
Guidelines for journal authors – ICE Science

1. Introduction

Welcome to the ICE Science *Guidelines for journal authors*, prepared by ICE Publishing.

ICE Science journals aim to bring together communities that traditionally work in silos to ensure that important discoveries and applications are accessible to all, inspiring fresh thinking in how breakthrough research can be practically applied to make energy, materials and medicines ever more efficient and effective.

Each paper submitted to us is independently peer reviewed to ensure the highest standards of timeliness, technical accuracy and interest to our readers. You do not have to be a member of ICE to write.

- Before you begin writing, read the winners of last year's best paper competition [here](#).
- Download our article template [here](#)
- Open access information can be found [here](#).

These guidelines are intended to help you through the journal publishing process. Please take time to read them and, if you have any queries, consult the editorial team (contact details at the end).

ICE Publishing is a member of:



2. ICE Science journals

(a) Bioinspired, Biomimetic and Nanobiomaterials (BBN)

Bioinspired, biomimetic and nanobiomaterials are emerging as the most promising area of research within the area of biological materials science and engineering. The technological significance of this area is immense for applications as diverse as tissue engineering and drug delivery biosystems to biomimicked sensors and optical devices. The full aims and scope are available to download [here](#).

(b) Emerging Materials Research (EMR)

Materials Research is constantly evolving and correlations between process, structure, properties and performance which are application specific require expert understanding at the macro-, micro- and nano-scale. The full aims and scope are available to download [here](#).

(c) Nanomaterials and Energy (NME)

The journal's multidisciplinary nature will enable scientists and engineers in fields such as metallurgy; materials science; chemical, mechanical, electrical, aerospace engineering; chemistry; physics; mathematics and computer science to contribute and help build a sustainable future. The full aims and scope are available to download [here](#).

(d) Green Materials (GMAT)

With increased strain on petroleum resources and growing markets in China, India and across the globe, the importance of fiscally and environmentally responsible materials has never been higher. These green materials build from the field of green chemistry, the utilization of principles to reduce or eliminate hazardous substances in the design, manufacture and application of chemical products. At the most basic level, research in green materials looks to develop alternatives to traditional materials or processes that offer an environmental advantage. The full aims and scope are available to download [here](#)

(d) Surface Innovations (SUFI)

The material innovations on surfaces, combined with understanding and manipulation of physics and chemistry of functional surfaces and coatings, have exploded in the past decade at an incredibly rapid pace.

Superhydrophobicity, superhydrophilicity, self-cleaning, self-healing, anti-fouling, anti-bacterial, etc., have become important fundamental topics of surface science research community driven by curiosity of physics, chemistry, and biology of interaction phenomenon at surfaces and their enormous potential in practical applications. Materials having controlled-functionality surfaces and coatings are important to the manufacturing of new products for environmental control, liquid manipulation, nanotechnological advances, biomedical engineering, pharmacy, biotechnology, and many others, and are part of the most promising technological innovations of the twenty-first century. The full aims and scope are available to download [here](#)

3. Types of submission

ICE Science journals publishes the following types of papers from the international materials sciences and engineering community

- Research papers (main text excluding abstract/references/acknowledgements should be ideally within 7,000 words)
- State-of-the-art reviews or review-type papers. (main text excluding abstract/references/acknowledgements should be ideally within 7,000 words)

We also welcome the following shorter contributions (less than 2,000 words in length)

- Discussions of published papers and articles or letters for short communications or opinion articles
- Book reviews (please limit it to 1,000 words).

If you feel strongly about something you have read in our journals, please send us a discussion contribution for publication. Authors will be invited to respond and, subject to the Editor's approval, both pieces will be published together.

4. Format***Text in Microsoft Word***

Please prepare your main text using Microsoft Word. Italic and bold fonts for nomenclature will be kept but any other styling will be removed before publication. Therefore, concentrate on the content of your text rather than making it look like the journal where you plan to submit.

First two pages

It helps us to review your submission quickly if the first two pages follow a standard format.

Please include the following information on page 1

- date your text was written or revised
- title of your submission up to a maximum length of 62 characters (including spaces)
- full names and qualifications of the author(s)
- position or affiliation of the author(s)
- contact address, telephone and e-mail address of the submitting author
- number of words in your main text and tables, followed by the number of figures.

Please include the following information on page 2.

- A summary (abstract) within 150 to 200 words. This should cover the objectives and conclusions of your submission, and explain its relevance to the journal where the paper is being submitted. It should not include references, abbreviations or mentions of figures. Your abstract will be freely available on the internet (including Google) so make it clear and interesting.
- A list of notations, defining all of the symbols used.
- At least three keywords from the given list [here](#).

