

Information for Authors of Papers

(revised September 2010)

Contents (*click on the topic*)

Journal Scope Subject Categories | **Manuscript Types** | **Ethics** | **Submission of Manuscripts** | **Manuscript Preparation** Manuscript Format • Title • Authorship • Abstract • Table of Contents Graphic • Keywords • Introduction • Results/Discussion • Tables • Figures • Figure Captions • Schemes • Charts • Conclusions • Experimental Methods • Acknowledgment • Supporting Information for Publication • Supporting Information for Review • Web-Enhanced Objects • References | **Editorial Peer Review Process** | **Artwork** General Considerations • Quality • Resolution • Size • Color • Chemical Structures • Cover Art | **General Information** Guidelines for Theory Papers • Nomenclature | **Paragon Plus Tips** | **Revisions/Resubmissions** | **Journal Publishing Agreement** | **Proofs** ACS Policies for E-prints and ACS AuthorChoice | **Appendix: Examples of Abstracts**

Journal Scope

The *Journal of Physical Chemistry (JPC) Letters* is devoted to reporting new and original experimental and theoretical basic research of interest to physical chemists, biophysical chemists, chemical physicists, physicists, material scientists and engineers. Manuscripts that are essentially reporting data, applications of data, performance evaluation of devices, or reviews of the literature are, in general, not suitable for publication in *JPC Letters*. An important criterion for acceptance is that the paper reports a **significant scientific advance and/or physical insight** such that rapid publication is essential.

JPC Letters includes the following subject categories:

Subject Categories

1. Dynamics, Clusters, Excited States
2. Kinetics, Spectroscopy
3. Atmospheric, Environmental and Green Chemistry
4. Molecular Structure, Quantum Chemistry, General Theory
5. Macromolecules, Soft Matter
6. Surfactants, Membranes
7. Statistical Mechanics, Thermodynamics, Medium Effects
8. Biophysical Chemistry
9. Nanoparticles and Nanostructures
10. Surfaces, Interfaces, Catalysis
11. Electron Transport, Optical and Electronic Devices, Hard Matter
12. Energy Conversion and Storage

Manuscript Types

Letters are short articles that report results whose immediate availability to the scientific community is deemed important. Letters are restricted to 2500 words or the equivalent (8–10 double-spaced typewritten pages of text, 3–4 figures, and 1–2 schemes/illustrations). A brief abstract of fewer than 150 words should be included, and instructions for preparing an appropriate abstract may be found below. Letters may occasionally have a follow-up publication when the research is continued and a more complete account of the work is necessary. Since special effort

will be made to expedite the reviewing and the publication of *JPC Letters*, a relatively short time is provided for reading the proofs. Thus, Authors should ensure that manuscripts are in final, error-free form when submitted. Letters must contain a Table of Contents (TOC)/Abstract graphic as part of the manuscript.

Perspectives (by invitation only) are brief reports (3–4 journal pages) highlighting a specific topic of interest to physical chemists and chemical physicists. These reports are not intended to be a comprehensive look at the field but rather to place a particular research finding into broader context. Perspectives should include a brief abstract (120 words max), approximately 30 references, and a TOC/Abstract graphic.

Additions and Corrections are Authors' corrections to published manuscripts and are limited to the length required to correct the errors.

Ethics

The complete document "Ethical Guidelines to Publication of Chemical Research" is available at <http://pubs.acs.org/page/policy/ethics/index.html>.

Multiple Reporting of Research

It is improper for an Author to submit manuscripts describing essentially the same research to more than one journal.

Plagiarism

The Editors of *JPC Letters* will not tolerate plagiarism. This includes the verbatim copying of previously published work from other Authors and by the same Author. Please contact the Editors if there are questions about avoiding plagiarism.

Coauthorship

The submitting Author must obtain consent of coauthorship from all Coauthors listed prior to submitting the manuscript and include as Coauthors all individuals who made significant scientific contributions to the work. Any disagreement between the Corresponding Author and Coauthor(s) after submission will cause review of the manuscript to cease. Removal or addition of Coauthor(s) after submission of the manuscript requires confirmation in writing by all Coauthor(s) and approval by the Editor.

