

# BIOMEDICINE AND LIFE SCIENCES PAPERS CHECKLIST OF REQUIREMENTS FOR YOUR REVISED MANUSCRIPT

If your revised manuscript does not meet all of the requirements in the checklist below, it may be sent back to you for additional changes. Addressing the points below will hasten publication of your manuscript. Failure to do so will result in delays.

By checking this box, I confirm that I have reviewed and am adhering to the *Science* family of journal’s [editorial policies](https://www.science.org/content/page/science-journals-editorial-policies).

**Cover Letter**

The correct email address for you and any other corresponding author who will need to receive galley proofs.

Restrictions to data sharing should be explained in the cover letter. Note that restrictions to data and/or code deposition should be discussed with the editor prior to submission of your revised materials so arrangements can be made.

Please include any **comments to the editor** in the cover letter, not the response to reviews.

**Style and Editing Guidelines** Provide your revised manuscript as a Word document, not a PDF (unless you are submitting LaTeX files—see **LaTeX** instructions below).  
 Title is **135 characters or less**, including spaces.  
 Short title is less than 50 characters, including spaces.

Please provide a one-sentence summary (**Teaser**) that is **no longer than 130 characters** (including spaces and a period at the end of the sentence). This should be geared toward a general reader audience and should avoid the use of possessive pronouns such as "we." The revised teaser can be included in the title page of the manuscript file.

All author names and affiliations are spelled out as they would appear in print. Note that first initial, last name for all authors will introduce errors depositing your paper into PubMed.

Corresponding author(s) and authors who contributed equally are clearly identified on the title page.

Abstract is less than 160 words. Manuscript word count is under 15,000 words (excluding title page, abstract, references, and figure legends).

Manuscript is written primarily in active voice.

Active voice: The team conducted the experiment.

Passive voice: The experiment was conducted by the team.

Main text is organized into five subheadings in the following order: Introduction, Results, Discussion, Materials & Methods, References.

Theoretical papers are not required to have a Materials & Methods section.

Use of “significant” is restricted to statistical significance. If statistical significance is not meant, please use an appropriate replacement (for example, “substantial” or “notable”).

Do not use the following words: “novel,” “new,” or other words that note you are the first to demonstrate a particular conclusion. Do not include “new” or “novel” in the title, teaser, or abstract.

*Italicize* *variables, constants, and unknown quantities* in the text and in equations; mathematical (but not genetic) vectors are set in **boldface roman**; vectors can be denoted with an arrow over a variable. Greek letters are always set in roman type. (This is an example of roman type.) Follow this formatting in figures and tables.

Spell out all acronyms at their first use with the acronym in parentheses. In subsequent instances, use only the acronym. Define symbols at first use.

Spell out ohm(s). Do not use the symbol W.

All claims, results, or conclusions are supported by published and/or publicly accessible data or references.  We do not allow the phrase “data not shown.” The data must be added to the main text and/or supplementary materials or the conclusion must be removed.

Human subjects/materials research: include a statement identifying the ethics committee that approved the experiments. A statement that informed consent was obtained should also appear in the Methods section.

Animal research: include a statement identifying the institutional Animal Care and Use committee that approved the experiments.

All links are active. Clicking on the link brings up the correct web page.   
 Copies of MTAs relevant to the work must be clearly labeled and uploaded to the “Auxiliary Supplementary Materials and Other Supporting Files” section (if uploading an MTA template from your institution, it can be left blank).

After the last numbered reference, include the following in the format indicated below:

**Acknowledgments**: We thank XXXX.

**Funding:** This work was supported by XXX.

**Author Contributions:** Each author’s contribution(s) to the paper should be listed (we suggest following the CRediT model with each CRediT role given its own line. No punctuation in the initials).

Examples:

Conceptualization: SBB, DLA, MPW

Methodology: HP, FTGS, CW, JRK

Investigation: SBB, DLA, MPW

Visualization: SFB

Supervision: SJE, JLS, EH

Writing—original draft: SBB, DLA

Writing—review & editing: SBB, DLA, PRB, EH

**Competing Interests**: The authors have equity interest in XXXX company, which develops drugs XXX. “XXXX are inventors on patent application (insert number) held/submitted by XXXX (the university or institute) that covers XXXX (subject).” All other authors declare they have no competing interests.

**Patents:** Filed patents: The following patent details should be included in the competing interest statement: current patent status, the name of the organization filing the patent, the names of the authors on this paper who are also authors on the patent, dates, and serial numbers.

