

Information for Authors

Revised September 2018

The Journal of Neuroscience is an official Journal of the Society for Neuroscience. *JNeurosci* publishes papers on a broad range of topics of general interest to those working on the nervous system. All papers accepted for publication in *JNeurosci* will appear both in the print journal and online. Research articles are now published online within days of acceptance as Early Release articles.

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General Information

Presubmission Inquiries

If you wish to submit a Research Report to *JNeurosci* and would first like to have an editor review whether your work may be suitable for *JNeurosci*, you have the option to submit a presubmission inquiry via our submission system. Please click the button below to proceed to the screen where you can submit your Presubmission Inquiry. Be sure to include a cover letter addressed to “the Editors,” information on all authors, an abstract, and a significance statement. To submit a presubmission inquiry, visit:

<https://jneurosci.msubmit.net>

Types of Articles

Research Articles

JNeurosci publishes **research reports**, which are restricted to 650 word Introductions and 1500 word Discussions. Presubmission inquiries are not required, but if the authors would like to check with the editors if an article is within the scope of those currently being reviewed at the Journal, they may do so through the submission website.

Journal Clubs

Journal Clubs are scholarly reviews of papers recently published in *JNeurosci*. Only graduate students and post-docs may be authors on Journal Club articles.

Letters to the Editor

JNeurosci does not publish **Letters to the Editor** in the print edition. Responses to articles may be submitted online via a link on the article's web page. Responses will also be visible via the **Letters to the Editor** link on *JNeurosci*'s home page.

This Week in the Journal

This Week in the Journal highlights articles from different sections of the current issue and is written by the Features Editor. Guided by reviewers' comments, the editors select important articles covering the full range of topics in neuroscience.

Policies

In submitting a manuscript to *JNeurosci*, all authors must agree to abide by all relevant Society for Neuroscience policies, including its Guidelines for Responsible Conduct Regarding Scientific Communication

(<https://www.sfn.org/Membership/Professional-Conduct/Guidelines-for-Responsible-Conduct-Regarding-Scientific-Communication>). Manuscripts with multiple authors are reviewed with the explicit understanding that all authors have seen and approve of the submitted version and agree to abide by the Society's policies.

JNeurosci recognizes its responsibility to ensure that questions of scientific misconduct or dishonesty in research are adequately pursued. Should scientific misconduct or dishonesty be suspected or alleged, *JNeurosci* follows the recommended procedures outlined by COPE (<http://publicationethics.org/>) when dealing with allegations of misconduct.

Policy on Ethics

It is expected that authors submitting papers to *JNeurosci* will have conducted their work in strict accordance with the Society's Policy on Ethics (<https://www.sfn.org/Membership/Professional-Conduct/SfN-Ethics-Policy>). SfN follows the recommended procedures outlined by COPE (<http://publicationethics.org/>) when dealing with allegations of misconduct.

Policies on the Use of Animals and Humans in Neuroscience Research

All animal experimentation reported in *JNeurosci* must have been conducted in accordance with the Society's Policies on the Use of Animals and Humans in Neuroscience Research

(<http://www.sfn.org/Advocacy/Policy-Positions/Policies-on-the-Use-of-Animals-and-Humans-in-Research>).

Policy on Prepublication

JNeurosci generally does not consider manuscripts that have been previously published.

Posting to a preprint server such as bioRxiv (<http://biorxiv.org/>), Authorea (<http://www.authorea.com/>), Open Science Framework (<https://osf.io/>), etc. is not considered prior publication. Authors who have posted to bioRxiv (<http://biorxiv.org/>), and Authorea (<http://www.authorea.com/>), have the option to directly transfer their files for consideration by *JNeurosci*. Posting a manuscript to a preprint server while under consideration for *JNeurosci* is allowed up until the point of acceptance. Abstracts, theses, posters, or manuscripts that have been posted on the Internet for the purpose of receiving commentary from the community are not considered prior publication. Online posting is typically done at a prepublication repository that has been designed for the purpose, but posting on an institutional web site or other Internet location is acceptable.

It is essential that the authors retain the copyright for any prepublished material that they submit to *JNeurosci*, and that they are willing and able to relinquish to *JNeurosci* any copyrights and/or licenses that *JNeurosci* requires for publication of accepted manuscripts. Authors should realize that other journals might not consider prepublished material and that prepublication will restrict their alternatives when a manuscript is not accepted by *JNeurosci*.

Policy on Molecular Data

JNeurosci subscribes to the policies of *The Journal of Biological Chemistry* on protein & nucleic acid sequences and genomic & proteomic data, which it modifies as follows.

Protein and nucleic acid sequences: Newly determined nucleotide or protein sequences must be deposited in GenBank (<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/genbank/>), EMBL (<http://www.ebi.ac.uk>), or the DNA Databank of Japan

(<http://www.ddbj.nig.ac.jp>). Accession numbers must be reported in the manuscript and data must be available upon acceptance and publication of the manuscript. No data are to be withdrawn following publication.

Genomic and proteomic data: Authors of papers that include functional genomics data such as microarray, ChIP seq, RNA-seq, or other high-throughput data are required to deposit the data in a MIAME-compliant database such as GEO (<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/geo>), ArrayExpress (<https://www.ebi.ac.uk/arrayexpress/>) or CYBEX (<http://cibex.nig.ac.jp/data/index.html>) and to provide accession numbers. Data must be publicly accessible upon acceptance and publication of the manuscript. No data are to be withdrawn following publication.

Authors of papers that include proteomics data should comply with the guidelines developed by Molecular and Cellular Proteomics (<http://www.mcponline.org/site/misc/CheckList.pdf>).

Policy on Computer Code and Software

Computational models: We recommend that new computational neuroscience computer code be deposited in a suitable repository such as [GitHub](#), [ModelDB](#), [BioModels](#), [CellML](#), or [Visiome](#). Studies using custom code central to the conclusions should include a statement in the Materials and Methods section, under the heading "Code Accessibility", indicating whether and how the code can be accessed, including any accession numbers or restrictions, and be cited in the references. Code should be available upon acceptance and publication of the manuscript.

Software: If new software or a new algorithm is used for data analysis, authors are encouraged to deposit it in an appropriate public repository. A statement should be included in the Materials and Methods section, under the heading "Software Accessibility", indicating whether and how the software or algorithm can be accessed, including any accession numbers or restrictions.

Policy on Image Manipulation

JNeurosci subscribes to the policy of *The Journal of Cell Biology* on image manipulation, which it modifies as follows.

Original data: The editors reserve the right to request any original data from authors at any stage in the submission, review, or publication process, including after publication. Failure to provide requested information may result in publication delays or revocation of acceptance.

Image manipulation: All images in manuscripts accepted for publication will be scrutinized by our production department for any indication of manipulation that is inconsistent with the following guidelines. Manipulation that violates these guidelines may result in production delays or revocation of acceptance.

