

Instructions to authors

General

Contributions to Science publishes two kinds of articles, specialized reviews and general articles on scientific and technological research (see front cover).

Submission of manuscripts

Manuscripts should be submitted to the Editorial Office. Authors are requested to submit manuscripts in triplicate. Original plus two copies of all illustrations are required. Articles must be submitted on a 3.5" disk of double –or high– density, using any of more popular word-processing packages (WordPerfect, Microsoft Word, etc.). The author vouches that the work has not been published elsewhere and that the manuscript has not been submitted to another journal.

Format of manuscript

All contributions should be typed, double-spaced (including references, tables,...) on paper not exceeding 30 cm in height (standard A4 paper is appropriate), with wide margins and one side of the page only. It is the policy of the Journal to publish in English only (authors are recommended to have the manuscript thoroughly checked and corrected before submission). The Editors will warmly appreciate co-operation of authors in preparing papers in a manner that will facilitate the work of editing and publication. For research papers an abstract self-explanatory without reference to the text –in Catalan language, too– not exceeding 200 words should be provided. Authors must provide keywords.

It is essential that the author responsible for post publication correspondence (the *Corresponding author*) should be identified on the manuscript.

The first page of the manuscript should contain only the following:

1. Title of the paper containing keywords pertaining to the subject matter. No abbreviations should be used in the title.
2. Names (including forenames or initials) of the authors and name of the institute. If the publication originates from several institutes the affiliations of all authors should be clearly stated by using superscript numbers after the name and before the institute.
3. An abstract (in English and Catalan languages) not exceeding 200 words.
4. Full name and postal address of the author to whom all correspondence (including gallery proofs) is to be sent. Telephone and fax numbers as well as e-mail code should be included to speed up communication.
5. A list of abbreviations or acronyms used in the paper if they are not explained in the text.
6. Keywords (maximally 5), which will be used for compiling the subject index.

Tables

Tables should be compiled on separate sheets (one per page table) with a descriptive title and numbered independently of the figures using Arabic numerals in the sequence in which they occur. Every table must be refereed to in the text.

In the text, the position for a table is to be marked by «Table...» in the middle of an extra line. The caption must explain in detail the

contents of the table. As for the table itself, it must be written so that it can be read and understood without reference to the text.

References to a table are to be handled in the same way as references to the text (see *References*)

References

References should be indicated in the text in square brackets and listed at the end of the paper or book chapter. The list should give name(s) and initial(s) of author(s), year of publication and the exact title of the paper. For journals there should follow the title of the journal, volume number, and initial and final page numbers of article. For books there should follow the name(s) of the editor(s) (if appropriate), title of the book, the name of the publisher, the town of publication, and initial and final page numbers (if appropriate). References are to be numbered and arranged in alphabetical order.

Papers that are unpublished but have been submitted to a journal may be cited with the journal's name followed by «in press». However, this practice is acceptable only if that author has at least received gallery proofs of the paper. In all other cases, reference must be made to «unpublished work» or «personal communication».

Acknowledgements

Acknowledgements as well as information regarding funding sources should be provided on a separate page and will appear at the end of the text (before *References*).

Figures, including photographs

Diagrams and photographs should also be submitted on separate pages at the end of the article (new page for each figure). Three copies of each figure are required. Figures should be numbered consecutively with Arabic numbers in the order of their appearance. Photographs should be fine quality, large glossy prints suitable for reproduction. Figures should not be larger than the manuscript paper. Numbers and symbols inscribed must be large enough to be legible after reduction in size.

Nomenclature and units

Only SI units are to be used (SI = *Système International d'Unités*). If a data with non-SI units are to be reported, they should be put in parenthesis behind the corresponding data with SI units.

Proofs and offprint

Proofs will be submitted to the corresponding author for the correction of printer's errors. It is essential that authors return the corrected proofs as quickly as possible with minimum alterations. Corresponding author will receive 100 offprints without charge. Author(s) are kindly requested to disseminate the offprints between colleagues from abroad.

Biographical details

Each author should provide a short biography, and this should include details of affiliation, and research activities and how the research group became interested in the subject being reviewed.