

Frontiers of Earth Science

Instructions for authors

General information

Frontiers of Earth Science is an international peer-reviewed academic journal sponsored by the Ministry of Education of China. The journal is jointly published by the Higher Education Press of China and Springer on a quarterly basis. The papers are written in the English language. Online versions are available through both <https://link.springer.com/journal/11707> and <http://journal.hep.com.cn/fesci>.

The journal primarily publishes research and review articles using the peer-review system (<https://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/fesci>). Typically, two reviewers in the relevant subject fields are invited to review each article. In cases where the reviewer's comments are contradictory, the paper will be submitted to alternative reviewer(s) requesting their assistance in making a final determination on potential acceptance. The reviewers are requested to submit their final comments within one month of receipt.

Duplicate publication and previous submission policies

Manuscripts submitted to this journal must not be under simultaneous consideration by any other publisher and must not have been published elsewhere in a substantially similar form. No part of a paper published by *Frontiers of Earth Science* may be reproduced or published elsewhere without the written permission of the publisher.

Article categories

Frontiers of Earth Sciences accepts manuscript submissions in the following categories:

RESEARCH articles describe original investigations relevant to Geosciences.

REVIEW articles give in-depth overviews of specific research topics or reviews of research achievements.

EDITORIALS are written by editors and invited scholars as essays of significance or by guest editor(s) of a special issue as an overview of a specific topic.

Manuscript submission

Authors are encouraged to submit their original papers electronically using the journal's online

submission system (<http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/fesci>). The Chief Editor and one of the Associate Editors will jointly manage each submission and will be the author's point of contact for any subsequent correspondence. The website provides detailed information for uploading and submitting each requested file.

The manuscript must be submitted in Word format and the figures in .tiff, .eps or .cdr format. Do not upload PDF files. Once each file has been uploaded, the system will automatically generate an electronic PDF file, which will then be sent out for review.

Once the initial reviews have been completed, a journal editor will review the paper, taking into consideration the reviewer's comments, and will make a final determination to either accept or reject the paper. The author will be notified by e-mail of the editor's decision with a possible request for revisions.

Submission requirements

Cover letter

Each author must include a cover letter with their manuscript submission, indicating the corresponding author's name, institutional affiliation, address, and telephone number. Affiliations for each co-author must also be supplied. Authors are also asked to provide the names and contact information for four potential referees within the letter. However, the journal is not obliged to use the suggested reviewers. Final selection of reviewers will be determined by the editors.

Manuscript for research articles

Manuscripts should be submitted in Word format. The following sections are required for a complete manuscript: Title, Author(s), Author affiliation(s), Abstract, Keywords, Nomenclature (when needed), Main text, References, Acknowledgements, Appendices, Figure captions, Tables. Include page numbers, beginning with the title page as number 1. Line numbering should also be included. There is no formal page limit, but the editors may recommend condensation when appropriate. Please use standard 10- or 12-point Times New Roman font.

Title. The title of the paper should be explicit, descriptive, and as brief as possible – no more than 20 words in length.

Running title. Use a shortened version of the manuscript's title (up to 80 characters including spaces).

Author names, academic degrees, and affiliations

Example:

Mingwang CHENG (✉)¹, Qinghua SHI¹, Limin MA²

¹ Aetna School of Management, Shanghai Jiao Tong University, Shanghai 200030, China

² Foreign Language Department, Guangxi University, Nanning 530004, China

Corresponding author. The name, telephone and fax numbers, and e-mail address of the corresponding author should be given on the first page of the manuscript. In the case of multiple authors, designate one as the corresponding author.

Abstract. A one paragraph abstract, up to 300 words, that clearly indicates the object and scope of the paper, as well as the results achieved, should appear on the first page.

Keywords. Up to 6 words, separated by commas.

Headings and subheadings. Headings and subheadings should be used throughout the text to divide the subject matter into its important, logical parts. Typical headings include: Introduction, Materials and methods, Results, Discussion, Conclusions, Acknowledgements, Appendices, and References.

Tables

Authors should pay close attention to the limitations set by the size and layout of the journal. Large tables should be avoided. Reversing columns and rows will often reduce the dimensions of a table.

When large sets of data are to be presented, attempt to divide the information over two or more tables.

Example:

Table 1 Table title

Sample	Blank control/days	PLA ^a /days	HA-PLA ^b /days
1	61.5	71.4	68.0
2	73.2	75.6	65.2
3	54.4	78.6	62.4

a) PLA: ****; b) HA-PLA: ***.

- (1) State units of measure as column headings. Abbreviations used only in a table should be defined as footnotes.
- (2) Always use rows and columns to correlate two variables. Tables should be single-spaced. Do not embed tables as graphic files, document objects, or pictures.
- (3) Tables should be formatted using only three horizontal lines: one under the legend, one under the column headings, and one below the body. Vertical lines are generally not used.
- (4) Table titles should be placed just before the table, and sequentially numbered using Roman numerals.
- (5) Place explanatory material and footnotes below the table. Designate each footnote by using lowercase superscript letters (^a, ^b, ^c), or by inserting with the footnote tool in Word, reading horizontally across the page.
- (6) Unless otherwise needed for clarity, all words within a table should be in lowercase.
- (7) Each table must be called out in the text as, e.g., Table 1.
- (8) Each table must be placed on a separate page at the end of the manuscript, after the text - never

within. Use the insert table tool in Word to create the tables, do not embed as figures.

