

INSTRUCTIONS FOR AUTHORS

1. Legal requirements: The author(s) guarantee(s) that the manuscript will not be published elsewhere in any language without the consent of the copyright holders, that the rights of third parties will not be violated, and that the publisher will not be held legally responsible should there be any claims for compensation.

Authors wishing to include figures or text passages that have already been published elsewhere are required to obtain permission from the copyright holder(s) and to include evidence that such permission has been granted when submitting their papers. Any material received without such evidence will be assumed to originate from the authors.

Manuscripts must be accompanied by the "Copyright Transfer Statement". The form is regularly published in this journal or can be obtained from <http://www.springerlink.com/>

2. Editorial procedure: Papers must present scientific results that are essentially new. All manuscripts are subject to peer review.

Manuscripts should be submitted in English. In addition to electronic submission two copies of the manuscript should be sent to **Sameer Singh**, Department of Computer Science, University of Exeter, Exeter EX4 4PT, UK. Email: espaa@exeter.ac.uk

Please be sure to include your e-mail address and your fax number.

Manuscripts which are returned to the authors for revision should be sent back within 8 weeks; otherwise they will be considered withdrawn.

Papers that do not conform to the journal norms may be returned to the authors for revision before being considered for publication.

The author is responsible for the accuracy of the references.

3. Manuscript preparation

General remarks: To help you prepare your manuscript in Word, Springer offers a template that can be used with Winword 7 (Windows 95), Winword 6 and Word for Macintosh.

For details see point 4.

All manuscripts are subject to copy editing.

■ Title page

– A concise and informative title

– The name(s) of the author(s)

– The affiliation(s) and address(es) of the author(s)

– The e-mail address, telephone and fax numbers of the communicating author

■ **Abstract.** The body of the paper should be preceded by an abstract of between 100-150 words describing the main thrust of the paper.

■ **Keywords.** Up to 6 keywords should be supplied after the Abstract characterising the scope of the paper.

■ **Abbreviations** should be defined at first mention in the abstract and again in the main body of the text and used consistently thereafter.

■ **Funding.** Authors are expected to disclose any commercial or other associations that might pose a conflict of interest in connection with submitted material. All funding sources supporting the work and institutional or corporate affiliations of the authors should be acknowledged.

■ **References.** The list of References should only include works that are cited in the text and that have been published or accepted for publication. Personal communications should only be mentioned in the text.

The accuracy of the references is the authors' responsibility. Inconsistencies between the reference list and text citations may lead to a delay in publication.

References should be *numbered in the order in which they appear* in the text and listed in *numerical order*. Journal titles should be abbreviated. References with correct punctuation should be styled as follows:

Chapter in a book:

Green G, Black B, Red R (2002) Title of chapter. In Yellow R et al. (eds). Title of book, Publisher, Place of publication, pp 156-165.

Book:

Green G (2000) Title of Book. Publisher, Place of publication

Journal Article:

Black B, Red R, Green G (2001) Journal article. Journal name abbreviated Volume No:page numbers.

References such as "personal communications" or "unpublished data" cannot be included in the reference list, but should be mentioned in the text in parentheses: this also applies to papers presented at a meeting but not yet published or accepted for publication. A date should be given for both "personal communications" and "unpublished data".

Papers which have been accepted for publication should be included in the list of references with the name of the journal and "in press".

Oral communications should only be mentioned in the acknowledgements.

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

Example: Dyall KG (1998) Relative and non-relative finite nucleus optimized double zeta basis sets for the elements. *Theor Chem Acc* 99: 366-371 DOI 10.1007/s002149800025

Illustrations and Tables: All figures (photographs, graphs or diagrams) and tables should be cited in the text, and each numbered consecutively throughout. Figure parts should be identified by lower-case roman letters. The placement of figures and tables should be indicated in the left margin. For submission of figures in electronic form see below.

Line drawings. Please submit good-quality prints. The inscriptions should be clearly legible.

Half-tone illustrations (black and white and colour). Please submit well-contrasted photographic prints with the top indicated on the back.

Plates. Several figures or figure parts should be grouped in a plate on one page.

Size of figures. The figures should either match the width of the column (80 mm) or be 110 mm. The maximum length is 230 mm.

Figure legends must be brief, self-sufficient explanations of the illustrations. The legends should be placed at the end of the text.

Tables should have a title and a legend explaining any abbreviation used in that table. Footnotes to tables should be indicated by superscript lower-case letters (or asterisks for significance values and other statistical data).

For **colour illustrations** the authors will be expected to make a contribution (£308, plus VAT per colour page) towards the extra costs.

4. Electronic submission of final version: Please send only the final version of the article, as accepted by the editors.

Please utilise the Word templates made available to authors.

Preparing your manuscript

Word: The template is available at <http://www.springer.de/comp/authors/index.html>

The zip file should be sent unencoded.

Layout guidelines

1. Use a normal, plain font (e.g., Times Roman) for text. \Other style options: \ for textual emphasis use *italic* types.

– for special purposes, such as for mathematical vectors, use **boldface** type.

2. Use the automatic page numbering function to number the pages.

3. Do not use field functions.

4. For indents use tab stops or other commands, not the space bar.

5. Use the table functions of your word processing program, not spreadsheets, to make tables.

6. Use the equation editor of your word processing program or MathType for equations.

7. Place any figure legends or tables at the end of the manuscript.

8. Submit all figures as separate files and do not integrate them within the text.

Data formats

Save your file in two different formats:

1. RTF (Rich Text Format) or Word compatible Word 95/97

2. pdf (a single pdf file including text, tables and figures)

■ **Illustrations:** The preferred figure formats are EPS for vector graphics exported from a drawing program and TIFF for halftone illustrations. EPS files must always contain a preview in TIFF of the figure. The file name (one file for each figure) should include the figure number. Figure legends should be included in the text and not in the figure file.

• **Scan resolution:** Scanned line drawings should be digitized with a minimum resolution of 800 dpi relative to the final figure size. For digital halftones, 300 dpi is usually sufficient.

• **Colour illustrations:** Store color illustrations as RGB (8 bits per channel) in TIFF format.

• **Vector graphics:** Fonts used in the vector graphics must be included. Please do not draw with hairlines. The minimum line width is 0.2 mm (i.e., 0.567 pt) relative to the final size.

General information on data delivery

Please send a zip file (text and illustrations in separate files) to the Editorial Office.

Please always supply the following information with your data: journal title, operating system, word processing program, drawing program, image processing program, compression program.

The file name should be memorable (e.g., author name), have no more than 8 characters, and include no accents or special symbols. Use only the extensions that the program assigns automatically.

5. Proofreading: Proofreading is the responsibility of the author. Corrections should be clear; standard correction marks should be used. Corrections that lead to a change in the page layout should be avoided. The author is entitled to formal corrections only. Substantial changes in content, e.g. new results, corrected values, title and authorship are not allowed without the approval of the responsible editor. In such a case please contact the Editorial Office before returning the proofs to the publisher.

6. Offprints

Twenty-five offprints of each contribution are supplied free of charge. If you wish to order additional offprints you must return the order form with the corrected proofs. You are then entitled to receive a pdf file of your article for your own personal use.