Submission of Manuscripts

Manuscripts must be submitted electronically via the ACS Paragon Plus Environment (<http://paragonplus.acs.org>). Platforms, word processing packages, and instructions for submitting TeX/LaTeX are available via the Submission and Review page of the Web site.

Authors whose manuscripts are published in the Journal will be expected to review manuscripts submitted by other researchers from time to time.

Security features limit access of a manuscript to those Editors and Reviewers to whom that manuscript is assigned.

All manuscripts must be accompanied by a **cover letter** that contains **clear and precise** information about the submission and **highlights the significance** of the work. Please use official letterhead of the Author's affiliation that lists the telephone number, e-mail address and fax number. The cover letter must include all of the following points:

- manuscript title and Authors' names
- Corresponding Author's name, address, telephone number, e-mail address, and fax number

- designation of the Journal's subject category that best fits the manuscript (see list under Journal Scope in these instructions) [Note that the Editors reserve the right to reassign manuscripts to different Journal categories. The Journal's subject category designated in the cover letter must match the entry given in Paragon Plus.]
- explanation of the manuscript's significance, including its originality and its contribution to new knowledge in the field
- list of at least three recommended Reviewers for the manuscript; include the address, telephone number, and e-mail address for each suggested Reviewer
- submission history, if previously submitted to another ACS journal (If the manuscript has already been reviewed by another ACS journal, inclusion of your response to reviewers' comments is encouraged since it can speed up the review process.)
- statement that manuscript is not being considered by any other journal

When submitting manuscripts in Paragon Plus, Authors should do the following:

- list all authors on the manuscript correctly with current and accurate e-mail addresses for each. It is important to provide correct e-mail addresses for all Coauthors because Paragon Plus will notify these authors that the manuscript has been submitted. Entering inaccurate or fictitious e-mail addresses is inadvisable because it may delay the review process for the manuscript
- make sure that Coauthors are aware of the submission (See Ethics section for details.)
- provide copies of unpublished work [Not citing prior work in press by the same Authors can constitute an ethical violation.]
- if the manuscript is written in Microsoft Word, please remove all "tracked changes" from the manuscript and turn off the "Track Changes" feature before uploading into Paragon Plus
- check that the subject category matches that which was given in the cover letter

Ensure that you have completed the requirements by consulting the [author checklist](#).

Submission of hardcopy manuscripts is not allowed.

Manuscript Preparation

Manuscript Format

Manuscripts must be prepared using accepted word-processing software, and all parts must be double-spaced. All pages must be numbered consecutively starting with the title page and including tables and figures. A standard font, in a size of 12 points or greater, must be used. Templates and instructions for software, including Tex/LaTex, are available on the Web.

Standard American English usage is required. Authors who are not familiar with standard American English are urged to seek assistance; deficiencies in grammar may be a serious hindrance during the review process. For more information, Authors may visit the [Language Editing Services](#) listed under the Publishing Tools tab of the Author & Reviewer Resource Center.

[The ACS Style Guide](#) (3rd ed., 2006; ISBN13: 9780841239999) is available. The Third Edition is the definitive source for all information needed to write, review, submit, and edit scholarly and scientific manuscripts. Refer to a current issue of the Journals for general style.

Authors are encouraged to use a [Document Template](#) when preparing their manuscript. The various sections of the manuscript should be assembled **without section headers**, with the exception of a header for the Experimental Section or Computational Methods, which should be included at the end of the main text of the manuscript.

- Title, Authorship, Affiliations, and Corresponding Author(s)' e-mail address(es) (single page)
- Abstract, Table of Contents Image, and Keywords (in this order, single page)
- Introduction
- Results and Discussion, including Figures, Figure Captions, and Tables
- Experimental Methods
- Acknowledgment
- Supporting Information Description and Supporting Information paragraph, if any
- References
- Supporting Information (for Publication or for Review Only), if any, each in separate files and uploaded separate from the manuscript

Title

The title should be specific, informative, and accurately reflect the scientific content. Keywords in the title assist in effective literature retrieval. The title, authorship, and institutional affiliations should be included on a single page. Avoid the use of uncommon acronyms and words such as "First", "Novel", "Facile", and "One Pot" in the title and abstract.