End of the Paper***(a) Conclusion***

Papers should contain clear conclusions, made with reference to the evidence presented in the body of the paper. The conclusions should be largely free of introductory and background material, other than perhaps a short set of initial statements that help to provide a context.

(b) References

As with research/review papers, they must also include relevant references to demonstrate how previous research and practice has been used. These references could be standards, codes or relevant past ICE journal papers (search [here](#)). Statements should be correct and accurate. Speculative material must be clearly identified as such.

Any information, work or ideas from other sources used or referred to must be properly acknowledged in the list of references. **We do not use footnotes/endnotes.** References/citations should be written in the **Vancouver** (sequential numbers) style. Click [here](#) for details of how to cite your references using the Vancouver style.

5. Style

Please be consistent in style throughout, especially if different authors have contributed sections. The following guidance is intended to help you achieve a clear, consistent style that is easy to read.

Paper Content

Make your text as short and concise as possible, excluding anything that is not directly relevant to the subject. Please include any associated safety, environmental or ethical issues. Kindly ensure that you consider the following prior to submission since the suitability of publication of your paper will be evaluated based on the below criteria.

(a) New and Informative - Papers should contain material not previously reported elsewhere unless the journal provides a new audience or the material is presented in a new and more useful, or expanded, form.

(b) Related to Journal Aims & Scope – Please try to address the aims & scope of the journal in your submitted paper in order to justify its relevance to the journal.

(c) Language - Submissions to ICE Science journals must be in good, plain English to be considered for publication. This is the responsibility of the authors and not the Editors.

Usage of UK or US English is acceptable, but make sure that you do not mix both styles and follow one style consistently throughout the paper. Further, the text should be written in the third person, and should be easily comprehensible. Please take care to avoid unnecessary use of the masculine gender where it is not required. Please avoid colloquialisms – texts originally prepared for oral presentation will need to be rewritten. Finally, please do not refer to the names of individuals, organisations, products or services unless it is essential to understanding your submission (and then only the first time). You should not be gratuitously complimentary or in any way derogatory about any person or organisation. Principal participants in a project should be listed separately in a table or acknowledgement at the end of your text. If a client is involved, you should seek their permission to detail the project.

Papers not meeting the required English language standard will be returned to the authors for rewriting and can be rejected alone for this reason. If you are not fluent in English, you should ask a contact/colleague who is fluent to read and critically appraise your work before submitting it for peer review. Alternatively, ICE has collaborated with AJE to provide a paid for English-editing service to improve the clarity and sense of your article. **Use of the service is at the author's expense.** It will not highlight technical errors, and in no way guarantees that your article will be accepted for publication following peer review. Please click [here](#) for details of the editing services and pricing.

(d) Justified - Statements of fact should be clear and supported by quantitative evidence. Technical and theoretical papers (i.e. full papers), in particular, should consist of material that is carefully justified throughout and any assumptions must be stated unambiguously. Opinions should be stated as such but should still be justified, perhaps in a more qualitative way. References to more detailed information or justification should be provided where possible and appropriate.

(e) Presentation - An appropriate balance of text, graphs/illustrations and figures (including tables) makes a paper easier to read. Please try not to exceed 5-7 figures/tables per full length manuscript (ideally 1 or 2 figures or tables per 500 words of main text)

(f) Benefits - Where new information, related to the aims of the journal, has led to justifiable conclusions, presented in a clear and easily read way, the benefits of the work should be apparent. A statement of how the work does or could lead to benefits to the profession and the wider community should be made.

(g) Citations - The Editorial Board encourages all authors to cite their papers where necessary. Make appropriate citations of journals mentioned in the Web of Science. References/citations should be written in the Vancouver (sequential numbers) style. See point 5 (b) above for reference guidelines.

Other specific points to note are as follows.

- Capital letters should be avoided as much as possible. They should only be used at the beginning of sentences and proper nouns, but not for governments, sub-divisions of organisations, contracting roles, job titles, programmes or initiatives. They should be used for abbreviations (e.g. UK, UAE) but non-standard abbreviations must be kept to a minimum and spelt out in full first. Any abbreviation that can be pronounced as a word (i.e. an acronym), including trade names, should have an initial capital only (e.g. Ciria, Defra) – but commonplace acronyms should be all lower case (e.g. radar, scuba).
- Symbols should be in accordance with the latest edition of the relevant industry guidelines.
- Values and units should be separated by a space (e.g. 20 kN, not 20kN)
- Use SI and derived units, including for historical structures.
- Italicise publication titles, legal cases, vessel names and non-English words (but include a translation); do not use italics for emphasis or quotes.
- Use bullet points rather than numbers or letters for lists.

