

New Manuscript Type: Application Note

It is with great pleasure that I introduce a new article type for the *Journal of Chemical Information and Modeling* (JCIM) called the “Application Note”. We have an article type called Software Reviews, but effective immediately, this article type will be discontinued because of its limited use in the past several years. Importantly, we do not view Application Notes as a replacement of this latter article type, but rather we view this mechanism as an entirely new way to highlight computational applications to chemistry and biology.

With the rapid development of novel software tools we needed a publication mechanism by which to highlight the application of these tools. Articles with this type of focus did not fare well through the regular review process for a number of reasons, so we decided to create the new article category to address this need. Development of this article type was largely driven by a number of individuals urging us to create this article type given the perceived overall needs of the community. The description of this article type is as follows:

Application Notes are informative peer-reviewed reports on novel software packages, databases, and network services. Submissions should be no longer than six pages (approximately 5000 words) and contain at least one figure. The software described should be available for multiple years (minimally two) following publication and accessible to users free of charge or at minimal cost. The name of the application being described should be clearly stated in the manuscript title. As far as possible, the software packages and web servers should be machine and browser agnostic. All submitted manuscripts will be carefully reviewed by the editors prior to being sent out for peer-review. Software packages and databases described must be made available for testing by reviewers while preserving reviewer anonymity. Articles viewed to be unsuitable for the journal will be returned after editorial review.

Besides these criteria the article should be well written and describe a compelling application of modern computational chemistry/biology tools. We sincerely hope potential authors are as excited about this article type as the editorial team! I urge authors to consider using this new article mechanism for exciting applications of their novel tools.

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Notes

Views expressed in this editorial are those of the author and not necessarily the views of the ACS.