

Instructions for authors - EPJ B

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 your article should not be submitted simultaneously to another journal.

Electronic submission

Global resulting Postscript or PDF files of articles are preferred. They should however be carefully tested for printing and compressed before submission.

- Authors are encouraged to submit their manuscripts electronically through the web (Inquiry System) at:

<https://articlestatus.edpsciences.org/is/epjb/>

- Authors can eventually submit their manuscript via e-mail, but only through the Editorial Office at:

epjb@edpsciences.org

* The macro package in LaTeX2e, designed especially for EPJ, is available via anonymous ftp from:

<ftp.edpsciences.org> in the directory `/pub/epj`
<ftp.springer.de> in the directory
`/pub/tex/latex/svjour/epj`
<ftp.sif.it> in the directory `/pub/tex/epj`

Rapid notes

Rapid notes are short contributions (limited to 4 journal pages) deserving priority in publication as for particular urgency and scientific importance (decided by the Editors). The submission form should be supplemented with an explanation of why priority handling is needed. Rapid notes will be published with an accelerated evaluation procedure.

Manuscript contents

In general the manuscripts should be written in English; in exceptional cases the Editors-in-Chief may accept submissions in one of the major European languages also. The material presented in all EPJ B papers should be original. Material should be placed in the following order: title, author names, address of author institutions, PACS numbers, shortened version of the title, abstract, text, acknowledgments, appendices, references, figure and table captions, figures, tables (unless they are paginated using EPJ macro package).

The acceptance stage

At this stage, the Editorial Office will send an acceptance letter to the corresponding author, and at the same time, will ask for electronic files of text (LaTeX, TeX, Word) and figures matching exactly the accepted version. All portions of the manuscript available in electronic form should be sent to the production department either by the Editorial Office, if the source files of the accepted version have been provided previously, or by the author according to the instructions mentioned in the acceptance letter from the Editorial Office or to be found on our web servers.

Authors are informed that any missing element in an accepted article (electronic file of the text or of the figures or—in case of proper e-files of the figures not available— good quality laser printed figures) will delay the publication date. The Editorial Office will keep the paper **on a waiting list** until all missing material is received.

The proof correction stage

Authors should keep in mind that reading proofs is **their responsibility**.

Files typeset using Word, Wordperfect, Macwrite, etc., *need heavy retyping* (equations and special characters are lost during the conversion process).

Also, LaTeX files are *slightly modified* by the production department to follow general presentation rules of the journal.

The main aim of proofreading is to correct errors that may have occurred during the production process, and **not to modify the contents of the paper**.

The proofs, once corrected, should be signed and returned to the publisher as soon as possible (by fax or e-mailing a list of corrections, by post).

Offprint orders

The offprint order form must be filled out and returned together with the corrected proofs. If the publisher receives no order of any kind from the authors, it will be assumed that only the 25 free offprints are requested.

Style guide

Title

Title should be simple, concise and informative. A shortened version of the title consisting of a maximum of 75 characters (including spaces) for running headers should also be provided.

Author(s) name(s) and affiliations

A list of all authors, as well as corresponding addresses, should be provided. Addresses should contain all information necessary for an effective mail delivery. E-mail, fax and telephone numbers should also be provided to speed up communication between Editorial Office, readers and authors. Only the e-mail address will be published.

Abstract

An abstract should accompany each manuscript; it should be completely self-contained, not exceeding 200 words and written as a single paragraph. Mathematical expressions should be avoided.

Physics and Astronomy Classification Scheme (PACS) indexing codes

Each manuscript must be assigned indexing codes. The American Institute of Physics (AIP) announces the availability of the updated edition of the Physics and Astronomy Classification Scheme (PACS) at:

<http://www.aip.org/pacs/>

(PACS is prepared and published by the American Institute of Physics.) There should be no more than three index number codes, the principal index code should be placed first, and the check characters should always be included.

Main body of the paper

The body of the paper should be divided into sections (however, in short papers, sections may not be necessary). 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.

Equations, tables, figures, and references should follow a sequential numerical scheme in order to ensure a logical development of subject matter.

Electronic-only material

Electronic-only material is designed to provide supplementary information which is either too voluminous for printing or is designed specifically for the Web. Electronic-only material may include, but is not restricted to: (Large) tables; Appendices; Programmes; Images.

For more information on the submission of this material (file requirements, etc.), please contact the Production Office.

Mathematical material

A standard typesetting procedure is followed 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, authors should observe the following simple rules to help clarify the contents of mathematical material.

- The text should make clear distinctions between physical variables, mathematical symbols, units of measurement, abbreviations, chemical formulas, etc.
- Equations must be sequentially numbered. The number should appear in parentheses at the right-hand side of the page and referred to in the text as, e.g. (7).

Caution: Mathematical expressions often need to be displayed on two or more lines ("broken") because of the line length limitation of *The European Physical Journal* two-column layout. There are situations where breaking an equation is not *possible or appropriate* (long fractions or matrices). The production department reserves the possibility to place unbroken equations at the bottom or at the top of the concerned page(s), according to the pagelayout to be defined by the production staff, with an appropriate citation in the text. For example:

See equation (8) below(above)

• Italic and boldface should be used to identify physical or mathematical variables. Variables and physical constants such as the speed of light or the Boltzmann constant are to be set in normal italic. Vectors and tensors should be set in bold and sans-serif bold, respectively.

