

# **Manuscript formatting and publication guidelines of the “Geosystems of Transition Zones” journal**

E-mail: [gtrz-journal@mail.ru](mailto:gtrz-journal@mail.ru)

## **The List of scientific specialties**

and corresponding scientific branches, by which the “Geosystems of Transition Zones” Journal is included in the List of peer-reviewed scientific journals, where the main research results of dissertations for degrees of Candidate and Doctor of Science should be published

Code	Name of scientific specialties group, name of scientific speciality	Name of scientific branches, in which the academic degree is awarded
<b>1.6</b>	<b>Earth Sciences</b>	
1.6.1	General and regional geology. Geotectonics and geodynamics	Geological and mineralogical
1.6.3	Petrology and volcanology	Geological and mineralogical
1.6.9	Geophysics	Geological and mineralogical Physical and mathematical
1.6.14	Geomorphology and palaeogeography	Geographical
1.6.17	Oceanology	Geographical Geological and mineralogical Physical and mathematical
1.6.20	Geoinformatics and cartography	Physical and mathematical
1.6.21	Geoecology	Geographical Geological and mineralogical
<b>1.1</b>	<b>Mechanics</b>	
1.1.8	Mechanics of deformable solids	Engineering Physical and mathematical
<b>1.5</b>	<b>Biology</b>	
1.5.15	Ecology	Biological

**Periodicity** is quarterly (March, June, September, and December).

The journal publishes:

- (in topical sections) original and review scientific articles, including discussion articles, brief scientific reports, catalogs, and databases (**peer reviewed**);
- letters to the Editorial Office, reports on conferences, seminars, and expeditions, and reviews of scientific publications (**not peer reviewed**).

Scientific articles and reports are assigned a CrossRef *DOI (Digital Object Identification)*.

The “Geosystems of Transition Zones” Journal DOI: [10.30730/gtrz](https://doi.org/10.30730/gtrz)

The manuscripts are submitted throughout the year via e-mail: [gtrz-journal@mail.ru](mailto:gtrz-journal@mail.ru).

The Editorial Board does not receive registered and insured letters and parcels.

The Editorial Board does not accept popular science materials for publication.

The Journal adheres to the policy of double-blind peer review (for more details on the review procedure, see the Journal website). Peer reviewers are well-known experts in the field, who have publications on the subject of the reviewed article and the necessary citation level.

*The choice of the reviewer* is the prerogative of the Editorial Board, but authors can indicate from four to six potential reviewers of their paper in the cover letter (from at least two different regions or different countries; experts in the field; no cooperation, including co-authorship over the past three years; non-members of the Editorial Board of the Journal). The authors have the right to indicate the names of those experts to whom, in their opinion, the manuscript should not be sent for review due to a potential conflict of interest. This information is strictly confidential and is taken into account when organizing the review, except the cases when the editor has more compelling reasons than the author.

If the article does not correspond to the scope of the journal, does not contain the subject of scientific research, does not meet ethical requirements, duplicates already published materials, is not logically structured, is difficult to read, etc., the editors may reject the manuscript prior to review.

The Editorial Board makes a decision on publication within three months from the date of receipt of the materials on the basis of at least two reviews. Reviews remain deposited in the Editorial Office for five years.

The article with copies of reviews and editorial notes is sent to the author. Returning a manuscript for revision does not mean its acceptance for publication. All further work on the article is carried out in the editorial file, in which the author finalizes the text and sends it along with a response letter. A response letter must be written in [the file with the review or editorial report](#). In this letter the author should:

- respond point-by-point to the peer-reviewer's comments;
- indicate exactly what corrections have been made in the article;
- write a convincing, polite objection if, in the opinion of the author, the reviewer is wrong;
- thank the reviewer for helpful comments and constructive criticism.

The Editorial Board decides whether the manuscript is suitable for publication or not on the basis of the reviews and the author's response.

The editor reads the article accepted for publication one more time and agrees with the author on the edits related to content. The file ready for layout should be carefully proofread, since only minor edits are allowed in the layout.

