

July 25, 2023

## Annals of Applied Probability Report.

### Editors-in-Chief:

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

In the following, we summarize the board composition, a summary of our editorial process, and modes of communication, comments on potential improvements to the EJMS system, and finally the submission data and our concern about backlog at AAP, for which we solicit input from the Council.

### Board Composition (as of June 15, 2023)

There are a total of 30 members, including 7 board members that were appointed in 2022 (in bold below). We may have two board members (including E. Gobet) leaving at the end of the summer, due to other work commitments. We plan to appoint roughly 2-4 more members at that time, to have better representation in all senses, including topics, as well as to make sure workload remains reasonable for each AE. Even with this addition, the total number of AEs will remain roughly the same as it is when we took over.

Name	Institution	Country
<a href="#">Pauline Barrieu</a>	The London School of Economics and Political Science	UK
<a href="#">Mathias Beiglboeck</a>	University of Vienna	Austria
<b>Bhaswar Bhattacharya</b>	University of Pennsylvania	U.S.
<a href="#">Anup Biswas</a>	IISER Pune	India
<a href="#">Jochen Blath</a>	Goethe University Frankfurt	Germany
<a href="#">Francesco Caravenna</a>	University of Milano-Bicocca	Italy
<b>Sourav Chatterjee</b>	Stanford University	U.S.
<b>Wei-Kuo Chen</b>	University of Minnesota	U.S.
<a href="#">Pierre Del Moral</a>	INRIA	France
<a href="#">Jian Ding</a>	Peking University	China
<a href="#">Stefan Gerhold</a>	Vienna University of Technology	Austria
<a href="#">Emmanuel Gobet</a>	École Polytechnique	France
<a href="#">Patrícia Gonçalves</a>	Instituto Superior Technico	Portugal
<a href="#">Ajay Jasra</a>	King Abdullah University of Science and Technology	Saudi Arabia
<a href="#">Arnulf Jentzen</a>	The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Shenzhen University of Münster	China Germany
<b>Bingyi Jing</b>	Southern University of Science and Technology	China
<a href="#">Antti Knowles</a>	University of Geneva	Switzerland
<a href="#">Johannes Muhle-Karbe</a>	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	Carnegie Mellon 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

**Editorial Process:** The system with two editors works well, with the other editor handling the paper whenever there is an (apparent) Col, or potential for bias. We have roughly one online meeting per week, pre-screening all the new submissions, assigning ownership of papers amongst ourselves and discussing previous assignments or decisions, and checking to make sure that everything is being processed in a timely fashion. For any paper that we think definitely does not meet the standards of AAP, we make a desk rejection, sometimes after a quick confirmation from an AE or other expert, to guard against unconscious biases. For those papers that we think worthy of 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 (if the feedback is negative) or assign the paper to an AE for full review, passing on the preliminary opinions. So far, roughly 30% of the papers have been subject to a quick (desk) rejection, and the others go through a more in-depth review process. This process works well and quite efficiently. We take into account not only topic, but the workloads of different AEs, when assigning papers to them. It is very useful that the EJMS system makes the cumulative workload of AEs from all editors visible to us.

**Communication:** We modified the wording in letters sent out to evaluators and reviewers via the EJMS system. Specifically, we included the editorial policy in the letter to reviewers and evaluators, so they can be aware of it and explicitly request them to address relevant criteria in their feedback.

We carefully read reports before making a final decision, to both ensure that all reviews have adequate and pertinent content to support any decision and also to check that they are politely and constructively worded. We have also conveyed this expectation to AEs. We also try to avoid simply saying some paper does not “meet the high standards” without providing some reason why that is the case – so that decisions do not appear arbitrary.

We send regular reminders and follow-ups to AEs as needed (to some more than others), to make sure reviews are sought in a timely fashion and to keep turnover times reasonable. Although the system sends regular reminders, it seems that the additional e-mail from us is necessary, especially for some AEs, to keep things on track. This is a very time-consuming, but apparently crucial, role of the editors.

#### **Board Meetings and Fairness Issues:**

We called two (virtual) board meetings, in February 2022, and October 2022. We plan to call another board meeting in September, 2023. At the last board meeting, we discussed several issues including the need for high-quality reviews and meaningful evaluations, fairness in reviewing procedures and unbiased evaluations, Cols, what makes a paper suitable for AAP (say, as opposed to AoP) and possible ways to achieve our goals for turnover times. We also shared documents on how to try to guard against unconscious biases and achieve fairness in reviewing procedures.

**EJMS system:** The system is quite good, but we have made some requests/suggestions (more than 6 months ago) for improving the EJMS system further – if at all feasible. These have not yet been implemented.

- i) Editors cannot add new evaluators into the system, like they can do for reviewers. So, if one wants to solicit the opinion of an evaluator who is not already in the system, one has to do it either outside the system or invite them as reviewers instead.
- ii) When one lists all papers currently under evaluation (as opposed to those undergoing full-fledged review or awaiting processing), it does not allow one to down-select to see the evaluations being handled by a specific editor. One can do this for those awaiting decision, but not for those under evaluation. Adding this feature would make it easier for individual editors (since there are sometimes four working simultaneously, the two former and two current editors) to follow up on their evaluations.
- iii) If an evaluator wants to send a more detailed report that requires uploading a file, they cannot attach it directly, like one can do for reviews. They instead have to send it outside the system directly to our work e-mails, and then we have to upload it for the AE or author to see.

#### **Submission Data:**

Below are some relevant statistics of papers submitted to the journal

*Jan 1--June 30, 2023*

202: Total number of submissions

002: Total number of withdrawals

067: Total number of rejects by June 30, 2023

002: Rejects with resubmission by June 30, 2023

000: Total number of accepts by June 30, 2023

131: Those still being processed (including revisions)

*Jan 1--Dec 31, 2022:*

403: Total number of submissions  
006: Number of withdrawals  
234: Number of rejects by June 30, 2023  
019: Rejects with resubmission by June 30, 2023  
050: Number accepted by June 30, 2023  
094: Those still being processed (including revisions, etc.)

We also include the statistics for 2021 and 2020, which was handled by the previous editors:

*Jan 1--Dec 31, 2021:*

400: Total number of submissions  
007: Number of withdrawals  
224: Number of rejects by June 30, 2023  
032: Rejects with resubmission by June 30, 2023  
122: Number accepted by June 30, 2023  
015: Still being processed on June 30, 2023

*Jan 1--Dec 31, 2020*

448: Total number of submissions,  
244: Number of rejects by June 30, 2023  
016: Number of withdrawals  
038: Rejects with resubmission by June 30, 2023  
138: Number accepted by June 30, 2023  
12: Still being processed

As additional comparison, consider the total # of papers submitted in a selection of past years:

2019 – 416  
2016 - 373  
2015 - 369  
2014 - 332  
2013 – 332  
2012 – 310  
2011 – 326  
2010 – 295

Thus, there seems to have been a steady increase in submissions, with a more than 10% increase in submissions from 2010 to 2013 and again from 2014 to 2015 and again from 2016 to 2019, which has stayed steadily above 400 since.

**Backlog:** Even for journals (like AAP) that publish future accepted papers online soon after acceptance, it is highly unattractive to authors to have to wait a very long period before their paper appears in “print” since papers to appear are not always treated in the same manner as papers in print for various evaluation purposes, and also have a serious citation

disadvantage. This is a particularly sensitive issue for junior authors, but is not restricted to them. Thus, we feel the premier journal of the field should not have a significant backlog.

