

Statistica Sinica Co-Editors' Report

Co-editors: Hsin-Cheng Huang, Ruey Tsay and Zhiliang Ying
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1. Submissions and Acceptance Statistics

In the past 12 months (August 2016 to July 31, 2017), 531 manuscripts were submitted to *Statistica Sinica*, which include submissions to three special issues and comments to a discussion paper (see Table 1). The numbers of manuscripts submitted and accepted for the past six years are shown in Table 2. The submission rates exhibit a clear upward trend. The acceptance rate is much higher in the past 12 months due to 50 special-issue papers accepted during this period. The review status for the past three years is displayed in Table 3.

Table 1. Manuscript received from August 2016 to July 2017.

Manuscript Type	Number of Manuscripts	Percentage
Invited Comment	2	0.4
Special Issue Paper - Computer Experiments and Uncertainty Quantification	4	0.8
Special Issue Paper - Data Missing Not At Random	4	0.8
Special Issue Paper - In Memory of Professor Peter Hall	51	9.6
Original Article	470	88.5
Total	531	100.0

Table 2. Submissions and acceptances for the past 6 years.

	Aug 2011 - Jul 2012	Aug 2012 – Jun 2013	Aug 2013 -Jul 2014	Aug 2014 - Jul 2015	Aug 2015 – Jul 2016	Aug 2016 - Jul 2017
Acceptance	62	104	95	76	104	150
Submission	380	365	439	409	567	531

Table 3. Review status for the past 3 years.

	Aug 2014- Jul 2015		Aug 2015–Jul 2016		Aug 2016–Jul 2017	
Rejected w/o external review	181	44.3%	200	35.3%	203	38.2%
Rejected with external review	77	18.8%	111	19.6%	87	16.4%
Rejected with revision allowed	73	17.8%	87	15.3%	72	13.6%
Major/Minor revision	3	0.7%	15	2.6%	42	7.9%
First submission under review	0	0.0%	7	1.2%	59	11.1%
Revision under review	1	0.2%	6	1.1%	3	0.6%
Withdrawn	1	0.2%	0	0.0%	5	0.9%
Accepted	73	17.8%	141	24.9%	60	11.3%
Total	409		567		531	

Table 4 shows the geographic distribution of submissions for the past three years. The countries with at least one submission are listed below.

- (1) **Northern America:** Canada, United States;
- (2) **Eastern, Northeastern and Southeastern Asia:** China, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Macau, Malaysia, Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand, Viet Nam;
- (3) **Europe:** Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom;
- (4) **Southern Asia:** India, Pakistan, United Arab Emirates;
- (5) **Africa:** Algeria, Botswana, Egypt, Ethiopia, Ghana, Nigeria, South Africa, Tanzania, Tunisia;
- (6) **Australia & New Zealand**
- (7) **Middle East:** Iran, Iraq, Israel, Kuwait, Palestine, Saudi Arabia, Turkey;
- (8) **Other Area:** Argentina, Bahrain, Brazil, Chile, Columbia, Czech Republic, Jordan, Madagascar, Mexico, Russian Federation, Trinidad and Tobago;

Table 4. Distribution of submissions by region for the past three years.

Region	Aug 2014 – Jul 2015		Aug 2015 - Jul 2016		Aug 2016 - Jul 2017	
(1) Northern America	130	31.7%	206	36.3%	176	33.1%
(2) Eastern, Northeastern & Southeastern Asia	125	30.5%	181	31.9%	175	33.0%
(3) Europe	65	15.8%	75	13.2%	64	12.1%
(4) Southern Asia	34	8.3%	33	5.8%	35	6.6%
(5) Africa	17	4.1%	14	2.4%	21	4.0%
(6) Australia & New Zealand	13	3.1%	12	2.1%	16	3.0%
(7) Middle East	16	3.9%	27	4.7%	31	5.8%
(8) Other Area	9	2.2%	19	3.3%	13	2.4%
Total	409		567		531	

The majority of submissions come from Northern America and Eastern (including northeastern and southeastern) Asia, followed by Europe. The top 10 countries with the highest submissions for the past three years are shown in Table 5.

Table 5. Top ten countries with the highest submissions for the past three years.