- No specific feature within an image may be enhanced, obscured, moved, removed, or introduced.
- Constructing figures using images taken from different parts of the same gel, or from different gels, is discouraged. But when this is necessary it must be made explicit by the arrangement of the figure (e.g., using dividing lines) and in the text of the figure legend.
- Recordings obtained at different time points or from different sites must not be spliced together to give the appearance of a continuous record. Authors must make it clear in the figure legend how many different recordings are illustrated.
- Adjustments to images or recordings are acceptable if they are applied uniformly to all portions of the image or recording, and as long as they do not obscure, eliminate, or misrepresent information present in the original, including the background. Adjustments involving filtering or scaling (e.g., brightness, contrast, or color balance) must be applied to every pixel in the image or applied uniformly to an entire recording. Non-linear adjustments (e.g., changes to gamma settings) or deleting portions of a recording (e.g. leak subtraction or stimulus artifacts) must be disclosed in the figure legend.
- The minimum resolution for images is 300 dpi.
- At the time of acceptance, authors will be required to submit uncropped images of complete gels for comparison to the prepared figures. If original data cannot be produced, the acceptance of the manuscript may be revoked.

Scale bars: All illustrations documenting results must include a bar to indicate the scale.

Molecular weights and fragment sizes: The migration of protein molecular weight size markers or nucleic acid size markers must be indicated and labeled appropriately (e.g., "kD", "nt", "bp") on all figure panels showing gel electrophoresis.

Policy on Reporting Experimental Design and Statistical Analyses

Starting March 2017. Every manuscript must include an Experimental Design and Statistical Analysis section as a subsection of the Materials and Methods that describes the experimental design and the statistical tests used in the study. Note that a good time to consult a statistician is when planning the study and planning the experimental design. This new section replaces the traditional Statistical analysis section at the end of the Material and Methods section.

Full details of the experimental design of each individual experiment, including the within- and between-subjects factors and a full description of critical variables required for independent replication (e.g. number of animals of each sex, number of brain slices or cells evaluated per animal, number of litters for developmental studies, etc. and justification of sample size used) should be reported in the Experimental Design and Statistical Analysis section. It is critical to control for multiple comparisons and to note in the text how this has been achieved

Authors should identify the precise statistical tests used in the Experimental Design and Statistical Analysis section. In addition, planned comparisons, details of controls and power analyses to determine sample sizes, if applicable should be reported. Describe any statistical software used to perform analyses. For highly complex and heterogeneous statistical analyses, rather than providing a list, this section can refer to where details can be found (e.g. "Statistical design for Experiment 1 can be found in the Results describing Figure 2").

Complete results of the statistical analyses, including degrees of freedom and any estimates of effects size, should be reported in full in the Results section. Report exact p values rather than ranges (e.g. $p = 0.026$ rather than $p < 0.05$). There are many types of analyses that can be reported, but examples include F values ($F(1, 72) = 14.5$, $p = 0.003$, ANOVA), t values ($t(10) = 2.98$, $p = 0.043$, paired t-test), coefficient of determination (R^2), and Bayes factors.

JNeurosci encourages authors to report all data in addition to traditional line and bar graphs, using histograms, scatter plots or other means to represent the variability and complexity of the data.

If the raw data are freely available please state this and how to find them. In addition, if you have pre-registered your study, please state that in the Experimental Design.

The following resources offer helpful guidelines on how to report statistical results:

- Hesson-McInnis, American Psychological Association. (2010) Publication manual of the American Psychological Association (6th ed.).

Washington, DC.
http://my.ilstu.edu/~mshesso/apa_stats.htm

- Curran-Everett & Benos Guidelines for reporting statistics in journals published by the American Physiological Society. *Physiological Genomics* (2004) 18(3): 249-251
<http://physiolgenomics.physiology.org/content/18/3/249>
- Sarter M, Fritschy JM. Reporting statistical methods and statistical results in *EJN. Eur J Neurosci.* 2008 Dec;28(12):2363-2364
<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/19087166>

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Policy Concerning Availability of Materials and Data

By publishing a paper in *JNeurosci* the author(s) agree to make freely available to colleagues in academic research any clones of cells, nucleic acids, antibodies, etc. that were used in the research reported and that are not available from commercial suppliers.

Authors should, when possible, honor requests for access to any form of published data for appropriate scientific use. The editors reserve the right to request any original data

from authors at any stage in the review or publication process, including after publication. Failure to provide requested information may result in publication delays or revocation of acceptance.

Fees

Submission Fees

A submission fee of \$140 must be paid when submitting a Regular Manuscript. A fee is also required when resubmitting an article that was previously rejected. No submission fee is required for features (Journal Clubs, Dual Perspectives, etc.). The submission fee covers a portion of the costs associated with peer review.

Starting March 2017: The submission fee is waived for Regular Manuscript submissions on which the first and last authors are SfN members. Validation of membership for those authors will take place on the payment screen once you have completed your submission. Carefully select the order of authors on the Authors tab of the submission form to ensure the correct authors have their membership status checked. Once you have submitted your manuscript and arrive at the payment screen, you will not be able to go back and alter the order of authors.

NOTE: Submission Fees will not be refunded regardless of editorial decision (including editorial rejection).

You also have the option of submitting a Presubmission Inquiry. For details, see [above](#).

The submission fee must be paid by credit card when you submit your manuscript at the eJournalPress site: (<http://jneurosci.msubmit.net/cgi-bin/main.plex>). A “Click Here to Make a Payment” button will allow you to enter credit card information after you have completed your submission. There is an additional \$25 fee if publication fees are paid by wire transfer. A printable receipt will be sent to the submitting author and made available through the submission site after payment is made.

If you have any technical difficulties or questions, please contact *JNeurosci*'s Central Office at jn@sfn.org.

Submission fees are waived for manuscripts submitted from certain countries. See [JNeurosci's Reduced Fee Policy](#).

A separate [publication fee](#) is required for articles that are accepted for publication.

Reduced Fees Policy

In an effort to aid neuroscientists working in resource-restricted countries and to broaden the dissemination of science to all areas of the world, *JNeurosci* offers reduced submission and publication fees to scientists located in the countries classified by the World Bank as low income economies (Category I), lower-middle income economies (Category II), or upper-middle income economies (Category III).

Fee will be reduced when the first and last authors are members of the Society for Neuroscience and have work addresses in one of these countries. If the first and last authors work in countries in different categories, the country with the less reduced fee applies.

The submission fee will be waived for manuscripts originating from Category I countries, but will apply in full for countries in Category II and III.

All publication fees will be reduced to 25% of the usual amount for Category I countries, and will be reduced to 50% of the usual amount for countries in Category II and III.

JNeurosci will consider requests to waive the fee for well-documented cases of extreme financial hardship.

For questions, please contact *JNeurosci*'s Central Office at jn@sfn.org.

Publication Fees

Publication Fee

Publication fees are reduced if the first and last authors are members of the Society for Neuroscience. *JNeurosci* charges a publication fee for Regular Manuscripts of \$1,260 (for members) and \$1,890 (for nonmembers). There is an additional \$25 fee if publication fees are paid by Wire transfer.

If you would like to join SfN and take advantage of membership, visit our Member Center at <https://www.sfn.org/Membership/Member-Benefits>. There is no fee for feature articles (Journal Clubs, Commentaries, etc.). Accepted manuscripts will not move into the production process until payment has been received.

