

# **Journal of Sustainable Metallurgy**

## **Instructions for Authors**

### **Types and Length of Manuscripts**

The journal supports Review Articles, Research Articles, Short Communications, Letters to the Editor, Opinion Articles, and Thematic Articles, each with limits on the number of word-equivalent length. The word count for manuscripts should include the actual word count for the text of the body, references, and all captions as well as equivalent word counts for tables and figures as described below. For estimating purposes, authors must add to the actual word count an equivalent of about 100 words for each average-sized (8.5 cm wide by 8.0 cm deep) figure or table. For multipart figures, each part should be counted as 100 words.

Review Articles should not be longer than 12,000 words; Research Articles, Thematic Articles, and Opinion Articles not longer than 8,000 words; and Short Communications and Letters to the Editor not longer than 3,000 words, including equivalent word counts for figures and tables. If the manuscript submission is longer, the author will be notified. Authors will have the option to decrease the lengths of their manuscripts or to request exceptions to the length requirement. Reviewing of longer manuscripts is at the discretion of the assigned Editor-in-Chief and should be requested by the corresponding author.

Opinion Articles should cover an issue of great importance to the community by providing an inspiring overview as well as personal insights. These articles convey lifelong professional experiences, underline the non-trivial or accessible science and technology, and contemplate future advances and challenges, often proposing actions or areas where the community should pay attention.

Thematic Articles are submitted for particular topical collections. Submitting authors must indicate the specific collection for which the article is submitted.

All submissions should use Americanized English.

### **Manuscript Submission**

#### **Original Submission**

Submission of a manuscript implies that the work described has not been published before; that it is not under consideration for publication anywhere else; and that its publication has been approved by all coauthors (if any), as well as by the responsible authorities—tacitly or explicitly—at the institute where the work was carried out. The publisher will not be held legally responsible should there be any claims for compensation. See [here](#) for additional information on publishing ethics.

#### **Permissions**

Authors wishing to include figures, tables, or text passages that have already been published elsewhere are required to obtain permission from the copyright owner(s) for both the print and

online format and to include evidence that such permission has been granted when submitting their manuscripts. Any material received without such evidence will be assumed to originate from the authors.

### **Submitting Online**

Submit your work at the [journal submission site](#) and upload all your manuscript files following the instructions given on the screen. Be sure to provide all relevant editable source files. Failing to submit these source files might cause unnecessary delays in the peer review workflow.

### **Cover Letter**

Authors of Review Articles and Research Articles are required to submit a cover letter as a separate file during the submission process. This letter must include the following elements in order for the submission to enter peer review:

- Explain how your manuscript's contribution is of high potential impact, ideally thought-provoking or game-changing.
- Explain how your manuscript offers an articulated and quantified relation to sustainability in the broader sense, supporting the field/industry/sector in its transition to climate neutrality and circularity, and fulfillment of the United Nation's 17 Sustainable Development Goals.
- Explain how your manuscript demonstrates depth of scientific analysis with data generated through transparent and reproducible processes, based on experiments, field-testing, simulation, and data analysis, that can be repeated or verified by others.
- Explain whether your manuscript contains sufficient data/information within the work, or if there is a link to an online repository where the raw data are and will remain accessible (if the latter, provide the URL).

### **Revised Manuscript**

When a revision is submitted, authors must include a point-by-point response to the reviewer comments. Authors must also upload a clean version of the revised manuscript as a Manuscript file type and a track changes version showing all changes made during revision as a Supplementary Material file type.

### **English Language Support**

For editors and reviewers to accurately assess the work presented in your manuscript, authors should ensure that the English language is of sufficient quality to be understood. If help is needed with writing in English, authors should consider obtaining assistance from a professional language editing service such as the following:

- <http://www.aje.com>
- <https://authorservices.springernature.com>

TMS members are entitled to a 15% discount with Springer Author Services. Members should first log in on [this page](#), at which point a link will be visible.

Please note that the use of a language editing service is not a requirement for publication in this journal and does not imply or guarantee that the article will be selected for peer review or will be accepted. If your manuscript is accepted it will be checked by copyeditors for spelling and formal style before publication.