**Patent applications:** A statement indicating that a patent application has been submitted should appear in the competing interest statement. Please note that patent applications may be impacted by publication.

**OR:** For authors who do not have competing interests use: “The authors declare they have no competing interest.”

**Data and Materials Availability**: All data needed to evaluate the conclusions in the paper are present in the paper and/or the Supplementary Materials.

**If any of the data are not in the paper or SM itself, include the location of these data** **and the URL:** The data for this study have been deposited in the database dbGAP. The sequence of XXX can be found as GenBank XXXXXX, https://Include.theURL.com.

**If any of the materials used in your paper are subject to an MTA, include instructions for requests in the following format:** “The XXX can be provided by XXXX pending scientific review and a completed material transfer agreement. Requests for the XXX should be submitted to: XXXXX.”

**Figures and Tables**

Main text includes no more than 10 total figures and tables (combined).

Figures with multiple panels should be compiled as one figure. Figure panels should not be uploaded separately.

Figures are called out in sequential order (Fig. 1, Fig. 2, Fig. 3) the first time they are mentioned throughout the main text. If figures are not called out in sequential order (i.e., Fig. 1, Fig. 3, Fig. 2) reorder figures.

Use capital letters for part labels in multipart figures – A, B, C, etc. These should be 9 point and bold in the final figure. When possible, place part labels at the upper left corner of each figure part; if a part is an image, set labels inside the perimeter so as not to waste space. Avoid subpart labels within a figure part; instead, maintain the established sequence of part labels [e.g., use C, D, E instead of C(i), C(ii), C(iii) or C, C´, C´´]. If use of subpart labels is unavoidable, use lowercase letters (a, b, c). Use numbers (1, 2, 3) only to represent a time sequence of images.

Use leading zeros on all decimals—e.g., 0.3, 0.55—and only report significant digits.

Figures are provided in separate figure files following the **Guide to Preparing Figures**. Separate figure files should only include the figures, not author names, figure numbers, or captions.

Figure and table captions are no longer than 300 words each. Captions longer than 300 words could cause layout issues. Captions must begin with a one-sentence title in **bold type**. Include a sentence to describe each panel or group of panels. Do not repeat information in the body of the paper; just describe the graphic.

Provide a written record of permission from the copyright holder to reuse any adapted or reprinted figures. For figures that have been adapted or reproduced, credit must be given to the original source in the figure caption.

Provide model release forms for images with identifiable human faces.

Proofread all tables for accuracy.

Main paper tables should be free of shading, colored text, images, or highlighting of any kind.

Include P values in the table footnotes, if applicable.

**LaTeX**

[Please follow the directions here for formatting LaTeX files.](https://www.science.org/content/page/preparing-manuscripts-using-latex)

If submitting LaTeX files, include a complete .bib file (or equivalent) citing all references in main reference list.

Upload a PDF of your main article, paying close attention to equation formatting and reference display.

**References**

Refer to *Science* style guidelines as needed: <https://www.science.org/content/page/science-advances-information-authors#references-and-citation>.

Reference list should be a reasonable accounting of the critical literature supporting the conclusions of the paper. Ensure inclusion of a diverse set of authors. Do not include excess references. The suggested upper limit for research articles is 80 and for review articles 150.

Use the following style: A.B. Lastname, C. Lastname, D. Lastname, Title of article should be included here, *Journal Name* **15**, 444–450 (2010).

List references in the text in numerical order (1, 2, 3…) through the main article. Those in figure and table captions continue numerically following the last main text citation and the list finishes with those in the supplementary materials. Text—Figures—Tables—Supplementary Materials, all make up one list. Please adjust reference numbering accordingly.

Remove duplicate in-text citations and those in the reference list. Renumber references as needed.

In press references must be published prior to the publication of your manuscript.

If references appear within figures and tables they should be numbered and in parentheses. Do not use (Last name Year) format.

References appearing only in the SM should begin with the next consecutive number after the last number in the main paper.

References to personal communications, working papers, or unpublished work of any kind are not allowed.

*Science Advances* is unable to publish footnotes and endnotes in the main text or in the supplementary materials. All footnotes should be incorporated into the text.

**Supplementary Materials (SM)**

Provide supplementary text, figures, and tables as one PDF file in the following order: any text, figures with legends underneath each figure, tables and their legends. All pages in this file should be in the same orientation (i.e., portrait). Include titles for supplemental auxiliary files such as movies, Excel tables, audio files, and datasets at the end of the file.

