General Information

Manuscripts must be written in English. On occasion an appendix may be used if approved by the Senior Editor. Authors are encouraged to publish indices as supplemental data.

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Authors should take special care in manuscript preparation now that author alterations are not allowed at proof stage (see Proofs and To Reduce Published Errors sections).

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Email: jn@sfn.org
Phone: 202-462-6688

For purposes of review, authors should direct the manuscript to a Senior Editor in one of the following three sections: Behavioral/Systems/Cognitive Neuroscience, Cellular/Molecular Neuroscience, or Development/Plasticity/Repair Neuroscience. The choice of Senior Editor is left to the author(s), but reassignment may on occasion be made to a different Senior Editor.

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Authors should also be aware that manuscripts may be returned without outside review when the Reviewing Editor and the Senior Editor deem that the paper is of insufficient general interest for the broad readership of *The Journal of Neuroscience*, or that the scientific quality is such that it is unlikely to receive favorable reviews. Editorial rejection is done to speed up the editorial process and to allow the authors' papers to be promptly submitted and reviewed elsewhere.

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voltage-gated channels, calcium signaling, cell excitability

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channels, hippocampus, interneuron, synaptic, plasticity

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memory, hippocampus, neocrotex, place cells, LTP

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Interests:
epilepsy, developmental neurogenetics, gene control of neuronal excitability and synaptic plasticity, mouse genetics

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behavioral pharmacology, neuromodulators and behavior, acetylcholine receptors and addiction, mouse genetics

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University of Pittsburgh

Interests:
mechanisms of neuronal death and neurodegeneration, mitochondria, neuronalion homeostasis

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University of Washington

Interests:
retina, sensory signal processing, photoreceptors, biophysics, cellular neurophysiology

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Instituto de Fisiologia Cellular
Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico, Mexico City

Interests:
somatosensory discrimination, perception, memory, neurophysiology, psychophysics

Dr. Toni Shippenberg

Interests:

NIDA-IRP/NIH
Integrative Neuroscience Unit

behavioral neuroscience, psychopharmacology, drugs of abuse, dopamine, neuropeptides

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Division of Neuroscience
Oregon Regional Primate Research Center

Interests:
neurobiology of reproduction, stress, steroids and hormones, central autonomic pathways, anatomical organization and neurochemistry of neural systems

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Yale University School of Medicine

Interests:
Axon guidance, regeneration, spinal cord injury, anatomical plasticity, neurodegeneration

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Department of Pathology
Harvard Medical School
Howard Hughes Medical Institute

Interests:
neurodeneration, Alzheimer's, signal transduction, neuronal migration, neurogenesis and stem cells

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Cajal Center for Neuroscience Research
Division of Life Sciences
University of Texas at San Antonio

Interests:
cellular electrophysiology, basal ganglia, motor systems, mathematical models and simulation

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Anesthesia-Neural Plasticity Research Group
Department of Anesthesia and Critical Care
Massachusetts General Hospital

Interests:
pain, somatosensory systems, spinal cord plasticity and regeneration

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Starting January 5, 2004, a submission fee of $50 must accompany all new and resubmitted manuscripts to The Journal of Neuroscience. Only a single fee will accompany each submission thus there will be no charge for submission of revised manuscripts. The fee will be handled much like the

abstract submission fee for the Annual Meeting, in that it will be processed via e-commerce as a final step in manuscript submission at the Manuscript Central site. After your manuscript has been entered, uploaded and reviewed for accuracy, authors can click on the Pay and Submit button. Subsequently, a pop-up window will allow you to enter credit card information. For those authors that would prefer to send Purchase Orders, you may enter in the Purchase Order number (Must be **actual** purchase order number to ensure accurate billing records) into the pop-up screen in Manuscript Central and then send the Purchase order to the following address using Fed Ex, UPS, DHL, etc. for expeditious handling:

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Why has SfN come to this decision? The number of submitted manuscripts continues to grow rapidly (currently 6000 per year). In the past, the substantial cost of peer review was subsidized entirely by revenue associated with published papers (author page charges, subscription fees, and advertising). With the startup of the new online submission process, the volume of new submissions required that we reassess the *Journal's* economic structure. As a Society journal, *The Journal of Neuroscience* is supported by a combination of sources, including individual and institutional subscribers, Society members, and authors. The submission fee will cover a small portion of the costs associated with peer review, and will help insure the financial viability of the *Journal* going forward.

