

Last updated: November 30, 2023 [View the latest guidelines online](#)

Manuscript Submission Requirements Checklist

- **Submit with Fast Format:** ACS journals have simplified formatting requirements with a streamlined and standardized review-ready format for an *initial* manuscript submission. Include article titles in references.
- **Cover Letter:** must include a paragraph explaining why your manuscript is appropriate for *ACS Measurement Science Au*, clearly indicating what key advance(s) are described in the work relative to the state-of-the-art, and a statement confirming the manuscript has not been previously published by any of the authors and/or is not under consideration for publication in another journal at the time of submission.
- **Suggested Reviewers:** Submit names and email addresses of at least six scientists from at least three different countries who could evaluate the work. These suggested reviewers must not be former mentors or mentees nor collaborators or co-authors from the past five years.
- **Disclosure of previous submissions:** If the manuscript was previously rejected by *ACS Measurement Science Au*, provide the manuscript number and a detailed response to each reviewer's comments. If the manuscript was previously declined by any other journal, even without external peer review, this must be disclosed; however, providing the journal name and additional information is optional.
- **Disclosure of prior publication & ACS Measurement Science Au preprint policy:** Submitted work must not be published elsewhere or concurrently submitted to another journal. Posting submitted manuscripts on a pre-print server is permitted in accordance with *ACS Measurement Science Au* policy and must be disclosed upon submission to the journal.
- **Author list with affiliations:** List of authors, order of authors, author affiliations, and manuscript title must be the same on all pieces of the submission and match the electronic entry at submission.
- **Manuscript Type:** Article, Letter, Review, Perspective, Correspondence/Rebuttal, or Addition and Correction
- **Title and Abstract:** Be clear and concise, reflect the emphasis and content of the manuscript. Titles and abstracts of manuscripts may not contain the words "New", "Novel", or "First"; "Superb", "Excellent", "Exceptional", "Outstanding" or other similar descriptive words discouraged unless rigorously supported by a thorough comparison with the state-of-the-art in the manuscript. Acronyms and abbreviations are not permitted in manuscript titles, unless they are broadly familiar to readers in all disciplines of chemistry.
- **Graphics (Figures/Tables/Schemes):** Text should be clear and legible, ideally with Arial or Helvetica fonts, with fonts no smaller than 8 pt. Chemical structures should be presented in ACS format. Authors should use drawing packages with journal-based templates, if possible. These contain the appropriate bond widths, bond lengths, fonts, and other settings recommended by *ACS Measurement Science Au*. Figures must be mentioned in the text in consecutive order and number with Arabic numerals. Avoid inset figures.
- **References:** Include article titles in references.
- **Safety:** Authors must emphasize any unexpected, new, and/or significant hazards associated with the work.
- **Table of Contents graphic:**

- required, dimensions of 3.25 inches by 1.75 inches (approx. 8.25 cm by 4.45 cm)
- **Cover Art** (optional): Authors may submit images to be considered for the cover (TIF, JPG, PNG or EPS files with a resolution of at least 300 dpi for pixel-based images). The image size is 8.19 inches (20.8 cm) wide × 10 inches (25.4 cm) high at 300 ppi.
- **Supporting Information** (if any): must be included at the time of electronic submission. Include the heading “Supporting Information” followed by the manuscript title, author list, and affiliations. Tables, Schemes, and Figures should be written as Table S1, Figure S1, Scheme S1, etc. All pages of the PDF Supporting Information should be numbered consecutively. Copies of all related works that are “in press”, “accepted”, or “submitted” for publication or in the late stages of preparation must be uploaded as Supporting Information for Review Only at the time of submission. References that are only available online should be cited by the Digital Object Identifier (DOI).
- **Administrative considerations:** All manuscripts must not be under consideration or published elsewhere; manuscripts will be screened with plagiarism software; information on whether the manuscript has been previously considered elsewhere must be provided; do not forget to list funding sources and utilize ORCID.

