

Editor's address:

Department of Statistics
University of Glasgow
Glasgow G12 8QQ, UK

Tel: 0141-330 5022
Fax: 0141-330 4814
e-mail: mike@stats.gla.ac.uk

Professor W. Li
Department of Geography
University of Wisconsin
550 North Park Street
Madison, WI 53706
USA

June 15, 2005

Dear Professor Li

Biometrika paper 05.204

Thank you for sending your paper. However, I am very sorry to say that it will not be possible to publish the paper in *Biometrika*. You have clearly done a careful piece of work on what seems to be a new idea, but I feel that the level of theoretical development is not deep enough for the paper to be given high priority in *Biometrika*, where pressure on space is currently very severe, I'm afraid. However, a version of the paper may very well be publishable elsewhere, perhaps in the more applied statistics literature, to which the paper does seem better suited, and I hope that this fairly quick decision will allow you to pursue this immediately, if you so wish. I am sorry not to be more encouraging, in rejecting the paper for *Biometrika*, but I wish you success should you decide to try elsewhere, and I should like to thank you for your interest in submitting your paper to the Journal.

(I am sending this by email, so that you can consider what to do next as soon as possible; please let me know if you require a signed hard copy.)

Yours sincerely

D. M. Titterington
Editor