

# *ISIJ International*

## Instructions to Authors

*ISIJ International* is a monthly publication of the Iron and Steel Institute of Japan (ISIJ). Timely and original contributions are welcome from both ISIJ members and non-members from around the world.

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### **Aims and Scope**

*ISIJ International* is a peer-reviewed open access journal dedicated to the publication of research addressing fundamental and technological aspects of iron, steel and related engineering materials. Articles describe the properties, structure, characterization and modelling, processing, fabrication of iron and steel, as well as report on associated environmental issues.

The following aspects of the science and engineering of iron and steel are of particular interest:

- Fundamentals of High Temperature Processes
- Ironmaking
- Steelmaking
- Casting and Solidification
- Instrumentation, Control, and System Engineering
- Chemical and Physical Analysis
- Forming Processes and Thermomechanical Treatment
- Welding and Joining
- Surface Treatment and Corrosion
- Transformations and Microstructures
- Mechanical Properties
- Physical Properties
- New Materials and Processes
- Social and Environmental Engineering

Topical special issues are published each year for the benefit of the journal's broad international audience.

## Manuscript Types

The journal publishes Regular Articles, Review Articles and Notes, all of which are subject to peer review. Note that once a manuscript has been submitted, the article type cannot be changed. The initial submission must be withdrawn and resubmitted as a new article type.

### Regular Articles

Regular Articles document original and significant results that contribute to the extension of knowledge and promotion of our understanding of iron and steel. Regular Articles must be 10 printed pages or less (approximately 10,000 words, including tables, figures and other sections). They must be presented in such a way that qualified workers can replicate the key elements on the basis of the information provided.

### Review Articles

Review Articles are extensive surveys on a specific subject in which previously published information is compiled, analyzed, and discussed. Reviews are usually invited by the Editorial Board, but authors may also submit them voluntarily.

### Notes

Notes (short communications) are a maximum of 3 printed pages (approximately 3,000 words, including tables, figures and other sections) and can take various forms. They may describe:

- (a) new findings or interesting aspects of ongoing studies that merit prompt preliminary publication in condensed form;
- (b) new research and techniques;
- (c) opinions or perspectives about topics of interest to readers; or
- (d) criticisms or additional proofs and interpretations in connection with articles previously published in the journal.

## Journal & Ethics Policies

*ISIJ International* welcomes manuscript submissions from authors based anywhere in the world. The journal upholds the highest standards in scholarly publishing.

Before submitting a manuscript to the journal, authors must ensure that they have read and complied with the journal's policies.

Submission to the journal implies that the manuscript has not been previously published (in part or in whole, in any language), is not in press, and is not under consideration for publication elsewhere. Authors must inform the editors if any related manuscripts are under consideration, in press or published elsewhere.

Submission of a manuscript to the journal implies that all authors: have approved it, warrant it is factual, have agreed to its submission, and have the right to publish it.

In addition, all submitted manuscripts must be accompanied by signed statements from each author affirming that the manuscript is unpublished, is not under consideration elsewhere, and was written by the authors. Authors must also affirm that they agree to the submission of the manuscript to *ISIJ International*, and that they agree to the policies and procedures laid out in this Instructions to Authors, including the copyright regulations and page charges.

If authors choose to submit their manuscript elsewhere before a final decision has been made on its suitability for publication in the journal, they must first withdraw it from the journal. The journal reserves the right to reject without review, or retract, any manuscript that the Editor believes may not comply with the journal's policies.

### **Originality**

Submissions to the journal must be original works. The journal may use Crossref's 'Similarity Check' plagiarism service to screen manuscripts for unoriginal content. By submitting a manuscript to the journal, authors agree to this screening. Any manuscript with an unacceptable level of unoriginal material may be rejected or retracted at the editors' discretion.

### **Authorship**

Submission to the journal implies that all authors have seen and approved the author list. Changes to the author list after manuscript submission – such as the insertion or removal of author names, or a rearrangement of author order – must be approved by all authors and the editor.