# Manuscript Preparation

## Title Page

The title page should include:

- The name(s) of the author(s)
- A concise and informative title
- The affiliation(s) and address(es) of the author(s)
- The e-mail address of the corresponding author

## Graphical Abstract

A graphical abstract must be included with all initial submissions to this journal. The graphical abstract should be a single, concise pictorial of the main findings of the article, and it should facilitate readers' understanding of the importance of the article content in an accessible and rapid way. Authors may include a key figure from the manuscript or create a separate image for this purpose. The use of color to enhance the value and quality of the graphic is encouraged. Please note that combining multiple images into one graphical abstract is discouraged as the text can become unreadable due to size constraints. Before submitting, please make sure that all text within the graphical abstract is clear and easy to read when viewed on screen at 100%.

The graphical abstract should be included as part of the manuscript file and also submitted as a separate image file. The same artwork and illustration guidelines offered below (see p. 6) should be referenced in the preparation of graphical abstracts.

## Abstract and Keywords

Provide an abstract of 150 to 250 words. The abstract should be one paragraph and should not contain any undefined abbreviations or any reference citations.

Provide 4 to 6 keywords which can be used for indexing purposes.

## References

In-text citations. Reference citations in the text should be identified by numbers in square brackets and should be in ascending numerical order.

Reference list. The list of references should only include works that are cited in the text and that have been published or accepted for publication. Personal communications and unpublished works should only be mentioned in the text. Do not use footnotes or endnotes as a substitute for a reference list. The entries in the list should be numbered consecutively. For authors using EndNote, Springer provides an output style that supports the formatting of in-text citations and reference list.

### • Journal article

Gamelin FX, Baquet G, Berthoin S, Thevenet D, Nourry C, Nottin S, Bosquet L (2009) Effect of high intensity intermittent training on heart rate variability in prepubescent children. *Eur J Appl Physiol* 105:731-738. doi: 10.1007/s00421-008-0955-8

Ideally, the names of all authors should be provided, but the usage of "et al" in long author lists will also be accepted:

Smith J, Jones M Jr, Houghton L et al (1999) Future of health insurance. N Engl J Med 341:325–329

- Article by DOI

Slifka MK, Whitton JL (2000) Clinical implications of dysregulated cytokine production. J Mol Med. doi:10.1007/s001090000086

- Book

South J, Blass B (2001) The future of modern genomics. Blackwell, London

- Book Chapter

Brown B, Aaron M (2001) The politics of nature. In: Smith J (ed) The rise of modern genomics, 3rd edn. Wiley, New York, pp 230-257

- Online document

Cartwright J (2007) Big stars have weather too. IOP Publishing PhysicsWeb. <http://physicsweb.org/articles/news/11/6/16/1>. Accessed 26 June 2007

## **Text**

### *Text Formatting*

Manuscripts should be submitted in Microsoft Word.

Use a plain font (e.g., 10-point Times Roman) for text.

Use italics for emphasis

Use the automatic page numbering function to number the pages.

Do not use field functions.

Use tab stops or other commands for indents, not the space bar.

Use the table function, not spreadsheets, to make tables.

Use the equation editor or MathType for equations.

Save your file in docx format (Word 2007 or higher) or doc format (older Word versions).

Manuscripts with mathematical content can also be submitted in LaTeX format. See [here](#) for information on creating and uploading LaTeX documents. Templates are available at [LaTeX2e macro package](#). Although the full LaTeX package with source files is encouraged at the time of initial submission, the PDF file of the LaTeX submission is acceptable for peer review purposes only. LaTeX source files are required before a manuscript can be accepted.

### *Headings*

Please use no more than three levels of displayed headings.

### *Abbreviations*

Abbreviations should be defined at first mention and used consistently thereafter.

### *Footnotes*

Footnotes can be used to give additional information; however, they should not consist solely of a reference citation, and they should never include the bibliographic details of a reference. Always use footnotes instead of endnotes.

Footnotes to the text should be numbered consecutively; those to tables should be indicated by superscript lower-case letters (or asterisks for significance values and other statistical data). Footnotes to the title or the authors of the article are not given reference symbols.

### *Acknowledgments*

Acknowledgments of people, grants, funds, and so on should be placed in a separate section before the reference list. The names of funding organizations should be written in full.

### **Scientific Style**

- Always use internationally accepted signs and symbols for units (SI units).
- Nomenclature: Insofar as possible, authors should use systematic names similar to those used by Chemical Abstract Service or IUPAC.
- Use the standard mathematical notation for formulae and symbols.
  - Italic for single letters that denote mathematical constants, variables, and unknown quantities
  - Roman/upright for numerals, operators, and punctuation, and commonly defined functions or abbreviations
  - Bold for vectors, tensors, and matrices.

