

# The journal game

Rob J Hyndman

29 October 2019

# **Outline**

- 1 Authors
- 2 Journals
- 3 Reviewers
- 4 Editors

# My experience

- Author of  $\approx$  120 journal papers.
- Reviewer for at least 50 different journals.
- Handled 600+ papers per year as an editor.
- Theory & Methods Editor, Australian and New Zealand Journal of Statistics, 2001–2004
- Associate Editor, International Journal of Forecasting, 2003–2004, 2019–
- Editor-in-Chief, International Journal of Forecasting, 2005–2018
- Editor, Journal of Statistical Software, 2011-

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## Monash authorship policy

- ... in all cases authorship must be based on making a substantial intellectual contribution to the work described and taking sole or joint responsibility for that contribution or, where appropriate, the work as a whole. Accordingly, authorship must be based upon a substantial contribution and responsibility for at least one, and usually more than one, of the following activities:
  - Conception and design of the project;
  - Analysis and interpretation of research data;
  - Drafting significant parts of the work or critically revising it so as to contribute to the interpretation.

### Unacceptable inclusions of authorship

- Being head of department, holding other positions of authority, or personal friendship with the authors;
- Providing a routine technical contribution;
- Providing routine assistance in some aspects of the project;
- Acquisition of funding;
- General supervision of the research team;
- Providing data that has already been published or materials obtained from third parties (including the routine collation and provision of research source material).

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Acknowledge everyone who helped but is not an author.

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- PhD students will need to allocate a percentage contribution to each author of any papers when they submit their thesis.

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### Order of authors

- In statistics and econometrics: order of authors is usually in order of contribution. This is not true in all fields.
- In some fields, last place is a position of honour.

### Order of authors

#### ALTERNATIVE OUTCOMES OF NATURAL AND EXPERIMENTAL HIGH POLLEN LOADS<sup>1</sup>

Helen J. Young<sup>2</sup>

Biology Department, Barnard College, 3009 Broadway, New York, New York 10027 USA

TRUMAN P. YOUNG

Center for Population Biology and Department of Botany, University of California, Davis, California 95616 USA

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#### INTRODUCTION

Hand-pollination experiments are designed to test the sufficiency of natural pollination by resulting in one of two outcomes, either an increase or no change in female reproductive success. However, a growing body of evidence indicates that large increases in pollen deposition may, in some cases, actually decrease female reproductive success. The occurrence of this result has important consequences for our interpretation of pollination experiments. We are not the first to suggest or suspect that excess pollination can result in decreased seed production: Darwin (1876: 25) "remembered that Gärtner thought, though without any direct evidence, that an excess of pollen was perhans injurious. It was therefore necessary to ascertain whether the fertility of the flowers was affected by applying a rather small and an extremely large quantity of pollen to the stigma." Darwin performed hand-nollination experiments using Inomoea purpurea, applying small pollen loads to 64 flowers and large pollen loads to 64 flowers, "The flowers fertilized with little pollen yielded rather more capsules" (62 vs. 57 for large pollen loads) "and seeds" (5.13 vs. 5.07 for large pollen loads) "than did those fertilized with an excess; but the difference is too slight to be of any significance" (chi-squared test performed by us on his data, fruit set  $y^2 = 2.98$ , P = .08; not enough data are presented to perform a statistical test on seed production). Because a reduction in seed production resulting from over- or hand-pollination has not been emphasized in the literature, we sought to determine the relative occurrences of the three possible outcomes (hand-pollinated > natural, hand < natural, and no significant difference between hand and natural.

We reviewed all hand-pollination experiments cited in Bierzychudek (1981) and Zimmerman (1988) and did 10-vr surveys (1980-1989) of all pollination studies published in the American Journal of Botany, Ecology, Evolution, and Oecologia. If the difference in fruit or seed production between hand-pollinated and naturally pollinated flowers was not tested statistically by the author, we performed the appropriate test whenever possible. For example, many authors compared seed production resulting from three treatments (openpollinated flowers and flowers hand-pollinated with selfand outcross pollen) and then used an ANOVA to test for treatment effects. We used the data presented in these papers to compare the two treatments (openpollinated and hand-pollinated with outcross pollen). usually performing a t test to test for the difference in seed production between the two treatments. In other cases, data were gleaned from graphical figures, and t tests or chi-squared tests were performed.

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Abstract. Seed production is usually assumed to be a positive monotonic function of pollen deposition and/or pollinator visitation. If this assumption were correct, there would be only two outcomes of excess pollen levels: an increase in fruit or seed set, or no increase. However, a substantial minority of the studies reviewed here has found that seed production declines with increased pollen loads, both under experimental and natural conditions. To explain this decrease, we propose the following mechanisms: pollen tube crowding, pollen removal or stigma damage by pollen thieves or pollinators, stigma damage during handpollination, application of low-diversity or local pollen, effects of bagging flowers, missed stigma receptivity, and the application of inviable pollen. These mechanisms can be distinguished through more complete and more careful experimental designs and incremental pollen supplementation.