Figures

Graphs should be self-explanatory and clearly understood by the reader at first glance. Dimensional drawings and diagrams should only include essential details, with as little lettering as possible. Each graph should present more of a picture than a working drawing.

- (1) **Figure size:** Submit in the size of desired appearance.
- (2) **Numbering and caption:** Number all figures (graphs, charts, photographs, and illustrations) in the order of citation within the text, e.g., Fig. 1. Include a caption for each figure (a brief phrase, preferably no longer than 10 to 15 words). Label multiple figure panels as (a), (b), (c)..., as needed. Unless otherwise needed for clarity, all text within the figure should be in lowercase.
- (3) **Figure quality:** Submit sharp, noise-free figures with good contrast. All lettering should be large enough to permit legibility with reduction. The figure quality should meet the requirements as shown below:

Figure category	Images		Screen	Line-drawing
	Color	Mono		
dpi	300	600	72	600

- (4) **Color figures:** Submit figures in black and white for line-drawing and grayscale for images, unless otherwise required.
- (5) **Figure file formats and location within manuscript:** Place the figures in the text as close as possible to where they are initially cited, as well as preferentially upload in .eps (Photoshop) or .cdr (CorelDraw) file formats separately for a quality check, and .tiff file formats is also acceptable.
- (6) **Maps:** Please use authorized maps as the basis for map figure drawing (<http://bzdt.ch.mnr.gov.cn/>) and do not modify the borders. All maps should follow the publishing requirements released by the Government.

Formulae and equations

- (1) Formulae should be typewritten whenever possible.
- (2) It is extremely important that all mathematical symbols and letters used are identified and listed and that the required style of appearance for each symbol is clearly indicated, e.g., bold, italicized, script, outline, etc.
- (3) Subscripts and superscripts should be clearly set.
- (4) Identify any symbols in the margin that might be confused with similar symbols.
- (5) A nomenclature can be included with the use of = signs after the abstract if there is a significant number of symbols in the paper.
- (6) Long and/or complicated equations should be placed separately under the corresponding lines of text.

Abbreviations

Do not use abbreviations in the title or abstract and limit their use in the text. Identify all abbreviations within the text at first mention.

Footnotes

Footnotes should only be used if absolutely essential. In most cases, the information can be easily incorporated within the normal text.

However, if footnotes must be used, indicate each within the text using superscript numbers, and keep as short as possible.

Units of measure

Laboratory measurements are expressed using conventional metric units, with relevant Système International (SI) conversion factors expressed secondarily (in parentheses) only on initial usage. If used in tables and/or figures, a conversion factor to SI should be presented in the footnote or legend. The metric system is preferred for the expression of length, area, mass, and volume. For more details, see the Units of Measure conversion table (absent).

Acknowledgements

This section is used to list contributions, credits, and other information and is to be placed at the end of the manuscript text, but before the Reference section. Conflicts of interest and financial disclosures must be listed in this section. Authors should obtain written permission to include the names of individuals in the Acknowledgments section.

Appendices (if needed)

Appendix A

A1, A2, A3...

Appendix B

Appendix C...

Citations and References

All in-text citations must be listed in the Reference section, ensuring author surname and year of publication are consistent. Grouped citations should be separated by semicolons and given in chronological order: e.g., (Peterson, 1984; Jackson and Whitehead, 1991; Shuman et al., 2001, 2004). References should include all author names, year of publication, complete title of manuscript/book, name of journal/publisher and city of publication for books cited. Arrange references first alphabetically by author's surname and then further sorted chronologically if necessary. More than one reference from the same author(s) in the same year must be identified by the letters 'a', 'b', 'c', etc., after the year of publication. Journal names should be spelled out in full.

Examples:

Reference for journals

Rieseberg L H, Raymond O, Rosenthal D M, Zhao L, Livingstone K, Nakazato T, Durphy J L, Schwarzbach A E, Donovan L A, Lexer C (2003). Major ecological transitions in wild sunflowers facilitated by hybridization. *Science*, 301(5637): 1211–1216

Reference for books

Gaydon A G, Wolfhard H G (1960). *Flames* (2nd ed). London: Chapman and Hall Ltd, 30–35

Norman I J, Redfern S J, eds. (1996). *Mental Health Care for Elderly People*. New York: Churchill Livingstone

Reference for a chapter in a book

Schlessinger D, Schaechter M (1993). Bacterial toxins. In: Schaechter M, Medoff G, Eisenstein B I, eds. *Mechanisms of Microbial Disease* (2nd ed). Baltimore: Williams and Wilkins, 162–175

Reference for symposium

Polito V S (1983). Calmodulin and calmodulin inhibitors: effect on pollen germination and tube growth. In: Mulvshy D L, Ottaviaro E, eds. *Pollen: Biology and Implication for Plant Breeding*. New York: Elsevier, 53–60