Scope of the Journal

[ACS Measurement Science Au](#) is an open access journal that publishes experimental, computational, or theoretical research in all areas of chemical measurement science. Short letters, comprehensive articles, reviews, and perspectives are welcome on topics that report on any phase of analytical operations, including sampling, measurement, and data analysis. This includes:

- Chemical Reactions and Selectivity
- Chemometrics and Data Processing
- Electrochemistry
- Elemental and Molecular Characterization
- Imaging
- Instrumentation
- Mass Spectrometry
- Microscale and Nanoscale systems
- Omics (Genomics, Proteomics, Metabonomics, Metabolomics, and Bioinformatics)
- Sensors and Sensing (Biosensors, Chemical Sensors, Gas Sensors, Intracellular Sensors, Single-Molecule Sensors, Cell Chips, Arrays, Microfluidic Devices)
- Separations
- Spectroscopy
- Surface analysis

Papers dealing with established methods need to offer a significantly improved, original application of the method.

Manuscript Types

Articles should report a significant advance in a subfield of chemistry, being characterized by the editor and referees as an advance representing the top 10% of articles published annually in that field. Articles must be of high scientific quality, originality, significance, and conceptual novelty. Articles that mainly expand findings that were previously published as Letters in ACS

Measurement Science Au or elsewhere and that only incorporate experimental data, without greatly expanded scope and without providing new insights or conceptual breakthroughs, will be declined or recommended for Manuscript Transfer to specialized journals. Similarly, articles that are mainly routine extensions of previously published related work will be declined or recommended for Manuscript Transfer to specialized journals.

Use of the template for Articles is strongly encouraged but is not required. If an author chooses not to use a template to prepare an Article, only Times and Symbol fonts and 1.5 or double line spacing should be used. Other fonts may cause problems when the PDF files used for review are created. Also, if the template is not used, the document mode or its equivalent in the word-processing program should be used; i.e., files should not be saved in "Text Only" (ASCII) mode. If a non-Western version of word-processing software is used to prepare the manuscript, the file should be saved in rich-text format (RTF).

Articles should cover their subjects with thoroughness, clarity, and completeness but should be as concise as possible. Abstracts to Articles are typically limited to 300 words and should summarize the significant results and conclusions.

Letters are short publications that report results whose immediate availability to the science and engineering community is deemed important. A Letter must convey the scientific findings concisely in a brief abstract, main text, and graphical elements as determined by word count not exceeding 2,200 words, including titles/footnotes/captions of approximately five graphics (typically 2 inches long in a single column). References are not included in word count to allow article titles to be included at submission. To calculate word count within the word processing application, select all text from abstract through end of main text (excluding title, authors, affiliations, and content after main text) and view the word processor's word count data. Letters exceeding the word count limit must be shortened before acceptance. Note: *ACS Measurement Science Au* encourages submission of Letters ranging from approximately 1,200-2,200 words (equivalent to 2-4 formatted journal pages), with more concise submissions appropriate for the most urgent new findings of exceptional significance.

All graphics and tables must be placed near the point of first mention in the text of the manuscript (not grouped at the end of the document) and must be sized according to current guidance. Long notes are not permitted in the References section; information not directly germane to the Letter can be included as Supporting Information. Letters can be complete publications, but follow-up publication may be justified when the research is continued and a more complete account of the work is deemed necessary, especially for the most urgent concise Letters noted above. Special efforts will be made to expedite the reviewing and the publication of Letters. The time for proofreading the galley proofs is relatively short. For this reason, authors of Letters should ensure that manuscripts are in final, error-free form when submitted. A [template for Letters](#) is available.

Reviews are topical, forward looking, and of general interest to the readership. Length is flexible (6–20 or more pages). A good review critically evaluates existing work of multiple groups in a field or across disciplines, provides a logical organization, and makes the material more easily available to those not expert in the area through clear text and figures. Reviews should lay out the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead. Reviews should contain an abstract and appropriate references. The use of graphics to illustrate key concepts is strongly encouraged. Reviews include a graphical Table of Contents entry. Reviews also include ~8–10 keywords and a vocabulary section in which 5–7 terms extracted from the text are defined in one or two sentences.

Perspectives are personal reviews of a field or area by one or a small team of authors, and they

are focused rather than comprehensive. Perspective authors are asked to assess the current status of the field with an emphasis toward identifying key advances being made or those advances that are needed, and with an eye to the future. An *ACS Measurement Science Au* Perspective should touch base with the current literature, including key contributors and references, but will primarily serve to inspire and help direct future research efforts. Authors may be invited by the Editor to submit Perspectives. Perspectives may not exceed 10,000 words in abstract, main text, and graphical elements.

