

Guidelines for Authors: Scope of Transactions on Maritime Science

The Journal is published in English as an open access journal, and as a classic paper journal (limited edition).

ToMS aims at presenting the best maritime research primarily, but not exclusively, from Southeast Europe, particularly the Mediterranean area. Prior to being accepted for publication, each article is reviewed by at least two reviewers. With the intention of providing an international perspective at least one of the reviewers will be from abroad. ToMS also promotes scientific collaboration with students and has a section entitled Students' ToMS. These articles also undergo strict peer reviews. Furthermore, the Journal publishes short reviews on significant papers, books and workshops in the fields of maritime science.

Our interest lies in general fields of maritime science (transport, engineering, maritime law, maritime economy) and the psychosocial and legal aspects of long-term work aboard.

1. GUIDELINES FOR AUTHORS: MANUSCRIPT PREPARATION AND SUBMISSION

1.1. Organization of the Manuscript

First (title) page

The first page should carry:

- (a) the paper title;
- (b) full names (first name, middle – name initials, if applicable), and last names of all authors;
- (c) names of the department(s) and institution(s) to which the work should be attributed. If authors belong to several different institutions, superscript digits should be used to relate the authors' names to respective institutions. Identical number(s) in superscripts should follow the

authors names and precede the institution names;

- (d) the name, mailing address and e-mail of the corresponding authors;

- (e) source(s) of research support in the form of financial support, grants, equipment or all of these.

Last page

The last page should carry:

- (a) ethical approval, if required;
- (b) authors' declarations on their contributions to the work described in the manuscript, their potential competing interests, and any other disclosures. Authors should disclose any commercial affiliations as well as consultancies, stock or equity interests, which could be considered a conflict of interest. The details of such disclosures will be kept confidential but ToMS urged the authors to make general statements in the Acknowledgment section of the manuscript.
- (c) a list of abbreviations used in the paper (if necessary);

Other pages

Each manuscript should follow this sequence:

- title page;
- abstract;
- text (Introduction, Methods, Results, Conclusions/Discussion);
- acknowledgments;
- references;
- tables (each table complete with title and footnotes on a separate page);
- figures and figure legends, and the last page.

1.2. Text Organization and Style

1.2.1. Abstract

The second page should contain the Abstract. ToMS requires that the authors prepare a structured abstract of not more than 250 words. The abstract should include (at least) four structures: Aims, Methods, Results, and Conclusion, not necessarily separated.

Aim. State explicitly and specifically the purpose of the study.

Methods. Concisely and systematically list the basic procedures, selection of study participants or laboratory/experimental/simulation setup, methods of observation (if applicable) and analysis.

Results. List your basic results without any introduction. Only essential statistical significances should be added in brackets. Draw no conclusions as yet: they belong into the next section.

Conclusion. List your conclusions in a short, clear and simple manner. State only those conclusions that stem directly from the results shown in the paper. Rather than summarizing the data, conclude from them.

1.2.2. Main text

Do not use any styles or formatting. All superscripts or subscripts, symbols and math relations should be written in MathType or Equation editor.

Introduction

The author should briefly introduce the problem, particularly emphasizing the level of knowledge about the problem at the beginning of the investigation. Continue logically, and end with a short description of the aim of the study, the hypothesis and specific protocol objectives. Finish the section stating in one sentence the main result of the study.

Results

Key rules for writing the Results section are:

- (a) the text should be understandable without referring to the respective tables and figures, and vice versa;
- (b) however, the text should not simply repeat the data contained in the tables and figures; and
- (c) the text and data in tables and figures should be related to the statements in the text by means of reference marks.

Thus, it is best to describe the main findings in the text, and refer the reader to the tables and figures, implying that details are shown there. The formulations such as “It is shown in Table 1 that the outcome of Group A was better than that of Group B” should be replaced by “The outcome of Group A was better than that of Group B (Table 1).”

The need for brevity should not clash with the requirement that all results should be clearly presented.

Discussion/Conclusions

The discussion section should include interpretation of study findings in the context of other studies reported in the literature.

This section has three main functions:

- (a) assessment of the results for their validity with respect to the hypothesis, relevance of methods, and significance of differences observed;
- (b) comparison with the other findings presented in the relevant literature; and
- (c) assessment of the outcome significance for the further research.

Do not recapitulate your results, discuss them!

1.2.3. Tables

Information on significance and other statistical data should preferably be given in the tables and figures. Tables should not contain only statistical test results. Statistical significances should be shown along with the data in the text, as well as in tables and figures.

