review of a specialist topic within the "Aims and Scope". 3) Reviews of a newly emerging field, providing an up-to-date synthesis and an extended discussion of the open questions. The discussion is expected to lead to an assessment of the possible further developments within the field, potentially making a substantial contribution to guiding decisions concerning the planning or running of experimental and observational facilities. 4) Outstanding thesis or working reports, the richness and importance of whose details justify the exceptional publication of the full length work.

• **Comments and Replies:** include discussion and commentary addressing significant aspects of the original paper but without a) representing essentially new papers, b) delving into too much detail, or c) becoming personal. They should address non-trivial aspects that will interest readers other than the authors of the comment and the original paper. They should not exceed two printed pages in the EPJ format and should not include an abstract.

The submission stage

Authors are asked to **submit** their paper **electronically** through the website:

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As "Main Document" **ONLY ONE of the following files: PS, DOC, PDF, IS REQUIRED** at this stage. Detailed instructions and on-line help (**User Tutorials** link) are available step by step, you simply should follow them carefully.

Exceptionally, for authors who do not have access to the web, we also accept a hard copy to be sent to:

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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

It should be simple, concise and informative with only the first word capitalized.

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

A list of all authors (with first and last name(s) written in full), 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 (e.g., 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.

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.
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- Latin expressions, such as, e.g., *i.e.*, *et al.*, *versus* (vs.) should be set in italic.
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- Roman is preferred also for sub and superscripts to variables that stand as a label (R_{gyr} , b^{out} , ...), particles, subparticles, quarks, etc., but if you use italic be consistent throughout.
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- For fractions in the text use the solidus putting only the parentheses necessary to avoid ambiguities.
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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 by superscript lower case letters.
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- 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, especially if more than one, should be labelled A, B, etc. (Appendix A or Appendix B). 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

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. A **1**, 123 (2008).
2. J.M. Smith *et al.*, Z. Phys. A **4**, 123 (1997).
3. J.M. Smith *et al.*, to be published in Nuovo Cimento B.
4. J.M. Smith, *Molecular Dynamics*, 2nd ed. (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 necessary the DOI (Digital Object Identifier) of the cited literature may be added at the end of the reference.

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Electronic multimedia files (animations, movies, audio, etc.) and other supplementary information (appendices, (large) tables, images, etc.) which can add dimension to the author's article and present results which cannot be printed or are more convenient in electronic form can be published on-line along with the article.

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 - supply a concise and descriptive caption for each file,
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The acceptance stage

The Editor-in-Chief will send an acceptance letter to the corresponding author and, at the same time, will ask for electronic files of the final text and figures to be sent to: epja.bologna@sif.it

Guidelines for submission after acceptance

Source (.tex, .doc, ...) files for the production plus a Postscript or PDF file corresponding to the final accepted version of your manuscript should be sent to the Editorial and Production office (even if your article had been previously submitted electronically).

File formats

Text

We would appreciate receiving articles prepared in $\text{\LaTeX}2\epsilon$ with the EPJ class. In this case, authors are requested to carefully follow the instructions detailed in the documentation and to adhere as much as possible to the rules given in the section **How to prepare a manuscript**. The macro package is available at www.epj.org.

We will, however, accept texts written with any common variant of \TeX , including: $\text{\LaTeX}2\epsilon$ (standard, article class), \RevTeX , \AMS-LaTeX and Word files.

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The proof correction stage

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