Figures and tables

Click [here](#) to download our guidelines for preparing figures.

Your submission should be illustrated with graphs, photographs and/or drawings where appropriate. To ensure these illustrations (figures) are suitable for publication, they should each be submitted as individual, high-quality (greater than 300dpi) files separately from your text and in colour. For detailed information on how to prepare your figures please click [here](#). A pictorial guide showing correct and incorrect sample figures is available to view [here](#).

Information that is additional, yet essential, to the understanding of the text — and which cannot be better presented graphically — should be supplied as separate tables at the end of your Microsoft Word document. Tables should be simple with brief column headings (including all units) and as few rows and columns as possible. Large tables likely to take up more than a page in a paper should be removed and submitted and submitted as supplementary data online (see page 4).

All figures and tables should

- be numbered in a consecutive sequence (however figures and tables should be numbered as two different sets e.g. Figure 1, Table 1)
- be referred to in the text
- have self-explanatory but brief captions, which include the figure / table number.

Mathematical equations

Please make any equations clear and easy to understand. Number them in your text and place each one on a new line. Only relevant equations should be shown in the main body of the text – any development of an equation should appear, if essential, as an appendix or as supplementary data online (see below).

Simple, single-line equations can be written using Microsoft Word. An equation editor program is required for more complex formulae.

If authors wish to set mathematics to a higher level they should use the following conventions

- scalars in italic
- vectors in bold italic
- matrices in bold roman
- letters attached to scalars that do not themselves have values (e.g. subscripts) should be roman.

Supplementary data

Numerical or graphical data which is helpful but not essential to understanding your paper and/or is impractical to include within it may be submitted as separate additional files. Termed 'supplementary data' this might be in the form of large data tables, lengthy calculations, subsidiary graphs or explanatory video clips. These files will be reviewed by the journal Editors and, if your paper is accepted, will be linked to the online version.

6. Copyright

You must obtain permission from the copyright holder to use material that has been published elsewhere. This applies to your own previous work, as often you will have transferred copyright to the publisher concerned. To do so, please click [here](#) to download a form.

It is your responsibility to gain copyright permission for all the material used in your submission, in particular maps, other drawings and photographs.

It is also your responsibility to obtain agreement from all co-authors, and to obtain the permission of all other relevant parties, for publication of the information contained in their sections. After acceptance, we will send you a copyright transfer form to sign, which you should complete and return.

Your submission may be similar, or an update, to one previously published by you. If this is the case, please cite it as a reference. Your submission should not have been published, or be under peer review, elsewhere (dual submission). If this is discovered, it will be rejected and we will not consider further work from you for a fixed period (normally three years).

Material published elsewhere

It is always necessary to obtain permission to reproduce a photograph, drawing, map or table for which you are not the copyright holder. Normally this is the person who actually created the material. Exceptions to this are when

- it has been published elsewhere, such as in another journal, in which case the publisher usually holds the copyright, or
- the copyright holder of the work has been deceased for more than 70 years (125 years for Crown Copyright and 70 years from date of publication for works published posthumously prior to 1988) and the work is being reproduced from the original material and not from a more recent reproduction (in which case the copyright on the published image could still apply).

Ownership of the original work of art does not entitle you to reproduce it without permission, unless you are the copyright holder.

Text extracts

It is required by law that you obtain permission to quote any text that was not written by you, unless

- the author of the text has been dead for more than 70 years (125 years for Crown Copyright and 70 years from date of publication for works published posthumously prior to 1988) and the work is being cited from the original material, not from a specific more recent edition which may have been edited by the publishers, or
- the text is cited solely for the purposes of criticism and review and does not exceed: 400 words of continuous prose, or 800 words in total from any one work (made up of no more than 300 words per passage, or 25% of the whole).

Using text that was not written by you, without the original author's permission, (plagiarism) carries the same penalty as dual submission (above). If in any doubt, please contact us. We are happy to help you by answering copyright questions.

7. Submission and contacts

Please read the [submission checklist](#) to check that you have included everything that we need to peer review your submission quickly. Choose the correct journal for your work by visiting its [webpage here](#) and carefully reading its aims and scope. If you are still unsure, e-mail the named journal contact below. When you are ready to submit to an ICE Science journal, register with its website and upload your separate text and image files.

[List of websites to submit an article](#)