Authors are encouraged to consider the Council of Science Editors (CSE) [principles governing authorship](#). According to the CSE guidelines (and references therein), each author is expected have made substantial contributions to the conception or design of the work; or the acquisition, analysis or interpretation of data; or have drafted the work or substantively revised it. Authors have also agreed to be held accountable for their own contributions to the work; can identify which co-authors are responsible for other parts of the work; have confidence in the integrity of the work; and have reviewed and approved the final manuscript and any resubmissions. Contributors who do not qualify for authorship may be included in the Acknowledgements section instead.

### **Image integrity**

Authors may digitally manipulate or process images, but only if the adjustments are kept to a minimum, are applied to the entire image, meet community standards, and are clearly described in the manuscript. All images in a manuscript must accurately reflect the original data on which they are based. Authors must not move, remove, add or enhance individual parts of an image. The editors reserve the right to request original, unprocessed images from the authors. Failure to provide requested images may result in a manuscript being rejected or retracted.

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Copies of all reproduction permissions must be included with the manuscript when it is first submitted.

### **Availability of data and materials**

Authors must disclose the source of publicly available data and materials, such as public repositories or commercial manufacturers, by including accession numbers or company details in their manuscript, as appropriate.

Authors may make their own data and materials available by linking via DOI from their manuscript to relevant community-recognized public databases or digital repositories. All data sets must be made available in full to the editors and reviewers during the peer review process, and should be made publicly available by the date of publication. Authors commit to preserving their data sets for at least three years from the date of publication in the journal.

The journal encourages authors to grant reasonable requests from colleagues to share any data, materials and experimental protocols described in their manuscript.

### **Animal/human experimentation**

Authors of manuscripts describing experiments involving humans or materials derived from humans must demonstrate that the work was carried out in accordance with the principles embodied in the Declaration of Helsinki, its revisions, and any guidelines approved by the authors' institutions. Where relevant, the authors must include a statement in their manuscript that describes the procedures for obtaining informed consent from participants regarding participation in the research and publication of the research.

Authors of manuscripts describing experiments involving animals or materials derived from animals must demonstrate that the work was carried out in accordance with the guidelines approved by the authors' institution(s).

### **Author competing interests and conflicts of interest**

In the interests of transparency, the journal requires all authors to declare any competing or conflicts of interest in relation to their submitted manuscript. A conflict of interest exists when there are actual, perceived or potential circumstances that could influence an author's ability to conduct or report research impartially. Potential conflicts include (but are not limited to) competing commercial or financial interests, commercial affiliations, consulting roles, or ownership of stock or equity.

Authors should list funding sources for their work in the Acknowledgements section of their manuscript.

### **Confidentiality**

The journal maintains the confidentiality of all unpublished manuscripts. By submitting their manuscript to the journal, the authors warrant that they will keep all correspondence about their manuscript (from the Editorial Office, editors and reviewers) strictly confidential.

### **Self-archiving (Green Open Access) policy**

Self-archiving, also known as Green Open Access, enables authors to deposit a copy of their manuscript in an online repository. The journal encourages authors of original research manuscripts to upload their article to an institutional or public repository immediately after publication in the journal.

## **Long-term digital archiving**

J-STAGE preserves its full digital library, including *ISIJ International*, with Portico in a dark archive (see <https://www.portico.org/publishers/jstage/>). In the event that the material becomes unavailable at J-STAGE, it will be released and made available by Portico.

## **Received and accepted dates**

The date when the manuscript is submitted via ScholarOne and assigned an ID is the ‘received date’. The date when the Editorial Board of *ISIJ International* decides to accept the manuscript for publication is the ‘accepted date’.

## **Peer Review Process**

### **Editorial and peer review process**

The journal uses single-blind peer review. When a manuscript is submitted to the journal, it is assigned to the Editor-in-Chief, who performs initial screening. Manuscripts that do not fit the journal’s scope or are not deemed suitable for publication are rejected without review. The remaining manuscripts are assigned to an Associate Editor who assigns two reviewers to assess each manuscript. Reviewers are selected based on their expertise, reputation and previous experience as peer reviewers.

