

**Updates from IMS Program Secretary Annie Qu
May, 2022**

IMS ICSDS Conference updates:

Conference website

<https://sites.google.com/view/icsds2022>

- We have formed program committee and local arrangement committee
- Regina and I conducted site visit of Florence Congress and Exhibition Center, and have signed the contract for **House of Congressi in Villa Victoria**.

Some highlights:

- (1) ICSDS aims to become a truly international conference series covering broad subjects on data science, with broad representations from diverse groups and many different countries.
- (2) To achieve the goals set in (1), we had formed a program committee with a broad diversity of members – e.g., nearly 1/2 of female, new researchers, good mix of application and theory, broad range of subjects, and representations from many different countries.
- (3) This feature of international participations should greatly enhance the IMS outreach effort and, hopefully, the IMS membership drive as well.
- (4) The organization of invited and plenary sessions are progressing well.
About 250 invited speakers have been committed for the in-person conference. We anticipate that there will be 60 invited/contributed sessions for 4-day conference, and 4 plenary speakers. **Four committed plenary speakers are Emmanuel Candes, Guido Imbens, Susan Murphy and Sylvia Richardson.**

Here are Registration fees for ICSDS

Type/Period	Early (05/20 – 09/15)	Regular (9/16-10/31)	Late (11/1-12/16)
Discounted Rates for IMS Members	Early	Regular	Late
Regular	\$530	\$630	\$730
Student	\$250	\$350	\$450
Retired/Developing Country	\$250	\$350	\$450
Standard Rates			
Standard	\$640	\$740	\$840
Student	\$300	\$400	\$500
Retired/Developing Country	\$300	\$400	\$500
Accompanying person	\$80	\$80	\$80

Treasurer's Report 2021

Introduction

This report details membership and subscription data for the calendar year-end 2021. The 2021 fiscal year-end audit report will be posted online separately in the Fall of 2022 after the auditors have completed the annual process.

In 2021, the total number of IMS members increased, but the total number of paying members decreased. Subscriptions by institutions increased this past year by less than 1%. The financial status of the Institute continues to be stable and strong, and actions are in place to ensure its long-term stability. In 2021, the IMS experienced loss of membership due to COVID-19 and the inability of those in some regions to renew their membership. We continue to keep a close eye on these items in 2022. Details of the events of the past year, membership and subscription data, and sales data are given below.

Publications

The following is a list of all current IMS core, co-sponsored, supported, and affiliated journals:

[IMS Core Print/Electronic Publications](#)

- Annals of Applied Probability
- Annals of Probability
- Annals of Statistics
- Annals of Applied Statistics
- Statistical Science
- IMS Monographs
- IMS Textbooks
- IMS Bulletin

[Co-Sponsored Print/Electronic Publications](#)

- Electronic Communications in Probability
- Electronic Journal of Probability
- Electronic Journal of Statistics
- Journal of Computational and Graphical Statistics
- NSF-CBMS Series in Probability and Statistics
- Probability Surveys
- Statistics Surveys

[Supported Publications](#)

- ALEA: Latin American Journal of Probability and Mathematical Statistics
- Annales de l'Institut Henri Poincaré
- Bayesian Analysis
- Bernoulli
- Bernoulli News
- Brazilian Journal of Probability and Statistics

[Affiliated Publications](#)

- Observational Studies
- Probability and Mathematical Statistics
- Stochastic Systems

Membership, Subscription, and Sales Data

Membership Data

Table 1 presents the membership data back to 2017. Total individual paid membership in the Institute as of December 31, 2021, increased by 3% from December 31, 2020. This is due to an increase in student (non-paying) members. Paid membership decreased by 16%. This is largely due to the fact that members in China were not able to easily renew their membership as they have been able to do in years past. Prior to 2021, members in China renewed their membership during the IMS China meeting. Since there has not been a meeting since 2019, they were unable to easily renew.

Geographic Distribution of Members. The IMS membership is currently distributed as follows:

- 50% North America
- 24% Asia
- 21% Europe
- 2% Australia and South Pacific
- 2% Africa
- 1% South America & the Caribbean

Selection of Journals by Members: Print subscriptions by members stayed steady in 2021. IMS members receive free electronic access to all journals. Members are charged actual cost for print copies of journals, so there is no net loss or gain to the bottom line from changes in print subscriptions by members. Table 2 shows the current selection of print journals by members.

The IMS offers [joint membership opportunities](#) with the following societies:

- Association for Computing Machinery (ACM)
- Applied Probability Society/INFORMS (APS/INFORMS)
- Bernoulli Society (BS)
- Indian Society for Probability and Statistics (ISPS)
- International Chinese Statistical Association (ICSA)
- International Society for Bayesian Analysis (ISBA)
- International Statistical Institute/Bernoulli Society (ISI/BS)
- New England Statistical Society (NESS)

Institutional Subscription Data

Table 3 presents comparative subscription data for institutions to each of our scientific journals for 2021 and previous years. Institutional subscriptions for the journals stayed steady in 2021 with the exception of the IMS Bulletin which is available freely online. Approximately 58% of the institutional subscribers to IMS journals are in USA and Canada, with the remaining subscribers distributed throughout the world.

Book Sales Data

Table 4 presents sales data for all IMS book series. In 2010, the IMS published its first volumes in a

cooperative arrangement with Cambridge University Press to publish two series, *IMS Monographs* and *IMS Textbooks*. Sales of these volumes are going very well.

Financial and Audit Report

The fiscal year ended December 31, 2021. The external audit of the IMS will be completed in August 2022. The full audit report will appear online at <https://www.imstat.org/council-reports-and-minutes/>.

Conclusion

The IMS Executive Committee has reviewed all data in this report. A long-term financial plan is already in place and the IMS continues to be strong and stable financially.

Zhengjun Zhang
Treasurer

Membership and Subscriber Data Tables

TABLE 1: MEMBERSHIP, Calendar Year						
Membership Type	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	% change
Regular	1447	1384	1397	1397	1262	-9.66%
Life/Retired Life	563	613	617	614	624	1.63%
Reduced Country/Retired/IMS China*	370	351	704	577	292	-49.39%
New Graduate	213	76	70	63	43	-31.75%
Student	1022	852	722	1448	1996	37.85%
Total	3615	3276	3510	4099	4217	2.88%
Total not including free members (students)	2593	2424	2788	2651	2221	-16.22%
*IMS China members are processed via the IMS China meeting every other year, because we were unable to hold a meeting in 2021, these numbers are down considerably.						
TABLE 2: MEMBER SUBSCRIPTIONS, Calendar Year						
<i>Print subscriptions</i>						
Individual Members**	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	% change
AAP	61	54	46	31	35	12.90%
AOP	68	57	50	36	37	2.78%
AOAS	91	87	83	53	56	5.66%
AOS	208	191	174	127	127	0.00%
STS	382	387	325	236	240	1.69%
Total Member Print	810	776	678	483	495	2.48%
TABLE 3: INSTITUTIONAL SUBSCRIPTIONS, Calendar Year						
<i>Paid Subscriptions</i>						
Institutions	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	% change
AAP	558	537	519	527	525	-0.38%
AOP	735	706	673	677	676	-0.15%
AOAS	341	341	343	358	363	1.40%
AOS	929	906	861	855	865	1.17%
STS	671	666	629	644	646	0.31%
BULL	75	71	70	39	36	-7.69%
Supported Journal: AIHP	300	289	288	292	292	0.00%
Supported Journal: Bernoulli	303	298	294	305	304	-0.33%
Supported Journal: BJPS	134	132	142	162	155	-4.32%
Total Institutional Paid	4,046	3,946	3,819	3,859	3,862	0.08%
Total IMS Journals Only	3,234	3,156	3,025	3,061	3,075	0.46%
TABLE 4: Sales of IMS Monographs and IMS Textbooks						
Volume	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	Total Sales
7 Volumes IMS Monographs	4,214	2,414	1,253	1,443	1,628	19,295
15 Volumes IMS Textbooks	630	1,018	1,940	975	1,232	11,011
TOTAL	4,844	3,432	3,193	2,418	2,860	30,306

June 15, 2022

AAP Report

Editors-in-Chief:

Kavita Ramanan, Qi-Man Shao (from 2022-01-01), previous co-editors: F. Delarue, P. Friz

Board (as of June 15, 2022)

There are a total of 30 members, including 7 new appointed board members (in bold below).