We realized a few months after taking over that we inherited a *significant backlog* of papers. Thus, in May 2023, we requested a page increase and the IMS was kind enough to allow a roughly 100 page increase in each volume, starting from June 2022 issue, so that each is to roughly 850 pages (the August 2023 issue had 827 pages). However, even with that page increase, we were told that the estimated backlog at the time would be 5 issues (that is, a person whose paper was accepted in June 2022 would have to wait almost a year before their article is published in the journal). It appears that the backlog has been caused both by an increase in the number of submissions and possibly an increase in the percentage of accepted papers in years prior to our taking over. For example, the information we have indicates that the anticipated 2020 and 2021 acceptance rate ranges are 30.5%—34%  
acceptance rate = papers accepted/total submitted  
and this is ignoring the RWR decisions and withdrawn  
Whereas in 2013, it was approximately 26%

There are currently 115 papers (!) online listed as already accepted that are due to appear in a subsequent volume (this is after appearance of the August 2023 volume), in contrast to 19 papers for the Annals of Probability (post the appearance of the July 2023 volume).

We were not given any guidelines when we took over in terms of acceptance rates etc., but on examining this backlog and historical figures, we feel our goal in the future should be to definitely bring the acceptance rate down quite a bit below 30% and possibly lower than even 25%. We may also need to consider printing a special issue this year. While this could serve as an intermediate stop-gap measure, a longer-term strategy has to be developed to keep backlogs at a steady-state level given the (apparent) steady-state 10% increase in submissions when compared to 2016. What do we think is a reasonable backlog to have? What is the stop-gap strategy to bring the backlog down to that level in the short-term? And how does the IMS want to achieve keeping the backlog at that steady-state -- with an even more stringent average acceptance rate or by increasing the steady-state page count, or a combination?

We will have to make a decision on this soon, so any feedback/thoughts from the Council on this matter would be welcome. Accordingly, we will convey revised guidelines to AEs at the earliest. Also, it would perhaps be best for such guidelines to be communicated to new Editors as soon as they take over the journal, so there is no delay in implementation.

# Annals of Applied Statistics

## Annual Report for Calendar Year 2022

Ji Zhu, Editor-in-Chief

The year of 2022 marked the sixteenth full year of operation for the Annals of Applied Statistics (AOAS) and my first year as Editor-in-Chief. The term of Beth Ann Griffin as Area Editor ended on December 31, 2022. I seize this opportunity to express my gratitude for her dedicated efforts and significant contributions to AOAS throughout the years. I am delighted to report that Fan Li of Duke University joined our Editorial Board in January 2023. The current composition of our board is as follows:

Ji Zhu	Editor-in-Chief
Fan Li	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, assisted by an outstanding board of Associate Editors, continue to oversee the bulk of the manuscript review, ensuring the high quality of the papers we publish.

In 2022 we received 486 submissions, a notable decrease compared to the record 636 submissions in the previous year. This number also falls short of the counts from the pre-pandemic period (e.g., 512 in 2018 and 540 in 2019). The individual monthly submissions over the twelve months in 2022 are 45, 35, 54, 42, 31, 53, 29, 35, 38, 42, 43, and 39 respectively. There is no observable pattern, and it remains unclear what caused the overall drop in the submission count. One possibility could be that in 2021, the previous Editor-in-Chief withdrew a large number of submissions (193 out of 636), and some of these withdrawn papers were resubmitted and counted as new submissions. We will keep monitoring the submission numbers and further investigate the situation in the coming months.

Of the 486 submissions in 2022, 65 have been accepted for publication to date, 55 are under revision, 355 have been rejected, rejected with re-submission, or withdrawn, and 11 are still awaiting an editorial decision. Our acceptance rate continues to hover around 20%. About 14% of the 2022 submissions received their first editorial response within one month, 38% within three months, and 81% within six months. Detailed review times to initial decision for the past five years are shown in Table 1. The overall review time to initial decision does not meet my expectation. A contributing factor to this delay is that I did not withdraw as many submissions as the previous Editor-in-Chief (18 out of 486 vs 193 out of 636). The percentage of submissions taking more than 3 months is also higher than in previous years.

The journal's impact factor has fluctuated between 1.43 and 2.24 over the past ten years. The current impact factor stands at 1.96, as per

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

Table 1: Review Time to Initial Decision

Days to First Decision	$\leq 7$	8-30	31-90	91-180	$\geq 181$	Total
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
2022	10 2%	59 12%	115 24%	212 44%	90 19%	486

A number of our longstanding and dependable Associate Editors have requested “retirement”, and we have been recruiting replacements as required. We welcome suggestions for potential AEs, especially those who are familiar with AOAS as previous authors and referees. My primary objective for 2023 and beyond is to substantially reduce our times to first decision, especially lowering the percentage of submissions that take 3 or more months for review.

I am tremendously grateful to Elyse Gustafson and Geri Mattson for their exceptional support of our day-to-day operations. Both have been prompt and helpful in handling all of our inquiries, as well as in preparing the data file used for this report.

## Annals of Probability: Editor's report for 2022

Prepared by Christophe Garban and Alice Guionnet.

In the period from January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2022, the Annals of Probability received 261 submissions. (N.B. We received 275 in 2021).

As of July 20, 2023, of these submissions:

- 177 have been rejected (including 4 withdrawn papers)
  - 33 have been accepted (+1 erratum « accepted »)
  - 29 Are now in minor/major revision status (most in second round of review).
- We expect almost all of these to be accepted (at least 27).
- 22 Are still under review (we anticipate 60% acceptance for these submissions).

This would then lead to a 28 % acceptance rate.

(N.B. In 2021, we accepted 54 papers, and 12 are still under review/revision, which is suggesting a final 24% acceptance rate for 2021 as planned last year).

The Annals of Probability published around 2500 pages in 2022 (instead of 2400 as planned), and should publish 2400 pages in 2023 (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).

As of July 20, 2023, including 51(5) we have done 1991 pages in 2023 which leaves us with about 410 pages for 51(6) to stay withing the page budget of 2400 pages. This is approximately the current backlog we have.

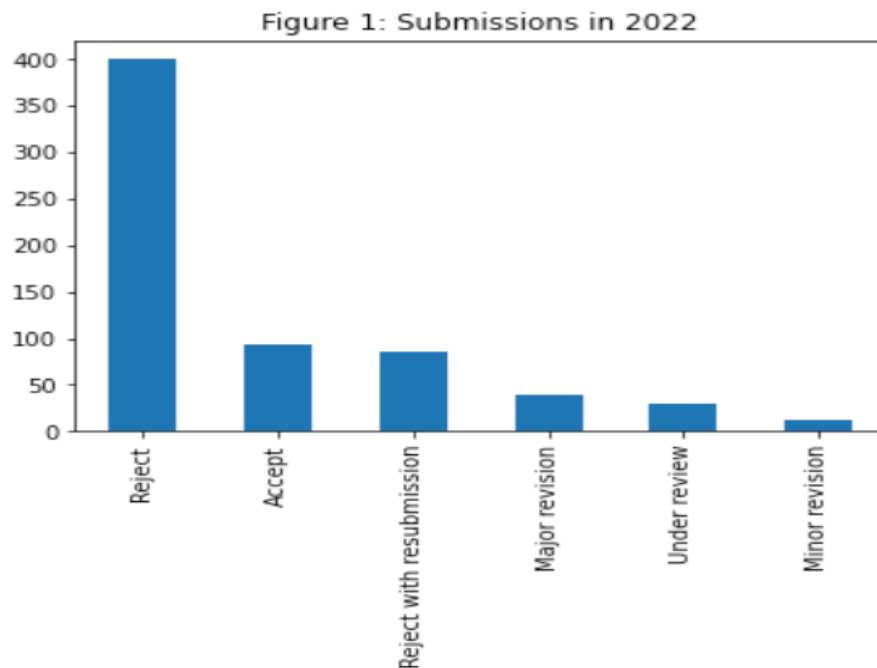
Since our backlog at AOP is not very big (though better than last year), for the following years, including 2023, it would be great we believe to stick to 2400 pages/year as initially planned (plus/minus a few pages of margin of course).