### **Tables**

- Tables should be numbered using Arabic numerals.
- Tables should always be cited in text in consecutive numerical order.
- For each table, supply a caption (title) explaining the table.
- Identify any previously published material by giving the original source in the form of a reference at the end of the table caption.
- Footnotes to tables should be indicated by superscript lower-case letters (or asterisks for significance values and other statistical data) and included beneath the table body.

### **Figures**

- Figures should be embedded in the manuscript file and also uploaded as separate high-resolution image files. For additional details on creating figures, refer to the Artwork and Illustrations section of this document.
- Figures should be numbered using Arabic numerals (1, 2, 3, etc.) and should be cited in the text in ascending numerical order.
- Figure parts should be denoted by lowercase letters (a, b, c, etc.). Part labels should be added to the image files, and each part should be described in the figure caption.
- If an appendix appears in the article and it contains one or more figures, continue the consecutive numbering of the main text. Do not number the appendix figures, “A1, A2, etc.”
- Each figure should have a concise caption describing what the figure depicts. Include the captions under the embedded figures in the manuscript file or in a separate list at the end of the manuscript if the figures are not embedded.

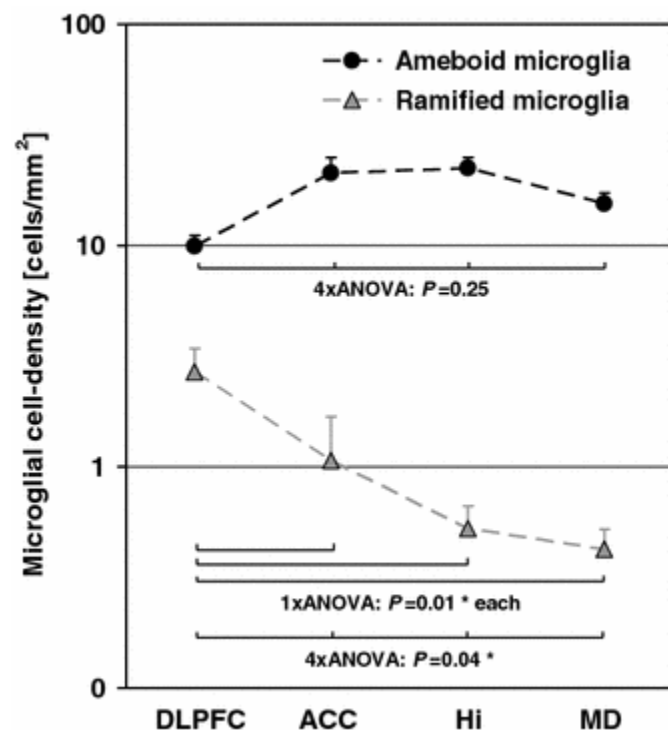
- Figure captions begin with the term Fig., followed by the figure number and a period. Also include punctuation at the end of the caption text.  
Example: Fig. 4. Steady state creep rate vs. applied stress for a P91 steel.
- Identify previously published material by giving the original source in the form of a reference citation at the end of the figure caption. For figures being reprinted, indicate “Reprinted with permission from [reference number]” at the end of the figure caption. For figures being adapted from another source, state “Adapted from [reference number].”

## Artwork and Illustrations

### Electronic Figure Submission

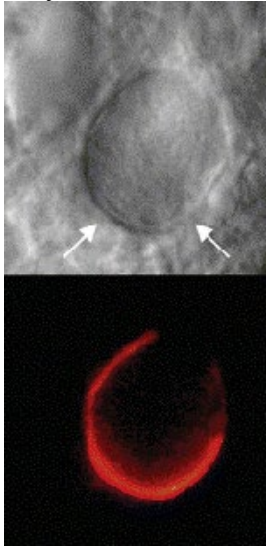
- For vector graphics, the preferred format is EPS; for halftones, use TIFF format.  
MSOffice files are also acceptable if the image quality is high.
- Vector graphics containing fonts must have the fonts embedded in the files.
- Name your figure files with "Fig" and the figure number, e.g., Fig1.eps.