Tables should bear Arabic numerals. Each table should be put on a separate page. Each table should be self-explanatory, with an adequate title (clearly suggesting the contents), and logical presentation of data. The title should preferably include the main results shown in the Table. Use tables in order to present the exact values of the data that cannot be summarized in a few sentences in the text.

Avoid repetitive words in the columns: these should be abbreviated, and their explanations given in the footnotes. Present the same data either in a table or a figure.

Each column heading for numerical given should include the unit of measurement applied to all the data under the heading.

Choose suitable SI units.

Place explanatory matter in footnotes, not in the heading. Explain in footnotes all nonstandard abbreviations that are used in each table.

1.2.4. Figures

Figures should be numbered in sequence with Arabic numerals. Legends to figures should be listed on a separate page, in consecutive order. The legend of a figure should contain the following information:

- (a) the word “Figure”, followed by its respective number;
- (b) figure title containing major finding (e.g. Manuscripts which follow Guidelines for Authors had higher acceptance

rate, and not Relationship with manuscripts style and their acceptance rate).

Use simple symbols, like closed and open circles, triangles and squares. Different types of connecting lines can be used. The meanings of symbols and lines should be defined in the legend. Each axis should be labelled with a description of the variable it represents.

Only the first letter of the first word should be capitalized. The labelling should be parallel with the respective axis. All units should be expressed in SI units and parenthesized. Make liberal use of scale markings, directed outwards.

Graphs, charts, titles, and legends in accepted manuscripts will be edited according to ToMS style and standards prior to publication.

Preferred format for graphs or charts is xls or xlsx. Graphs and charts saved as image (raster) files such as JPG, TIF, or GIF and imported or copied/pasted into Word or Power Point are not acceptable.

The resolution for photographic images should also be at least 300 dpi, and minimum image width should be 6 cm. Please submit files in RGB format. For published manuscripts, image files will be posted online in their original RGB format, maintaining the full colour of your original files. Note that we will still need to convert all RGB files to CMYK for printing on paper and colour shifts may occur in conversion. You will not receive a CMYK proof. You can view an approximation of print results by converting to CMYK in Photoshop or Illustrator.

1.2.5. Authorship Statement

All contributing authors must fill out and sign these statements and submit them to the Editorial Office. Accepted manuscripts will not be published until signed statements from all authors have been received.

1.2.6. Acknowledgements

Technical help, critical reviews of the manuscript and financial or other sponsorship may be acknowledged. Do not acknowledge paid services, e.g. professional translations into English.

1.2.7. References

References cited in the manuscript are listed in a separate section immediately following the text. The authors should verify all references.

Examples of citation in text:

It is well known fact (Strang and Nquyen, 1997; Antoniou, 2006) that FT is not appropriate tool for analyzing non-stationary signals since it loses information about time domain. First group of authors (Vetterli and Gall, 1989) proposed Multiresolution Signal Analysis (MRA) technique or pyramidal algorithm. Second

group (Crochiere et al., 1975; Crochiere and Sambur, 1977) proposed subband coding algorithm.

References are cited according to Harvard style. Examples (for reference section):

Penneç, E. and Mallat, S., (2005), Sparse Geometric Image Representations with Bandelets, IEEE Transactions on Image Processing, 14(4), pp. 423 – 438., <http://dx.doi.org/10.1109/TIP.2005.843753>

Donoho, D., Duncan, M. R., Huo, X. and Levi, O., (1999), Wavelab, available at: <http://www.stat.stanford.edu/~wavelab/>, (accessed 12 August 2011.)

Mallat, S., (2009), A Wavelet Tour of Signal Processing, 3rd Edition, New York : Academic Press.

Kingsbury, N.G. and Magarey, J.F.A. (1997), Wavelet Transforms in Image Processing Proc. First European Conference on Signal Analysis and Prediction, Prague, Czech Republic, June 24 – 27, Birkhäuser, pp. 23 – 24., available at: <http://www.sigproc.eng.cam.ac.uk/~ngk/publications/ngk97b.zip>, (accessed 12 August 2011.).

References are cited according to Harvard style. Examples:

Penneç, E. and Mallat, S., (2005), Sparse Geometric Image Representations with Bandelets, IEEE Transactions on Image Processing, 14(4), pp. 423 – 438., <http://dx.doi.org/10.1109/TIP.2005.843753>

Donoho, D., Duncan, M. R., Huo, X. and Levi, O., (1999), Wavelab, available at: <http://www.stat.stanford.edu/~wavelab/>, (accessed 12 August 2011.)

