WHERE ARE THE WOMEN: THE ETHNIC REPRESENTATION OF WOMEN AUTHORS IN PHILOSOPHY JOURNALS BY REGIONAL AFFILIATION AND SPECIALIZATION

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ABSTRACT

Using bibliographic metadata from 177 Philosophy Journals between 1950 and 2020, this article presents new data on the under-representation of women authors in philosophy journals across decades and across four different compounding factors. First, we examine how philosophy fits in comparison to other academic disciplines. Second, we consider how the regional academic context in which Philosophy Journals operate impacts on author gender proportions. Third, we consider how the regional specialization of a journal impacts on author gender proportions. Fourth, and perhaps most interestingly, we consider the impact of author ethnicity on gender representation, and we examine the breakdown of author ethnicity across Philosophy Journals between 1950 and 2020. To our knowledge, this is the first work to offer an estimate for author ethnicity and gender in philosophy publications using a large-scale data set. We find that women authors are underrepresented in Philosophy Journals across time, across disciplines, across the globe, and regardless of ethnicity.

Keywords: *under-representation; publishing; gender; ethnicity; philosophy journals.*

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1. Introduction

In broad terms, this paper deals with the question: Where are women in philosophy publishing? Somewhat literally, we examine authorships by women in philosophy journals with regard to associated geographic regions. More metaphorically, we compare women authorships in philosophy journals to those in other disciplines over time (1950-2020). We aim to understand the under-representation of women in philosophy as one that extends across time, across disciplines, across the globe, and across compounding factors, such as the recognition of women philosophers as legitimate members of the discipline via the publication of their scholarly work. This is the first, large-scale philosophy-specific analysis to address questions of this sort.

Before delving into a statistical analysis of the present state of the discipline, we begin by looking at the geographic, historical, and disciplinary contexts motivating our research. After all, the history of women in philosophy is the history of women across all academic disciplines (at least in the Western tradition), and these histories locate in time and extend across the globe.

1.1. Historical Context

Although the equivalent of the doctoral degree may have originated in the Muslim world during the 10th Century, the first degree granting universities emerged in Europe shortly thereafter.[1] The first woman in Europe to earn a doctoral degree, Elena Cornaro Piscopia, studied the philosophical sciences at the University of Padua in 1678—nearly a half-millenium after her male counterparts began earning their degrees (Pugh 2018).

Earning her degree from the University of Bologna, Laura Bassi followed in her predecessor's footsteps around a half-century later and eventually became the first woman professor in Europe. Only a handful of other women in Europe earned their degrees before the 19th century, and women

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[1] In the 9th Century, Fatima bint Muhammad Al-Fihriyya, a woman credited as an Islamic scholar, established the al-Qarawiyyin mosque, which later developed into an academic institution and is now a university in Morocco.

remained largely precluded from the academy for the next two-hundred years (Etzkowitz et al. 2000; Parker 2015).

Taking the United States as an example, women comprised approximately 16% of PhDs across all disciplines by the 1970s and approached gender parity in the 2000s (NCSES 2015). Given the deep roots, shared by women in philosophy and women in the academy more generally, we would expect to see significant gains in gender equity for women philosophers in the decades between 1950 and 2020. However, women in philosophy have seen some of the fewest gains overall. During this time period in the US, women received fewer than 30% of PhDs in philosophy, and it seems as though the proportion of women philosophy PhDs has plateaued as of the 1990s (NCSES 2015; Schwitzgebel and Jennings 2017; American Academy of Arts and Sciences 2019a; Conklin et al. 2019). On average, women in other areas of the Humanities receive approximately 50% more PhDs than those in philosophy (NCSES 2015; American Academy of Arts and Sciences 019a). The story is similar in other parts of the world (Goddard et al. 008c; Klonschinski 2020).[2]

For the most part, women philosophers seem to continue into academic positions in approximately the same or greater proportions as they earn PhDs (Jennings 2015; Jennings et al. 2016). While data on the representation of women philosophy faculty in different regions of the globe is somewhat difficult to obtain, the existing research suggests that women are consistently under-represented as philosophy faculty, falling somewhere below 30% in Northern America (e.g., the US and Canada) and Europe (e.g., the UK, Greece, and Germany), as well as some Anglophone countries of Oceania (e.g., Australia and New Zealand) (Goddard et al. 008a,b,d; Dodds and Goddard 2013; Rini 2013; Bowell 2015; Iliadi et al. 2018; Klonschinski 2020; Klonschinski et al. 2021).[3]

There is some evidence that the proportions of women philosophy faculty decrease as they seek tenure and promotion, with women comprising around 20% of all Full Professors in US philosophy departments (Conklin

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[2] For research on the under-representation of women as undergraduate philosophers, across national contexts, see (Dougherty et al. 2015; Paxton et al. 2012; Thompson et al. 2016; Latham 2018; Beebee and Saul 2011; Iliadi et al. 2018; Klonschinski 2020; Aymelek 2015).

