

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.

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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.

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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

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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.
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- (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.
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- (7) Each table must be called out in the text as, e.g., Table 1.
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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.
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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.
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Formulae and equations

- (1) Formulae should be typewritten whenever possible.
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- (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.

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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...

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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.

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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

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

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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.

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

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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.

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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

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