Authorship

Be consistent in authorship designation on the manuscript and on all correspondence. Authors' names should be given in as complete a form as possible: first names, initials, and surnames. Omit titles. Give the complete mailing addresses of the institutions **where the work was conducted** and identify the affiliation of each Author. If the current address of an Author is different, include it in a footnote on the title page. The Corresponding Author to whom inquiries about the paper should be addressed must be marked with an asterisk; provide the telephone number, e-mail address, and fax number of this correspondent.

Abstract

The abstract for Letters should be a clear, concise, one paragraph summary (100–150 words). The abstract should be informative rather than descriptive, giving scope, purpose, experimental approach, significant results, and major conclusions. Avoid the use of reference citations. Abbreviations and acronyms should be defined upon first usage. Authors' abstracts are used directly for *Chemical Abstracts*. Follow the recommended format when preparing the abstract. Representative abstracts in the recommended format from *JPC A/B/C* are shown below in the Appendix.

Table of Contents (TOC)/Abstract Graphic

A TOC/Abstract graphic is required and will be published with the Web Table of Contents and next to the Abstract. The illustration should capture the readers' attention and, in conjunction with the manuscript title, give the readers a quick visual impression of the essence of the paper without providing specific results. The graphic for the TOC/Abstract should be in the form of a structure, graphical image, photograph, or reaction scheme. Color graphics are highly encouraged, with text kept to a minimum. The graphic must be submitted in the actual size to be used for the TOC, fitting in an area 2 in. high and 2 in. wide (5.1 cm × 5.1 cm). Larger images will be reduced to fit within those dimensions. The type size of labels and other symbols within the graphic must be legible. Tables and spectra are not acceptable. The TOC/Abstract graphic should be submitted in the manuscript file on the same page as the Abstract.

Keywords

Identify five to seven keywords to assist in indexing your paper, and list these on a separate line beginning with "Keywords" on the Abstract page. Authors are encouraged to include keywords that do not appear in the title.

Introduction

Limit the introductory section to one to two paragraphs (without headings). Discuss relationships of the study to previously published work, but do not reiterate or attempt to provide a complete literature survey. The purpose or reason for the research being reported and its significance, originality, or contribution to new knowledge in the field should be clearly and concisely stated. Highlight the physical chemistry aspects of the work by citing appropriate work that would appeal to the Journal's general readership. Do not include or summarize current findings in this section.

Results/Discussion

The Author should discuss the significance of observations, measurements, or computations and should also point out how they contribute to the scientific objectives indicated in the introductory portion of the paper. Headings should not be included in this section.

Complicated chemical equations, schemes, and structures should be supplied as graphic images, ready for publication. Figures, schemes, and charts, along with their captions, should be placed in the text where they are first mentioned and numbered consecutively with Arabic numbers. Mathematical expressions and chemical formulas with unavailable symbols and letters should be clearly identified. Capital, lowercase, and Greek letters should be easily discernible or identified if ambiguity might result. Complicated superscripts and subscripts should be avoided. Fractional exponents should be used instead of root signs.

Authors should consult recently published manuscripts on the [Journal home page](#) and [The ACS Style Guide](#) for examples of style and general recommendations. See also: Mills, I., et al. Quantities, Units and Symbols in Physical Chemistry, 2nd ed.; Blackwell Scientific Publications: Oxford, U.K., 1993.

Tables

Tables should be numbered consecutively with Arabic numbers. Each table must have a brief title that describes its 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 as narrative, when many numbers must be presented, or when more meaningful interrelationships 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 and can be included in the text.

Column headings should be lowercase, except for symbols and proper names. Define nonstandard abbreviations in footnotes. Footnotes in tables should be given letter designations and be cited in the table by italic superscript letters. The sequence of letters should proceed by row rather than by column. If a reference is cited both in the text and in a table, a lettered footnote that refers to the numbered reference in the text should be inserted in the table.

In setting up tables, Authors should keep in mind the area of the Journal's page (7 in. × 8.7 in. or 17.8 cm × 22.1 cm) and the column width (3.4 in. or 8.5 cm) and should make tables conform to the limitations of these dimensions.

Figures

All figures must be mentioned in the text in consecutive order and must be numbered with Arabic numbers. If symbols are used, it is preferable to place a key in the artwork itself, not in the caption. Ensure that any symbols and abbreviations used in the text agree with those in the figures. See more detailed information on submission of graphics under Artwork below. Figures and figure captions must be placed in the text where they are first mentioned.