Name	Institution	Country
Pauline Barrieu	The London School of Economics and Political Science	UK
Mathias Beiglboeck	University of Vienna	Austria
Bhaswar Bhattacharya	University of Pennsylvania	U.S.
Anup Biswas	IISER Pune	India
Jochen Blath	Goethe University Frankfurt	Germany
Francesco Caravenna	University of Milano-Bicocca	Italy
Sourav Chatterjee	Stanford University	U.S.
Wei-Kuo Chen	University of Minnesota	U.S.
Pierre Del Moral	INRIA	France
Jian Ding	Peking University	China
Stefan Gerhold	Vienna University of Technology	Austria
Emmanuel Gobet	École Polytechnique	France
Patrícia Gonçalves	Pontifical Catholic University of Rio de Janeiro	Brazil
Ajay Jasra	King Abdullah University of Science and Technology	Saudi Arabia
Arnulf Jentzen	The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Shenzhen University of Münster	China Germany
Bingyi Jing	Southern University of Science and Technology	China
Antti Knowles	University of Geneva	Switzerland
Johannes Muhle-Karbe	Imperial College London	UK
Ashkan Nikeghbali	University of Zurich	Switzerland
Ivan Nourdin	University of Luxembourg	Luxembourg
Nicolas Perkowski	Free University of Berlin	Germany
Mathieu Rosenbaum	École Polytechnique	France

Mykhaylo Shkolnikov	Princeton University	U.S.
Perla Sousi	University of Cambridge	UK
Jan Swart	Czech Academy of Sciences	Czech Republic
Pierre Tarres	New York University Shanghai Université Paris-Dauphine	China France
Amandine Veber-Delattre	École Polytechnique	France
Ruth J. Williams	University of California, San Diego	U.S.
Wenxin Zhou	University of California, San Diego	U.S.
Nikolaos Zygouras	University of Warwick	UK

Organization: The system with two editors works very well. We have one online meeting per week, pre-screening all the new submissions, discussing previous assignments, and checking to make sure that everything is being processed in a timely fashion. For any paper that we do think does not meet the standards of AAP, we make a desk rejection; For papers we think worthy for a full review, we assign the paper to an AE immediately. For other papers, we seek high-level evaluations from experts in the field, and if the feedback is sufficiently informative, then either reject the paper or assign the paper to an AE with some preliminary opinions. This process works well and quite efficiently. There were 168 submissions in the first 5 months, Jan-May 2022. Of these, 3 papers were withdrawn by the authors, 56 papers were rejected by the editors either immediately or after feedback from experts, and 19 papers have thus far been rejected after a review process. Moreover, 2 papers (1 erratum and one resubmission) have been accepted, 3 papers have reached a decision of “Major Revision” and 1 paper has been deemed a “Minor Revision.” All other papers are undergoing review.

We called a (virtual) board meeting on February 25, 2022. A total of 29 out of 32 members joined the online meeting. All members agreed that we should maintain the high quality of AAP. An accepted paper should have a high quality in mathematics but also have relevance for applications, broadly construed, and the papers have to be written in a manner that is appealing to a broad audience. Members also discussed issues such as desk rejection, quick opinions, turnover time, referee selection and COIs while choosing referees and evaluations. In particular, we discussed how to keep turnover times low while still maintaining a high quality of review. We also discussed fairness in reviewing procedures, and how to try to guard against unconscious biases, and to aim to evaluate each paper on its own merit. The board meeting was successful. We may also add a few more members to the board, and are going to organize another meeting in September.

Statistics:

Papers submitted between January 1, 2022 and May 31, 2022.

168 submissions
74 rejected (including 56 desk rejections or after high-level evaluations)
2 accepted
4 under revision

For 2021 (papers submitted between January 1, 2021 and Dec 31, 2021)

400 submissions
213 rejected
42 accepted
23 rejected with resubmission

Annals of Applied Statistics

Annual Report for Calendar Year 2021

Ji Zhu, Editor-in-Chief

2021 marked the fifteenth full year of operation for the Annals of Applied Statistics (AOAS) and Karen Kafadar's third year as Editor-in-Chief. On January 1st, 2022, I became AOAS's fifth Editor-in-Chief, having followed four exceptional predecessors from whom I learned much. Karen has been especially helpful during this transition, for which I am extremely grateful.

The terms of Edoardo Airoldi, Leonhard Held, and Nicoleta Serban as Area Editors also ended on December 31, 2021. I would like to take the opportunity to thank them for their tireless efforts and great contributions to AOAS in the past years. I am glad to report that in January 2022 Yufeng Liu of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Jie Peng of the University of California at Davis, and Dale Zimmerman of the University of Iowa joined our Editorial Board, which is now composed as follows:

Ji Zhu	Editor-in-Chief
Beth Ann Griffin	Editor for Social Sciences, Biostatistics and Policy
Yufeng Liu	Editor for Machine Learning and Bioinformatics
Jeffrey Morris	Editor for Biology, Medicine, and Genomics
Brendan Murphy	Editor for Social Sciences and Government
Jie Peng	Editor for Genetics, Genomics and Computational Biology
Dale Zimmerman	Editor for Physical Science, Engineering, and the Environment

The Area Editors continue to oversee the bulk of the manuscript review, aided by an outstanding board of Associate Editors, and they are responsible for the continued high quality of the papers we publish.

In 2021 we received 636 submissions, close to the previous record of 637 submissions the year before. Both numbers are much higher than that from the pre-pandemic period (e.g. 512 in 2018 and 540 in 2019). It is likely that the submission count will return to pre-pandemic levels in subsequent years. Despite the high numbers of submissions, our concerted efforts to reduce the time in the review process have been successful. Specifically, about 40% of the 2021 submissions received a first editorial response within one month, 57% within three months, and 87% within six months. Detailed review times to initial decision for the past five years are shown in Table 1.

Of the 636 submissions in 2021, 64 have been accepted for publication thus far, 78 are under revision, 467 have been rejected, rejected with re-submission, or withdrawn, and 27 are still awaiting an editorial decision. Our acceptance rate continues at about 20%. Since its inception, AOAS has accepted 22% of its 7169 submissions. In 2021, the Editor-in-Chief withdrew 193 of the 636 submissions (30%) as being inconsistent with the journal's mission or not yet ready for review, with a median time to decision of 7 days. As a submission proceeds to peer review, one of the Area Editors or the Editor-in-Chief oversees the manuscript review, aided by our board of Associate Editors.

Table 1: Review Time to Initial Decision

Days to First Decision	≤ 7	8-30	31-90	91-180	≥ 181	Total
2017	284 52%	59 11%	107 19%	84 15%	17 3%	551
2018	210 41%	82 16%	92 18%	67 13%	41 8%	512
2019	62 12%	144 27%	117 22%	135 25%	81 15%	540
2020 (pandemic)	56 9%	211 33%	123 20%	156 25%	81 13%	637
2021 (pandemic)	109 17%	145 23%	111 17%	191 30%	80 13%	636

The journal’s impact factor has been in the range of 1.43 – 2.24 in the past ten years. The current impact factor is 2.08, per

<https://academic-accelerator.com/Impact-of-Journal/Annals-of-Applied-Statistics>.

Several of our long-time reliable Associate Editors have requested “retirement,” and we have been replacing them as the need arises. We welcome suggestions for reliable AEs, especially those who are familiar with AOAS as previous authors and referees. My main goal for 2022 and beyond is to further reduce our times to first decision, especially reducing the percentage of submissions that take 6 or more months in review.

I am tremendously grateful to Elyse Gustafson and Geri Mattson for their continuously outstanding support of our daily operations. Both have been very helpful and prompt in handling all of our inquiries, and in preparing the data file used for this report.

Annals of Probability: Editor's report for 2021

Prepared by Christophe Garban and Alice Guionnet.

In the period from January 1, 2021 to December 31, 2021, the Annals of Probability received 275 submissions.

