

1997 INFORMATION FOR CONTRIBUTORS

Science is a weekly, peer-reviewed journal with offices in Washington, DC, and Cambridge, UK, that publishes research in every field of science. Manuscripts should be intelligible to readers in various disciplines and must be brief and clearly written. Competition for space in *Science* is keen, and most papers are returned without in-depth review. Priority is given to papers that reveal novel concepts of interdisciplinary interest. Manuscripts are evaluated and, if accepted, published as promptly as possible.

Some authors choose to fax or e-mail presubmission inquiries, but this is not required.

CATEGORIES OF SIGNED PAPERS

General Articles (five journal pages, on average) review new developments of interdisciplinary significance. They impart what has been firmly established and what are unresolved questions or future directions. Both solicited and unsolicited articles undergo review. They include an abstract, an introduction that outlines the main point, and brief subheadings to indicate the main ideas. A maximum of 50 references is suggested.

Research Articles (five journal pages, on average) are expected to present a major breakthrough. Research articles include an abstract, an introduction, and sections with brief subheadings. A maximum of 40 references is suggested.

Reports (three journal pages) are expected to present important new research results. Reports should include an abstract and an introductory paragraph. A maximum of 30 references is suggested.

Policy Forums (up to two printed pages) present discussions of science policy issues.

Perspectives (up to 1000 words) analyze recent research and the impact of new developments on future investigations and should not primarily discuss the author's own work.

Contact Information

PHONE: (1)-202-326-6501 (USA); (44)-1223-302067 (UK)

FAXES: (1)-202-289-7562 (USA); (44)-1223-302068 (UK)

INTERNET:

science_editors@aaas.org for general editorial queries

science_letters@aaas.org for letters to the editor

science_reviews@aaas.org to return manuscript reviews

science@science-int.co.uk for the Europe office

Science Online can be found at <http://www.sciencemag.org> on the World Wide Web, where a summary of this information is available in different languages.

Letters (300 words) discuss material published in *Science* or problems of general interest. All communications to *Science* should include the corresponding author's postal and e-mail addresses and telephone and fax numbers. Letters are not routinely acknowledged and may be edited for reasons of clarity or space. Letter writers are generally not consulted before publication.

Technical Comments (up to 500 words) discuss papers published in *Science* within the previous 6 months. The authors of an original paper are given an opportunity to reply. Comments and replies are reviewed and edited as needed.

Book Reviews are arranged by the editors. Instructions accompany books to be reviewed.

MANUSCRIPT PREPARATION

One page in the journal contains approximately 1000 words and one small figure. Use double-spacing throughout the text, tables, figure legends, and references and notes, and leave margins of at least 2.5 centimeters. Put your name on each page and number the pages, starting with the title page.

Titles and subheadings should be descriptive clauses, not full sentences. The maximum length is 90 characters and spaces for general articles and research articles, and 80 characters and spaces for reports.

Abstracts explain to the general reader why the research was done and why the results should be viewed as important. The abstract should be 50 to 100 words, convey the paper's main point, and outline the results or conclusions.

Text. A brief introduction describing the paper's significance should be intelligible to readers in various disciplines. Technical terms should be defined. All tables and figures should be cited in numerical order.

Figures and tables should be submitted on separate pages from the text. For each figure, submit five high-quality prints, laser prints, or original drawings no larger than 22 by 28 centimeters. On the back of every figure, write the first author's name and the figure number and indicate the correct orientation. Authors are charged \$650 for the first color figure and \$450 for each additional figure. There is an additional charge for color figures in the reprints. Cover illustration suggestions may be included with the manuscript.

Informed consent. Investigations on humans must include a statement indicating that informed consent was obtained after the nature and possible consequences of the studies were explained.

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Reproducibility. Evidence that the results are reproducible and the conditions under which

this reproducibility was obtained should be stated.

Permission to reprint illustrations or tables from other publications must be obtained in writing by the author and must include complete citation from the copyright owner (usually the publisher).

Copyright transfer is required from authors of each paper published in *Science*. U.S. government employees sign the section of the form stating exemption from copyright laws.

MANUSCRIPT SELECTION

Papers are assigned by subject to an editor in our offices in Washington, DC, or Cambridge, UK. Most papers are evaluated for their interest and overall suitability by members of the Board of Reviewing Editors (see the Table of Contents for listing). The editors at *Science* use this advice in selecting papers for in-depth review. Authors of papers that are not highly rated are notified promptly; in most cases, we will return only two copies of the figures and no manuscript copies.

Papers are reviewed in-depth by two or more outside referees. It is the policy of *Science* that reviewers are kept anonymous. Manuscripts are evaluated in terms of their technical merit as well as their merit in relation to other papers that are or have been considered. In selecting papers for publication, the editors give preference to those of novelty and general significance. Accepted papers are edited to improve accuracy and clarity and to shorten, if necessary.

Papers cannot be resubmitted over a disagreement on interest or relative merit. If a paper was rejected on the basis of serious reviewer error, resubmission will be considered.

CONDITIONS OF ACCEPTANCE

When a paper is accepted for publication in *Science*, it is understood that

- Any materials and methods necessary to verify the conclusions of the experiments reported must be made available to other investigators under appropriate conditions.

- Archival data sets (such as sequence and structural data) should be deposited with the appropriate data bank and the identifier code should be sent to *Science* for inclusion in the published manuscript (coordinates should be released no later than 1 year after publication).

- Authors agree to transfer copyright of the paper (including electronic rights) to *Science*.

- The paper will remain a privileged document and will not be released to the press or the public before publication. If there is a need in exceptional cases to publicize data in advance of publication, the AAAS Office of Communications (202-326-6440) must be consulted.

PRINTING AND PUBLICATION

Proofs and reprints. Proofs and an order blank for reprints are sent to the authors. All corrections should be marked on the proof.

Scheduling. Papers are scheduled for publication after *Science* has received corrected proofs. Papers that present problems in layout or with cover pictures, or that exceed the length limits, may be subject to delay or further editing.