The article is included in the issue plan. The content of the issue is approved by the person responsible for the issue and / or the Editor-in-Chief, who retains the right to reject the article for compelling reasons (conflict of interest, insufficient level of research novelty, etc.). If the article is accepted for publication, the author is informed in which issue it will be published.

The authors bear responsibility for the content of the articles and the very fact of their publication, about what they sign the Author's Agreement.

The editors have the right to retract an already published article, if it turns out that someone's rights or common ethical standards have been infringed during the process of its publication. The fact of retraction is reported to the author, the experts who have given the recommendation or review, the affiliation where the work was carried out, and the scientific database in which the journal is indexed.

**Publication of the articles is free of charge for the authors.** After the publication of the issue, the Editorial Board sends to the authors bibliographic information about the published article and links to the websites where the electronic version is available.

Before or during the editorial work on the manuscript in the Editorial Office of the Journal, the author may post their paper as a **preprint** to the relevant website. This provides the opportunity for the author to instantly introduce the results of the research to the scientific community and receive feedback from colleagues **prior** to publication in the Journal. The preprint is assigned a DOI, and once published, the platform posts information about the published article.

To shorten the publication period, the author has the right to ask the Editorial Board to post the final version of the article (after editorial work) on the Journal website as **Online first** before the issue is completed. The most important advantage of such publication is the possibility of full citation of the article before the issue is published. The online first article receives its own unique DOI and other necessary details for bibliographic reference. Once the issue is completed and signed off for printing, the metadata and DOI of the article will remain unchanged.

## **Structure of the main file** (file is named after the first author: Edler.docx)

**Topical sections** from the list of specialties given above.

### **UDC index**

**Title.** 10–12 words. Concise and informative. Please, avoid general terms, scientific slang, and abbreviations where possible. All words of the title can be used in information-retrieval systems as keywords.

**Authors' full names** (the corresponding author is marked with an asterisk, and an e-mail is indicated).

**Affiliations.** Provide their names and locations (city, country).

**Abstract.** 200–300 words. The abstract should give an insight into the purpose of the research, its scientific novelty, and obtained results without reading the whole article.

For the scientists, the abstract is often the only information source of article content and stated research results.

The abstract should:

- describe the main objective(s) of the study;
- explain how the study was done without methodological details;
- summarize the most important results and their significance;
- not include citations and abbreviations, if possible.

Please avoid passive verbal forms (*In this study we tested*, not *It was tested in this study*. *We proved* sounds better than *It was proved by us*). Impersonal phrases such as *Was demonstrated*, *Was described* etc. seem to slightly shift personal responsibility.

**Keywords** (no more than 10, phrases of two words are acceptable) should reflect the subject of research, methods, object, and specifics of the article. Keywords are used for indexing and searching purposes. They are intended to facilitate finding the article in databases.

**Acknowledgements** and information on **funding** of the study (provide the information on grants, projects, scholarships, etc.).

**Text of the article** with inserted illustrations and tables in MS Word format of any version without using macros. Duplicate the in PDF format.

### **Reference list.**

**Information about all authors** (in the end of the article): full names, scientific degree, position, laboratory, department or division (provide full name or abbreviation of the affiliation), ORCID (Open Researcher and Contributor ID), as well as (if any) the ResearcherID (ID WoS) and Scopus ID for each author, postal address, and e-mail. All this information is mandatory.

For the article layout, see the file “Example of the article format” on the Journal website.

The followings are attached as **separate files**:

- 1) The Author’s Agreement (can be downloaded on the Journal website);
- 2) Graphic materials;
- 3) Permission to publish separate materials, if necessary (see the file *On the permissions to use the third-party material* on the Journal website).

**It is advisable to adhere to a clear structure according to the recommendations of EASE (European Association of Science Editors), for a better readability and citing of the article.**

### **Introduction**

Cover the following questions:

- Current views of the problem.
- What has been done previously (make a review of the literature; indicate original and essential studies, including the latest review articles)? Please avoid the referring to outdated results. Highlight unresolved issues within the general problem.
- What are your hypothesis and objectives (problem statement with the emphasis on novelty, please, state the aim of the article clearly)?

