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General Requirements

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All papers must be written in English.

Submissions must not have been published previously, nor be under consideration for publication elsewhere. If accepted, it must not be published elsewhere in the same form, without the written consent of the publisher. Manuscripts are selected for publication after an assessment of their suitability by independent reviewers. Papers are usually sent to two or more reviewers.

Types of Contributions

Original papers; short communications/technical notes; reports of conferences and meetings; forthcoming meetings.

Manuscript Preparation

1) Manuscripts (written in MS Word) should be in English. The corresponding author should be identified with an asterisk and footnote (include their Fax number and E-mail address). Full postal addresses must be given for all co-authors. Authors should consult a recent issue of the journal for style, as the editors reserve the right to adjust style to maintain standards. Authors should retain a copy of their manuscript since we cannot accept responsibility for loss of submissions.

2) Each paper should be provided with an abstract of about 100~150 words, written as a single paragraph, and reporting concisely on the purpose, methods, results and conclusions of the paper. An abstract should be a summary (not an introduction!) and complete in itself (no numerical references). Newly observed facts and conclusions of the experiment or argument discussed in the paper must be stated in summary form. It should include not more than 8 key words which reflect the entries the authors would like to see in an index.

3) The text should contain an Introduction that puts the paper into perspective for readers, and should also contain sections for Method, Results, Discussion and Conclusions. The SI system should be used for all scientific and laboratory data; if, in certain instances, it is necessary to quote other units, these should be added in parentheses. Temperatures should be given in degrees Celsius. The unit ‘billion’ (10^12 in America, 10^9 in Europe) is ambiguous and must not be used. Where abbreviations are likely to cause ambiguity or not be readily understood by international reader, units should be put in full. Each Equation or Formula in the article should be numbered in order, using Arabic numerals placed in the right-hand margin.

4) Figures and tables should be consecutively numbered with Arabic numerals. Tables should be drawn with three horizontal lines, at the top and bottom of the table and between the column headings and the table body. Good quality figures, when printed by a good quality laser printer have lines, letters, numbers and symbols of uniform strength and contrast. Figures (except photographs) are often reduced to 7cm × 7cm. The final thickness of a line in a figure usually lies within the range 0.15-0.20 mm. When preparing the figures, authors should pay attention to the widths of lines and similar details, as some (e.g. dotted or thin lines) may disappear after reduction. Particular attention should be paid to line thickness in graphics prepared in vector formats.

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6) All publications cited in the text should be presented in a list of references following the text of the manuscript.

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