

RULES FOR THE PREPARATION OF OPINION ARTICLES

NORMAS PARA LA PREPARACIÓN DE ARTÍCULOS DE OPINIÓN

Information about the authors

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ABSTRACT

An abstract of the article must be submitted. It **should not exceed 150 words**, should be self-contained, and should **not require reference to the article** for comprehension. The abstract should present the objectives and scope of the study, or the motivation for writing the article; the methodology should be described only to the extent necessary for understanding; and the conclusions should be presented in a concise and informative manner. The abstract **should not contain undefined terms** or acronyms, references, equations, or lists.

KEYWORDS: **At least 4 keywords** that identify the article during a possible search in a file system must be presented.

RESUMEN

Following the English abstract, the same summary should be written in Spanish, without exceeding **150 word**.

PALABRAS CLAVE: **4 keywords** in Spanish that identify the article must be presented.

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

This document consists of a template with the format for submitting opinion articles.

Types of articles eligible for publication:

- Original research or studies.
- Case studies of new technology applications.
- Opinion pieces.

It is important to note that they must be familiar with the field of road infrastructure, transportation engineering, and related topics.

Title specifications:

- The title of the paper must be representative of the article's content.
- The **maximum length is 85 characters**.
- It must be submitted in **English and Spanish**.
- **Arial font, 14 pt**, all capital letters, and bold.

Research articles must include **introduction, objectives, methodology, development, analysis of results and conclusions**. If this does not apply, the author must specify the article type in an introduction.

Submissions must be written in English or Spanish using the MS Word® processor and using the International System (S.I.) of units.

Page Format

Letter-sized paper (21.59 cm x 27.94 cm), with all four margins equal to 2.5 centimeters.

Extension

The length of the article must be between 5 and 15 pages, including tables, figures, and references.

Text

Text specifications:

- Arial font, 11 pt.
- All the text should be justified.
- Single spacing (1.0 pt) between lines.
- After a title and between paragraphs leave a space (a single line).
- All titles must be written in Arial and aligned to the left.
- Articles should be formatted using a single-column layout.

Additionally, headings should be typeset according to the following styles:

FIRST-ORDER HEADINGS

(All caps, bold, on a separate line, 14pt)

Second-Order Headings

(Capital letters for each word, bold, on a separate line, 14pt)

Third-Order Headings

(Capital letters for each word, italic, on a separate line, 12pt)

Fourth-Order Heading

(Capital letters for each word, bold, on the same line as the text, 12pt)

Tables

Table titles must be left-aligned and placed above the corresponding table. Tables should be numbered consecutively according to their appearance in the text, using the following format: first, the word "Table", then the number and period (Arial, bold, 11 pt). Then, the description in normal text (Arial, 11 pt). When referencing them within the text, the first letter should be capitalized (Table 1). If the table is not your own work, the source should be indicated in parentheses.

Table 1. Table Example

Data 1	Data 2	Data 3
A	D	G
B	E	H
C	F	I

Figures

When articles are submitted for review, figures can be inserted into the text ("in line with

the text" format). If the article is accepted for publication, figures must be submitted as separate files, in image format (.JPG, .PNG) with a minimum resolution of 300 dpi and a size no smaller than 10 cm.

Figure titles must be centered below the figures. Figures must be numbered consecutively according to their appearance in the text, using the following format: first, the word "Figure", then the number and period (Arial, bold, 11 pt). Then, the description in normal text (Arial, 11 pt). Figures must be referenced within the text, with the first letter capitalized (Figure 1). If the figure is not original, the source must be indicated in parentheses.



Figure 1. Figure Example

Equations

To create equations, we recommend using the Equation Editor application included with the Microsoft Office® software package. Equations appearing in the text should be numbered consecutively, with their order numbers indicated to the right of the equation and in parentheses. All variables must be defined, either within the text or in a list displayed after the equation.

Example:

$$N_f = k_1 \left(\frac{1}{\varepsilon_t} \right)^{k_2} \quad (1)$$

Where

N_f = number of repetitions to failure

ε_t = applied strain

k_1, k_2 = regression coefficients obtained experimentally

INTRODUCTION

The introduction presents the topic and general aspects, and establishes the hypothesis or the main ideas for discussion.

DEVELOPMENT

All current data and theories that support the hypothesis are presented. A structured discussion of the elements is provided; however, the analysis of the hypothesis itself is avoided. This section serves to provide appropriate context for the discussion. It may include a limited number of figures, tables, and equations that aid in understanding the topic.

ANALYSIS

This section presents an in-depth analysis of the hypothesis based on the context provided in the previous section. Unlike a literature review, it does not merely present bibliographic findings; instead, it aims to initiate a conversation with the scientific community.

REFERENCES

References must be **included in the text**, indicating the author's last name (without initials) and the publication date in parentheses.

The complete list of references must appear at the end of the document, organized alphabetically by the last name of the first author and chronologically (with the most recent publication listed first, using the letters a, b, c, etc., next to the year if multiple works by the same author from the same year are cited, and these should also be properly referenced within the text). A 6-point line spacing should be used between each entry. The reference list format must comply with **APA guidelines**. The Digital Object Identifier (DOI) must be included for each publication that has one.

It is recommended to use up-to-date sources (no more than five years old), unless older sources are necessary to provide context to the topic. Sources from websites, newspapers, and non-scientific magazines should be avoided, although they may be used to support the background or context of the subject.

A minimum of 10 and a maximum of 15 bibliographic references must be included.