# **EPL Co-Editor Help Document**

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# 1.0 The Co-Editor Centre

When an article is submitted to the journal and assigned to you as a Co-Editor, you will receive an email asking you to assess the suitability of the manuscript and manage the peer review process for it. By managing the peer review process, we are essentially asking you to select appropriate referees/reviewers and to make the publishing decisions that are required during the peer review process.

When you receive the email, if you cannot manage the review process for the article please contact your Admin support at <u>editorial.office@epletters.net</u> as soon as you can so that they can reassign the article to an alternative Co-Editor. If possible, please also suggest Co-Editors who you think could act as an alternative.

Firstly, after being assigned an article by the EPL admin, you will need to access your 'Co-Editor Centre' by following the links in the email to the ScholarOne Log In screen (shown below):



Once you have gained access you will see the screen shown below. Click on the 'Co-Editor' role from the 'Manage' dropdown box.



#### You will now see your Co-Editor 'dashboard'

Co-Editor Lists	Quick Search - Show Advanced Search
You may click on the manuscript list title to view a full listing of manuscripts in each status, or click on the number next to the list to jump directly to the first manuscript in the list.	You may conduct a wildcard search by adding an asterisk (*) to the end of the search string. For example, to view a list of all of the manuscripts whose titles begin with the words "neuroscience" or "neurology" simply type "neuro*" in the Title field and click "Search."
<ul> <li>For Action - New Articles <ol> <li>Invite Referees</li> <li>Chase Overdue Referee Reports</li> <li>Make Recommendation</li> </ol> </li> <li>For Action - Revised Articles <ol> <li>Assign Referees</li> <li>Chase Overdue Referee Reports</li> <li>Make Recommendation</li> </ol> </li> <li>For Information <ol> <li>Manuscripts Awaiting Revision</li> <li>Pending Manuscripts</li> </ol> </li> <li>For Information - New Articles <ol> <li>Awaiting Referee Reports</li> <li>Awaiting Referee Reports</li> <li>Rescinded Referee Reports</li> <li>Decisions Awaiting Confirmation</li> </ol> </li> <li>For Information - Revised Articles <ol> <li>Awaiting Referee Reports</li> <li>Rescinded Referee Reports</li> <li>Decisions Awaiting Confirmation</li> </ol> </li> </ul>	Saved Search: Select V Edit Manuscript ID: Title: Author's First (Given) or Last (Family) name: * Keywords: V Pick Search

On the left-hand side is the menu which lists any articles that require your action (in the above example you can see that there is one new article which requires reviewer selection).

To access the list of articles that require your attention, click on the appropriate link, for example 'Invite Referees'. You will then be able to see any articles which require action (as shown in the example below):

Invite Ref	Invite Referees Manuscripts 1-1 of 1				
Manuscript ID 1	Manuscript Title	Date	Ctatuc	Taka Action	
<u>Manuscript</u> <u>Type</u>	Submitting Author	Submitted 🔸	Status		
EPL- 100040	Polishing and planarization of single crystal diamond: state-ofthe-art and perspectives [ <u>View Submission</u> ]	21-Jan-2021	CE: Slader, Tom Admin: Slader, Tom ED: <u>Fryer, John</u> • Copyright Tracking <i>0 of 1 completed</i> • Select Referees (Due		
Letter	S <u>Evans, David</u>		28-Jan-2021) 0 active selections; 0 invited; 0 agreed; 0 declined; 0 returned		
🔄 Export t	Export to CSV Manuscripts 1-1 of 1				

Please note that the system will automatically highlight any 'overdue' articles that should be prioritised over other articles appearing on the list.

Invite Ref	Invite Referees Manuscripts 1-1 of 1				
Manuscript ID	Manuscript Title	Date	Status	Taka Action	
<u>Manuscript</u> <u>Type</u>	Submitting Author	Submitted 🔸	Status		
EPL- 100010	John testing Co Ed Assignment [ <u>View</u> <u>Submission]</u>	<u>08-Jan</u> -2021	CE: Loftus, Lucy Admin: Fryer, John ED: Not Assigned Select Referees (Due 15-Jan-		
Letter	Any overdue articles on t list will be highlighted in r	the red	2021) <b>6 days overdue</b> 0 active selections; 0 invited; 0 agreed; 0 declined; 0 returned		
Export t	Export to CSV Manuscripts 1-1 of 1				

To access an individual article, click on the blue 'take action' button on the right-hand side.

# 2.0 Finding your way around an article

After accessing the article, click the 'Manuscript Information' tab to view the main article page and the author supplied information:



# 2.1 Notes

It is always advisable to check for any 'Notes' that have been made on the article by the EPL Admin during their initial check of the article. These appear at the very bottom of the screen. Clicking on the note icon will take you directly to the notes section at the bottom of the page. Any notes that are for your attention will have the heading 'FAO CE', as in the example below. Other notes may appear at this place but will only concern the Editorial Office internally.

There is a note icon in the top left (indicated below)

- If this is white (as shown), no notes have been added.
- If this is yellow, a note has been added to the article.
- If this is yellow with a purple circle a new note was added very recently.

_			Complete Admin Checklist			
uo	• EPL-100037	Submitted: 18-Jan-2021; Last Updated	1: 18-Jan-2021; 0 days, 18 hours in review			
rmati	Fryer, John (proxy) (contact)					
Info	<ul> <li>Letter</li> </ul>					
<u>p</u>	• OA Agreed:					
Complete Admin Checklist (Due 19-Jan-2021)     CE: Not Ass     Admin: Not     ED: Fryer, J						
👼 🖻 PDF 👒 Supplemental Files 🛱 Original Files 🖣 Abstract 🖹 Cover Letter 🝳 External Searches 🚳 Analysis						
Audit 7	Scroll To					
les	🕞 Peer Review Milestones					
Date Submitted: 18-Jan-2021						
uscri	Admin:	Admin	Date to Admin: 18-Jan-2021			
Man	Editor:	Fryer, John AU REF CE Admin ED PROD CONFIG	Date to Editor: 18-Jan-2021			

To read the note, click on the note title link on the left-hand side.

Once you have read the note, clicking on the 'top' button located on the right which will return you to the top of the screen.

You can add your own notes by clicking 'Add note'. We recommend that you title your notes 'FAO Admin'.

Notes     view all no					
Note Title Updated By Updated On					Delete
FAO CE - supplementary file included		Slader Tom - Admin	21-Jan-2021 8:40:53 AM	<i>6</i>	$\mathbf{\times}$
					a Note
				(	🔺 top

# 2.2 The information bar

Across the information bar located at the top of the screen you will see article information including the article reference number, the title, the list of authors, and the article type:

_			Complete	Admin Checklist
Ę	🙀 • EPL-100037	ubmitted: 18-Jan-2021; Last Updated	d: 18-Jan-2021; 0 days	. 18 hours in review
atio	🛛 🟹 * A Microfabricated Ion Tr	ap Chip with a Sloped Loading Slot to Minimize Exposing Tr	apped Ions to Stray (	Charges
L L L	Fryer, John (proxy) (con	tact)		
Infe	<ul> <li>Letter</li> </ul>			
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es	🖃 Peer Review Milestones			
Date Submitted: 18-Jan-2021				
lscri	Admin:	Admin	Date to Admin:	18-Jan-2021
1 2 1		Envor John ALLREE CE Admin ED PROD CONFIC		

You can also see some 'shortcut buttons'.

Click on any one of these buttons in order to access the information.

- 'PDF' will open a PDF of the article
- 'Supplementary Files' opens any separate file which is associated with the article and will eventually be published online (note that in the above example the button is 'greyed out' as there is no supplementary file associated with this article – if there was the button would be in bold like the other shortcut buttons in this example)
- Original Files will allow you to see all original files uploaded with the article.
- 'Abstract' will allow you to read the abstract provided by the author
- 'Cover Letter' allows you to access the authors cover letter.
- 'External Searches' enables you to take key article information and search using existing tools like Google and Web of Science.
- The iThenticate report (an explanation is given below in section: 2.3.1 The iThenticate report)

On the left-hand side of the screen you will see three tabs labelled 'Manuscript Information', 'Audit Trail' and 'Manuscript Files' (see below).

			Complete	Admin Checklist
Manuscript Information	<ul> <li>EPL-100037</li> <li>A Microfabricated Ion Tra</li> <li>Fryer, John (proxy) (con</li> <li>Letter</li> <li>OA Agreed:</li> <li>Complete Admin Checkling</li> </ul>	Submitted: 18-Jan-2021; Last Updated ap Chip with a Sloped Loading Slot to Minimize Exposing Tr tact) st (Due 19-Jan-2021)	I: 18-Jan-2021; 0 days, apped Ions to Stray C CE: N Admir ED: <u>F</u>	18 hours in review Charges ot Assigned 1: Not Assigned <u>yver, John (proxy</u> )
ail	🕒 PDF 🛛 🗞 Supplemental Files	🖞 Original Files 📲 Abstract 📄 Cover Letter 🔍 Extern	al Searches 🛛 🚳 Anal	ysis
Audit Tr	Scroll To	v		
les	Peer Review Milestones			
ы	Date Submitted:	18-Jan-2021		
Iscri	Admin:	Admin	Date to Admin:	18-Jan-2021
Manu	Editor:	Fryer, John AU REF CE Admin ED PROD CONFIG	Date to Editor:	18-Jan-2021
su				🔺 top
Conversatio	ne manuscript title an ancy % on both title	d the full author and author list		

# 2.3 Manuscript Information

Click on Manuscript Information and you will see a different view of the article information, including the title, article type, manuscript ID number, list of authors, keywords (as entered by the author), the research type of the article as entered by the author, any reviewers recommended or opposed by the author and a copy of their cover letter – see below.

Author-Supplied Data			
Manuscript Type:	Letter		
Title:	Microfabricated Ion Trap Chip with a Sloped Loading Slot to Minimize Exposing Trapped Ions Stray Charges		
Manuscript ID:	EPL-100037		
Funding Information:	There are no funders to report for this submission		
	Fryer, John V Save Stryer, John (proxy)		
Submitting Author:	<ul> <li>primary affiliation</li> <li>IOP Publishing Ltd - IT</li> <li>Temple Circus Bristol BS1 6HG</li> <li>United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern</li> <li>Ireland</li> </ul>		
Authors & Institutions:	<ul> <li>S Fryer, John proxy</li> <li>■ IOP Publishing Ltd ✓ - IT Temple Circus , Bristol BS1 6HG United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland</li> </ul>		
Contact Author (populates the ##PROLE_AUTHOR## e- mail tags):	Fryer, John V     Save     Current Contact Author: Fryer, John       (proxy)     (proxy)		
Article Keywords:	Dynamic critical phenomena < Equations of state, phase equilibria, and phase transitions < CONDENSED MATTER: STRUCTURAL, MECHANICAL, AND THERMAL PROPERTIES, Equations of state of specific substances < Equations of state, phase equilibria, and phase transitions < CONDENSED MATTER: STRUCTURAL, MECHANICAL, AND THERMAL PROPERTIES, General studies of phase transitions < Equations of state, phase equilibria, and phase transitions < CONDENSED MATTER: STRUCTURAL, MECHANICAL, AND THERMAL PROPERTIES, General studies of phase transitions < CONDENSED MATTER: STRUCTURAL, MECHANICAL, AND THERMAL PROPERTIES		
Author Recommended Referees:			
Author Opposed Referees:			
Author Recommended Editors:			
Author's Cover Letter:	My cover letter appears here		

Select Research Type	
req Your manuscript is	Experimental

#### 2.3.1 The iThenticate report

iThenticate is a service that EPL uses to detect instances of plagiarism in New Submissions. The EPL admin will add a Note to the article to bring to your attention if iThenticate flags that a New Submission has a high percentage of content from another article:

Notes <u>view all note</u>					
Note Title	Updated By	Updated On	Edit	Delete	
FAO CE - please check iThenticate report	Slader Tom - Admin	08-Mar-2021 5:30:50 AM		$\mathbf{\times}$	
			🛨 Add	a Note	

You can view the report by clicking 'View the Originality Report' link:



Please use the report to judge whether the overlap with the highlighted articles is too high and therefore the new submission should be rejected. To reject the article due to the iThenticate report, please see section '4.3.1 Making a recommendation – rejecting without sending article for peer-review' for rejecting the article.