### **Materials and methods of the research**

- Describe the methods you used in the study of the stated problem.
- Do not describe but refer to the procedures and methods that have already been published.
- Specify the equipment applied and describe the materials used.

### **Research results or Experiment (research, simulation, etc.)**

- Systematic analytical and statistical data (emphasis on “systematic”).
- Tables, graphs, and text should not duplicate each other.
- Figures and tables must be comprehensible without reading the text. Tables should be concise, with all elements labeled.

### **Results discussion**

- It is advisable to compare the results with the previous studies in this field, both by the author and other researchers. The most obvious way to increase citing is to not only present own data, but also to compare them with worldwide or regional analogs. The model and conclusions should be universal in terms of being understood scientists outside your specialty.
- Do not ignore the studies with results that contradict yours, engage in a constructive discussion with them and convince the reader that you are right.
- To preempt possible comments of the peer-reviewers, discuss the limitations of the obtained results, what you were unable to do and why.

You may introduce topical subheadings, combine some sections (Introduction and methods, Results and discussions, Discussion and conclusions, etc.), if necessary.

**Findings and Conclusions** are not the same. But they are often combined under the *Conclusions* subheading.

*Findings* briefly state the main results preferably in phrases that differ from those expressed in the main part of the article.

**Important:** findings should precisely correlate with the aim, results of the study, and the abstract content.

#### *Conclusions*

- Provide answers to the questions of what new the article adds to the already published results and how it contributes to this field of knowledge.
- Suggest generalizations and recommendations arising from the study, emphasize their practical significance, determine the directions for further research in this field, and, preferably, forecast the development of the issues considered.

### **References**

The works of the last 5–10 years are required. Prioritize references to publications in journals and minimize references to monographs by regional publishers and inaccessible publications.

Self-citation level should not exceed 15 % of the total references.

## Data

If the factual data is extensive and has independent scientific value, it can be published as Data Paper. Such information can also be included as an appendix to the article in the electronic version of the Journal.

If the results of the experiment have not yet been comprehended at the generalization level appropriate for the article, but seem to be important for solving the scientific problem, prepare them in a form of a **brief report** (problem statement, experimental material, conclusions, short reference list).

## Main requirements to the article format

Sheet size	A4
Margins	1.5 cm on all sides
Fonts	Times New Roman – for text, Symbol – for Greek letters
Font size	12–13
Decimal separator	period, not comma
Line spacing	1,15–1,5
Text alignment	left
Automatic hyphenation	off

*All text elements* (including those in references), except for the cases conforming to generally accepted spelling rules, are typed in *lowercase letters* (not in uppercase!).

*Period is not put* after: UDC, title, addresses, headings and subheadings, table titles, units (s – second, g – gram, min – minute, h – hour, M – million, B – billion etc., but mo. – month, yr. – year), and in the subscripts ( $T_{\text{melt}}$  – melting temperature).

*Space* separates the initials from the last name (A.A. Ivanov); unit from the number: 100 kPa, 77 K, 50 %, 10 ‰, except for degrees: 90° (but 20 °C); sequence number of any caption: fig. 1, table 2; and latitudes and longitudes in geographical coordinates: 56.5° N; 85.0° E.

The dash, not the hyphen, is put between the numbers: 1984–1991, 6–8 m.

**Math formulae** formatted separately from the text and containing the symbols absent in Times New Roman should be fully typed in an editor compatible with the Microsoft Office.

*Formulae and symbols* that can be inserted in the text without using the special editor are typed in Latin and/or using the Insert – Symbol option. It is better to avoid symbols in the abstract, since the symbols are not always visible on the Internet.

Latin characters are typed in italics; Greek characters are in regular font.

**Tables** must be titled and have no empty cells. Dashes must be explained in the note. Use MS Word tools to create the tables (Insert – Table – Insert Table).

