



# American Economic Journal: Macroeconomics

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AEJMacro-2019-0142 “Spatial Inefficiencies in Africa’s Trade Network”

Dear Tilman,

Thank you for submitting your paper to the *American Economic Journal: Macroeconomics*. I have now heard back from three referees and have attached the reports to this email. Unfortunately, my news is not good. All three referees recommend rejection and I have decided against publication of your paper in the *AEJ Macro*.

I have also read your paper in light of the referee reports. Overall, while I enjoyed reading the paper and think that it is on an interesting topic, I could not find sufficient reason to overturn the three negative referees who are all experts in this literature.

I’m so sorry I wasn’t able to give you positive news and I hope I can do so on another occasion. I would like to note that the *AEJ Macro* currently publishes less than 10 percent of all submitted papers and that as a result, many quality papers do get rejected. I also hope that you find the referees’ comments useful. I did go to considerable lengths to secure reports from really excellent referees, and I hope you appreciate their considerable efforts and feedback. Thanks for letting the *AEJ Macro* look at your interesting paper.

Sincerely yours,

Benjamin Moll  
Coeditor  
*American Economic Journal: Macroeconomics*