[3] The finding for Greece is particularly striking, since Iliadi et al. (2018) also note that more than half of philosophy students in Greece are women. Paxton et al. (2012) presents similar findings in the US.

et al. 2019). Yet, in some disciplines, women have achieved gender parity at the faculty level (NSOPF 2004).[4] This seems like a disappointing outcome, given that Mary Whiton Calkins was appointed as the first woman president of both the American Psychological Association and the American Philosophical Association prior to the 1920s, and many other firsts were achieved by women philosophers during this same period (Pugh 2018).[5]

Despite any gains we see, it seems like something has gone wrong in academic philosophy. In some sense, philosophy pioneered the acceptance of women in the academy and, with time, made it possible for women to earn globally respected degrees, get published, and pursue academic careers across the disciplines.[6] Yet, the field of philosophy, as of the 2020s, demonstrates a notable lack of gender parity.[7] So, we must wonder, where are the women?

Without a doubt, publication is a factor that mediates an academic's ability to get hired and gain tenure, which makes academic journals the gatekeepers to one of the most important measures of academic success (O'Neill and Sachis 1994; Allen-Hermanson 2017; Chattopadhyay et al. 2013). We already know that women academics experience substantial challenges in this area regardless of discipline, but the situation is somehow worse in philosophy (Ginther and Hayes 2003, 1999; Park and Gordon 1996; Heckman and Moktan 2020; Heilman and Haynes 2005; Krawczyk and Smyk 2016; Shen et al. 2018). In philosophy journals, as within the discipline generally, the proportions of women authors increased

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[4] One might wonder whether gender parity or gender equality should be the goal. If, in general, it turns out that women (via no illegitimate cause) are simply less interested in certain questions or certain areas of study, such as philosophy, than their male counterparts, then it might be problematic to suggest that the lack of gender parity in that area indicates that an injustice has occurred. One might propose that a truly egalitarian system could manifest some such gender disparity. However, we know that the institutions upon which the discipline of philosophy is based, at the present time, are not egalitarian and that the gender disparities we are observing are most likely due to injustices embedded in the structure of the discipline. Until we have reason to believe that a lack of gender parity within the discipline is not due to a history of injustice, then it seems safe to assume that gender parity, or something approximating it is the goal. We ask our readers to conditionally consider our project through this normative lens.

[5] Beatrice Edgell was appointed as the first woman president of the Aristotelian Society a short time after (Pugh 2018).

[6] Of course, we recognize that these accomplishments are, to a great extent, an artefact of philosophy's status as one of the first academic disciplines in Europe, but this observation also punctuates our point. Despite being a discipline of firsts, philosophy has fallen behind.

[7] The problem extends well beyond Northern America. See Rosker (2021).

substantially between 1950 and 2020 (Hassoun et al. 2022; Schwitzgebel 2015; West et al. 2013). Yet, according to West et al. (2013), women comprise approximately 26% of authors across all disciplines as of the early 2000s, while women account for half as many authors in philosophy journals. More recent research on this topic suggests that, as of the 2000s, the median proportion of authorships by women philosophers is around 19% (Hassoun et al. 2022). Among those who do successfully publish their work, women seem to author, on average, around two philosophy articles each (Hassoun et al. 2022). This number seems striking when again juxtaposed with the success of Mary Whiton Calkins, an intellectual powerhouse who published over 100 academic articles and 4 books, and she was widely regarded as one of the most influential scholars of her era.[8]

1.2. Prior Work

There have been few other studies comparing the proportions of women authors in philosophy journals to the proportions of women authors in other disciplines. For example, Pearse et al. (2019) conduct an analysis of author gender and the circulation of feminist philosophies across six humanities disciplines using citation networks from the Web of Science database. West et al. (2013) conduct a large-scale citation network analysis to compare authorship gender across all disciplines in the JSTOR database. Both studies found that philosophy journals tend to publish among the lowest proportions of women authors, and West et al. (2013) find that only mathematics journals publish a lower proportion of women.