Rank	Aug 2014 - Jul 2015		Aug 2015 - Jul 2016		Aug 2016 – Jul 2017	
1	USA	119 (29.0%)	USA	186 (32.8%)	USA	154 (29.0%)
2	China	75 (18.3%)	China	123 (21.6%)	China	114 (21.5%)
3	India	29 (7.0%)	India	29 (5.1%)	India	28 (5.3%)
4	Taiwan	18 (4.4%)	Taiwan	26 (4.5%)	Canada	22 (4.1%)
5	Italy	13 (3.1%)	Canada	18 (3.1%)	UK/Iran	19 (3.6%)
6	Australia	12 (2.9%)	UK	16 (2.8%)	H.K.	17 (3.2%)
7	Canada	11 (2.6%)	Iran	14 (2.4%)	Taiwan	16 (3.0%)
8	Spain	11 (2.6%)	Italy	13 (2.2%)	Australia	13 (2.4%)
9	UK	11 (2.6%)	Australia	12 (2.1%)	Germany/ Egypt	12 (2.3%)
10	Japan	10 (2.4%)	Belgium/ Germany	9 (1.5%)	Korea	11 (2.1%)

2. Manuscript Processing Time

Table 6 shows the turnaround statistics of initial decision for the past three years, with the decision times censored on July 31, 2017. About 75% of the editorial decisions during 2016-2017 take less than 92 days, but 5% take over 162 days.

Table 6. Percentiles of review time in days for the past three years.

Period	5th	25th	50th	75th	95th	Sample Size
Aug 2014 – Jul 2015	2	8	31	108	184	408
Aug 2015 – Jul 2016	3	11	64	108	236	561
Aug 2016 – Jul 2017	2	9	24	92	162	483*

*Additional 59 manuscripts awaiting initial decision

3. Backlog for Publication

In the past year, we have published four issues containing 101 articles. There remain 154 accepted manuscripts waiting to be published. Among them, 23 will appear in the Jan 2018 issue. The backlog is about 15-18 months from acceptance to publication. To reduce the backlog, we consider to publish one more issue next year with the 5th one being a special issue.

4. Rankings and Impact Factors

Table 7 shows the ranks of *Statistica Sinica* based on the 2-Year Impact Factor and the 5-Year Impact Factor provided by the [Journal Citation Reports](#) (JCR) in the area of Statistics and Probability from 2008 to 2016. Table 8 shows the ranks of *Statistica Sinica* in Scimago Journal Rankings among all journals of Statistics and Probability in the Scopus database from 2008-2016. The ranking is performed using the algorithm Google PageRank™.

Table 7. JCR rankings for recent 9 years.

Year	Number of Journals	Ranking (2-Year Impact Factor)		Ranking (5-Year Impact Factor)	
2016	124	70	(0.899)	46	(1.632)
2015	123	66	(0.838)	42	(1.611)
2014	122	44	(1.158)	36	(1.591)
2013	119	37	(1.226)	44	(1.365)
2012	117	25	(1.440)	41	(1.418)
2011	116	49	(1.017)	51	(1.167)
2010	110	54	(0.956)	59	(1.020)
2009	100	50	(0.945)	41	(1.291)
2008	92	65	(0.699)	40	(1.158)

Table 8. SCImago journal rankings for recent 9 years.

Year	Total Number of Journal	Journal Rank	Quartile
2016	188	26	Q1
2015	179	20	Q1
2014	179	14	Q1
2013	179	12	Q1
2012	176	19	Q1
2011	164	23	Q1
2010	163	36	Q1
2009	160	39	Q2
2008	146	28	Q1

5. Special Issues

In the past year, we organized two special issues. The first one is the Special Issue in the Memory of Professor Peter Hall with Ray Carroll (carroll@stat.tamu.edu) and Qiwei Yao (q.yao@lse.ac.uk) as the guest editors. Submissions to this special issue are now closed. The second one is a special issue on Big Data in Environmental Studies with Song-Xi Chen (songchen@iastate.edu), Ruey S. Tsay (Ruey.Tsay@chicagobooth.edu) and Christopher Wikle (wiklec@missouri.edu) as the guest editors. The submission deadline is December 31, 2017.

6. Statistica Sinica Sessions at International Conferences

A Statistica Sinica invited session (sponsored by ICSA) was held at JSM 2016 in Chicago on August 2. The session titled “Recent Developments in Factor Models and Stochastic Regressions of Multivariate Time Series” is formed by three invited speakers (Daniel Peña, Universidad Carlos III de Madrid; Tze Leung Lai, Stanford University; Rong Chen, Rutgers University) and a discussant (Ruey S. Tsay, The University of Chicago).