

PHYSICAL REVIEW D

Note to Referees

The role played by the referee in maintaining the standing of *Physical Review D* is a crucial one. The journal continues to grow substantially each year and the Editors' task of evaluating submissions becomes more difficult. It is the Editors' intention to reach a decision on publication on the basis of no more than two rounds of reviewing. This policy is explained in the paragraph below excerpted from the Editorial Policies and Practices of *Physical Review D*.

This goal can be achieved only with the active and conscientious involvement of you as referee. To be of value, your recommendations must be accompanied by a detailed and reasoned evaluation. To be publishable, papers must contain significant new physics or understanding, must be of high quality and scientific interest, must be written in good, scientific English, and must be on subject matter covered by the journal.

The Editors

Excerpt from Editorial Policies and Practices

As a matter of policy, it is the goal of the Editors to arrive at a decision on publication in as short a time as is practical. This allows papers that have been accepted to appear quickly and gives the authors of those papers that have not been accepted an opportunity to exercise other options with a minimum of delay. In practical terms, this means that a decision on the acceptability or otherwise of a paper can normally be expected after no more than two rounds of reviewing. Additional reviewing or initiation of the appeals process should be reserved only for exceptional situations: extended anonymous review cannot be used as a vehicle to develop an otherwise unacceptable paper into an acceptable one.