**Illustrative materials** are placed in the text of the article (by means of the option *Insert – Picture – Wrap – In Line with Text* (do not place them together with captions in the form of tables!). If the figure consists of independent parts, it is better to send each part as a separate file, so that the layout specialist can arrange them in the best possible way. To show the desired arrangement of the figures and their parts, make a layout and present it in PDF format.

For the layout of the article, figures are presented as separate files.

*Size of the figures and fonts* of their labels must be chosen taking into account the size of the page and the column. The width of a figure is not more than 170 mm in the book orientation and not more than 230 mm in the album orientation. Maps and schemes that do not fit into the standard A4 sheet can be posted online (attached to the article as additional files).

*Grid line thickness* in a figure is 0.15 mm; main lines are from 0.2 mm, but not more than 0.4 mm.

Figures should not be framed.

*All labels* in the figures should be in Arial font (regular) of 9–10 pts. Font size may be reduced to 8 pt for the secondary text. An alphabet numbering of parts of the figures is in Arial font (italics) of 10 pt.

The labels on the axes begin with a capital letter: Depth, m. Use a period in figures (as well as in the text) as a decimal separator, not a comma.

In the figure captions, there is a general title to the figure first, and then the explanation of its parts and the legend. Letters indicating the parts of the figure are put in parentheses: (a), (b), etc.

*Graphics* is presented in the editable formats of TIFF, CDR (CorelDraw) version 12.0 (2004) or X4(2008) (requirements for font, grid line thickness, and other illustration parameters, see above). Use the PostScript (.eps) format when exporting from other programs with the resolution of at least 300 dpi.

*Photos and scanned materials* are presented in TIFF and JPG formats (saving in JPG format must be done in maximum or high quality). *The resolution* of raster graphics must be at least 300 dpi. This also applies to vector images.

The size of each graphic file must not exceed 10 Mb.

References to all figures must be provided in the text.

**Quantities and units** must conform to the standard notations in accordance with the International System of Units (SI).

**Reference list** is placed after the main text of the article. It is compiled in the order in which the sources are mentioned in the text and numbered. References are given in the square brackets specifying the sequence number of the source in the list [2, 4–6].

Reference lists, taking into account the requirements of international citation systems, should be suitable for automatic processing in order to identify references. Therefore, bibliographic information should be cited exactly as it is given in the original publication.

All sources should be easily found with search engines (Google, Yandex, etc.).

All references to the sources provided in the list must be present in the text.

**The following is not included in the Reference list:**

- textbooks, manuals;
- articles from non-scientific journals;
- regulations and legislation;
- statistical compendiums and archives;
- electronic unpublished sources (online articles, newspaper and any other news sources, reports and various researches on websites, websites of institutions and organizations);
- dictionaries, encyclopedias, and other handbooks;
- reports, notes, and protocols.

The indicated sources are formed as in-text references in parentheses or as footnotes at the bottom of the page (their descriptions are compiled according to general rules).

**The rules of bibliographic description are the same for Russian and English sources.** The Journal follows the style of bibliographic description close to the style of APA (American Psychological Association).

Required elements:

*authors (editors),*

*year of publication* (in bold),

*full name of the book or article,*

*place of publication, publisher* (for books),

*full source name,*

*volume, issue* (in parentheses), *quantitative characteristics* (for books, the total number of pages; for an article or chapter, page range, for example: 5–10),

*the DOI* (<https://doi.org/>) (if any) or *the uniform resource identifier* URI (URL) and the date of access.

Authors up to ten are all listed.

Please provide complete titles of journals without abbreviations.

Title of the work when describing the mono edition and the source name in the analytical description are in italics.