A guide to assessing the iThenticate report can be found in the Appendix (9.0 Appendix – the iThenticate report. If you have any questions about the report, please contact the EPL Admin (editorial.office@epletters.net).

# 2.4 Audit Trail

Clicking the 'Audit Trail' tab will allow you to view previous actions and emails that have been performed on the article. In the screenshot below you can see that the article was assigned to a Co-Editor and that the reviewer selection task became pending. You can read emails sent by clicking the letter icon:

			Select Referees
udit Trail Manuscript Information	<ul> <li>* EPL-100031</li> <li>TEST MS - LETTER</li> <li>Fryer, John (contact)</li> <li>Letter</li> <li>OA Agreed:</li> <li>Section:</li> <li>Special Issue:</li> <li>Select Referees (Due o active selections; 0 in returned</li> </ul>	Submitted: 15-Jan-20 28-Feb-2021) vited; 0 agreed; 0 declined; 0	21; Last Updated: 21-Feb-2021; 36 days, 20 hours in review CE: Slader, Tom Admin: Burr, Frederic Admin: Slader, Tom ED: <u>Fryer, John</u>
A	🔁 PDF 👒 Supplemental File	es 🖞 Original Files 📲 Abstract 📄 Cover Letter 🛛 Q Externa	l Searches 🛛 🖓 Analysis
iscript Files	Audit Trail - view all / letter	rs only	Events: 1-10 v of 15 + >
anu	Date / Time	Event	Manuscript Status
Ψ	21-Feb-2021 4:31 AM EST 21-Feb-2021 9:31 AM GMT	<ul> <li>tom.slader@ioppublishing.org</li> <li>rom: s1support@ioppublishing.org</li> <li>Subject: Please select referees for article EPL-100031</li> <li>Results: Successfully sent.</li> </ul>	
	21-Feb-2021 4:31 AM EST 21-Feb-2021 9:31 AM GMT	CE Picks Referee became pending	CE: Slader, Tom Admin: Burr, Frederic Admin: Slader, Tom ED: Fryer, John Select Referees (Due 28-Feb-2021) 0 active selections; 0 invited; 0 agreed; 0 declined; 0 returned
	21-Feb-2021 4:31 AM EST 21-Feb-2021 9:31 AM GMT	Assign CE became completed by Slader, Tom (Admin)	CE: Slader, Tom Admin: Burr, Frederic Admin: Slader, Tom ED: <u>Fryer, John</u> = Submitted

# 2.5 Manuscript Files:

Here you will be able to view files that have been uploaded by the authors. However, it is not necessary to view files here as they will be available to you by clicking in the information bar at the top of the page. You can see that a PDF of the article has been uploaded – we do not recommend that you click any of the buttons on this page ('Edit Details' or 'Delete'):

udit Trail	• S 0 re	elect Referees (Due 28 active selections; 0 invite turned	-Feb-2021) ed; 0 agreed; 0 dec	lined; 0				CE: Slader, Admin: Bur Admin: Slad ED: <u>Fryer, J</u>	Iom r, Frederic der, Tom <u>ohn</u>
S ≥	🖻 PDF	Supplemental Files	街 Original Files	¶ Abstract	Cover Letter	<b>Q</b> External	Searches 🙆	Analysis	
ot File									
Iscrip	🖃 Mana	ge Manuscript Files							
Manu	Manuscr	ipt Files							
٩	Order	File Name				HTML / PDF Proof	Ready for Batc Page Count	n / Edit Details	Delete
	1 ~	<u>SB TEST MS - Letter</u>	<u>r.pdf (v1.0)</u>			~	$\checkmark$	<	$\mathbf{X}$
		Complete Docum	ent for Review (P	DF Only)					
		Uploaded by Frye	er, John (Author) o	on 15-Jan-20	21				

# 3.0 Searching for and Inviting Referees on a New Article

Before beginning your search, you need to ensure that you are in the correct view. Click on the 'Select Referees' tab located on the top-right hand side of the article page.

		Select Referees
c	Submitted: 21-Jan-2021; Last Updated: 21-Jan-2023	; 0 days, 1 hour in review
atio	🚰 * Polishing and planarization of single crystal diamond: state-ofthe-art and perspectives	
E.	* Evans, David (contact)	
Info	* Letter	
pt	* OA Agreed:	
nuscr	Copyright Tracking     0 of 1 completed	
Mar	<ul> <li>Select Referees (Due 28-Jan-2021)</li> <li>0 active selections; 0 invited; 0 agreed; 0 declined; 0 returned</li> </ul>	CE: Slader, Tom Admin: Slader, Tom ED: <u>Fryer, John</u>
Lai		
1 H	🗋 PDF 🗞 Supplemental Files 🏟 Original Files 🦿 Abstract 🗟 Cover Letter 🔍 External Searches 🏤 Analysis	

# Key things to remember!

When searching for a potential reviewer you are searching a database – it does not contain the contact details of *everyone* so you may need to add a new reviewer if they are not already on the database or ask the Editorial Office to add them for you.

- Where possible it is advisable to select multiple reviewers. This helps when an invited reviewer has declined to report or does not respond as it means there is an alternative reviewer that can easily be invited.
- Try to avoid inviting reviewers who are at same institution as the authors and coauthors (or simultaneously inviting two different reviewers who are at the same institution as each other) to avoid any potential conflict of interest.
- Once the referee(s) selected, the Editorial Office will send the invitation(s) attaching the PDF file of the paper

As you add referees to an article they will appear in the 'Referee List';

Referee List			
Order Name	Status	History	Remove
Alternates			
			🖌 Save

To the right of the Reviewer List is a Progress indicator, showing the number of reviews required to make a recommendation. It will default to '2' reviewers required.

	Progress				
	# reviews required to make decision	2			
	# active selections	0			
	# invited	0			
	# agreed	0			
1	# declined	0			
	# returned	0			
	$\checkmark$	Save			

If you would like to make a recommendation on an article without sending it to any reviewers, you can change the '# reviews required to make decision' to '0' then click on 'Save'. This will allow you to make a recommendation on the article.

Please go to page 22 and 27 for an explanation of how to make a recommendation (or contact the Editorial Office for guidance - <u>editorial.office@epletters.net</u>).

#### 3.1 Creating a new reviewer account

You may need to create a new account for a reviewer who is not present in the EPL database.

Click the 'Add New Reviewer' function located towards the top of the screen on the righthand side (see below).

Author's Recommended / Opposed Referees					Create Referee Account
Name, Keywords, Institution, E-Mail, Roles, Reason	Current / Past 12 Months	Days Since Last Review	Average R- Score	Add	+ Add New Reviewer
Chotorlishvili, Levan recommended Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg, Halle, Germany				_	Set My Search Preferences
levan.chotorlishvili@gmail.com Levan Chotorlishvili is a specialist in nanomagnetism and magnetic materials.	0/0	0	0	+	Version History
Pini, Maria Gloria recommended The Istituto dei Sistemi Complessi (Institute for Complex Systems), Italy					<ul> <li>EPL-21-100884.R1</li> <li>Submitted on 28-Feb-2022</li> </ul>
mariagloria.pini@isc.cnr.it Maria Gloria Pini is a specialist in nanomagnetism and magnetic materials.	0/0	0	0	+	EPL-21-100884     Submitted on 14-Dec-2021     View Review Details
Seriksson, Olle recommended Uppsala University, SWEDEN, Department of Physics and Astronomy, Mat					top
olle.eriksson@physics.uu.se	0/0	0	0		

# A pop-up window appears:

EPL Create Accoun	e t
	Create Account
	req First (Given) Name: req Last (Family) Name: req E-Mail Address:
	🛛 Close Window 🕢 Create and Add

You will need to complete the 'required fields' (req) in order to create a new account.

Once you are ready to create the account click on the blue 'Create and Add' button. This will add the referee to the 'Reviewer List'.

If you are unsure of how to add a reviewer or if you think that the reviewer is in the EPL database, but you cannot find them, please email the EPL admin team for assistance (editorial.office@epletters.net).

The Editorial Office will then send the invitation(s) to the referee(s) attaching the PDF file of the paper.

# 3.2 Different ways of searching for reviewers

There are multiple ways of searching for reviewers in ScholarOne, including the authors' recommended (or opposed reviewers), by using the Publons database, and by searching through EPL's reviewer pool (Quick Search, Related Papers and the Advanced Search).

Please carefully read through the below guide before making your selections.

#### 3.2.1 Recommended/Opposed reviewers

- These are suggested by the author at submission stage
- Authors do not always specify why a referee is "Recommended". It could be that they are the experts in the field, but some less scrupulous authors may be recommending friendly colleagues.
- If there isn't a 'magnifying glass' icon next to their name, they are *not* on the database.

The Recommended/Opposed reviewers section is located near the top of the screen, as shown below;

The Recommended/Opposed reviewers section is located just below the Reviewer List

Author's Recommended / Opposed Reviewers			-	
Name, Keywords, Institution, Roles, Reason	Current / Past 12 Months	Days Since Last Review	Average R-Score	Add
Reviewer, Roseanne recommended nodic Films, Batteries, Batteries - aqueous; Research Scientist Plymouth University Roles: AU REV Top researcher in field	1/6	5	0	
Reviewer, Reginald opposed Anodic Films, Batteries, Batteries - aqueous; Staff Scientist London South Bank University Roles: AU REV Conflict of interest	2 / 9	5	0	
				🕂 Add
				🔺 top

To the right of the reviewers name you can see information on whether they already have another article, how many articles they have reviewed in the past 12 months, the number of days since they last reviewed and the average 'R' score – which is an indicator of the quality of reviews they have submitted in the past.

If you wish to use any of the reviewers recommended by the authors, tick the box to the right of their name and then click on the blue 'Add' button. Remember, if they do not have a magnifying glass icon next to their name you will not be able to select them as they are not on our database. You will need to create an account for them if you would still like to use them or alternatively contact the EPL Admin who can add them to the database for you (editorial.office@epletters.net).

# 3.2.2 Publons Referee Connect

- This is a semi-automated search linked to the 'Publons' review database. The manuscript title is compared to Web of Science entries and the search returns potential reviewers based on this it also shows verified reviews by the reviewer.
- The search can return some unrelated results so we advise using caution and doing research on the suggestion before adding a reviewer from the tool.
- If there isn't a magnifying glass next to their name, they are not on the database.

Publons Reviewer Connect Results		Search 5 Y	'ears of Pu	blications
Dig deeper on Publons.com				
Potential Reviewer Details	Current / Past 12 Months	Days Since Last Review	Average R-Score	Add
Peter Y. H. Pang				
peterpang@nus.edu.sg; Natl Univ Singapore				
Verified reviews in Publons: 0				
Articles in Web of Science: 3				
Most Relevant Works:				$\frown$
<ul> <li>Asymptotic Behavior of Solutions to a Tumor Angiogenesis Model with Chemotaxis-haptotaxis <u>view details</u></li> </ul>				🛨 Add
<ul> <li>Global Existence of a Two-dimensional Chemotaxis- haptotaxis Model with Remodeling of Non-diffusible Attractant <u>view details</u></li> </ul>				
<ul> <li>Global Boundedness and Decay Property of a Three- dimensional Keller-segel-stokes System Modeling Coral Fertilization <u>view details</u></li> </ul>				
Yifu Wang				
wangyifu@bit.edn.cn; Beijing Inst Technol				
Verified reviews in Publons: 0				
Articles in Web of Science: 7				
Most Relevant Works:				
<ul> <li>Asymptotic Behavior of Solutions to a Tumor Angiogenesis Model with Chemotaxis-haptotaxis <u>view details</u></li> </ul>				🕂 Add
<ul> <li>Large Time Behavior of Solutions to a Fully Parabolic Attraction-repulsion Chemotaxis System with Logistic Source view details</li> </ul>				
<ul> <li>Global Existence of a Two-dimensional Chemotaxis- haptotaxis Model with Remodeling of Non-diffusible Attractant <u>view details</u></li> </ul>				
Chunhua Jin 🕑 🝺				
jinchhua@126.com; South China Normal University				
Verified reviews in Publons: <u>1</u>				
Articles in Web of Science: 4				
Most Relevant Works:				+ Add
<ul> <li>Large Time Behavior of Solutions to a Chemotaxis Model with Porous Medium Diffusion <u>view details</u></li> </ul>				
<ul> <li>Boundedness and Global Solvability to a Chemotaxis- haptotaxis Model with Slow and Fast Diffusion <u>view details</u></li> </ul>				
<ul> <li>Global Solvability and Large Time Behavior to a Chemotaxis- haptotaxis Model with Nonlinear Diffusion <u>view details</u></li> </ul>				

If you wish to use any referees from this list, click on the blue 'Add' button to the right of the referee details. If they do not already have an existing account then you will be prompted to create an account for them when you click on the 'Add' button. If you would like any assistance on creating an account, please contact the Editorial Office and ask them to do it for you.