As of June 14, 2021, of these submissions:

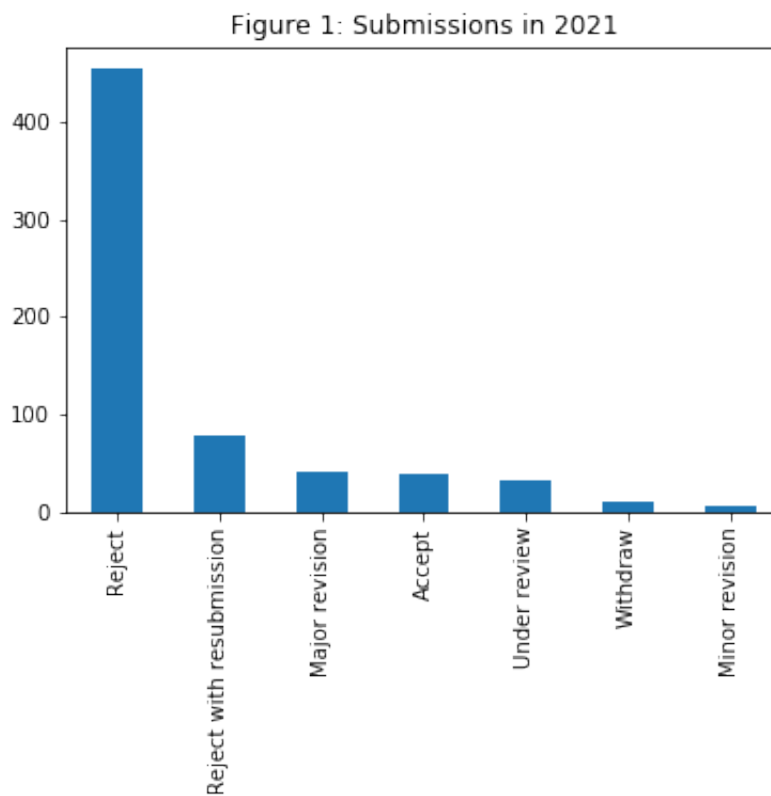
- 203 have been rejected (including 5 withdrawn papers)
- 30 have been accepted (+1 erratum « accepted »)
- most of the 41 remaining submissions are in second round of review. We anticipate 85% acceptance for these submissions. This would then lead to a 24 % acceptance rate.

The Annals of Probability published around 3200 pages in 2021, and should published 2400 pages in 2022 (N.B. in 2020 the IMS Council approved a total of 3200 pages in a new format, and approved 2400 pages in 2022 which amounts to approximately the same content than 3200 pages before 2020). In view As of June 16, 2022, there are about 15 pages in accepted papers waiting for publication indicating no backlog.

The Annals of Statistics, 2021 Annual Report

Enno Mammen and Lan Wang, Editors

SUBMISSIONS: We received 658 submissions in 2021. For comparison, the number of submissions in the years 2010–2020 were, respectively, 532, 502, 555, 607, 697, 694, 718, 686, 637, 694, and 754, respectively. Of the 658 submissions, 9 were withdrawn before or during the review. In addition, we handled 78 requests for revision. Our editorial policy continues to emphasize that The Annals of Statistics aims at publishing research papers of the highest quality, reflecting the many facets of contemporary statistics, including all mathematical, methodological, computational, and interdisciplinary work. An overview of the data is given in Figure 1.

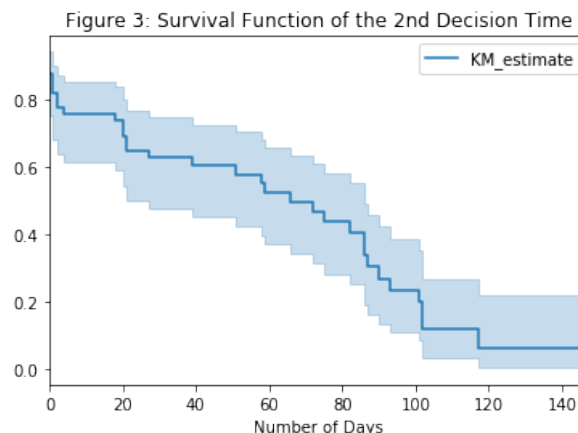
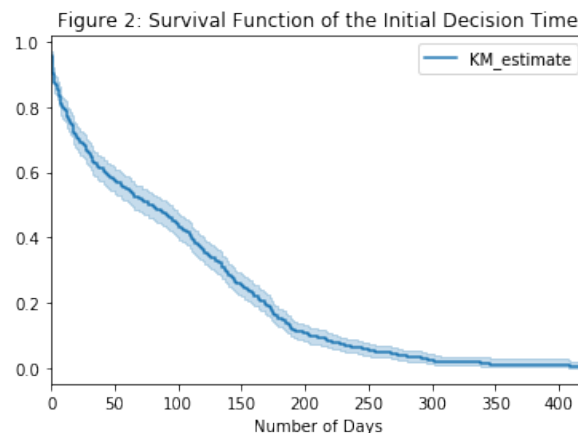


ACCEPTANCE RATE: For papers submitted during 2021, we have to date (to May 2022) accepted 39, rejected 454, and rejected 79 with the possibility to resubmit. Currently, 77 submissions are still under review or revision. The acceptance rate is 6.01% by the end of May. In comparison, the acceptance rate last year (to July) is 9.12%, and 8.60% in 2019 (to June). Note that, since some papers are still under review, this is not the final acceptance rate among the manuscripts submitted in 2020.

BACKLOG AND PAGE REQUEST: BACKLOG AND PAGE REQUEST: During 2021, we printed 3650 pages (3720 pages in 2020, 3608 pages in 2019, 3866 pages in 2018, 2763 pages in 2017, 2779 pages in 2016, 2794 pages in 2015, 2585 pages in 2014). The backlog of papers to be published has come down over the last couple of years and is now at a fairly comfortable level. As of now, we have roughly 555 pages in proofs (the recent switch to a denser style file means this is a smaller number than it would otherwise have been) and 1000 pages in production (not in proofs yet). We would like to request an allotment of 3700 pages for 2023.

REVIEW TIMES: The quartiles of the distribution of the initial decision times for manuscripts submitted in 2021 were 16 days, 78 days, and 152 days. The quartiles of the distribution of the initial decision times for manuscripts submitted in 2020 were 10 days, 81 days and 146 days. The corresponding quartiles from 2019 were 10 days, 73 days and 131 days, from 2018 were 14 days, 99 days, and 160 days, in 2017 were 8 days, 103 days and 178 days, and in 2016 were 9 days, 86 days and 175 days. The details of the review times are summarized in Figures 2 and 3, which provide for submissions in 2021 estimated survival curves for initial and second decision times respectively.

FINAL REMARKS: We would like to take this opportunity to thank Kristina Mattson, as well as the editorial board and referees, for their invaluable contribution to the journal.



Annual Report - Statistical Science

Sonia Petrone, Editor

As of May 31, 2022, 86 manuscripts were at various stages of review (6 of these have been back with authors for over 18 months, and could probably be discounted). Of these, 24 are awaiting revision from the authors, and 5 are at a very final stage of review and close to be accepted. Over the 12 months from 1 June 2021 to 31 May 2022, 177 manuscripts were submitted. Of these new submissions, 12 have been accepted and 108 rejected; thus, *of those of them for which final decisions have been reached*, the rejection rate has been 90% and the acceptance rate has been 10%.

I anticipate that the total number of manuscript pages for 2022 will be about 620 as allotted. Possibly overestimating, I would suggest that 650 pages are planned for 2023.

The following table gives an idea of submissions over the last three years.

	submissions	rejection rate ^(*)	acceptance rate ^(*)
1 June 2019- 31 May 2020	201	0.78	0.22
1 June 2020- 31 May 2021	234	0.88	0.12
1 June 2021- 31 May 2022	177	0.9	0.10

(*) over new submissions for which final decisions have been reached

The lower number of submission in the last 12 months is partially explained by the fact that in June 2019-May 2021, new submissions included more invited comments to discussion papers and contributions for special issues started by the former Editor or by myself and invited interviews. As editor, I did encourage several projects of special issues, discussions, and interviews, but the lack of personal interaction during the two+ years of the pandemic delayed the process; I expect that more submissions related to these projects will come in the next months of 2022 and in 2023. Moreover, a discussion paper is going to be soon finalized and a few special invited papers are expected to be submitted in the summer.

Special issues and backlog. Statistical Science receives a reasonable number of submissions, but the rejection rate is rather high. Thus, is it is of course important for the editor and the editorial board to be proactive in encouraging good review papers, topics for discussion, special issues, and conversation pieces.

In 2022, we published a special issue (37(2), May 2022) on “Data Science in a Time of Crisis: Lessons from the Pandemic”, with Chiara Sabatti and John Chambers as Guest Editors.

Three more special issues are envisaged:

- A special issue on statistical and interdisciplinary themes in reproducibility and replicability, with guest editors Nancy Reid, Michael Daniels and Alicia Carriquiry, should be ready in early 2023;
- A special issue on Bayesian prediction, that would discuss foundations, methodology, and challenges from new types of data, with guest editors Bertrand Clarke and Pietro Rigo, is in progress; submissions are expected by the end of 2022 (likely, early 2023).
- A special issue on ‘Bayesian computations in the 21st Century’, with Christian Robert, Tamara Broderick and Pierre Jacob as guest editors, has been planned for quite some time, but is still at a preliminary stage.

The current backlog of accepted (and nearly accepted) papers will cover all 2022 and 2 issues of 2023; with the envisaged special issue on Reproducibility and Replicability

expected in early 2023, papers currently under minor revision, and possibly the special issue on Bayesian prediction in late 2023, volume 38 (2023) would likely be covered.