Figure Captions

A caption giving the figure number and a brief description, preferably only one or two sentences, must be included for each figure.

Schemes

Sequences of reactions are called schemes. Schemes should have titles describing their contents and footnotes, if needed, for further detail. Schemes should be numbered with Arabic numbers in consecutive order.

Charts

Groups of structures that do not show reactions are called charts and should be numbered consecutively with Arabic numbers. Charts should have titles describing their contents and footnotes, if needed, for further detail.

Conclusions

Concluding remarks, principle findings, and future scope of the work should be summarized in the last paragraph of the Results and Discussion.

Experimental Methods

General Information. Provide a brief description of the experimental methodology in the manuscript. Detailed experimental procedures can be provided in Supporting Information, as needed.

Hazards. Any unusual hazards in the chemicals, equipment, or procedures used in an investigation should be clearly identified.

Acknowledgment

Acknowledgments of financial assistance for the conduct of research, citations of theses, or indications of presentation at a research meeting should be brief and placed in this section.

Supporting Information for Publication

Supporting information (SI) should be uploaded as separate files. A paragraph must appear at the end of the manuscript (after the Acknowledgment and before the References) briefly describing the material available in SI and the means by which the interested reader may obtain it. The following format should be used:

Supporting Information Available: Description of the material included. This material is available free of charge via the Internet at <http://pubs.acs.org>.

- Extensive tables, graphs, spectra, calculations, detailed experimental methodology, and other material beyond a modest content in the published paper may be submitted as Supporting Information for Publication. SI is uploaded as separate files (file designation Supporting Information for Publication) at the time the manuscript is submitted. SI will be made available free of charge on the Web and can be accessed separately on the Web by readers. The manuscript title and authors' names and affiliations should be provided on the first page of SI. All pages should be numbered consecutively starting with page S1. The list of supported file types for SI can be found at <http://pubs.acs.org/page/4authors/submission/software.html>. Zip compression may be used on large files prepared in the acceptable formats to speed transfer time. Files prepared in any other software must be provided in .pdf format. If the SI is written in Microsoft Word, please remove all "tracked changes" from the SI and turn off the "Track Changes" feature before uploading into Paragon Plus.

Supporting Information for Review Only

Include copies of references that are unpublished or in press. Supporting Information for Review Only files are available only to the Editors and the Reviewers.

Web-Enhanced Objects

The Journal encourages the submission of Web-enhanced objects (WEOs) for the presentation of graphical results that go beyond conventional publication capabilities, including 3D rotatable figures, animations, spectra, video, and sound. Links to WEOs will appear in the Web HTML version of the paper. Files suitable for this form of publication should be viewable with commonly available Internet plug-ins (e.g., Chime) or helper applications (Rasmol, Mercury, etc.). Authors should submit WEOs via the Paragon Plus Web site as part of their submissions and clearly indicate to the Editor that the material is WEO material. Descriptions of WEOs should be noted in the appropriate places within the graphic caption or text of the paper, noting the type of file and format. Example: "A 3D rotatable image in xyz format is available." For more information, including acceptable software for WEOs, go to <http://pubs.acs.org/page/4authors/submission/weo.html>.

References

References to the literature should be numbered in one consecutive series by order of appearance in the text, with the text citations presented as unparenthesized superscript Arabic numbers. Authors should consult [The ACS Style Guide](#) for the appropriate style to use in citations of journal papers, books, and other publications. References with more than 10 authors must list the first 10 authors, followed by "et al." References will be linked to various electronic sources (e.g., the corresponding abstract from Chemical Abstracts Service, full text from other American Chemical Society Journals, etc.); therefore, the accuracy of references is critical. Authors are responsible for the accuracy of the references.

Unnecessarily long lists of references, including excessive self-citation, are to be avoided; however, authors must provide references to all relevant publications in which portions of the present work have appeared. Citation of recent papers published in physical chemistry and chemical physics journals that highlight the significance of work to the general readership is encouraged.

Journal references should contain author names, article title (written in title case), abbreviated journal title, year, volume, and pages (first-last). An example is provided below.

Habenicht, B. F.; Prezhdo, O. V. Time-Domain Ab Initio Study of Nonradiative Decay in a Narrow Graphene Ribbon. *J. Phys. Chem. C* **2009**, *113*, 14067–14070.

