Information for Authors

(Revised January 2017)

SCIENCE CHINA Chemistry (Sci China Chem) is a monthly peer-reviewed academic journal supervised by the Chinese Academy of Sciences, and co-sponsored by the Chinese Academy of Sciences and the National Natural Science Foundation of China. Its primary mission is to encourage communication of basic and innovative research results of high quality in the fields of chemistry. The subject areas featured include inorganic chemistry, organic chemistry, physical chemistry, polymer chemistry, chemical biology and biological chemistry, analytical chemistry, environmental chemistry, as well as chemical engineering. All papers should be intelligible for a broad scientific audience.

Sci China Chem is indexed by several databases including Science Citation Index, Engineering Index, and Chemical Abstracts.

Manuscripts published in Sci China Chem include:

Highlights. Brief summaries and scholarly comments on recent research achievements in any field of chemistry. Highlights are ~500 words in length with one figure and a maximum of two references.

Perspectives. Concise reports on the latest chemistry trends of interest to scientists worldwide, including discussions of research breakthroughs and interpretations of important science and funding policies. Perspectives are ~1000 words in length with one to two figures/tables and a maximum of 10 references.

Reviews. In-depth summaries of representative results and achievements of the past 5–10 years in selected topics based on or closely related to the research expertise of the authors, providing a thorough assessment of the significance, current status, and future research directions of the field. Reviews are no more than 8000 words in length with a maximum of 100 references.

Mini Reviews. Concise, short reviews, no more than 4500 words in length with at most 80 references.

Feature Articles. An overview of the most recent work of the author and his/her group. Generally experts in a field who have made significant contributions in recent years will be invited to write Feature Articles. They are no more than 8000 words in length.

Communications. Short articles reporting important research results in chemistry for which urgent communication to the scientific community is warranted. Communications are 2000–3000 words in length with two to four figures/tables and a maximum of 20 references.

Articles. Original reports, with a maximum of 50 references, to cover important results in any area of chemistry.

Hot Papers. The most important papers (Articles, Communications, Feature Articles, or Reviews) will be designated as “Hot Papers” upon publication. At the recommendation of reviewers, manuscripts for “Hot Papers” are considered by editorial board members or an Associate Editor and then chosen by the Editor-in-Chief.

Manuscript submission

To submit a manuscript, please visit the website of the journal at http://chem.scichina.com or link.springer.com/journal/11426, or directly go to the ScholarOne Manuscripts™ system at http://mc03.manuscriptcentral.com/scc.

Please provide in a cover letter the background, innovative and scientific value of the work presented in the manuscript, and authors’ publications related to this work. The detailed contact information of the first author and corresponding author is required. (Please promptly inform the editorial office of any change of contacting emails and addresses.) The authors may recommend 3–8 qualified reviewers and/or request the exclusion of specific reviewers. An informative cover letter is considered helpful for editors and reviewers to make evaluation of the submitted manuscript.

Duplicate submission is forbidden and unethical. In such cases, the journal will inform the institution of the authors and the relevant journal(s).

Poor English expression of a submitted manuscript may lead to rejection.

Ethical responsibilities of authors

This journal is committed to upholding the integrity of science and the scientific record. As a member of the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE), the journal will follow the COPE guidelines on how to deal with potential acts of misconduct.

Authors should refrain from misrepresenting research results which could damage the trust in the journal and ultimately the entire scientific endeavor. Maintaining integrity of the research and its presentation can be achieved by following the rules of good scientific practice, which includes:

- The manuscript has not been submitted to more than one journal for simultaneous consideration.
- The manuscript has not been published previously (partly or in full), unless the new work concerns an expansion of previous work. (Please provide transparency on the re-use of material to avoid the hint of text-recycling (“self-plagiarism”)).
- A single study is not split up into several parts to increase the quantity of submissions and submitted to various journals or to one journal over time (e.g., “salami-publishing”).
- No data have been fabricated or manipulated (including images) to support the conclusions. Upon request authors should be prepared to submit relevant documenta-
tion or data in order to verify the validity of the results. This could be in the form of, e.g., raw data, samples, and records.

- No data, text, or theories by others are presented as if they were the authors’ own (“plagiarism”). Proper acknowledgements to other works must be given, including material that is closely copied (near verbatim), summarized and/or paraphrased. Quotation marks are used for verbatim copying of material, and permissions need to be secured for material that is copyrighted.

Important note: The journal may use software to screen for plagiarism.

- Consent to submit, including each version of the paper and any change in authorship, has been received from all co-authors and responsible authorities at the institute/organization where the work has been carried out before the work is submitted or re-submitted for publication. In addition, authorship changes or the order of authors are not accepted after acceptance of a manuscript. Requests to add or delete authors at the revision stage or after publication is a serious matter, and may be considered only after receipt of a written approval from all authors and detailed explanation about the role/deletion of the new/deleted author. The decision whether to accept the change rests with the Editor-in-Chief of the journal.