# 3.2.3 Searching by reviewer name

#### There are multiple ways of doing this:

Method	Pros	Cons
Quick search	Searches both first and	If searching common

	surnames Works well for unique names	names (e.g. Smith), will return high numbers
Advanced search	Separates out first name and last name Can also search for email	Only returns names which match *all* entered fields

TIP: these searches are searching our database, as the referee entered their details. So, John Smith may be in our database, but as J Smith. If putting full first name in doesn't return a name, try the initial and a wildcard (i.e. First Name: J\* Surname: Smith will return J Smith, Jane Smith, James Smith... John Smith).

#### 3.2.4 The 'Quick Search'

Type either the first (given) or last (family) name in the search box, then click on 'Search'.

Quick Search		
First (Given) or Last (Family) Name: Roles: All EPL Author EPL Referee EPL Board Member EPL Viewer		0
Sort Order		
Primary Sort: Name (Last, First)	$\checkmark$ Ascending $\checkmark$	
Secondary Sort: Number of Current Assignments	$\sim$ Descending $\sim$	
		🔀 Clear 🕄 Search

# 3.2.5 The 'Advanced Search':

This search allows you to enter more detailed information when searching

Reviewer Account Information			
Salutation: First (G	iven) Name:	Middle Name:	Last (Family) Name:
Any T			
Degree: E-Mail /	Address:	Comments:	
Institution: Departr	nent:		
City: State/P	rovince:	Postal Code:	Country / Region:
ORCID ID			
http://orcid.org/			
Person Designations:			
All			
Editorial Board Member Statistical Reviewer			
Fast Track Reviewer			
Deceased 💌			
Roles:			
All Author			
Reviewer			
Associate Editor			
Viewing Center			
Exclude Institution*:		Exclude Postal Code*:	:
Exclude unavailable Reviewer			
Exclude unavailable Reviewer      Keywords:     AND ▼     AND ▼     AND ▼     AND ▼     AND ▼			
Exclude unavailable Reviewer  Keywords:  AND  AND  AND  AND  AND  AND  AND  AND			
Exclude unavailable Reviewer  Keywords: AND  AND  AND  AND  AND  AND  AND  AND	Min:	Max:	
Exclude unavailable Reviewer  Keywords: AND  AND  AND  AND  AND  AND  AND  AND	Min:	Max:	
Exclude unavailable Reviewer  Keywords: AND  AND  AND  AND  AND  AND  AND  AND	Min: Min:	Max: Max: Max:	
Exclude unavailable Reviewer  Keywords:  AND  AND  AND  AND  AND  AND  AND  AND	Min: Min: Min: Min:	Max: Max: Max: Max:	
Exclude unavailable Reviewer  Keywords:  AND  AND  AND  AND  AND  AND  AND  AND	Min: Min: Min: Min: Min:	Max: Max: Max: Max: Max:	
Exclude unavailable Reviewer  Keywords: AND  AND  AND  AND  AND  AND  AND  AND	Min: Min: Min: Min: Min:	Max: Max: Max: Max: Max:	
Exclude unavailable Reviewer      Keywords:     AND        AND        AND        AND        AND        AND        AND        AND        AND        AND        AND         AND         AND         AND         AND          AND          AND           AND	Min: Min: Min: Min: Min:	Max: Max: Max: Max: Max:	ding_▼
Exclude unavailable Reviewer      Keywords:     AND      AND	Min: Min: Min: Min: Min:	Max: Max:	ding ▼ nding ▼
Exclude unavailable Reviewer      Keywords:     AND      AND	Min: Min: Min: Min: Min:	Max: V Descent	ding ▼ nding ▼

If you wish to add anyone from the results list, tick the box to the right of their name before clicking on the blue 'Add' button (see below).

Results - <u>New Search</u> - <u>Modify Search</u> - <u>Change Sor</u>	t			1-2 of 2
Search Criteria: Last (Family) Name = "reviewer"; Roles Society Reviewer"	= "Journa	l of The E	Electrochem	nical
Name, Keywords, Institution, Roles	Current / Past 12 Months	Days Since Last Review	Average R-Score	Add /Grant REV Role
Neviewer, Reginald.				
Anodic Films, Batteries, Batteries - aqueous; Staff Scientist London South Bank University	2/9	6	0	
Roles: AU REV				
Reviewer, Roseanne.				
Anodic Films, Batteries, Batteries - aqueous; Research Scientist Plymouth University	1/6	6	0	
Roles: AU REV				
New Search Nodify Search				+ Add
Export to CSV			Results	1-2 of 2

# 3.2.6 Searching by Keywords and "Wildcards":

- Use the "Keywords" (left-hand-side) box (shown below)
- This searches the keywords that have been entered into the reviewers' account (it will find reviewers that have information entered in keywords section on their contact record.
- Does Boolean (AND OR), takes wild cards (\*) and exact terms ("error estimate")
- This is a more advanced feature

You can search using keywords in both the Related Paper search and the Advanced Search.

The keywords that you use to search for reviewers can be taken from the 'Author Supplied Data' on the 'Manuscript Information' page:

Article Keywords:	Nuclear astrophysics, Nuclear explosions
Author Recommended Referees:	
Author Opposed Referees:	
Author Recommended Editors:	
Author's Cover Letter:	We are submitting herewith a research paper entitled "Nuclear decay"

For example, the terms 'nuclear', 'explosion' and 'nuclear explosion' have been entered into the Keywords field by the authors.

Shared Comments:		Keywords:
	AND $\sim$	nuclear Pick AND ~
	AND $\sim$	explosion Vick AND V
	AND $\sim$	nuclear explosion Pick AND ~
	AND $\sim$	Pick AND V
		Pick
Opt-in:		
Pick	and $\sim$	
Pick		
Referee Activity Information		
# Current Assignments	Min:	Max:
# Assignments in Past 12 Months	Min:	Max:
# Days Since Last Review Submitted	Min:	Max:
# Invitations Declined in Past 12 Mont	hs Min:	Max:
R-Score	Min:	Max:
M-Score	Min:	Max:
Sort Order		
Primary Sort: Name (Last, First)		✓ Ascending ✓
Secondary Sort: Number of Current A	ssignments	<ul> <li>✓ Descending ✓</li> </ul>
		🔀 Clear 🔇 Search

Input the keywords into the search fields as shown below (after clicking back into the 'Select Referees' tab):

The search can be refined by adding Wildcards

To perform a multiple character wildcard search (i.e. to find 0 or more characters) use the asterisk (\*) symbol.

For example, to search for the keywords test, tests or tester, you can use: test\*

Exact match = nuclear explosion – Won't find nuclear and explosion Partial match = nuclear explosion\* - all accounts that have nuclear explosion Part of search term = \***Nuclear explosion**\*.

e.g. Search for **\*Nuclear\* AND \*Explosion\*** to find profiles that have nuclear and explosions as Keywords.

After clicking Search and bringing up the results, if you wish to add anyone from the results list, tick the box to the right of their name before clicking on the blue 'Add' button which appears at the end of the results list.

Please see '10.0 Appendix: Searching by Keywords' for a more detailed guide and examples of searching using keywords and wildcards.

#### 3.2.7 Searching by related papers

This search function will enable you to search for authors and reviewers of articles similar to the one you are selecting reviewers for. This will enable you to select reviewers you know have experience with this type of article (either through previous reviews or having written an article in a similar field.

As you may not know the exact title of previous papers, we recommend that you add article Keywords to the search:

Related Papers Search			
This feature searches for aut	hors and referees of manu	scripts with the selected criteria	
Author First (Given) Name:	Author Middle Name:	Author Last (Family) Name:	Contact Author Only
Referee First (Given) Name:	Referee Middle Name:	Referee Last (Family) Name:	
Manuscript ID:	Manuscript Title:		J
Keywords:	Pick     AND ~       Pick     Pick		
Sort Order			
Primary Sort: Name (Las Secondary Sort: Number of	t, First) Current Assignments	<ul><li>✓ Ascending ✓</li><li>✓ Descending ✓</li></ul>	
			🔀 Clear 🍳 Search

Keywords can be searched similarly to the above guide on page 16, by using the keywords from the 'Author Supplied Data' section of the 'Manuscript Information'.

You can also search for related papers using author or reviewer names, the manuscript IDs of articles.

Searching by author name will bring up a list of articles that the author has submitted, both as the corresponding author and as the co-author (Frederic Burr has again been used as an example):

Results - <u>New Search</u> - <u>Modify Search</u> - <u>Change Sort</u>	1-2 of 2			
Search Criteria: Related Author Last (Family) Name = "burr	"			
Name, Keywords, Institution, Roles	Current / Past 12 Months	Days Since Last Review	Average R-Score	Add /Grant REF Role
SBurr, Frederic. (epl Office)				
Direct reactions <, Computers in experimental physics <, Quantum statistical mechanics < European Physical Society	0 / 5 (0 / 5) (0 / 5)	7 (7) (7)	0 0 0	
b <u>https://orcid.org/0000-0002-0073-5782</u>				
Roles: AU REF VC CE Admin ED				
EPL-100035 (Submitting Author)				
Happy new Year [ <u>View Submission</u> ]				
EPL-100049 (Submitting Author)				
<ul> <li>Transmission characteristics of terahertz waves in high temperature inhomogeneous magnetized plasma</li> </ul>				

The previous articles can be viewed by clicking on the article ID hyperlink. This will take you directly to the article, where you can see the full article, including the previous reviewers).

