

## GENERAL INFORMATION FOR CONTRIBUTORS

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Manuscripts may be **submitted** by a variety of electronic modes (including via e-print servers, direct Web upload, and email), or by conventional mail, but not by fax. Interactive **submission forms**, available on our Web server, are an integral part of the submission process for the e-print and Web modes, and are strongly recommended for email and conventional-mail submission. These forms aid authors in supplying all the information needed in a structured format which furthers efficient processing; they also provide a location for additional “free form” information. [For authors without Web browsers which support forms, noninteractive versions of the submission forms are available via ftp to [aps.org](http://aps.org) in the /pub/jrnls directory as the sub\_prb files (include filename suffix .asc, .tex, or .ps), or by request to the Editorial Office.]

Please specify the author to whom correspondence should be addressed, and give all available communications information for this individual (postal and email addresses, phone and fax numbers), since in various circumstances they may all be useful. Please specify journal and section to which the paper is submitted, and give PACS (Physics and Astronomy Classification Scheme) index categories if possible. (The scheme is available on our Web server, and also via ftp to [aps.org](http://aps.org) as the file pacs\_96.asc in the /pub/pacs directory.) If an important subject of your paper cannot be appropriately classified in the PACS scheme, please give an appropriate keyword or phrase, and indicate approximately where in the scheme this topic would be best placed.

A signed APS **copyright-transfer** form should be included with the submission, and will be required before publication. While the transfer of copyright takes effect only upon acceptance of the paper for publication in an APS journal, supplying the form initially can prevent unnecessary delays. The form appears at the end of the 26 May 1997 issue of *Physical Review Letters* and is available from the Editorial Office, on the World Wide Web via the URL <http://publish.aps.org/> or via ftp to [aps.org](http://aps.org) in the /pub/jrnls directory as the copy\_trnsfr files (include filename suffix .asc, .ps, or .tex). Be sure to use the latest (3/94 or later) version of the form.

Manuscripts and figures are *not routinely returned* to authors. Authors should indicate (preferably on initial submission) if they want the manuscript and/or figures returned when correspondence is sent during the editorial process, and/or after a final decision has been made.

**Electronic submissions** may be formatted in REVTeX (preferred), LaTeX, Harvmac, or Plain TeX. The file must be in ASCII containing no control codes, with line lengths of 80 characters or less. All textual material of the paper (including tables, captions, etc.) should be in electronic form, as a single file. The file should produce double-spaced output. Properly prepared electronic submissions are eligible for a **publication-charge discount**, whether or not they also qualify for the compuscript-conversion production program. See paragraph beginning with “compuscripts” (below).

For information about submission via **e-print** servers or direct **Web upload**, see our Web server at <http://publish.aps.org/ESUB/>.

**Electronic-mail** submissions (and inquiries about them) should be sent to the Internet address [prbtex@aps.org](mailto:prbtex@aps.org). For the initial submission, use as the subject “submit” followed by the three-letter abbreviation for the name of the journal (prb) and the last name of the first author; for example, “submit prb jones” or “submit PRB Jones.” Include the filled-out submission form (or the equivalent information, including journal, section, postal address, etc.) in the first part of the electronic-mail message. Receipt of an electronic-mail submission will be acknowledged within 24 hours. Copies of the manuscript should not be sent by regular mail (only original figures) unless the electronic transmission has not been successful.

**Figures** for an electronic submission must be received in at least review-quality form before editorial processing can begin. Web upload or electronic-mail transmission (one figure per file) of PostScript-formatted figures will normally meet this need. For color or continuous-tone PostScript figures, hard-copy originals are also required. The originals are needed to ensure that the reproductions created from the electronic figure files are satisfactory. (For email transmission, use a subject line similar to that for the text file with the addition of the figure number, e.g., “submit prb jones fig1’.”) Alternatively, you could send scanner-reproducible journal-quality “originals” immediately by overnight mail. A third possibility is to send review-quality figures by fax (516-591-4141), while the “originals” are sent by conventional or overnight mail as soon as possible; please mark the fax transmission as being part of an electronic-mail submission. On resubmission, it is only necessary to resend your figures if the originals in our file are no longer valid.

Manuscripts sent by **conventional mail** should be submitted in triplicate to the Editors, Physical Review, 1 Research Road, Box 9000, Ridge, NY 11961-9000. The manuscript, including the abstract, references, and captions, should be neatly printed in English, on good letter-size (e.g.,  $8\frac{1}{2}\times 11$  in. or A4) white paper with ample margins. (The first copy, used for production purposes if the paper is accepted for publication, must be printed on one side of the paper only; additional copies, used for review purposes, may be printed on both sides of the paper.) The type size and line spacing should be sufficient to accommodate editorial markings and should be legible to our keyboarders (no more than three lines per inch and no more than 88 characters per 6 inches). It should be carefully proofread by the author. Poor reproductions are unacceptable, as are unclear or excessive handwritten insertions.

**Compuscripts** are author-supplied computer files that can be used for production essentially as supplied. (Some minor style modifications may be made if needed.) If the paper is accepted for publication, the file is converted to production format and coding (eventually SGML), from which base the journal pages are composed. Appropriate REVTeX files are eligible (the other electronic-submission formats are only useful for the editorial-review process. Questions about file eligibility should be directed to prbtex@aps.org. Papers intended for the compuscript production program should be submitted and resubmitted *only electronically*. PostScript figures may be used directly (electronically) in the production composition process.

