Logo

Description automatically generated

AGU Word Manuscript Template

**Please use this template and for submitting a new or revised manuscript to any AGU journal.** Using this template and following the guidelines below will help us expedite processing of your paper.

The template starts on page 2. Delete this cover page.

Helpful links:

Descriptions of individual journals and links to their submission sites are here: <https://www.agu.org/Publish-with-AGU/Publish>

Additional instructions are available under “How to Submit” in the link above.

Please follow our checklists for [initial submission](https://www.agu.org/Publish-with-AGU/Publish/Author-Resources/New-Manuscript-Checklist) or [revision](https://www.agu.org/Publish-with-AGU/Publish/Author-Resources/Revisions-Resubmission-Checklist)**. Resubmissions that were previously reviewed should follow the “revision” checklist.**

AGU has [implemented](https://eos.org/editors-vox/new-style-for-agu-journals-and-books) new styles. These mostly affect formatting of references, which are now cited in parentheses, not brackets. See [here](https://publications.agu.org/agu-grammar-and-style-guide/) for details.

**Length**: Research Articles in most AGU journals have an allowed length of 25 publication units. Letters in *Geophysical Research Letters (GRL)* and Technical Reports on Data or Methods in *Earth and Space Science* have an allowed length of 12 publication units (1 unit = 500 words or 1 table or figure; title, plain language summary, author lists, references, and all supplements are excluded from the word count).

AGU encourages research publications that are thorough but also concisely presented. This benefits readers as well as reviewers, who are increasingly taxed. Editorial and production costs also scale with length. However, all AGU journals except *GRL* allow longer papers beyond these guidelines for an additional fee ([**see table**](https://www.agu.org/Publish-with-AGU/Publish/Author-Resources/Publication-fees)) that reflects these incentives. ***Submissions to GRL that are longer than the allowed length of 12 Publication Units will be returned immediately for shortening.*** Some journals have publication [fees](https://www.agu.org/Publish-with-AGU/Publish/Author-Resources/Publication-fees). [Open access](http://publications.agu.org/open-access/) is available in all AGU journals.

Please use the .docx format if possible (all versions of Word after 2007). This document contains pre-set styles that apply to each manuscript element. These styles are listed below. Please keep these styles by pasting in your text when done and matching, or applying these styles in your document using the style pane or organizer.

Title

Authors

Affiliation

Key points

Abstract

Plain Language Summary

Body Text

Headings (Main and secondary)

Figure or Table Captions

References

Please use our separate template for supporting information: <https://www.agu.org/-/media/Files/Publications/AGUSupporting-Information_Word_template.docx?la=en&hash=BEA4EB05F3A8E5C18A2BAAC5BCCDBC9E33FFBC25>

More specific formatting instructions are provided in the actual template, which follows. Delete these instructions from your finished manuscript.

AGU requires the corresponding author to register for an [ORCID](http://orchid.org/). Co-authors are also encouraged to register. We will note published contributions and reviews in your ORCID profile. Each author can easily create or link your ORCID in GEMS via Modify Profile/Password on the landing page.

Enter Your Title Here

(A title should be specific, informative, and brief. Capitalize major words in titles, but not conjunctions and articles. Use abbreviations only if they are defined in the abstract. Titles that start with general terms then specific results are optimized in searches—delete these notes when done)

Enter authors here: A. B. Author1, B. C. Author2, and D. E. Author3

(List authors by first name or initial followed by last name and separated by commas. Use superscript numbers to link affiliations, and symbols \*†‡ for author notes. For example, X. Jones1\*, P. Smith1,2 Authors are individuals who have significantly contributed to the research and preparation of the article. Group authors are allowed, if each author in the group is separately identified in an appendix.)

1Affiliation for author 1.

2Affiliation for author 2.

3Affiliation for author 3.

(Affiliations should be preceded by superscript numbers corresponding to the author list. Each affiliation should be run in so that the full affiliation list is a single paragraph.)

Corresponding author: first and last name ([email@address.edu)](mailto:email@address.edu))

†Additional author notes should be indicated with symbols (current addresses, for example).