You will need to click on the article ID of the article that you are selecting reviewers for to get back to the reviewer search once you have viewed the previous submission:

希 Home	🖋 Author		☑ Manage <del>-</del>	
Co-Editor D	ashboard /	Invite Referees	<b>betails for EPL-100054</b> / Details for EPL-100049	
ICE: This site is	under configura	tion. Submissions	will be deleted.	
	Li	ink to notes: <b>view</b>	all notes for this article	
	🕑 3 / 3 🔿			Select Referees

#### 3.2.8 Searching by your Co-Editor History:

It may be useful to search for your own account and view articles where you acted as the Co-Editor. To do this, add your surname to the 'Quick Search' search bar (in this example we are using Frederic Burr) and select Co-Editor in the 'Roles' section and click 'Search':

🖃 Quick Search		
First (Given) or Last (Family) Name: burr Koles: EPL Referee EPL Board Member EPL Viewer EPL Co-Editor EPL Editor		) 0
Sort Order		
Primary Sort: Name (Last, First) Secondary Sort: Number of Current Assignments	<ul> <li>Ascending </li> <li>Descending </li> </ul>	
	×	Clear 🕄 Search

Your account will then appear in the search results and you can view your previous articles by clicking on the magnifying glass image:

Results - New Search - Modify Search - Change Sort 1-2 of 2					
Search Criteria: First (Given) or Last (Family) Name = "burr	n				
Name, Keywords, Institution, Roles	Current / Past 12 Months	Days Since Last Review	Average R-Score	Add /Grant REF Role	
General linear dynamical systems < European Physical Society	0 / 0 (0 / 0) (0 / 0)	0 (0) (0)	Blinded		
KOIEST AU KEF CE Admin ED					

And then clicking the 'CE History' tab to see a list of the articles. Click on the article ID to view them:

⊙ 1 / 2 ●	Account Information	AU History	REF History	CE History	ED History
Burr, Fred : Co-Editor History Analysis					
The numbers below represent the count for EPL, followed by the count for EPL subfamily total, followed by the count for	owed by the count for	all of EPL_PA	RTNER.		
<b>3</b> (3) (3) Total number of manuscripts assigned in the past 12 months				+	Add to List
<b>3</b> (3) (3) Total number of manuscripts currently assigned					
Manuscript History Statistics					
For this Journal: Past 6 Months   past 12 months   past 18 months   show all All Journals: Past 6 Months   past 12 months   past 18 months   show all					1-3 of 3
Manuscript ID, Title, Type, Authors	Status				
EPL-100054 ● ● Optical Sensors for Continuous Glucose Monitoring Letter Fryer, John (contact)	CE: Burr, Fre Admin: Slad ED: Fryer, JC Copyright Tr Select Refer 0 active sele	ed er, Tom hn acking 0 of 1 d ees (Due 23-Fi ctions; 0 invite	completed eb-2021) ed; 0 agreed; 0	declined; 0 re	turned
EPL-100051 Nuclear decay Letter Burr, Frederic (contact); Fila, Soufiane	CE: Burr, Fre Admin: Dess Admin: Slad ED: Fryer, JC Copyright Tr Select Refer 0 active sele	ed er, Kevin er, Tom hn acking 0 of 1 c ees (Due 22-Fo ctions; 0 invite	completed 2b-2021) 2d; 0 agreed; 0	declined; 0 re	turned
EPL-100049 Transmission characteristics of terahertz waves in high temperature inhomogeneous magnetized plase Letter Burr, Frederic (contact)	CE: Burr, Fre Admin: Evar ED: Fryer, Jo Select Refer 2 days over 0 active sele	ed is, David hn ees (Due 16-Fe lue ctions; 0 invite	eb-2021) ed; 0 agreed; 0	declined; 0 re	turned

Running this search will help you to find reviewers who reported on similar articles to the one assigned to you.

# 3.3 Reviewer information

For any reviewer that has the magnifying glass icon next to their name, you can call up further information on them by clicking on the icon.



You will then see the below view in a pop-up window;



This information is useful for checking if a reviewer already has an article, when they were last invited to review an article etc.

After searching for reviewers and receiving the results, you will be able to see the same information displayed next to the reviewer's name (as shown below). The R-Score is the average rating that the reviewer's reports have been given by Co-Editors. Please note that reviewers who have not previously reported will not have an 'R-Score'.

The higher the R-Score means that previous Co-Editors have rated the reviewer's reports highly. The R-Score will be displayed in the reviewer's account as below. You may want to avoid inviting reviewers who have a very low R-Score (the rating is out of 5. 5 is excellent, 3 satisfactory, and 1 is very poor):

Name, Keywords, Institution, Roles	Current / Past 12 Months	Days Since Last Review	Average R-Score	Add /Grant REV Role
🕙 reviewer, Good.				
fake university	0/1	1	0	
Roles: AU REV				/

# 3.4 Adding reviewers to the article

After you have found suitable reviewers to report on the article, you will need to add them. To do this, click on the tick box beneath the 'Add/Grant REF Role' heading and then click 'Add'

Results - <u>New Search</u> - <u>Modify Search</u> - <u>Change Sort</u>	1-2 of 2					
Search Criteria: First (Given) or Last (Family) Name = "referee"						
Name, Keywords, Institution, Roles	Current / Past 12 Months	Days Since Last Review	Average R-Score	Add /Grant REF Role		
Referee, Richard.	0 / 2 (0 / 2) (0 / 2)	25 (25) (25)	0 0 0			
Neferee, Rosie.	0 / 2 (0 / 2) (0 / 2)	25 (25) (25)	0 0 0			
New Search 🔇 Modify Search			(	+ Add		
Export to CSV			Results	1-2 of 2		

Once you have selected the required number of reviewers for the article, you can log out as your task is complete. The EPL Admin team will invite the reviewers to report.

NB: Please note that if you are searching for a referee and notice that their details are incorrect, or find a duplicate contact record on the system, please contact the EPL Admin at <u>editorial.office@epletters.net</u> so that they can make any corrections to the system that may be required.

# 4.0 Making a Recommendation

# 4.1 How many reports do we require before making a recommendation?

The system is set up to default to two reports being required (see page 11 for changing the number of reviewers required). Once we have received two referee reports then the article will automatically be redirected to your Co-Editor Centre and will appear in the 'Make Recommendation' part of your queue:

#### **For Action - New Articles**

- **0** Invite Referees
- 0 Chase Overdue Referee Reports

**2** <u>Make Recommendation</u>

Click on the link to access the list of articles which require your recommendation. Click on the blue 'Take Action' button to access the article and view the referee reports:

Make Recommendation Manu				
<u>Manuscript</u> <u>ID</u> ↑	Manuscript Title	<u>Date</u> <u>Submitted</u> ↓	Date Status	
<u>Manuscript</u> <u>Type</u>	Submitting Author		Status	
EPL-100034	TEST MS - LETTER [ <u>View</u> Submission]	15-Jan-2021	CE: Parsons, Samantha Admin: Slader, Tom ED: <u>Fryer, John</u>	
Letter	S <u>Fryer, John</u>		<ul> <li>Make Recommendation (Due 26-Jan-2021)</li> </ul>	

You will then be able to see the 'Make Recommendation' screen:

CE Recommend			Reviews	
Editor's Choice	○ Yes	O No	# reviews required to make decision	2
English should be improved by production office	<ul> <li>Fila, Soufiane</li> <li>Major revision required before acceptance</li> <li>view review</li> </ul>			
Please add any feedback suitable to be sent to the reviewers here,	indicating the revie	ewer name.	• <u>rescind</u>	
			<ul> <li>Ruimy, Anne</li> <li>Reject (adds little knowledge to the f may be publishable partner journal)</li> <li>view review</li> </ul>	new field; e in an
			<ul> <li>rescind</li> </ul>	
				Save
			Version History	
Accept			<ul> <li>EPL-100045</li> <li>Submitted on 28-Ja</li> </ul>	an-2021
Accept without review				
O Minor Revision				
O Moderate Revisions				
Reject to Resubmit				
C Reject				
Reject without review				
Transfer				

Comments									
Decision Comments (internal use only):	Decision Comments (internal use only):								
Comments to author									
** Please add comments supporting the reasons for you included in the decision email sent to authors.	r decision, especially if rejecting. This will be								
Attach a File	Attach a File Files attached								
Choose File No file chosen	No files have been uploaded.								
	🖌 Save as Draft 🛛 🖌 Submit								

#### 4.2 Explaining the Make Decision screen

**CE Recommend:** This section allows you to alert the EPL Admin that you think an article is of high quality by ticking the 'Editor's choice'. You can also let the Admin know if the English used in the article should be improved.

There is also a box where you can add comments to the reviewers. Any comments entered here will be sent directly to the reviewers by the Editorial Office.

**Decision Comments (internal use only):** Any comments entered in this field will be internal only so it will be helpful to include any additional information. You could also include comments here for cases where you may disagree with/are over-ruling one of the reviewer reports

**Comments to author:** Please add any comments you have supporting your decision here, especially if you are rejecting the article. Please note that although these comments are labelled to the author, they (along with the recommendation) are sent to the EPL Admin team to confirm prior to the decision being sent to the author.

**Reviews:** To access the submitted reviews, click on the 'view review' link beneath the reviewer's name:

CE Recommend			Reviews
Editor's Choice	O Yes	O No	# reviews required to 2
English should be improved by production office	○ Yes	O No	<ul> <li>Fila, Soufiane</li> <li>Major revision required before acceptance</li> </ul>
Please add any feedback suitable to be sent to the reviewers here	e, indicating the rev	iewer name.	• <u>view review</u> • <u>rescind</u>
			<ul> <li>Reject (adds little new knowledge to the field; may be publishable in an partner journal)</li> <li>view review</li> <li>rescind</li> </ul>
			Version History

This will open up a pop-up window, showing you the reviewer's Quality Rating Assessment, Recommendation and their report (either entered into the text box or uploaded as an attachment). You will also be able to rate the reviewer's report in the Quality Assessment section at the bottom of the pop-up.

(It is possible to rescind a referee's report by clicking 'rescind', but please do contact the EPL Admin if you would like to do so.)

Referee Affiliation Ef	DP Sciences, Editorial							
Manuscript ID: Ef	PL-100041							
Manuscript Type: L	atter							
Article Keywords: G	eneral theories and models of atomic and molecular collisions and interactions < Atomic and molecular collision processes and interactions < ATOMIC AND MOLECULAR PHYSICS, Fluorescence, phosphorescence (including quenching) < Atomic properties nd interactions with photons < ATOMIC AND MOLECULAR PHYSICS							
Date Submitted: 2	1-Jan-2021							
Manuscript Title: T	'he EPL document class							
Date Assigned: 2	2-Jan-2021							
Date Review Returned: 2	2-Jan-2021							
I-Score for this manuscript: 3	0.00							
Authors: Fi	ïla, Soufiane							
GUIDE TO REVIEWER EPL is a letters journal explorin QUALITY RATING Please rate the manuscript fo	ng the frontiers of physics. For further guidance on re	fereeing for EPL, please <u>read our guidelines here</u> .						
	Low	Medium	High	Very High	Outstanding			
Important to its specific subfield?	4							
Scientifically sound?		✓						
Sufficiently novel?			✓					
Of general interest?				×				
Clearly written?					*			
English Language								
Does this paper require subst	tantial improvements to its English?							
Yes								

_									
req	Recommendation								
	Accept								
	Revisions required before acceptance (only changes to the text are required)								
$\checkmark$	Major revision required before acceptance								
	Reject but may resubmit (may be publishable in this journal following these substantial revisions)								
	Reject (adds little new knowledge to the field; may be publishable in an partner journal)								
	Reject (contains basic errors and faulty judgements; not publishable in any journal)								
We	uld you be willing to review a revision of this manuscript?								
-									
*	TS STATES								
	NO								
Co	nments								
CO	IMENTS TO THE EDITOR(S)								
Plea	se enter any comments you wish to make to the Editor(s) that are not part of your report for the authors. Please bear in mind that author	rs can request to see these comments under the Data Protection Act 2018 if they so wish.							
ma	or revision required								
req (	COMMENTS TO THE AUTHOR(S)								
Plea	se support your answers with written comments for the authors. If you choose to attach your full report as a file, please state this in the l	box below.							
ma	or revision required								
req	Reviewer opted in to receive recognition on Publons? (Yes/No answer required)								
1	Yes								
	No								
Att	ach a File	Files attached							
С	Incose File No file chosen	ILEST Submission 3.4 dock. PDE - [remove]     This file is for the Author and Editor     This file is for the Editor only							

When rating a report, there are five quality assessment options to choose from:

Qua	Quality Assessment				
0	5. Excellent - Exceptionally detailed and adds valuable insight when informing decision.				
0	2. Weak - Insufficient detail or unjustified recommendation but may still inform decision.				
0	3. Satisfactory – Sufficient to inform a decision.				
0	4. Good - Thorough, detailed, well-justified review, very useful in informing decision.				
0	1. Very poor – Unsuitable review, not useful for informing decision.				

After you have made your assessment, please click 'Save'.

The rating that you give a report will feed into the reviewer's R-Score (see page 21 for an explanation of what the 'R-Score' is and where to find it). The R-Score will be displayed in the reviewer's account. If you are unsure of how to rate the report, please contact the EPL admin team.