The next editor, Moulinath Banerjee, and I have been already discussing about the journal, and he plans to finalize his idea for a new special issue in the fall 2022.

Conversation pieces - and diversity. Currently, there are 16 interviews in progress (9 invited by me as editor and agreed; 7 contributed and tentatively approved) and there are 12 pending interviews, agreed upon by former Editors but long outstanding; indeed, 2 of them turned out to be unfeasible for various reasons.

Six envisaged conversation pieces are interviews to a female scholar. This seems to be an improvement in giving the well deserved space to the many great women in statistics and probability, but further efforts in this direction should continue to be made.

As well, the presence of women in the Editorial Board has been increased. This is another direction to be pursued further.

I would like to point out the proposal (by Shankar Bhamidi) to start, in addition to the Conversation pieces, Statistical Science “video-interviews” that might also include online interviews with high-profile scholars in related fields (who would not be typically interviewed for STS traditional conversation pieces). I understand that some similar proposal has been raised inside IMS and I believe that Statistical Science might be well involved.

This is the last year of my mandate as editor of Statistical Science. I very warmly thank all the members of the Editorial Board: Shankar Bhamidi, Jay Breidt, Peter Bühlmann, Alicia L. Carriquiry, John Chambers, Michael J. Daniels, Philip Dawid, Robin Evans, Stefano Favaro, Alan Gelfand, Peter Green, Tailen Hsing, Chris Holmes, Susan Holmes, Michael I. Jordan, Nicole Lazar, Ian McKeague, Peter Müller, Luc Pronzato, Nancy Reid, Jason Roy, Chiara Sabatti, Bodhisattva Sen, Glenn Shafer, Yuekai Sun, Lorenzo Trippa, Jon Wellner, Bin Yu, Giacomo Zanella and Cun-Hui Zhang.

I am grateful Susan Holmes, Nancy Reid, Shankar Bhamidi, Peter Green for their advice as my ‘Advisory Board on Conversations’. And I thank Peter Green for having been at my side as deputy editor in the most difficult months of the pandemic.

I am very grateful to both Mattson Publishing Services and VTEX, who continue to be very responsive to the needs of the journal. I would also like to thank Elyse Gustafson, T.N. Sriram, Patrick Kelly, Geri Mattson, Kristina Mattson and Saulius Kurklys, from whom I receive invaluable editorial support. In particular, I would like to thank Kristina Mattson for her timely help whenever needed.

My best wishes to the next Editor, Moulinath Banerjee! We will be collaborating in the transition from the fall of 2022 and he will take over on January 1st, 2023.

IMS Bulletin Report to Council 2022

The *IMS Bulletin*, published 8 times per year, is the news organ of the institute. Our aim is to bring IMS members (and other readers) news about IMS activities and members, and items of interest to statisticians and probabilists around the world.

Tati Howell, based in London, UK, is the *IMS Bulletin* Editor, with oversight from Managing Editor Bob Keener (University of Michigan). The Contributing Editors are currently: Radu Craiu, Anirban DasGupta, Yoram Gat, Ruobin Gong, David Hand, Takis Konstantopoulos, Xiao-Li Meng, Kavita Ramanan and Daniela Witten (new this year). A few of them write regular columns, others contribute more occasionally. We are grateful to them all. We are also **looking for more diverse voices** in the *Bulletin*, so if any Council members would like to recommend someone who can write engagingly, particularly from under-represented sections of our community, please get in touch with Tati.

Since the last report, we have published 13 obituaries: Aristotle (Ari) Arapostathis, Y.S. Chow, Arthur Cohen, Harry Cohn, David Cox, Kjell Doksum, Richard J. (Rich) Fox, Ross Leadbetter, Charles R. Mann, Charles J. (Chuck) Stone, Constance van Eeden, Peter Whittle, and Michael Woodroffe. We are working on an obituary for Matthew Zack, Jr., and have so far been unable to source obituaries for Bert Fristedt, Charles Mode, and Mitchell Snyder, all of whom we believe passed in 2020 but we have not been able to find more information, so if anyone in the Council can provide pointers, again, please get in touch. Please do let us know if you hear of the death of an IMS member or Fellow. You can read all our published obituaries (since June 2011) on the *Bulletin*'s website at <https://imstat.org/?s=obituary>.

Anirban DasGupta's Student Puzzle Corner continues as a regular feature, receiving a small number of responses from student members (guest puzzle editor Stas Volkov also contributed a puzzle). We continue to publish lists of recent papers, rotating around IMS core, co-sponsored and supported journals (including electronic journals).

About two-thirds of IMS members receive the printed *Bulletin* in the mail (1958, plus 39 institutions); the rest opt for the electronic PDF/HTML version only. Since December 2019 the *Bulletin*'s news articles have been individually posted on the IMS website, at <https://imstat.org/news/> (in addition to the complete PDF copy, which you can download from the archive pages: <https://imstat.org/ims-bulletin-archive/>). Tati uploads the news items and articles from each issue just after it has gone to the printers (hence, a couple of weeks before the print copies are mailed out). Google Analytics reports about 19,700 page views of news items on the IMS website – down by about a third, probably as viewing habits have altered in the past year. We post on the IMS Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/IMSTATI>), which now has 3,731 followers, when issues are released, and also link to some news items and announcements directly. We also have a Twitter account, [@InstMathStat](https://twitter.com/InstMathStat), with 2,503 followers, where new issue releases, and some news items, are tweeted. In addition, we send out a monthly email to IMS members, the IMS eNews.

As ever, we invite all members, and particularly Council members, to be proactive in writing or soliciting articles. We are open to comments, suggestions or feedback!

Tati Howell, Bulletin Editor
bulletin@imstat.org
May 2022

ACTIVITY REPORT: ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS IN PROBABILITY May 30th, 2022

The editorial board: AnneLaure Basdevant, Leif Doering, Alessandra Faggionato, Patrik Ferrari, Peter Friz, Paul Gassiat, Christina Goldschmidt, Patricia Gonsalves, Maria Gordina, Bénédicte Haas (EIC of EJP), Hubert Lacoin, Guenter Last, Xue-Mei Li, Paolo Dai Pra, Silke Rolles, Rongfeng Sun, Louis-Pierre Arguin, Federico Camia, Nicolas Curien, Francois Delarue, Ioana Dumitriu, Steve Evans, Nina Gantert, Soumik Pal, Nicolas Perkowski, Nathan Ross, Justin Salez, Augusto Teixeira, Cristina Toninelli, [Ioan Manolescu \(University of Fribourg\)](#) and [Jason Schweinsberg \(University of California\)](#).

In blue are the colleagues that joined the board during the last year. This was done to enhance representation in certain key areas in Probability theory. Geoffrey Grimmett as agreed with me and Bénédicte Haas earlier that he will stay on only till end of 2021.

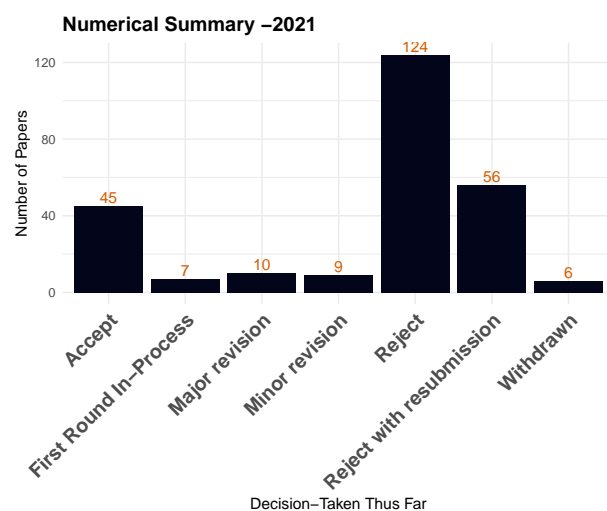
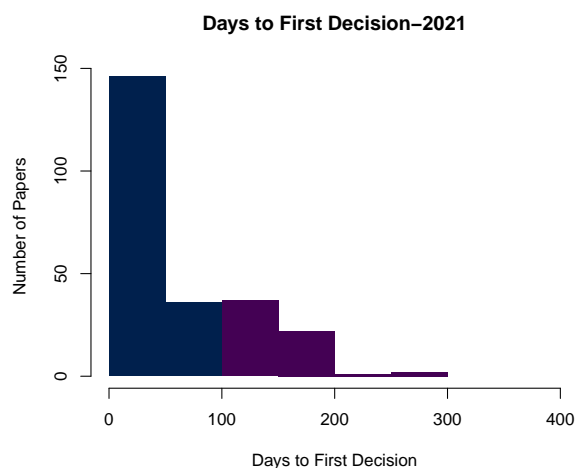
Policy concerning potential AE submissions to ECP and EJP: With Bénédicte we've decided to continue the policy adopted by Andreas Kyprianou and Giambattista Giacomini concerning the possibility for an AE to submit an article to ECP or EJP. Namely:

1. We strongly discourage AEs from submitting articles to ECP or EJP, the aim being to avoid any problem of conflict of interest and also to keep the journals good image of strong impartial objectivity.
2. However, it is not strictly forbidden since certain very specific cases may justify such a submission (e.g. when a young co-author needs such a publication). In any such case, we are more demanding and follow the convention of the previous board of requiring 3 positive referee reports.
3. To date, at ECP, 1 AE has submitted a paper since the beginning of 2021: the paper has been rejected.