However, these works rely on citation network analyses, which typically only include work that has been cited by at least one other author. In a large-scale multidisciplinary citation study, Larivière et al. (2013) show that women are cited less frequently than men. In philosophy, the most influential scholars in the canon are most widely read and cited, a habit that reinforces historical biases toward European men and further marginalizes women and those of non-European ethnicities (Healy 2013).[9]

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[8] Around that same time, the first woman philosopher published in *Mind*, and one of the most highly regarded analytic philosophy journals, *Analysis*, was founded by a pair of women. See Pugh (2018). Notably, both journals struggle with regard to gender equity today (Wilhelm et al. 2018; Hassoun et al. 2022).

[9] Larivière et al. (2013) also note that women in philosophy are cited much less than their male

As an example of how disproportionate citation practices can be in philosophy, Healy (2015) demonstrated that David Lewis alone received twice as many citations as all women authors in the 500 most heavily cited philosophy articles.

Another potential limitation of prior work is the focus on US data (Schwitzgebel et al. 2021; Conklin et al. 2019; Paxton et al. 2012; Thompson et al. 2016; Benétreau-Dupin and Beaulac 2015). Author gender in philosophy journals is frequently inferred by algorithms relying heavily on the US Social Security Database and have difficulty inferring gender for names uncommon in the US (West et al. 2013; Schwitzgebel and Jennings 2017; Wilhelm et al. 2018; Hassoun et al. 2022). As a result, we seem to have a good deal of information on the situation for authorship by gender in the US, but one might wonder whether the existing findings on author gender in philosophy journals is a problem belonging to the US and the Anglophone world. Some have speculated that the situation may be different elsewhere, especially in parts of the world more likely to engage with philosophies beyond the Analytic Tradition, such as Continental philosophy or Chinese philosophy (Klonschinski 2020; Klonschinski et al. 2021; Iliadi et al. 2018; Schwitzgebel et al. 2018; Noichl 2021; Chiesa and Galeotti 2018).

1.3. Our Contribution

In our work, we expand our analyses to consider the global scope of academic philosophy journals and authorship by gender. We use direct publication records, in lieu of a citation network and use methodology that is inclusive of non-Anglophone names. We compare author gender across three different compounding factors. First, we examine how philosophy fits in comparison to other academic disciplines. Second, we follow with an exploration of how the regional academic context in which Philosophy Journals operate impacts on author gender proportions. For this, we compare author gender in Philosophy Journals that self-report affiliations with institutions or organizations in specific geographic regions. Third, and perhaps most interestingly, we consider the impact of author ethnicity on gender representation, and we examine the breakdown of author ethnicity

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counterparts, but the related statistics are not available.

across Philosophy Journals between 1950 and 2020. To our knowledge, this is the first work to offer an estimate for author ethnicity and gender in philosophy publications using a large-scale data set.

In our work, we consider the following questions:

1. **Is there something about the content of Philosophy Journals that differentiates them with regard to the publication of women authors?** In light of existing discussions in the field, we hypothesize that Philosophy Journals behave more like those in STEM fields and less like those in Humanistic disciplines.
2. **Does the geographic regional affiliation of a journal affect the proportions of authorships by women?** We test the hypotheses that author gender proportions are predominantly a Northern American problem.
3. **Does the author's ethnicity impact on the proportion of women authorships?** We test the hypotheses that a broadly "Western" hereditary decent may correspond to a higher proportion of women authorships.

Despite the more global context of our work, we observe trends that mirror prior US-focused analyses. Unsurprisingly, most authors are of American or Western European origin. We do observe a 64% growth in the representation of philosophers with non-Western ethnicities between 1950 and 2020, but this number is disappointing compared to the 241% growth seen by women authors in the discipline. Regarding journal regional affiliation, we observe a common trend. Contrary to our hypothesis, the relatively low proportions of women publishing in philosophy journals is not a problem belonging to Northern America alone. In fact, the situation for women seems to be worse for journals related to Western Europe but better for journals related to Eastern Europe. Even so, women authors are under-represented compared to their male counterparts across each compounding factor. Because most of the journals in our data set are affiliated with Northern America or Europe, we are most confident in our findings relating to these geographic regions. However, we believe, given the size of our data set, that this has important implications for philosophers, regardless of gender, who are attempting to publish in a global context.

