# Publishing

TSW 2024

## The Publishing Process

- 1. Email experts (optional)
- 2. Post to arXiv
- 3. Choose a journal
- 4. Submit to a journal
- 5. The referee process
- 6. Revisions
- 7. The decision
- 8. After acceptance

### The Publishing Process

- 0. Write the paper
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I'm just beginning, the pen's in my hand, ending unplanned...

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- Natasha Bedingfield

• Most people who open your paper will only read your introduction (including people giving quick opinions!).

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  - State your main results in the first few pages.

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  - Indicate up front what the main new ideas and difficulties are.

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- Motivate your main result, cite any relevant literature.

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  - Generally, need to include much less background than in a talk.

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- The Beatles

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Dear Colleague,

Coauthor and I have written a paper called "Title". It is available on my website:

http://www.math.school.edu/~name/paper.pdf

Abstract inserted here.

Any comments would be greatly appreciated.

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Sincerely, Name

• Send to the people who will care the most (working in exact area, letter writer, etc.)

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- (!) Some people don't like receiving these emails.

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- Frank Sinatra (Betty Comden and Adolph Green)

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- Time posting so you are at top of list of new papers (2pm EST)

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- Outkast

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- General-subject journal > subject-specific journal (if all else equal).

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- Possibly consider: Open access/related publishing fees, other ethical considerations.

# Dan's tiers (see TSR)

<ul><li>1 Annals</li><li>1 Inventiones</li></ul>	3 AJM 3 GAFA	<ul><li>5 J Top</li><li>5 Math Z</li></ul>	<ul><li>6 J Alg</li><li>6 JLMS</li></ul>	<ul><li>7 Pacific JM</li><li>7 PEMS</li></ul>
1 JAMS	3  G&T	5 PLMS	6 MRL	7 Top Appl
1 Pub. IHES	3 Crelle	5 TAMS	6 Michigan MJ	
	3  JDG		6 PAMS	8 Glasnik
2 Acta		6 AGT		8 JKTR
2 Advances	4 Commentarii	6 BLMS	7 GD	8 RMJM
2 Duke	4 Compositio	6 GGD	7 Glasgow MJ	
2 JEMS	4 Math. Ann.	6 IMRN	7 JTA	
		6 Israel JM	7 NYJM	

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- Hayley Mills (The parent trap)

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• Read journal webpage for instructions on how to submit.

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- If a cover letter is required be professional, polite, and concise.

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- Read journal webpage for instructions on how to submit.
- Double check all information (e.g. collaborator email).
- If a cover letter is required be professional, polite, and concise.
- Confirm receipt. If you don't get a formal reply from the editor or journal after a few days (weeks) then e-mail the editor to make sure they got the paper.

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#### Process includes:

• Quick opinions (one, two, or several).

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- Quick opinions (one, two, or several).
- Full referee reports (one or two or ...).

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- Full referee reports (one or two or ...).
- Double/single blind.

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- Quick opinions (one, two, or several).
- Full referee reports (one or two or ...).
- Double/single blind.
- Sending emails to check status (after 6-12 months and periodically after that). It may depend on length. You don't want to jinx it, but also don't want your paper lost in limbo.

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- (!) Referee's job is *not* to check that every detail is correct. That is the authors' responsibility. (More on referee's job on next slide.)

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-Shania Twain

• Editor often asks someone mentioned in intro/references.

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- You might not get any information. (Submit to similar level journal?)

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- Opinion might suggests place to resubmit.

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Possible selling points (should be stated clearly and early in paper):

- Solve a conjecture
- Answer question from another paper
- Applications
- Novel or surprising
- Complete answer rather than few cases
- "Hot" topic

# Referee reports

# Referee reports

- Report to editor may contain:
  - 1. Main results and context (briefly).
  - 2. Identify the level of interest.
  - 3. Word about proof and what's new.
  - 4. Overall correctness.
  - 5. Quality of the exposition.
  - 6. Comparisons to papers in similar journal or on similar subject.
  - 7. Overall quality, suitability for journal.
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- Report to authors may contain:
  - 1. Something nice (well-written, proof is expert)
  - 2. General readability comments
    (organization, style, more signposting, less notation, etc).
  - 3. Line-by-line spelling/grammar mistakes and math comments. (Page 3, line -4: can you give a proof or a reference for this fact?)
  - 4. General math questions/comments (e.g. why do you need Hypothesis X in Theorem Y, can Theorem A be generalized?).

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I can change, I can change, I can change for you.

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- John Legend

• After referee report, may be asked to revise your paper before any further decision.

I can change, I can change, I can change for you.

- After referee report, may be asked to revise your paper before any further decision.
- When sending a revision, you should also send detailed list of changes. If you do not make a change suggested by the referee, you should explain why.

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- After referee report, may be asked to revise your paper before any further decision.
- When sending a revision, you should also send detailed list of changes. If you do not make a change suggested by the referee, you should explain why.
- Your paper is not accepted yet, so accommodate the referee as much as possible.

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- Multiple rounds of revisions are possible.

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- The Beatles

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Eventually you will get an e-mail that says, either

• Your paper is accepted. (Yay!)

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- Your paper is accepted. (Yay!)
- Your paper is not accepted ... sometimes with a vague reason and sometimes with feedback (from a referee). Take any concrete feedback seriously, possibly incorporating it to your draft, and go back to step 3.

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  - Reassess where to submit your paper. Should you aim lower? Switch to a subject-specific journal from a general one?

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  - Reassess where to submit your paper. Should you aim lower? Switch to a subject-specific journal from a general one?
  - You should not appeal a rejection.

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Although we've come to the end of the road, still I can't let go.

- Boyz II Men

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- Do it all again (and again, and again,...).