

Information for Referees: SHORT PAPERS

The *Physical Review* publishes **Articles**, **Rapid Communications**, **Brief Reports**, and **Comments**. Except for **Articles**, these are limited in length. Each paper must have an abstract. Announcements of planned research and progress reports are not suitable for publication. A series of short papers by the same authors on a particular subject is discouraged; a comprehensive single regular article is preferred.

We ask you as referee to consider if the material submitted as a **Rapid Communication** or a **Brief Report** would be more appropriately presented in a different short-paper section or (possibly in expanded form) as a regular **Article**. For **Rapid Communications** you should consider whether the paper is of sufficient general interest to justify consideration for *Physical Review Letters*.

Short Regular ARTICLES

Articles in the *Physical Review* may be short; there is no minimum length limit.

RAPID COMMUNICATIONS

Rapid Communications are intended for important new results which deserve accelerated publication, and are therefore given priority in editorial processing and production to minimize the time between receipt and publication. We request that you also give them priority treatment. **Rapid Communications** are similar to **Letters**; the principal difference is that **Letters** are of broad interest and are accessible to a general audience of physicists and allied scientists, while **Rapid Communications** are primarily for a more specialized audience, the usual readers of a particular *Physical Review* journal (A, B, C, D, or E).

BRIEF REPORTS

Brief Reports are accounts of completed research which do not warrant regular **Articles** or the priority handling given to **Rapid Communications**; however, the same standards of scientific quality apply. (Addenda are included in **Brief Reports**.)

COMMENTS

Comments criticize or correct specific papers of other authors previously published in the *Physical Review*. Each **Comment** should state clearly to which paper it refers and should not contain polemics.