Authors interested in submitting a Review or Perspective are strongly encouraged to contact the Editor prior to manuscript preparation and submission, to seek conditional approval of the proposed topic. Authors interested in contributing a Review or Perspective should email the Editor, Shelley Minter (Au-eic@journals.acs.org), providing a single document that includes the following information for consideration:

1. Proposed Review or Perspective title
2. Corresponding author names, affiliations, and websites
3. A short (~400 word) description of the focused topic
4. A list of 5-10 lead references that will form the foundation of the manuscript
5. A list of recent review articles published on this topic, written by the submitting authors or others, and an explanation of how the proposed review will differ in focus and advance the literature on the subject.

Correspondence/Rebuttal. Correspondence is a technical contribution providing, with supporting material, a respectful but alternative point of view to a publication that has appeared in *ACS Measurement Science Au*. The author of the original publication may be invited to write a Rebuttal. The Correspondence and Rebuttal will appear in the same issue of the journal, when possible.

ACS Publishing Center

While this document will provide basic information on how to prepare and submit the manuscript as well as other critical information about publishing, we also encourage authors to visit the [ACS Publishing Center](#) for additional information on everything that is needed to prepare (and review) manuscripts for ACS journals and partner journals, such as

- [Mastering the Art of Scientific Publication](#), which shares editor tips about a variety of topics including making your paper scientifically effective, preparing excellent graphics, and writing cover letters.
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- [Sharing your research](#) with the public through the ACS Publications open access program.
- [ACS Reviewer Lab](#), a free online course covering best practices for peer review and related ethical considerations.
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- [ACS Inclusivity Style Guide](#), a guide that helps researchers communicate in ways that recognize and respect diversity in all its forms.

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Submit with Fast Format

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Manuscripts submitted for initial consideration must adhere to these standards:

- Submissions must be complete with clearly identified standard sections used to report original research, free of annotations or highlights, and include all numbered and labeled components.
- Figures, charts, tables, schemes, and equations should be embedded in the text at the point of relevance. Separate graphics can be supplied later at revision, if necessary.
- When required by a journal's structure or length limitations, manuscript templates should be used.
- References can be provided in any style, but they must be complete, including titles. For information about the required components of different reference types, please refer to the [ACS Style Quick Guide](#).
- Supporting Information must be submitted as a separate file(s).

Document Templates and Format

ACS Measurement Science Au does not require the use of any document templates. General information on the preparation of manuscripts may be found in the [ACS Guide to Scholarly Communication](#).

Acceptable Software, File Designations, and TeX/LaTeX

See the list of [Acceptable Software](#) and appropriate [File Designations](#) to be sure your file types are compatible with ACS Paragon Plus. Information for manuscripts generated from [TeX/LaTeX](#) is also available.

Cover Letter

A cover letter must accompany every manuscript submission. During the submission process, you may type it or paste it into the submission system, or you may attach it as a file.

The letter must provide the corresponding author's name, title, affiliation, and e-mail address. All Editorial correspondence concerning receipt, status, review, revision, and publication of a manuscript will be sent only to one person who has been designated as the corresponding author during the evaluation period. The corresponding author is responsible for communicating the manuscript status to all co-authors of the manuscript and for obtaining the co-authors' assent to any substantial changes of content or interpretation made during revision. While a cover letter with designate a single corresponding author who serves as the primary contact during the submission and review process, additional corresponding authors may be designated with asterisks in collaborative manuscripts, with the number of corresponding authors not to exceed three.

The cover letter must include a paragraph explaining why your manuscript is appropriate for *ACS Measurement Science Au*. This paragraph should clearly indicate what key advance(s) is/are described in the work. The letter may suggest the name of an appropriate *ACS Measurement Science Au* Associate Editor. However, manuscript assignment to an Associate Editor is ultimately

at the discretion of the Editor-in-Chief. Non-preferred Associate Editors and reviewers may be denoted in the cover letter, along with a reason for their designation.