Cecil T E, Chern S S (1989). Dupin submanifolds in Lie sphere geometry. In: Jiang B J, Peng C -K, Hou Z X, eds. *Differential Geometry and Topology. Lect Notes in Math, Vol 1369*. Berlin: Springer-Verlag, 1–44

Reference for proceedings

Dmtriev V (2000). Complete tables of the second rank constitutive tensors for linear homogeneous bianisotropic media described by point magnetic groups of symmetry and some general properties of the media. In: *Proceedings of IEEE MTT-S IMOC'99*. Berlin: Springer, 435–439

The digital object identifier (DOI), a unique alpha-numeric character assigned to a document upon initial electronic publication, may be used to cite and link to electronic documents. The DOI is an ideal medium for citing a document, particularly "Articles in press," which have not yet received full bibliographic information.

Example from *Communications in Nonlinear Science and Numerical Simulation*):

doi:10.1016/j.cnsns.2007.05.034

Author biographies

Supply a biography (maximum of 150 words) for all authors per the following guidelines.

First paragraph: State the author's educational background to include field of study, type (i.e., MS, PhD), institution, city, and country, and year degree for each degree earned. The author's major field of study should be lower-cased.

Second paragraph: Refer to author by using the proper pronoun (he or she) rather than author's surname. List work experience ensuring job title is capitalized and location of current job is stated. Locations of previous positions do not need to be stated. A list of recent publications may be included. Conclude the paragraph by stating current and previous research interests.

Third paragraph: State author's title and last name (e.g., Dr. Smith, Prof. Jones, Mr. Kajor, Ms. Hunter). List memberships in professional societies, as applicable. Conclude with a list if any awards received and/or committee work involved in. Do not include a list of personal hobbies. State author e-mail address at the end of the vitae.

A photograph may be submitted if desired. It should be placed in the top left hand corner of the biography.

Manuscript for review articles

Reviews give a general overview of a particular field, providing the reader with an appreciation of the importance of the work, historical context, a summary of recent developments, and a starting point in the specialist literature. Manuscripts should be divided into appropriate sections, with an extensive list of references. In addition to undergoing the same rigorous level of technical peer-review as for Research papers, Review articles will be critiqued based on the general impact of the field being reviewed, the relevance of the field to experimental mechanics, pre-existing reviews of the field, and acknowledgement of the contributing author as a dominant figure in the field. Therefore, it is strongly recommended that authors interested in submitting a Review article correspond with the Editor prior to submission. General formatting of text, illustrations, and references are the same as outlined for Research papers.

Notification

The corresponding author will receive a notification of acceptance from the journal editors with a request to submit an electronic version of the accepted text, if not already available.

Copyright transfer

No article can be published without a signed Copyright Transfer Statement ensuring a transfer of copyright from the author to the publisher. Please log in the submission website (<https://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/fesci>) and download the file of the Copyright Transfer Statement on the homepage. Authors are asked to print a hard copy, sign, scan, and upload the statement in **Author Dashboard** on the submission website.

Page proofs and final production

The page proof will be sent to the corresponding author and should be returned within 72 hours after receipt. Authors should submit any questions regarding the proof in a query file. No new materials are allowed to be inserted after the page proof has been created. Please note that authors are urged to check their proofs carefully before returning one all-inclusive file via e-mail or fax, since subsequent

additional corrections will not be possible.

Author enquiries

Please contact the *Frontiers of Earth Science* Office in Higher Education Press for any submission enquiries, to track articles, or for any additional information at either of one of the following addresses, ensuring you include the manuscript dispatch number.

Dr. Beibei LIU
Tel.: 86-(0)10-58556297
Email: totopea@163.com

Dr. Xiaoyu CHEN
Tel.: 86-(0)21-62231179
Email: xychen@geo.ecnu.edu.cn

Author Benefits

Each article submitted will profit from a fast peer-review track and a smooth production process. Authors will also have the potential benefit of having an electronic version of their accepted article published online on a first-come first-serve basis. All accepted manuscripts will be proofread by highly qualified editors before typesetting to ensure proper English grammar and language usage.

Research Data Policy

The journal encourages authors, where possible and applicable, to deposit data that support the findings of their research in a public repository. Authors and editors who do not have a preferred repository should consult Springer Nature's list of repositories and research data policy.

- [List of Repositories](#)
- [Research Data Policy](#)

General repositories - for all types of research data - such as figshare and Dryad may also be used.

Datasets that are assigned digital object identifiers (DOIs) by a data repository may be cited in the reference list. Data citations should include the minimum information recommended by DataCite: authors, title, publisher (repository name), identifier.

- [DataCite](#)

Springer Nature provides a research data policy support service for authors and editors, which can be contacted at researchdata@springernature.com.

This service provides advice on research data policy compliance and on finding research data repositories. It is independent of journal, book and conference proceedings editorial offices and does not advise on specific manuscripts.

- [Helpdesk](#)



<http://www.springer.com/journal/11707>

Frontiers of Earth Science

Editor-in-Chief: Gao, W.

ISSN: 2095-0195 (print version)

ISSN: 2095-0209 (electronic version)

Journal no. 11707