Other data such as movies, audio clips, additional lengthy data (put in Excel files) should be provided as separate files, if applicable.

Cite the SM at the appropriate places in the main text, as fig. S1, fig. S2, table S1, table S2, etc.

Do not include a list of references in SM; List all references in the main text reference list, although they may be called out in the SM. References appearing only in the SM should begin with the next consecutive number after the last number in the main paper.

Proofread the SM carefully, as it will be posted directly as supplied. It does not have to match the main text style.

**Data and/or Code Deposition**

See <https://www.science.org/content/page/science-journals-editorial-policies#data-and-code-deposition> for details and approved databases.   
 Restrictions to data and/or code deposition should be discussed with the editor prior to submission of your revised materials so arrangements can be made. These should also be clearly stated and explained in the **Data and Materials Availability** statement.

DNA sequence data must be deposited in an appropriate database before acceptance.

Atomic coordinates and structure factor files or electron microscopy maps for molecular structures must be deposited in an appropriate database before acceptance.

Microarray data must be MIAME compliant and submitted to an appropriate database before acceptance.

Protein and molecular interaction data should also be released in public databases upon publication. PDB and EMDB data should also be provided as auxiliary files for review if they are not already released online.

Clinical trials must be registered in a public database.  
 Because GitHub libraries may be modified later by authors in ways that could complicate reproducibility, any code stored on that site should be archived in its current form in a permanent public repository ahead of publication (straightforward instructions for doing so can be found [here](https://docs.github.com/en/repositories/archiving-a-github-repository/referencing-and-citing-content)), and that version should be cited in the paper. We recommend using a non-profit repository such as Dryad, Datverse, or Zenodo. The Github link can be included but only as an additional resource.  
 Accession numbers for all deposited data must be included in the **Acknowledgements** under **Data and Materials Availability**.

**Statistical Analysis**

Units are supplied for all measurements. Units are provided in SI units when possible.

Display results with continuous variables using graphs such as scatterplots, boxplots, or histograms or by reporting measures of central tendency (e.g., mean or median) and dispersion (e.g., SD, interquartile range).

*Uncertainty*. Point estimates of population parameters (e.g., mean, correlation coefficient, slope) or comparative measures (e.g., mean difference, odds ratio, hazard ratio) should be accompanied by a measure of uncertainty. Identify the uncertainty represented by error bars in figures (standard deviation, standard error of the mean). This can be stated in the statistics paragraph (see below) if all values are the same in the paper or the figure legend, if they differ among figures.

Error bars cannot be included unless *N* > 2, where N is the number of biological replicates. If only two values were generated show both in the graph.

*N*, the number of times an experiment was independently performed, must be included for each experiment.  Distinguish between technical and biological replicates. This should usually be included in the figure legend.

For very small samples sizes (e.g., N < 20), present all data values in tabular format, usually in the SM.

*Statistics in figure legends.* In each figure legend, include the individual statistical test name used, value for N, P value (or equivalent), and identification of the uncertainty for each experiment in the figure. Include this in the main text for data not shown in a figure.

**Revision Upload Should Include:**

An updated cover letter.

A separate document with your responses to reviews, which you should label "Response to Reviews" and upload as "Response to Reviews" under Auxiliary Supplementary Materials.

A combined PDF, including the main article content, figures, figure captions, tables, table captions, and supplementary materials. All changes, including changes to the author list, should be highlighted or marked in colored text. Do not use track changes.

A clean Word file of your revised main article content, formatted as follows: main article text -> references -> acknowledgements -> table of contents for supplementary materials -> figure captions -> tables and captions. This file should not include highlighted changes or colored font. If using reference software such as EndNote, it is key that these sections are in the correct order to prevent potential delays in publication. Do not include figure images in your article content. Do not include supplementary materials in this file.

A clean PDF of your supplementary materials with figures and tables labeled using S1, S2, and so on (do not highlight changes). Additional supplementary files (not part of the main text) may be uploaded to the Auxiliary Supplementary Materials section. (Please see **Supplementary Materials (SM)** for more information.) This file should not include any highlighted changes or colored font.  
 Separate figure files for each of your main text figures in high-resolution format [at least 300 DPI (images); 1200 dpi (line art)] so that they are clear when magnified and have legible text. We will need high-resolution files if your revised manuscript is fully accepted. (Please see **Guide to Preparing Figures** for more information.). Do not upload separate figure files for supplementary figures.