The cover letter should provide explicit assurance that the manuscript is not under consideration for publication and has not been published elsewhere. Please note any submission to a preprint server such as ChemRxiv, bioRxiv, or arXiv in the cover letter and include a link to the preprint, and as appropriate, state how the manuscript has been adjusted/updated between deposition and submission.

Manuscript Text Components

Title. Titles should clearly and concisely reflect the emphasis and content of the manuscript. Titles are of great importance for current awareness and information retrieval and should be carefully constructed for these purposes. Titles of manuscripts may not contain the words “New” or “Novel” nor any part number or series number without permission from the Editor. Claims of precedence should not be made in a title, so use of “First” in titles for this purpose is prohibited. Additionally, “Superb”, “Excellent”, “Exceptional”, “Outstanding” or other similar descriptive words, are strongly discouraged. Acronyms and abbreviations are not permitted in manuscript titles, unless they are broadly familiar to readers in all disciplines of chemistry. Titles should not be phrased as a question.

Author List. Bylines should include all those who have made substantial contributions to the work. To facilitate indexing and retrieval and for unique identification of an author, use first names, initials, and surnames or first initials (e.g., Jody R. Smith), second names, and last names (e.g., J. Riley Smith). Do not use only initials with surnames (e.g., J. R. Smith). Deceased persons who meet the criteria for inclusion as coauthors should be included, with an Author Information note indicating the date of death. Do not include professional or official titles or academic degrees. At least one, or optionally more than one but fewer than four authors must be designated with an asterisk as the author(s) to whom reader correspondence regarding the published manuscript may be addressed.

The full names and e-mail addresses of all co-authors must be provided on the Authors & Institutes page upon submission of the manuscript in ACS Paragon Plus. Use of ORCID identifiers is encouraged.

Addition or deletion of an author or authors after submission of the manuscript requires justification from the corresponding author and is subject to approval by the Editor.

Institution Address. The author affiliation(s) listed should be the institution(s) where the work was conducted. If the present address of an author differs from that at which the work was done, that address should be given in an Author Information note.

Many Funders and Institutions require that institutional affiliations are identified for all authors listed in the work being submitted. ACS facilitates this requirement by collecting institution information during manuscript submission under Step 2: Authors and Affiliations in ACS Paragon Plus.

Abstract. All Articles, Letters, and Perspectives) must be accompanied by an abstract, including an Abstract (TOC) graphic, which should state briefly the purpose of the research, the principal results, and major conclusions. Abstracts of manuscripts may not contain the words “superb”, “excellent”, “exceptional”, “outstanding”, or other similar descriptive words unless rigorously supported by a thorough comparison with the state-of-the-art in the manuscript. Like manuscript

titles, the words “New”, “First”, or “Novel” are also generally disallowed in the abstract. The abstract should not generally exceed 200/300 (Letter/Article) words. Pasting the abstract in the text box on the Web submission page does not replace the need for including an abstract in the manuscript document.

Keywords. All Articles, Letters, and Perspectives must be accompanied by 5–8 keywords. These keywords will appear in the PDF version of the article and will also be used as a search term in the HTML version of the article.

Text (Articles). The first paragraphs of an Article should explain the motivation for and import of the work, where it fits in the development of the field and of chemistry, and perhaps why it should be of interest to chemists in other areas. It should be possible to do this without excessively increasing the length of the Article. Extensive reviews of the literature cannot be accepted. Thoughtful use of schemes and figures (with well-composed captions) is recommended, so that even casual browsers can discern the nature of the work. Well-known procedures should be designated by name, or literature references to them should be given. Experimental results are of lasting value and should be clearly and logically presented in a separate section. Standard Article format must be used for preparing a manuscript for submission as an Article, including section headings and a proper Introduction, a complete Experimental Section (containing all of the important and unique experimental procedures), Results, and Discussion. The addition of a Conclusion section at the end of the manuscript, which briefly summarizes the principal conclusions of the work, is recommended. If desired for clarification, section headings may be given Arabic numbers and subsections numbered in decimals (e.g., subsection 2.1 and subsection 2.2).

Text (Letters). Section headings (Introduction, Experimental Section, Conclusion, etc.) should not be used in a Letter.