- Authors whose names appear on the submission have contributed sufficiently to the scientific work and therefore share collective responsibility and accountability for the results.

Disclosure of potential conflict of interests

Authors must disclose all relationships or interests that could influence or bias the work. Although an author may not feel there are conflicts, disclosure of relationships and interests affords a more transparent process, leading to an accurate and objective assessment of the work. Awareness of real or perceived conflicts of interests is a perspective to which the readers are entitled and is not limited to the following:

- Research grants from funding agencies. (Please give the research funder and the grant number.)
- Honoraria for speaking at symposia
- Financial support for attending symposia
- Financial support for educational programs
- Employment or consultation
- Support from a project sponsor
- Position on advisory board or board of directors or other type of management relationships
- Multiple affiliations
- Financial relationships such as equity ownership or investment interest
- Intellectual property rights such as patents, copyrights and royalties from such rights
- Holdings of spouse and/or children that may have financial interest in the work

In addition, interests beyond financial concerns and compensation (non-financial interests) that may be important to readers should be disclosed. These may include but are not limited to personal relationships or competing interests directly or indirectly tied to this research, or professional interests or personal beliefs that may influence your research.

The corresponding author will include a summary statement in the text of the manuscript in a separate section before the reference list.

See below examples of disclosures:

**Funding:** This work was supported by X (grant number).

**Conflict of interest:** Author A has received research grants from Company A. Author B has received a speaker honorarium from Company X and owns stock in Company Y. Author C is a member of committee Z.

If no conflict exists, the authors should state:

**Conflict of interest** The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

Statement of human and animal rights

When reporting studies that involve human participants, authors should include a statement that the studies have been approved by the appropriate institutional and/or national research ethics committee and have been performed in accordance with the ethical standards as laid down in the 1964 Declaration of Helsinki and its later amendments or comparable ethical standards.

If doubt exists whether the research was conducted in accordance with the 1964 Helsinki Declaration or comparable standards, the authors must explain the reasons for their approach, and demonstrate that the independent ethics committee or institutional review board has explicitly approved the doubtful aspects of the study.

The following statements should be included in the text before the References section:

**Ethical approval:** “All procedures performed in studies involving human participants were in accordance with the ethical standards of the institutional and/or national research committee and with the 1964 Helsinki declaration and its later amendments or comparable ethical standards.”

The welfare of animals used for research must be respected. When reporting experiments on animals, authors should indicate whether the institutional and/or national guidelines for the care and use of animals were followed.

For studies with animals, the following statement should be included:

“All applicable institutional and/or national guidelines for the care and use of animals were followed.”

If articles do not contain studies with human participants or animals by any of the authors, it is recommended that the following sentence be included:

“This article does not contain any studies with human participants or animals performed by any of the authors.”

For retrospective studies, please add the following sentence:

“For this type of study formal consent is not required.”

Reviewing policy

All submissions will be reviewed by referees selected by the editorial board. The decision of acceptance or declination of a manu-
script is made by the editorial board based on the referees’ reports. Ultimate responsibility for acceptance or declination rests with the Editor-in-Chief. The entire review process may take 30 to 90 days, and the editorial office will inform the authors of the decision as soon as the process is completed. If the editorial board fails to make a decision within 90 days, it is up to the authors to decide whether they would withdraw their paper and submit it elsewhere.

Copyright

A completed form assigning Copyright Transfer Statement to Science China Press must be returned to the Sci China Chem office when the paper is accepted for publication. The copyright covers the exclusive right to reproduce and distribute the article (in various languages), including offprints and reprints, translations, photographic reproductions, microform, electronic form (offline, online) or other reproductions of similar nature. The Copyright Transfer Statement is available at http://chem.scichina.com.

Research data policy

The journal encourages authors, where possible and applicable, to deposit data that support the findings of their research in a public repository. Authors and editors who do not have a preferred repository should consult Springer Nature’s list of repositories and research data policy.

- List of repositories (http://www.springernature.com/gp/group/data-policy/repositories)

General repositories - for all types of research data - such as Figshare and Dryad may also be used. Datasets that are assigned digital object identifiers (DOIs) by a data repository may be cited in the reference list. Data citations should include the minimum information recommended by DataCite: authors, title, publisher (repository name), identifier.

- DataCite (https://www.datacite.org/)

Springer Nature provides a research data policy support service for authors and editors, which can be contacted at researchdata@springernature.com.

This service provides advice on research data policy compliance and on finding research data repositories. It is independent of journal, book and conference proceedings editorial offices and does not advise on specific manuscripts.

- Helpdesk (http://www.springernature.com/gp/group/data-policy/helpdesk)

Page proof and publication

After typesetting, page proof is usually sent electronically as email attachments to the corresponding author. The proof plus any minor corrections should be returned to the managing editor within three workdays. Failure to do this may result in delays in publication. Corrections can be made using one of the following two methods: (1) highlight the corrections and send the corrected proof as email attachment; (2) highlight the corrections and send the proof pages by mail to the editorial office.