Auxiliary supplementary materials such as movies, audio files, datasets and Excel tables.  
 Copies of MTAs relevant to the work must be clearly labeled and uploaded to the “Auxiliary Supplementary Materials and Other Supporting Files” section (if uploading an MTA template from your institution, it can be left blank).  
 Completed Change of Authorship form, if applicable (this can also be submitted via email while the paper is re-reviewed if you are otherwise ready to submit). For author removals at the Revision stage, provide a Change of Authorship form signed by all authors, an email from the author being removed confirming that they agreed, and their name struck through in the Combined PDF so that the change is clear to editors/reviewers.  
 Proof of permissions for reproduced images, if applicable.  
 Model release forms for images with identifiable human faces, if applicable.

This completed checklist, filled out and labeled as “Revision Checklist” under Auxiliary Supplementary Materials.

**GUIDE TO PREPARING FIGURES**

The figures that are sent with your revised manuscript must be created with different formats and resolutions than those sent with your initial submission because they will be used for online publication. Figure files for revised manuscripts must be created and uploaded separately from the manuscript text.

**Note that final figure files must exactly match those embedded in the combined PDF of your article. You may be asked to recreate figures if they do not meet the following criteria.**

FILE FORMATS: The preferred format for all figures should be a vector-based image. Vector images should be supplied (in order of preference) as .ai or .pdf files. Raster-based black and white line art (graphs or illustrations) must be supplied (in order of preference) as .tiff or .png files. Raster-based grayscale or color images (gel or blot figures, micrographs, or photographs) must be supplied as .tiff or .jpeg files.

**Figures embedded in Word files, PowerPoint files, and figures prepared in PowerPoint or Word that have been converted to other, acceptable formats are not allowed.**

FIGURE LAYOUT AND SCALING

When laying out your figure:

* + Avoid wide variation in type size within a figure.
  + Maximize the space given to the presentation of the data.
  + Avoid wasted white space.
  + See page 2 for specific information about figure sizes.

LABELS

All text should be in a sans serif typeface, preferably **Myriad**.

* + Panel part labels are 9 point bold, capitalized – **A B C D…**
  + Default label font size is 8 points – Eight
  + Minimum font size is 6 points – Six

RESOLUTION

Photographic and raster images should have a minimum resolution of 300 dots per inch (dpi) at final print size (see column on page 2). Embedded images within a vector file should also have a minimum resolution of 300 dpi. The resolution of black and white line art (graphs or illustrations) must be at least 1200 dpi.

**Up-sampling artwork (artificially increasing file size or resolution) will not improve quality and causes production problems.**

LINE WEIGHTS

At final print size, minimum line weight is .28 point.

**.28 pt**

IMAGE TYPES

When possible, supply vector-based files such as those produced by Adobe Illustrator. Vector files give us maximum flexibility for sizing your figures properly.

**300 dpi**

COLOR-DEFICIENT VISION

Avoid using red and green color combinations, but if they can’t be

**Up-sampled 72 dpi**

**NO**

**NO**

**OK**

**YES**

**If you can’t avoid using red/green**

They maintain high print-quality resolution at any size. **Do not rasterize line art or text.**



avoided, use strongly contrasting shades and add shapes and/or textures to identify the different parts of a figure.

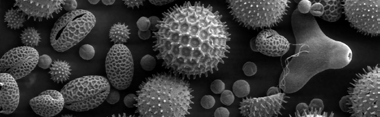
Check your figure color palette at these links:

* <http://safecolours.rigdenage.com/> palettefiles.html
* <http://www.visibone.com/colorblind/>

Use white type and scale bars over darker areas of images

**combos, use contrasting shades**

**Use shapes + color**



**White scale bars and text**

**Vector or line art:**

eps, ai, pdf, svg

**Raster or bitmapped art:**

psd, tif, jpeg, gif, png

COLOR CONVERSION

All color figures must be supplied in **RGB format (red, green, blue)** and not CMYK (cyan, magenta, yellow, black).

**Figure and legend must fit within this box**

1. column = 21p3 (3.55 in or 9 cm)
2. column = 43p6 (7.25 in or 18.4 cm)

FIGURE SIZING

Figures should default to widths of 1 column (3.55 in, 9 cm, or 21 picas, 3

points) or 2 columns (7.25 in, 18.4 cm, or 43 picas, 6 points). Widths between those sizes can also be used, if needed. However, if the figure is not a full

2 columns wide, the width should not exceed 5.67 in, 14.4 cm, or 34 picas. Figures should be no deeper than the page height (9 in, 22.75 cm, or 53 picas, 9 points). However, for 2-column figures, please keep in mind that the legend will need to fit into the 9 inch depth. For your reference, legends are set at 7.5 pt (10 pt leading) Myriad Regular. We recommend a maximum depth of 7.8 in, 19.9 cm, or 47 picas in order to fit the legend.