Experimental Section. Use complete sentences (i.e., do not use outline form) and be consistent in voice and tense. For apparatus, list only devices of a specialized nature. List and describe the preparation of special reagents only. Do not list those normally found in the laboratory and preparations described in standard handbooks and texts. The Experimental Section in the main body of the manuscript should contain sufficient information that others can understand and repeat the experiment without needing to refer to the Supporting Information. While it is acceptable to report some of the detailed procedures as Supporting Information, important and unique experimental procedures must remain in the main manuscript.

Safety. Authors must emphasize any unexpected, new, and/or significant hazards or risks associated with the reported work. For each manuscript that reports experimental procedures, authors must include an affirmative statement about safety in the Experimental Section of the full article or the main text of a Letter. Further information may be included or re-introduced in the Supporting Information.

Appendices. Appendix sections must be placed in the Supporting Information.

Dedications. All dedications must appear in the Acknowledgment section and are subject to approval by the Editor.

Abbreviations. Acronyms and abbreviations that are not broadly familiar to readers in all disciplines of chemistry should be introduced in parentheses following the full term on its first

appearance in the text. Do not include a separate Abbreviations list.

Acknowledgment. Dedications and notes acknowledging financial or professional assistance to the conduct of research or indicating presentation at a meeting should be brief and placed in the Acknowledgment section.

Author Information Notes. The e-mail address(es) of the corresponding author or authors must be provided as a Corresponding Author note. Present addresses for individual authors that differ from the address(es) at which the work was done should be given in a Present Address(es) note.

Statements about author contributions to the work or equal contributions of work should be included as a separate statement.

References and Footnotes. *All the references and footnotes must be placed together in a list at the end of the manuscript text.* In the Web edition, many of them will have links to other Web resources, such as the corresponding abstracts in *Chemical Abstracts* and the full text from other American Chemical Society journals. Because of this electronic linking, and to aid scientific research, *it is crucial that authors verify the accuracy of all references.*

Unnecessarily long lists of references should be avoided, and excessive self-citation is not permitted. However, authors must reference all previous publications in which portions of the present work have appeared. Each literature reference should be assigned one number and placed in the text as a superscript Arabic numeral. Footnotes to the text should be combined with references and numbered in ordinal sequence. Long footnotes should be avoided in Articles and are not permitted in Communications; additional data and peripheral discussion should be placed in the Supporting Information rather than in footnotes.

Bibliographic references to classified documents and reports or references to unpublished materials that are not generally available to the scientific public should not be used. Authors must obtain written permission from any person whose work is cited as a personal communication, unpublished work, or work in press. Copies of letters of permission and documentation should be appended to the cover letter file. If the manuscript is accepted but the necessary permissions have not been received, the Editor will ask the author to remove the reference(s) and dependent text.

List submitted articles as “in press” only if they have been formally accepted for publication. Otherwise, use “unpublished work” with the name of the place where the work was done and the date. For work published online (ASAP, in press), the DOI should be furnished in addition to the author name(s), article title, journal name, and year. DOI is an accepted form of citation before and after the article appears in an issue.

Example of a journal reference:

Yue, Q.; Liu, W.; Zhu, X. n-Type Molecular Photovoltaic Materials: Design Strategies and Device Applications. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2020**, 142, 11613–11628.

Example of an in-press journal reference:

Ham, J. S.; Park, B.; Son, M.; Roque, J. B.; Jurczyk, J.; Yeung, C. S.; Baik, M.-H. ; Sarpong, R. C–H/C–C Functionalization Approach to N-Fused Heterocycles from Saturated Azacycles. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2020**, DOI: 10.1021/jacs.0c04278.

Example of a reference to a book with no editors:

Desiraju, G. R.; Vittal, J. J.; Ramanan, A. *Crystal Engineering: A Textbook*. World Scientific Publishing Co Pte Ltd: Singapore, 2011.

Example of a reference to a book with editors:

Byrn, S. R.; Stowell, J. G. Impurities in Drug Substances and Drug Products. In *Validation of Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients*; Berry, I.R., Harpaz, D., Eds.; CRC Press: Boca Raton, 2001; pp 271–292.