Upon receipt of the two reviewers’ reports, the Associate Editor makes the first decision on the manuscript. If a manuscript is deemed to have a good probability of acceptance after minor or major revision, the Associate Editor may ask the authors to revise it accordingly. Otherwise, it may be rejected.

If the decision is to request revision of the manuscript, authors are requested to return revisions within 3 weeks. After 3 months, revised manuscripts may be treated as new submissions. The Associate Editor may send revised manuscripts to peer reviewers for their feedback or may use his or her own judgement to assess how closely the authors have followed the Associate Editor’s and the reviewers’ comments on the original manuscript.

The Associate Editor then makes a recommendation to the Editor-in-Chief on the manuscript’s suitability for publication. The Editor-in-Chief is responsible for making the final decision on each manuscript.

The members of the Editorial Board act in advisory roles, providing feedback as reviewers and making suggestions to improve the journal. In cases where the Editor-in-Chief is an author on a manuscript submitted to the journal, a member of the Editorial Board is responsible for making the final decision on the manuscript’s suitability for publication in the journal.

### **Reviewer selection, timing and suggestions**

Reviewers are selected without regard to geography and need not belong to the journal’s Editorial Board. Reviewers are selected based on their expertise in the field, reputation, recommendation by others, and/or previous experience as peer reviewers for the journal.

Reviewers are invited within approximately 1 week of an article being submitted. Reviewers are asked to submit their first review within 3 weeks of accepting the invitation to review. Reviewers who anticipate any delays should inform the Editorial Office as soon as possible.

When submitting a manuscript to the journal, authors may suggest reviewers that they would like included in or excluded from the peer review process. The Editor may consider these suggestions but is under no obligation to follow them. The selection, invitation and assignment of peer reviewers is at the Editor's sole discretion.

### **Reviewer reports**

It is the journal's policy to transmit reviewers' comments to the authors in their original form. However, the journal reserves the right to edit reviewers' comments, without consulting the reviewers, if they contain offensive language, confidential information or recommendations for publication.

### **Acceptance criteria**

It is the responsibility of the *ISIJ International* Editor-in-Chief to maintain and develop the journal's profile and reputation. The Editor-in-Chief has the final responsibility for ensuring that journal content meets the Aims and Scope: articles must present research on iron, steel, or related engineering materials. The presented research must be original, logical, and of scientific and technological merit. The following acceptance criteria underpin the decision on each submission.

To be accepted for publication in the journal, a manuscript must meet several, if not all, of these acceptance criteria:

1. The manuscript provides an original insight into an important issue within the field of iron and steel research.
2. The new insight is a valuable scientific or technological contribution to the field.
3. The new insight is used by the author(s) to contribute to the development of application technologies or fundamental theories.
4. The methods used to produce the new insight are appropriate and described in a way that is understandable across disciplines.
5. The ways in which the data and methods answer the research questions and support the conclusions are explained logically and clearly, and the methods are applied rigorously.
6. The author(s) make clear connections to prior works in the field or from other fields, highlighting the novelty to iron and steel research.

### **Editorial independence**

As the journal owner, the Iron and Steel Institute of Japan (ISIJ) has granted the journal's Editorial Board complete and sole responsibility for all editorial decisions. The ISIJ will not become involved in editorial decisions, except in cases of a fundamental breakdown of process.

Editorial decisions are based only on a manuscript's scientific or technical merit and are kept completely separate from the journal's other interests.

### **Appeals**

Authors who believe that an editorial decision has been made in error may lodge an appeal with the Editorial Office. Appeals are only considered if the authors provide detailed evidence

of a misunderstanding or mistake by a reviewer or editor. Appeals are considered carefully by the Editor-in-Chief, whose decision is final. The guidelines of the [Committee on Publication Ethics](#) (COPE) are followed where and when relevant.

