

Re: Received
by

Physical Review Letters – REFEREE RESPONSE FORM

(Please include this form with your full report)

Referee Please Note: This form is not a substitute for a full report

This form is to assist the Editors and is not a substitute for your written report. It may be useful, however, as an outline for your report, which should explain why the paper does, or does not, meet our criteria.

I. Letters published in PRL must meet a high standard of importance and interest.

a) Please judge the importance of the paper to its specific field.

not important very important

b) Please judge the broad interest of the paper, apart from its importance to its specific field, to a wide spectrum of physicists.

not interesting very interesting

c) Please judge the validity of the paper.

probably not valid probably valid

II. A Letter should have an introduction and conclusion that explains, in terms accessible to a broad audience, the physics context of the work: why it is important and what has been accomplished.

Please judge the introduction and conclusion.

not accessible very accessible

III. Recommendation:

NOTE: IF YOU ARE RECOMMENDING PUBLICATION IN PRL, PLEASE PROVIDE, IN YOUR REPORT, A SEPARATE STATEMENT AS TO WHY THIS PAPER IS APPROPRIATE SPECIFICALLY FOR PRL.

- a) The paper should be published in PRL as it is.
- b) The paper should be published in PRL after minor revisions are made, without further review.
- c) The paper with revisions and further review, might be publishable in PRL.
- d) The paper with extensive revisions, and further review could possibly be published in PRL.
- e) The paper should not be published in PRL.

IV. Would you be willing to review the paper again? yes no

If not could you suggest alternative referees?

V. Recommendation for Physical Review

A recommendation to publish in Physical Review may be made, but should not be used to soften a rejection from PRL. It should be made separately, in a detailed statement to the Physical Review editor. Please take account of their publication criteria, which require that papers “significantly advance physics” and be “important to the field.”

The paper could be considered by the Physical Review as a

Rapid Communication	<input type="checkbox"/>				no revision	<input type="checkbox"/>
Regular Article	<input type="checkbox"/>	with			minor revision	<input type="checkbox"/>
Brief Report	<input type="checkbox"/>				major revision	<input type="checkbox"/>

REFEREE RESPONSE FORM

Instructions

The preferred method for sending referee reports is via our referee web server (<http://referees.aps.org/>). If you do not have a password, you can request one by clicking a button available at the site. Your Referee ID is the six-digit number at the bottom of the first page of this referral, following your name. The referee web server allows you to upload your report and to respond to the questions on the Response Form by clicking boxes.

Alternatively, you may send your report by email to prl@aps.org, fax, or conventional mail. If you use email, give as the subject "Report" followed by your last name in upper case, the manuscript code number, and the last name of the first author, for example, "Report BROWN LA1234 Smith"; and include in the message the responses to applicable questions on the Response Form (a template is available at <http://forms.aps.org/referee/refresp-prl.asc>). If you do not receive an acknowledgment within one working day, please repeat the message or send the report via another mode. (For technical reasons, we cannot send automatic acknowledgments if the subject line contains "Re:", "re:", etc., so please avoid such subject lines.)

If you use conventional mail or fax, please include the Response Form. The manuscript should not be returned (except perhaps for pages you have marked for the benefit of the author). Do not automatically follow an email or fax report with a backup by conventional mail.

The form addressed to the editors is intended to assist them in reaching a timely decision on the disposition of the manuscript. *It is not a substitute for your report.* Your response on the form will not be returned to the authors. Answer only those questions which are applicable.

Explanatory notes:

1. The PRL acceptance criteria of scientific validity, special importance, and broad interest are described in the enclosed "Advice to Referees".
2. Because PRL covers all of physics, our readers cannot be expected to understand the jargon of a particular subfield. Are the title, abstract, and introduction properly addressed to our general readership? If not, you may wish to include in your report some suggestions on how the authors might improve their manuscript.
3. If you do not recommend acceptance of the manuscript in its present form, and if further review is necessary, please indicate whether you are willing to review again. If not, please offer suggestions for alternate reviewers (preferably, more than one). (NOTE: This is usually only relevant after the first round of review, because the anonymous review process is normally restricted to two referrals.)
4. A recommendation to publish in Physical Review may be made, but should not be used to soften a rejection from PRL. Such a recommendation should be made separately, in a detailed statement to the Physical Review editor. If you make such a recommendation, please take account of the APS Council statement on publication criteria, requiring that papers "significantly advance physics" and be "important to the field." A detailed description of the different sections of Physical Review (Rapid Communications, Regular Articles, Brief Reports) is enclosed.