

The publication process

kbroman.org/BMI883

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Author's point of view

- ▶ Write paper
- ▶ Submit paper and fill out a bunch of metadata
- ▶ Receive reviews and decision
- ▶ Revise and resubmit, with response to reviewers
- ▶ Acceptance! Submit final documents
- ▶ Comb over proofs
- ▶ Pay publication charges
- ▶ Sign over copyright

Journal's point of view (Genetics)

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Journal's point of view (Genetics)

- ▶ Staff assigns paper to Senior Editor
 - ▶ Senior Editor: rapid reject or assign Associate Editor
 - ▶ AE: find two reviewers (maybe asking 8 people)
 - ▶ AE: decide on
 - accept as is
 - accept with minor revisions
 - reject but encourage resubmission
 - reject
- (Also, explain what's most important)
- ▶ SE review decision (sufficiently detailed?)
 - ▶ AE: accept, reject, or send out for re-review?

Features of Genetics

- ▶ Academic (volunteer) editors
- ▶ Associate Editors interact directly with authors and reviewers
- ▶ AE's name published at the bottom of the paper
- ▶ All decisions involve two editors

Journal of the American Statistical Association

- ▶ Similar process, but double-blind
- ▶ AEs interact with reviewers but anonymous to authors
- ▶ Decision comes not from AE but from a Senior Editor

Nature journals

- ▶ Editors are anonymous and full-time staff

Tips

- ▶ Suggest reviewers
- ▶ Cover letter that concisely explains why your paper is interesting
- ▶ Aim high and take forever, or aim in the middle and move on with your life?
- ▶ In revision: would like to avoid re-review (so convince editor that changes are minor) but don't annoy the reviewers, in case it does go out for re-review
- ▶ Make **some** change in response to each criticism (don't just comment)
- ▶ Feel free to ask editor for clarification
- ▶ Be prepared for pain. The process is not gentle.

Why the struggle among editors, reviewers, and authors?