(include name and email addresses of the corresponding author. More than one corresponding author is allowed in this Word file and for publication; but only one corresponding author is allowed in our editorial system.)

Key Points:

* List up to three key points (at least one is required)
* Key Points summarize the main points and conclusions of the article
* Each must be 140 characters or less with no special characters or acronyms.

(The above elements should be on a title page)

Abstract

The abstract should be a single-paragraph of fewer than 250 words, or for *Geophysical Research Letters*, less than 150 words. A good abstract sets the general question or topic that you are studying for the general reader, provides background on the specific question or problem, briefly describes key data or analyses, and describes the key results and uncertainties. Please avoid acronyms or if used, define them.

**Plain Language Summary**

This is optional but will help expand the reach of your paper. Information on writing a good plain language summary is available [here](http://sharingscience.agu.org/creating-plain-language-summary/).

1 Introduction

The main text should start with an introduction. Except for short manuscripts (such as comments and replies), the text should be divided into sections, each with its own heading. Sections are numbered (1, 2, 3, etc.). A maximum of four levels of heads may be used, with subsections numbered 1.1., 1.2.; 1.1.1., 1.2.1; 1.1.1.1., and so on. Headings should be sentence fragments. Examples of headings are:

2 Materials and Methods

2.1 A descriptive heading about methods

3 Data, or a descriptive heading about data

4 Results, or a descriptive heading about the results

5 Conclusions

(All figures and tables should be cited in order. For initial submission, please embed figures, tables, and their captions within the main text near where they are cited. At revision, figures should be uploaded separately, as we need separate files for production. Tables and all captions should be moved to the end of the file.)

References should use a name-date format, not numbers. Enclose citations in parentheses with authors in upright text (non italics) as in: (Smith et al*.,* 2009) or Smith et al. (2009). More information on in-text citations can be found in our [Brief Style Guide](https://publications.agu.org/brief-guide-agu-style-grammar/#reference),“Reference Formatting.”

**As Applicable – Inclusion in Global Research Statement**

The Authorship: Inclusion in Global Research policy aims to promote greater equity and transparency in research collaborations. AGU Publications encourage research collaborations between regions, countries, and communities and expect authors to include their local collaborators as co-authors when they meet the AGU Publications [authorship criteria](https://www.agu.org/publications/authors/policies#authorship). Those who do not meet the criteria should be included in the Acknowledgement section. We encourage researchers to consider recommendations from [The TRUST CODE - A Global Code of Conduct for Equitable Research Partnerships](https://www.globalcodeofconduct.org/) when conducting and reporting their research, as applicable, and encourage authors to include a disclosure statement pertaining to the ethical and scientific considerations of their research collaborations in an “**Inclusion in Global Research** **Statement’** as a standalone section in the manuscript following the Conclusions section. This can include disclosure of permits, authorizations, permissions and/or any formal agreements with local communities or other authorities, additional acknowledgements of local help received, and/or description of end-users of the research. You can learn more about the policy in this [editorial](https://agupubs.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/abs/10.1029/2024AV001298). Example statements can be found in the following published papers: [Holt et al.](https://agupubs.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1029/2022JG007188), [Sánchez-Gutiérrez et al.](https://agupubs.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/abs/10.1029/2023JG007554), [Tully et al.](https://agupubs.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/epdf/10.1029/2022JG007128) Please note that these statements are titled as “Global Research Collaboration Statements” from a previous pilot requirement in *JGR Biogeosciences*. The pilot has ended and statements should now be titled “Inclusion in Global Research Statement”.

**Acknowledgments**

The text ends with an acknowledgment section and statement that includes:

* Any real or perceived financial conflicts of interests for any author
* Other affiliations for any author that may be perceived as having a conflict of interest with respect to the results of this paper.
* Funding information related to the work for all authors should be entered in the form in GEMS as part of your submission. This form in GEMS uses the official Fundref list, which provides a link after publication that is available to funders. Any other funding information not listed in the GEMS form should be included in the acknowledgments and/or cover letter.

It is also the appropriate place to thank colleagues and other contributors. AGU does not normally allow dedications.