### **Confidentiality in peer review**

The journal maintains the confidentiality of all unpublished manuscripts. Editors will not:

- disclose a reviewer's identity unless the reviewer makes a reasonable request for such disclosure
- discuss the manuscript or its contents with anyone not directly involved with the manuscript or its peer review
- use any data or information from the manuscript in their own work or publications
- use information obtained from the peer review process to provide an advantage to themselves or anyone else, or to disadvantage any individual or organization.

### **Conflicts of interest in peer review**

A conflict of interest exists when there are actual, perceived or potential circumstances that could influence an editor's ability to act impartially when assessing a manuscript. Such circumstances might include having a personal or professional relationship with an author, working on the same topic or in direct competition with an author, or having a financial stake in the work or its publication.

Members of the journal's Editorial Board undertake to declare any conflicts of interest when handling manuscripts. An editor who declares a conflict of interest is unassigned from the relevant manuscript and is replaced by a new editor.

### **Errata and retractions**

The journal recognizes the importance of maintaining the integrity of published literature.

A published article that contains an error may be corrected through the publication of an Erratum. Errata describe errors that significantly affect the scientific integrity of a publication, the reputation of the authors, or the journal itself. Authors who wish to correct a published article should contact the editor who handled their manuscript or the Editorial Office with full details of the error(s) and their requested changes. In cases where co-authors disagree over a correction, the Editor-in-Chief may consult the Editorial Board or external peer reviewers for advice. If a Correction is published, any dissenting authors will be noted in the text.

A published article that contains invalid or unreliable results or conclusions, has been published elsewhere, or has infringed codes of conduct (covering research or publication ethics) may be retracted. Individuals who believe that a published article should be retracted are encouraged to contact the journal's Editorial Office with full details of their concerns. The Editor-in-Chief will investigate further and contact the authors of the published article for their response. In cases where co-authors disagree over a retraction, the Editor-in-Chief may consult the Editorial Board or external peer reviewers for advice. If a Retraction is published, any dissenting authors will be noted in the text.

The decision to publish Errata or Retractions is made at the sole discretion of the Editor-in-Chief.

## **Editors as authors in the journal**

Any member of the journal's Editorial Board, including the Editor-in-Chief who is an author on a submitted manuscript is excluded from the peer review process. Within the journal's online manuscript submission and tracking system, they will be able to see their manuscript as an author but not as an editor, thereby maintaining the confidentiality of peer review.

A manuscript authored by an editor of *ISIJ International* is subject to the same high standards of peer review and editorial decision making as any manuscript considered by the journal.

## **Responding to potential ethical breaches**

The journal will respond to allegations of ethical breaches by following its own policies and, where possible, the guidelines of [COPE](#).

## **Reviewer confidentiality**

As part of their responsibilities, reviewers agree to maintain the confidentiality of unpublished manuscripts at all times. By accepting the invitation to review a manuscript, reviewers agree not to:

- disclose their role in reviewing the manuscript
- reveal their identity to any of the authors of the manuscript
- discuss the manuscript or its contents with anyone not directly involved in the review process
- involve anyone else in the review (for example, a post-doc or PhD student) without first requesting permission from the Editor
- use any data or information from the manuscript in their own work or publications
- use information obtained from the peer review process to provide an advantage to themselves or anyone else, or to disadvantage any individual or organization.

## **Reviewer conflicts of interest**

A conflict of interest exists when there are actual, perceived or potential circumstances that could influence a reviewer's ability to assess a manuscript impartially. Such circumstances might include having a personal or professional relationship with an author, working on the same topic or in direct competition with an author, having a financial stake in the work or its publication, or having seen previous versions of the manuscript.

Editors try to avoid conflicts of interest when inviting reviewers, but it is not always possible to identify potential bias. Reviewers are asked to declare any conflicts of interest to the Editor, who will determine the best course of action. The reviewer invitation letters to ensure that this promise is actually undertaken by the journal.

