

# Overview of publishing a paper

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## 1 Publication

### The publication process

A typical course for publishing in a peer reviewed journal (e.g. Physical Review Letters, Nature) is

1. Write a manuscript (critical step)
2. Submission: send the manuscript plus cover material to the journal and optionally arXiv
3. Peer-review: receive and respond to comments from referees, revising the manuscript
4. Proofing: respond to changes requested by the editor, revising the manuscript
5. Acceptance: the manuscript will be published in an upcoming issue of the journal
6. Cataloguing: create a PURE entry for the publication

### Rejection

During steps 2-5 your manuscript may be *rejected* in which case you may be given the option to make significant changes and resubmit or choose to submit to a different journal. An important of the process is choosing an appropriate journal—discuss with your supervisor.

### Timescales

Peer-review may involve multiple rounds (referee comments → manuscript changes → resubmission) and generally takes the longest time; 1-6 months is not unusual. Proofing (or ‘corrections’) is typically done on the timescale of weeks. Generally, the length of each of these steps is going to increase with the length and complexity of your manuscript as well as the number of co-authors.

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## 2 OCRID iD

Along with your name and institution you will often be allowed to include an OCRID iD, which is a persistent digital identifier that distinguishes you from any other researcher. To do so, you will firstly need to [register](#) for an OCRID iD online. You can add a biography and web links to your profile here, but that is not necessary.

## 3 Collaborative tools

It is strongly recommended to use some form of version control system (VSC) when writing and editing your manuscript. [Overleaf](#) is a popular tool for collaborating on  $\text{\LaTeX}$  documents. Note that a paid subscription ('premium') is required to start a project with more than 2 collaborators. It provides a browser-based editor as well as [Git integration](#) (for projects started by a premium user).

## 4 Other documents

The document `pri_arxiv.pdf` discusses submission for Physical Review Letters plus arXiv in detail. The process for [other APS journals](#) is likely to be very similar. The final step, cataloguing, refers to entering information of the publication and any supporting data into the University's information system, PURE (guidance: [todo](#)).