#### 4.3 Making a recommendation

After you have viewed the reports and entered your comments into the text boxes, you can proceed with making your recommendation. To make your recommendation, click on the relevant 'decision' button:

$\bigcirc$	Accept						
$\bigcirc$	Accept w	ithout review					
$\bigcirc$	Minor Re	vision					
	Moderate	Revisions					
$\bigcirc$	Reject to	Resubmit					
$\bigcirc$	Reject						
$\bigcirc$	Reject wi	ithout review					
$\bigcirc$	Transfer						
Cor	nments						
Dec	ision Com	ments (internal use only):					
Con ** incl	nments to Please add uded in th	author I comments supporting the re e decision email sent to auth	easons for you	r decision, especially if rejecting.	This will be		
Please amend article as per the reviewers comments							
Att	ach a File			Files attached			
C	hoose File	No file chosen	l Attach	No files have been upload	ded.		

- Please also ensure that the reviewers' names are *not* included on the report.
- If for any reason you need to edit a file or report, please contact the EPL admin.
- **IMPORTANT! ACCEPT** This recommendation should ONLY be used when you are ready to accept an article for publication and the author does not need to make any further changes. If the author needs to make any further amendments, then please use another recommendation option.
- Please note that the 'Decision Comments' field is internal only and should only be used if you wish to highlight anything for EPL admin comments entered in this field will not be available to the author.
- Please add comments that you have for the authors to the 'Comments to the authors' box, your comments are especially important if you are rejecting the article.
- The different decision emails can be viewed in the Appendix section (page 32)

After choosing the recommendation and adding your comments, click on the blue 'Submit' button at the bottom of the page to confirm it and pass across to the EPL Admin.

4.3.1 Making a recommendation – rejecting without sending article for peer-review

After an initial assessment of the article, you may have decided that it is not appropriate for peer-review and should be rejected immediately. To do this, click the 'Reject without review' option and add the reason for rejection to the 'Decision Comments (internal use only)' box so that the EPL admin will know which 'reject without review' email to send to the authors (the reject without review emails and options can be viewed in the Appendix section, page 47). Please also add any comments to the authors you have by typing in the 'Comments to authors' box.

Once you have added your comments, please click on the blue 'Submit' button to confirm your recommendation so that the EPL admin can confirm the decision and send the email to the authors.

0	Accept						
0	Accept without review						
0	Minor Revision						
0	Moderate Revisions						
0	Reject to Resubmit						
0	Reject						
$\bigcirc$	Reject without review						
0	Transfer						
Con	nments						
Dec	ision Comments (internal use only):						
Thi	s article is not within scope. Please reject						
	1						
Con	iments to author						
** F incl	** Please add comments supporting the reasons for your decision, especially if rejecting. This will be included in the decision email sent to authors.						
Unf	ortunately your article is not within scope						
	~~						

# 4.4 What if I am unable to make a recommendation based on the reports received?

You may find that the reports submitted are conflicting, or one (or both) of them may not be of a high enough quality to be used in making a recommendation. In these cases, you may want to obtain an additional report.

To the right of the screen you will note a field which allows you to edit how may reports are required (see below):



If you wanted to obtain an additional report increase the '# reviews required to make a decision' from 2 to 3 before clicking on the blue 'save' button. This will allow you to invite an additional referee (note that you may need to add further referee selections if there are no alternative referees already available on the list).

# 5.0 Revised Articles

When a revised version gets submitted, the EPL Admin will complete several administrative checks before assigning it back to you. You will be alerted by an email from the EPL Admin, asking you to log into your account and access the revised article:



Thank you for your help with this Letter. We look forward to hearing from you soon.

You can either access the article by clicking the links in the above email or you can access it by logging into your Co-Editor centre and clicking 'Assign Referees' in the 'For Action – Revised Articles:

Co-Editor Lists
You may click on the manuscript list title to view a full listing of manuscripts in each status, or click on the number next to the list to jump directly to the first manuscript in the list.
For Action - New Articles
<u>1</u> Invite Referees
0 Chase Overdue Referee Reports
0 Make Recommendation
For Action - Revised Articles
1 Assign Referees
0 Chase Overdue Referee Reports
0 Make Recommendation

And then click the blue tick box to access the article:

Assign Re	Assign Referees Manuscripts 1-1 of					
Manuscript ID	Manuscript Title	Date	Status	Tales Astron		
<u>Manuscript</u> <u>Type</u>	Submitting Author	Submitted	Status	Take Action		
EPL- 100023.R1	TEST MS - LETTER [ View Submission]	24-Feb-2021	CE: Slader, Tom Admin: Slader, Tom ED: <u>Fryer, John</u> ■ Copyright Tracking			
Letter	.etter S <u>Fryer, John</u>		0 of 1 completed Invite Referees (Due 25-Feb-2021) 2 active selections; 0 invited; 0 agreed; 0 declined; 0 returned			
Export t	o CSV	1	Man	uscripts 1-1 of 1		

This will take you directly to 'Invite Referees' screen. Here you will be able to view the updated PDF, the authors' responses, and reviewer reports on the original version of the article.



To view the PDF click the PDF button. And to view the Author's Response click the Author's Response link:



The previous reviewer reports and the decision comments can be viewed by clicking the 'View Review Details' link further down the page:



This will bring up a pop up that includes the reports on the original version (from the reviewers and the Co-Editor) and the decision email sent to the authors.

The previous referees are automatically selected but the invitations are not sent automatically. Please inform the Editorial Office whether the previous referees or only one of them should be contacted. New referees can also be contacted at this stage. The names should be given to the Editorial Office which will send the invitation letter together with the different elements necessary for the review (PDF file, reply to the previous referees, previous reports).

usa		Refere	ee List		Progress				
Mar		Order	Name	Status	History	Remove	# reviews required to	2	٦
		1 ~	S Referee, Richard (R0)	🖌 Invite	Selected: 24-Feb-2021	×	# active selections	2 🗸	-
			-		<u>view full history</u>		# invited	0	
		2 ~	S Referee, Rosie (R0)	🖌 Invite	Selected: 24-Feb-2021 view full history	$\mathbf{X}$	# agreed	0	
		Altern	ates		Te Te		# declined	0	
	Tavita All Caus					# returned	0		
				Jave		Save	2		

If you feel that the article only needs to go back to one reviewer, you will need to set the number of required reviewers to '1' and click save:

ipt F	Referee List		Progress				
DSUU	Order	Name	Status	History	Remove	# reviews required to make decision	
Conversations Ma	1~	Desse, Kevin European Physical Society proxy. Grant an Extension	Agreed	Invited: 25-Feb-2021 Agreed: 25-Feb-2021 Due Date: 11-Mar-2021 Time in Review: 0 Days.	×	<pre># active selections # invited # agreed</pre>	2 ✓ 1 ✓ 1 ✓
	2 ~	Evans, David IOP Publishing Ltd Proxy. b https://orcid.org/0000-0002- 2237-2724 ✓	🖌 Invite	Selected: 09-Feb-2021 view full history	×	# declined # returned Create Referee Account	0 O Save
	Alternates					Salutation:	
	Invite All 🖉 Save					req First (Given) Name:	-

If you think that the article can be accepted without going back to the reviewers, please set the number of required reviews to '0'. This will take you directly to the 'Make a Recommendation' screen.

Please see the section below for information on making a recommendation on a revised article.

# 5.1 Revised Articles – Making a recommendation

Once the reviewers report on the revised article received it will appear in the 'Make Recommendation' section of the 'For Action – Revised Articles' part of your work queue (see

below). You will receive an automatic email alert informing you that you now have a task to complete:

Co-	Editor Lists
You r manu list to	nay click on the manuscript list title to view a full listing of uscripts in each status, or click on the number next to the o jump directly to the first manuscript in the list.
For /	Action - New Articles
1	Invite Referees
0	Chase Overdue Referee Reports
0	Make Recommendation
For /	Action - Revised Articles
0	Assign Referees
0	Chase Overdue Referee Reports
0	Make Recommendation
For 1	Information
0	Manuscripts Awaiting Revision
<u>1</u>	Pending Manuscripts
For ]	information - New Articles
0	Awaiting Referee Responses to Invitations
0	Awaiting Referee Reports
0	Rescinded Referee Reports
0	Decisions Awaiting Confirmation
For ]	information - Revised Articles
0	Awaiting Referee Reports
0	Rescinded Referee Reports
0	Decisions Awaiting Confirmation

If you feel that the authors' response to the reviewers will help you to make a recommendation, it can be located by clicking on the 'Author's Response' button located in the information bar at the top of the article file (see below);

		Make Recommendation
с	EPL-100018.R1	Submitted: 24-Jan-2021; Last Updated: 24-Jan-2021; 0 days, 0 hours in review
atio	TEST MS - LETTER	
l in it	Fryer, John (contact)	
lufo	* Letter	
b	<ul> <li>OA Agreed:</li> </ul>	
nuscr	<ul> <li>Copyright Tracking</li> <li>0 of 1 completed</li> </ul>	CE: Parsons, Samantha
Ma	* Make Recommendation (Due 31-Jan-2021)	Admin: Slader, Iom ED: <u>Fryer, John</u>
Trail	🖹 PDF 👒 Supplemental Files 🍘 Original Files 📲 Abstract 🖹	Cover Letter Q External Searches Author's Response Analysis

The recommendation-making process is then the same as for original papers, although we do not recommend selecting any new reviewers to review the revised version at this stage.

Revised versions can be sent back to the authors for further revision if appropriate or can be accepted depending on what the reviewers have recommended. Please note that any recommendation made will be sent to the EPL Admin to check before confirming it.

If you wish to include any comments for the EPL Admin, please use the 'Decision Comments (internal use only)' field.

To confirm your recommendation, click on the blue 'Submit' button.

# 6.0 For Information - New Articles and For Information - Revised Articles

You do not need to do anything to the articles that appear in these sections. The sections are intended to keep you informed of articles progress.

'Manuscripts Awaiting Revisions' indicates the articles that have had decisions made on them and are currently being revised by the authors.

'Pending Manuscripts' shows you all articles that have been assigned to you to act as a Co-Editor. These articles will be at any stage of the editorial process.

'Awaiting Referee Responses to Invitations' and 'Awaiting Referee Reports' are articles currently waiting for a reviewers input (either to agree or decline to report or to submit their report.

'Rescinded Referee Reports' are for reports that were submitted but have been returned to the reviewer for them to update or amend their review.

'Decisions Awaiting Confirmation' are articles where you have made a publication recommendation and is currently with the Admin for confirmation.

# For Information O Manuscripts Awaiting Revision Pending Manuscripts For Information - New Articles O Awaiting Referee Responses to Invitations O Awaiting Referee Reports O Rescinded Referee Reports O Decisions Awaiting Confirmation For Information - Revised Articles O Awaiting Referee Reports O Rescinded Referee Reports O Awaiting Referee Reports O Rescinded Refer

If you require any assistance at any stage of the review process, then please contact the EPL admin at <u>editorial.office@epletters.net</u>

# NB: Although we will contact you when your assistance is required we recommend that you visit your Co-Editor Centre on a regular basis to check if any articles that are assigned to you require action.

If the EPL admin run out of reviewers for an article they will contact you and ask you to select and invite additional reviewers. If a recommendation becomes 'overdue' then they will send a reminder to you. In both cases we would be very grateful if you could take action as soon as possible so that we can maintain a high level of service to our authors.

# 8.0 Appendix - Decision emails

These are the decision emails that the EPL Admin team will send after you make your recommendation (see page 21). The emails will be populated with the author's name, article title and article ID when sent by the EPL Admin.

#### 8.1 Acceptance emails

8.1.1 Provisional acceptance:

Dear Dr Fryer,

Re: "TEST MS - LETTER" by Fryer, John

Article reference: EPL-100023

We are pleased to tell you that we have provisionally accepted your Letter for publication in EPL. Any further comments from the referees can be found below and/or attached to this message. Our editorial team will now perform some final checks to ensure that we have everything we need to publish your Letter. These checks will enable our production team to publish your Letter as quickly and efficiently as possible. Once this is confirmed, your article will be formally accepted and we will inform you of this via email.