## **Copyright, Open Access and Fees**

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### **Article Processing Charges and other fees**

There are many costs associated with publishing scholarly journals, such as those of managing peer review, copy editing, typesetting and online hosting. To cover these costs in the absence of journal subscriptions, authors (or their representatives) are asked to pay article processing charges (APCs). There is no submission fee.

The journal charges 9,300 Japanese yen per article page for all article types (Regular Articles, Review Articles, Notes) and relevant taxes are added to the total amount. Authors of accepted manuscripts will be invoiced for the APC before publication of their manuscript.

Color is free online; if authors request color in the print version, the fee is 32,408 Japanese yen per page (plus relevant taxes). More details are available in the Figures section below.

The journal publishes articles as Advance Online Publication. Authors can take up this option after acceptance for a fee of 4,700 Japanese yen (plus relevant taxes). More details are provided in the relevant section below and by the Editorial Office after acceptance.

In the event that the authors have not paid the APC or other relevant fees before publication, all processes for any other manuscripts associated with any authors will be suspended until full payment is confirmed by ISIJ.

### **Waiver policy**

Waivers are provided automatically when the corresponding author is from a [“Group A” Research4Life country](#). In cases of demonstrated financial hardship, the journal will consider a pre-submission application for a waiver from any corresponding author to [isijint@isij.or.jp](mailto:isijint@isij.or.jp). Applications cannot be made after the peer review process has begun.

The ability of an author to pay the APC does not influence editorial decisions. To avoid any possibility of undue influence, Editors involved with the decision-making process for articles are not involved in any deliberations on waivers.

## **Manuscript Submission**

All manuscripts must be submitted via the journal's online submission system, ScholarOne: <http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/isijint>. The original or revised manuscript text may be uploaded as a Microsoft Word file, but a Word file is required for the final manuscript text. Figures may be submitted separately in several other formats such as jpg and tif.

If you encounter any problems with online submission, please contact the Editorial Office via the details provided in the Contact section below.

## **Manuscript Preparation**

### **Style**

Manuscripts should be prepared in Microsoft Word or other appropriate software using double line spacing throughout.

### **English standards**

Manuscripts should be written in clear, grammatically correct English. Either US or British style and spelling is permitted, but one format must be used consistently. Authors whose native language is not English are strongly encouraged to have their manuscript checked by a native English speaker or by an editing service prior to submission. If a manuscript is not clear due to poor English, it may be rejected without undergoing peer review.

### **Format**

All manuscripts must be typewritten and double-spaced on A4-size paper with ample margins on all sides.

Regular Articles, review articles and notes should comprise the following sections, in this order: (1) Title Page, (2) Synopsis and Key words, (3) Text, (4) References, (5) Appendices, and (6) Figure and table legends, each of which should start on a new page.

Pages must be numbered consecutively with the Title Page as page 1. Additionally, the total size of files uploaded to the online submission review system should be less than 19.5MB, excluding the Supporting Information file.

### **Length**

Authors must adhere to the specified page or word limits. Manuscripts exceeding these limits may be returned to the authors, prior to review, in order to be shortened.

### **Abbreviations**

Each abbreviation should be defined in parentheses together with its non-abbreviated term when it first appears in the text (except in the Title and Abstract).

## Units

The standard SI units must be used. Non-SI units should be confined to those that have been approved for use with SI units by the Editorial Board (refer to the [annexed table](#)).

## Title page

The Title page must contain the title, the full name, affiliation, and mailing address of each author. The authors must specify only one person as Corresponding Author on the title page and provide their E-mail address and contact address (in English).

A maximum of 6 key words should be included.

## Synopsis

The Synopsis must state briefly and clearly the main objective, scope, and findings of the work within 250 words.

## Manuscript text

The text in a Regular Articles must include sufficient details to enable the readers to reproduce the results. The appropriate literature should be referred to.

## Acknowledgments

This section should be brief. Authors should list all funding sources for their work in the Acknowledgements section.

