

## GUIDE FOR AUTHORS

(Revised January 2010)

### Contents (Click on the topic)

**Manuscript Types** – Articles – Perspectives – Letters – **Preparation of Manuscript** – Submission – **Submission of Manuscript** – Cover Letter – Supporting Information – Submission

**Revision of Manuscript** – Submission | **Publication of Manuscript** – ACS Policies for E-prints and Reprints – **Editorial Production** – Text – Graphics Quality – Chemical Structures – Nomenclature

The [Journal of Chemical Theory and Computation](#) invites new and original contributions with the understanding that, if accepted, they will not be published elsewhere. Papers reporting new theories, methodology, and/or important applications in quantum electronic structure, molecular dynamics, and statistical mechanics are appropriate for submission to this Journal. Specific topics include advances in or applications of ab initio quantum mechanics, density functional theory, design and properties of new materials, surface science, Monte Carlo simulations, solvation models, QM/MM calculations, biomolecular structure prediction, and molecular dynamics in the broadest sense including gas-phase dynamics, ab initio dynamics, biomolecular dynamics, and protein folding.

### **Manuscript Types**

#### **Articles**

Full-length research manuscripts, consistent with the objectives of The *Journal of Chemical Theory and Computation*, are the principal focus of the Journal. Authors must follow the instructions for preparation and submission given below.

#### **Perspectives**

Perspectives are interpretive accounts on subjects of current interest to the JCTC community. This series is intended to be a forum for experts to present their perspectives on emerging or active areas of research.

#### **Letters**

Letters are intended for rapid publication of preliminary reports on important findings of novel and timely significance. The major concepts of the paper should not have been published previously. Manuscripts are limited to four journal pages (16 double-spaced manuscript pages including all materials). The abstract is limited to 75 words and should briefly state the purpose of the research, principal results, and major conclusions.

Supporting Information can be provided detailing procedures and providing supplementary data.

Manuscripts must be submitted electronically via the secure Web site at <http://pubs.acs.org/page/4authors/submission/index.html>. Guidelines for this method are provided here. If substantially the same manuscript has been previously submitted to this Journal or to another ACS journal, the author should include copies of the reviews with the submission and explain any revisions in the cover letter. The Editor may accept the manuscript on the basis of those reviews and author remarks or may seek additional reviews.

For further inquiries contact the Editor-in-Chief, Prof. William L. Jorgensen, Department of Chemistry, Yale University, P.O. Box 208107, New Haven, CT 06520-8107. Phone: 203-432-4118. Fax: 202-513-8628. E-mail: [eic@jctc.acs.org](mailto:eic@jctc.acs.org).

## **Preparation of Manuscript**

### **Submission**

A guide to the proper format for manuscripts is provided on the Journal's Web page, on <http://pubs.acs.org>. Another valuable resource is *The ACS Style Guide*, 3rd ed. (2006) available from Oxford University Press, Order Department, 201 Evans Rd, Cary, NC 27513. This book deals with all questions relating to manuscript style and provides the standard list of abbreviations for ACS Journals.

Authors must be sure that they are familiar with and abide by the Ethical Guidelines that are also available on the Web site and in *The ACS Style Guide*.

The title of the paper should be brief-preferably 12 words or fewer. Readers rarely read and absorb longer titles, so it should be concise. An abstract of 3-4 sentences is required, and as with the title, it should be concise, touching on just the major points about which the author wants to alert the reader.

References in the text should be identified with superscript numbers (e.g., Jones<sup>14</sup> has shown...). In the Web edition of the Journal, each reference has a "CAS" tag that can be used by readers to retrieve the corresponding CAS abstract, and for this to be successful, accuracy in the reference is critical. References may or may not contain the title but must contain the starting and ending pages of the paper cited, thus

(8) Sustmann, R.; Sicking, W.; Huisgen, R. A Computational Study of the Cycloaddition of Thiobenzophenone S-Methylide to Thiobenzophenone. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2003**, *125*, 14425-14434.

References to books should cite the author(s), title, publisher, publication date, and page(s). In referring to a book written by various contributors, the author(s) should be cited first, as in

(8) Weinstein, S.; Henderson, R. B. In *Heterocyclic Compounds*; Elderfield, R. C., Ed.; Wiley: New York, 1950; Vol. 1, Chapter 1, pp 60-65.

Authors are encouraged to use Supporting Information (SI) in cases where manuscripts contain extensive tables of data or source codes that are of interest to particular readers. The pages of SI should be numbered sequentially, should be labeled as SI, and should be readily legible. The production staff will not alter the appearance of Supporting Information. A paragraph that briefly describes the Supporting Information, providing only the information necessary to access the

data, should be included and should be terminated as follows: This material is available free of charge via the Internet at <http://pubs.acs.org>.

The manuscript should be prepared, preferably with a word-processing package, using all the guidelines described above. The title, abstract, text, and references should be prepared as described above. Detailed instructions for submitting via the Web, including templates and directions for preparing and including graphics, are available at <http://pubs.acs.org/page/4authors/submission/index.html>. A separate file containing a cover letter must also be prepared.