Book references should contain author names, book title (written in title case), publisher, city, and year. An example is provided below.

Datta, S. *Electronic Transport in Mesoscopic Systems*; Cambridge University Press: Cambridge, U.K., 1995.

In literature references, journal abbreviations should be those used by Chemical Abstracts Service [see *Chemical Abstracts Service Source Index (CASSI) 1907–2004*]. For references to *JPC A/B/C*, part A, B, or C must be specified for papers published in 1997 forward.

Additional data and peripheral discussion should be placed in the Supporting Information (SI) rather than in references. Supplementary references may be placed in SI. Submitted papers should not depend on unpublished material, and excessive reference to material in press or reports not readily found in research libraries is discouraged. If pertinent references are in press or unpublished for any reason, upload copies of the references as Supporting Information for Review Only to enable Reviewers to evaluate the manuscript. Papers accepted for publication are cited as "in press"; the DOI should be given if the paper is published online.

Editorial Peer Review Process

The Editors may exercise their prerogative to reject a manuscript without peer review if that paper is judged to be outside the scope of the Journal, poorly written or formatted, fragmentary and marginally incremental, or lacking in significance.

All manuscripts submitted are reviewed and handled by one of the Editors. The Editor and local Editorial Assistant are then responsible for the assigned manuscripts, including acknowledging receipt, evaluating the content of the paper, screening authors' previous submissions/publications, selecting Reviewers, monitoring the progress of the review process, evaluating the comments of Reviewers and forwarding them to the Authors for their response, communicating ultimate acceptance or rejection to the Corresponding Author, carrying out a final check of accepted manuscripts for appropriate format and style, and forwarding manuscripts to the publications office.

The Editors request the scientific advice of Reviewers who are active in the area of research covered by the manuscript. The Reviewers act only in an advisory capacity, and the final decision concerning a manuscript is the responsibility of the Editors. The Reviewers are asked to comment not only on the scientific content but also on the manuscript's suitability for *JPC Letters*. The Reviewers are asked to comment specifically on the urgency of publication. All reviews are anonymous to the authors, and the reviewing process is most effective if Reviewers do not reveal their identities to the Authors.

A manuscript sent to an Author for revision should be returned to the Editor without delay. Authors should contact the Editor if a delay is anticipated. The editors reserve the right to deactivate a manuscript not returned within 2 weeks of the request. When a manuscript is inactivated, it will no longer be available on your Paragon Plus home page. When this occurs, the revised manuscript must be resubmitted as a new submission. The cover letter should indicate the previous JZ manuscript number as well as respond to the comments of the Reviewers. The manuscript will be processed as a revision with a new JZ manuscript number and date of submission.

Manuscripts undergoing major revisions are generally sent back to the original Reviewers, who are asked to comment on the revisions. If only minor revisions are involved, the Editor frequently examines the revised manuscript in light of the recommendations of the Reviewers without seeking further opinions. The Author should provide a cover letter with the revised manuscript to detail how the Author responded to the Reviewers' comments. The date of receipt of the original manuscript will appear on the published paper.

If the Editor or Reviewers determine that there is no urgency for communicating the work as a Letter, the Editor may recommend that the authors submit the manuscript to *JPC A/B/C* to be published as an Article. The authors may resubmit their revised manuscript to *JPC A/B/C* as a new submission along with previous submission history and response, if any, to Reviewers' comments.

Galley proofs should be checked for accuracy and returned within 48 hours of receipt. Once proof corrections have been made and all Author concerns are resolved, the document will be immediately posted on the Journal's Web site. Authors should take this into account when planning their intellectual and patent activities related to the document. Once published on the Web, no further changes can be made to the manuscript. After publication, all changes to a manuscript must be made through "Additions and Corrections".

Artwork

General Considerations

Figures and tables that will appear in the published article are to be inserted directly in the main body of the manuscript, and not included in the Supporting Information. Authors should review the [Acceptable Software](#) for graphic formats and guidelines for [Preparing Manuscript Graphics](#). All graphics must be created in digital format. In general, graphics should be copied from the graphics program window and pasted directly into the manuscript. The Author should make sure that the graphic is at the appropriate resolution (see below) before copying and pasting. The graphics should be resized in the graphics program and then pasted into the manuscript. The Author should not resize graphics after they are pasted into Word. This is true regardless of the graphic format (cds, tif, eps, pdf, etc.).