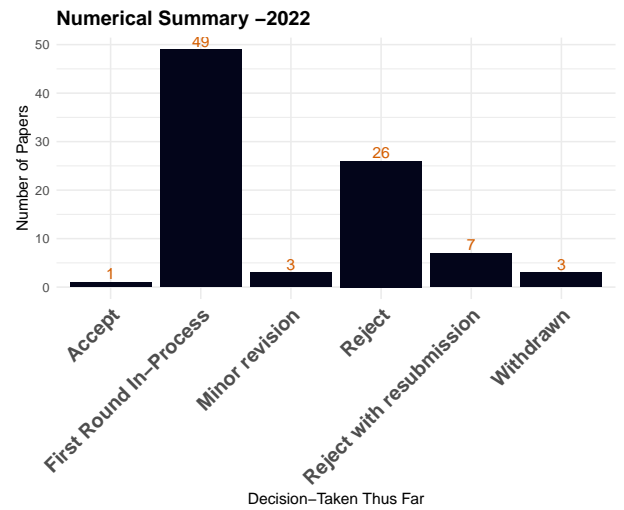
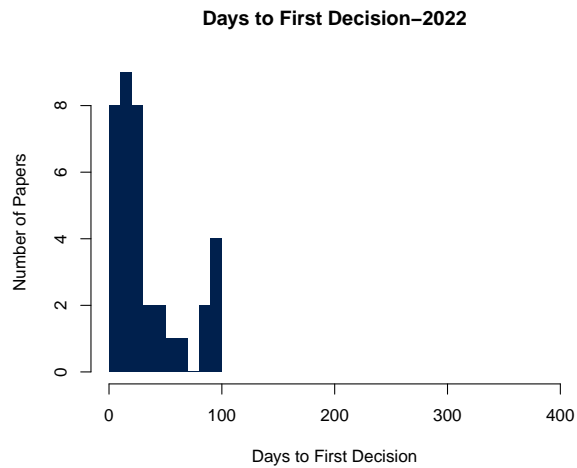
Status of papers: The number of submissions is stable: 265 in 2019, 283 in 2020, 257 in 2021, and for the first 4.5 months of 2022 we have 89 submissions (comparable to 2021).

Below are the Numerical Summaries for 2021 and 2022 (Till date).

Numerical Data Summary for 2021:



Numerical Data Summary for 2022 till 17th May 2022:



Finally, we are continuing with the standardisation of format of submission. At the Electronic Communications for Probability, for review process to begin, the entire manuscript that is submitted should be within 12 pages all inclusive in ECP-style format. This was done to maintain consistency in judgement across all submissions.

2022 Editorial report for *Electronic Journal of Probability*

Bénédicte Haas – Mai 30, 2022

Reorganization of the common board of ECP and EJP. As agreed when Siva Athreya and I started our tenure in January 2021, Geoffrey Grimmett, at his request, left the board at the end of 2021. In order to replace him and strengthen some particularly tense areas, two new colleagues have joined us: Ioan Manolescu (University of Fribourg) and Jason Schweinsberg (University of California).

In total, there are now 32 members in the board, see the table below. The female ratio is $11/32 \approx 34,4\%$.

ECP & EJP Editorial Board on May 30, 2022	
Louis-Pierre Arguin	Patricia Gonçalves
<i>Siva Athreya (EIC of ECP)</i>	Maria Gordina
Anne-Laure Basdevant	<i>Bénédicte Haas (EIC of EJP)</i>
Federico Camia	Hubert Lacoïn
Nicolas Curien	Guenter Last
Paolo Dai Pra	Xue-Mei Li
François Delarue	Ioan Manolescu
Leif Döring	Soumik Pal
Ioana Dumitriu	Nicolas Perkowski
Steve Evans	Silke Rolles
Alessandra Faggionato	Nathan Ross
Patrick Ferrari	Justin Salez
Peter Friz	Jason Schweinsberg
Nina Gantert	Rongfeng Sun
Paul Gassiat	Augusto Teixeira
Christina Goldschmidt	Cristina Toninelli

Load per AE for EJP. The average load per Associate Editor for EJP (excluding me and Siva) over the period 2021-01-01–2022-05-18 is 14,6 articles, that is a bit less than one per month. Of course, I try to balance as well as possible between each AE. There are however quite significant differences, depending on the areas, the minimum load being 7 papers and the maximum 24 over the period. I also handle full review processes myself, in addition to quick rejections.

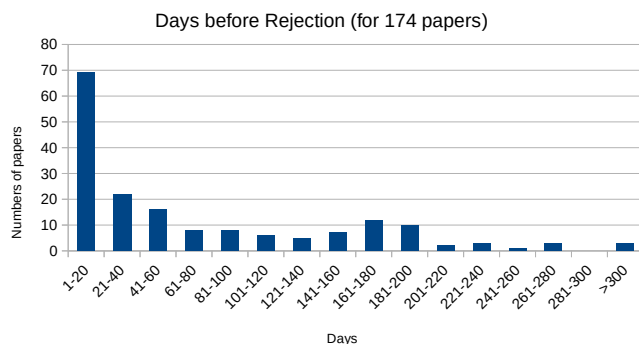
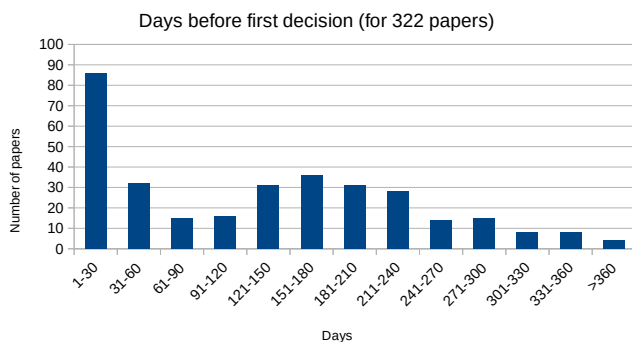
Policy concerning potential AE submissions to ECP and EJP. With Siva we've decided to continue the policy adopted by Andreas Kyprianou and Giambattista Giacomini concerning the possibility for an AE to submit an article to ECP or EJP. That is to say, we strongly discourage AEs

from submitting articles to ECP or EJP, the aim being to avoid any problem of conflict of interest and also to keep the journals good image of strong impartial objectivity. However, it is not strictly forbidden since certain very specific cases may justify such a submission (e.g. when a young co-author needs such a publication). In any such case, we are more demanding and follow the convention of the previous board of requiring 3 positive referee reports.

To date, concerning EJP, 4 AEs have submitted a paper since the beginning of 2021: 1 paper has been accepted, 2 have been rejected and 1 is under review.

Status of papers submitted between 2021-01-01 and 2021-12-31, on May 18, 2022:

Submitted	389
In Review	105
first round	58
second round	24
third+ round	23
Accepted	78
Rejected	174
Reject with resubmission	23
Withdrawn	9



Average days before first decision (for 322=389-9-58 papers): 130

Average days before rejection (for 174 papers): 73

Estimate of acceptance rate. Reading previous EJP reports, I see that the way the acceptance rates are estimated varies between the authors of the reports. One way is to only consider papers for which a final decision has already been made. This gives here: $78/(78 + 174 + 23) \approx 28,4\%$. The other is to assume that the papers in second or third+ round are very likely to be accepted, which gives here $(78 + 47)/(78 + 47 + 174 + 23) \approx 38,8\%$.

This is rather in line with the estimates of acceptance rates we can get from the data in Andreas

Kyprianou's reports or the data for 2020 I got from Geri Mattson but seems a bit above those from Bryan Rider's reports. Of course there is a significant noise due to papers still under review. It would be interesting to have the data for each year once a final decision has been made for all papers submitted that year.

Finally, I note that the total number of submissions in 2021 is quite lower than that of 2020: 380 vs 431 (disgarding the withdrawn papers).

Status of papers submitted between 2022-01-01 and 2022-05-18:

Submitted	134
In Review	97
first round	97
second round	0
Accepted	0
Rejected	32
Reject with resubmission	0
Withdrawn	5

It is too early to extract further statistics.