- Italic type should be avoided for the following:
 - Units of measurement (e.g., km, g, K, cm⁻², s⁻¹).
 - Mathematical signs such as sin, cos, log, exp, etc.
 - Chemical formulas.

Footnotes

- There are introductory footnotes (referring to authors new addresses, address of corresponding author, ...). These footnotes should appear at the bottom of the relevant page, indicated with the following symbols as superscripts: ^a, ^b, ^c, etc.
- There are footnotes to text material, which should be restricted as far as possible, and which should be designated by numerical superscripts: ¹, ², ³, etc. They should be placed at the foot the relevant page.

Acknowledgments and appendices

The acknowledgment section should follow the main body of the paper and should precede any appendix. Appendices should be numbered with A, B, etc. if there are more than one appendix (**Appendix A** or **Appendix A: Complex developments**, when there is a title). The appendix equations should be numbered consecutively, but separately from those in the main body of the paper ((A.1), (A.2), etc.). In each appendix, equations will be numbered separately ((B.1), (B.2), etc.).

Figures

Each figure should be cited in the text. They must conform to the usual quality criteria given below.

Authors should remember that the final printed quality of illustrations can never be better than the quality of the original artwork.

- *Good-quality figures have the following characteristics:*
 - Parts of diagrams, graphs, ... should be clearly indicated by different types of hatching. Grey scales, which might get difficult to distinguish after reducing, or which often disappear during the printing process, should be avoided.
 - Standard symbols which should be used inside a figure are: □, △, ○, +, •, ★, ■, ◆, ×.
 - Labeling should be uniform in size throughout all figures.
 - After reduction, all details of the figures should still be visible and all labeling legible.

- *Scaling of artwork*
Figures are often reduced to 50% of their original size. Figures should be planned for the column width (8.8 cm) of the journal. If the detail shown requires it, 1.5 or 2 columns may be used. The final size of capital letters or numerals in a figure usually lies within the range 1.6–2.3 mm to avoid any disproportion between figure/text character sizes.

- *Color figures*
In the paper version of the journal, figures are in black and white (for color, authors should make a contribution, prices on request), but they appear in color in the electronic version.

References

It is important to confirm the accuracy of bibliographic information in references. This has become more important with the online 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 online environment may be diminished.

References should be cited in the text by placing sequential numbers in brackets (for example, [1], [2,5,7], [8–10]). They should be numbered in the order in which they are cited. Authors may be cited in the text by name, but without initials. Authors should use the forms below in the final reference list.

Journals

1. C. Green, Eur. Phys. J. B **39**, 123 (2004)
2. J.M. Smith, Eur. Phys. J. B **41**, 1 (2003); J.M. Smith, Eur. Phys. J. B **40**, 123 (1998)
3. J.M. Smith, Eur. Phys. J. B (to be published)

Books

4. J.M. Smith, *Molecular Dynamics*, 2nd edn. (Springer, Berlin, 1987)
5. J.M. Smith, in *Molecular Dynamics*, edited by C. Brown, 2nd edn. (EDP Sciences, Les Ulis, 1998)

Proceedings

6. J.M. Smith, in *Proceedings of the International Conference on Low Temperature Physics, Madison, 1975*, edited by C. Brown (EDP Sciences, Les Ulis, 1998), p. 201

Reports and Theses

7. J.M. Smith, Brookhaven National Laboratory Report No. 110, 1982 (unpublished)
8. J.M. Smith, Ph.D. thesis, University of Paris XI, 1990

Technical Instructions
for preparing and delivering a paper accepted for EPJ B

TEXT

Preferred format	L ^A T _E X 2 _ε with EPJ class	macro package available by ftp at ftp.edpsciences.org in /pub/epj/ ftp.springer.de in /pub/tex/latex/svjour/epj/ ftp.sif.it in /pub/tex/epj/
Also possible	L ^A T _E X 2 _ε (standard, article style) A _M S-L ^A T _E X-L ^A T _E X 2 _ε	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • no customized or personal style files, no particular fonts • A_MS-L^AT_EX package may be used to create equations
	Word (in the last resort)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • symbols and equations will be typed in L^AT_EX by publisher staff

FIGURES

Preferred format	Encapsulated Postscript (EPS) Postscript (PS) also accepted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • only standard Adobe fonts • no TIFF preview • ASCII format (not binary) • line strength greater than 1 pt
	Windows Postscript drivers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • check that the Postscript option is set to Encapsulated Postscript (EPS)
Also possible	TIFF, GIF, JPEG, PDF, Word	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • black and white graphics: resolution of at least 300 dpi • grayscale graphics: resolution of at least 200 dpi

- Deliver your material for EPJ B:
 - ⇒ by ftp
 - ⇒ by e-mail (using the address listed on the acceptance letter sent by Editorial Office)

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