Quality

The quality of the graphics in the Journal depends on the quality of the files provided by the Author. Figures cannot be modified or enhanced by the Journal production staff. Images produced from continuous-tone graphics such as photographs should have high contrast.

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 on the Journal page.

		single (preferred)	double
width	minimum	–	10.5 cm (4.13 in.)
	maximum	8.25 cm (3.25 in.)	17.78 cm (7 in.)
maximum depth		22 cm (8.6 in.)	22 cm (8.6 in.)

For best results, **submit graphics in the actual size at which they should appear in the PDF version of the paper**. Original graphics that do not need to be reduced to fit a single or double column will yield the best quality. Lettering should be no smaller than 4.5 points in the final published format. Helvetica or Arial fonts work well for lettering. Lines should be no thinner than 0.5 point. Lettering and lines should be of uniform density and the lines unbroken. If the submitted artwork must be reduced, larger lettering and thicker lines should be used so that, when reduced, the artwork meets the above mentioned criteria.

Color

The use of color to enhance the clarity of complex structures, figures, spectra, schemes, etc. is highly encouraged. Color graphics will be published **at no cost to the Author**. Graphics intended to appear in black and white or grayscale should not be submitted in color.

Chemical Structures

Structures should be produced with the use of a drawing program such as ChemDraw. Authors using the current versions of ChemDraw will find the necessary parameters incorporated into this

program ("ACS Document 1996"). Authors using older versions of ChemDraw should use the following settings:

1. As drawing settings select:
chain angle 120°
bond spacing 18% of width
fixed length 14.4 pt (0.508 cm, 0.2 in.)
bold width 2.0 pt (0.071 cm, 0.0278 in.)
line width 0.6 pt (0.021 cm, 0.0084 in.)
margin width 1.6 pt (0.056 cm, 0.0222 in.)
hash spacing 2.5 pt (0.088 cm, 0.0347 in.)
2. As text settings select:
font Arial/Helvetica
size 10 pt
3. Under the preferences choose:
units points
tolerances 3 pixels
4. Under page setup choose:
paper US Letter
scale 100%
5. Use the ChemDraw ruler or appropriate margin settings to create charts, equations, and schemes with maximum widths of 8.25 cm (one-column format) or 17.8 cm (two-column format). If the foregoing drawing-setting lengths and widths are selected in centimeters rather than in points or inches, the ChemDraw ruler will be calibrated in centimeters.
6. Copy and paste the graphics into the manuscript text file at the appropriate locations. Do not use the "insert" function.

Authors using other drawing packages should set the program parameters to match the above values as closely as possible.

Cover Art

Authors are encouraged to suggest a figure, scheme, or photograph from their work to be considered for Cover Art. Cover art images are usually selected from published Letters.

Cover images must capture the importance and excitement of the science discussed within the manuscript while also being "eye-catching" and aesthetically appealing. Suggested images are judged by the Editors. Cover images approved for publication may be modified by the ACS graphics staff. Images to be considered for the cover must be approximately 6 in. × 6 in. (15.2 cm × 15.2 cm) with a minimum of 300 dpi resolution (1800 × 1800 pixels). Do not reduce the image or resolution when downloading it into Paragon Plus. Preferred image files are eps, tif, jpg, and png (not pdf). Cover art files should be submitted as Supporting Information for Publication. Images chosen for the cover will be printed at **no cost to the author**.

General Information

Guidelines for Theory Papers

To be appropriate for publication in *JPC Letters*, theory papers must satisfy at least one of the following criteria:

1. provide significant new physical insight into an experimentally relevant system or process
2. present a new theoretical or computational methodology of general interest

Manuscripts that report the results of electronic structure calculations should follow the guidelines in J. E. Boggs (*Pure Appl. Chem.* **1998**, 70, No. 4, 1015–1018). Manuscripts that present force field parameters and other potential energy surface information should follow the guidelines in D. J. Raber and W. C. Guida (*Pure Appl. Chem.* **1998**, 70, No. 10, 2047–2049). Both sets of guidelines can be viewed online at <http://www.iupac.org/reports/1998/index.html>.

