

Optica Review Criteria

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Optica provides rapid, open-access publication of peer-reviewed articles reporting results across all areas of optics and photonics that are of substantially higher potential impact than those in other OSA journals. The journal scope encompasses theoretical, experimental, and applied research that will be of significant interest to the optics and broader scientific communities. To meet the goal of publishing timely and high-impact research in *Optica*, submitted papers are subjected to critical review according to the criteria listed below. *Optica* is highly-selective; therefore, ratings of High or Very High are required for acceptance.

Appropriateness for *Optica*

Papers considered incremental, incomplete, or lacking in scientific/technical relevance will be declined. Reviewers should consider whether the subject material falls within the scope of the journal. Is the paper an original and significant contribution to the field? Are the conclusions supported by the data presented? Is the work placed in proper context, i.e., is prior or related work adequately referenced? If the manuscript is a review, does it provide an unbiased overview of a recent advance and not just a summary of the authors' work? To warrant publication in *Optica*, however, articles must also be of sufficient interest to the optics and broader scientific communities that they merit rapid publication and wide dissemination. Does the work justify the exposure that being featured in a venue such as *Optica* will provide?

Rating Options: Very high, High, Moderate, Low

Overall Impact

Reviewers are asked to rate the overall impact of submitted papers—assuming appropriate revisions are made, if requested. How likely is this paper to make a major impact on the broader community? Papers with a major impact are expected to be highly cited. They can make an impact through novel results, through enabling new applications, by solving important problems, by presenting critical data, measurements or characterization, by providing new theoretical insights, or by presenting clear methods, procedures, or reviews that enable other scientist and engineers to further their research and/or develop new applications, instruments, or devices.

Rating Options: Very high, High, Moderate, Low

Quality of Presentation

Is the title accurate and does it clearly identify the subject matter? Is the abstract succinct and comprehensible to a non-specialist? Is the manuscript clearly written and logically organized? Are figures and tables understandable and readable as submitted, including all captions and labels? Is the quality of English language usage and grammar appropriate for an archival journal? If there is multimedia content, is it clearly presented and does it contribute to presentation of the research? Is any [supplemental material](#) prepared and referenced correctly and is it useful and relevant to the article? Are the [OCIS codes](#) selected by the authors appropriate for indexing the article?

Rating Options: Very high, High, Moderate, Low