



Journal of Small Satellites (JoSS)

Guidelines for Authors

A JoSS Author's primary obligation is to accurately and concisely present original research and findings, including an objective discussion of the work's significance to the field of study. It is also the duty of the Author to provide accurate, complete cites to the sources referenced in the paper a) in sufficient detail to allow a reader to locate the source, and b) consistent with JoSS formatting instructions within the [Initial Submission Template](#).

Broadly stated, the inclusion of fraudulent or knowingly inaccurate statements in the submission constitutes unethical behavior, as does failure to give proper credit to sources. Upon discovery or complaint, these and other instances of unethical conduct will be addressed as described in the [JoSS Response to Discovery or Allegation of Unethical Publishing Conduct](#), which Authors are strongly urged to read and understand before submitting a manuscript.

Acknowledgement of Sources and Accuracy of References

Authors should ensure that they have properly acknowledged the work of others, and should also accurately cite publications that have been influential in determining the nature of the reported work. Information obtained privately (from conversation, correspondence or discussion with third parties) must not be used or reported without explicit, written permission from the source. Authors should not use information obtained in the course of providing confidential services, such as refereeing manuscripts or grant applications, unless they have obtained the explicit written permission of the author(s) of the work involved in these services.

The reference citations should contain sufficient detail to allow readers to locate the cited source, as detailed in the JoSS reference formatting instructions and examples in the [Initial Submission Template](#).

JoSS will not accept submissions unless the References section is formatted according to these instructions.

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Authors should ensure that they have written and submitted what can be considered original works, and if they have used the work and/or words of others, that this has been appropriately cited. Publications that have been influential in determining the nature of the work reported in the manuscript should also be cited. Plagiarism takes many forms, from "passing off" another's paper as the author's own, to copying or paraphrasing substantial parts of another's paper (without attribution), or to claiming results from research conducted by others.

Plagiarism in all its forms constitutes unethical publishing behavior and is unacceptable.

Authorship of the Manuscript

Only persons who meet the following authorship criteria should be listed as Authors in the manuscript, as they must each have the ability and responsibility to publicly defend the content: (i) they have made significant contributions to the conception, design, execution, data acquisition, or analysis/interpretation of the study; (ii) they have drafted at least portions of the manuscript or revised it critically for important intellectual content; and (iii) they have seen and approved the final version of the paper and agreed to its submission for publication.

All persons who made substantial contributions to the work reported in the manuscript (such as technical help, writing and editing assistance, general support) but who do not meet the criteria for authorship must not be listed as an Author, but should be acknowledged in the "Acknowledgements" section, perhaps as a "Contributor," after their written permission to be named as been obtained.

The Corresponding Author should ensure that all appropriate Co-Authors (according to the above definition) and no inappropriate Co-Authors are included in the Author list, and verify that all Co-Authors have seen and approved the final version of the manuscript and agreed to its submission for publication.

Multiple, Duplicate, Redundant or Concurrent Submissions/Publication

JoSS publishes original research papers, and requires the transfer of

copyright from author to JoSS with submissions, and permission from any publisher of limited text content, figures, tables, etc., if used in the submission.

Hence, papers describing essentially the same research should not be submitted for publication, or already published elsewhere, whether in a journal, a website, an archive, or any other place. This is generally regarded as unethical publishing behavior and unacceptable.

As a specific example, if a paper is "based on an earlier conference paper" published elsewhere (other than JoSS), and not different by at least 80% of the text, then the original publisher's permission to publish it in JoSS should be obtained in writing on our form (see section on Information for Authors on this web site for all instructions and forms, top menu bar), and the publication source should be cited in the JoSS-published article. A paper that has been previously published elsewhere should include only a limited percentage (no more than 20%) of the title and content of the previously published work when submitted to JoSS.

That being said, there are exceptions: The publication of some kinds of articles (such as clinical guidelines, translations) in more than one place is sometimes justifiable, provided that certain conditions are met. In such a case, the Authors and Editors of the journals concerned must agree to the secondary publication, which must reflect the same data and interpretation of the primary document. The primary reference must be cited in the secondary publication.

Data Access and Retention

Authors may be asked to provide the raw data of their study together with the manuscript for editorial review and should be prepared to make the data publicly available if practicable. In any event, Authors should ensure accessibility of such data to other competent professionals for at least ten years after publication (preferably via an institutional or subject-based data repository or other data center), provided that the confidentiality of the participants can be protected and legal rights concerning proprietary data do not preclude their release.

Disclosure and Conflicts of Interest

Authors should at the earliest stage possible (generally by submitting a

disclosure form at the time of submission and including a statement in the manuscript) disclose any conflicts of interest that might be construed to influence the results or their interpretation in the manuscript. Examples of potential conflicts of interest that should be disclosed include financial ones such as honoraria, educational grants or other funding, participation in speakers' bureaus, membership, employment, consultancies, stock ownership, or other equity interest, and paid expert testimony or patent-licensing arrangements, as well as non-financial ones such as personal or professional relationships, affiliations, knowledge or beliefs in the subject matter or materials discussed in the manuscript. All sources of financial support for the work should be disclosed (including the grant number or other reference ID, if any).

Peer Review

Authors are obliged to participate in the peer review process and cooperate fully by responding promptly to TAE or other Editors' requests (such as for raw data, clarifications, or copyright permissions). In the case of a preliminary publishing decision of "conditional acceptance," Authors should respond to the Reviewers' comments systematically, point by point, and in a timely manner, revising and returning their manuscript to the Journal by the deadline given.

Fundamental Errors in Published Works

If Authors discover significant errors or inaccuracies in their own published work, it is their obligation to promptly notify the Editors or Publisher and cooperate with them to either correct the paper in the form of an erratum or corrigendum, or to retract the paper. If the Editors or Publisher learn from a third party that a published work contains a significant error or inaccuracy, then it is the Authors' obligation after notification from JoSS to promptly correct or retract the paper or provide evidence to the Journal Editors of the correctness of the paper. Guidelines on retracting or correcting articles can be found at: <https://jossonline.com/correction-policy/>.