Nomenclature

Registered trademark names should be capitalized whenever used. Trade and trivial names should not be capitalized. Usually, the chemical name or composition should be given in parentheses or in a reference at the first occurrence of such a name. Nomenclature should conform with current American usage. Insofar as possible, Authors should use systematic names similar to those used by Chemical Abstracts Service and the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry.

Chemical Abstracts (CA) nomenclature rules are described in Appendix IV of the *Chemical Abstracts Index Guide*. For CA nomenclature advice, consult the Manager of Nomenclature Services, Chemical Abstracts Service, P.O. Box 3012, Columbus, OH 43210-0012. A name generation service is available for a fee through CAS Client Services, 2540 Olentangy River Road, P.O. Box 3343, Columbus, OH 43210-0334; phone, (614) 447-3870; fax, (614) 447-3747; or e-mail, answers@cas.org.

Paragon Plus Tips

- The manuscript Word document and PDF should contain everything, including figures, but not the Supporting Information. Supporting Information for Publication or for Review must be uploaded as separate files.
- The Editors reserve the right to deactivate a manuscript if a revision is not returned within two weeks from the date of request. Authors should contact the Editor if a delay is anticipated. Once deactivated, it will no longer appear on your Paragon Plus home page, and the revision must be uploaded as a new manuscript.
- Do not use inaccurate or fictitious e-mail addresses because it may delay the review process for the manuscript.
- Contact the Customer Services & Information for ACS Paragon Plus support at support@services.acs.org, <http://pubshelp.acs.org>, and 1-800-227-9919 or 202-872-4357. Hours of operations are 12 a.m. to 8 p.m. EST/EDT M–F (including holidays).

Revisions/Resubmissions

For revisions:

- Return revision within two weeks of request date, or manuscript will be deactivated.
- Clearly identify the manuscript as a revision; reference the manuscript number in the cover letter.
- Include an itemized list of changes, with a response to each comment made by the Editor and by each Reviewer.

- The authors are encouraged to upload an annotated copy of the original manuscript to show the revisions and track changes for the benefit of the Editor and Reviewers. The annotated version should be uploaded with the file designation Supporting Information for Review Only.
- Be aware that the manuscript may be sent for additional review.

For resubmissions to JPC Letters or JPC A/B/C:

- Clearly identify the manuscript as a resubmission; reference the previous manuscript number in the cover letter.
- Include a copy of the decision letter and an itemized list of changes, with a detailed response to each comment made by the Editor and by each Reviewer.
- Annotate a copy of the original manuscript to show the revisions and track changes for the benefit of the Editor and Reviewers. Upload the marked copy with the file designation Supporting Information for Review Only.

Journal Publishing Agreement

ACS provides an **electronic Journal Publishing Agreement** that can be completed inside of the ACS Paragon Plus Environment by the Author handling the peer review. The eJPA will be available on the **My Authoring Activity** of the Author's Home page once the manuscript has been assigned to an Editor. ACS also offers a PDF version of the form that can be completed and uploaded to ACS Paragon Plus during the manuscript submission or faxed after submission to the Assigned Editor. If the Corresponding Author cannot or should not complete either the electronic form or the PDF version for any reason, another Author should complete and sign the PDF version of the form. Note that only the Corresponding Author may complete the electronic version of the form. Forms and instructions are available at <http://pubs.acs.org/page/jpclcd/submission/copyright.html>.

To get permission to reproduce material (tables, figures, graphs, photographs, artwork), write or contact the copyright holder, giving complete information, to receive permission in writing. Most often, the copyright holder is the publisher. Ask for the person who handles copyright permissions. Permission should be in writing and dated. For permission request information for papers published in ACS Journals, see <http://pubs.acs.org/page/copyright/permissions.html>.

Provide a letter or email from the author(s) of personal communications granting you permission to cite unpublished work.

Proofs

Authors will be alerted via e-mail to access their proofs via a secure Web site. No paper is released for publication until an Author's corrected proof has been returned. The attention of the Authors is directed to the instructions that accompany the proof. Proofs should be checked against the manuscript and returned as soon as possible. Authors of Letters are asked to provide proof changes within 48 hours of receiving the proofs via the secure Web site given in the notification e-mail. Additionally, authors can submit their corrections by phone ((614) 441-3665), fax ((614) 447-3745), or e-mail (acsproof@acs.org).