One sample copy will be sent to the authors. If more offprints and sample copies are needed, please contact the managing editor and pay extra fees. The full text in English is free to the readers in mainland China at chem.scichina.com, and it is available to overseas readers at link.springer.com/journal/11426

In addition to the normal publication process (in which access to that article is granted to readers with a subscription), Springer provides Springer Open Choice as an alternative publishing option. A Springer Open Choice article, with all the benefits of a regular subscription-based article, is made available publicly through Springer’s online platform SpringerLink.

Publication charge

The color artwork supplied with the submitted article will appear in color online, free of charge. There is a charge for the reproduction of color illustration in print.

Manuscript format

Contributions are required of a concise, focused account of the findings and reliable, essential data. They should be well organized and written clearly and simply, avoiding exhaustive tables and figures. Authors are advised to use internationally agreed nomenclature, express all measurements in SI units, and quote relevant references. Nomenclature, signs, and abbreviation should be defined at their initial appearance.

Table of contents graphic. The journal features a Table of Contents (TOC) containing a graphic presentation, in addition to the title and author list. Authors are required to submit a graphic for the TOC that, in conjunction with the manuscript title, conveys to readers the essence of the work and thereby capture their attention. It may be a key structure, reaction, equation, concept, theorem, or an ingenious representation discussed in the manuscript. The TOC graphic should appear on the last page of the text file.

Title. Titles must be limited to no more than 20 words, and should be concise, indexable, and informative for a broad scientific audience. Authors should avoid using colons, questions, and non-standard abbreviations in titles.

Authors. The order of the authors listed should be agreed by all coauthors, and every author should have the responsibility for the published content. The email address of the corresponding author is required.

Author affiliation. The affiliation should be the institution where the work was conducted. Complete addresses are required with post codes.

Abstract. An abstract is a summary of the content of the manuscript. It should briefly describe the research purpose, method, results, and conclusion. Highly specialized terms, special signs, figures, tables, and equations should be avoided, and citation of references is not allowed.

Keywords. A list of three to eight keywords should follow the abstract. The chosen keywords are required to reflect the theme of a manuscript.

Introduction. The introduction provides the relevant research background and the progress in the past 2–3 years with references cited in numerical order. It presents the problem to be solved, and then describes the method adopted in the work. The aim of the research and its significance should be indicated. Do not use subtitle in this part.

Materials and method. This part gives the materials, method, and experimental procedure of the work, so others may repeat the work.
Results and discussion. Research results, including data and models, are presented and discussed in this section. Tables and figures may be used. Be complete but concise. Only the most significant and representative data should be included. Extended or supplemental results should appear as Supporting Information. Avoid irrelevant comparisons and speculations that are not supported by the results in the paper.

Conclusions. Conclusions should be derived from the observation and results in the paper. Do not summarize information already presented in earlier sections.

Figures and tables. Figures and tables should be numerically numbered, inserted in the text, and cited in order within the text. The figures should have resolution not lower than 600 dpi and clear lines of 5 px, with signs and letters in Arial at 7 pt. A space should be maintained between the variable and the unit. Chemical structures should be produced with the use of ChemDraw.

Equations. An equation is numerically numbered (Arabic numeral), and has the number on its right side.

Acknowledgments. The authors express thanks to the people who helped with this work. Financial support appears in this section with grant numbers.

Conflict of interest. The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

References. Reference citation is regarded as an important indicator of the paper’s quality. If the relevant references, especially those published in the past 2–3 years are not cited, or most citations are from publications of the authors, the editor may consider the paper unattractive. References should be numerically numbered and cited in order within the text, with the numbers expressed in square brackets. Carefully check names of authors, article title, journal name, year and volume of the paper to be cited, and make the listing according to the format of Sci China Chem discussed below.

Supporting information. Extensive use of Supporting Information is encouraged. It is supplementary material submitted with the manuscript, and, once the paper is published, it is available on the journal’s web sites. Supporting Information is particularly appropriate for additional discussion, graphs, spectra, tables, and video/audio clips that are of interest to specialists.

Reference format

1. For an author’s name, full spelling of the family name appears before abbreviation of the given name with no spacing in the middle.

2. All authors’ names should be listed.


4. For books and proceedings, the initial letter is capitalized for all the notional words and for function words with more than 4 letters.

5. Do not forget to list the editor names of the proceedings, publisher, publishing address, and the beginning and terminating pages.

6. Accepted but unpublished papers should be followed with “in press”.

Reference examples are given as follows

- Journal

- Monograph

- Books

- Conference proceedings

- Technical report

- Patent

- User manual

- Software

- CD

- Website

Contact

Editorial Office, SCIENCE CHINA Chemistry
Science China Press
16 Donghuangchenggen North Street
Beijing 100717, China
Tel: +86-10-6401-6732
Fax: +86-10-6403-6350
E-mail: chemistry@scichina.org