Authors should consult the [ACS Guide to Scholarly Communication](#) for the appropriate style to use in citations of journal articles, books, and other publications. In literature references, article titles must be included and journal abbreviations should be those used in the [Chemical Abstracts Service Source Index \(CASSI\)](#).

Supporting Information

This information is provided to the reviewers during the peer-review process (for Review Only) and is available to readers of the published work (for Publication). Supporting Information must be submitted at the same time as the manuscript. See the list of [Acceptable Software by File Designation](#) and confirm that your Supporting Information is [viewable](#).

If the manuscript is accompanied by any supporting information files for publication, these files will be made available free of charge to readers. A brief, nonsentence description of the actual contents of each file, including the file type extension, is required. This description should be labeled Supporting Information and should appear before the Acknowledgement and Reference sections. Examples of sufficient and insufficient descriptions are as follows:

Examples of sufficient descriptions: “Supporting Information: ^1H NMR spectra for all compounds (PDF)” or “Additional experimental details, materials, and methods, including photographs of experimental setup (DOC)”.

Examples of insufficient descriptions: “Supporting Information: Figures S1-S3” or “Additional figures as mentioned in the text”.

When including supporting information for review only, include copies of references that are unpublished or in-press. These files are available only to editors and reviewers.

Research Data Policy

All ACS journals strongly encourage authors to make the research data underlying their articles publicly available at the time of publication.

ACS Measurement Science Au applies ACS Research Data Policy **Level 1**, meaning the journal encourages all authors to publicly share all the data underlying the results reported in the paper, preferably via archiving in an appropriate public repository. Authors are also encouraged to provide a [Data Availability Statement](#) describing the public availability of the data supporting the article’s conclusions. Publicly available data sets should be [cited appropriately](#).

The [ACS Research Data Policy](#) provides additional information on Data Availability Statements, Data Citation, and Data Repositories.

Research data is defined as materials and information used in the experiments that enable the

validation of the conclusions drawn in the article, including primary data produced by the authors for the study being reported, secondary data reused or analyzed by the authors for the study, and any other materials necessary to reproduce or replicate the results.

Data Requirements

Please refer to the [ACS Math Style Sheet](#) and [NMR Guidelines](#) for guidance.

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[CRediT](#) is a high-level taxonomy used to identify and acknowledge the roles played by contributors to scientific scholarly output. During original submission and/or revision, there are 14 standard roles from which the submitting author can select to describe the specific contributions of each author. At this time, CRediT is optional for authors. Please note that author CRediT information will not transfer if the manuscript is transferred to a non-pilot journal. [Click here to learn more about the ACS CRediT pilot.](#)

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Preparing Graphics

The quality of illustrations in ACS journals and partner journals depends on the quality of the original files provided by the authors. Figures are not modified or enhanced by journal production staff. All graphics must be prepared and submitted in digital format.

Graphics should be inserted into the main body whenever possible. Please see Appendix 2 for additional information.

Any graphic (figure chart, scheme, or equation) that has appeared in an earlier publication should include a [credit line](#) citing the original source. Authors are responsible for [obtaining written permission](#) to re-use this material.

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Preparing for Submission

Manuscripts, graphics, supporting information, and required forms, as well as manuscript revisions, must all be submitted in digital format through [ACS Paragon Plus](#), which requires an ACS ID to log in. Registering for an ACS ID is fast, free, and does not require an ACS membership. Please refer to Appendix 1 for additional information on preparing your submission

Prior Publication Policy

Submission of a manuscript to *ACS Measurement Science Au* is contingent upon the agreement by all the authors that the reported work has not received prior publication and that no portion of this or any other closely related work is under consideration for publication.

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Publication of manuscripts on the Web may occur weeks in advance of the cover date of the issue of publication. Authors should take this into account when planning their patent and intellectual property activities related to a document and should ensure that all patent information is available at the time of first publication, whether ASAP or issue publication.

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Manuscripts will be published on the “ASAP Articles” page on the web as soon as page proofs are corrected, all author concerns are resolved, and payment has been received. ASAP publication typically occurs within 1-2 working days of receipt of page proof corrections (provided payment has been resolved), which can be a few weeks in advance of the cover date of the issue.

