

GUIDANCE FOR AUTHORS

Selection criteria

The criteria for selection for both theme issues and their constituent articles are scientific excellence, originality and interest across the physical sciences / life sciences interface. The Editor is responsible for all editorial decisions, in part based on the reports received from the referees. Many more good proposals and articles are submitted to us than we have space to print; we give preference to those that are of broad interest and of high scientific quality.

Publishing format

Along with all Royal Society journals, we are committed to archiving and providing perpetual access. The journal also offers the facility for including Electronic Supplementary Material to papers free of charge.

Conditions of publication

Articles must not have been published previously, nor be under consideration for publication elsewhere. The main findings of the article should not have been reported in the mass media. Like many journals, *Interface Focus* employs a strict embargo policy where the reporting of a scientific article by the media is embargoed until a specific time. The Editor has final authority in all matters relating to publication.

Electronic Submission details

The majority of *Interface Focus* issues are commissioned. However, suggestions for themes are welcome and initial proposals should be addressed to tim.holt@royalsociety.org. For full submission guidelines and access to all journal content please visit the *J. R. Soc. Interface* website at rsif.royalsocietypublishing.org.

Articles

Articles are contributions up to 8000 words containing original scientific research.

Reports

Reports are short, letter-style contributions (up to 2500 words), which are published rapidly. Preliminary and more speculative work of high quality is strongly encouraged.

Reviews

Reviews are articles of the highest quality and aim to be of interest to communities working at the physical sciences / life sciences interface. Reviews cover the latest developments in an area of cross-disciplinary research. They put such research into a broader context and are written in a style that makes them accessible to readers in a wide range of disciplines. Complete literature surveys are not encouraged.

Topics

Interface welcomes articles on a diverse range of topics including, but not limited to

- biocomplexity
- biocomputation
- bioengineering
- bioinformatics
- biomaterials
- biomechanics
- bionanoscience
- biophysics
- chemical biology
- medical physics
- synthetic biology
- systems biology
- theoretical biology
- tissue engineering

The Royal Society is an independent scientific academy founded in 1660 and self-governing under Royal Charter. The Society has three roles, as the scientific academy of the United Kingdom, as a learned society, and as a funding body.

Objectives of The Royal Society are to

- recognise excellence in science
- support leading-edge scientific research and its applications
- stimulate international interaction
- further the role of science, engineering and technology in society
- promote the public's understanding of science
- provide independent authoritative advice on matters relating to science, engineering and technology
- encourage research into the history of science

For further information on the Society's activities, please contact the following departments on the extensions listed by dialling +44 (0)20 7839 5561, or visit the Society's Web site (www.royalsociety.org).

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General enquiries: 2572

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Library/archive enquiries: 2606

Cover image: Two interacting proteins represented by subsets of the Mandelbrot set, an example of the use of substitution in modelling of complex biological systems. (See pages 451–466; image copyright © 2009 Peter J Bentley.)