Open Choice

Authors may pay a fee to make their published article freely available on *JNeurosci*'s website as soon as it is published. Articles will carry a Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International (CC BY 4.0) license (<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>). The titles of

open access articles are highlighted as "Free Access" in the online table of contents of *JNeurosci*. Authors will be asked if they want the Open Choice option in the email that is sent when the manuscript is accepted.

The Open Choice fee is in addition to the publication fee of \$2,965 for Regular Manuscripts. Wire transfer fees are \$25.00. Upon receipt of the publication fee and Open Choice fee, *JNeurosci* will deposit the final published article to PMC and Europe PMC, where they will be fully available in [PubMed's Open Access Subset](#).

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**COAF includes a partnership between six UK medical research charities: Arthritis Research UK, Breast Cancer Campaign, the British Heart Foundation, Cancer Research UK, Leukaemia & Lymphoma.*

***UKRI includes nine different research bodies: MRC, BBSRC, AHRC, ESRC, EPSRC, NERC, STFC, Innovate UK, and Research England.*

Reduced Charges

Publication charges are reduced for manuscripts submitted from some countries. See [JNeurosci's Reduced Fee Policy](#).

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Help

For payment questions, please contact *JNeurosci*'s Central Office at jn@sfn.org.

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Preparing a Manuscript

Regular Manuscripts

Organization of the Manuscript

Manuscripts must be written in English. The entire text should be double-spaced, including references. Submitting an incomplete manuscript or a manuscript that does not adhere to the word limits will cause a delay in review.

Multiple-part papers are discouraged. Although this arrangement is sometimes necessary, authors will often be asked to collapse multiple papers into a single manuscript.

JNeurosci now supports [extended data sets](#). Please refer to the [policy](#) on what materials are allowed. Supplemental material, such as control experiments, etc., are not considered extended data and must be included in the body of the manuscript. Submitted manuscripts must make no reference to supplemental material.

Manuscripts must include the following sections in the order listed:

- [Title Page](#)
- [Abstract](#)
- [Significance Statement](#) (120 maximum)
- [Introduction](#) (650 words maximum, including citations)
- [Materials & Methods](#)
- [Results](#)
- [Discussion](#) (1500 words maximum, including citations)
- [References](#)
- [Legends](#)
- [Illustrations and Tables](#)
- Mathematics and Equations

All lines of text should be numbered. Line numbers are automatically added in Microsoft Word documents.

Title Page

The first page of the manuscript should be a title page with the following:

- Title (50 word maximum)
- Abbreviated title (50 character maximum)
- Author names and affiliations, including postal codes
- Corresponding author with complete address, including an email address and postal code
- Number of pages
- Number of figures, tables, multimedia and 3D models (separately)
- Number of words for Abstract, Introduction, and Discussion (separately)
- Conflict of Interest
- Acknowledgements

Submitting and Communicating Authors:

JNeurosci distinguishes submitting and communicating authors. The submitting author is the author who submits the manuscript. A manuscript can have only one submitting author. The submitting author acts on behalf all other authors, and is the only author with authority to resubmit, withdraw, correct or retract manuscripts and published articles.

The corresponding author is the person identified on a published article as "corresponding author". This author is responsible for responding to reader queries about the article. While submitting author is often the corresponding author, that is not necessary. *JNeurosci* allows either one or two authors to be designated as "corresponding author". When two are listed, no priority is given to either. Corresponding authors do not have authority to correct or retract a published article; only the submitting author as noted above.

Author Names: Authors who normally write their names in non-Latin characters may include their names in their native writing system in parentheses immediately following a transliterated version, for example, Jingbing Xue (薛晶冰). Any non-Latin languages that can be represented in Unicode characters will be accepted. This second rendering is allowed only for the original written form of a transliterated name, and may not be used to include nicknames, degrees, ranks, titles, etc. Please size the name, including the surrounding parentheses, in your manuscript .pdf file so that it can be used as a graphic to produce the name in the final article.

The name of a formal group or consortium may be included in the author list only if that group made essential contributions to the results and there is at least one individual author in addition to the group. The individual authors must be listed first followed by, "for <Group Name>". We do not allow "and <Group Name>". The group name must be spelled out. A statement in the acknowledgements may specify the contribution(s) of the group and may include a URL that provides further information about the group (such as a list of its membership), but may not list individual group members or differentiate contributions made by subgroups or individuals within the group.

Author Affiliations: Authors affiliations should be their home institutions at the time when their primary contribution to the research was made. If an author's current affiliation differs, the current affiliation may be listed as a separate paragraph in the Acknowledgements.

Acknowledgements: Acknowledgements should be used to identify all funding sources. Acknowledgements may also be used to note intellectual, technical or other assistance that does not warrant authorship. Individuals should be informed before the publication of any such acknowledgements and given the opportunity to decline the recognition. Promotional statements are not permitted. Funding sources should be listed first with any acknowledgements of assistance following.

Dedications: *JNeurosci* generally does not allow dedications. The only exception we allow is dedications to recently deceased neuroscientists who made a specific scientific contribution to the work described in the article. If the recently deceased person was one of the authors of the current paper, his or her date of death should be included. We do not allow dedications to living people.

Conflict of interest: Conflict of interest declarations are included in the Acknowledgments section. For "no conflict," the current preferred wording is: "The authors declare no competing financial interests." It is expected that authors submitting papers to *JNeurosci* are in accordance with the Society's Policy on Conflict of Interest (<https://www.sfn.org/Membership/Professional-Conduct/Guidelines-for-Responsible-Conduct-Regarding-Scientific-Communication>).

Abstract (250 words maximum, including citations)

The abstract should be clearly written and readily comprehensible to the broad readership of *JNeurosci*. It should provide a concise summary of the objectives, methodology (including the species studied and whether one or both sexes were included), key results, and major

conclusions of the study. It should be written in complete sentences, without subheadings.

Significance Statement (120 words maximum)

The significance statement should provide a clear explanation of the importance and relevance of the research in a manner accessible to researchers without specialized knowledge in the field and informed lay readers. The Significance Statement will appear within the paper below the abstract.

Introduction (650 words maximum, including citations)

The Introduction should briefly indicate the objectives of the study and provide enough background information to clarify why the study was undertaken and what hypotheses were tested.

Materials and Methods

The Materials and Methods section should be brief but sufficient to allow other investigators to repeat the research (see also [Policy Concerning Availability of Materials](#)). Reference should be made to published procedures wherever possible; this applies to the original description and pertinent published modifications. The sex of subjects should be stated. If the sex of subjects is unknown, this should be stated. All companies from which materials were obtained should be listed. If materials were obtained from an individual, an affiliation for that individual should be listed. A manuscript that presents only a theory may omit the Materials and Methods section.

Starting March 2017, *JNeurosci* requires every research manuscript to include an Experimental Design and Statistical Analysis section as a subsection of the Materials and Methods that describes the experimental design and the statistical tests used in the study (see [Policy on Reporting Experimental Design and Statistical Analyses](#)).

In cases where a new method within the submission would benefit from step-by-step protocols in addition to the methods described in the article, we would encourage authors to also consider submitting a detailed protocol to Bio-protocol (<http://www.bio-protocol.org/login.aspx?in=2>). If you have submitted to Bio-protocol or your protocol is already published there, please reference it in the Materials and Methods section (e.g., "Preparation and analysis of crude autolytic enzyme extracts from *Staphylococcus aureus* is described in detail at Bio-protocol (Vaz and Filipe, 2015)").