## References

References must be numbered consecutively. Reference numbers in the text should be typed as superscripts with a closing parenthesis, for example, □<sup>1)</sup>, □<sup>2,3)</sup>, and □<sup>4-6)</sup>. List all references on a separate page at the end of the text.

- a) Include the names of all the authors with the surnames appearing last.
- b) In addition, if the language of the reference is other than English, the language must be specified at the end of each reference. For example, if a reference is in Japanese, “(in Japanese)” must be included at the end the reference.
- c) It is recommended that if the reference has a digital object identifier (DOI), the uniform resource locator (URL) of the DOI be clearly given at the end as shown in the sample entry. Refer to the following examples for the proper format.

### 1) Journals

Use the standard abbreviations for journal names given in the International Standard ISO 4. Give the volume number, the year of publication, and the first page number, URL of the relevant DOI. Examples:

- 1) M. Kato, S. Mizoguchi and K. Tsuzaki: *ISIJ Int.*, **40**(2000), 543.  
<https://doi.org/10.2355/isijinternational.40.543>
- 2) S. Suzuki and K. Suzuki: *CAMP-ISIJ*, **5**(1992), 1433 (in Japanese).
- 3) S. Suzuki and K. Suzuki: *CAMP-ISIJ*, **21**(2008), 111, CD-ROM (in Japanese).

### 2) Conference Proceedings

State the title of the proceedings, (abbreviation of conference), (venue), editor's name (if available), publisher's name, location of publisher's headquarters, (year of publication), page

number, format of electronic media (if the proceedings are not published as a booklet), URL of the relevant DOI, (accessed date). Examples:

- 4) In cases where the publisher's name is available:  
Y. Chino, K. Iwai and S. Asai: Proc. 3rd Int. Symp. on Electromagnetic Processing of Materials (EPM 2000), ISIJ, Tokyo, (2000), 279.
- 5) In cases where the location of the conference is available:  
K. Tsutsumi, J. Kubota, A. Hosokawa, S. Ueoka, I. Sumi, H. Nkano, and A. Kuramoto: Proc. 9th European Continuous Casting Conf. (ECCC 2017), (Vienna), The Austrian Society for Metallurgy and Materials, Leoben, (2017), 1032, USB memory.
- 6) In cases where the publisher is unknown and page number of electronic media is unavailable:  
H. Harada and M. Tanaka: Proc. 5th Int. Congr. on CO<sub>2</sub> Reduction in Steel Industry, (Kyoto), (2020), CD-ROM. <https://hal.archives-ouvertes.fr/hal-01334718>, (accessed 2019-09-25).

### 3) Books

Give the title, the volume number, the editor's name if any, the publisher's name, the place of publisher's headquarters, the year of publication, and the page number, URL of the relevant DOI. Examples:

- 7) W. C. Leslie: The Physical Metallurgy of Steels, McGraw-Hill, New York, (1981), 621.
- 8) U. F. Kocks, A. S. Argon and M. F. Ashby: Progress in Materials Science, Vol.19, ed. by B. Chalmers, Pergamon Press, Oxford, (1975), 1.

### 4) Dissertations

Give category of dissertation, the university's name, the degree year, the page number, URL, access date. Example:

- 9) S. Ono: Ph.D. thesis, Tokyo Institute of Technology, (2000), <http://www.titech.ac.jp/Thesepdfs/speck.pdf>, (accessed 2006-02-01).

### 5) Standards

Give standard number: year of designation, article/thesis title. Examples:

- 10) JIS L 1902: 2008, Testing for antibacterial activity and efficacy on textile products (in Japanese).
- 11) ISO 14404-1: 2013, Calculation method of carbon dioxide emission intensity from iron and steel production -- Part 1: Steel plant with blast furnace.

### 6) Websites

URL citations that are judged to be continuous and of reliable public organizations/agencies are permitted only if documents are not officially published or are difficult to obtain. In such cases, provide the (title of the document), the (publication date), URL, (accessed date).