If you have chosen to publish your Letter on an Open Access basis, you will be responsible for ensuring that the article publication charge (APC) is paid in full. Once your Letter has been accepted, we will not be able to change the Open Access status of your manuscript.

Thank you for choosing to publish in EPL. We look forward to publishing your Letter.

Yours sincerely

Tom Slader:

On behalf of:

Dr Tom Slader

EPL Editorial Office

**European Physical Society** 

6 rue des Frères Lumière

F - 68200 Mulhouse

tel/fax: + 33 389 32 94 44 / + 33 389 32 94 49

email: editorial.office@epletters.net

web: https://www.epletters.net

Twitter: @epl\_journal

Reviewer(s)' Comments to Author:

Referee: 1

Referee comments to author(s)

Please accept the article

#### Referee: 2

Referee comments to author(s)

Please accept the article

#### EPL Admin Comments:

Comments to author(s):

(There are no comments.)

#### Co-Editor: This section will be populated with your name

Comments to author:

I agree with the reviewers. It should be accepted.

#### 8.1.2 Formal Accept:

Dear Dr Fryer,

Re: "TEST MS - LETTER" by Fryer, John

Article reference: EPL-100023

We are pleased to inform you that your manuscript entitled "TEST MS - LETTER" by Fryer, John has been accepted for publication in EPL, as decided by the Co-Editor responsible, Dr Tom Slader.

PROOFS: The Production Office staff will contact you within the next days and inform you on the expected dispatch date of the proofs of your article.

Note that the e-mail will be sent to you (as corresponding author) and that a 48 HOURS LIMIT for checking and returning the proofs will have to be adhered to.

In case you might not be available, processing times will be much reduced if you can provide a second email address where we can contact you.

Remember that at this stage ONLY SMALL CORRECTIONS THAT DO NOT MODIFY THE CONTENT can be accepted. Since such modifications will be made directly on the files we already hold, revised or corrected electronic files should not be submitted at this stage.

Instead of the usual offprints, the .pdf file of the published version will be sent to you.

If you have chosen to publish your Letter on an open access basis, or if there are other charges related to your Letter you will receive an email with details on how to pay within the next few days.

Thank you for choosing to publish in EPL. We look forward to publishing your Letter.

Yours sincerely

Mr Frederic Burr

EPL Staff Editor

Mr Kevin Desse

EPL Editorial Assistant

On behalf of:

**Co-Editor** – Your name will appear here

**EPL Editorial Office** 

European Physical Society

6 rue des Frères Lumière

F - 68200 Mulhouse

tel/fax: + 33 389 32 94 44 / + 33 389 32 94 49

email: editorial.office@epletters.net

web: https://www.epletters.net

Twitter: @epl\_journal

Letter reference: DSA03

8.1.3 Accept without review:

Dear Dr Fryer,

Re: "TEST MS - LETTER" by Fryer, John

Article reference: EPL-100023

We are pleased to inform you that your manuscript entitled "TEST MS - LETTER" by Fryer, John has been accepted for publication in EPL, as decided by the Co-Editor responsible, Dr Tom Slader.

PROOFS: The Production Office staff will contact you within the next days and inform you on the expected dispatch date of the proofs of your article.

Note that the e-mail will be sent to you (as corresponding author) and that a 48 HOURS LIMIT for checking and returning the proofs will have to be adhered to.

In case you might not be available, processing times will be much reduced if you can provide a second email address where we can contact you.

Remember that at this stage ONLY SMALL CORRECTIONS THAT DO NOT MODIFY THE CONTENT can be accepted. Since such modifications will be made directly on the files we already hold, revised or corrected electronic files should not be submitted at this stage.

Instead of the usual offprints, the .pdf file of the published version will be sent to you.

If you have chosen to publish your Letter on an open access basis, or if there are other charges related to your Letter you will receive an email with details on how to pay within the next few days.

Thank you for choosing to publish in EPL. We look forward to publishing your Letter.

Yours sincerely

Mr Frederic Burr EPL Staff Editor Mr Kevin Desse EPL Editorial Assistant On behalf of: **Co-Editor –** Your name will appear here EPL Editorial Office European Physical Society 6 rue des Frères Lumière F - 68200 Mulhouse tel/fax: + 33 389 32 94 44 / + 33 389 32 94 49 email: editorial.office@epletters.net web: https://www.epletters.net Twitter: @epl\_journal Letter reference: **ESANR01** 

8.2 Revision Emails:

#### 8.2.1 Minor Revision:

Dear Dr Fryer:

Manuscript ID EPL-100023 entitled "TEST MS - LETTER" which you submitted to the EPL, has been reviewed.

The comments of the reviewer(s) are included at the bottom of this letter.

As you can see from the enclosed reports, both recommendations are essentially positive, but both reviewers made specific suggestions for improving your paper.

Please revise your manuscript according to the referees' recommendations and submit a revised version to the Editorial Office together with a summary of the changes made and a detailed response to all points of criticism, in particular ones you have not addressed by making changes to the manuscript.

The modified text should also be highlighted in the manuscript. If the file is in EPL style, please use the command \revision. For other LaTeX files and Word documents, please use standard commands/tools for highlighting the modified text.

-----

IMPORTANT NOTE:

From the date of this message you have FOUR WEEKS to send your revised manuscript back to the Editorial Office. If this time limit is not adhered to, your submission may be considered as withdrawn and a new submission date may be assigned to the paper when it is resubmitted.

-----

Please take care to remain within the 7 pages in two column A4 format and make sure to send us the source files together with a .pdf file.

Finally, please bear in mind that appropriate references should always be cited, and update them in the revised version of your manuscript as necessary.

When preparing your revised manuscript, please note that the file requirements for submission include the following:

1. One complete PDF file which includes any figures and tables used, with the changes made in response to the reviewer comments highlighted.

2. One complete source file (the file used to create the PDF) which includes any figures and tables used. Please REMOVE any highlighting from this file after creating the PDF but before submitting it.

To revise your manuscript, log into https://mc04.manuscriptcentral.com/epl and enter your Author Center, where you will find your manuscript title listed under "Manuscripts with Decisions." Under "Actions," click on "Create a Revision." Your manuscript number has been appended to denote a revision.

You may also click the below link to start the revision process (or continue the process if you have already started your revision) for your manuscript. If you use the below link you will not be required to login to ScholarOne Manuscripts.

\*\*\* PLEASE NOTE: This is a two-step process. After clicking on the link, you will be directed to a webpage to confirm. \*\*\*

#### https://mc04.manuscriptcentral.com/epl?URL\_MASK=f1c8825f60f64277aabba401e652d847

When submitting your revised manuscript, you will be able to respond to the comments made by the reviewer(s) in the space provided. You can use this space to document any changes you make to the original manuscript. In order to expedite the processing of the revised manuscript, please be as specific as possible in your response to the reviewer(s).

IMPORTANT: Your original files are available to you when you upload your revised manuscript. Please delete any redundant files before completing the submission.

Tex/Latex Files: Authors who have prepared their manuscript in Tex/LaTex format must submit files which will convert properly to PDF in the ScholarOne conversion engines. We strongly encourage all authors using Tex/LaTex to download the Clarivate ScholarOne Author guide for instructions and tips on preparing such files to ensure proper conversion to PDF.

#### https://clarivate.com/webofsciencegroup/download/40177/

Last but not Least: The journal production system pulls the titles and author names for accepted papers directly from the ScholarOne system. As such, please double check spelling and punctuation on the paper title and all author names during the submission of the revised paper to ensure that these are displayed correctly if your paper is accepted for publication.

Because we are trying to facilitate timely publication of manuscripts submitted to the EPL, your revised manuscript should be submitted by @@author due date will be populated when the email is sent@@. If it is not possible for you to submit your revision by this date, please contact us to request an extension of the revision period.

Once again, thank you for submitting your manuscript to the EPL and I look forward to receiving your revision.

- Yours sincerely
- Mr Frederic Burr
- EPL Staff Editor
- Mr Kevin Desse
- EPL Editorial Assistant
- On behalf of:
- Dr Tom Slader
- EPL Editorial Office
- European Physical Society
- 6 rue des Frères Lumière
- F 68200 Mulhouse

tel/fax: + 33 389 32 94 44 / + 33 389 32 94 49

email: editorial.office@epletters.net

web: https://www.epletters.net

Twitter: @epl\_journal

Reviewer(s)' Comments to Author:

#### Referee: 1

Referee comments to author(s)

This article is good. But should be revised slightly

#### Referee: 2

Referee comments to author(s)

This article is good, but should be revised

#### **Co-Editor:** Your name will appear here

Comments to author:

I agree with the reviewers. It should be revised.

Letter reference: DSMi01

#### 8.2.2 Moderate Revision:

Dear Dr Fryer:

Manuscript ID EPL-100023 entitled "TEST MS - LETTER" which you submitted to the EPL, has been reviewed. The comments of the reviewer(s) are included at the bottom of this letter.

The attached reports contain points of criticism which are sufficiently adverse that the Co-editor, Dr Tom Slader, judged that the paper cannot be accepted in its present form.

If you feel that you can overcome or refute the criticism, you may submit a revised version.

Any resubmission should be accompanied by a summary of the changes made and a detailed response to all points of criticism, in particular ones you have not addressed by making changes in the manuscript.

The modified text should also be highlighted in the manuscript. If the file is in EPL style, please use the command \revision. For other LaTeX files and Word documents, please use standard commands/tools for highlighting the modified text.

-----

#### IMPORTANT NOTE:

From the date of this message you have FOUR WEEKS to send your revised manuscript back to the Editorial Office. If this time limit is not adhered to, your submission may be considered as withdrawn and a new submission date may be assigned to the paper when it is resubmitted.

-----

Please take care to remain within the 7 pages in two column A4 format.

Finally, please bear in mind that appropriate references should always be cited and update them in the revised version of your manuscript as necessary.

When preparing your revised manuscript, please note that the file requirements for submission include the following:

1. One complete PDF file which includes any figures and tables used, with the changes made in response to the reviewer comments highlighted.

2. One complete source file (the file used to create the PDF) which includes any figures and tables used. Please REMOVE any highlighting from this file after creating the PDF but before submitting it.

To revise your manuscript, log into https://mc04.manuscriptcentral.com/epl and enter your Author Center, where you will find your manuscript title listed under "Manuscripts with Decisions." Under "Actions," click on "Create a Revision." Your manuscript number has been appended to denote a revision.

You may also click the below link to start the revision process (or continue the process if you have already started your revision) for your manuscript. If you use the below link you will not be required to login to ScholarOne Manuscripts.

\*\*\* PLEASE NOTE: This is a two-step process. After clicking on the link, you will be directed to a webpage to confirm. \*\*\*

https://mc04.manuscriptcentral.com/epl?URL\_MASK=10fd6e663af7400fa668b9fda400011e

When submitting your revised manuscript, you will be able to respond to the comments made by the reviewer(s) in the space provided. You can use this space to document any changes you make to the original manuscript. In order to expedite the processing of the revised manuscript, please be as specific as possible in your response to the reviewer(s).

IMPORTANT: Your original files are available to you when you upload your revised manuscript. Please delete any redundant files before completing the submission.

Tex/Latex Files: Authors who have prepared their manuscript in Tex/LaTex format must submit files which will convert properly to PDF in the ScholarOne conversion engines. We strongly encourage all

authors using Tex/LaTex to download the Clarivate ScholarOne Author guide for instructions and tips on preparing such files to ensure proper conversion to PDF.

https://clarivate.com/webofsciencegroup/download/40177/

Last but not Least: The journal production system pulls the titles and author names for accepted papers directly from the ScholarOne system. As such, please double check spelling and punctuation on the paper title and all author names during the submission of the revised paper to ensure that these are displayed correctly if your paper is accepted for publication.

Because we are trying to facilitate timely publication of manuscripts submitted to the EPL, your revised manuscript should be submitted by @@author due date will be populated when the email is sent@@. If it is not possible for you to submit your revision by this date, please contact us to request an extension of the revision period.