Mallat, S., (2009), A Wavelet Tour of Signal Processing, 3rd Edition, New York : Academic Press.

Kingsbury, N.G. and Magarey, J.F.A. (1997), Wavelet Transforms in Image Processing, Proc. First European Conference on Signal Analysis and Prediction, Prague, Czech Republic, June 24 – 27, Birkhäuser, pp. 23 – 24., available at: <http://www.sigproc.eng.cam.ac.uk/~ngk/publications/ngk97b.zip>, (accessed 18 August 2011.).

1.2.8. Language

Authors may use standard British or American spelling, but they must be consistent. The Editors retain the customary right to style and, if necessary, shorten texts accepted for publication. This does not mean that we prefer short articles – actually, we do not limit their size – but rather a resection of the obviously redundant material.

The past tense is recommended in the Results Section. Avoid using Latin terms; if necessary, they should be added in parentheses after the English terms. Real names rather than “levels” or “values” should refer to parameters with concrete units (e.g. concentration).

1.2.9. Abbreviations

Only standard abbreviations and symbols may be used without definition and may be used in the title or the page-heading title.

Non-standard abbreviations should not be used in the title or page-heading title. They must be explained in the text in the following way: the term should be written in full when it appears

in the text for the first time, followed by the abbreviation in parentheses; from then on, only abbreviation is used in the text. This applies separately on the Abstract and the rest of the text.

1.3. Submission of manuscripts

All manuscripts should be submitted to:

Editorial office

Transactions on Maritime Science,
Faculty of Maritime Studies,
Zrinsko-frankopanska 38,
21000 Split, Croatia
www.toms.com.hr
office@toms.com.hr

2. ETHICS POLICIES OF TOMS

Plagiarism is arguably the most complicated ethical issue. Our policies define plagiarism as “taking material from another’s work and submitting it as one’s own.” ToMS *holds authors — not the Publisher or its editors and reviewers — responsible* for ensuring that all the ideas and findings included in a manuscript are attributed to the proper source. We also refer to our role as steward of what constitutes ethical conduct. Ethical misconduct is the reason for our commitment to continue to strive to educate all the parties in the publishing process how to handle this matter.

As a member of Crossref, ToMS has a powerful weapon – iThenticate system, which is not perfect.

“Even if there were reliable and sensitive plagiarism-detection software, many issues would remain to be addressed. For example, how much copying is legitimate? Clearly, the reuse of large amounts of others’ text constitutes plagiarism. But what should one think about copying short passages from the author’s own earlier work, such as commonly occurs in the Methods section? In the *Nature* article it is suggested that some journals set a quantitative limit whereby the amount of text that can be reused is limited to about 30 percent. This may be utilitarian, but it seems curious and arbitrary that 25 percent of copied text might be deemed acceptable whereas 30 percent might not. Indeed, two authors who copied the same number of words could find themselves on opposite sides of that border if one author simply was more verbose and thus diluted their plagiarized content below the threshold! No, this is not a simple issue at all.” [cited from: <http://www.aspb.org/newsletter/ethicalstandards.cfm>]

2.1. Expectations for Publishing in ToMS

ToMS expects authors submitting to and publishing in its journals to adhere to ethical standards to ensure that the work they submit to or publish in the journals is free of scientific misconduct. Authors must:

- Take credit only for work that they have produced.
- Properly cite the work of others as well as their own related work.
- Submit only original work to the journals.
- Determine whether the disclosure of content requires the prior consent of other parties and, if so, obtain that consent prior to submission.
- Maintain access to original research results; primary data should remain in the laboratory and should be preserved for a minimum of five years or for as long as there may be reasonable need to refer to them.

All authors of articles submitted for publication assume full responsibility, within the limits of their professional competence, for the accuracy of their paper. Instances of possible scientific misconduct related to papers submitted to or published in the ToMS will be addressed by following the procedure outlined below.

2.2. Procedure for Addressing Allegations of Scientific Misconduct or Other Ethical Violations

Scientific misconduct in publishing includes but is not limited to:

- Fraud: fabricating a report of research or suppressing or altering data;
- Duplicate publication;
- Plagiarism and
- Self-plagiarism.

2.2.1. Procedure for handling allegations of misconduct

- A. All allegations of scientific misconduct or ethical violation will be referred to the editor for research integrity or to the editor-in-chief. All allegations should be made in writing.
- B. Editor for research integrity will report the case in the meeting of the Editorial board and recommend the actions in 30 days.
- C. Except redraw of the paper, punishment could be inclusion in the black list of the journal and prohibition of further publishing in ToMS.