### Line Art



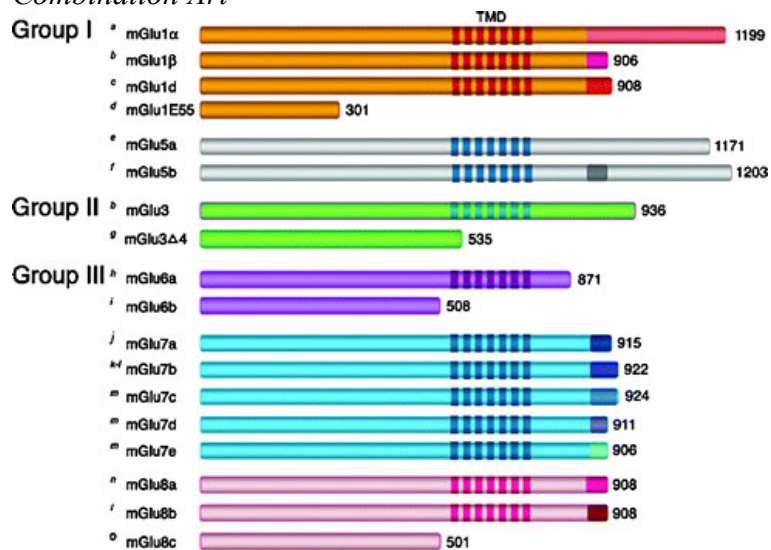
- Definition: Black and white graphic with no shading.
- Do not use faint lines and/or lettering and check that all lines and lettering within the figures are legible at final size.
- All lines should be at least 0.1 mm (0.3 pt) wide.
- Scanned line drawings and line drawings in bitmap format should have a minimum resolution of 1200 dpi.

### Halftone Art



- Definition: Photographs or with fine shading.
- If any magnification is used in the photographs, indicate this by using scale bars within the figures themselves.
- Halftones should have a minimum resolution of 300 dpi.

### Combination Art



- Definition: a combination of halftone and line art, such as halftones containing line drawing, extensive lettering, or color diagrams.
- Combination artwork should have a minimum resolution of 600 dpi.

### Color Art

- Color art is free of charge for online publication.

- If black and white will be shown in the print version, make sure that the main information will still be visible. Many colors are not distinguishable from one another when converted to black and white.

#### *Figure Lettering*

- To add lettering, it is best to use Helvetica or Arial (sans serif fonts).
- Keep lettering consistently sized throughout your final-sized artwork, usually about 2–3 mm (8–12 pt).
- Variance of type size within an illustration should be minimal; for example, do not use 8-pt type on an axis and 20-pt type for the axis label.
- Avoid effects such as shading and outline letters.
- Do not include titles or captions within your illustrations.

#### *Figure Numbering*

- All figures are to be numbered using Arabic numerals.
- Figures should be cited in text in consecutive numerical order.
- Figure parts should be denoted by lowercase letters (a, b, c, etc.).
- If an appendix appears in your article and it contains one or more figures, continue the consecutive numbering of the main text. Do not number the appendix figures A1, A2, A3, etc. Figures in Electronic Supplementary Material should, however, be numbered separately.

#### *Figure Captions*

- Each figure should have a concise caption describing accurately what the figure depicts. Include the captions in the text file of the manuscript, not in the figure file.
- Figure captions should begin with the term Fig. in bold type, followed by the figure number, also in bold type.
- Identify all elements found in the figure in the figure caption and use boxes, circles, etc., as coordinate points in graphs.
- Identify previously published material by giving the original source in the form of a reference citation at the end of the figure caption.

#### *Figure Placement and Size*

- Figures should be included within the manuscript file and also supplied as separate high-resolution files. When preparing your figures, size figures to fit in the column width.
- For large-sized journals the figures should be 84 mm (for double-column text areas), or 174 mm (for single-column text areas) wide and not higher than 234 mm.

#### *Permissions*

If you include figures that have already been published elsewhere, you must obtain permission from the copyright owner(s) for both the print and online format. Please be aware that some publishers do not grant electronic rights for free and that the publisher will not be able to refund any costs that may have occurred to receive these permissions.



### *Accessibility*

In order to give people of all abilities and disabilities access to the content of your figures, please make sure that

- All figures have descriptive captions (blind users could then use a text-to-speech software or a text-to-Braille hardware)
- Patterns are used instead of or in addition to colors for conveying information (colorblind users would then be able to distinguish the visual elements)
- Any figure lettering has a contrast ratio of at least 4.5:1

### **Electronic Supplementary Material**

Additional materials that are not appropriate for placement in the main article, including figures, tables, datasets, and videos, can be included as electronic supplementary material. This material is accessible online but not in print.

Before submitting research datasets as electronic supplementary material, authors should read the journal's research data policy. The journal encourages research data to be archived with a persistent digital identifier in accessible data repositories wherever possible.

