

HOW TO WRITE A WORLD CLASS PAPER

Final Steps

Roel Prins

Who to include as an author?



Who is an author?

Somebody who

1. **Substantially** contributes to concept and design, data acquisition, or analysis and interpretation of data
2. Drafts the article or revises it critically
3. Gives final approval for submission

Authors are **responsible** for (parts of) the science

Others should be **acknowledged**

Check guidelines [American Chemical Society](#)

Acknowledgements

Acknowledge:

- Researchers who did measurements for you (TEM, NMR)
- Anyone who helped with the writing, English, or content
- Anyone who provided technical help
- Sources of funding

*State why people have been acknowledged
and **ask their permission***

References

Check the Guide for Authors for the correct format

- Spelling of names
- Punctuation
- When to use “et al.”
- Reference style

Avoid

- Citing personal communications and theses
- Citing articles published only in local journals or languages
- Excessive self-citation

Examples

**Check the style and format *carefully*;
there are several systems in use**

1. Wang, H, Prins, R J. Catal., 2008, vol. 250: pp. 13-26.
2. Wang, H., Prins, R. J. Catal., 250 (2008) 13.
3. H. Wang and R. Prins, *J. Catal.* **250**, 13 (2008).
4. H. Wang, R. Prins, J. Catal. 250 (2008) 13.

Examples

1. as discussed by Richard (23),
2. as discussed by F. Richard [23],
3. as discussed by Richard et al.,^[23]
4. as discussed by Richard and Wang,
6. as discussed by Wang and coworkers,

References

23. F. Richard, A. B. Wang, Ind. Eng. Res. 20 (2006) 222.

Supplementary material

Information related to and supportive of the main text, but of secondary importance

Includes:

- Electron microscopy data
- Large tables
- Organic synthesis method
- Video data

Available online when the manuscript is published

Graphical Abstract

Captures content at a single glance

- one figure
- visualizes one process
- makes one point clear
- captures attention
- restricted size

[Check Guide for Authors](#)

Ethics

“Unethical behavior can lead to rejection and even a ban from publishing in the journal”

Terry M. Phillips, Editor, *Journal of Chromatography B*

- Multiple submissions
- Redundant publications
- Plagiarism
- Data fabrication and falsification
- Improper author contribution

Final checks

Checking before submission can prevent early rejection

- Use a spellchecker
- Ask a colleague to critically review manuscript,
- Ask editing service to improve language
- Check requirements of the **Guide for Authors** – *again!*
www.elsevier.com (*authors*)

Consult Guide for Authors

**A poorly prepared manuscript wastes time
and is also a sign of disrespect**

**“Why should I pay attention,
if you do not want to pay attention?”**

Roel Prins, Editor, *Journal of Catalysis*

Dealing with the journal

Technical details

Layout

- Spacing, font and font size
Double-spaced, 12-point Times New Roman is preferred
- Consistent heading styles,
no more than three levels of heading (section 3.2.1)
- Number pages
- Order: Text, References, Tables, Figures

Check the Guide for Authors for all requirements

Format

- Follow the “**Guide for Authors**”
- Use the correct:
 - Layout
 - Section lengths (word limits)
 - Nomenclature, abbreviations, spelling (British vs. American)
 - Reference format
 - Number/type of figures and tables

Length

“25-30 pages (double spacing, 12 pnt) is the ideal length for a manuscript”

Julian Eastoe, Co-editor, *Journal of Colloid and Interface Science*

Consult the Guide for Authors for word and graphic limits

Letters or short communications are shorter.

For example, 3000 words with no more than 5 illustrations.

Language Editing Services

Your manuscript is precious - *invest in it!*

E.g.	- Edanz Editing (Japan)	\$ 20 p.p.
	Liwen Bianji Edanz (China)	
	- International Science Editing	15
	- Asia Science Editing	12
	- SPI Publisher Services	8
	- San Francisco Edit	29
	- Proof Reading Services	4
	- Elsevier	250 p.m.

San Francisco Edit

1. Plan before writing

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13. Leave it alone for a while

14. Edit, edit, edit



Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule Zürich
Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich

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Manuscript ready, but ...

Roel Prins



Download a handout and download/stream free online video courses on presenting talks, posters and writing articles*

www.CatalysisCourse.com

*also available on <https://ees.elsevier.com/jcat/>

Characterization of solid catalysts
1. Introduction
Prof. dr. J. W. (Hans) Niemansverdiel
TU/e

How does a catalytic reaction proceed?
 $A + B \rightarrow P$
separation
reaction
Answer: via a cycle of elementary reaction steps in which molecules react in a complex formed with sites on the catalyst, which are regenerated at the end of the cycle.

How often are techniques used

Technique	Frequency
IR	18.4
Adsorption	17.4
XPS	9.2
Scanning	8.2
TEM	4.3
SEM	4.2
EDS	3.8
Reaction	3.2
EDS	2.8
EDS	2.2
XANES	1.8
EDS	1.2
Microscopy	0.8
Calorimetry	0.8
UV / VIS	0.2
Reactive Scattering	0.2
SSA	0.2

Supercritical
Applied Catalysis A & B
Catalysis Letters
Journal of Catalysis
Jan 2002 and Oct 2006
Total Number of Articles
#112

length and time scales in catalytic processes
microscopic
mesoscopic
macroscopic