Once again, thank you for submitting your manuscript to the EPL and I look forward to receiving your revision.

- Yours sincerely
- Mr Frederic Burr

**EPL Staff Editor** 

Mr Kevin Desse

EPL Editorial Assistant

On behalf of:

#### Co-Editor – Your name will be here

**EPL Editorial Office** 

European Physical Society

6 rue des Frères Lumière

F - 68200 Mulhouse

tel/fax: + 33 389 32 94 44 / + 33 389 32 94 49

email: editorial.office@epletters.net

web: https://www.epletters.net

Twitter: @epl\_journal

Reviewer(s)' Comments to Author:

#### Referee: 1

Referee comments to author(s)

This article is good. But should be revised

#### Referee: 2

Referee comments to author(s)

This article is good, but should be revised

Co-Editor: Your name will appear here

Comments to author:

I agree with the reviewers. It should revised.

Letter reference: **DSMo01** 

# 8.3 Rejection Emails:

8.3.1 Reject to Resubmit:

Dear Dr. Slader

Re: Article Reference

Your Letter submitted to EPL, has now been refereed and the referee report(s) can be found below and/or attached to this message.

We regret to inform you that your Letter is not suitable for publication in EPL in its current form. The changes requested by the referees are substantial and are too significant to warrant a revision of the article in its current form. However, the referee(s) feel that if you rewrite the article as explained in the referee reports, including any further work recommended, it may then be suitable for reconsideration.

If you wish to rewrite your Letter, please take the referee comments fully into account and provide point-by-point responses with a full list of changes. We will treat the rewritten article as a new submission with a new article reference number and it will be peer reviewed again. Although we will go back to the previous referees for their opinion where possible, we may also contact further referees in order to ensure that the rewritten article meets our high quality and interest criteria. If it does not, the new version of the manuscript will be rejected.

You can resubmit your revised manuscript here: https://mc04.manuscriptcentral.com/epl

We would like to thank you for your interest in EPL.

Yours sincerely Mr Frederic Burr EPL Staff Editor Mr Kevin Desse

**EPL Editorial Assistant** 

On behalf of:

Co-Editor – Your name will be added here

EPL Editorial Office

European Physical Society

6 rue des Frères Lumière

F - 68200 Mulhouse

tel/fax: + 33 389 32 94 44 / + 33 389 32 94 49

email: editorial.office@epletters.net

web: https://www.epletters.net

Twitter: @epl\_journal

Reviewer(s)' Comments to Author:

(Document not available)

(Document not available)

Letter reference: DSRR01

8.3.2 Reject after review:

Dear Dr Fryer,

Re: "TEST MS - LETTER" by Fryer, John

Article reference: EPL-100023

Your Letter, submitted to EPL, has now been refereed and the referee report(s) can be found below and/or attached to this message.

I regret to inform you that, on the basis of the attached resulting report(s) and the Co-Editor's own expertise, we cannot accept your manuscript for publication.

We would like to thank you for your interest in EPL.

Yours sincerely

Mr Frederic Burr

EPL Staff Editor

Mr Kevin Desse

**EPL Editorial Assistant** 

On behalf of:

Dr Tom Slader

**EPL Editorial Office** 

European Physical Society

6 rue des Frères Lumière

F - 68200 Mulhouse

tel/fax: + 33 389 32 94 44 / + 33 389 32 94 49

email: editorial.office@epletters.net

web: https://www.epletters.net

Twitter: @epl\_journal

Reviewer(s)' Comments to Author:

#### Referee: 1

Referee comments to author(s)

This article is not good enough and should be rejected

#### Referee: 2

Referee comments to author(s)

This article should be rejected

#### Co-Editor:

Comments to author:

I agree with the reviewers. It should be rejected.

Letter reference: **DSR01** 

8.4 Reject without review emails

#### 8.4.1 Reject without review (quality):

Dear Dr Fryer,

Re: "TEST MS - LETTER" by Fryer, John

Article reference: EPL-100023

Thank you for your submission to EPL.

To be publishable in this journal, articles must be of high quality and scientific interest, and be recognised as an important contribution to the literature.

Your Letter has been assessed and has been found not to meet these criteria. It therefore does not warrant publication in EPL and has been withdrawn from consideration.

We are sorry that we cannot respond more positively and wish you luck in publishing your article elsewhere.

Yours sincerely

Mr Frederic Burr

EPL Staff Editor

Mr Kevin Desse

**EPL Editorial Assistant** 

On behalf of:

#### Co-Editor - Your name will be added here

EPL Editorial Office

**European Physical Society** 

6 rue des Frères Lumière

F - 68200 Mulhouse

tel/fax: + 33 389 32 94 44 / + 33 389 32 94 49

email: editorial.office@epletters.net

web: https://www.epletters.net

Twitter: @epl\_journal

#### Co-Editor:

Comments to author:

This article is not good enough for EPL. It should be rejected without being sent to reviewers.

Letter reference: **DSRNR01** 

8.4.2 Reject without review (scope):

Dear Dr Fryer,

Re: "TEST MS - LETTER" by Fryer, John

Article reference: EPL-100023

Thank you for your submission to EPL. Unfortunately the content of your Letter is not within the scope of the journal. Your manuscript has therefore been withdrawn from consideration. If you would like to see a copy of the journal scope please visit the journal web page at https://iopscience.iop.org/journal/0295-5075/page/About-the-journal#scope.

We would like to thank you for your interest in EPL.

Yours sincerely

Mr Frederic Burr

EPL Staff Editor

Mr Kevin Desse

EPL Editorial Assistant

On behalf of:

#### **Co-Editor** – Your name will appear here

**EPL Editorial Office** 

European Physical Society

6 rue des Frères Lumière

F - 68200 Mulhouse

tel/fax: + 33 389 32 94 44 / + 33 389 32 94 49

email: editorial.office@epletters.net

web: https://www.epletters.net

Twitter: @epl\_journal

Reviewer(s)' Comments to Author:

Co-Editor: Slader, Tom

Comments to author:

This article is not within scope. Please reject

Letter Reference: DSR03

8.4.3 Reject without review (Poor English):

Dear Dr Fryer,

Re: "TEST MS - LETTER" by Fryer, John

Article reference: EPL-100023

We regret to inform you that the editors of EPL cannot consider your manuscript in its current form. All manuscripts submitted to the journal must be written in clear English so that readers are able to understand the meaning of the article. We strongly advise you to ask an English-speaking colleague to check your manuscript before submitting it.

If you decide to re-write your manuscript to make its meaning clear to the referees (many of whom do not speak English as their first language), we will be happy to reconsider it.

We thank you for your interest in EPL.

Yours sincerely

Mr Frederic Burr

EPL Staff Editor

Mr Kevin Desse

**EPL Editorial Assistant** 

On behalf of:

#### Co-Editor - Your name will appear here

**EPL Editorial Office** 

European Physical Society

6 rue des Frères Lumière

F - 68200 Mulhouse

tel/fax: + 33 389 32 94 44 / + 33 389 32 94 49

email: editorial.office@epletters.net

web: https://www.epletters.net

Twitter: @epl\_journal

Co-Editor:

Comments to author:

This language must be improved before the article can be considered. Please reject.

Letter reference: **DSR05** 

#### 8.4.4 Reject without review (iThenticate/plagiarism):

Dear Dr Fryer,

Re: "TEST MS - LETTER" by Fryer, John

Article reference: EPL-100023

Thank you for your submission to EPL. In accordance with our ethical policy we routinely check manuscripts with the text comparison service iThenticate. We have found that your article contains text which appears to have been replicated from the following published articles:

\*\*\*insert articles here\*\*\*

Your manuscript has therefore been withdrawn from consideration. All manuscripts considered for publication in EPL should report substantial new results and should never contain any text directly copied from previously published work, even if that work is your own or is included for the benefit of the reader. If you would like more information about our ethical policy it is available at http://authors.iop.org/ethicalpolicy

We take breaches of our ethical policy very seriously and in the past have taken action against authors found to have breached these guidelines.

Yours sincerely

Tom Slader

EPL Editorial Office

European Physical Society

6 rue des Frères Lumière

F - 68200 Mulhouse

tel/fax: + 33 389 32 94 44 / + 33 389 32 94 49

email: editorial.office@epletters.net

web: https://www.epletters.net

Twitter: @epl\_journal

Letter reference: DSR06

#### 8.5 Reject and Transfer

Dear Dr Fryer,

Re: "TEST MS - LETTER" by Fryer, John

Article reference: EPL-100023

Your Letter, submitted to EPL, has now been refereed and the referee report(s) can be found below and/or attached to this message.

As you can see from their enclosed reports, both recognize a certain quality of your work but also agree that it lacks the degree of novelty required from a Letter.

I regret to inform you that on this basis we cannot accept your manuscript for publication.

A suitably modified and enlarged version, in which some of the questions raised by the referee(s) could be addressed more in depth, would most likely deserve publication in a specialized journal.

Note that in that respect EPL has an agreement of mutual transfer with different journals.

The complete list of partner journals can be found here:

https://www.epletters.net/physics-journal/agreement-with-other-journals/

This agreement allows, when appropriate, to transfer a manuscript together with the existing report(s) to one of these journals, keeping the original submission date.

PROCEDURE:

The transfer is not automatic and you should submit your revised paper formally to the Editorial Office of the journal receiving the transfer, mentioning previous consideration by EPL under the reference number.

It is also highly recommended to join a reply to the referee(s) when submitting the paper to the partner journal.

This possibility of transfer is valid within 4 months after the rejection of the paper by EPL.

The editorial transfer agreement respects the editorial independence of all journals involved in it. Therefore the editor of the other journal remains entirely free in his/her decisions and may decide to go through further review.

Please note that you can choose only one journal!!

We would like to thank you for your interest in EPL.

Yours sincerely

Mr Frederic Burr

EPL Staff Editor

Mr Kevin Desse

EPL Editorial Assistant

On behalf of:

Co-Editor – Your name will be added here

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Twitter: @epl\_journal

Reviewer(s)' Comments to Author: Referee: 1 Referee comments to author(s) This should be rejected Referee: 2 Referee comments to author(s) I don't think this article is appropriate for EPL. Co-Editor: Comments to author:

Letter reference: **DSR13** 

# 9.0 Appendix - the iThenticate report

A high percentage of overlap does not always indicate ethical misconduct and a low percentage does not necessarily mean that the overlap is not concerning and can be ignored. Particularly close attention should be paid to portions of reproduced text in the Abstract, Results and Conclusions.

# 9.1 Abstract

- Loose collections of words/phrases: Indicator of possibly related articles in the published literature.
- Reproduced sentence: Clear indicator that this is very similar to a previous article.
- Reproduced paragraph: If a large portion of the abstract is reproduced, this indicates plagiarism.

# 9.2 Introduction

- Loose collections of words/phrases: Not too concerning as there is only a limited number of ways to introduce a subject for research and some common phrases are bound to be used again.
- Reproduced sentence: Again, this is not too concerning but it is worth checking the highlighted article to determine how serious this is.
- Reproduced paragraph: If this is from their own work, then it is usually an indication of laziness by the author.

# 9.3 Method

- Loose collections of words/phrases: Not too concerning but a useful way of identifying related works.
- Reproduced sentence: This can depend on the context. It may be a very common step in a widely used process, in which case this is perfectly permissible. If this supposed to be a unique or unusual section of the method, this hints at incremental publishing.
- Reproduced paragraph: Large reproduced sections of the method are usually a clear indication of incremental publishing.

# 9.4 Results and Discussion

- Loose collections of words/phrases: Not too concerning but a useful way of identifying related works.
- Reproduced sentence: This can depend on the context. It may be a common way to
  discuss or present the results, in which case this is permissible. If the results are
  supposed to be novel or unusual, this hints at incremental publishing and the
  highlighted work should be investigated. For figure captions, this may indicate figures
  and results in common with already published work and this should be investigated.
- Reproduced paragraph: Large reproduced sections of the results and discussion are a clear indication of incremental publishing.

# 9.5 Conclusions

• Loose collections of words/phrases: Check source to determine if this is makes sufficient advance.