Code/Software

Studies using custom code deemed central to the conclusions should include a statement, under the heading "Code Accessibility," indicating whether and how the code can be accessed, including any accession numbers or restrictions, and be cited in the references. Studies that include new software or algorithm should include a similar statement, under the heading "Software Accessibility." Authors must provide their analysis software to another scientist upon request.

JNeurosci encourages the use of links to web pages providing detailed specification for animal lines, reagents, software packages, etc., when it is impossible or impractical to include a unique identifier or unambiguous description. URLs should be cited in parentheses in the text: e.g., "Experiments were done using C57BL mice" (<http://jaxmice.jax.org/strain/013636.html>).

URLs of sites providing tutorial material (e.g., <http://en.wikipedia.org/>) are not allowed in articles because their authority and permanence cannot be verified.

URLs of personal or laboratory web sites, or dropboxes, are also prohibited because the content of such pages can easily change and visiting those pages could compromise reviewer anonymity. Published articles may include in a footnote a URL for any external web site that holds supplemental material, together with a brief description of the contents of the supplemental material added to the manuscript at time of revision.

None of the Materials and Methods may be placed in Supplemental Materials.

RRIDs

JNeurosci encourages use of Research Resource Identifiers (RRIDs) through the Resource Identification Initiative (http://www.force11.org/Resource_identification_initiative), a project aimed at clearly identifying key biological resources used in the course of scientific research. The project helps address concerns of reproducibility by providing unique searchable identifiers, RRIDs, for critical reagents and tools. RRIDs can be used to link readers to external resources and enable search engines to return all papers in which a particular antibody, organism, or tool was used.

To find an RRID: visit <https://scicrunch.org/resources> and enter your search term(s).

- Antibodies: searching for the catalog number usually narrows the search to only a few relevant results.

- Cell Lines: searching for the catalog number of an established cell line is usually best, searching for common cell lines such as HeLa cells is expected to produce several pages of results.
- Organisms: you can include PubMed IDs (PMIDs) in your search or filter your search results by PMID, species, phenotype, and other criteria.
- Software tools: usually the name of the tool (MATLAB or ImageJ) or the institution where it is housed will bring back relevant results.

Search help is available at: rii-help@scicrunch.org.

Once you have located an RRID, insert "RRID:" plus the identifier in the appropriate location in the manuscript. For example:

- Antibodies: "Sections were stained with a rabbit polyclonal antibody against ERK1 (Abgent Cat# AP7251E, RRID: AB_2140114)."
- Cell Lines: "Subjects include the following cell line: CLS Cat# 300384/p699_HeLa_S3, RRID:CVCL_0058."
- Genetically modified organisms: "Subjects in this study were Fgf9Eks/Fgf9+ mice (RRID: MGI_3840442)..."
- Software tools: "...terminals were mapped with a computer-assisted mapping program (NeuroLucida, v 10; MicroBrightField RRID:nif-0000-10294)."

If you cannot find an RRID for a model organism or antibody that you used, you can submit the reagent so that it can be given proper identifiers for future use at the [Resource Identification Portal](https://scicrunch.org/resources/about/guidelines#organism) (instructions at <https://scicrunch.org/resources/about/guidelines#organism> [for a new organism] <http://antibodyregistry.org/add> [for antibodies]). Note that login is required on that site.

Journal Style Guidelines

Manuscripts with many mathematical characters and equations should be prepared using MathType version 6.0 or higher (available from Design Science, Inc. at <http://www.dessci.com/en/>). Our publisher can pull equations in this format directly from the text, thereby avoiding typographical errors that frequently occur in composing equations. Manuscripts with a minimal amount of math may be prepared using word-processing tools such as Word's Equation Editor, or with features such as bold, italics, superscript and subscript together with characters in the Symbol or Greek fonts. Do not use the Wingdings or Webdings fonts.

List of Some Standard Abbreviations

Nonstandard abbreviations should be used only if a term appears two or more times. Spell out the term at first occurrence, and introduce the abbreviation by placing it in parentheses after the term. Units should conform to the International System of Units (SI) (see the *International System of Units Brochure* found at http://www.bipm.org/en/si/si_brochure/), except for temperatures, which should be expressed in degrees Celsius.

Re-Analysis of Published Data

Reanalyses of published data are allowed if the original study reporting the data collection is clearly and thoroughly cited, if there are no duplications of figures or graphs that have already been published, and if the study clearly acknowledges that this is a previously acquired data.

Results

This section should present the experimental findings, clearly and succinctly. Only results essential to establish the main points of the work should be included.

Numerical data should be analyzed using appropriate statistical tests. Authors must provide detailed information for each statistical test applied including: the type of test; specific p values (not > or <); degrees of freedom; population size; definition of population (e.g., number of individual measurements, number of animals of each sex, number of slices, number of times treatment was applied, etc.); and if performed, what correction was used to adjust for multiple pairwise comparisons.

Starting March 2017, *JNeurosci* requires every research manuscript to report in full the complete results of the statistical analyses, including degrees of freedom and any estimates of effects size, should be reported in the Results section. Report exact p values rather than ranges (e.g. $p = 0.026$ rather than $p < 0.05$). There are many types of analyses that can be reported, but examples include F values ($F(1, 72) = 14.5, p = 0.003$, ANOVA), t values ($t(10) = 2.98, p = 0.043$, paired t-test), coefficient of determination (R^2), and Bayes factors.

JNeurosci encourages authors to report all data in addition to traditional line and bar graphs, using histograms, scatter plots or other means to represent the variability and complexity of the data.

If the raw data are freely available please state this and how to find them. In addition, if you have pre-registered your study, please state that in the Experimental Design.

The following resources offer helpful guidelines on how to report statistical results:

- Hesson-McInnis, American Psychological Association. (2010) Publication manual of the American Psychological Association (6th ed.). Washington, DC. http://my.ilstu.edu/~mshesso/apa_stats.htm
- Curran-Everett & Benos Guidelines for reporting statistics in journals published by the American Physiological Society. *Physiological Genomics* (2004) 18(3): 249-251 <http://physiolgenomics.physiology.org/content/18/3/249>
- Sarter M, Fritschy JM. Reporting statistical methods and statistical results in *EJN*. *Eur J Neurosci*. 2008 Dec;28(12):2363-2364 <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/19087166>

(see [Policy on Reporting Experimental Design and Statistical Analyses](#)).

Discussion (1500 words maximum, including citations)

The discussion section should be as concise as possible and should include a brief statement of the principal findings, a discussion of the validity of the observations, a discussion of the findings in light of other published work dealing with the same or closely related subjects, and a statement of the possible significance of the work. Extensive discussion of the literature is discouraged.

