**ATS: instructions for authors and paper template**

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**Abstract**

The abstract must be no longer than 300 words and should present the overall objectives of the paper and the developed methodology. The main results of the research work and conclusions of the study should be presented concisely and informatively. The abstract should not contain unfamiliar terms that are not defined, undefined acronyms, reference citations, or displayed equations or lists.

*Keywords – Include up to six key words for indexing separated by a comma*

**1. Advances in Transportation Studies, an International Journal**

This document contains instructions for preparing papers (Manuscripts, Technical Notes or Reviews) to be submitted for the blind-review process for possible publication in Advances in Transportation Studies, an International Journal. The authors of papers are requested to follow carefully the instructions and formats alluded to in this document. Moreover, authors should use this template for composing their papers.

Advances in Transportation Studies (ATS) is a four-monthly refereed journal that includes full length papers, review articles, case studies on the most recent outcomes of advanced research in the field of Road and Highway Engineering, with a particular emphasis on the safety, effectiveness, efficiency and sustainability of transport. General topics within the journal's scope are: advanced and emerging vehicle and road network technologies; driver behavior; impact of human, environmental and vehicular factors on the design, operations and safety; road infrastructure; design standards and regulations; geometry and construction of facilities; implementation and evaluation of countermeasures; management for safety improvement; modelling and statistical analysis of accident data; policy, planning and decision-making in safety; impact of transportation on the environment; traffic control and traffic operations. ATS's focus makes the journal an essential reading for Transportation Scholars and Researchers, Transportation Facilities Engineers, Planners and Modellers. Moreover, special issues on particular topics, such as policy analysis, formulation and evaluation, interaction with the political and socio-economic environment, management and evaluation of transportation systems are published from time to time, in order to provide Administrators and Policy Analysts with a wide range of information.

Since 2003, 50 ordinary issues and 30 special issues have been published in ATS journal, based on the contributions of more than 1500 authors affiliated to universities, research centres, associations and organizations from more than 60 countries worldwide.

All submitted manuscripts are subject to an initial screening by the Editor and Associate Editors. If the submission is found suitable for consideration, then it will be subjected to peer review by independent, anonymous expert referees. The peer review is single blind (the identity of the reviewer is anonymous but the authors’ name(s) and affiliation(s) will be on the paper).

The average time for the results of the first step of the review process is between 4 and 6 weeks. The average publication time for accepted papers is 8 months from the submission of the original manuscript. No publication fees have to be paid for publishing in ATS ordinary issues.

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Submissions and reviews are managed directly by the Editor-in-Chief, Prof. Alessandro Calvi (**alessandro.calvi@uniroma3.it**).

Please take the time to read and follow the instructions for authors presented in this document as best as possible, in order to endure that your paper is in agreement with the journal’s requirements. Complete guidelines for preparing and submitting your manuscript to the journal are provided below. Authors should use this document as a template for composing their papers. Authors must sign the *Copyright Transfer Agreement* before the article can be published.

The language of the paper should be English, and the electronic manuscript should be in Word format only, formatted for direct printing. Authors whose mother tongue is not English should have their papers copyedited before submission. Submission of a manuscript implies that the submitted work has not been previously published or is under consideration for publication elsewhere; authors must have an approval for publication from the authority of the institution to which they belong, or from the institution for which the work was carried out. Figures and tables should be embedded in the text and not supplied separately.

A brief cover letter should be attached to the submitted manuscript, revealing the authors’ addresses, affiliations, positions and contacts (e-mail, fax number and telephone number).

**2. Length of the manuscript**

As a general guideline, papers should be limited to 7,500 words (maximum length) including the abstract, text, and references, or to 16 pages including figures and tables that should be embedded in the text as per the the template described in this guideline. An effort should be made to use the pages to the maximum extent, except for the first and last pages, and avoid large blank spaces. Prior to publication, proofs will be sent to the corresponding author. Minor revisions should be resubmitted within a very short period of time.

**3. Manuscript page setup**

This guide provides the main instructions for preparing papers to submit to ATS journal and could be used as a paper template. In fact, the published papers will have the same format as shown in this guide.

Use continuous *line numbering* in your manuscript.

*Margins*: 2.5 cm top; 1.6 cm left; 5.5 cm right; 8.2 cm down.

*Font (typeface)*: Times New Roman, 9 points for the abstract and the reference list; 10 points for the text of the paper. Do not use bold, italic, underlined words within the text (only for headings) and do not use footnotes.

*Numbering*: All pages must be numbered consecutively at the bottom (footer), using Times New Roman 10 pt font.

*Text*: Single-spaced. Use the spacing options 1.5 only after each heading.

*Paragraphs*: Indent first line 0.5 cm; do not use an extra line space between paragraphs. The text should be fully justified.

*Abbreviations*: All acronyms should be defined when they first appear in the text.