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Additions and Corrections may be requested by the author(s) or initiated by the Editor to address important issues or correct errors and omissions of consequence that arise after publication of an article. All Additions and Corrections are subject to approval by the Editor, and should bring new and directly relevant information and corrections that fix scientific facts. Minor corrections and additions will not be published. Readers who detect errors of consequence in the work of others should contact the corresponding author of that work.

Additions and Corrections must be submitted as new manuscripts via ACS Paragon Plus by the Corresponding Author for publication in the “Addition/Correction” section of the Journal. The corresponding author should obtain approval from all coauthors prior to submitting or provide evidence that such approval has been solicited. The manuscript should include the original article title and author list, citation including DOI, and details of the correction.

Retractions

Articles may be retracted for scientific or ethical reasons and may be requested by the article author(s) or by the journal Editor(s), but are ultimately published at the discretion of the Editor. Articles that contain seriously flawed or erroneous data such that their findings and conclusions cannot be relied upon may be retracted in order to correct the scientific record. When an article is retracted, a notice of Retraction will be published containing information about the reason for the Retraction. The originally published article will remain online except in extraordinary circumstances (e.g. where deemed legally necessary, or if the availability of the published content poses public health risks).

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Expressions of Concern may be issued at the discretion of the Editor if:

- there is inconclusive evidence of research or publication misconduct by the authors;
- there is evidence that the findings are unreliable but the authors' institution will not investigate

the case;

- an investigation into alleged misconduct related to the publication either has not been, or would not be, fair and impartial or conclusive;
- an investigation is underway but a judgment will not be available for a considerable time.

Upon completion of any related investigation, and when a final determination is made about the outcome of the article, the Expression of Concern may be replaced with a Retraction notice or Correction.

Appendix 1: PREPARING FOR SUBMISSION

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If the manuscript is accepted and no conflict of interest has been declared, the following statement will be published in the final article: "The authors declare no competing financial interest."

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Appendix 2: Preparing Graphics

Resolution

Digital graphics pasted into manuscripts should have the following minimum resolutions:

- Black and white line art, 1200 dpi
- Grayscale art, 600 dpi
- Color art, 300 dpi

Size

Graphics must fit a one- or two-column format. Single-column graphics can be sized up to 240 points wide (3.33 in.) and double-column graphics must be sized between 300 and 504 points (4.167 in. and 7 in.). The maximum depth for all graphics is 660 points (9.167 in.) including the

caption (allow 12 pts. For each line of caption text). Lettering should be no smaller than 4.5 points in the final published format. The text should be legible when the graphic is viewed full-size. Helvetica or Arial fonts work well for lettering. Lines should be no thinner than 0.5 point.

Color

Color may be used to enhance the clarity of complex structures, figures, spectra, and schemes, etc., and color reproduction of graphics is provided at no additional cost to the author. Graphics intended to appear in black and white or grayscale should not be submitted in color.

Type of Graphics

Table of Contents (TOC)/Abstract Graphic

Consult the Guidelines for [Table of Contents/Abstract Graphics](#) for specifications.

Our team of subject-matter experts and graphical designers can also help generate a compelling TOC graphic to convey your key findings. Learn more about our [Graphical Abstract service](#).

Figures

A caption giving the figure number and a brief description must be included below each figure. The caption should be understandable without reference to the text. It is preferable to place any key to symbols used in the artwork itself, not in the caption. Ensure that any symbols and abbreviations used in the text agree with those in the artwork.

Charts

Charts (groups of structures that do not show reactions) may have a brief caption describing their contents.

Tables

Each table must have a brief (one phrase or sentence) title that describes the contents. The title should be understandable without reference to the text. Details should be put in footnotes, not in the title. Tables should be used when the data cannot be presented clearly in the narrative, when many numbers must be presented, or when more meaningful inter-relationships can be conveyed by the tabular format. Tables should supplement, not duplicate, information presented in the text and figures. Tables should be simple and concise.

Schemes

Each scheme (sequences of reactions) may have a brief caption describing its contents.

Chemical Structures

Chemical structures should be produced with the use of a drawing program such as ChemDraw.

Cover Art

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Cover image submissions should be colorful and visually engaging, with minimal text. The cover image should not resemble a graphical abstract or data figure, but rather should be an artistic and scientifically accurate representation of the manuscript.

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