**53p9 (9 in or 22.75 cm)**

Maximum depth recommended in order to fit legend 47p (7.8 in or 19.9 cm)

For figures between 1 and 2 columns, the width should not exceed 34p (5.67 in or 14.4 cm)

**43p6 (7.25 in or 18.4 cm)**

# FIGURE PREPARATION GUIDELINES

The figures that are sent in with your revised manuscript must be created with different format and resolution requirements than those sent with your initial submission. If your paper is accepted, they will be used for online publication. Figure files for revised manuscripts must be created and uploaded separately from the manuscript text. **Note that final figure files must exactly match those embedded into the Word .doc of your article content.**

**Size and labeling of figures.** Figures should default to widths of 1 column (3.55 in, 9 cm or 21p3 picas) or 2 columns (7.25 in, 18.4 cm or 43p6 picas). Widths in between those sizes can also be used, if needed.

However, if the figure is not a full 2 columns wide, the width should not exceed 5.67 in, 14.4 cm, or 34p0 picas wide. Figures should be no deeper than the page height (9 in, 22.75cm or 53p9 picas). However, for 2 column figures, please keep in mind that the legend will need to fit into the 9-inch depth. For your reference, legends are set at 7.5 pt (10pt leading) Myriad Regular. **We recommend a maximum depth of 7.8 in, 19.9 cm, or 47p0 picas.** At the final size, the labels of each part of the figure (A, B, C, etc.) should be capitalized and must be in 9 pt. Myriad bold type (or equivalent Sans Serif font). The axis labels or other type on the figure must be 8 pt. Myriad regular type (or equivalent Sans Serif font). If needed, a minimum of 6 pt type can be used. Make sure the symbols will be legible (these should be 6 to 8 pt. in size). Line weights should be a minimum of 0.28 pts. These requirements are to ensure readability and uniformity of your figures. Do not include figure titles in figure images.

**Resolution requirements for figures.** At the final sizes, the resolution of black and white line art (**graphs or illustrations**) must be **at least 1200 dpi**. Raster-based grayscale or color images (**gel or blot figures, micrographs, or photographs**) must be supplied at a resolution of **at least 300 dpi. Figures with both types of elements should be at least 300 dpi.**

**Acceptable formats for raster-based files.** The preferred format for all figures should be a **vector-based** image. Vector images should be supplied as .pdf or .ai files; the resolution can be altered by our production team if needed. Raster-based black and white line art (graphs or illustrations) must be supplied (in order of preference) as .tiff or .png files. Raster-based grayscale or color images (gel or blot figures, micrographs, or photographs) must be supplied as .tiff or .jpeg files.

**The following formats are not allowed**: Figures embedded in Word files, PowerPoint files, and figures prepared in PowerPoint or Word that have been converted to other, acceptable formats such as .ps or .pdf.

# All color figures must be supplied in RGB format (red, green, blue) and not CMYK (cyan, magenta, yellow, black).

**Each figure should be a single, separate file.** Each figure (whether single or multiple panels) must be submitted as one separate file.

# Color-contrast and accessibility considerations:

* + Avoid using combinations of red and green together or combinations of blue and yellow together.
  + Please do not use colors that are close in hue to identify different parts of a figure.
  + Avoid using grayscale.
  + Use white type and scale bars over darker areas of images

# Modification of figures

*Science Advances* does not allow certain electronic enhancements or manipulations of micrographs, gels, or other digital images. Figures assembled from multiple photographs or images must indicate the separate parts with lines between them.

Linear adjustment of contrast, brightness, or color must be applied to an entire image or plate equally. Nonlinear adjustments must be specified in the figure legend. Selective enhancement or alteration of one part of an image is not acceptable. In addition, *Science Advances* may ask authors of papers returned for revision to provide additional documentation of their primary data.

**Naming your figure files.** Our submission portal, CTS, will rename your files, so a particular naming convention is not needed.

