



## Information for Reviewers of Reviews

**SCIENCE'S MISSION:** *Science* seeks to publish those papers that are most influential in their fields and that will significantly advance scientific understanding. Selected papers should present novel and broadly important data, syntheses, or concepts. They should merit the recognition by the scientific community and general public provided by publication in *Science*, beyond that provided by specialty journals.

### CRITERIA FOR JUDGMENT

**Reviews** should provide a balanced overview of recent work (past three years) that lead to a new, interesting synthesis of an active area of research. , which can include some work from the author or authors' own laboratory. Ideally the Review should be interdisciplinary, provocative, and opinionated but rooted in a balanced survey of the literature, and include original thinking or re-analysis.

**Overall Recommendation:** On the basis of the mission statement above, recommend in your review whether the paper should be published in *Science* and provide a more detailed critique based on the following:

**Technical Merit.** The data cited or presented and arguments should justify the conclusions and inferences. The Review should correctly cite important discoveries in the field and, although it may focus primarily on work done in one laboratory or by one group of investigators, it should be set in the context of, and acknowledge, work done by others whether or not they have conflicting views.

**Comprehensibility.** General readers should be able to learn from the article what has been firmly established and what are significant unresolved questions.

**Length.** Reviews should be between 10 and 15 double-spaced pages (3500 words including references and notes and figure and table legends). There should be at most four, display items (figures and tables). If the Review exceeds these guidelines, we would appreciate suggestions for shortening it.

**Supporting Online Material.** Supporting online material includes methods, text or data that is of interest only to the specialist, but that is still necessary for the integrity and excellence of the paper. It must be directly related to the conclusions of the print paper. We welcome suggestions for deletions of supporting online material or items that should be moved to supporting online material.

**Security:** We ask reviewers to inform us if they have concerns that release of this paper may pose a danger to public health, safety, or security. Such concerns will be brought to the attention of the Editor-in-Chief for further evaluation.

*The final selection is based on relative quality of papers rather than absolute merit and is constrained by available space in Science and our commitment to balance subject matter.*

**Conflict of Interest:** If you cannot judge this paper impartially, please notify us immediately. If you have any financial or professional affiliations that may be perceived as a conflict of interest in reviewing the manuscript, please describe those in your confidential comments.

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