## **Examples of bibliographical description in the list of references**

### **A monography**

1. Kocharyan G.G. **2016**. *Geomechanics of faults*. Moscow: GEOS, 424 p. (In Russ.). EDN: YVWLRV
2. Krammer K., Lange-Bertalot H. **1986**. *Bacillariophyceae*, 1. Teil: *Naviculaceae*. Jena: VEB Gustav Fischer Verlag, 876 S. (Ettl H., Gerloff J., Heynig H., Mollenhauer D. (Eds) Süßwasserflora von Mitteleuropa; 2). <https://doi.org/10.1002/iroh.19870720320>
3. Max M.D. (Ed.) **2000**. *Natural gas hydrate*. Dordrecht, Netherlands, Kluwer Acad. Publ., 410 p. (Oceanic and Permafrost Environments; 5). <https://doi.org/10.1007/978-94-011-4387-5>
4. *IPCC: Climate change 2013 – The physical science basis – Contribution of Working group I to the Fifth assessment report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change*. **2013**. Cambridge: Cambridge Univ. Press, 1535 p. URL: <https://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar5/wg1/> (accessed 13.11.2019).

### **An article (a report) in a periodical**

5. Pletchov P.Y., Gerya T.V. **1998**. Effect of H<sub>2</sub>O on plagioclase-melt equilibrium. *Experiment in Geosciences*, 7(2): 7–9. URL: [http://library.iem.ac.ru/exper/v7\\_2/khitar.html#pletchov](http://library.iem.ac.ru/exper/v7_2/khitar.html#pletchov) (accessed 14.11.2019).
6. Chen R., Shen J., Li C., Zhang E., Sun W., Ji M. **2015**. Mid- to late-Holocene East Asian summer monsoon variability recorded in lacustrine sediments from Jingpo Lake, Northeastern China. *Holocene*, 25: 454–468. (Online first 2014).
7. Elliott S., Maltrud M., Reagan M., Moridis G., Cameron-Smith P. **2011**. Marine methane cycle simulations for the period of early global warming. *J. of Geophysical Research: Biogeosciences*, 116(G1), G01010, 13 p. <https://doi.org/10.1029/2010jg001300>
8. Blunden J., Arndt D.S. (eds) **2017**. State of the Climate in 2016. *Bull. of the American Meteorological Society*, 98(8): Si–S277. <https://doi.org/10.1175/2017BAMSStateoftheClimate.1>
9. Shcherbakov V.D., Nekrylov N.A., Savostin G.G., Popov D.V., Dirksen O.V. **2018**. The composition of melt inclusions in phenocrysts in tephra of the Simushir Island, Central Kuriles. *Moscow University Geology Bull.*, 73(1): 31–42. <https://doi.org/10.3103/s014587521801009x>

10. Nikitenko O.A., Ershov V.V., Levin B.W. **2017**. The first identification of hydrogeochemical indicators of mud volcanic activity. *Doklady Earth Sciences*, 477: 1445–1448. <https://doi.org/10.1134/S1028334X17120170>
11. Kocharyan G.G., Kishkina S.B., Budkov A.M., Ivanchenko G.N. **2019**. On the genesis of the 2013 Bachat earthquake. *Geodynamics & Tectonophysics*, 10(3): 741–759. (In Russ.). <https://doi.org/10.5800/GT-2019-10-3-0439>
12. Girina O.A., Malik N.A., Kotenko L.V. **2008**. 2002–2007 activity of Chikurachki volcan (Paramushir Island, Northern Kuriles) based on KVERT data. *Vestnik KRAUNTS. Nauki o Zemle = Bull. of KRAESC. Earth Sciences*, 1(11): 67–73. (In Russ.). EDN: [LUKFGF](https://www.edn.ru/ukfgf/)
13. Gavrilov A.V., Romanovskii N.N., Hubberten H.-W. **2006**. [Paleogeographic scenario of the postglacial transgression on the Laptev Sea shelf]. *Kriosfera Zemli*, 10(1): 39–50. (In Russ.). – *The journal does not have an English-language name; name of the article is translated by the author, translation enclosed into the square brackets*