## The Annals of Statistics, 2022 Annual Report

Enno Mammen and Lan Wang, Editors

**SUBMISSIONS:** We received 661 submissions in 2022. For comparison, the number of submissions in the years 2011–2021 was 502, 555, 607, 697, 694, 718, 686, 637, 694, 754, and 658, respectively. In addition, we handled 64 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.



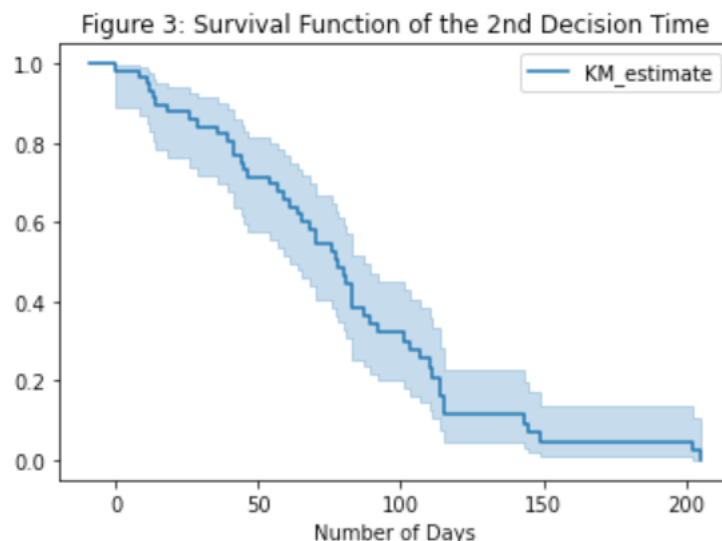
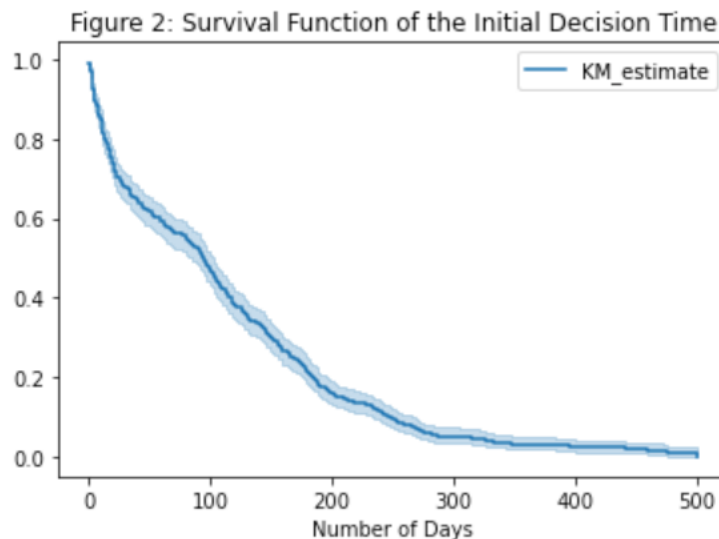
**ACCEPTANCE RATE:** For papers submitted during 2022, we have to date (to June 2022) accepted 94, rejected 400, and rejected 86 with the possibility to resubmit. Currently, 81 submissions are still under review or revision. The acceptance rate is 14.22% by the end of June. In comparison, the acceptance rate last year was 6.01% (to May) and 9.12% in 2020 (to July). Note that, since some papers are still under review, this is not the final acceptance rate among the manuscripts submitted in 2022.

## BACKLOG AND PAGE REQUEST: BACKLOG AND PAGE REQUEST:

In 2022 AOS published 3676 pages (3650 pages in 2021, 3720 pages in 2020, 3608 pages in 2019, 3866 pages in 2018, 2763 pages in 2017, 2779 pages in 2016, 2794 pages in 2015). 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 331 pages in proofs and 734 pages in production (not in proofs yet). We would like to request an allotment of 3500 pages for 2023.

**REVIEW TIMES:** The quartiles of the distribution of the initial decision times for manuscripts submitted in 2022 were 19 days, 94 days, and 166 days. The quartiles of the distribution of the initial decision times for manuscripts submitted in 2021 were 16 days, 78 days and 152 days. The corresponding quartiles from 2020 were 10 days, 81 days and 146 days, from 2019 were 10 days, 73 days and 131 days, from 2018 were 14 days, 99 days and 160 days, and in 2017 were 8 days, 103 days and 178 days. The details of the review times are summarized in Figures 2 and 3, which provide for submissions in 2022 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, June 2022 - May 2023, Statistical Science

Moulinath Banerjee, Editor

As of early July, at the time of writing this report, there are 78 papers under review of which 32 are with AEs, 4 have been assigned directly to reviewers, and 34 are awaiting revision. Out of these 34, 8 have been due back for well over a year, and 1 is due back for just over a year. 16 new submissions are being processed by the editor.

I split the June 22 through May 23 period into two phases:

Phase 1: June through December 22 when Sonia Petrone was the editor. Phase 2: January through May 22, my first five months as editor.

Phase 1 saw 99 submissions (which amounts to slightly less than 1 submission every 2 days) out of which 53 have been rejected thus far (many being desk rejects) and 17 accepted. This gives an acceptance rate over this period of slightly less than 25%, which is somewhat higher than previously recorded acceptance rates for the journal and can be attributed to the fact that a few of these papers are for forthcoming special issues: such papers are typically sent on invitation and have a substantially higher chance of getting in.

Phase 2 saw 73 submissions in 5 months (again slightly less than 1 submission every 2 days) and 38 out of these have been rejected thus far (as before many being desk rejects). Most of these papers are still in a relatively early stage of review. Out of the remaining 35 submissions, even a 50% acceptance rate would give a net acceptance rate of about 25% but this is very much an over-estimate, so the eventual acceptance rate is expected to be lower than that in Phase 1.

**Discussion Papers:** Of the issues published during this period 38(2) featured a discussion paper on 'Response Adaptive Randomization in Clinical Trials'. A discussion on 'A Review of Item Response Theory' is currently in the works and should be published early next year. To encourage more discussion papers, I plan to seek AE input regarding potentially interesting papers they are handling which might be suitable for discussion.

**Special issues:** A special issue (or section) on reproducibility and replicability should be ready for the November 2023 issue 38(4). [Guest Editors are Nancy Reid, Mike Daniels and Alicia Carriquiry]

A special issue on Bayesian prediction: thus far, we have received 6 invited contributions, one of which has been accepted and the others are under review, and more should arrive shortly. [Guest Editors are Bertrand Clarke and Pietro Rigo].

A special issue on "Bayesian computations in the 21st century". We have 2 accepted papers and thus far we have received 4 invited contributions which are under review, with a few more to come. [Guest Editors are Christian Robert and Dennis Prangle].

The above special issues were all commissioned by the previous editor, Sonia Petrone. The second and third special issues are expected to be published in 2024, provided there are no unanticipated hiccups to the process.