References

Only published and "in press" (i.e., accepted for publication in a specific journal or book) references should appear in the reference list at the end of the paper. The latest information on "in press" references should be provided. Any "in press" references that are relevant for reviewers to see in order to make a well-informed evaluation should be included as a separate document text file along with the submitted manuscript. "Submitted" references should be cited only in text and in the following form: (A. B. Smith, C. D. Johnson, and E. Greene, unpublished observations). The form for personal communications is similar: (F. G. Jackson, personal communication). Authors are responsible for all personal communications and must obtain written approval from persons cited before submitting the paper to *JNeurosci*. Proof of such approval may be requested by *JNeurosci*. Published abstracts that are publicly available may be cited.

References should be cited in the text as follows: "The procedure used has been described elsewhere (Green, 1978)," or "Our observations are in agreement with those

of Brown and Black (1979) and of White et al. (1980)," or with multiple references, in chronological order: "Earlier reports (Brown and Black, 1979, 1981; White et al., 1980; Smith, 1982, 1984)"

In the list of references (<http://endnote.com/downloads/style/journal-neuroscience>) papers should be given in alphabetical order according to the surname of the first author. In two-author papers with the same first author, the order is alphabetical by the second author's name. In three-or-more-author papers with the same first author, the order is chronological. The name of the author(s) should be followed by the date in parentheses, the full title of the paper as it appeared in the original together with the source of the reference, the volume number, and the first and last pages. Do not number or bullet the references. If the author list for a paper in the references exceeds 20, the paper should be cited as Author A et al. The following illustrate the format to be used:

Journal article

Hamill OP, Marty A, Neher E, Sakmann B, Sigworth F (1981) Improved patch-clamp techniques for high-resolution current recordings from cells and cell free membrane patches. *Pflugers Arch* 391:85-100.

Hodgkin AL, Huxley AF (1952a) The components of membrane conductance in the giant axon of Loligo. *J Physiol (Lond)* 116:473-496.

Hodgkin AL, Huxley AF (1952b) The dual effect of membrane potential on sodium conductance in the giant axon of Loligo. *J Physiol (Lond)* 116:497-506.

Book

Hille B (1984) Ionic channels of excitable membranes. Sunderland, MA: Sinauer.

Chapter in a book

Stent GS (1981) Strength and weakness of the genetic approach to the development of the nervous system. In: *Studies in developmental neurobiology: essays in honor of Viktor Hamburger* (Cowan WM, ed), pp288-321. New York: Oxford UP.

Abbreviations of journal titles should follow those listed in the *Index Medicus*. Responsibility for the correctness of the references lies with the author(s). After manuscript revisions, authors should double-check that all in-text citations are in the reference list and that all references on the reference list have at least one corresponding in-text citation. Failure to do so will result in the delay of proof generation and possibly publication. *Please make sure that*

the References are double-spaced and no bullets, numbers, or other listing formats are used.

Legends

Manuscripts that include figures, tables, multimedia, and/or extended data must include legends as part of the main manuscript text. Each file must have a separate legend and be numbered independently. The text of the article should refer to figures as "Figure 1," "Figure 2," etc., tables as "Table 1," "Table 2," etc., videos as "Movie 1," "Movie 2," etc., and Extended data as Figure 1-1, Figure 1-2, Table 1-1, Table 1-2, etc. These text citations of figures, tables, multimedia and extended data need to be in numerical order, in part to aid in placing the illustrations in the proper position on the PDF page. *Note:* Extended Data must be referenced in the legend of the table or figure that they support.

Illustrations and Tables

All illustrations must adhere to *JNeurosci's Policy on Image Manipulation*.

JNeurosci will publish multimedia and 3D models embedded in the HTML and PDF versions of articles. Multimedia and models will be displayed in line with the article text, as is done for figures. Authors should be aware that multimedia and 3D models will be unavailable to readers who only access the printed version. See [Illustrations and Tables](#) for details on preparing material.

Tables should be included in the manuscript file, but figures, models, and 3D models must be submitted as separate files (see [Illustrations and Tables](#) for acceptable file formats).

Multimedia, Figures, and Table Guidelines

JNeurosci now permits extended data sets to be included with submissions (see [Extended Data](#))

General Guidelines for Illustrations

Image Manipulation: Illustrations must conform to *JNeurosci's Policy on Image Manipulation*. Authors must retain their unprocessed data and metadata files, as editors may request them to aid in manuscript evaluation. If unprocessed data are unavailable, manuscript evaluation may be halted until the issue is resolved. If the original data cannot be produced, the manuscript may be rejected.

Use of Color: Illustrations must be prepared so that they are accessible to our many color-blind readers. The following sites contain useful information, tips and tools on appropriate use of color in illustrations:

<http://jfly.iam.u-tokyo.ac.jp/color/index.html>
<http://webdesign.tutsplus.com/articles/design-theory/designing-for-and-as-a-color-blind-person/>
<https://www.toptal.com/designers/colorfilter>

The following guidelines should be observed:

- Avoid gratuitous color: Grayscale generally provides a more faithful representation when a single quantity is displayed. Use textures or different line types rather than colors in bar plots or graphs.
- Avoid troublesome color combinations: Figures with red and green are particularly problematic. Illustrations using green/red should generally be converted to green/magenta. If no suitable combination can be found, consider presenting separate monochrome images for the different color channels. For line drawing that require color, consider redundant coding by adding different textures or line types to the colors.

Multimedia and 3D Models

JNeurosci will publish multimedia and 3D models embedded in the HTML and PDF versions of articles. Essential multimedia and models will be displayed in line with the article text, as is done for figures. Authors should be aware that multimedia and 3D models will not be available to readers who only access the printed version.

Authors should not use multimedia and 3D models simply to enliven or embellish their article. Because they substantially increase file sizes and are not available to all readers, multimedia and 3D models will be accepted only when they are needed to display findings that 1) are essential to defend the articles conclusions and 2) could not be presented adequately in the text, a table, or a figure. The editors will review all multimedia and 3D models to determine whether they are essential. It is unlikely that more than one or two multimedia files that illustrate representative examples will be considered justified. Non-essential multimedia can be posted on an institutional or other web site.

Text Citation

Multimedia and 3D models must be numbered independently of figures and tables, and cited at the relevant point in the manuscript text, e.g. "Movie 1", "Movie 2", and "Model 1", "Model 2".

Title

A title should be part of the legend and not lettered onto the multimedia or 3D model itself.

Legends

A legend must be included in the manuscript document after the reference list and not included in the video or 3D model itself. Legends should include sufficient detail to be intelligible without reference to the text. Legends must define all symbols and include essential information. If videos are not in real time and the time is not displayed in the video, the period represented must be stated in the legend. Rather than stating "See text," legends should be more specific; for example, "See Results".

Size

Videos and 3D models must be submitted at the size they are to appear in *JNeurosci*. They should be the smallest size that will convey the essential scientific information, and sized to 1 column (maximum width 8.5 cm), 1.5 columns (maximum width 11.6 cm), or 2 columns (maximum width 17.6 cm).

Format

Multimedia files must be in MP4 format, and should not be larger than one megabyte. 3D models must be in U3D format.

To optimize videos for PC, tablet and smartphone viewing, we recommend formatting your videos with the following specifications:

- Video codec: H.264
- Audio codec: AAC
- Audio bit rate: 128 kbit/s
- Video resolution: 480 vertical lines or better
- Size: Maximum width of 480 pixels

To convert videos from other formats to MP4 format, the following resource is available:

http://download.cnet.com/Free-MP4-Video-Converter/3000-2194_4-75628166.html

For each video submitted, authors should provide a preview image, or poster frame, that best captures the main point.