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### CHAPTER 2

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### THE MACROECONOMIC IMPLICATIONS OF DEVALUATION AND IMPORT RESTRICTION

### by Wynne Godley and Robert M. May\*

The main purpose of this paper is to set out a framework in terms of which a rizorous discussion of alternative trade strategies can proceed. It is not concerned with the legal, or what may broadly be called administrative, implications of the alternatives, but will demonstrate that on certain assumptions about macroeconomic relationships the gain to employment, real wares and prices brought about by import restriction it extremely large compared with a policy of devaluation, particularly in the first few years after the policy is introduced.

Through the last few years the CEPG has suggested that large-scale and long-term restriction of imports may be necessary if the UK is to recover full employment: also that protection may well moderate the rate of inflation compared with a strategy of exchange rate depreciation. These suggestions have so far met with almost universal opposition, not least from profes-

The most influential modern works on international trade theory (for example Johnson (1971) and Corden (1974)] explicitly make and maintain the assumption that the quantity of output (and therefore presumably employment) is given. The core of their argument then concerns the response to alternative policies of the terms of trade, which alone can generate any putaWhen assumptions are not defined by precise equa tions, and mathematical theorems are absent, verbal argument can degenerate into something reminiscent of thirteenth century scholasticism; conversely, in the absence of analytic understanding, the behaviour of a large computer model can be mistrusted, as depending on special choices of input data which are not necessarily accentable and as being of course conditional

on the model itself. It was as a compromise between these two extremes that Cripps and Godley (1976, hereafter referred to as CG) recently presented a formal analysis of a relatively simple and highly aggregated model, which incorporates the essential assumptions of the full CEPG model. They were thus able to give relatively simple, and mathematically exact, formulae for the

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under Grant DEB 75-10464. We are grateful to Francis Cripps, Gordon Hughes and Robert Neild for reading the manuscript and making useful suggestions, but responsibility rests of course "See Chapter 2 of On how to cope with Britain's trade position Trade Policy Research Centre, January 1977, Corden's contri

Timbe Policy Research Centre, January 1997, Coroles contribution has no penetration beause it is uniquenous and dogmatic those by Hugh Corbet and Brian Hindley contain a large number of errors, particularly on the properties of the CEPK model, that are best answered by referring readers to the technical manual by Febraston (April 1976) of which there will be a revised venion in the Spring of 1977.

the long-term behaviour of their model, the paper is focussed on short-term dynag and particularly on the short-p ences in real national out of, real national income, and real disposable wages under various policy be too strongly emphasised that the

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### CHAPTER 2 THE MACROECONO DEVALUATION AN

by Wynne Godley and Robert M. May The main purpose of this paper is to set ou strategies can proceed. It is not concerned w the alternatives, but will demonstrate that employment, real wares and prices brought devaluation, particularly in the first few yes

Through the last few years the CEPG hi that large-scale and long-term restriction may be necessary if the UK is to recover ment: also that protection may well mode of inflation compared with a strategy of e depreciation. These suggestions have so I almost universal opposition, not least f sional economists.

The most influential modern works on it trade theory (for example Johnson (1971) (1974)] explicitly make and maintain the that the quantity of output (and therefore employment) is given. The core of the then concerns the response to alternative the terms of trade, which alone can genera

### of two outcomes's spiders, mirid \*The order of authors! a backgammon contest la

indebted to the King's C in the study 'Import controls es, dev Messrs, Corden, Little and Scott (CLS) tested the views put forward by the CEP Economic Policy Review in February 1975 tion here is not merely to answer the main by CLS, but as a matter of methodology between verbal argument (such as used by Corden (1977)il and the crude pre-

### \*The order of authorship was determined by backgammon coetest lasting two days. One

under Grant DEB 75-10464. We are grateful to F Gordon Hughes and Robert Neild for reading t and making useful suggestions, but responsibility

Imade Policy Research Centre, January 1977. C. button has no penetration because it is unrigorous those by Hugh Corbet and Brian Hindley contain ber of errors, particularly on the properties of the that are best answered by referring readers to manual by Fetheristen (April 1976) of which it revised venien in the Spring of 1977.

1 Manuscript received 7 December 1990; revised 13 Ju

on seed production). Because a reduction in seed production resulting from over- or hand-pollination ha 1991: accented 28 June 1991. 2 Order of authorship determined by brownie bake-off.

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### AGGREGATION OF PREDATORS AND INSECT PARASITES AND ITS EFFECT ON STABILITY

By M. P. HASSELL AND R. M. MAY\*

Department of Zoology and Applied Entomology, Imperial College, London, S.W.7 and Department of Biology, Princeton University, Princeton, N.J., U.S.A.