- Reproduced sentence: A clear warning sign. Carefully check the source to determine if this is incremental work. Consider rejecting with a warning. Reproduced paragraph: Indicator of serious self-plagiarism. •
- •

# 10.0 Appendix - Searching by Keywords:

There are four types of keyword searches when searching for reviewers:

1) Exact match - it will search only for the entered keyword and return limited results.

2) Trailing wildcard\* - (asterisk after the keyword - e.g. keyword\*). Will include reviewers that have the searched for keyword and *any phrase after it*.

3) \*leading wildcard - (asterisk before the keyword - e.g. \*keyword). Will include reviewers that have the searched for keyword and *any phrase before it*.

4) A \*combined wildcard\* - includes both a leading and trailing wildcard (asterisk before and after the phrase - e.g. \*keyword\*). Will include reviewers that have the searched for keyword and *any phrase before and after it.* 

Please note, the wildcard searches work in both the advanced search keywords and the related papers keywords search options.

# 10.1 Searching keywords, example one: 'Relativistic wave equations'

#### 10.1.1 Exact match

In this example, we are using 'Relativistic wave equations' from the author supplied keywords:

Article Keywords:	Lorentz and Poincaré invariance, Relativistic wave equations
Author Recommended Referees:	
Author Opposed Referees:	

To search using the keywords, copy and paste them into the 'Keywords' section of the 'Advanced Search' box and click 'Search':

Shared Comments:		Keywords:			
AN	ID V	Relativistic	wave equations	V Pick	AND $\sim$
AN	ID V			🖌 Pick	AND $\sim$
AN	ID V			🖌 Pick	AND 🗸
AN	ID V			🖌 Pick	AND $\sim$
				🖌 Pick	
Opt-in:					
Pick AN	ID V				
Pick AN	ND V				
Pick AN	ID V				
Pick AN	ID V				
Pick					
Referee Activity Information					
# Current Assignments	Min:	Max:			
# Assignments in Past 12 Months	Min:	Max:			
# Days Since Last Review Submitted	Min:	Max:			
# Invitations Declined in Past 12 Months	Min:	Max:			
R-Score	Min:	Max:			
M-Score	Min:	Max:			
Sort Order					
Primary Sort: Name (Last, First)		~	Ascending ~		
Secondary Sort: Number of Current Assig	gnments	~	Descending $\sim$		
					🗙 Cleal 🔍 Search

This will search the EPL database for any reviewers with 'Realistic wave equations' entered into their keywords:

Simulik, Volodimir. Relativistic wave equations, quantum field theory *, mathematical physics *, groups and algebras *, Electromagnetic wave propagation, Electromagnetic processes and properties, Quantum mechanics; Yes I would like to receive emails from EPS National Academy of Sciences, Institute of Electron Physics Roles: AU REF	0 / 0 (0 / 0) (0 / 0)	0 (0) (0)	0 0 0	
Sucu, Yusuf. Relativistic wave equations, Cosmology, Particle-theory and field-theory models of the early Universe, Quantum electrodynamics, Relativity and gravitation Akdeniz Universitesi Fen Fakultesi Roles: AU REF	0 / 0 (0 / 0) (0 / 0)	0 (0) (0)	0 0 0	

Please note that the results page will not display all the reviewer's keywords (you may see that your searched keyword does not appear in the reviewer's keyword list above), to view the reviewer's full list of keywords, click on the magnifying glass next to their name.

#### 10.1.2 Trailing wildcard

Add the wildcard after 'Realistic wave equations' to find results that include 'Realistic wave equations' but also include a phrase or keyword *after* the searched keyword:

Shared Comments:	Keywords:
AN	ND → .elativistic wave equations* 🗹 Pick AND →
AN	ND V Pick AND V
AN	ND V Pick AND V
AN	ND V Pick AND V
	V Pick
Opt-in:	
Pick AN	ND V
Pick AN	ND V
Pick AN	ND V
Pick AN	ND ~
Pick	

And again, click 'Search' to bring up the results.

# 10.1.3 Leading wildcard

Add the wild card before 'Realistic wave equations' to find results that include realistic wave equations but also include a phrase or keyword before the searched keyword:

Shared Comments:	Keywords:
AND V	*relativistic wave equation: 🖌 Pick 🛛 AND 🗸
AND V	Pick AND V
AND V	Pick AND V
AND V	Pick AND V
	V Pick
Opt-in:	
Pick AND V	
Pick AND 🗸	
Pick AND V	
Pick AND V	
Pick	

You can see that the search results will include reviewers that have 'relativistic wave equations' as a keyword but it will include an additional word or phrase *before* the searched for keyword (exact solutions of **relativistic wave equations**):

Dirac equation in a curved space-time <b>*</b> , Noncommutative integration method <b>*</b> , Group theory and its applications in physics <b>*</b> , Exact solutions of relativistic wave equations to not want to receive emails Omsk State university, Department of Physics	0 / 0 (0 / 0) (0 / 0)	0 (0) (0)	0 0 0	
Roles: AU REF				

# 10.1.4 Combined wildcard search

Add the wild card before and after the searched keyword:

Shared Comments:		Keywords:
	AND $\sim$	*Relativistic wave equation Pick AND ~
	AND $\sim$	Pick AND 🗸
	AND $\sim$	Pick AND 🗸
	AND $\sim$	Pick AND 🗸
		V Pick
Opt-in:		
	V Pick AND V	
	V Pick AND V	
	Pick AND 🗸	
	V Pick AND V	
	V Pick	

Here the results will include reviewers that have the keyword but will also include the keyword that includes phrases *before* and *after* it (Relativistic and non-**relativistic wave equations**. Quarkonium)

🔇 Ikhdair, Sameer.				
Relativistic and non-relativistic wave equations. Quarkonium *, Bound states and magnetic field effects *; No I do not want to receive emails Near East University, Faculty of Engineering	0 / 0 (0 / 0) (0 / 0)	0 (0) (0)	0 0 0	
Roles: AU REF				

Please bear in mind that Combined wildcard searching will produce more results but may be less accurate.

# 10.2 Searching keywords, example two: 'Perturbation theory'

In second example, we are using 'Perturbation theory' from the author supplied keywords:

Article Keywords:	Perturbation theory Models of single neurons and networks, Computational techniques
Author Recommended Referees:	Xiaojuan Sun Beijing University of Posts and Telecommunications 🗸 - sunxiaojuan@bupt.edu.cn Qinsheng Bi Jiangsu University 🖌 - qbi@ujs.edu.cn Marzena Ciszak Gonzaga University - Florence 🖌 - marzena.ciszak@ino.cnr.it Fang Han dong hua da xue 🖌 - yadiahan@dhu.edu.cn Vivien Kirk The University of Auckland 🖌 - v.kirk@auckland.ac.nz
Author Opposed Referees:	

# 10.2.1 Exact match

Again, take the keyword that you wish to search and add it into the keyword search box:



This will bring up an exact match of reviewers who have 'Perturbation theory' entered as a keyword:

Results - <u>New Search</u> - <u>Modify Search</u> - <u>Change Sort</u> 1-1 of 1					
Search Criteria: Keywords = Perturbation theory Roles = "EPL Referee"					
Name, Keywords, Institution, Roles	Current / Past 12 Months	Days Since Last Review	Average R-Score	Add /Grant REF Role	
Macedo, Caio F. B Perturbation theory: Yes I would like to receive emails from EPS, Gravitational compact objects *, Black holes, Gravitational waves Universidade Federal do Para Roles: AU REF	0 / 0 (0 / 0) (0 / 0)	0 (0) (0)	0 0 0		

# 10.2.2 Trailing wildcard

Add the wildcard after 'Perturbation theory' to find results that include perturbation theory but also include a phrase or keyword after the searched keyword:

Shared Comments:		Keywords:
	AND $\sim$	Perturbation theory* Pick AND ~
	AND $\sim$	Pick AND V
	AND 🗸	Pick AND V
	AND $\checkmark$	Pick AND V
		Pick
Opt-in:		
V Pick	AND $\sim$	
V Pick	AND $\sim$	
V Pick	AND $\sim$	
V Pick	AND V	
V Pick		

Here you will see that an additional reviewer has been found. The new reviewer's result includes perturbation theory but includes 'in relativity' *after* the keyword that has been searched for (**perturbation theory** in relativity):

Name, Keywords, Institution, Roles	Current / Past 12 Months	Days Since Last Review	Average R-Score	Add /Grant REF Role
🔇 Macedo, Caio F. B				
Gravitational compact objects <b>*</b> , Black holes, Gravitational waves, Perturbation theory; Yes I would like to receive emails from EPS Universidade Federal do Para	0 / 0 (0 / 0) (0 / 0)	0 (0) (0)	0 0 0	
Roles: AU REF				
Nound, Adam.				
high-temperature superconductivity <b>*</b> , self- forces and motion in classical relativity <b>*</b> , perturbation theory in relativity <b>*</b> , Graphene; No I do not want to receive emails University of Guelph	0 / 0 (0 / 0) (0 / 0)	0 (0) (0)	0 0 0	
Roles: AU REF				
New Search 🕄 Modify Search				+ Add
Export to CSV	Export to CSV Results 1-2 of			

# 10.2.3 Leading wildcard

Add the wild card before 'Perturbation theory' to find results that include perturbation theory but also include a phrase or keyword before the searched keyword:

Shared Comments:		Keywords:
	AND $\sim$	*Perturbation theory Pick AND V
	AND $\sim$	Pick AND V
	and $\sim$	Pick AND V
	AND $\sim$	Pick AND V
		Pick
Opt-in:		
P	Pick AND 🗸	
P	Pick AND V	
V P	Pick AND 🗸	
P	Pick AND 🗸	
P	Pick	

This search will include reviewers that have the exact match for perturbation theory in their Keywords but will also include reviewers who have a keyword or phrase *before* the searched for keyword. In the examples below you can see that the results now include results such as 'chiral **perturbation theory**' and 'black hole **perturbation theory**':

🔇 Ghorbani, Karim.				
Physics beyond the Standard Model *, Dark Matter Phenomenology *, Ouantum Field Theory *, Chiral perturbation theory *; Yes I would like to receive emails from EPS Arak University, Physics Department	0 / 0 (0 / 0) (0 / 0)	0 (0) (0)	0 0 0	
Roles: AU REF				
🔇 Khanna, Gaurav.				
Loop Quantum Gravity *, Loop Quantum Cosmology *, Black Hole Perturbation Theory *, Black Hole Collisions *, Close Limit Approximation *, Extreme-mass-ratio Inspiral * , Teukolsky Equation *; No I do not want to receive emails University of Massachusetts Amherst, Department of Physics	0 / 0 (0 / 0) (0 / 0)	0 (0) (0)	0 0 0	
Roles: AU REF				

# 10.2.4 Combined wildcard search

Add the wild card before and after the searched keyword:

Shared Comments:		Keywords:
	AND $\sim$	*Perturbation theory*
	AND $\sim$	Pick AND 🗸
	AND $\sim$	Pick AND V
	AND $\sim$	Pick AND 🗸
		V Pick
Opt-in:		
Pick	AND V	
V Pick	AND 🗸	
V Pick	AND 🗸	
V Pick	AND Y	
Picl	c	

This will bring up reviewers who have terms *before* and *after* perturbation theory. Here you can see a reviewer has been added to the search results who has 'theoretical aspect of cosmological **perturbation theory** at the time of inflation which helps us to understand the CMB anisotropy' as a keyword:

🔇 Basak, Abhishek.				
theoretical aspect of cosmological perturbation theory at the time of inflation which helps us to understand the CMB anisotropy <b>*</b> , primordial non-gaussianity. I am also investigating whether spinor field such as elkos can be an inflaton. <b>*</b> ; No I do not want to receive emails IISER - Thiruvananthapuram	0 / 0 (0 / 0) (0 / 0)	0 (0) (0)	0 0 0	
Roles: AU REF				

Please bear in mind that Combined wildcard searching will produce more results but may be less accurate, as you can see from the above search result.