Figures

Text Citation

Figures must be numbered independently of tables, multimedia, and 3D models and cited at the relevant point in the manuscript text, e.g. "Figure 1", "Figure 2", etc. Do

not duplicate data by presenting it both in the text and in a figure.

Label extended data supporting figures as Figure 1-1, Figure 1-2, etc., so they indicate which figure they are supporting with a legend. They should be cited in the manuscript text and in the figure legend for which they support. (see [Extended Data](#))

Title

A title should be part of the legend and not lettered onto the figure.

Legends

A legend must be included in the manuscript document after the reference list. Legends should include sufficient detail to be intelligible without reference to the text. Legends must define all symbols and include essential information. Rather than stating "See text," legends should be more specific; for example, "See Results".

Size

Figures must be submitted at the size they are to appear in *JNeurosci*. They should be the smallest size that will convey the essential scientific information, and sized to 1 column (maximum width 8.5 cm), 1.5 columns (maximum width 11.6 cm) or 2 columns (maximum width 17.6 cm).

Format

- Initial Submission - Figures may be included in a single PDF file that contains the manuscript and all tables and figures.
- Revised Submission or Resubmission - Figures must be submitted only as separate files in TIFF or EPS format. **Note:** EPS images cannot use the **Adobe_CoolType_Utility**. This is not compatible with the current image processing guidelines used by our online hosting provider.

Color figures should be in RGB format and supplied at a minimum of 300 dpi. Color is considered essential in a figure if it is necessary to accurately convey the information being presented by the image. Non-essential color refers to figures in which the color is not necessary for the meaning of the image to be made clear. Color should only be used in figures when essential.

For Figures in vector-based format, all fonts should be converted to outlines and saved as EPS (Encapsulated PostScript) to ensure that they are reproduced correctly. For information on converting to outlines, please see:

<http://www.jneurosci.org/content/rgb-workflow-key-communication-points>.

Monochrome (bitmap) images must be supplied at 1200 dpi.

Grayscale must be supplied at a minimum of 300 dpi.

Remove top and right borderlines (that do not contain measuring metrics) from all graph/histogram figure panels (do not box the panels in).

Do not include any two-bar graphs/histograms. Instead state those values in the text. Two-bar graphs/histograms are generally discouraged because the result can be conveyed more precisely and compactly with numbers.

To ensure that your figures will appear at the highest quality, please review the detailed instructions for figure preparation at <http://cpc.cadmus.com/da/index.jsp>. To better assist our authors with digital art preparation, *JNeurosci* has made available Cadmus' Rapid Inspector application, which alerts users when their files do not meet acceptable specifications and provides instructions on how to reformat their files to meet those specifications. Sign up at the Rapid Inspector web site: <http://rapidInspector.cadmus.com/RapidInspector/zo5/index.jsp> to download the application. If you have problems downloading the application please see the FAQs at the Cadmus site.

Tables

Text Citation

All tables must be numbered independently of figures, multimedia and 3D models and cited at the relevant point in the manuscript text, e.g. "Table 1", "Table 2", etc. Do not duplicate data by presenting it both in the text and in a table.

Label extended data supporting tables as Table 1-1, Table 1-2, etc., so they indicate which table they are supporting with a legend. They should be cited in the manuscript text and in the table legend for which they support. (see [Extended Data](#))

Title

A title should appear above the table.

Legends

A legend must be included in the manuscript document after the reference list. Legends should include sufficient detail to be intelligible without reference to the text. Legends must define all symbols and include essential

information. Rather than stating "See text," legends should be more specific; for example, "See Results."

Format

Each table should be double-spaced. Multiple-part tables (A and B sections with separate "subtitles") should be avoided when possible, especially when there are two [different] sets [or types] of column headings.

Do not use color or shading, bold or italic fonts, or lines to highlight information. Indentation of text and sometimes, additional space between lines is preferred.

Extended Data

December 2017 Update

As the years have progressed, neuroscience papers have become more data rich. Providing access to primary data, such as, gene ontology lists, protein structures, and chemical compounds, as well as providing access to scripts and programs used to analyze data fixed in time to the publication, is essential for many types of neuroscience studies. Hosting these data along with the published version promotes transparency to increase reproducibility of research. To aid this effort, *JNeurosci* now permits extended data sets to be included with submissions in certain circumstances. Note however that the goal of including extended data sets is not to report supplemental experiments or analyses that the authors are using to support the argument, as those should still be in the main body of the manuscript.

The new policy is outlined below. All Extended Data will be reviewed by the editors to determine whether it is integral to the study and should be included in the final version of the manuscript:

1. If there is a well-established repository for the data, it should be deposited there; *JNeurosci* will host data without such a repository (see [Policy on Molecular Data](#))
2. Citations may not exist solely within the Extended Data; they must be included in the manuscript. Online data sets are still not visible to search engines used by citation indices, making inclusion of references in the main manuscript essential to provide proper credit to those cited.
3. Only Extended Data directly related to, or supporting figures or tables and corresponding figure legends are allowed. Extended Data should be labeled as Figure 1-1, Figure 1-2, Table 1-1, Table 1-2, etc., so they indicate which figure or table they are supporting (i.e. Extended Data table

supporting Figure 5 labeled as Figure 5-1). Each should have a legend and be cited in the manuscript text and in the table or figure legend for which they support. Extended Data that supports more than one figure and/or table should be labeled as supporting the figure or table referred to first in the text.

4. For ease of access and review, Extended Data should be submitted in the same format and following the same guidelines as regular figures and tables and uploaded to the system as Multimedia/Extended Data file type (see [Multimedia, Figure, and Table Guidelines](#)). Send an inquiry to jn@sfn.org prior to submission if you wish to include Extended Data in other formats.
5. A limitation of 20 MB will be imposed on these files.

JNeurosci Journal Club

The purpose of Journal Club articles is to provide scholarly reviews of papers recently published in *JNeurosci*. Journal Club articles are written by students and post-docs, and are meant to be accessible by a broad range of young neuroscientists.

Requirements

We encourage Journal Club submissions that represent a group effort, but all authors must be graduate students, postdoctoral fellows, or the equivalent. Authors may publish no more than one Journal Club in a 12-month period.

Journal Club articles must be submitted within two months of the publication of the highlighted article. Authors are strongly encouraged to e-mail the Features Editor at JN_Features@sfn.org before beginning to write a Journal Club to reserve the article they wish to discuss. Once an article has been reserved, no other Journal Club submissions discussing the same article will be considered until after a decision regarding the original requester's submission has been made.

Authors of Journal Club submissions are subject to the same guidelines as reviewers concerning conflict of interest. In particular, they should not be from the same institution or have any real or apparent conflict of interest with the authors of the article, for example having recently collaborated with the authors or having done research that addresses the same question treated in the article. For more details, see: Guidelines for Responsible Conduct Regarding Scientific Communication at <https://www.sfn.org/Membership/Professional-Conduct/Guidelines-for-Responsible-Conduct-Regarding-Scientific-Communication>.

