

Instructions for authors

Article categories

EPJ E publishes **Regular Articles**, which are original research papers that report results in the domain of Soft Matter, Flowing Matter and Living Systems. 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. **Topical Reviews** provide a comprehensive and extensive summary of recent research results in a field that is within the spectrum of topics covered by EPJ E and are of current interest to a broader audience. A topical review should aim to summarize the pertinent experimental, theoretical, and computational results obtained by the key research groups working in the field in the past 10 years. Historical reviews of an entire sub-field of physics are discouraged. There is no explicit constraint regarding the length of such manuscripts, although 35 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 invited colloquium papers, authors will receive a honorarium of EUR 400,-- upon publication and colour figures will be free of charge. Colloquium papers are generally solicited by the journal editors. Authors wishing to submit a colloquium paper are advised to contact J.M. Di Meglio.

A brief biography (a maximum of 100 words per author) and a photo (in colour, size of 40×40 mm) can be provided to be published at the end of the article. There can be a maximum of 4 individual biographies per article. In the case of more than 4 authors, a group biography can be provided.

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.

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 (*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

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

Main body of the paper

There is not strict length limitation for publishing in EPJ E. However the editorial guideline is that i) Regular Articles should normally be approximately 10 printed pages long and preferably not exceed 30 pages and ii) Colloquia should be approximately 20 printed pages long and preferably not exceed 50 pages. 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

top of the concerned page(s) by the production staff according to the page layout (`\floateq`) with an appropriate citation in the text. For example,

see eq. (8) above

Footnotes

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.

Author contribution statement (mandatory)

Please provide a statement at the end of the paper (after the Acknowledgments) in which the nature of the contribution of each author is made explicit.

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 necessary the DOI (Digital Object Identifier) of the cited literature may 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**.

Figure and table captions

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:

- Letters, numbers and symbols should have uniform strength and contrast, should be appropriately oriented on the axes and consistent with those used in the text.
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EPJE features a graphical abstract that contains a graphic presentation for each published articles on www.epj.org, in addition to the title and author list. Before acceptance, authors are required to submit a graphic that, in conjunction with the paper title, is meant to convey the essence of the work and capture the reader's attention. Please note that the graphical abstract is not an abstract and is not to provide specific results. It may be an item already present in the manuscript or a purpose-made graphic. If the paper has no graphic, the authors can create a new one (or use an equation). Of course, the submission of a graphical abstract already used in the graphical abstract or in the contents of another journal publication is not allowed. The use of color is strongly encouraged. It should be of high visual quality in order to reproduce well.

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Authors of accepted papers are encouraged to submit images for consideration as a cover. Cover images are linked to a specific paper in that issue. Illustrations are selected for their scientific interest and aesthetic appeal. Please send electronic files at the revision stage. Please also include a clear and concise caption explaining the image.

Electronic supplementary material

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 on-line 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.

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For more information, please contact the Editorial Office.

Research data policy

EPJ E strongly encourages that all datasets on which the conclusions of the paper rely should be available to readers and that the authors should provide a statement of data availability in their article, in which they describe where the relevant data can be found. Please click here for more details and information on recommended repositories.

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Authors are informed that any missing element in an accepted article (electronic file of the text or of the figures) will delay the publication date. The Editorial Office will keep the paper on a waiting list until all missing material is received. At this stage no modifications can be made either to the text or to the figures. If any, the manuscript will be sent back to the editor and possibly to the referees.

File formats

Text

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www.epj.org

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

No customized or personal style files should be used. Also, no particular fonts should be used (authors are reminded that the journal will be printed with Computer Modern (CM) standard fonts). In any case, the $\mathcal{A}\mathcal{M}\mathcal{S}\text{-}\LaTeX$ package, that defines several environments for creating multiline display equations, may be used. For manuscripts prepared with Word authors should be aware that only the text will be processed and that mathematical symbols and equations will be re-typed in \LaTeX by the Production Staff.

Figures

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