*3.1. Text headings*

All headings and subheadings should be flush with the left margin, with one line space above. Begin text on the following line. A maximum number of three levels of headings are recommended. Section headings should be left justified and numbered consecutively, starting with the Introduction.

Sub-section headings should be numbered 1.1., 1.2., etc, and left justified. The first level headings should be typed in bold lowercase letters, with only the first letter of the first word capitalized. The second level headings should be in italic with only the first letter of the first word capitalized. The third level headings should only have the first letter of the first word capitalized.

Examples:

**1. First level text headings**

*1.1. Second level text headings*

1.1.1. Third level text headings

*3.2. Bulleted and numbered lists*

Indent first line 1.0 cm; do not indent text run overs.

**4. Figure and tables**

Figures must be original, computer-generated or drafted, and placed on a numbered page, preferably within the text area where they are discussed. Figures and photographs can be in color but the Journal does not print in color. If your figures are in color, make sure they are legible when printed as black and white. Do not refer to the colors in a figure in the text.

Figures and Tables should be numbered consecutively (Fig. 1, Fig. 2, Fig. 3, etc., or Tab. 1, Tab. 2, Tab. 3, etc.) and pasted directly onto the page. Figures and text may appear on the same page, and a centered caption should appear directly beneath the figure using Times New Roman 9 points. It is preferable that figures are mounted in portrait style and figure captions are no longer than two lines. On figures showing graphs, both axes must be clearly labeled (including units, if applicable). If a figure or photograph has been previously published, it will be necessary for the author to obtain written approval from the original publisher for reprinting.

Tables should be centered and numbered consecutively with a title centered at the top. If possible, the text of tables should be in Times New Roman 9 pt font. Use horizontal and vertical lines only if they are strongly needed. Figure captions and table titles should be written in Times New Roman 9 pt font. Within the text, when a specific table or figure is mentioned, the first letter of the word “Table” or “Figure” should be capitalized (for example “as can be seen in Figure 3”, “the results depicted in Table 2”).

One blank line should be left between the main text and the Figure (or Table caption) and one blank line should also be left between the Figure and the Figure caption, as well as between the Table caption and the Table. Please leave also one blank line between the Figure caption and the main text, and between the Table and the main text.

**5. Equations**

Mathematical equations should be numbered using Arabic numerals enclosed in parentheses at the right-hand margin. They should be cited in the text as Equation (1), or Equations (2-4). All variables should be defined when first used. Equations should be separated from the surrounding text by means of a single space.

**6. Conclusions**

Conclusions must be clearly stated in a separate section at the end of the paper. Acknowledgements, if any, should follow the conclusions as a separate section. All manuscripts should be carefully checked before forwarding. Manuscripts that do not follow these guidelines risk being returned to the authors for revision.

**References**

References should appear in the reference list at the end of the paper, listed alphabetically according to the last name of the first author. If two or more references are for the same author, the earliest dated work should appear first. References in the text should be noted in the appropriate place with an Arabic numeral in squared parentheses, e.g. [2] or [3, 7], or [9-11]. In the text, tables, or legends, the author(s) followed by the corresponding number in the reference list (e.g. Benedetto [5], or Benedetto and Calvi [8], or Benedetto et al. [10]) should be incorporated. Do not denote references using superscripts. If a reference is cited more than once in the text, repeat the number that was first assigned to the reference. All listed references should be cited in the text and vice versa. Authors are responsible for the accuracy and completeness of the references and for the correct text citation. Assemble the references at the end of the text following acknowledgments, if any. Please use the Times New Roman 9 pt font for the text in the reference list.

Finally, citing *Advances in Transportation Studies* papers raises the visibility of the journal, which enhances the prestige of the journal and of the papers published. ATS hopes that authors will cite ATS papers in preparing their own papers to be considered for publication in the ATS journal (www.atsinternationaljournal.com)

Examples of reference citations are shown below:

1. Surname A, N. (2012). Title of paper. *Title of context,* http://www.....html.
2. Organization (2012). Title of paper, *Report of organization*, Italy.
3. Surname A, N., Surname B, N.M., Surname C, N.M. (2012). Title of paper. *Proceedings of Conference…*, Rome, Italy.
4. Surname A, N., Surname B, N., Surname C, N., SurnameD, N. (2012). Title of paper. *Name of Journal*, n., pp. xx-yy.
5. Surname A, N., Surname B, N., Surname C, N. *Title of paper*. Name of Report, Name of Editor, Name of Organization, month 2012.
6. Surname A, N., Surname B, N., Surname C, N. (2012). *Title of paper/contribution*. Name of book, Editors.
7. Calvi, A., D’Amico, F. (2013). A study of the effects of road tunnel on driver behavior and road safety using driving simulator. *Advances in Transportation Studies, an International Journal*, 30, pp. 59-76.

Thank you very much for your collaboration.

Alessandro Calvi

*Editor-in-Chief*