Content and Format

In general, Journal Club articles should have three components: a short overview of the topic and questions addressed in the reviewed paper, a critical review of the key findings, and a brief summary of the significance of the paper. In particular, what has been learned about neural mechanisms should be discussed.

The Journal Club must offer more than a summary of what was stated in the original article. For example, it might present important caveats, alternative explanations of the data, or a distinct interpretation of the results in the context of work that the author did not discuss. Presentation of unpublished work or modeling results is not acceptable, however.

We expect that authors of Journal Clubs will be working on a topic related to that of the reviewed paper, and thus will be familiar with the experimental approach, but Journal Clubs should not focus on the author's own work. We encourage critical reviews, but comments must be accurate, well-reasoned, and diplomatic. Inappropriately harsh or glowing reviews will not be considered.

Journal Club submissions must be concise and should be limited to approximately 1500 words. They should be written in a style that is understandable to all readers of *JNeurosci*. Avoid using jargon and unnecessary abbreviations.

A single, original schematic or explanatory figure is acceptable. The figure caption must appear in the main document, after the references. Do not duplicate figures that were in the reviewed paper—links to any figures you cite will be placed in the published Journal Club. In the text, refer to the cited figures with the author's name, e.g., "(Author et al., Figure 1A)."

A title page must be included with your submission. The title page should include: Journal Club title, citation of article being reviewed, list of Journal Club authors, author affiliations (universities/research institutes etc.; for graduate students, the affiliation should be listed as the Graduate Program or Department), corresponding author, corresponding author's contact information (address, phone, and email address), abbreviated title, and acknowledgments (optional).

Review Procedures

Journal Club submissions are examined by the editors for accuracy and appropriateness, but are generally not peer-reviewed. Submissions requiring more than minor revisions will not be accepted because of time constraints. The most

common reasons for rejection of a Journal Club submission are failure to provide sufficiently novel insights about neural mechanisms and failure to provide a cogent and concise explanation of those insights. The editors reserve the right to balance acceptances among topics and institutions.

Due to the large volume of submissions, we do not provide detailed reviews of Journal Club articles that are not accepted for publication. Decisions on the acceptability of Journal Clubs are not subject to appeal. The authors of the paper that is reviewed will be allowed to read the Journal Club before publication. If the authors choose to reply, their response will be linked to the published Journal Club.

Submission Instructions

Journal Clubs must be submitted through [JNeurosci submission site](#). They do not require a submission fee or publication fee. In using the on-line submission site, please follow these instructions:

For questions, please contact the Features Editor at JN_Features@sfn.org

1. Select "Feature: Journal Club" as the "Manuscript Type"
2. Select FEATURE EDITOR as the "Manuscript Section"
3. If you are prompted to pay the submission fee, do not enter payment information. Instead, please contact *JNeurosci*'s Central Office (jn@sfn.org) just before submission so this fee can be waived.

Invited Articles

JNeurosci – TechSights

Objective

TechSights provide reviews and evaluations of ground-breaking technical developments that are likely to have profound impacts on future neuroscience research. They may be technological efforts that are ongoing and may describe new techniques that have not yet been used outside the authors' own laboratory, but they are not standard methods papers that simply present improvements to established techniques.

The editors generally solicit submissions for TechSights articles. In rare cases, the editors will consider unsolicited submissions. Authors wishing to contribute unsolicited submissions should contact the Editor-in-Chief at JN_EIC@sfn.org before preparing a manuscript.

Review Procedures

Submissions will be screened by the editors for accuracy and appropriateness, and if appropriate, will be sent out for review. Submissions requiring more than minor revisions will not be accepted for publication. It is expected that TechSights articles will be published within four weeks of acceptance.

Conflict of Interest

Authors of TechSights submissions are subject to the same guidelines as authors of articles concerning conflict of interest, financial or otherwise. Any apparent conflicts of interest should be noted in the Acknowledgements. For more details, see the Society's [Policy on Conflict of Interest](#).

***JNeurosci* – Dual Perspectives**

Objective

The Dual Perspectives feature in *JNeurosci* consists of short articles that describe different, either complementary or opposing, views on a subject matter or debate of broad interest in neuroscience, written by the major proponents of each view. For example, perspectives on neurological diseases often differ, sometimes significantly, depending on the technological approach, the experimental system used (e.g., worm, fly, fish mouse or human) or the particular disease model that is adopted. The same can be said of cognitive processes or behavioral control mechanisms. Alternative interpretations can be found in the literature, even for such basic events as synaptic vesicle release, LTP and so on. The point of Dual Perspectives is not to incite dogmatic point-counterpoint arguments among partisans. Rather, the goal is to present descriptions of the same process or phenomenon from different viewpoints such that a healthy and constructive discussion ensues – one that broadens our minds and enriches our field.

The editors generally solicit submissions for Perspectives articles. Authors wishing to contribute unsolicited submissions should contact the Editor-in-Chief at JN_EIC@sfn.org before preparing a manuscript.

Review Procedures

Submissions will be screened by the editors for accuracy and appropriateness, and if deemed appropriate, will be sent out for review. Submissions requiring more than minor revisions will not be accepted for publication. It is expected that Perspectives articles will be published within four weeks of acceptance.

Conflict of Interest

Authors of Perspectives submissions are subject to the same guidelines as authors of articles concerning conflict of interest, financial or otherwise. Any apparent conflicts of interest should be noted in the Acknowledgements. For more details, see the Society's [Policy on Conflict of Interest](#).

***JNeurosci* – Viewpoints**

Objective

JNeurosci Viewpoints provide an overview of a single topic expected to be of interest to the broad readership of the Journal. Viewpoints are generally 3,000-5,000 words and cover works from many laboratories. The goal of *J. Neurosci*'s Viewpoints is to provide an introduction to a topic that is accessible to readers from the many sub disciplines of neuroscience.

Viewpoints are solicited by the editors, but authors may submit potential topics for consideration. Interested authors must submit a 1-page outline of the topic to the Editor-In-Chief at JN_EIC@sfn.org prior to submission. The Editor-In-Chief will discuss proposals with appropriate editors and experts to determine the topic's suitability for *JNeurosci*.

General Structure

Viewpoints should have a concise abstract (250 words maximum) followed by an Introduction and sub-sections with titles if desired. The length is expected to be 3,000 – 5,000 words; submissions that exceed 8,000 words will not be considered. There is no limit on the number of figures, diagrams or references. It is anticipated that most figures will be summary or schematic figures rather than experimental data.

Title page, References, and Figure Legends should follow the same guidelines as [Regular Manuscripts](#).

Illustrations and tables should follow the [General Guidelines for Illustrations](#).

Submission and review procedures after approval

Viewpoints must be submitted via our online submission system, using the VP prefix to denote this submission type. No submission or publications fees are required.

Once the article is submitted, it will be sent for review by one or more experts in the field. A decision can be expected within 2-3 weeks of submission.

***JNeurosci* – Progressions**

This feature explores scientific journeys that have commenced with papers published in *JNeurosci*. The

Editors ask the authors (or their scientific descendants) of the most highly cited *JNeurosci* papers to discuss where the original work has led. These articles lay out why the work was important, the most important advances stemming from the work, and how ideas about the topic have evolved since the work's publication. Unsolicited submissions will not be considered.