**Very large figure files**. Our system can accommodate files up to 25 MB, but large files (>10 MB) can be compressed to facilitate uploading. [http://stm.sciencemag.org/content/science-translational-medicine-general-](http://stm.sciencemag.org/content/science-translational-medicine-general-policies) [policies](http://stm.sciencemag.org/content/science-translational-medicine-general-policies)

# STEP BY STEP INSTRUCTIONS FOR PREPARING YOUR REVISED FIGURES

We have reworded the guidelines above as step-by-step instructions for preparing your figure files. If the above instructions are not clear, follow these instructions. Doing so for each figure will expedite publishing your paper.

1. Open your figure in Photoshop, Adobe Illustrator, or other graphics program.
2. Set the final width of your figure to the dimensions indicated below or on your marked manuscript
   1. In Photoshop, click Size on the Image drop down menu

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Fig. 1 = | inches | Fig. 4 = | inches |
| Fig. 2 = | inches | Fig. 5 = | inches |
| Fig. 3 = | inches | Fig. 6 = | inches |
|  | | Fig. 7 = | inches |

1. Check the resolution of your figure. If it is less than 300 dpi, you MUST REMAKE YOUR FIGURE FROM THE ORIGINAL COMPONENTS AT A HIGHER RESOLUTION. DO NOT “RESAMPLE”

THE CURRENT FIGURE. If your figure is of sufficient resolution or a vector-based file (see below), continue to the next step.

1. Still keeping your figure at the final width indicated above, make sure that any part labels (i.e., A, B, C, etc.) on your figure are in a 9-point bold Myriad (or other sans serif) font.
2. Then make sure that any text on your figure is 6-, 7-, or 8-point Myriad font. If it is larger or smaller than this, replace the text with appropriately sized letters or numbers.
3. Make sure that any symbols on your figure are at least 5-8 points in size. If they are larger or smaller than this, replace them.
4. Crop your figure to make the white space around it as small as possible. Edges of the figure should be just outside the image.
5. Determine whether your figure is a vector-based or raster-based file. Vector-based files are created in Adobe Illustrator and can be increased in size without losing resolution.
6. If your figure is a vector-based file, save it with as much compression as possible to minimize the file size in one of the following formats. They are listed in order of preference: PDF, AI.
7. If your figure is a raster-based file or a composite of a vector based and raster-based file, save it with as much compression as possible to minimize the file size in one of the following formats. They are listed in order of preference: Line art (graphs or illustrations) TIFF or PNG; grayscale or color images (gel or blot figures, micrographs, or photographs) TIFF or JPEG.
8. Repeat for each figure.

# Helpful guidelines for labels on graphs and figures:

* Use a sans-serif font whenever possible (such as Myriad).
* Capitalize the first letter in a label only, not every word (and proper nouns, of course).
* Units should be included in parentheses. Use SI notation. If there is room, write out variables
  + e.g., **Pressure (MPa)**, **Temperature (K)**.
* Variables and genes are always set in *italics* or as plain Greek letters (e.g., *P*, *T*, m). The rest of the text in the figure should be plain or bold text.
  + Type on top of color in a color figure should be in bold face. Avoid using color type.
* Use leading zeros on all decimals – e.g., 0.3, 0.55 – and only report significant digits.
* Use capital letters for part labels in multipart figures – A, B, C, etc. These should be 9 pt. and bold in the final figure. When possible, place part labels at the upper left-hand corner of each figure part; if a part is an image, set labels inside the perimeter so as not to waste space.
  + Avoid subpart labels within a figure part; instead, maintain the established sequence of part labels [e.g., use A, B, C, D, E instead of A, B, C(a), C(b), C(c)]. If use of subpart labels is unavoidable, use lowercase letters (a, b, c). Use numbers (1, 2, 3) only to represent a time sequence of images.
* When reproducing images that include labels with illegible computer-generated type (e.g., units for scale bars), omit such labels and present the information in the legend instead.
* Keys to symbols, if needed, should be kept as simple as possible and be positioned so they do not needlessly enlarge the figure. Details can be put into the captions.
* Use solid symbols for plotting data if possible (unless data overlap or there are multiple symbols). Size symbols so that they will be distinguishable when the figure is reduced. Line widths should be legible upon reduction (minimum of 0.5 pt. at the final reduced size).
* Panels should be set close to each other, and common axis labels should not be repeated.
* Scales or axes should not extend beyond the range of the data plotted.
* Do not use minor tick marks in scales or grid lines. Avoid using y-axis labels on the right that repeat those on the left.

Crop your figure to make the white space around it as small as possible. Edges of the figure should be just outside the image.