2. Methods

We conduct an analysis of philosophy publication data in the JSTOR and Portico databases between 1950 and 2020.[10] We focus on how the proportion of authorships by women philosophers changes across decades and across a number of compounding factors, including author ethnicity, publication regional affiliation, as well as publication data from the same time period in journals from other disciplines.

In this section, we describe the methods used in selecting the data sets examined in this article. We define each of our comparison variables, and we provide the details of the statistical methods employed. We report the details and results for each of the specific analyses in Section 3.

2.1. Data Set

We sourced our data set through Constellate (2021), which provides a free service for accessing publication metadata. We queried only publications available through the JSTOR and Portico databases and limited our search to publications of the "research-article" and "article" document sub-type (excluding book reviews, editorials, announcements, letters, etc.).[11] For each research article, we accessed metadata on publication name, publication venue, author list, and publication year.

Using slightly different methodologies, we accessed two sets of article metadata for our analysis: philosophy article metadata and comparison field article metadata.

2.1.1. Philosophy Article Metadata

Our first data set comprises metadata for 262,513 total philosophy articles. This data set comprises all articles available at the time of access from 177 journals that focus primarily on philosophy or interdisciplinary journals

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[10] Although data from earlier decades are available through JSTOR and Portico, we focus on articles published between 1950 and 2020 because data from these earlier decades are sparse.
[11] Other data archives are accessible through Constellate, but research articles are not available through these archives.

with philosophical content. We refer to these as Philosophy Journals and Interdisciplinary Journals respectively. A full list of journals is available in Appendix A.

Employing a method similar to Hassoun et al. (2022), we identified an initial list of Philosophy Journals by aggregating the content of several existing lists, including those made available through Thom Brooks' Blog, the Leiter Journal Ranking Survey, the APA/BPA Journal Surveys, Andrew Cullison's Journal Surveys, Brian Weatherson's Journal Surveys, as well as Wikipedia. We identified 124 philosophy journals in the JSTOR and Portico databases using this method.

For our analyses of Interdisciplinary Journals with self-reported philosophical content, we were unable to access bibliographic data for the full list of journals originally included in the study conducted by (Hassoun et al. 2022). As our Interdisciplinary Journal data were too sparse to conduct an identical comparison, we expanded our data set, as we did with the Philosophy Journals. To accomplish this task, we manually identified 53 additional journals that self-reported engagement with philosophical content on the journal website or on the JSTOR website. These journals were selected, in part, for their, more globally inclusive multi-disciplinary specializations and Regional Affiliations.

2.1.2. Comparison Field Article Metadata

We accessed a second set of article metadata for conducting a multi-discipline comparison to the field of philosophy. For this set, we used articles identified by Constellate (2021) as belonging to one of 16 fields grouped into 4 broad disciplines, including the Lab Sciences (i.e, physics, chemistry, ecology, and biology), Technology and Mathematics (i.e., mathematics (all), mathematical logic, computer science, and engineering), the Social Sciences (i.e., psychology, sociology, political science, and economics), and the Humanities (i.e., history, law, religion, and literature).[12] The Humanistic fields were selected based on their content overlap with

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[12] The inclusion of mathematical logic, in addition to mathematics (all), is an artefact of our initial analysis, which we chose to include because it serves to demonstrate an important point about the way in which sub-fields within a discipline impact on observations about the overall representation of women within the discipline.

philosophy areas of specialization, and the rest (i.e., the STEM fields) were selected to test our hypothesis that philosophy is more similar to STEM than adjacent Humanistic fields.[13]

We list the disciplines and article count for each decade, in Appendix B. Unlike the philosophy data set, due to fiscal and time constraints, we limited the search to a random sample of a maximum of 25,000 articles for comparison per discipline. This consisted of 253,738 total articles.

2.2. Determining Author Gender & Origin

Data on the gender or ethnic origins of authors is largely unavailable because most philosophy journals do not provide or collect such information. We, therefore, implement an algorithm, made available through Namsor (2021), to infer gender and ethnicity using an author's name. Namsor (2021) is an online service that uses a validated machine learning approach to classify the gender and country of origin associated with a first and last name. See appendix B for the percentage of tagged data tagged with author gender and ethnicity.