Report about Electronic Journal of Statistics

Grace Y. Yi and Gang Li
Co-Editors-in-Chief (2022-2024)

May 25, 2022

Editorship Transition

Domenico Marinucci completed his second term as the Editor-in-Chief (EiC) of *The Electronic Journal of Statistics* (EJS) on 31 December 2021. Grace Yi and Gang Li began their term as the co-Editors-in-Chief of EJS on 1 January 2022. Domenico Marinucci agreed to continue to manage manuscripts submitted prior to 1 January 2022 that are pending decisions. Grace Yi and Gang Li handle submissions coming as of 1 January 2022. The two new Co-Editors-in-Chief and the former EiC also co-ordinate to decide how to handle special cases or issues that may be pertinent to the editorship transition.

Executive Summary

At the beginning of 2022, the Co-Editors-in-Chief formed an Editorial Board consisting of Associate Editors whose expertise covers a wide spectrum of the areas in line with the scope of EJS. While we have no way to guide authors on where to submit their research findings, we can do our best to make EJS attractive by providing timely feedback on submissions and good-quality review reports. The Editorial Board strives to continue to promote EJS to be an attractive platform for authors to publish their fine work.

In regular situations, the Co-Editors-in-Chief handle submissions in an alternating way by rotating manuscript IDs (such as even or odd ending digits). Should a potential conflict of interest may arise (such as submissions coming from a colleague or close collaborator, etc.), the submission will be sent to the other Co-EiC to handle.

To speed up the review process, the Co-Editors-in-Chief are expected to have 1 week to decide whether to send the submission to an Associate Editor (AE) for further review, and AEs are expected to have 2 weeks to decide whether to send submissions to referees for further review.

Review Summary

This report summarizes the review information for the following periods:

- (i) 1 July – 31 December 31 of 2021 (with EiC Domenico Marinucci)
- (ii) 1 January – 17 May of 2022 (with co-EiC Grace Y. Yi and Gang Li)

1 July – 31 December of 2021

EJS received **255 submissions** during the period of July 1 – December 31, 2021. As of the date of preparing this report, **137** submissions have been rejected, a reject-resubmit decision was made for **23** submissions, **35** manuscripts were invited for a major revision, **13** articles were invited for a minor revision, and **28** manuscripts have been accepted. Two submissions were withdrawn from the authors, and the remaining **17** papers are still under review and waiting for a first decision.

Based on the data in this period, the rejection rate is loosely estimated to be equal to or higher than $(137+23)/255=160/255=$ **62.74%**.

For all those submissions receiving the feedback from the former EiC, the review time statistics (in days) for reaching the first decision are:

Average:	63.8
First Quartile:	3.0
Median:	61.5
Third Quartile:	110.0

1 January – 17 May of 2022

EJS received **171** submissions for the period of 1 January – 17 May of 2022. As of the date of preparing this report, **71** submissions have been rejected, a reject-resubmit decision was made for **4** submissions, **3** manuscripts were invited for a major revision, and **93** are still under review and waiting for a first decision.

Based on the data in this period, the rejection rate is loosely estimated to be (a lot) higher than $(71+4)/171=71/255=$ **43.86%**.

For all those submissions receiving the feedback from a co-EiC, the review time statistics (in days) for reaching the first decision are:

Average:	17.2
First Quartile:	3.0
Median:	5.0
Third Quartile:	9.0

Please be noted that the statistics for this period are incomparable to those in the previous period, because the majority of the submissions during 1 January – 17 May of 2022 are still under review either with AEs or referees. The statistics for this period pretty much reflect the processing time related to desk rejection from the co-Editors-in-Chief and rejection based on the recommendation from Associate Editors.

Summary of Yearly Publications

The following table lists the number of published pages and the number of manuscripts by calendar year since 2010 (Starting in 2014, the annual volume has been split into two issues).

Year	Number of Pages	Number of Articles
2010	1546	56
2011	2030	70
2012	2626	98
2013	3169	113
2014	3192	137
2015	3195	108
2016	4009	129
2017	5451	162
2018	4740	136
2019	5453	138
2020	4551	126
2021	3427	85

Associate Editors of 2022-2024 (In Alphabetical Order)

Christophe Andrieu
Boaz Nadler
Ery Arias-Castro
Richard Nickl
Alexander Aue
Jianxin Pan
Fadoua Balabdaoui-Mohr
Debashis Paul
Moulinath Banerjee
Giovanni Peccati
Alessandra Brazzale
Emilio Porcu
Jiahua Chen
Annie (Peiyong) Qu
Charles R. Doss
Bruno Rémillard
Chao Gao
Adam J. Rothman
Yulia Gel
Judith Rousseau
Debashis Ghosh
Vivekananda Roy
Malka Gorfine
Armin Schwartzman
Kengo Kato
Johan Segers
Tracy Ke

Xinyuang Song
Edward H. Kennedy
Yanqing Sun
Jae-Kwang Kim
Boxin Tang
Rafal Kulik
Mahmoud Torabi
Victor Hugo Lachos Davila
Alexandre Tsybakov
Nicole Lazar
Ingrid Van Keilegom
Runze Li
Stanislav Volgushev
Antonio Lijoi
Marten Wegkamp
Miles E. Lopes
Ying Nian Wu
Wenbin Lu
Yingcun Xia
Yanyuan Ma
Min-ge Xie
Yuzo Maruyama
Donglin Zeng
Sayan Mukherjee
Zhengjun Zhang
Axel Munk
Yichuan Zhao

Acknowledgements

We wish to express our gratitude to Domenico Marinucci for his valuable advice and generous support during the transition period. We extend our sincere thanks to Elyse Gustafson and Geri Mattson for their continuing support and assistance. Most notably, we are very grateful to all the Associate Editors for contributing their valuable expertise and precious time which are essential for promoting the journal. We would also like to take this note to thank all the referees for their support of the journal and the EJS authors for taking the journal as a platform to publish their research.

Expectations and Information for 2022-2024 EJS Editorial Board

Grace Y. Yi (University of Western Ontario)
Gang Li (UCLA)
Co- Editors-in-Chief (2022-2024)

January 8, 2022

Dear EJS Associate Editors (AEs):

Happy new year!

Welcome aboard. Thank you all for agreeing to join the editorial board of The Electronic Journal of Statistics (EJS) for the term we act as the Co-Editors-in-Chief (2022-2024). We appreciate your willingness of contributing your valuable expertise and time to look after the journal in the next few years. We are pleased that the journal is in capable hands.

Below please find some quick information about the journal and the expectations of handling submissions. It is well understood that the review time varies from case to case and that you are all busy with various commitments. Trying to stick to the outlined timelines may help us stay on track and speed up the review process. We look forward to working with you in the coming years.

Goals of Editorial Board:

While we have no way to guide authors on where to submit their research findings, we can do our best to make EJS attractive by providing:

- timely feedback on submissions
- good quality of review reports

Manuscript Assignments:

The Co-Editors-in-Chief will handle submissions in an alternating way, each handling submissions all with an even (or odd) manuscript ID. The Co-Editors-in-Chief are expected to have **1 week** to decide whether to send the submission to an AE for further review.

Timelines for AEs to Handle Manuscripts:

You have **2 weeks** to decide whether or not to send the manuscript to referees for further review:

- If you decide to reject the manuscript without further review, then you have another **2 weeks** to prepare an assessment report (say, 1-2 pages in length).
- If you assess that the manuscript is potentially publishable, then you will have about **8 weeks** to complete the review of the manuscript.
 - Normally, 2 referees will be solicited and **6 weeks** are reserved for them to complete their reports. You will have another **2 weeks** to craft your recommendation report (e.g., rejection, revision, reject-and-resubmit, etc.).
 - If you decide to review the manuscript, you may solicit either 1 or 2 referees, and get the final reports ready within 8 weeks.
 - In the event that an agreed referee fails to submit his/her report by the given time and does not respond to your emails, you need to take swift action to make sure the manuscript will receive a timely review (for instance, you can act as a referee to provide a timely review, together with another report from a referee).
 - In the event that two referees both fail to submit their reports and stay silent “forever” (hopefully this would happen with probability 0), please act immediately to find a new referee who can review the manuscript quickly (say, within 2-4 weeks), and you can also act as a referee to catch up on those wasted 6 weeks. Meanwhile, please notify the Co-Editor-in-Chief who assigns you the manuscript.