Examples:

- 11) T. Tanaka: President's message, the Iron and Steel Institute of Japan, <https://www.isij.or.jp/about/message/>, (accessed 2019-09-25).
- 12) Ministry of the Environment, Government of Japan: White Paper, (Annual Report on the Environment, the Sound Material-Cycle Society and Biodiversity in Japan 2018), (June 5, 2018), <https://www.env.go.jp/en/wpaper/index.html>, (accessed 2019-07-22).

- 13) Agency for Natural Resources and Energy, White Paper, (Annual Report on Energy, FY2018 Annual Report on Energy (Energy White Paper 2019), (June 7, 2019), [https://www.enecho.meti.go.jp/about/whitepaper/2019pdf/whitepaper2019pdf\\_2\\_1.pdf](https://www.enecho.meti.go.jp/about/whitepaper/2019pdf/whitepaper2019pdf_2_1.pdf), (accessed 2020-01-07).

## Appendices

Appendices may be attached as required.

## Tables

Each table should be placed on a separate page at the end of the manuscript text. Number tables consecutively using Arabic numerals (Table 1, Table 2, etc.). A caption should be provided for each table. Explanatory material and footnotes should be typed below the table and should be designated with superscript letters, such as <sup>a)</sup> or <sup>b)</sup>. Units of measurement should be included with numerical values at the top of columns. Avoid detailed explanations of the experimental conditions used to obtain the data shown in tables (which should be included in the other sections as relevant). Table legends should be typed together in a separate sheet(s).

## Figures

Each figure should be placed on a separate page at the end of the manuscript text. Figures should be of sufficiently high resolution for direct reproduction for printing. Note that ‘figures’ includes line drawings and photographs, as well as charts.

Magnifications of photographs should be indicated in the legends and/or by scales included in the photographs. When several photographs are shown as one figure, they should be arranged without leaving any space among them and separately identified as (a), (b), (c)... etc.

Illustrations must be self-explanatory and numbered consecutively with Arabic numerals (i.e., Fig. 1, Fig. 2, etc.). Each figure should have a short title. Figure legends should be grouped together in a separate sheet(s). Figure legends should include sufficient experimental details to make the figures intelligible; however, duplicating descriptions provided in other sections should be avoided.

Figures are usually reduced to fit into one column, which is 84 mm in width; the largest possible size for a figure—110 mm x 84 mm—is equivalent to 250 words.

Figures and tables will be published in color online (at no charge) if the supplied files are in color.

Color printing can be requested for figures and tables dependent upon approval by the editorial board and the payment of color charges. To request color in the print version, mark each relevant figures and tables of the manuscript with “color in print”. Pay attention to contrast when submitting color figures and tables for the online version, but black and white in print. If you want to have your figures and tables in black and white for both the print version and online version, please submit them in black and white.

## Supporting Information

Supporting Information adds, but is not essential, to a reader's understanding of a manuscript. Authors are encouraged to submit supplementary material for online-only publication. Supporting Information in *ISIJ International* comprises a video file, tables and figures and are published online alongside the accepted manuscript.

As Supporting Information is peer-reviewed, authors must submit it in its final form as part of their manuscript submission. After a manuscript has been accepted for publication, authors may not make any changes to the Supporting Information.

Only one video file can be supplied. It must be in mp4 format, less than 50MB, and named 'MovieS1.mp4'. Tables and figures of supporting information must be numbered consecutively as 'Table S1, Table 2S, etc.' and as 'Figure S1, Figure S2, etc.', respectively.

Authors should include a still image from the video, along with the video number (use Movie S1) and caption, in their manuscript after the figures, tables and text.

Reference the video within your text as "Movie S1 (Supporting Information)".

At the end of the main text (before the Acknowledgments, or if there are no Acknowledgments, before the References) add the following statement about the accompanying Supporting Information (The DOI URL should be noted at the very end).

Supporting Information: [briefly describe the content] This material is available on the Journal website at <https://doi.org/10.2355/isijinternational>. ISIJINT-20XX-XXX.

Remember to upload the video file to the ScholarOne system.

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