### INTRODUCTION

Searching animals, such as predators and insect parasites,† usually spend more time where their requisites are more plentiful, a behaviour that has an obvious selective advantage. Despite this, it is only from relatively recent work that aggregative responses to uneven prev distributions have been adequately quantified in terms of predator numbers, or the time spent by a predator, per unit areas of different prey density. This in turn is reflected in the relatively few predator-prey models that have allowed for such aggregative behaviour (Royama 1971; Hassell & Rogers 1972; Hassell & May 1973; Murdoch & Oaten 1974). These are in contrast to the many models (e.g. Lotka 1925: Volterra 1928; Thompson 1924; Nicholson & Bailey 1935; Watt 1959; Hassell & Varley 1969) where search is random, which effectively implies an even distribution of predators throughout the whole prev area and makes the particular types of prev distribution irrelevant to the model outcome.

In an attempt to show how predator aggregation could affect stability, Hassell & May (1973) considered a simple modification of the Nicholson-Bailey model in which the prey survival was given by

$$f(H_t, P_t) = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left[ \alpha_i \exp\left(-a \beta_i P_t\right) \right]$$
 (1)

where  $\alpha_i$  and  $\beta_i$  are the proportion of total prey  $(H_i)$  and predators  $(P_i)$  in the ith area, a is the searching efficiency and n is the total number of unit areas over which prey and predators are distributed. To make a general stability analysis easier, the prey population was divided between the n unit areas with a single area of high density and the remainder of equal low density. The distribution of predators was achieved by a single parameter characterization (µ) such that

$$\beta_i = c\alpha_i^{\mu}$$
 (2)

where c is a normalization constant and  $\mu$  is the 'relative aggregation index'.

Eqn (2) was not intended to be a realistic description of how predators aggregate. It was chosen for its simplicity and because it conveniently spans the behaviours of random search ( $\mu = 0$ ) to complete aggregation in the highest density area, making the remainder effective prev refuges  $(\mu \to \infty)$ . The predators were also taken to respond only to the proportion of prey in each area and not to the number per unit area. Moreover, the particular distribution of prey was chosen to make a general stability analysis easier and not to represent accurately prey distributions in the field. This model did, however,

\* The order of authorship was determined from a twenty-five-game croquet series held at Imperial College Field Station during summer 1973.

† Henceforth, we refer to both as 'predators' unless otherwise stated.

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# **Outline**

- 1 Authors
- 2 Journals
- 3 Reviewers
- 4 Editors

# Finding the right journal



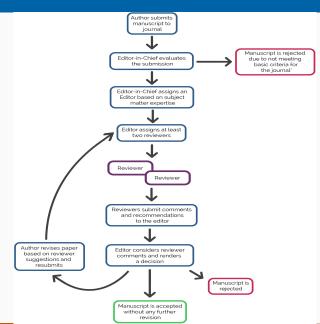
- Beware of academic phishing!
- Consider journals of papers you cite.
- Is your work heavily an extension of an earlier paper?
- Check impact factors and journal rankings.
- Aim as high as possible, but be realistic.
- Sometimes you might trade high ranking for fast response.

# Journal rankings

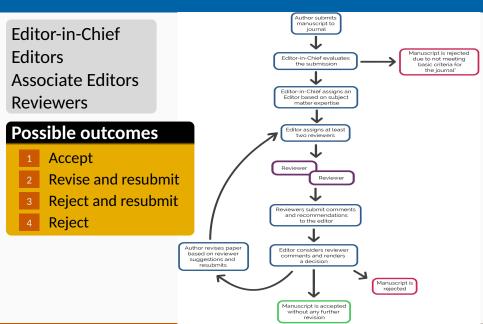
- A proxy for quality of paper
- ABDC rankings
- ERA 2010 rankings
- Scimago rankings
- Other countries

# How do journals work?

Editor-in-Chief Editors Associate Editors Reviewers



# How do journals work?



# Submitting to journals

- Don't be too fussed about journal styles. Most journals are much more lenient than the guide to authors suggests.
- Use biblatex which makes it easy to change bibliographic styles if necessary.
- Don't bother with long cover letters.
- Don't grovel.
- Check the submission when requested.

# An IJF rejection letter

Thank you for this submission, but as it consists entirely of the IJF author guidelines, it is not suitable for publication in the IJF. We publish original research, not author guidelines. Perhaps the *Journal for Guidelines* would be an appropriate outlet.

In future, when you are asked to check the pdf of your paper, you might find it useful to actually do so, rather than just claim to have done so. That way, you will avoid this kind of mistake.

# Common reasons for rejection at the IJF

As IJF Editor-in-Chief, I received over 600 papers per year and desk-rejected about 20–30% of them.

