

# INSTRUCTION FOR AUTHORS

## 1 Manuscript submission

### Legal requirements

Submission of a manuscript implies: that the work described has not been published before; that it is not under consideration for publication anywhere else; that its publication has been approved by all co-authors, if any, as well as by the responsible authorities—tacitly or explicitly—at the institute where the work has been carried out. The publisher will not be held legally responsible should there be any claims for compensation.

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## 2 Manuscript preparation

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The journal's language is English. Either British English or American English spelling or terminology may be used, but the system chosen should be followed consistently throughout the manuscript. We request that the language is corrected before submission. Submissions with unsatisfactory English writing will be returned without review.

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All manuscripts are subject to copy editing.

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In principle, **a regular research paper should be longer than 8 printed pages and a review article should be longer than 12 printed pages. Rapid communications, however, are limited to 4 printed pages. A manuscript which does not meet these requirements will be returned directly without review.** When preparing a manuscript, please keep in mind that a printed page of the journal contains approximately 700 words including equivalent word counts for figures and tables.

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## Text formatting

Manuscripts should be submitted in Word. The submission should include all the figures and tables.

## Manuscript structure and instruction

Please follow this order to type the manuscript: title page, abstract, keywords, main text (including tables, figures, and figure captions), acknowledgements, references, and appendix (if necessary).

*Title page.* The title page should contain: (i) a concise and informative title; (ii) the name(s) of the author(s); (iii) the affiliation(s) and address(es) of the author(s); and (iv) the E-mail address(es) of the author(s).

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*Formulae and symbols.* Formulae, symbols, and all subscripts, superscripts, Greek letters, and other characters must be legible and carefully checked. Standard mathematical notation should be used. All symbols used in manuscript must be explained. If necessary, a list of symbols may be provided and placed immediately after References section.

*Equations.* Numbering consecutively any equations that have to be displayed separately from the text (if referred to explicitly in the text), and referring the equation with Eq. (1), Eq. (2), ..., in the text.

For the simple formulae which appear in the line of normal text, please use solidus (/) instead of a horizontal line for small fractional terms, e.g.,  $x/y$ . Powers of e are often more conveniently denoted by “exp”. In principle, variables should be presented in italics.

*Figures.* All digital arts, including micrographs, line arts, and grayscale images, included in the manuscript should be supplied in a separate electronic file in TIFF, EPS, or JPEG format with a preferred resolution of **600 dpi** relative to the final figure size.

All figures should be numbered using Arab numerals (figure parts should be denoted by lowercase letters) and supplied with a figure caption. Please make sure that all elements found in the figure are identified in the caption. Figures should always be cited in text, such as Fig. 1, Fig. 2, in consecutive numerical order. Color figures will remain in color in both the printed version and the online version of the journal, at no cost. The authors are encouraged to use color figures in the submitted manuscript.

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2, in consecutive numerical order.

*Units.* Please follow internationally accepted rules and conventions such as those defined by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO). If other units are mentioned, please give their equivalent in SI.

*Abbreviations.* Abbreviations should be used only if deemed absolutely necessary, and should be defined at first mention in the abstract and again in the main body of the text and used consistently thereafter.

*Acknowledgements.* Acknowledgements of people, grants, funds, etc., should be placed in a separate section before the References section. The name of funding organizations should be written in full. Do not include acknowledgements on the title page, as a footnote to the title or otherwise.

*Citation in text.* References to the literature are cited by number in square brackets at appropriate locations (before a period, comma, etc.) in the text. Some examples:

(i) Gao and Brown [4] devised an interactive editing tool for panorama correction based on a local warping strategy.

(ii) Earlier work [5–9] typically used diffusion-based methods while more recent work [10–13] has focused on exemplar-based methods.

(iii) It is based on ideas from Refs. [10,11].

*List of references.* All literature citations should be compiled in a numbered reference list at the end of the manuscript text (but before the appendix), in the order of their first citation in the text. Each numbered reference may contain only one literature citation.

The list of references should only include works that are cited in the text and that have been published or accepted for publication. Papers accepted for publication are cited as “in press”. Do not use footnotes or endnotes as a substitute for a reference list.

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(a) *Journal article*

[1] Han YC, Li SP, Wang XY, *et al.* Synthesis and sintering of nanocrystalline hydroxyapatite powders by citric acid sol–gel combustion method. *Mater Res Bull* 2004, **39**: 25–32.

(b) *Book (authored)*

[2] Lawn BR. *Fracture of Brittle Solids*. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press, 1993.

(c) *Book chapter and paper in Proceedings*

[3] Craighead HG. Nanostructures in electronics. In *Nanomaterials: Synthesis, Properties and Applications*. Edelstein A, Cammatata R, Eds. New York: Taylor and Francis, 1998: 565–566.

(d) *Others*

[4] Hammond PW. Four-quadrant AC-AC drive and method. U.S. patent 6 166 513, Dec. 2000.

[5] Peng ZJ. Surface modification of ceramic cutting tools by energetic ions. Ph.D. Thesis. Beijing, China: Tsinghua University, 2002.

[6] Information on <http://www.weld.labs.gov.cn>.

*Electronic Supplementary Material (ESM).* If ESM is submitted, it will be published as received from the author in the online version only. ESM may consist of: (i) information that cannot be printed: animations, video clips, sound recordings; (ii) information that is more convenient in electronic form: sequences, spectral data, etc.; (iii) large amounts of original data, e.g. additional tables, illustrations, etc. If supplying any ESM, the text must make specific mention of the material as a citation, similar to that of figures and tables (e.g., Fig. S1 in the ESM). Besides, a paragraph should be added before the “References” section (e.g., Electronic Supplementary Material: Supplementary material (add a brief description) is available in the online version of this article at <http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s40145-...>).

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Where possible, all examples from languages not using the Latin alphabet, in particular Asian languages, should be transliterated using an accepted system of transliteration. Authors should use their chosen system consistently throughout the manuscript. Where no standard system has been adopted in the literature (e.g., examples of certain dialects never described before), use symbols to represent sounds that are as close to the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA) symbols as possible, and give explanations where appropriate. Where a transliteration system is already used in the literature, no new transliteration system invented by the author will be accepted.

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The purpose of the proof is to check for typesetting errors and the completeness and accuracy of the text, tables, and figures. Substantial changes in content, e.g., new results, corrected values, title and authorship, are not allowed without the approval of the Editor-in-Chief.

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The article will be published online after receipt of the corrected proofs. This is the official first publication citable with the DOI. After release of the printed version, the paper can also be cited by issue and page numbers.

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  - (vii) Authors whose names appear on the submission have contributed sufficiently to the scientific work and therefore share collective responsibility and accountability for the results.

Journal of Advanced Ceramics

Editor-in-Chief: Li, L. – Associate Editors: CHEN, I.-W.; Nan, C.-W.; KOUMOTO, K.; Pan, W. – Executive Editor: GONG, J.

– Managing Editor: CHEN, H.

ISSN: 2226-4108 (print version)

ISSN: 2227-8508 (electronic version)

Journal no. 40145