ACS Policies for E-prints and ACS AuthorChoice

Under the ACS Articles on Request policy, the Society will provide (free of charge) to all contributing authors a unique URL within the ACS Web site that they may e-mail to colleagues or post on external Web sites. These author-directed links are designed to facilitate distribution of an author's published work to interested colleagues. The ACS Articles on Request policy allows 50 downloads within the first year after Web publication and unlimited access via the same author-directed links 12 months after Web publication. The Corresponding Author will be notified via e-mail of the ACS Articles on Request link when the paper is published ASAP (As Soon As Publishable).

The ACS AuthorChoice option establishes a fee-based mechanism for authors or their research funding agencies to sponsor the open availability of their articles on the Web at the time of online publication. Under this policy, the ACS as copyright holder will enable unrestricted Web access to a contributing author's publication from the Society's Web site in exchange for a fixed payment from the sponsoring author. ACS AuthorChoice will also enable participating authors to post electronic copies of published articles on their own personal Web sites and institutional repositories for noncommercial scholarly purposes and allow immediate open access to an article as soon as it is published on the ACS Web site. For more details on ACS AuthorChoice, please visit <http://pubs.acs.org/page/policy/authorchoice/index.html>.

Appendix: Examples of Abstracts

One or two sentences providing background on the problem.

Two or three sentences summarizing the methodology and results.

A concluding sentence highlighting the significance of the study.

Nitrogen oxides, including nitrogen dioxide and nitric acid, react with mineral dust particles in the atmosphere to yield adsorbed nitrate. Although nitrate ion is a well-known chromophore in natural waters, little is known about the surface photochemistry of nitrate adsorbed on mineral particles. In this study, nitrate adsorbed on aluminum oxide, a model system for mineral dust aerosol, is irradiated with broadband light ($\lambda > 300$ nm) as a function of relative humidity (RH) in the presence of molecular oxygen. Upon irradiation, the nitrate ion readily undergoes photolysis to yield nitrogen-containing gas-phase products including NO₂, NO, and N₂O, with NO being the major product. The relative ratio and product yields of these gas-phase products change with RH, with N₂O production being highest at the higher relative humidities. Furthermore, an efficient dark reaction readily converts the major NO product into NO₂ during post-irradiation. Photochemical processes on mineral dust aerosol surfaces have the potential to impact the chemical balance of the atmosphere, yet little is known about these processes. In this study, the impact that adsorbed nitrate photochemistry may have on the renoxification of the atmosphere is discussed. (*J. Phys. Chem. A* **2009**, *113*, 7818–7825)

Polymer–fullerene bilayer heterostructures are suited to study excitonic processes in conjugated polymers. Excitons are efficiently quenched at the polymer–fullerene interface, whereas the polymer–vacuum interface is often considered as an exciton-reflecting interface. Here, we report about efficient exciton quenching close to the polymer–vacuum interface of spin-coated MDMO-PPV (poly[2-methoxy-5-(2,2-ethyl-hexyloxy)-*p*-phenylenevinylene]) films. The quenching efficiency is estimated to be as high as that of the polymer–fullerene interface. This efficient quenching is consistent with enhanced intermolecular interactions close to the polymer–vacuum interface due to the formation of a “skin layer” during the spin-coating procedure. In the skin layer, the polymer density is higher; that is, the intermolecular distances are shorter than in the rest of the film. The effect of exciton quenching at the polymer–vacuum interface should be taken into account when the thickness of the polymer film is on the order of the exciton diffusion length; in particular, in the determination of the exciton diffusion length. (*J. Phys. Chem. B* **2009**, *113*, 9104–9109)

Nanostructured metallic architectures have unique and highly attractive properties, including large optical field enhancements resulting in strong light scattering and absorption. Modification of prefabricated nanostructures by simple galvanic displacement (GD) allows for the design of new nanomaterials with enhanced optical properties. In this paper, we have studied the optical properties of two families of Ag fractals before and after GD in a Au(III) solution. The new nanomaterials showed significantly improved optical enhancing properties that allowed for straightforward and highly reproducible single-molecule detection by surface-enhanced resonance Raman scattering (SERRS). (*J. Phys. Chem. C* **2009**, *113*, 12897–12900)