Guidelines for submitting a paper to EPJ D

Ethics before submission
EPJ D can only consider articles that have been approved by all co-authors, and that have not been published or are currently submitted for publication in any other journals or another EPJ section.

Authors list
- The list of co-authors should remain unchanged from submission to final decision. However it is acceptable to add to the list the names of new co-authors who contributed to the revisions. A mandatory written agreement is required from authors whose names have been deleted from the revised version.
- When submitting an article, it is very important to indicate, in full, both your first and last names in order to record all your articles and avoid errors.

Evaluation in the first instance
The editors in chief reserve the right to decide whether or not a new submission should be sent to the referees. They can also reject a manuscript which does not meet the publication criteria (poor quality of presentation, inappropriate subject matter or content errors). The paper should be:
- basically correct and sound;
- a significant advance, and not just a minor improvement on earlier work;
- accessible to the general readership of the journal.

The following questions will be addressed to referees:
- Does the paper contain enough new physics to warrant publication in EPJ D?
- Is the paper scientifically sound and not misleading?
- Is the paper clearly written, concise and understandable?
- Are the subject matter and style of presentation appropriate for EPJ D?
- Is the length appropriate?
- Should the English writing of the manuscript be improved?
- Is the impact of this paper likely to be high?

Theoretical papers
Theoretical papers should have some direct connection to experimental work and should either contribute to an explanation of available data or refer to new experiments.

The use of the English language
In the case where the use of the English language interferes with the comprehension of the content, we recommend that you have the manuscript proofread by an English speaker. EPJ D can only offer corrections services for accepted papers.

Highlighted papers
The Highlight procedure concerns papers of particular importance when identified by the editorial board. These papers are available free of charge on the EPJ web-site.
EPL transmission

Along the lines defined by the Co-operation by Mutual Transfer of Manuscripts, papers transferred from EPL to EPJ D will keep their original date of submission to EPL in EPJ D. Click here to see the agreement.

Peer review

- The editor usually collects two independent reports. However in the case of a clear cut final decision, the editor is allowed to reject or to accept the manuscript on the basis of a single report.
- In the case where the referees cannot agree, an independent expert is asked to act as an adjudicator for your paper.

Deadline for revision

Note that your revised version should be received within 2 months from the editorial decision and that resubmission after that date will be dealt with as a new manuscript. However, should the revisions require more time; it is possible to request an extended deadline from the editorial office.

Colloquia

Colloquia describe the development of new areas of research or the impact of new and promising experimental or theoretical methods in the fields that are within the spectrum of topics covered by the respective journals. While not as extensive and complete as reviews in the usual sense, they are intended to suitably introduce new research directions and techniques in their early stages of development, and to a wider audience. There is no explicit constraint regarding the length of such manuscripts, although 20 printed pages would be the most usual length. All invited/submitted manuscripts will undergo the same refereeing procedure as all other contributions submitted to the journal. For accepted colloquium papers, authors will receive an honorarium of EUR 400, – and colour figures will be free of charge.

Comments

EPJ D accepts comments on previous publications that may disagree with or bring new insight to published material. The authors are invited to reply to the comment, in which case, the editor may decide to consult an independent referee on both the comment and its related reply. After refereeing, both the comment and the authors’ reply may be published in the same issue. However, the editor reserves the right to publish only the comment. Please note that the editor will consider only one reply.

Withdrawal of a paper

Papers can be withdrawn from EPJ D after submission provided that they are accompanied by a letter of explanation giving the reasons of the withdrawal. After the withdrawal, the article file is closed immediately and the authors’ letter of explanation is sent to the referees. Please note it is against EPJ editorial policy and ethical standards in publishing to submit elsewhere a version of your paper which has been improved based on the recommendations of our referees.

Appeals

Appeal can be considered in the event of a disagreement with the final editorial decision provided that there are grounds for complaint. The editor reserves the right to accept or reject the appeal for consideration. Please note that EPJ D will consider only one appeal.