#### **An article in papers collection and conference proceedings, a chapter of monography**

14. Yin X.C., Chen X.Z., Song Z.-P., Yin C. **1995**. A new approach to earthquake prediction: The Load/Unload Response Ratio (LURR) theory. In: *Mechanics problems in geodynamics*, pt 1: 701–715. [https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-0348-9065-6\\_17](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-0348-9065-6_17)
15. Grebennikova T.A. **2011**. Diatom flora of lakes, ponds and streams of Kuril Islands. In: *Diatoms: Ecology and Life Cycle*. New York: Nova Publ., p. 93–124.
16. Hinrichs K.U., Boetius A. **2002**. The anaerobic oxidation of methane: new insights in microbial ecology and biogeochemistry. In: Wefer G., Billett D., Hebbeln D. et al. (Eds) *Ocean Margin Systems*. Berlin, Heidelberg, Springer, 457–477.
17. Sim L.A., Bogomolov L.M., Bryantseva G.V. **2016**. [On the possible border between the Amur and Okhotsk microplates on the Sakhalin]. In: *Tectonophysics and Actual Issues of Earth Sciences: Proceedings of the 4<sup>th</sup> Tectonophysical conference, October 3–7, 2016, Moscow*. Moscow: IPE RAS, vol. 1: 256–263. (In Russ.).
18. Torunbalchi N. **2004**. Seismic isolation and energy dissipating systems in earthquake resistant design. In: *13th World Conf. on Earthquake Engineering, Vancouver, B.C., Canada, August 1-6*. Paper No. 3273. URL: [https://www.iitk.ac.in/nicee/wcee/article/13\\_3273.pdf](https://www.iitk.ac.in/nicee/wcee/article/13_3273.pdf) (accessed 12.11.2010).

#### **Patent**

19. Isakevich V.V., Isakevich D.V., Grunskaya L.V., Firstov P.P. **2014**. *Signalizator izmeneniy glavnykh komponent = [Main component change detector]*: patent RU 141416. No. 2013147112; appl. 22.10.2013; publ. 10.06.2014, Bull. № 16. (In Russ.). OR: Patent RU 141416. *Signalizator izmeneniy glavnykh komponent = [Main component change detector]*. **2014**. By V.V. Isakevich, D.V. Isakevich, L.V. Grunskaya, P.P. Firstov. No. 2013147112; appl. 22.10.2013; publ. 10.06.2014, Bull. 16. (In Russ.).

#### **Dissertation extended abstract and dissertation (references to such sources should be minimized)**

20. Bondarenko V.I. **1990**. [*The structure of submarine calderas according to the data of seismoacoustic profiling (by the example of the Kuril island arc)*]: extended abstr. of diss. ... Cand. Sci. (Geol. and Miner.). Moscow, Geological Institute of the USSR Academy of Sciences. (In Russ.).
21. Semenov V.I. **2003**. [*Mathematical modeling of the plasma in the compact torus*]: extended abstr. of diss. ... Cand. Sci. (Phys. and Math.). MFTI = MIPT, Moscow.
22. Bowkett D. **2015**. *Investigating the ligandability of plant homeodomains*: PhD thesis. Oxford University.
23. Bulgakov R.F. **1994**. [*History of development of southern islands of the Great Kuril Ridge in the Pleistocene*]: thesis ... Cand. of Sci. (Geography). Moscow State University, Moscow. (In Russ.).

#### **Internet source**

24. Kondratyev V.B. **2011**. *The global pharmaceutical industry*. (In Russ.). URL: <http://perspektivy.info/rus/ekob/2011-07-18.html> (accessed 23.06.2013).
25. Shifman E.M. (: Ed.) **2005**. *Tekhnika spinal'noy anestezii* [Electronic source]. Moscow: IntelTek. 1 electronic optical disk (CD-ROM). (In Russ.).
26. *NGDC: Tsunami Data and Information*. URL: [https://www.ngdc.noaa.gov/hazard/tsu\\_db.shtml](https://www.ngdc.noaa.gov/hazard/tsu_db.shtml) (accessed 29.09.2019).

#### **Standards, instructions, etc.**

*ISO 690:2021 – Information and Documentation: Guidelines for bibliographic references and citations to information resources*. **2021**. 4th ed. Geneva: International Organization for Standardization. Retrieved 2021.08.12.