Organization of the Manuscript

Manuscripts must include an abstract (not to exceed 250 words), 6 keywords, an introductory statement (without heading; not to exceed 500 words), a description of the experimental procedures or methods, description of the results, a discussion of the experimental findings (not to exceed 1,500 words), and a list of references, figure legends, and tables. References should be limited to approximately 60 for regular manuscripts and 30 for brief communications. Submitting an incomplete manuscript or a manuscript that does not adhere to these limits will cause a delay in publication, and possible review.

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Please organize your title page to include the following:

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Abbreviated title
Authors and author addresses
Corresponding author with complete address, including an email address
Number of figures and tables
Number of pages
Six keywords
Acknowledgements

Abstract

The abstract (not to exceed 250 words) should be clearly written and readily comprehensible to the broad readership of the *Journal*. The abstract should provide a concise summary of the objectives, methodology, key results, and major conclusions of the study. It should be written in complete sentences, without explicit subheadings.

Introduction

The introduction (not to exceed 500 words) should *not* have a separate heading. It should briefly indicate the objectives of the study and provide enough background information to clarify why the study was undertaken and what hypotheses are tested.

Materials and Methods

The materials and methods section should be brief but adequate to allow a qualified investigator to repeat the research (see also Policy Concerning Availability of Materials). Reference should be made to published procedures wherever possible; this applies to both the original description and pertinent published modifications. All companies from which materials were obtained should be listed with their location:

city and state or province (if not a well known city) or country (if outside the United States or Canada). If materials were obtained from an individual, an affiliation for that individual should be listed.

Results

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

Discussion

The discussion section (not to exceed 1,500 words) should be as concise as possible and should include a brief statement of the principal findings, a discussion of the validity of the observations, a discussion of the findings in light of other published work dealing with the same or closely related subjects, and a statement of the possible significance of the work. Extensive discussion of the literature is discouraged.

References

Only published and "in press"(i.e., accepted for publication in a specific journal or book) references should appear in the reference list at the end of the paper. The latest information on "in press" references should be provided. Any "in press" references that are relevant for reviewers to see in order to make a well-informed evaluation should be included (5 copies) along with the submitted manuscript. "Submitted" references should be cited only in text and in the following form: (A. B.Smith, C. D. Johnson, and E.Greene, unpublished observations). The form for personal communications is similar: (F. G. Jackson, personal communication). Authors are responsible for all personal communications and must obtain written approval from persons cited before submitting the paper to the *Journal*. Proof of such approval may be requested by the *Journal*.

References should be cited in the text as follows: "The procedure used has been described elsewhere (Green, 1978),"or "Our observations are in agreement with those of Brown and Black (1979) and of White et al. (1980),"or with multiple references, in chronological order: "Earlier reports (Brown and Black, 1979, 1981;White et al., 1980;Smith, 1982,1984).... " In the list of references (to be typed double-spaced), papers should be given in alphabetical order according to the surname of the first author. In two-author papers with the same first author, the order is alphabetical by the second author's name. In three-or-more-author papers with the same first author, the order is chronological. The name of the author(s) should be followed by the date in parentheses, the full title of the paper as it appeared in the original together with the source of the reference, the volume number, and the first and last pages. Do not number the references. If the author list for a paper in the references exceeds 20, the paper should be cited as Author A et al. The following illustrate the format to be used:

Journal article

- Hamill OP, Marty A, Neher E, Sakmann B, Sigworth F (1981) Improved patch-clamp techniques for high-resolution current recordings from cells and cell free membrane patches. Pflugers Arch 391:85-100.
- Hodgkin AL, Huxley AF (1952a) The components of membrane conductance in the giant axon of Loligo. J Physiol (Lond) 116:473-496.
- Hodgkin AL, Huxley AF (1952b) The dual effect of membrane potential on sodium conductance in the giant axon of *Loligo*. JPhysiol(Lond)116:497-506.