Since taking over, I have, thus far, commissioned two special issues:

The first deals with problems at the Statistics-ML interface and comprises topics in meta-learning, domain adaptation, transfer learning and so forth. Richard Samworth and Yuekai Sun (current AEs) along with Samory Kpotufe are guest-editors for this. To accommodate the broad scope of this special issue the name 'Learning in non-IID settings' has been chosen. There are 9 commitments so we expect that this will take an entire issue. We expect the process to be completed sometime in the second half of 2024.

A second special issue guest-edited by Ambuj Tewari (current AE) and Nan Jiang (UIUC, Computer Science) on 'Reinforcement Learning' is also underway, with invitations being solicited at this time.

A special section on 'Statistical Inference in Optimal Transport' is being planned but the plans haven't been concretized at this point in time.

**Short Communications:** Statistical Science is launching a new venture called 'Short Communications'. I engaged in a series of discussions with the AE board and a number of stalwarts in the profession before finalizing this. Most of us believe that this will add a new dimension to the journal and will hopefully aid in promoting further interest.

Short communications will have an upper bound of 10 pages with references and could comprise philosophical musings on current research areas; alternative proofs and interpretations of important existing statistical results; suggestions for new methodology; short new proofs of new results or simulation experiments that point out downsides of a widely used procedure that have hitherto gone unnoticed. Short communications should not be used as introduction for a long arXiv paper or supplement.

To expand on the scope of technical results within Short Communications: They are not intended to incorporate a short theorem and proof in itself, but an interesting interpretation of an important existing result that is consequential or a theorem that builds on existing results in a broad area and provides key insights should certainly be fair game. A screening committee comprising myself, former editor Sonia Petrone, Ian McKeague, Bodhisattva Sen and Po-Ling Loh has been appointed for submissions to Short Communications.

Peter Bickel and Jianqing Fan have both agreed to contribute with the former's paper currently under review. We will announce this shortly over the IMS bulletin and several other platforms, and also add it to the official description of Statistical Science.

**Number of requested pages:** Since we expect to publish two special issues next year and because of the new Short Communications venture, I would like to request 725-750 pages in 2024. We have already had to request extra pages for 2023, and along with the Short Communications feature being introduced, it seems prudent to err on the side of caution.

In closing, I would like to first thank former editor Sonia Petrone (who has kindly agreed to serve as AE on the current board) for her extensive help and advice which vastly eased the process of transition and her continued help and involvement with the special issues

that were commissioned during her editorship, and last but not least, her willingness to offer valuable nuggets of advice whenever asked. I am also grateful to Kristina Mattson for her efficient administrative support. And finally, my gratitude to a wonderful editorial board that has been functioning conscientiously to keep the wheel of the journal rolling at a good pace.

## IMS Bulletin Report to Council 2023

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 Dan Nordman (Iowa State University), who took over from Bob Keener in January 2023. The current Contributing Editors are: Radu Craiu, Anirban DasGupta, Ruobin Gong, David Hand, Takis Konstantopoulos, Xiao-Li Meng, Layla Parast and Daniela Witten (Layla and Clara are new this year). A few of them write regular columns, others contribute more occasionally. We are grateful to them all. We continue to **look for 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 17 obituaries, with three more in the works: Krishna B. Athreya, Ole Barndorff-Nielsen, Bert Fristedt, Arjun Gupta, Tze Leung Lai, Tony Lancaster, Don Morrison, K.R. Parthasarathy (“KRP”), James Pickands III, Jerome Sacks, Damodar Shanbhag, Nozer Singpurwalla, Mike Titterton, Bruce Trumbo, Matthew Zack, Jr., Wojbor Woyczyński, and Don Ylvisaker. We are working on obituaries for Donald Guthrie, Albert (Al) Madansky, and Brenda MacGibbon. 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>.

A new feature, suggested originally by Radu Craiu, is an advice column for early-career researchers (though questions from more experienced members wouldn’t be turned away!). The responses to the anonymized questions are provided by Clara Grazian. We’d like to build up a bank of these questions, so please let your students and colleagues know about *Clara-fications*.

Anirban DasGupta’s Student Puzzle Corner continues as a regular feature, now with two puzzles each time, and receiving (usually) a few responses from student members. We publish lists of recent papers from IMS core, co-sponsored and supported journals (including electronic journals).

About two-thirds of IMS members receive the printed *Bulletin* in the mail (2048, plus 38 institutions); the rest opt for the electronic PDF/HTML version only. Since December 2019 the *Bulletin*’s news articles have been individually posted 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/>). I upload the news items and articles from each issue just after it has gone to the printers (that is, a couple of weeks before the print copies are mailed out). Google Analytics reports about 15,490 page views of news items and *Bulletin* downloads from the IMS website in the past year. In addition, we post on the IMS Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/IMSTATI>), which now has 4,156 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 3,350 followers, where new issue releases, and some news items, are tweeted. (A Threads account is just set up and we’ll start posting there in due course). As well as those channels, we send out a monthly email to 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 your comments, suggestions or feedback!

Tati Howell, Bulletin Editor  
bulletin@imstat.org  
July 2023

## ACTIVITY REPORT: ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS IN PROBABILITY July 5th, 2023

*The current editorial board members are:* AnneLaure Basdevant, Leif Doering, Alessandra Faggionato, Patrik Ferrari, Peter Friz, Paul Gassiat, Patricia Gonsalves, Maria Gordina, Bénédicte Haas (EIC of EJP), Hubert Lacoïn, 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).

**One Change:** Christina Goldschmidt requested on personal grounds to be excused of Associate Editor Responsibilities from March 2023.

*Status of papers:*

The number of submissions over four years are: 265 in 2019, 283 in 2020, 257 in 2021, 226 in 2022, 120 in first six months of 2023).

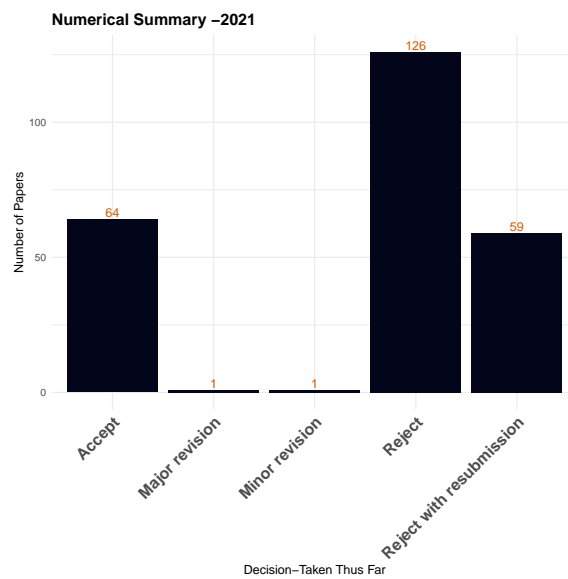
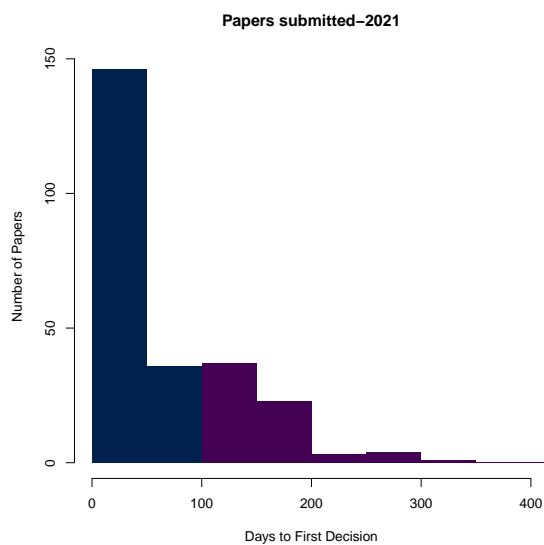
Below are the Numerical Summaries :

