

Writing a Commentary in an AGU Journal

Your commentary piece should provide readers with context around one or more of the following topics:

- A recent publication or set of publications, or special issue/collection in an AGU or other journal
- A recent meeting, session, or workshop
- An update of a classic, historical, or highly cited paper or special issue
- A notable anniversary or other event
- A topic of particular importance or controversy in the field
- A topic with emerging or likely societal implications

Guidelines

Commentaries have a maximum length of 6 publication units (one publication unit = 500 words or 1 figure or table; references are excluded). A typical length is ~2000 words and 1-2 figures. Exceptions may be arranged by contacting the journal editor via journal email address.

The audience for a commentary is the general Earth and space science community. Jargon familiar to one field or sub-discipline should be avoided or explained. Common abbreviations are acceptable.

There are no publication fees for commentaries and they will be open access.

Writing your Commentary

Please include a brief ~100-word abstract.

The first paragraph or two should frame the broad important questions being addressed and provide background for the general reader to set context. Specific results should be described within the body of the comment, emphasizing the broader understanding that is emerging through this and related work. The final paragraph(s) should identify suggestions for further work or unanswered questions. Appropriate or brief criticisms and/or identification of key assumptions or uncertainties are appropriate. However, a commentary should not be or take the place of a detailed technical comment. Nontechnical commentaries may not need external peer review, but this remains at the discretion of the editor.

If possible, provide a general or schematic illustration or figure that indicates the primary point or concept.

References should follow [AGU style](#).

Please submit the commentary through the appropriate journals submission site.