

Guidelines for Authors



European Physical Society

You are asked to contribute an article to *Europhysics News* to promote your scientific interest to a broad audience. Our circulation is in excess of 25 000 drawn from all sections of physics.

Long articles of about 3500 words aim to review the latest developments in a topic; short articles of 1500–2000 words aim to give a flavour of the latest development in a specific new "hot" topic. Both types of article should be concise, straightforward and the ideas accessible to a wide audience: the reader should be persuaded to read even if the ideas presented are not immediately self-evident.

Commissioning

Proposals for articles are put before the Editorial Board where they are discussed.

Level

Our readers are physicists: specialists in different fields as well as students, physics teachers and industrial physicists who will not be specialised. Assume a knowledge of general physics, and the corresponding mathematics and chemistry, but very little knowledge of your special field.

Please do not use jargon unless you define it, and do not be afraid to use mathematical descriptions, but use no more than eight equations per article. Please define all symbols.

Style

Readers hope to learn something new and interesting, but they are still reading for pleasure so they want a text which is easy to read.

Consequently,

- avoid long lists and tables;
- do not worry about completeness and absolute rigour – make sure ideas come across clearly by not getting caught up in details.

The Editor will often take parts of the text and put it into boxed inserts to help break up long manuscripts. Please think of this when you write.

Contents

Europhysics News is not a primary journal but we try to be topical. What we ask for is a review of a topic of current interest that analyses the results of other workers in a field, and not just your own work.

References

Few readers will take the trouble to consult references. So try to make an article as self-contained as possible. Some references are useful, especially recent ones, as they allow interested readers to start somewhere if they wish to go deeper into a topic, but the references must be

easily available; ten references should be sufficient. Supplementary references based on Internet links are encouraged.

Figures

Good and lively figures are essential (about 4–6 in total, including photographs). Photographs of people and equipment can liven up an article. But our intention is not to trivialise good science so we prefer keeping the scientific information presented in a scientific format, often as a copy of an original figure in a journal article.

If we feel a figure is too overloaded and technical, we shall suggest changes that we would carry out for you.

Figures (black and white, and colour) can be:

- originals (line drawings, photographs, etc.) sent by normal mail to:
The EPS Secretariat
34 rue Marc Seguin
68060 Mulhouse, France.
- computer files sent as above (diskette, e-mail, FTP). They can be in virtually any standard format (PostScript, EPS, TIFF, PICT, JPEG....) and compressed.

Colour

Colour is very welcome, sometimes at the author's expense however, but often at no cost if the Editor can place colour illustrations on certain pages in the magazine. So colour figures and photographs are encouraged and should be discussed with the Editor.

Figure Captions

Self-explanatory captions are encouraged, but they should not be too long. Four lines are generally acceptable. Longer captions may mean a separate box is required for that figure.

Biographical Details

Europhysics News likes to publish short biographical details of each of the authors. So please add a short paragraph at the end of your text that summarises the relevant information.

Language

Your articles, in English, will be sub-edited for obvious problems of language. A sub-edited proposed version of your text is sent to you for comment before sending it to the printer. With it you will receive details of modifications sought and proposed changes that have been incorporated, subject to your approval of course.

Reviewing

All articles are read by members of the Editorial Board, who are specialists in your field and may recommend clarifications, changes, etc. Comments are occasionally sought elsewhere.

Manuscripts

Production is entirely Mac-based. It involves the use of a normal wordprocessor followed by loading into Quark XPress for page layout and photocomposition. We prefer to receive the manuscript in the form that can be loaded directly into a standard wordprocessor or TEX processor.

You can send your manuscript as:

- typed pages which are scanned into the computer. But please try to use a standard font such as Times, Helvetica, Geneva, etc.
- diskettes (31/4) Mac-formatted holding copies of your word processor, or
- TEX/LATEX file and a "flat" ASCII (text) file, including PostScript and/or encapsulated versions and an Adobe PDF files is a good idea if you have these.
- electronically by e-mail:
(t.chapman@univ-mulhouse.fr) as ASCII/TEX/LATEX text or as a file attachment.

Advertising

Europhysics News aims to accompany articles with targeted advertising to highlight the industrial relevance of physics. So authors are often asked to suggest possible advertisers to the Editor. Advertising is handled by Springer Verlag, Berlin.

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