**A signed Copyright Status form is required during the submission process. It should be faxed to the Editor processing the manuscript during the submission process.** An interactive electronic version of the Completed and Signed Copyright form can be found at <http://pubs.acs.org/page/4authors/submission/index.html>. This URL for the copyright form is also included in the e-mail message that is sent to acknowledge manuscript submission over the Web.

## ***Submission of Manuscript***

### **Cover Letter**

A cover letter must accompany every manuscript. The cover letter is a word-processor or PDF file that is uploaded at the same time as the manuscript file. The cover letter should include (1) the corresponding author's name, postal and e-mail addresses, and telephone and fax numbers; (2) the title of the manuscript and a brief paragraph pointing out the significance of the reported work; (3) indication of whether the manuscript is being submitted as an Article, Perspective, etc.; and (4) the names, institutional affiliations, and postal and e-mail addresses of three scientists qualified to act as reviewers. The Editors will also use reviewers of their own choice.

### **Supporting Information**

For Supporting Information included with the manuscript, files must be identified as publish or review only. SI should not be included in the manuscript file but should be contained in its own separate file.

Supporting Information must be submitted at the same time as the manuscript and uploaded separately to the ACS Paragon Plus Environment. A [list of acceptable file types](#) is available on the Web. All Supporting Information files of the same type should be prepared as a single file (rather than submitting a series of files containing individual images or structures). For example, all Supporting Information available as PDF files should be contained in one PDF file.

**DO NOT UPLOAD FIGURES AND TABLES THAT ARE TO BE PUBLISHED IN THE ARTICLE INTO THE SUPPORTING INFORMATION FILE.**

### **Submission**

Manuscripts must be submitted via the ACS Paragon Plus Environment (<http://paragonplus.acs.org/login>). Complete instructions and an overview of the electronic online (Web) submission process are available through the secure ACS Paragon Plus Web site. Authors must also submit all revisions of manuscripts via the ACS Paragon Plus Environment. The Web submission site employs state-of-the-art security mechanisms to ensure that all electronically submitted papers are secure. These same security mechanisms are also utilized

throughout the peer-review process, permitting access only to editors and reviewers who are assigned to a particular paper.

If substantially the same manuscript has been previously submitted to this Journal or to another ACS journal, the author should include copies of the reviews with the submission and explain any revisions in the cover letter. The Editor may accept the manuscript on the basis of those reviews and author remarks or may seek additional reviews.

## ***Revision of Manuscript***

### **Submission**

When reviews of the paper have been completed, they will be sent to the author electronically by e-mail. The manuscript should be revised so as to address each one of the comments made by the reviewers. Then the manuscript should be resubmitted through the Web site following the steps for submitting a revised manuscript. A letter describing the responses made by the author to each of the comments from the reviewers should also be sent. This letter is required and can be submitted over the Web along with the revised manuscript. **A Copyright Status form is also required; the paper will not be processed further until both these documents are received.** The copyright form can be obtained from <http://pubs.acs.org/copyright>.

### ***Publication of Manuscript***

When the paper is either rejected or accepted, the corresponding author will be notified electronically of the decision. The corresponding author of an accepted manuscript will receive e-mail notification and complete instructions when page proofs are available for review via a secure Web site. Proofs should be verified against the final manuscript and corrected, as necessary. Once the galley corrections have been returned, the author's work is complete.

Routine rephrasing of sentences or additions are not permitted at the page proof stage. Alterations should be restricted to serious changes in interpretation or corrections of data. Extensive or important changes on page proofs, including changes to the title or list of authors, are subject to Editorial review.

It is the responsibility of the corresponding author to ensure that all authors listed on the manuscript agree with the changes made on the proofs. Galley proofs should be returned within 48 h of receipt in order to ensure timely publication of the manuscript.

Papers accepted for publication in the Journal will be published on the "Articles ASAP" page on the Journal Web site as soon as page proofs are corrected and all author concerns are resolved (may be within 48 h). Publication on the Web usually occurs within 4 working days of receipt of page proof corrections, and this can be as much as 11 weeks prior to appearance of the published issue version. Manuscripts assigned to a special issue often remain published ASAP for several months. Authors should take this schedule into account when planning intellectual and patent activities related to a manuscript. Once a manuscript appears on the Web, it is published. Any change after that point must be considered additions or corrections. The actual date on which an accepted paper is published on the Web is recorded on the Web version of the manuscript and on the first page of the PDF version.

There is no page charge associated with publication of papers in the Journal, and there is no charge for publication of color diagrams or figures. If the paper contains color graphics, a surcharge of \$100 per 100 reprints will be added to the normal charge for reprints.

## **ACS Policies for E-prints and Reprints**

Under the [ACS Articles on Request policy](#), the Society will provide (free of charge) to all contributing authors a unique URL within the ACS Web site that they may e-mail to colleagues or post on external Web sites. These author-directed links are designed to facilitate distribution of an author's published work to interested colleagues in lieu of direct distribution of the PDF file by the author. The ACS Articles on Request policy allows 50 downloads within the first year after Web publication and unlimited access via the same author-directed links 12 months after Web publication.