2.2.1. Gender

Because there are no historical databases on self-reported author gender in philosophy, we infer author gender, as a man or women, using first names. We acknowledge that our gender assignments may not align with a given author's self-identified gender and that we may occasionally assign the incorrect gender to authors with rare names or names that fall outside common gender conventions. We similarly cannot capture cases of non-

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[13] Note that while Constellate has a comprehensive list of top journals in the field of Philosophy, not all top publications across other disciplines are represented in the Constellate data set. For example, the CS data sample lacks ACM and IEEE publications, which tend to be among the most prestigious publication venues in the field. An informal review of the available journals suggests that our analysis tends to include a greater proportion of less prestigious journals. If these less prestigious journals follow trends similar to what we see in philosophy, they most likely publish higher proportions of women than the more prestigious journals. However, given the size of the data sets included in the samples for each field, we would not expect the numbers to change much if we had indeed sampled from the most prestigious journals, since, in all disciplines, the most prestigious journals account for only a small portion of all available publication venues. So, their contributions to the overall publication trends in a field, which is what we are considering in our analyses, would be correspondingly small.

binary or gender fluid individuals. These deficiencies are known limitations of this type of analysis, particularly analyses utilizing historical data where backwards identification of preferred gender may be impossible. We do however believe that gender-based name tagging provides a coarse estimate of author gender and is a valuable metric for understanding some aspects of marginalization in the state of the discipline.

For this paper, we infer gender for only the principle author on each article, which, by convention, is usually the first author of a work.[14] We parse our data to capture all recorded first and last names for the principle author on each paper. We exclude non-human names relating to publications by institutions and committees, manually filtering out words such as: society, institute, project, agency, among others. Papers with first names consisting of only the first initial are similarly excluded from the analysis, as a single initial is insufficient for inferring a gender. We standardize all names to lowercase and replace tildas with hyphens, and we replace backticks with apostrophes but keep them in the original character set (including accents) from Constellate (2021).

There are two common approaches for extrapolating gender from a name: Historic Baby Names from the US Social Security Database and online services. Hassoun et al. (2022) and West et al. (2013), for example, use the US Social Security Database (2021) to infer gender. While Schwitzgebel and Jennings (2017) use Genderize.io (2021), which is an online service. One potential criticism of the former approach is that names in the US Social Security Database are heavily Americanized. In contrast, Genderize. io (2021) captures a wider assortment of names but limit searches to first names using the Latin alphabet. Either strategy may fail to capture the full diversity of the global academic community.

For this work, we instead employ Namsor (2021). This service uses both first and last name, in the original character set (e.g., Cyrillic), to assign gender and is more sensitive to the likely ethnicity of the author. Past work

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[14] Although some articles may have more than one author, inferring gender for only the principle author does not significantly impact our work. Philosophy is primarily a single author discipline, and women are considerably less likely than men to co-author. Moreover, while approximately 8% of philosophy journals are likely to have more than one author, only 2% of philosophy articles tend to have mixed gender authors. See Hassoun et al. (2022). Given the size of our data set and the low proportions of mixed gender co-authorships, inferring gender for only the principle author does not significantly impact our work.

by Santamaría and Mihaljević (2018) has shown that this tool has a higher accuracy than the other two approaches. We ran Namsor (2021) on our entire data set, including Interdisciplinary Journals and journals from other fields, and tagged first authors with the corresponding gender only when there was at least a 90% probability of the full name belonging to only one gender.

2.2.2. Ethnic Origin

Similarly, few journals provide self-identified ethnicity for authors. Using Namsor (2021), we attempt to infer author ethnicity using the geographic origin associated with the author's full name.[15]

We recognize this is a coarse method of analysis. For example, marriage may complicate identification when spouses take each other's names. Past work, such as Scheuble and Johnson (2005), has shown that women tend to use pre-marital last names for professional publications.[16] Using a combination of first and last names, along with original alphabets provide sensible guesses at potential ethnicity.

For this analysis, we focus primarily on geographic sub-regions. Namsor (2021) infers the countries most likely associated with a name, along with the probability of the match. Using the top two country matches, we assign each to the corresponding sub-region. If the top two matches correspond to the same sub-region, we sum their probabilities. Then, if the resulting probability is greater than 15%, we assign the author to that sub-region. Note that the low probability provided by Namsor (2021) is in regards to the author belonging to an exact country and not a region. In practice, the alternate country matches typically fall into the same geographic regions.