- Sending it to the wrong journal.
- Poor literature review
- No new ideas
- Limited empirical evaluation
- Outrageous claims

# Things that annoy me as an editor

- Careless referencing, missing references, gratuitous references
- An abstract that doesn't convey the main idea
- An intro or literature review that assumes the reader knows nothing/everything.
- Bad graphics
- Bad English

# Open access and fees

- **Gold:** published article open access.
- **Green:** pre-print open-access (e.g., RePEc or arXiv).

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### Fee models

- No fees for authors or readers
- Fees for readers but not authors
- Fees for authors but not readers
- Fees for authors and readers

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### Fee models

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- Fees for authors but not readers
- Fees for authors and readers
- When the fee is optional, you need to fund it from your own grants.
- When the fee is mandatory, the department will usually fund it for a Group 1 or Group 1+ journal.

# **Outline**

- 1 Authors
- 2 Journals
- 3 Reviewers
- 4 Editors

# **Dealing with reviewer reports**

- Put the reviews aside for a couple of days until you calm down.
- Poor reviews indicate poor editors.
- The best journals have the best reviewers.
- If the reviewers misunderstood your paper, then it is not explained clearly enough.
- Unless you strongly disagree, do what the reviewers have requested.
- Make the changes, even if the paper has been rejected and you are sending it to a new journal.

# Writing responses to reviewer reports

# If the journal allows a resubmission, you need to write a response to the reviewers.

### Author responses to Associate Editor comments

1. In Section 2.1: the notion of a reconciliation matrix P is introduced. This will not be clear to a majority of the readership of JASA. I suggest that a specific example of P. I would also like to see an expanded discussion of the remark that "SPS = S is required for unbiased forecasts". This would be helpful to the general readership. Its not obvious (at least, not to me). It also seems to be important since it was used in page 5 to explain why  $\Sigma_h$  is not identifiable.

We have now included on page 7 examples for two choices of P which lead to the commonly used bottom-up and top-down approaches and a detailed explanation as to why SPS = S is required for unbiased reconciled forecasts assuming that the base forecasts are unbiased.

On Equation (2) [now (3)]: What conditions do we need about dependence between y<sub>1</sub>,..., y<sub>T</sub> and ε<sub>h</sub>? Is Σ<sub>h</sub> the unconditional covariance matrix of ε<sub>h</sub> or is it the conditional covariance (given y<sub>1</sub>,..., y<sub>T</sub>)? Of course both will be equivalent under independence between ε<sub>h</sub> and y<sub>1</sub>,..., y<sub>T</sub>.

It is assumed that  $\varepsilon_h$  is independent of observations  $y_1, \dots, y_T$ . We explicitly state this now right after equation (3).

3. From the definition of W<sub>h</sub> in Lemma 1, the errors in Equations (5) and (6) have mean 0. How is this expectation computed? Is this conditional on y<sub>1</sub>,..., y<sub>T</sub>?

# Writing responses to reviewer reports

If the journal allows a resubmission, you need to write a response to the reviewers.

- No grovelling
- Cut and paste reviewer comments into response, then add your own comments beneath in a different colour/font.
- Give page/paragraph numbers for all changes.
- Respond to all the points with a simple but specific explanation of what you have done.
- If you strongly disagree, you need to persuade the editor (not the reviewer) of your perspective.
- Exception: bad editors sometimes act as rubber stamps for reviewers.
- Keep your response as short as possible. Respect the editor's time.

# Becoming a reviewer

- Write good articles
- Get them published



# **Becoming a reviewer**

- Write good articles
- Get them published



# Why review?

- You learn a lot.
- You get better known by the research leaders in your area.
- You get to see the latest research before everyone else.
- The scholarly publishing system depends on it.

# Writing a good review

- What is the paper about?
- What is the gap that it is trying to solve?
- How does it address the gap? Do the methods/theory work, check what is promised
- What sort of application is discussed? Is it contemporary, and interesting data problem, or data pulled from another paper, and a bit tired?
- How well does the title/abstract describe the main contributions of the paper?
- Is the introduction readable? If you have trouble understanding the problem from the intro there will be many other readers in the same situation
- Is the solution original? Are there other published papers on the same problem? Have they been cited appropriately? Are they missing major existing work?

# Writing a good review

- Provide a general summary of the paper and its contribution.
- Describe the major problems that need addressing.
- List minor corrections required.
- Do not include a recommendation about whether to publish in the report itself.
- Be the reviewer you would like to have.

# **Outline**

- 1 Authors
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- 4 Editors

# Becoming an (associate) editor

- Write good papers
- Write good reviews
- Get to know the editors
- 4 Wait

# Becoming an (associate) editor

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- Write good reviews
- Get to know the editors
- 4 Wait

## Why be an (associate) editor

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