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Instructions for journal articles

First Author1, Second Author and Third Author

Summary

This article first describes the aims and scope of Rakenteiden Mekaniikka (Journal of Structural Mechanics) and then present the peer review and publication processes of the journal. The predefined layout styles for the users of the software Microsoft Word (or any comparable text editing software) are then described in short. The article begins with a summary which should be about one hundred words – the present one includes about 70 words.

Key words:instructions for authors, scope of the journal, peer review, publication, layout style, Rakenteiden Mekaniikka, Journal of Structural Mechanics

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Introduction

Since 1968, Journal of Structural Mechanics has published peer-reviewed scientific articles on theoretical, computational and experimental mechanics of solids and fluids as well as on the mathematics and applications related to these themes. The journal belongs to the DOAJ data base (Directory of Open Access Journals, <https://doaj.org/>) and has been indexed in Scopus (<https://scopus.com/>) since spring 2020.

Aims and scope

The scope of the journal includes theoretical, computational and experimental mechanics of solids and fluids and the mathematics related to these fields. Examples of possible topics are static and dynamic analysis of strength of structures, multibody dynamics, fluid mechanics, interaction of fluids and structures, design of structures and machines, structural optimization, functionality of structures in extreme conditions, smart machines and structures, vibration mechanics, contact mechanics, rotor dynamics, fracture mechanics and fatigue, thermo­mechanics, soil and rock mechanics, materials technology, new materials, optimal control of dynamic systems, FEM-computation, biomechanics, micromechanics, industrial and medical applications of mechanics, and teaching of mechanics and strength of materials.

Manuscripts should have either scientific or industrial relevance. In any case, manuscripts must provide new scientific knowledge. However, in engineering sciences the boarders between scientific research, industrial development and product design are, due to the nature of the field, often vacillating, but the main emphasis of manuscripts should be in scientific research.

Peer review and publication process

Manuscript should be submitted in the prescribed electronic form to the Editor-in-Chief, or to the Guest Editors in the case of a special issue. The recommended length of an article is 10–20 pages. One should use the latest template and class-file available on the website of the journal: <http://rakenteidenmekaniikka.journal.fi>. The present template is dated as November 15, 2021.

By submitting a manuscript to the journal, the author (or authors) permits the publication of the corresponding accepted article on the website of the journal under the CC BY 4.0 license. The details of the license type can be found on the webpage of the Creative Commons licenses: <http://creativecommons.org/>.

Manuscripts chosen for a review process undergo the so-called single blind peer review accomplished by at least two experts in addition to the Editor-in-Chief (or Guest Editor), performed in line with the quality and ethical criteria imposed by the scientific community. Besides, Journal of Structural Mechanics is committed to the Responsible Conduct of Research Guidelines published by the Finnish National Board on Research Integrity (TENK): <http://www.tenk.fi/sites/tenk.fi/files/HTK_ohje_2012.pdf>.

The journal takes issues of copyright violation, plagiarism or any other breaches of publication practices seriously. Submitted articles may be checked with a plagiarism prevention software. Submission to Journal of Structural Mechanics indicates that authors accept that their article, in case of acceptance for publication, will be published on the journal web page. Authors are not charged for manuscript submission, peer review or article publication.

Predefined layout styles

On the top of the first page of the manuscript, the name of the journal as well as the volume, year, issue number and the page numbers of the actual article are placed by using the style JournalHeader. The style ArticleTitle stands for the title of the article after which authors’ names are placed by using the style Authors. The style of the abstract is named as Summary. The word Summary should be written in front of the summary text by using the Lucida-Sans font as in the present template (with the font size 11 pt). The style of the key words is Keywords, followed by the actual keywords separated by commas (11 pt). (The dates of the review and publishing process following the style TimeFrame can be ignored at the stage of manuscript submission.)

After the key words, the body of the text begins. Section headings are written in boldface by using the style SectionTitle. After the section heading, the first tet paragraph should not be intended as defined by the style SectionText (with the font size 12 pt). The following paragraphs of the section should be intended by 6 mm according to the corresponding style SectionText2. Sections can be divided into subsections. The subsection headers are written in italic by using the style SubsectionTitle as detailed in Table 1.

The font of the text is Times New Roman, except in the title of the article and in the section and subsection headings using the font Lucida Sans.

In the title and section headings, capitals should be used minimally as in an ordinary sentence of a paragraph.

Mathematical formulae

Mathematical equations should be centered as in the corresponding style Equation, whereas the equation numbers should be placed in the right-hand side as in the following example equation (1):

 .

Matrices and vectors should be distinguished from scalars by boldface symbols. Another possible vector notation is to place an arrow (or a bar) above (or below) the symbol denoting a vector. Mathematical operators (such as cos) should be written in upright font.

Figures and tables

Figures

Figures should be clear and legible. In the online journal, color figures can be published, but the corresponding author of the manuscript should verify that the illustrations are comprehensible even when printed in black and white on paper. Figure captions are written below figures by using the style FigureCaption (11 pt) as in Figure 1. It is recommended to use short captions – and not to use captions for long explanations about the content of the figure.

Figure 1. A discrete spring-mass model.

When placing figures or tables in the text, excessive fragmentation of the page should be avoided. It is recommendable to place figures and tables either on the top or at the bottom of the page.

Tables

Table captions should be placed above tables with the style TableCaption (11 pt, including the text inside the table). In Table 1, the predefined styles of the journal are listed and detailed in short.

Table 1. Predefined layout styles of Journal of Structural Mechanics.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Style | Target | Characteristics |
| JournalHeader | bibliographic data | Font 12 pt, from the left |
| AricleTitle | article title | 16 pt, Lucida Sans |
| Authors | author names | 12 pt  |
| Summary | abstract | 11 pt, the word Summary in bold |
| Keywords | key words | 11 pt, the words *Key words* in italic. |
| SectionTitle | heading of the section | 12 pt, Lucida Sans, bold |
| SubsectionTitleSectionText | heading of the subsectionunintended section after the heading | 12 pt, Lucida Sans, italic12 pt, line space exactly 14 pt |
| SectionText2 | intended section | 12 pt, line space exactly 14 pt, 6 mm |
| Equation | equations | centered |
| FigureCaption | figure captions | 11 pt |
| TableCaption | table captions | 11 pt |
| References | references | numbered or using the Harward style |
| AuthorAffiliation | affiliation and addressof an author |  |
| AuthorAffiliation2 | another affiliation and address etc. |  |

In general, tables should be made clear and easy to read. The following simple rules should be remembered:

1. Do not use vertical rules.
2. Do not use double rules.
3. Place units in the column heading, not in the body of the table.
4. Always precede a decimal point by a digit; thus 0.1, not just .1.
5. Do not use ”ditto” signs or any other similar convention to repeat a previous value. In many circumstances, a blank will serve just as well.
6. Use capital letters for column titles but not throughout the table content.

After all, however, one should avoid bulleted lists such as the one above (from 1 to 6). A more concise version of the list is the following text form: (i) do not use vertical lines; (ii) do not use double lines; (iii) write units in the heading of each column, not within the tabulated material – and so on.

Citation styles

The list of references should be a numbered list either in an alphabetical order according to the family name of the first author or in the order the reference appearance. Book references should be written in the form of Ref. [3], whereas journal article references should follow the style of Ref. [1]. The web addresses of the references (such as the permanent addresses DOI or URN), if available, should follow the style of Refs. [1] and [2].

References

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