Book

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

Chapter in a book

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

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

RGB Workflow ?Key Communication Points

RGB Versus CMYK

Journals today are published in two primary forms: the traditional printed journal and the online journal. As the readership of the journal shifts to the online media, the processes underlying the production of the journal must also be adjusted to meet the requirements of that media. One of the process changes that we have implemented is the way images are created.

Those of you who have submitted digital images for publication in journals may be accustomed to the requirement for the CMYK (Cyan, Magenta, Yellow, blacK) color mode. CMYK is the combination of colors that is used to reproduce the full range of color in a printed journal. It is the color mode on which printing technology and equipment are based. In contrast,

an online journal and most of the digital devices used to capture images are based on the RGB (Red, Green, Blue) color mode. RGB is an additive color mode, meaning that the full use of each of the constituent colors results in the color white. CMYK is a subtractive color mode whereby the full use of each of the constituent colors results in the color black. The inherent differences in these two color modes cause differences in the intensity and hue of colors, especially for the fluorescent colors in such common use in neuroscience research.

Historically, *The Journal of Neuroscience* has solicited color in CMYK mode to ensure that color is optimized for the printed journal. For those of you who created and submitted color images in RGB form, your images were converted to CMYK during the production process. The colors that were most affected by the conversion were the rich and vibrant blues, greens, and reds, which do not exist in the CMYK color mode. What happens during the conversion is that the blues, greens, and reds are mapped as close as possible to the colors in the original. This resulted in a loss of color intensity and overall quality that affected both the printed and online version.

Below is a reproduction of an image printed as CMYK and what it would look like online in RGB.

Preparation of Tables

Tables should include only essential data. Each table should be double-spaced with an explanatory title and sufficient experimental detail in the accompanying legend so as to be intelligible without reference to the text. Do not duplicate data by presenting it both in the text and in a table or figure. All tables must be cited in the text.

Figure Legends

Each figure should be accompanied by a title and an explanatory legend. The title should be part of the legend and not lettered onto the figure itself. Legends should be concise. However, the legend should include sufficient detail to make them intelligible without reference to the text, should define all labels and symbols used in the figure art, and should provide other essential information such as magnification or scale bar dimension. Rather than stating "See text," the legend should be more specific; for example, "See Results."

Abbreviations

Use abbreviations if a term appears three or more times. Spell out all abbreviations at first occurrence, and then introduce them by placing the abbreviation in parentheses after the term being abbreviated. The metric system should be used for all volumes, lengths, weights, etc. Temperatures should be expressed in degrees Celsius (centigrade). Units should conform to the International System of Units (SI) (see *Handbook of Chemistry and Physics*).

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Policy Concerning Availability of Materials
It is understood that by publishing a paper in *The Journal of Neuroscience* the author(s) agree to make freely available to colleagues in academic research any clones of cells, nucleic acids, antibodies, etc. that were used in the research reported and that are not available from commercial suppliers.

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In general, only complete genomic and cDNA sequences will be accepted for publication. The accuracy of the sequence must be confirmed by analyses of both strands. By the time a paper is sent to press, sequences must be deposited in a data base generally accessible to the neuroscience community; the sequence accession number should be provided. Exceptions to this policy may be considered on an individual basis.

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All animal experimentation reported in the *Journal* must have been conducted in accordance with the Policies on the Use of Animals and Humans in Neuroscience Research, revised and approved by the Society for Neuroscience in January 1995.

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It is expected that authors submitting papers to *The Journal of Neuroscience* will have conducted their work in strict accordance with the Policy on Ethics approved by the Society for Neuroscience in November 1989, and amended in November 1993.

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These guidelines for Responsible Conduct Regarding Scientific Communication relate to scientific communication including writing, reviewing, and editing peer-reviewed manuscripts; submission of abstracts to scientific meetings; and presentations to the lay public.

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