WEEK 1 2									
AE's initial assessment	NO further review	WEEK 3 4							
		AE prepares a report							
	YES for further review	WEEK 3 4 5 6 7 8	WEEK 9 10						
		Referees review the manuscript						AE completes review reports	

Distribution of Expected Review Times

Expectations from Your Report as AE:

Your AE report will be very helpful for the Co-Editor-in-Chief (who assigns you the manuscript) to make a decision. Please prepare your report to the author(s) as detailed as you wish (e.g., including your overall assessment and general opinions, together with itemized technical suggestions, comments, or criticisms, etc., for improvement). But please do not include an explicit recommendation about acceptance, revision, or rejection in your narrative evaluation; such a recommendation is expected to be merely shared with the Co-Editor-in-Chief.

We perceive our valuable editorial board members from three perspectives:

we are **gatekeepers**, **mentors**, and **readers**.

As a gatekeeper, you need to make a judgement of several aspects:

- Is the topic of the manuscript appropriate for EJS readers?
- Does the manuscript make a significant scientific contribution to the field?
- If you suspect plagiarism, fraud or have other ethical concerns, please raise your suspicions and provide details if possible.

As a mentor, you may read a potentially publishable manuscript from a different angle:

- Are there flaws or even errors in the manuscript?
- Are the problems fixable?
- What are your suggestions to fix the flaws/errors or guide the authors to correct them?

As a reader, you might be more concerned about other aspects of a published article, such as

- Is the article easy to follow?
- How would the manuscript be improved for its readability?
- Are the key messages clearly, logically and efficiently conveyed?
- Is the work professionally presented?

Finally, you might want to put yourself in the author's shoes, asking "what kind of review reports I'd like to receive if I were the author of this manuscript?"

Authors may have a great deal of variability in terms of research experiences. The manuscript you handle may be written by a fresh Ph.D. student, a junior faculty, a middle career researcher, a senior colleague, or a mix of them. Providing constructive and courteous comments is more appreciated by the authors than purely presenting bitter and judgemental criticisms. For example, it would be helpful if you elaborate on your critical judgements so that the authors can understand the reasoning behind your comments. Providing insights into any deficiencies would be useful.

When preparing your report, it is often helpful to separate key issues from minor points, with the major concerns placed first. Since EJS has no copy editors to help the authors prepare a final publication version, **you are strongly advised to offer editorial comments and suggestions** to the authors whose manuscripts or revisions are deemed to be accepted. Please offer specific editorial comments and suggestions about the layout of the work, including *Title, Abstract, Introduction, Method, Tables, Figures, Conclusion/Discussion, and References*, etc.

Manuscript Assessment:

- EJS publishes research articles and short notes on theoretical, computational and applied statistics. The journal is open access. Articles are refereed and are held to the same standard as articles in other IMS journals. **Articles become publicly available shortly after they are accepted.** EJS is sponsored by the Institute of Mathematical Statistics and by the Bernoulli Society.
- The levels of innovation and impact are key in the evaluation of submitted manuscripts. Papers should be written in the same style as in typical statistical journals such as *The Annals of Statistics* or *The Journal of the American Statistical Association*. Papers should start with an accessible introduction to a diverse audience and make a compelling case that an important problem is being tackled. Papers developing new methods are typically expected to include real-data examples and simulation studies, as a route to establishing relevance and applicability. Appendices should be used for technical arguments so that the main body of the paper is easy to follow.

Additional Points:

- Upon acceptance of the manuscript, the authors are encouraged to submit the following material which will be posted on Statlib.
 - computer codes or executable computer programs used to perform the numerical studies reported in the manuscript
 - datasets used in the manuscript, unless prohibited by confidentiality requirements

- It is understood that all the materials you receive are confidential documents that cannot be shared with people who are not involved with the review process. Since peer review is confidential, information about the review should not be shared with irrelevant parties.
- Your suggestions and thoughts on EJS are very welcome at any time. We can be reached by email:

yyi@stats.uwo.ca (Grace Y. Yi)

gangli@ph.ucla.edu (Gang Li)

About EJS submissions:

- A single-blind refereeing system is used: the identity of the AE and referees is not communicated to the authors.
- Submission of a paper to EJS implies that its contents constitute original work not previously published and that the paper is not being considered elsewhere for publication.
- The Electronic Journal of Statistics publishes original work in the theory and applications of statistics. Manuscripts must be submitted in English.

Information About EJS:

- EJMS Technical Assistance:

Geri Mattson
Mattson Publishing Services
mattsonpublishingservices@comcast.net

- The public information of EJS can be found at the link:
<https://imstat.org/journals-and-publications/electronic-journal-of-statistics/>



Elyse Gustafson <imstat@gmail.com>

Greetings, Final Report and Thanks

Domenico Marinucci <marinucc@axp.mat.uniroma2.it>

Thu, Dec 23, 2021 at 3:41 AM

To: marinucc <marinucc@axp.mat.uniroma2.it>

To:

Geri Mattson and Elyse Gustafson

IMS Presidents

New Editors in Chief

Members of the EJS Editorial Board 2016-2021

Dear All

Best Season's Greetings and Happy New Year!

As you know, after six years my term as Editor in Chief of the Electronic Journal of Statistics is going to finish next week. As a final report, let me mention that over 6 years we handled a total of 2923 papers, compared to 1920 in the previous 6 years 2010-2015; out of these papers 753 were accepted (655 in 2010-2015), 122 are currently with associate editors and referees, whereas for 59 we are waiting for a revision; all the others have been rejected (113 have been withdrawn by the authors).

Overall, it has been a very interesting and rewarding job, and I am writing to thank you all about that. In particular, I am grateful to Geri Mattson and Elyse Gustafson for their essential support, to the IMS for giving me this wonderful opportunity, to Grace Yi and Gang Li for accepting to take on the task as the new Co-Editors in Chief, and especially to all members of the editorial board in these 6 years for their enormous efforts: it has been really a great pleasure to work with you.

I hope you don't mind if I close with a quote by the Latin poet Horatius; maybe it will sound too pompous or emphatic, but I find it beautiful and it seems to me suitable for this kind of occasions.

Happy and masters of themselves are those
That day by day are able to say:
"We lived; tomorrow the sky may be covered by dark clouds
Or may be shining under a bright sun
However this will not make useless

Whatever is behind us
Nor it will cancel and get undone
What the running hours have once delivered”.

(Horatius, Odi, III, 29)

Happy New Year and many thanks again, Domenico

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Domenico Marinucci
Dipartimento di Matematica
Università di Roma Tor Vergata
<https://www.mat.uniroma2.it/~marinucc/>
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Report on Probability Surveys 2022

Ben Hambly - Editor-in-Chief from 1st January 2015 until 31st December 2020.

Mikhail Lifshits - Editor-in-Chief since 1st January 2021.

Probability Surveys has a valuable role to play for the probability community providing well written articles on topics that are in need of consolidation or summary at points in their development. Probability Surveys publishes survey articles covering any aspects of probability theory, its applications and its interactions with related fields. Any survey format is welcome (short and long, without proofs or with some proofs) as long as the article conveys a substantial amount of information about an interesting subject in an accessible way and with respect for the existing knowledge and literature in the area.

Over the last 5 years the journal has published:

volume 14 (2017) 5 Surveys and 327 pages;

volume 15 (2018) 6 Surveys and 306 pages;

volume 16 (2019) 6 Surveys and 332 pages;

volume 17 (2020) 7 Surveys and 753 pages.

volume 18 (2021) 7 Surveys and 275 pages.

As of May 14, 2022 in the current

volume 19 (2022) 9 Surveys and 449 pages are published.

There are currently 13 Surveys at various stages of the editorial process. The current acceptance rate for papers is around 60%. All rejections correspond to research articles, not being the surveys.

A new journal management system EJMS has been implemented in January 2021. At the moment, both the old and the new system still work simultaneously, managed by the current, resp. past, Editor-in-Chief. (There are still about 4 unpublished manuscripts submitted in 2019-2020)

In the past the journal has provided the probability community with useful overviews of a range of areas within the field. However, the number of submissions in recent years has been insufficient. The current editorial policy aims to increase (say, to double) the annual number of published surveys through a more active approach including direct inviting potential authors. At the moment, one invited paper is published and two others are under review.

Another editor's goal is to reduce the cycle from submission to publication and render it in the average below 12 months. For the articles submitted in 2021 and already accepted/published the average cycle length is about 8 months. More representative and unbiased statistics is yet to come.

All readers of this report are also encouraged to consider submitting a survey to Probability Surveys.

Statistics Surveys, Annual Report to the Institute of Mathematical Statistics

June 3, 2022

Prepared by Wendy L. Martinez, Coordinating Editor

Statistics Surveys is sponsored by the American Statistical Association, the Bernoulli Society, the Institute of Mathematical Statistics, and by the Statistical Society of Canada. The editorial board includes one representative of each of these four societies and a coordinating editor. The board consists of: Marloes Maathuis (Institute of Mathematical Statistics), Sara van de Geer (Bernoulli Society), Ranjan Maitra (American Statistical Association), Richard A. Lockhart (Statistical Society of Canada), and Wendy L. Martinez (Coordinating Editor). It should be noted that Sara van de Geer resigned from the board in April 2022, and she needs to be replaced.

