

# Acta Scientifica Malaysia

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## Guide for Authors

The universe is an amazing place. It is vaster than it is possible to measure, stranger and more magical than any science fiction or fantasy, more beautiful than any art, and far more complex than can ever be imagined. Studying the universe – studying science – whether that is on the grandest scales of cosmology, the smallest scales of quantum physics and subatomic chemistry, or the beautiful complexity of life, is to set yourself on the path to an adventure that will stay with you forever. The most beautiful thing we can experience is the mysterious. It is the source of all true art and science. Science is beautiful when it makes simple explanations of phenomena or connections between different observations. Examples include the double helix in biology and the fundamental equations of physics. New discoveries in science will continue to create a thousand new frontiers for those who still would adventure.

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### **Manuscript Details**

The manuscript of a research article should be arranged as follows :

1. Title Page
2. Abstract and Keywords (optional: graphical abstracts & highlights)
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5. Results & Discussion (both can be given as separate headings)
7. Unknown Mechanism (For Bad Science Journal only)
8. Conclusion
9. Acknowledgement
10. References

The manuscripts must be double-spaced typed, written in clear, grammatical English with no typographical errors.

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Corresponding author. Clearly indicate who is willing to handle correspondence at all stages of refereeing and publication, also post-publication.

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A concise and factual abstract is required (200-300 words). The abstract should state briefly the purpose of the research, the principal results and major conclusions. An abstract is often presented separately from the article, so it must be able to stand alone. For this reason, References should be avoided, but if essential, they must be cited in full, without reference to the reference list. Also, non-standard or uncommon abbreviations should be avoided, but if essential they must be defined at their first mention in the abstract itself.

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Highlights are also optional. They consist of a short collection of bullet points that convey the core findings of the article and should be submitted in a separate page in the manuscript. Please use 'Highlights' as the title and include 3 to 5 bullet points (maximum 85 characters, including spaces, per bullet point).

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Immediately after the abstract, provide a maximum of 5 keywords, using American spelling and avoiding general and plural terms and multiple concepts (avoid, for example, "and", "of"). Be sparing with abbreviations: only abbreviations firmly established in the field may be eligible. These keywords will be used for indexing purposes.

## **Subdivision – Numbered Sections**

Divide your article into clearly defined and numbered sections. Subsections should be numbered 1.1 (then 1.1.1, 1.1.2, ...), 1.2, etc. (the abstract is not included in section numbering). Use this numbering also for internal cross-referencing: do not just refer to 'the text'. Any subsection may be given a brief heading. Each heading should appear on its own separate line.

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State the objectives of the work and provide an adequate background, avoiding a detailed literature survey or a summary of the results.

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Provide sufficient detail to allow the work to be reproduced. What is the material or equipment used to conduct the study. Methods already published should be indicated by a reference: only relevant modifications should be described.

## **Results & Discussion**

Results should be clear and concise. This should explore the significance of the results of the work, not repeat them. A combined Results and Discussion section is often appropriate. Avoid extensive citations and discussion of published literature.

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The main conclusions of the study may be presented in a short Conclusions section, which may stand alone or form a subsection of a Discussion or Results and Discussion section.

## Appendices

If there is more than one appendix, they should be identified as A, B, etc. Formulae and equations in appendices should be given separate numbering: Eq. (A.1), Eq. (A.2), etc.; in a subsequent appendix, Eq. (B.1) and so on. Similarly for tables and figures: Table A.1; Fig. A.1, etc.

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Define abbreviations that are not standard in this field in a footnote to be placed on the first page of the article. Such abbreviations that are unavoidable in the abstract must be defined at their first mention there, as well as in the footnote. Ensure consistency of abbreviations throughout the article.

## Acknowledgements

Collate acknowledgements in a separate section at the end of the article before the references and do not, therefore, include them on the title page, as a footnote to the title or otherwise. List here those individuals who provided help during the research (e.g., providing language help, writing assistance or proof reading the article, etc.).

## Nomenclature and Units

Follow internationally accepted rules and conventions: use the international system of units (SI). If other quantities are mentioned, give their equivalent in SI. You are urged to consult the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC) <http://www.iupac.org> and International Union of Pure and Applied Physics (IUPAP) <http://iupap.org/> for further information.

## Figures and Other Illustrations

Upon submission of an article, authors are informed to include all figures and tables within the text of the manuscript. In addition to that Figures should be submitted in separate zip files containing all figures. All figures should be cited in the paper in a consecutive order. Figures should be supplied in either vector art formats (Illustrator, EPS, WMF, FreeHand, CorelDraw, PowerPoint, Excel, etc.) or bitmap formats (Photoshop, TIFF, GIF, JPEG, etc.). Bitmap images should be of 300 dpi resolution at least unless the resolution is intentionally set to a lower level for scientific reasons. If a bitmap image has labels, the image and labels should be embedded in separate layers.

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Tables should be cited consecutively in the text. Every table must have a descriptive title and if numerical measurements are given, the units should be included in the column heading.

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Manuscripts must contain at least 10 references. The references must cite recent and relevant research only. At least half (50%) of the references should be published within the last 5 years.

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Please ensure that every reference cited in the text is also present in the reference list (and vice versa). Any references cited in the abstract must be given in full. Unpublished results and personal communications are not recommended in the reference list.

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**List :** Number the references (numbers in square brackets) in the list in the order in which they appear in the text.

## Examples:

### Reference to a Journal Publication:

[1] D. Wang, Y. B. Fu, M. A. Ashraf, Artifacts reduction in strain maps of tagged magnetic resonance imaging using harmonic phase, *Open Med.* 10 (2015), 425–433 DOI: 10.1515/med-2015-0074

### Reference to a Book

[2] M. Hosseini, M. A. Ashraf, *Application of the SWAT Model for Water Components Separation in Iran*, first ed., Springer, Japan, 2015

### Reference to a Book Chapter

[3] M. A. Ashraf, S. Batool, M. Ahmad, M. Sarfraz, W. S. Aqma , *Biopolymers as biofilters and biobarriers*, in: P. Torgal, I. Karak, J. Jonkers (Eds.), *Biopolymers and Biotech Admixtures for Eco-Efficient Construction Materials*, Elsevier Woodhead Publishing, India. 2016, pp. 401-424.

## Web references

As a minimum, the full URL should be given and the date when the reference was last accessed. Any further information, if known (DOI, author names, dates, reference to a source publication, etc.), should also be given. Web references can be listed separately (e.g., after the reference list) under a different heading if desired, or can be included in the reference list.

## Journal Abbreviations Source

Journal names should be abbreviated according to the List of Title Word Abbreviations :

<http://www.issn.org/services/online-services/access-to-the-ltwa/>

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Manuscripts not adhering to the journal guidelines will be returned to authors without scientific evaluation. Submitted manuscripts adhering to journal guidelines are reviewed by the Editor-in-Chief or an Associate Editor, who will assign them to reviewers. The Editorial Board will prepare a decision letter according to the comments of the reviewers, which will be sent to the corresponding author.

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### Proofs

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