The [ACS AuthorChoice](#) option establishes a fee-based mechanism for authors or their research funding agencies to sponsor the open availability of their articles on the Web at the time of online publication. Under this policy, the ACS as copyright holder will enable unrestricted Web access to a contributing author's publication from the Society's Web site in exchange for a fixed payment from the sponsoring author. ACS AuthorChoice will also enable participating authors to post electronic copies of published articles on their own personal Web sites and institutional repositories for noncommercial scholarly purposes and allow immediate open access to an article as soon as it is published on the ACS Web site.

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## ***Editorial Production***

### **Text**

A list of currently acceptable software packages can be found at <http://pubs.acs.org/page/4authors/submission/index.html>. Manuscripts may also be written in LaTeX. The instructions can be found at <http://pubs.acs.org/page/4authors/submission/index.html>.

The article should conform to the usual ACS format, which is described at [pubs.acs.org](http://pubs.acs.org). The final version should be prepared in a single word-processor file, with all graphics included.

The word-processor file should be saved in a document format (.wpd or .doc) not in the .txt or ASCII formats, which do not support enhancements such as subscripts. Text should be single-column, fully justified. If a non-Western version of the word-processing software is used, the file should be saved in rich-text format (RTF). Each file should be checked with an up-to-date virus detection program. The presence of a virus may delay publication.

The fonts "Times" and "Symbol" produce the best results. Other fonts, particularly those that do not come bundled with the system software, may not translate properly. All special characters (e.g., Greek characters, math symbols, etc.) must be present in the body of the text as characters and not as graphic representations.

## Graphics Quality

The quality of the graphics in the Journal depends on the quality of the originals provided by the author. Figures cannot be modified or enhanced by the Journal production staff. Whenever possible, the graphics files furnished by authors with Web submissions are used in production of the Journal. The following guidelines may be helpful.

Unless dealing with a color graphic, figures and diagrams should be totally black and white. Graphics should be inserted into the electronic manuscript at the appropriate place. Illustrations should be submitted in the actual size that is desired in the final publication and should fit either a single-column (maximum 8.25 × 24 cm) or a double-column (10.5-17.78 × 24 cm) format. Text in the graphics should be no smaller than 4.5 pts.

Color graphics should only be submitted if essential for clarity of communication. Color reproduction will be provided at no cost to the author. Hard copy reprints of articles containing color graphics however will be subject to a surcharge of \$1 per reprint, in addition to the normal reprint charges.

## Chemical Structures

Structures should be produced with the use of a drawing program such as ChemDraw. Structure drawing preferences (preset in the ACS Stylesheet in ChemDraw) are as follows:

(1) As drawing settings select:

chain angle	120°
bond spacing	18% of width
fixed length	14.4 pt (0.508 cm, 0.2 in.)
bold width	2.0 pt (0.071 cm, 0.0278 in.)
line width	0.6 pt (0.021 cm, 0.0084 in.)
margin width	1.6 pt (0.056 cm, 0.0222 in.)
hash spacing	2.5 pt (0.088 cm, 0.0347 in.)

(2) As text settings select:

font	Arial/Helvetica
size	10 pt

(3) Under the preferences choose:

units	points
tolerances	5 pixels

(4) Under page setup choose:

Paper	US Letter
Scale	100%

Other drawing packages should, as much as possible, be modified so that the parameters reflect the above guidelines.

## Nomenclature

It is the responsibility of the authors to provide correct nomenclature. Nomenclature should conform with current American usage. Insofar as possible, authors should use systematic names,

either Chemical Abstracts Service or IUPAC, in the Experimental Section. *Chemical Abstracts (CA)* nomenclature rules are described in Appendix IV of the *Chemical Abstracts Index Guide*. For CA nomenclature advice, authors should consult the Manager of Nomenclature Services, Chemical Abstracts Service, P.O. Box 3012, Columbus, OH 43210-0012. A name generation service is available for a fee through CAS Client Services, 2540 Olentangy River Road, P.O. Box 3343, Columbus, OH 43210-0334; telephone (614) 447-3870; fax (614) 447-3747; or e-mail [answers@cas.org](mailto:answers@cas.org). It is also acceptable to use semisynthetic or generic names for certain specialized classes of compounds. In such a case, the name should conform to the generally accepted nomenclature conventions for the compound class. Chemical names for drugs are preferred. If these are not practical, generic names, or names approved by the U.S. Adopted Names Council (USAN), or those approved by the World Health Organization (WHO) may be used. Registered trademark names or code numbers for drugs can be included in parentheses after a descriptive term in the title and should be used only once in the text; subsequently, their chemical names or compound numbers should be used. In certain cases, compounds that are widely employed as research tools and recognized primarily by code numbers may be designated by their code numbers. If a generic name is employed, its chemical name or structural formula should be given at the point of first citation.