### Numerical Summary 2021-2023:

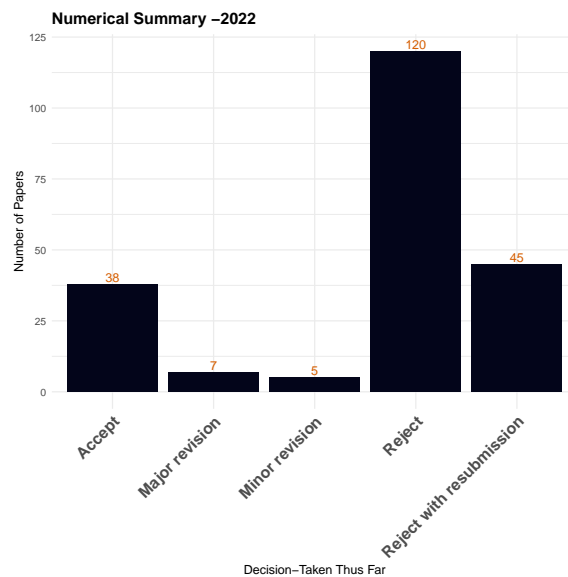
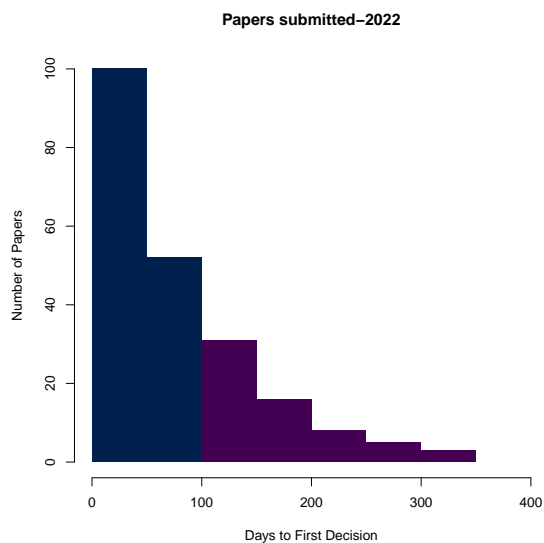
*Load per AE:* The average load per Associate Editor for ECP (excluding Bénédicte Haas and myself) over the period 2021-23 June is 29.3 articles. The intention is to balance the load but there are variations. This is mainly due to the fact that submissions are not equally distributed across areas; comfort level of AE's to handle papers outside their field of expertise and workload variations at AE's base leading to response issues. I have never rejected a paper (even quick reject) without asking for an AE to have a quick look. There are a few papers that I have handled myself as well.

Submitted	603
In Review	76
Major revision	12
Minor revision	11
Accepted	105
Rejected	275
Reject resubmission	124
Withdrawn	14

## Numerical Data Summary for 2021:

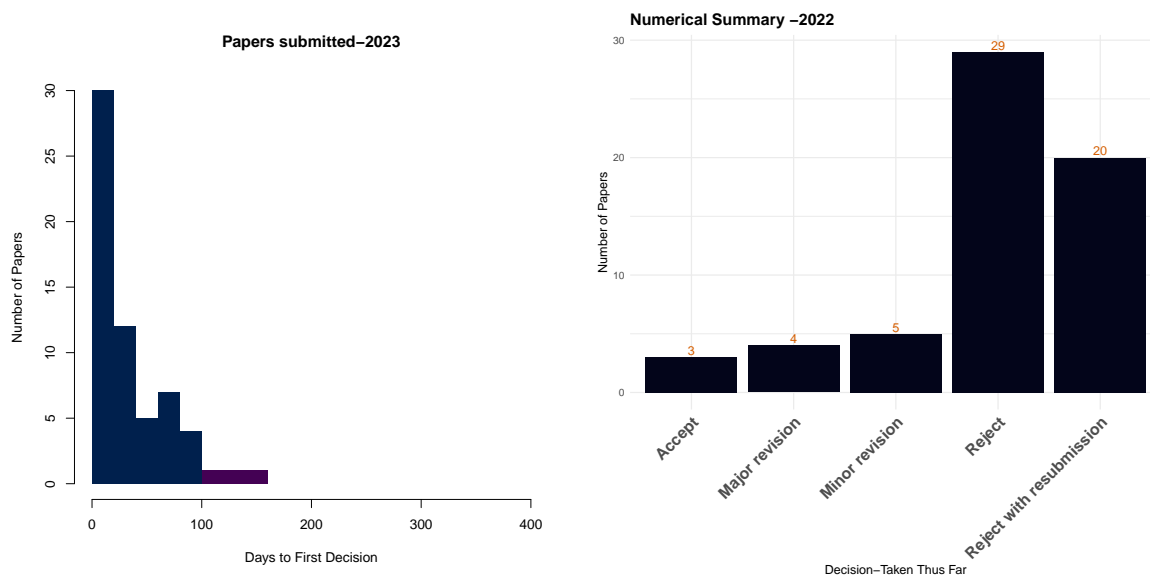


## Numerical Data Summary for 2022





## Numerical Data Summary for 2023- till June 2023



### *Policies followed since 2021:*

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.

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.

## 2023 Editorial report for *Electronic Journal of Probability*

Bénédicte Haas – July 04, 2023

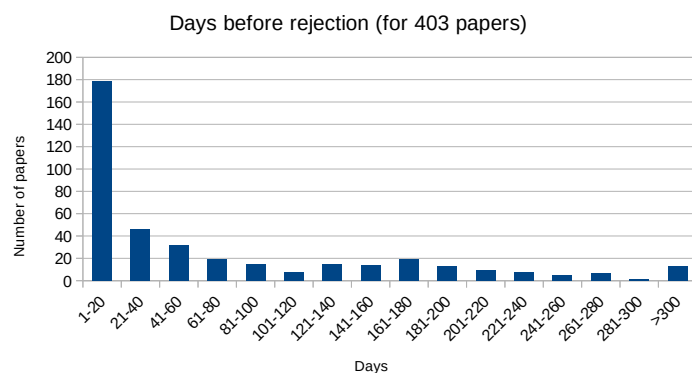
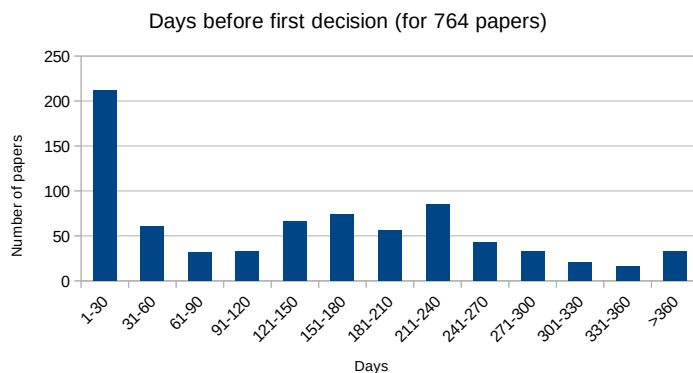
**Common board of ECP and EJP.** The board remained the same as last year until March 2023, when Christina Goldschmidt decided to resign due to a strong involvement in other tasks (she however continues to complete the papers that she had accepted to handle). In total, there are 31 (=32-1) members in the board to date. The female ratio is  $10/31 \approx 32\%$ .

