Writing (Primarily for Publication) in Statistics

Steve Vardeman (and Others here and elsewhere)

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September 2007

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  - Where you should send your manuscript
  - How you should view and behave in the whole publication process

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- The **volunteer** staff of the journal does its job ... this includes both "quality improvement" and "quality control" functions (these are to help authors and to try to guarantee that what is published can be relied upon)
    - the Editor gives the paper an initial screening (usually mostly to see if the paper is even potentially appropriate for the journal's target audience/fits with the journal's purpose)

More "How Does Work Get Published in Statistics?"

- if the submission passes the Editor's screen, it is sent to an Associate Editor (someone who has been recruited by the Editor as a journal staff member for good judgment and technical competence) with technical expertise appropriate for the paper. This person gives that paper a more technical look, asking whether it could be correct and seems interesting, again for the target audience.

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    - *What is needed to bring the paper to something that the journal should publish?*

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- If this algorithm converges, the paper is published.

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- Good writing is not sufficient, but it is *absolutely necessary* for a professional statistician (in *any* realm)
- This can only be learned by practice/hard work ... to do a bad job of this because you don't want to invest the effort to learn is both short-sighted and (more importantly) **unethical**

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    - Style matters (a professional is neither pretentious nor "familiar")