### **Submission**

- Upload one PDF file that contains all supplementary text, figures, and tables, including figure captions and table titles
- The first page should include "Supplementary Material for:" at the top of the page followed by the manuscript title, journal name, author names, and affiliations, and e-mail address of the corresponding author
- To accommodate user downloads, please keep in mind that larger-sized files may require long download times and that some users may experience other problems during downloading.

### **Audio, Video, and Animations**

- Aspect ratio: 16:9 or 4:3
- Maximum file size: 25 GB
- Minimum video duration: 1 sec
- Supported file formats: avi, wmv, mp4, mov, m2p, mp2, mpg, mpeg, flv, mxf, mts, m4v, 3gp

### **Spreadsheets**

- Spreadsheets should be converted to PDF if no interaction with the data is intended.
- If the readers should be encouraged to make their own calculations, spreadsheets should be submitted as .xls files (MS Excel).

### **Specialized Formats**

- Specialized format such as .pdb (chemical), .wrl (VRML), .nb (Mathematica notebook), and .tex can also be supplied.

### **Collecting Multiple Files**

- It is possible to collect multiple files in a .zip or .gz file.

## Numbering

- If supplying any supplementary material, the text must make specific mention of the material as a citation, similar to that of figures and tables.
- Figures with captions, tables, and text intended to publish as ESM should be identified as “Fig. S-1,” “Table S-I,” etc. and cited in the manuscript as “supplementary Fig. S-1,” “supplementary Table S-I,” etc. At first mention of the ESM within the text, include the phrase “(refer to electronic supplementary material)”.
- Name the files consecutively, e.g., “ESM\_3.mpg”, “ESM\_4.pdf”.

## Captions

- For each supplementary material, supply a concise caption describing the content of the file.

## Processing of Supplementary Files

- Electronic supplementary material will be published as received from the author without any conversion, editing, or reformatting.

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This journal is committed to upholding the integrity of the scientific record. As a member of the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE) the journal will follow the COPE guidelines on how to deal with potential acts of misconduct.

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- A single study should not be split into several parts to increase the quantity of submissions and submitted to various journals or to one journal over time.
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Authors have an obligation to correct mistakes once they discover a significant error or inaccuracy in their published article. The author(s) is/are requested to contact the journal and explain in what sense the error is impacting the article. A decision on how to correct the literature will depend on the nature of the error. This may be a correction or retraction. The retraction note should provide transparency which parts of the article are impacted by the error.

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recommended to suggest a mix of reviewers from different countries and different institutions. When suggesting reviewers, the Corresponding Author must provide an institutional email address for each suggested reviewer, or, if this is not possible to include other means of verifying the identity such as a link to a personal homepage, a link to the publication record or a researcher or author ID in the submission letter. Please note that the Journal may not use the suggestions, but suggestions are appreciated and may help facilitate the peer review process.

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Authors must disclose all relationships or interests that could have direct or potential influence or impart bias on the work. Although an author may not feel there is any conflict, disclosure of relationships and interests provides a more complete and transparent process, leading to an accurate and objective assessment of the work. Awareness of a real or perceived conflicts of interest is a perspective to which the readers are entitled. This is not meant to imply that a financial relationship with an organization that sponsored the research or compensation received for consultancy work is inappropriate. Examples of potential conflicts of interests that are directly or indirectly related to the research may include but are not limited to the following:

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- Honoraria for speaking at symposia
- Financial support for attending symposia
- Financial support for educational programs
- Employment or consultation
- Support from a project sponsor
- Position on advisory board or board of directors or other type of management relationships
- Multiple affiliations
- Financial relationships, for example equity ownership or investment interest
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- Holdings of spouse and/or children that may have financial interest in the work

In addition, interests that go beyond financial interests and compensation (nonfinancial interests) that may be important to readers should be disclosed. These may include but are not limited to personal relationships or competing interests directly or indirectly tied to this research, or professional interests or personal beliefs that may influence your research.

The corresponding author should include a summary statement in the text of the manuscript in a separate section before the reference list that reflects any potential conflicts of interest.

See below examples of disclosures:

**Funding:** This study was funded by X (grant number X).

**Conflict of Interest:** Author A has received research grants from Company A. Author B has received a speaker honorarium from Company X and owns stock in Company Y. Author C is a member of committee Z.

If no conflict exists, the authors should state:

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Upon acceptance, your article will be exported to Production to undergo typesetting. Once typesetting is complete, you will receive a link asking you to confirm your affiliation, choose the publishing model for your article, as well as arrange rights and payment of any associated publication cost. Once you have completed this, your article will be processed and you will receive the proofs.

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