ECP & EJP Editorial Board 2023	
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 (left in March 2023)	Cristina Toninelli

**Load per AE.** The average load per Associate Editor for EJP (excluding Siva Athreya and me) over the period 2021-01-01–2023-06-27 is 26,9 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 significant differences, depending on the areas and responsiveness of each AE, the minimum load being 13 papers and the maximum 44 papers over the period (for AE involved throughout the whole period). I also handle full review processes myself, in addition to quick rejections.

## Status of papers submitted between 2021-01-01 and 2023-06-27, on June 27, 2023:

<b>Submitted</b>	<b>935</b>
In Review	221
first round	181
second round	38
third round	2
Accepted	245 + 2 errata
Rejected	403
Reject with resubmission	42
Withdrawn	22



Average days before first decision (for 764 papers): 141

Average days before rejection (for 403 papers): 73,4

Estimate of acceptance rate. I only consider papers for which a final decision has already been made, which gives :  $245/(245 + 403 + 42) \approx 35,5\%$ .

## Status of papers per year of submission, on June 27, 2023:

2021

<b>Submitted</b>	<b>389</b>
In Review	14
first round	5
second round	7
third round	2
Accepted	155 + 1 erratum
Rejected	181
Reject with resubmission	29
Withdrawn	9

2022

<b>Submitted</b>	<b>372</b>
In Review	95
first round	65
second round	30
third round	0
Accepted	89
Rejected	166
Reject with resubmission	11
Withdrawn	11

2023

<b>Submitted</b>	<b>174</b>
In Review	112
first round	111
second round	1
third round	0
Accepted	1 + 1 erratum
Rejected	56
Reject with resubmission	2
Withdrawn	2

The 5 first round papers of 2021 and 19 first round papers of 2022 are currently in the hands of the authors for a revision (in total, all rounds combined, there are currently 35 papers in the hands of the authors for a revision). Although few in number, some authors are extremely slow to return their revisions, despite regular reminders.

Last, the table below recapitulates the number of submissions per year, from the data I found in previous reports – disregarding the withdrawn papers. After a steady increase, there has been a slight decrease in the last two years.

2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
316	339	378	365	382	?	412	420	431	389	372

# Report for The Electronic Journal of Statistics

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

July 10, 2023

## Executive Summary

The EJS continues to receive a steady flow of submissions from researchers around the world. We are committed to maintaining the EJS as an attractive platform for authors to publish their fine work. The Editorial Board is actively engaged in promoting the journal and ensuring a fair and transparent review process.

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). This approach ensures a roughly equal distribution of workload and equitable treatment of authors. In cases where a potential conflict of interest arises, such as submissions from colleagues or close collaborators, the submission is promptly redirected to the other Co-EiC for handling. This protocol guarantees the integrity and impartiality of the review process.

## Review Summary

This report summarizes the review information for the period of July 1, 2022 to June 19, 2023:

### July 1 – 31 December of 2022

EJS received **225 submissions** during the period of July 1 – December 31, 2022. As of the date of preparing this report, **124** submissions have been rejected, **21** submissions have received a reject-resubmit decision, **43** manuscripts were invited for a major revision, **5** articles were invited for a minor revision, **8** manuscripts have been accepted, and **24** 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  $(124+21)/225=145/225=$ **64.44%**.

The review time statistics (in days) for reaching the first decision are:

<b>Average:</b>	81.74
<b>First Quartile:</b>	7
<b>Median:</b>	33
<b>Third Quartile:</b>	147

### **1 January – 19 June of 2023**

EJS received **229** submissions for the period of 1 January – 19 June 2023. As of the date of preparing this report, **92** submissions have been rejected, **14** submissions have received a reject-resubmit decision, **6** manuscripts were invited for a major revision, **1** article was invited for a minor revision, **2** manuscripts have been accepted and **114** 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  $(92+14)/229=106/229=46.29\%$ .

The review time statistics (in days) for reaching the first decision are:

<b>Average:</b>	31.96
<b>First Quartile:</b>	5
<b>Median:</b>	14
<b>Third Quartile:</b>	34.5

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 – 19 June of 2023 are still under review either by 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).

<b>Year</b>	<b>Number of Pages</b>	<b>Number of Articles</b>
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	6739	163
2022	6650	154

## Associate Editors (In Alphabetical Order)

Christophe Andrieu	Jianxin Pan
Ery Arias-Castro	Victor Panaretos
Alexander Aue	Debashis Paul
Fadoua Balabdaoui-Mohr	Giovanni Peccati
Moulinath Banerjee	Emilio Porcu
Merle Behr	François Portier
Alessandra Brazzale	
Federico Camerlenghi	Kolyan Ray
Jiahua Chen	Bruno Rémillard
Yuansi Chen	Adam J. Rothman
Charles R. Doss	Judith Rousseau
Chao Gao	Vivekananda Roy
Yulia Gel	Johannes Schmidt-Hieber
Debashis Ghosh	Armin Schwartzman
Malka Gorfine	Johan Segers
Nhat Ho	Martin Slawski
Kengo Kato	Xinyuang Song
Tracy Ke	Francesco Claudio Stingo
Edward H. Kennedy	Yanqing Sun
Jae-Kwang Kim	Boxin Tang
Rafal Kulik	Mahmoud Torabi
Victor Hugo Lachos Davila	Ingrid Van Keilegom
Nicole Lazar	Thomas Verdebout
Johannes Lederer	Stanislav Volgushev
Runze Li	Marten Wegkamp
Antonio Lijoi	Ying Nian Wu
Miles E. Lopes	Yingcun Xia
Wenbin Lu	Min-ge Xie
Yanyuan Ma	Chen Xu
Yuzo Maruyama	Hongquan Xu
Sayan Mukherjee	Donglin Zeng
Boaz Nadler	Zhengjun Zhang
Richard Nickl	Yichuan Zhao

## Acknowledgements

We wish to express our gratitude 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.

## Title: Review for ACM/JDS Journal of Data Science

### Introduction:

The ACM/JDS Journal of Data Science is aiming to be a reputable platform for disseminating cutting-edge research in the field of data science. However, as the landscape of data science continuously evolves, the journal faces several challenges, difficulties, and risks that need to be addressed proactively to maintain its relevance and impact.

### 1. Initial Issues with Invited Papers:

The journal's first two issues were largely filled with invited papers, which span various authors and topics including younger researchers as well as well established names in the field. Invited papers were necessary to set the right high tone of publication expectations we aimed for the journal.

### 2. Open Submission Result and Review Status:

The recent open submission resulted in 50 submissions, indicating a healthy interest from the research community. However, only 3 papers have been deemed suitable for review, and the review process for these papers is still incomplete.

### 3. Inadequate Promotion:

Despite ACM and AMS backing, the journal needs more active promotion to reach a wider audience. Many members of the statistics community are still unaware of the journal's existence, which can limit its impact and readership.

### 4. Redesigning the Review Process and Journal Model:

We have completely redesigned the review process and the journal model to make it more relevant for the fast growing data science field. The new model should combine the strengths of conferences and journals to offer a unique and efficient platform for disseminating data science research.

### 5. Blending Conference and Journal Methods:

In the proposed redesign, the journal will accept papers three times a year with a competitive and timed initial review process. This will create a sense of urgency and encourage researchers to submit high-quality work promptly. Later reviews will mimic the classical journal model, allowing for more detailed and thorough evaluations.

### 6. Senior Editors for Efficient Screening:

To expedite the review process, senior editors will be appointed to help screen submissions quickly and identify promising papers for further review. Their expertise will ensure that only the most relevant and impactful research moves through the pipeline.

