

## International Union of Crystallography

### Short Structural Papers

For several years section B of *Acta Crystallographica* has been suffering from the related difficulties of increasing cost of production, increasing volume of material, and delays in publication. At and after the General Assembly at Stony Brook in 1969 the Commission on Journals has discussed a shorter format for structural papers, to be used when the structure exhibits no special difficulties or unusual features. No suggested format has been unreservedly acceptable to all members of the Commission, but it is now urgent that one should be adopted. The Editor of *Acta Crystallographica* has therefore decided to invite authors to submit papers in the short format described below whenever the subject of the paper is suitable. These short structural papers will be printed together under a special heading, and placed between the longer papers of section B and the Short Communications. Some examples appear on pp. 2878–2885 of this issue. Short Structural Papers will be given the same priority in publication that Short Communications receive.

A paper submitted for consideration as a Short Structural Paper must not exceed three printed pages of *Acta Crystallographica* (about eight pages of manuscript; text, figures and tables to be printed all being counted in this total), and must conform to the following schema:

The *Title* will consist of the name of the substance; a qualification such as 'New investigation of ...', 'New form of ...', '... from Minas Geraes' etc. may be added.

The *Abstract* will consist of the crystal system, space group, unit-cell dimensions with an indication of accuracy (normally the standard deviation in units of the last quoted decimal place enclosed in parentheses), formula, cell content, measured and calculated density, source of the material, and such other information, especially structural, as can be conveyed in approximately fifty further words.

The *Introduction* will mention the method of structure determination (if the method is novel and requires detailed description a short format should not be used), give the systematic absences (if any) and other space-group evidence explicitly, cite the number of reflexions measured (including the number of those measured as zero) and the number of those accessible in principle but not actually measured, and give at least the residual based on all measured reflexions (including those measured as zero); other residuals

may be given if the author desires. Environmental circumstances if relevant (unusual temperature or pressure; actual room temperature if the accuracy of the cell dimensions is high) should appear in the abstract.

The *atomic coordinates* should be presented in a table. An indication of accuracy (preferably the standard deviation in units of the last significant figure) should be given.

*Bond lengths* and *bond angles* may be indicated on a figure or (within the overall limit of length of a Short Structural Paper) in a table. If they are very numerous it may be preferable to place a table of them in a suitable depository, and mention only unusual ones (if any) in the Discussion.

The *Discussion* will contain such things as the reason for undertaking the structure determination, its chemical interest, and will comment on any unusual features of coordination, bonding, bond lengths and bond angles.

Any non-routine measurement of *Physical properties* (magnetic susceptibility, dielectric constant, elastic moduli) should be mentioned in the abstract, and the numerical values quoted there if possible. If the numerical values are too lengthy to be given in the abstract they should be given in a suitably headed paragraph in the paper, normally immediately preceding *Discussion*.

*Structure-factor tables* (observed and calculated) must be submitted in duplicate with the paper, but will not normally be published. After acceptance of the paper they will be deposited, along with any other extensive tables, in accordance with the Union's scheme (*Acta Cryst.* **A28**, 361; **B28**, 1975; *J. Appl. Cryst.* **5**, 310). They should, therefore, be clearly typed with a fresh ribbon (clear computer output, arranged in pages of the same size as the rest of the paper, is acceptable), and they must not be photographically reduced. For tables which are to be deposited, clarity of presentation is more important than extreme compression. If, for good reason, the tables are intended for publication with the paper, they should instead conform with the normal requirements (see *Notes for Authors*, § 5.2)\* of suitability for direct photographic reproduction with a density of at least 2000 per page.

The requirements regarding *Figures* and *References* are the same as in the case of ordinary articles. In particular, every Figure must be numbered and must be provided with a caption.

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\* To be published.