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An information and instruction booklet regarding electronic submissions and compuscripts is available via ftp to aps.org in the /pub/jrnls/ directory as the compu\_inform\_pr files (include filename suffix .asc, .ps, or .tex).

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If the manuscript was originally submitted electronically, please avoid resubmission by conventional means (paper, postal mail); continue to use one of the electronic modes. When **resubmitting electronically**, please send the complete file for the text if there have been any changes. Send email resubmissions to prbtex@aps.org, and use as the subject of the message "resub" followed by the manuscript code number and the last name of the first author; for example, "resub BC1234 Smith" or "resub bc1234 smith." Include the filled-out resubmission form (or equivalent information as described above) as the first part of the message. For **resubmission by conventional mail**, please send three copies of a complete modified manuscript, and include the form or equivalent information.

For **general format and style** consult recent issues of this journal and the *Physical Review Style and Notation Guide*, available via ftp to aps.org in the /pub/jrnls directory as the style\_guide files (include filename suffix .pdf, .ps, or .tex). Additional style guidelines can be found in the Fourth Edition of the *AIP Style Manual*, which may be obtained for \$10.00 (prepaid) from the American Institute of Physics, c/o AIDC, 64 Depot Road, Colchester, VT 05546, telephone: 800-488-2665.

The **title** should be concise but informative enough to facilitate information retrieval. The **abstract** should be self-contained (contain no footnotes). It should be adequate as an index (giving all subjects, major and minor, about which new information is given) and as a summary (giving the conclusions and all results of general interest in the article). It should be about 5% of the length of the article, but less than 500 words.

**Notation** should be clear, compact, and consistent with standard usage. Each symbol must be individually legible. **Equations** should be neatly typed or written in ink, punctuated and aligned to bring out their structure, and numbered on the right. (a) Diacritical marks (tildes, etc.) can be put over any symbol, including indices, but not over groups of symbols. (b) Three-vectors will be set in roman boldface type and should be marked in the manuscript with either a black wiggly underline or an arrow over the character. More general vectors, matrices, etc., are usually set in lightface italic type, although boldface may alternatively be used. (c) Any numerical fraction can be put on one line, e.g.,  $\frac{1}{2}a$ . Use that form rather than  $a/2$ , and never use  $1/2a$ , unless you mean  $1/(2a)$ . The solidus should be used instead of built-up fractions in running text.

**Marking of mathematical material:** All unusual and handwritten symbols whose identity is not obvious should be identified in the margin the first time they appear, and thereafter only if any ambiguity is still possible. For example, when necessary, identify Greek letters (not including sum

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**References and footnotes** to text material must be combined in a single list, numbered consecutively in their order of first appearance in the paper, and placed in a double-spaced list at the end of the text material. References within tables should be designated by lower-case letter superscripts and given at the end of the table.

For the proper form, see the *Physical Review Style and Notation Guide* and recent issues of this journal. The names of all authors of works cited should be given in the references. The use of “*et al.*” is discouraged, and should **never** be used if the number of authors is less than four. When reference is made to material not available in the published literature, it is denoted as “unpublished.” References to classified reports or other documents with restricted circulation should be avoided. It is important to confirm the accuracy of bibliographic information in references. This has become more important now that the journal is online. Hyperlinks will be programmed to enable readers to “click” on references and jump directly to the material cited. If your reference citations are incorrect or incomplete (e.g., missing author name, or an incorrect volume number or page), the associated hyperlinks may fail, and the usefulness of your paper in the online environment may be diminished.

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Separate **tables** (numbered in the order of their first appearance) should be used for all but the simplest tabular material; they must have captions, which should make the tables intelligible without reference to the text. The structure should be clear, with simple column headings giving all units.

The decision on whether results should be published in long tables depends on the precision of the data, i.e., whether they can be read accurately enough from a figure, and on how many readers are likely to use the numbers relative to the space needed in the journal. If additional numerical data can be obtained from a data center, from the author, or from another source either as tables or on tape, indicate how and in what format they can be obtained.

**Figures** should be planned for the column width of the *Physical Review* (approximately 8.6 cm, or  $3\frac{3}{8}$  in.). In some cases where the figures contain a great deal of detail,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  or 2

columns may be used. Wasted space at the top and bottom should be avoided. Carefully prepared figures, suitable for digital scanning, are required (original India-ink drawings or glossy prints; computer-generated figures, if of sufficient quality, are acceptable). Figures must have a clear background and unbroken lines with as much black-white contrast as possible. *Final-journal-size* originals or prints are preferable to oversized originals. Avoid small open symbols which tend to fill in upon reproduction, small dots and decimal points, and shading or cross-hatching that is not coarse enough to withstand reproduction. The lettering and plotted points on the figures should be large and clear enough that they will be legible on the journal pages (final journal size of lettering should be at least 2 mm). Inconsistently large or too heavy lettering should be avoided. Line weights should be consistent throughout a figure, with a final line weight of at least 0.18 mm (0.5 point). Figures reproduced directly from an automatic plotter or computer printer must have lettering of the correct size and style (e.g., MeV instead of MEV, unslashed zeros) and curves that are smooth and of sufficient line weight to allow suitable reproduction. The resolution of the drawing software and the output device should be set as high as possible (preferably 600 dpi or higher). Very fine lines in laser-generated illustrations will disappear under scanning. Photographs of apparatus are unacceptable and should be replaced by good schematic diagrams.

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$R$  ( $10^3 \Omega$ ), not  $R \times 10^3$  ohms. For complete instructions see the *Physical Review Style and Notation Guide* and the *AIP Style Manual*.

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