**Open Research**

AGU requires an Availability Statement for the underlying data and code needed to understand, evaluate, and build upon the reported research at the time of peer review and publication. Additionally, authors should include an Availability Statement for the software and other research products that have a significant impact on the research. Details and templates are in the [Availability Statement](https://www.agu.org/Publish-with-AGU/Publish/Author-Resources/Data-and-Software-for-Authors#availability) section of the Data & Software for Authors Guidance. For physical samples, use the IGSN persistent identifier, see the [International Geo Sample Numbers](https://www.agu.org/Publish-with-AGU/Publish/Author-Resources/Data-and-Software-for-Authors#IGSN) section.

**References**

References in supporting information must also be included in the reference list of the main paper, or in a designated section in the main paper so that they will be discovered, linked, and indexed. A separate list in the supporting information is not necessary. References are not included in word counts for excess length fees.

Data/software described in the Availability Section and with a DOI should also be cited in the References section (this includes primary and processed data used for your research). For details and examples of data/software citation, see the [Data & Software Citation](https://www.agu.org/Publish-with-AGU/Publish/Author-Resources/Data-and-Software-for-Authors#citation) section of the Data & Software for Authors guidance.

All references must be available to readers at the time of publication; there should be no “unpublished”, in preparation, under review, or “in press” references. Please write the respective journal with any questions.

Example of a reference to an article:

Deng, A., & Stauffer, D. R.  (2006), On improving 4-km mesoscale model simulations. *Journal of Applied Meteorology and Climatology*, *45*(3), 361–381. doi:10.1175/JAM2341.1

More information on reference formatting with examples can be found in our [Brief Guide to AGU Style](https://publications.agu.org/brief-guide-agu-style-grammar/#reference).

Example of a reference to a dataset:

Fiechter, J., & Cheresh, J. (2020). Physical and biogeochemical drivers of alongshore pH and oxygen variability in the California Current System (Version 7) [Dataset]. Dryad. [**https://doi.org/10.7291/D1D96Q**](https://doi.org/10.7291/D1D96Q)

Example of a reference to software:

Bell, S. W. (2020). samwbell/saturn\_counts: April 26, 2020 Release (Version 1.1.0) [Software]. Zenodo. <https://doi.org/10.5281/ZENODO.3766959>

**Figure 1. The figure caption should begin with an overall descriptive statement of the figure followed by additional text. They should be immediately after each figure.  Figure parts are indicated with lower-case letters (a, b, c…).  For initial submission, please place both the figures and captions in the text near where they are cited rather than at the end of the file (not both).  At revision, captions can be placed in-text or at the end of the file, and figures should be uploaded separately. Each figure should be one complete, cohesive file (please do not upload sub-figures or figure parts in separate files). Data that supports the figure must be preserved in a repository, included in the Open Research section, and cited in the References.  Include detailed information on how to recreate the figure in support of transparency (e.g., Python, R library).**

**Table 1. Start this caption with a short description of your table. Format tables using the Word Table commands and structures. Additional information on table formatting can be found in our Style Guide,** [**Table Formatting**](https://publications.agu.org/brief-guide-agu-style-grammar/#tables)**.  Do not create tables using spaces or tab characters.   Large tables should not be included in the main text of the paper, but instead preserved as a .csv file in a repository. All data displayed in tables must be preserved in a repository, included in the Open Research section, and cited in the References.**

**Figure 1**. The figure caption should begin with an overall descriptive statement of the figure followed by additional text. They should be immediately after each figure. Figure parts are indicated with lower-case letters (**a, b, c…**). For initial submission, please place both the figures and captions in the text near where they are cited rather than at the end of the file (not both). At revision, captions can be placed in-text or at the end of the file, and figures should be uploaded separately. Each figure should be one complete, cohesive file (please do not upload sub-figures or figure parts in separate files).

**Table 1.** Start this caption with a short description of your table. Format tables using the Word Table commands and structures. Additional information on table formatting can be found in our Style Guide, [Table Formatting](https://publications.agu.org/brief-guide-agu-style-grammar/#tables). Do not create tables using spaces or tabs characters. Large tables presenting rich data should be presented as separate excel or .csv files, not as part of the main text.