### 7. Incorporating Review Rebuttal Process:



To promote transparency and fairness, an initial review process will include a rebuttal phase, where authors can respond to reviewers' comments. This will lead to more constructive feedback and help improve the quality of accepted papers.

#### 8. Revamping the Online Website and Submission Instructions:

The current ACM online platform has been overhauled to offer a modern and user-friendly experience. Submission instructions are clear, concise, and catered to a broader audience, encouraging researchers from different backgrounds to submit their work. Details can be found here: <http://jds.acm.org/>.

#### 9. New Paper Format for Wider Audience Reach:

The journal will explore innovative ways of presenting research to reach a broader audience beyond the narrow statistics community. This may involve using visualizations, interactive content, and multimedia elements to enhance the accessibility of complex data science concepts.

#### Conclusion:

The ACM/JDS Journal of Data Science faces several challenges and risks in the future. However, by actively addressing the issues, redesigning the review process, promoting the journal more effectively, and embracing new formats, the journal can position itself as a leading platform for cutting-edge data science research, attracting a diverse range of high-quality submissions, and increasing its impact and readership.

# Report on Probability Surveys 2023 (on 2022)

*Mikhail Lifshits* - Editor-in-Chief from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2021 to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023.

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 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;  
volume 19 (2022) 12 Surveys and 700 pages.

As of June 12, 2023 in the current  
volume 20 (2023) 9 Surveys and 607 pages are published.

There are currently 8 Surveys at various stages of the editorial process. The current acceptance rate for papers is around 50%. Most of rejections correspond to research articles, not being the surveys.

A new journal management system EJMS has been implemented in January 2021. At the moment, the transfer is completed, the old system is closed although there is still one unpublished manuscript submitted in 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, three invited papers are published, one is accepted and three 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 twenty articles submitted in 2021-22 and already accepted/published the average cycle length is about 8.5 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

July 14, 2023

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: Yingying Fan (Institute of Mathematical Statistics), Bodhisattva Sen (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 two of the editors – Yingying Fan and Bodhisattva Sen – started as editors in late 2022.

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. Wendy Martinez is also now serving on the CoP as the co-Editor of CHANCE magazine, so she also learns about any issues related to *Statistics Surveys*.

We held a meeting of the Editorial Board at the JSM 2022, and we are grateful for the opportunity to meet at conferences, with support from IMS. Unfortunately, travel is still difficult after COVID, and JSM is international travel for most of the board. Hence, the attendance at the JSM 2022 meeting was low. To make up for it, the Editors held virtual meetings and email discussions over the year. We find the meetings to be productive, and many issues are handled via email. All Editors participate and share the workload.

*Statistics Surveys* did not have an invited session for JSM 2023. The ASA CoP has a regular schedule of allocating invited sessions to ASA supported journals, including *Statistics Surveys*. Based on conversations with the CoP, we are likely to have an invited session for JSM 2024. These sessions are a great way to showcase the journal and to get high quality submissions.

**ISSUES:** No significant issues were encountered this past year. We continue to experience low submission rates, which is reasonable with this type of journal. There are some ideas we have discussed in recent years that we might address in the coming year. One is to examine the make-up of the Associate Editors in terms of their areas of expertise, responsiveness, and diversity. The other is to quantify and characterize the quality of the journal using different metrics and use them to encourage submissions.

**SUBMISSIONS:** During the period January 01, 2022 – June 30, 2023, 27 manuscripts were submitted to the journal. This number is small (and lower than recent years) 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: 10 (up from last year)

Rejected: 18

Papers in review: 5

Rejected with resubmission encouraged: 2

Withdrawn: 0

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#### **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. Geri Mattson and Elyse Gustafson are always quick to provide their advice and help when called upon.

## Updates from IMS Program Secretary Annie Qu July, 2023

### IMS ICSDS 2023 Conference updates: Dec. 18-21, 2023, Lisbon, Portugal

Conference website

<https://sites.google.com/view/icsds2023>

- We have formed program committee and local arrangement committee  
Four plenary speakers are confirmed: David Donoho, Michael Jordan, Gabor Lugosi and Caroline Uhler
- We have paid the conference venue: [Centro Cultural de Belém](#)
- The first ICSDS is a big success

### 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 300 invited speakers have been committed for the in-person conference. We anticipate that there will be 85 invited/contributed sessions for 4-day conference, and 4 plenary speakers.

### Here are Registration fees for ICSDS

Type/Period	Early (06/06 – 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	\$100	\$100	\$100

**Calendar of IMS-APRM 2024: Jan 4-7, Melbourne, Australia**

<https://ims-aprm2024.com>

**Scientific Committee**

Chairs:

Wei Liem Loh – National University of Singapore

Min-ge Xie – Rutgers University

Local Chairs:

Howard Bondell – University of Melbourne

Aurore Delaigle – University of Melbourne

**Calendar of Bernoulli- IMS, 11<sup>th</sup> World Congress in Prob and Statistics, Aug. 12-16, 2024,  
Bochum, Germany**

<https://www.bernoulli-ims-worldcongress2024.org>

Aurore Delaigle (Chair), <i>University of Melbourne</i>
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Kavita Ramanan (Chair), <i>Brown University</i>
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# Treasurer's Report 2023

## Introduction

This report details membership and subscription data for the calendar year-end 2022. The 2022 fiscal year-end audit report will be posted online separately in the Fall of 2023 after the auditors have completed the annual process.

In 2022, the total number of IMS members increased, but the total number of paying members decreased. Subscriptions by institutions decreased this past year by 2.5%. The financial status of the Institute continues to be stable and strong, and actions are in place to ensure its long-term stability. In 2022, the IMS experienced loss of membership in particular with reduced dues payers and new graduates. We do think this is a lingering effect of the pandemic and are encouraged that our numbers could bounce back in 2023. 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
- NSF-CBMS Series in Probability and Statistics

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

- ACM/IMS Journal of Data Science
- Electronic Communications in Probability
- Electronic Journal of Probability
- Electronic Journal of Statistics
- Journal of Computational and Graphical 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 2018. Total individual paid membership in the Institute as of December 31, 2022, increased by 10.7% from December 31, 2021. This is due to an increase in student (non-paying) members. Paid membership decreased by 3.3%.

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

- 48% North America
- 23% Asia
- 22% Europe
- 3% Africa
- 2% Australia and South Pacific
- 2% South America & the Caribbean

Selection of Journals by Members: Print subscriptions by members decreased in 2022. 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)

In addition, we offer other societies special discounts in IMS membership. These include:

- Sociedade Portuguesa de Estatística (SPE)
- Società Italiana di Statistica (SIS)

### Institutional Subscription Data

Table 3 presents comparative subscription data for institutions to each of our scientific journals for 2022 and previous years. Institutional subscriptions for the journals decreased in 2022. Approximately 55% 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, 2022. The external audit of the IMS will be completed in August 2023. 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.

