

Homework Assignment #8, Referee Report

In addition to your joint journal-club presentation on April 11, each team member must *individually* prepare a 300-word to 400-word “referee report” that critically analyzes the paper, using the *Physical Review Letters*’ [criteria for acceptance of manuscripts](#). You may also wish to review the Institute of Physics’ excellent “[Introduction to Refereeing](#)” before you begin this assignment.

Your referee report should comment on the following aspects of the paper and provide examples and evidence to support your evaluation:

1. Validity—the work reported is free of detectable error and provides sufficient detail so that its validity can be determined.
2. Importance—the results reported substantially advance a field, open a significant new area of research, or solve—or take a crucial step toward solving—a critical outstanding problem, and thus facilitate notable progress in an existing field.
3. Broad Interest—the results reported represent a major advance in a field of physics or have significant implications across subfield boundaries. A manuscript may also be of broad interest if it is exceptionally pleasing science, aesthetically.
4. Adequacy of the Introduction—Review “[The Aim of a Good Introduction](#)” and comment specifically on the adequacy of the introduction of the paper.

Due: **Friday, April 18, 6:00 PM**. Email your completed report to both Professor Beck and Celia by the deadline. Reports submitted after the deadline will be downgraded and will not be eligible for rewrite points.

Total—50 points