These articles are brief: 2000–4000 words. They are meant to be personal views of how science has progressed, rather than comprehensive reviews of the current state of the field. They will be reviewed primarily for accuracy and style considerations.

Submitting a Manuscript

Requirements for Submission

Checklist for Initial Submissions

Checklist for Revised Submissions

When submitting your manuscript at *JNeurosci*'s electronic site, you will be asked to provide the following:

Manuscript Files

- The manuscript should be organized as described in [Organization of the Manuscript](#).
- Manuscripts must make no references to supplemental material.
- For invited revisions or resubmissions, you must submit the manuscript text in Word, WordPerfect, RTF, LaTeX or Text format. Each figure must be uploaded as a separate file in TIFF or EPS format. Tables may be included either in the manuscript text file or as separate Word, WordPerfect, RTF, LaTeX or Text files. PDF format is not accepted for the manuscript text, figures or tables.
- In an initial submission, figures may be embedded in the text of a PDF and minor issues of style will not prevent the manuscript from going out for review. If a revision is invited, the revised manuscript must conform to *JNeurosci* formatting requirements, with figures submitted separately, no reference to supplementary information in the manuscript, sex of experimental subjects noted in the abstract, and other issues of style addressed as laid out in the [Instructions for Authors](#).

Author Information (for each author)

- Full Name
- Postal Address (with institution)
- Telephone Number

- E-mail Address
- Contribution(s)
 - Each author must be identified with at least one of the following: Designed research, Performed research, Contributed unpublished reagents/analytic tools, Analyzed data, Wrote the paper.

Title (50 words maximum) and **Running Title** (50 characters maximum)

Journal Section

- Authors must direct their manuscript to the appropriate section (Cellular/Molecular, Development/Plasticity/Repair, Systems/Circuits, Behavioral/Cognitive, or Neurobiology of Disease).

Reviewers

- Authors are asked to identify reviewers who are well qualified to referee the work and who would not have a conflict of interest. Authors should provide the name, address, and email for each potential referee. Authors will also be asked to identify reviewers who should be excluded from refereeing.

Editors

- Authors may request specific Senior Editors or Reviewing Editors, but editor assignments will be made based on expertise of the editors, load, and availability. Authors may exclude specific Senior Editors or Reviewing Editors from handling their manuscripts.

Cover Letter

- It is not necessary to include a cover letter. If you choose, you can insert one on the submission form and as a separate file addressed to “the Editors.”

Submission Fee

- A submission fee of \$140 must be paid when submitting a Regular Manuscript. A fee is also required when resubmitting an article that was previously rejected. **Starting March 2017**, the submission fee is waived for Regular Manuscript submissions on which the first and last authors are SfN members. For more information, visit our Submission Fee & Payment Policy. **NOTE:** Submission Fees will not be refunded regardless of editorial decision (including editorial rejection).

Review Process

All manuscripts must be submitted to *JNeurosci*'s web-based submission site at <http://jneurosci.msubmit.net/cgi-bin/main.plex>. Please refer to [requirements for submission](#) before you begin. The author who completes the submission will be designated as the corresponding author and will be responsible for handling communications with *JNeurosci*. Co-corresponding authors may be designated on the proofs for accepted articles. The submitting author has full authority to speak for all other authors regarding withdrawal of a manuscript or correction or retraction of a published article.

At the time of submission, authors will be asked to direct their manuscript to one of *JNeurosci*'s sections (Cellular/Molecular, Development/Plasticity/Repair, Systems/Circuits, Behavioral/Cognitive, or Neurobiology of Disease). Authors may request specific Senior Editors (<http://www.jneurosci.org/content/general-information#senioreitors>) or Reviewing Editors (<http://www.jneurosci.org/content/general-information#reviewingeditors>), but editor assignments will be made based on expertise of the editors, load, and scheduling. Accepted manuscripts will appear in the section selected by the authors, regardless of editor assignments.

Authors are requested to identify five reviewers who are well qualified to referee the work and would not have a conflict of interest. Authors may also exclude specific individuals from reviewing their manuscript. The Reviewing Editor will typically select two independent reviewers to evaluate each paper. If a consensus is not reached, a third opinion may be sought. Reviewers are required to treat manuscripts as confidential.

Reviewer Compliance with SfN Guidelines and Conflict of Interest Policy:

JNeurosci seeks to avoid any real, potential and/or perceived conflicts of interest in the manuscript review process. To accomplish this, we ask reviewers to recognize potential competing interests that could lead them to be positively or negatively disposed towards an article and to recuse themselves if they feel that they are unable to offer an impartial review. Examples of conflicts of interest that would lead an invited reviewer and editors to exclude herself/himself include:

- Working at the same institution or organization as one or more of the authors, currently or recently (within the past 3 years);
- Having financial interests related to the manuscript;

- Presently collaborating, planning grant applications and/or manuscript preparation with one or more of the authors;
- Having served as an advisor or mentor to one or more of the authors during the past 10 years;
- Having been mentored, formally or informally, by one or more of the authors during the last 3 years;
- Having collaborated with or co-authored (one or more) publications with one or more of the authors during the past 3 years;
- Having held grants with one or more of the authors, during the past 3 years;
- Having a personal relationship with one or more of the authors that impacts the ability to evaluate the manuscript objectively.

A manuscript will be returned without outside review if a consultation between two or more Reviewing Editors and a Senior Editor identifies flaws in experimental design or the scientific quality such that it is unlikely to receive favorable reviews. In addition, a manuscript that is narrow in scope and not likely to be relevant to a broader neuroscience audience may be editorially rejected after this consultation process. Editorial rejection allows authors to submit their paper elsewhere without further delay.

JNeurosci is a member of the Neuroscience Peer Review Consortium, an alliance of neuroscience journals that have agreed to share manuscript reviews at the author's request. Its goals are to support efficient and thorough peer review of original research in neuroscience, to speed the publication of research reports, and to reduce the burden on peer reviewers. For information about the Consortium and instructions on how to forward reviews, please visit:

<http://nprc.incf.org/index.php/about/information-for-authors/>.

Checklist for Initial Submissions

- The submission may be either a single PDF file containing all text and figures (pages and figures must be numbered) or multiple files: a manuscript file in Word, WordPerfect, RTF, LaTeX or text format and each figure in a separate TIFF (300 dpi) or EPS file.
- Submissions that contain data included in a previously rejected manuscript for which a revision was NOT invited must have Senior Editor input before submitting the new manuscript.
- Individual files must always be provided for multimedia (MP4) and extended data

- The authors, title and abstract inserted on the submission form must match those in the manuscript files
- Preferred and excluded reviewers and editors may be specified on the submission form
- Cover letter is optional
- Credit card information must be used for payment of submission fee (waived if first and last authors are SfN members)

- Word count is ≤ 250
- Species studied is identified in abstract (or title)
- Sex of subjects is stated (male; female; of either sex; of unknown sex)
- No subheadings are present

Text:

- Sections appear in the following order: Title Page, Abstract, Significance Statement, Introduction, Materials and Methods, Results, Discussion, References, Figure/Table/Extended Data Legends
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