Jiashun Jin  
Treasurer

## Membership and Subscriber Data Tables

TABLE 1: MEMBERSHIP, Calendar Year						
Membership Type	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	% change
Regular	1384	1397	1397	1262	1220	-3.33%
Life/Retired Life	613	617	614	624	637	2.08%
Reduced Country/Retired/IMS China	351	704	577	292	259	-11.30%
New Graduate	76	70	63	43	31	-27.91%
Student	852	722	1448	1996	2523	
<b>Total</b>	<b>3276</b>	<b>3510</b>	<b>4099</b>	<b>4217</b>	<b>4670</b>	<b>10.74%</b>
<b>Total not including free members (students)</b>	<b>2424</b>	<b>2788</b>	<b>2651</b>	<b>2221</b>	<b>2147</b>	<b>-3.33%</b>
*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						
Print subscriptions						
Individual Members**	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	% change
AAP	54	46	31	35	28	-20.00%
AOP	57	50	36	37	32	-13.51%
AOAS	87	83	53	56	47	-16.07%
AOS	191	174	127	127	131	3.15%
STS	387	325	236	240	248	3.33%
<b>Total Member Print</b>	<b>776</b>	<b>678</b>	<b>483</b>	<b>495</b>	<b>486</b>	<b>-1.82%</b>
TABLE 3: INSTITUTIONAL SUBSCRIPTIONS, Calendar Year						
Paid Subscriptions						
Institutions	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	% change
AAP	537	519	527	480	461	-3.96%
AOP	706	673	677	614	594	-3.26%
AOAS	341	343	358	315	320	1.59%
AOS	906	861	855	799	765	-4.26%
STS	666	629	644	588	585	-0.51%
BULL	71	70	39	38	38	0.00%
Supported Journal: AIHP	289	288	292	273	257	-5.86%
Supported Journal: Bernoulli	298	294	305	304	272	-10.53%
Supported Journal: BJPS	132	142	162	146	135	-7.53%
<b>Total Institutional Paid</b>	<b>3,946</b>	<b>3,819</b>	<b>3,859</b>	<b>3,557</b>	<b>3,427</b>	<b>-3.65%</b>
<b>Total IMS Journals Only</b>	<b>3,156</b>	<b>3,025</b>	<b>3,061</b>	<b>2,796</b>	<b>2,725</b>	<b>-2.54%</b>
TABLE 4: Sales of IMS Monographs and IMS Textbooks						
Volume	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Total Sales
8 Volumes IMS Monographs	2,414	1,253	1,443	1,628	1,516	20,811
17 Volumes IMS Textbooks	1,018	1,940	975	1,232	1,195	12,206
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,432</b>	<b>3,193</b>	<b>2,418</b>	<b>2,860</b>	<b>2,711</b>	<b>33,017</b>

## Committee on Equality and Diversity Annual Report

The IMS Committee on Equality and Diversity consists of the following members: Nicole Lazar (Chair), Raaz Dwivedi, Konstantinos Fokianos, Tatyana Krivobokova, Chae Young Lim, Shili Lin, Daniela Witten, Yan Yu.

The committee met regularly during the past year.

The major work of the committee focused on:

1. **Partnering with CANSSI:** Following up on discussions from last year the committee, in consultation with IMS President Peter Bühlmann and CANSSI Director Don Estep, brainstormed ideas on ways for the two organizations to partner around diversity issues. The committee focused on mentoring activities, and collectively (committee, IMS President, CANSSI Director) came up with eight recommendations:

- (a) Jointly sponsored online mentoring panels (rotate time zone)
- (b) Jointly sponsored mentoring activities at select IMS conferences (rotate conference)
- (c) Adapt mentoring programs of other statistical societies, e.g. CWS “mentoring on the go” or ASA “mentoring in a box”
- (d) Speed networking lunches
- (e) Virtual mentoring events in between conferences
- (f) “Knowledge sharing” events
- (g) Training mentors
- (h) Adapt from programs that focus on underrepresented populations

The committee recommended as a first step to hold a townhall or other informal gathering at this year’s JSM in Toronto, to initiate a joint mentoring program between IMS and CANSSI, covering points b, a, and e. This event is being planned.

2. **Consideration of IMS Awards:** 2023 awards showed a lack of diversity in both nominations and eventual awardees. The lack of diversity manifested along a number of dimensions, notably gender, geographical location, and discipline (e.g. few nominees for IMS Fellow working in probability). IMS President Bühlmann asked the committee to consider ways to increase diversity broadly defined. The committee discussed this at length, and proposed several recommendations. These were conveyed to the Executive Committee by Lazar. The Executive Committee came up with alternative proposals which will be brought to Council for further deliberation.

# IMS Outreach Committee Annual Report 2023

Ryan Tibshirani

The members of the Outreach Committee are: Ryan Tibshirani (chair), Genevera Allen, Aadi Ramdas, Ali Shojaie, Annie Qu (IMS program secretary -- ex officio), Nicole Lazar (IMS Equality Diversity -- ex officio), Pragya Sur (New Researchers Group President -- ex officio), Elyse Gustafson (IMS Executive Director -- ad-hoc member), Tati Howell (IMS Bulletin and Social Media -- ad-hoc member).

"Outreach" is to be broadly interpreted, which leaves the committee room for discussing the development of things which we find interesting and important. Peter Buhlmann, the current IMS President, gave us the unofficial charge to "set up one good new sustainable activity, say at the interface between statistics and machine learning/data science".

We discussed two main ideas:

1. **Outreach to potential industry partners/collaborators.** The idea would be to create a "new space in IMS" (and *not* latch onto an existing event, like the IMS Annual Meeting) for IMS workshops/ conferences/ events held jointly with industry partners. Citadel and Eli Lilly have already expressed interest (in conversations with Peter Buhlmann and Annie Qu). The committee was generally very supportive of this idea and recommended to Peter Buhlmann/the Executive Committee that the IMS move forward in setting up such an initiative, but expressed the following thoughts.
  - a. We should seek clarity as to how we can differentiate this from other joint academic-industry conferences held by other organizations like ASA. In other words, what would make such IMS events unique and notable?
  - b. We might consider a program that funds students or junior researchers to visit with a faculty for a 1-2 week visit (pre- or post- conference?), with an industry tie-in somehow.
  - c. We might explicitly think about avenues for longer-term collaboration (at the outset of finding partners) with industry, and also proceed carefully about which industry partners we select, e.g., paying attention to the diversity of representation.
2. **Outreach in underrepresented countries/populations.** The idea would be to set up some kind of IMS-sponsored outreach to researchers in underrepresented countries such as Africa and South America. The committee agreed that the IMS should *not* lead such an initiative, which would require "on the ground" knowledge and connections in order to be successful, in whatever areas we choose, and should rather work in collaboration with an experienced partner, such as AIMS (where Peter Buhlmann knows the co-founder), or University of Pretoria or Knust University (where committee members Ali Shojaie has some contacts, though existing programs at UW). The committee also discussed the following:
  - a. We might consider setting up a summer school to help educate junior researchers (say, as junior as prospective PhD students, or perhaps prospective post docs or faculty).
  - b. We might consider sponsoring travel awards for research collaborations, or conferences/ workshops, or the above-mentioned summer schools, in underrepresented countries.
  - c. We should probably consider focusing on countries *without* a large national statistics organization (like Brazil, India, etc.).

Altogether the committee did not recommend to Peter Buhlmann/the Executive Committee that the IMS move forward with anything here because we felt like the industry outreach idea was more well-formed. However, the committee remains interested in investigating more about partnering with AIMS.

Finally, a new procedure was suggested by Peter Buhlmann/the IMS Council for the Outreach and Equality and Diversity Committees, for the next nomination cycle, starting in Fall 2023. Before each nomination cycle, early in the fall, the committees identify potential candidates from underrepresented groups for all IMS awards and honors and then approach potential nominators (outside or inside the committee) for the awards. The word "underrepresented" is to be interpreted in the broad sense (gender, geographical location, etc.), and it may also include the following aspect: "candidates who are in isolated environments in which they would be less likely to have natural nominators and nominators are often either someone in one's department or one's PhD adviser" (quoted from a Council member).