

# The publication process

[kbroman.org/BMI883](http://kbroman.org/BMI883)

Karl Broman  
[kbroman.org](http://kbroman.org)

## 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
- ▶ Shoot high and take forever, or shoot 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 piss off 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?