Ranjan Maitra is serving as the *Statistics Surveys* representative on the American Statistical Association Committee on Publications (CoP). He passes along any updates and issues from the CoP to the editorial board.

We did not have a meeting of the Editorial Board at the JSM 2020 or 2021. The Editors did have virtual meetings and email discussions during that time to deal with other issues. We found the meetings to be productive, and Wendy will be setting one up before JSM this year (2022) to discuss changes in the editorial board (e.g., appointing new AEs) and other issues. We have a breakfast meeting planned for JSM.

Statistics Surveys had an invited session at JSM 2021. Speakers were Cynthia Rudin of Duke University and Alfred O. Hero, III from the University of Michigan. Dr. Rudin's talk was titled "For Interpretability and Explainability in Machine Learning, Consider Applications Instead of Abstractions." She submitted a paper to *Statistics Surveys*, and it was published during this reporting period. Dr. Hero's talk was titled "Multiway Tensor Covariance Modeling." He also submitted a paper to the journal, and we are waiting for a revision.

ISSUES: In previous years, we mentioned papers that have been lingering in the journal management system. These were handled this past year, and the papers are no longer in the system. Another problem we've encountered has to do with emails that are not getting to the addressees, including the editors. The emails might be blocked from the recipient's email systems. The editors have also been discussing the need for additional (or different) AEs with expertise in random numbers, survey methodologies, data science, and other topics. Finally, we need to replace the Bernoulli editor.

SUBMISSIONS During the period January 01, 2021 – May 31, 2022, forty (40) manuscripts were submitted to the journal. This number is small when compared with other IMS journals, however this is to be expected given that the survey nature of viable papers requires such papers to be lengthier and to have been written by a smaller, select group of authors with substantial experience and strong credentials in their chosen subject areas. The editorial board has taken informal steps to increase the number of submissions, and the board has encouraged authors of potentially viable articles to revise and resubmit manuscripts.

The status of the manuscripts is as follows:

Accepted: 7

Rejected: 18

Papers in review: 8

Rejected with resubmission encouraged: 5

Withdrawn: 2

THE BOARD OF ASSOCIATE EDITORS

For most of the reporting year, the editorial board consisted of: Martin Lindquist, Daniel Commenges, Enno Mammen, Guido Consonni, John Marden, Noel Cressie, Geoff McLachlan, Rainer Dahlhaus, Hannu Oja, Anirban DasGupta, Dominique Picard, Sujay Datta, Louis-Paul Rivest, Mathisca De Gunst, Qi-Man Shao, Jianqing Fan, Xiaotong Shen, Edward I. George, Simon Tavaré, Subhashis Ghosal, Stephen B. Vardeman, Nils L. Hjort, Grace Wahba, John D. Kalbfleisch, Yuhong Yang, Claudia Klüppelberg, Donglin Zeng, Vladimir I. Koltchinskii, Cun-Hui Zhang, Jerald F. Lawless, and Jun Zhu. The editors are very grateful for their continued assistance.

EJMS

The EJMS is working well, except for the email issue. Geri Mattson and Elyse Gustafson are always quick to provide their advice and help when called upon.

Committee on Equality and Diversity Annual Report

The IMS Committee on Equality and Diversity consists of the following members: Nicole Lazar (Chair), Zach Branson, Tatyana Krivobokova, Thomas Lee, Shili Lin, Andrew Nobel, Gesine Reinert, Yan Yu.

The committee met regularly during the past year.

The major work of the committee focused on:

1. **Data Collection on Membership:** Collecting data on IMS membership remained a question of interest, with requests coming from Council to help codify efforts. This resulted in decisions to have a regular survey of all members, and to collect certain demographic information from members when they renew or join. The latter questions will be set by the committee and revised every five years. The first round of these demographic questions will be decided over summer 2022.
2. **IMS Ad-Hoc Committee on Special Lectures:** An ad-hoc committee was tasked with coming up with guidelines for the establishment, naming, and renaming of IMS special lectures and awards. Committee chair Lazar served on the ad-hoc committee.
3. **Discussions on Outreach:** Committee meetings had a strong focus on generating ideas for outreach, especially in consideration of the global membership of IMS. A proposed project is to consolidate a list of resources and activities around the world for increasing diversity in the profession. Another suggestion is for IMS to help link departments around the world who are working on DEI issues in the profession (e.g. departments are starting to create their own DEI committees and it might be helpful to have a venue for sharing ideas).
4. **Discussions on Increasing Diversity:** Through conversations, committee members concluded that IMS should think about ways of expanding its reach to: (i) younger researchers; (ii) researchers from historically underrepresented groups; and (iii) researchers outside of its traditional intellectual domains (e.g. those working in machine learning rather than traditional areas of statistics and probability). The committee suggests that IMS leadership consider ways to be more active in attracting these groups as members.

IMS New Researchers Group annual report 2022

Alexander Volfovsky

June 30, 2022

The 2021-2022 year was a step in the right direction for the New Researchers Group. We were finally able to organize some in person events as well as make larger plans for the next year (we note that the NRC and other in person events did not occur in 2021). The events this year have included:

1. Sponsoring junior researchers at the Atlantic Causal Inference Conference (May 2022),
2. Sponsoring a joint workshop for data science and management science new researchers at HBS (May 2022),
3. PLANNED: Running our annual meeting (NRC) at George Mason University (August 2022),
4. PLANNED: Sponsoring the annual Preparing to Teach Workshop at George Mason University (August 2022).

The New Researchers Group is still fully funded by the National Science Foundation, with two active awards with approximately 350,000 dollars remaining. The funds are committed to the organization of future New Researchers Conferences. This is also a transition year for group: Pragya Sur of Harvard will become the new president after JSM 2022, while Alexander Volfovsky of Duke will transition to a past-president role. NRG Treasurer Simon Mak of Duke will continue administering the main grant for the group.

IMS Committee on Publications

Chair's Report 2022

Committee Members:

Masha Gordina (chair)

Tilman Gneiting

Bodhisattva Sen

Kavita Ramanan (ex officio)

Qi-Man Shao (ex officio)

Christophe Garban (ex officio)

Alice Guionnet (ex officio)

Ji Zhu (ex officio)

Enno Mammen (ex officio)

Lan Wang (ex officio)

Sonia Petrone (ex officio)

Robert Keener (ex officio)

Zhengjun Zhang (ex officio)

September 2021: the committee considered the following request.

It was brought to our attention, by the IMS Treasurer Zhengjun, the recent unexpected substantial increase of publication costs due to the charges by the publisher, for their typesetting of submissions which did not follow the IMS journal templates. To help the IMS avoid such unnecessary publication costs, we kindly request that you please 1) convey the above information to the publication committee members, and 2) have the committee consider requiring usage of the templates for submissions on all journals.

The committee considered the request and after some deliberations came up with the following recommendations (supported by the whole committee).

1. The IMS committee on publications and IMS journals' editors recommend that all IMS journals require the corresponding author to submit the manuscript using the relevant style files when the accepted manuscript is sent to the publisher.

2. The IMS committee on publications and IMS journals' editors recommend that the instructions at <https://www.e-publications.org/ims/support/ims-instructions.html> are re-written to make them more user-friendly.

3. The IMS committee on publications and IMS journals' editors recommend to reach an agreement with the publisher to ensure that they never accept manuscripts submitted not in the journal style.

January 2022: the committee was asked to review the open-access journals supported by the IMS without necessarily reaching a formal decision.

Some open-access journals supported (partly) by the IMS have extremely low publication rates. In some cases, they published one or two articles per year.

The committee requested and reviewed data on these journals (number of publications, level of support by the IMS etc). While there was a concern that the IMS might be supporting extremely low-quality publications, the committee felt that all these journals provide valuable service to the community, and therefore should be supported by the IMS.

March 2022: as the chair of committee I was contacted (among a number of other people) by an author concerning an alleged improper attribution in one of the journals. This matter was not discussed by the committee as this should be dealt with by the most appropriate entity as it might involve confidential information. The journal in question was an official Publication of the American Statistical Association (ASA), it seems that the IMS Committee on Publications is not appropriate for the matter at hand. The person who raised the issue was informed that the committee charge is described as follows.

The Publications Committee is responsible for determining general policy for all publications of the Institute. The Editors of the official journals are ex-officio members.

The question was not a question of general policy, and therefore the committee was not involved at the end.