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[15] See Namsor (2021) for more information on the methodology employed.

[16] However, one might worry that this is a more recent development and that women publishing earlier in our timeline (e.g., closer to the 1950s) might have taken their husband's last names, which would make it harder to be certain of author ethnicity in earlier decades, especially the ethnicity of women authors. To address this concern, we should highlight one tragic fact. Across the globe and until more recent decades, conservatives about inter-racial and inter-ethnic marriages strictly and often violently enforced stratified social systems and anti-miscegenation laws and statutes. As a result, we would therefore expect last names to accurately reflect author ethnicity in historic data, and we would expect deviations from this tradition by women to be few in number, especially given the already low proportion of women authors over the decades.

While this method is experimental and should not be taken as a definitive analysis of author ethnicities, we believe it provides a novel and interesting look at publication data in Philosophy.

2.3. Determining Journal Regional Affiliation

In addition to examining ethnicity, we pair this analysis with journal specific factors, such as the geographic location of publication. Once we identified the initial list of Philosophy Journals for which we could access article metadata through Constellate (2021), we manually assigned each journal to a world region based on the institutional or organizational affiliations. We assigned journal affiliations based on self-reporting from the journal website or the JSTOR website. Sometimes, a journal was affiliated with an institution or organization that self-identified as genuinely international in scope, and these journals were assigned to the "International" category for comparing to journals with specific regional affiliations. In some cases (22 philosophy journals), we were unable to identify journal affiliation because none was conspicuously reported, and these journals were excluded from the regional comparison.

We identified 41 journals affiliated with institutions or organizations in Northern America (US & Canada), 43 journals affiliated with Western Europe, 6 affiliated with Eastern Europe, and 10 journals with broadly International affiliations. Asia and the Middle East had a single journal affiliation each, so we omit these categories from our statistical analysis. Though, we do make several notes about these journals.

Our final list of philosophy journals and corresponding article entries was limited to those for which article metadata was available through the JSTOR and Portico databases, and our regional analysis was, unfortunately, limited primarily to journals with articles published in English (89% of all papers in our data set are in English). Due to these limitations we combined areas with low journal counts into fused categories. We recognize that there are potential regional databases that could be leveraged and hope to explore a wider data set in future work. We provide a full list of journals and our assignments for regions in Appendix A. As the Middle East had only two journals in our data set we omit it from our comparative analysis.

2.4. Modeling

We define "authorships" as author-paper pairs. We calculate the proportion of women authorships as the number of women authorships over the total number of women and men, excluding authors whose gender was not identified. We examine authorships, rather than unique authors, throughout the analysis because we are unable to fully disambiguate the set of unique authors.

When possible, in our analysis, we model the data using a generalized linear model (GLM). General linear models are a broad class of models that generalize beyond simple linear regression. Our data does not fit a normal distribution and best conforms to a negative binomial distribution. In all cases, we used this distribution family for generating the model. Due to the long review process and bundled nature of journal publishing, we use year and decade as categorical variables. Unless otherwise stated, we use journal-year pair as the grouping for the data.

3. Results

3.1. Trends Over Time

First, we conduct an initial inspection of the data set described in Section 2.1. As noted, we collected data on journals focusing primarily on philosophy as well as interdisciplinary journals with philosophical content. We refer to these journals as "Philosophy Journals" and "Interdisciplinary Journals" respectively. In this section, we conduct a comparison of the proportion of women authorships in Philosophy Journals to that of Interdisciplinary Journals for each decade between 1950 and 2020.

For this analysis, we constructed a GLM model as described in the methods section 2. We used the number of women authorships as the response variable, the log of the total number of authorships as an offset, and the decade of publication as predictors. We found that the interaction between journal category and decade is significant. We reran our model, stratified by journal type, and interpreted the results for each journal type independently. We show the resulting model estimates for each journal type and decade in Figure 1.

The overall trends show that since the 1970s at least, the representation of women authors has been steadily increasing but is far from equal. Women make up only 22% of authorships. We present the 95% confidence interval as the shaded region around the model estimate. The tight CI's, especially around the estimated model for Philosophy Journals, suggests a high level of accuracy.
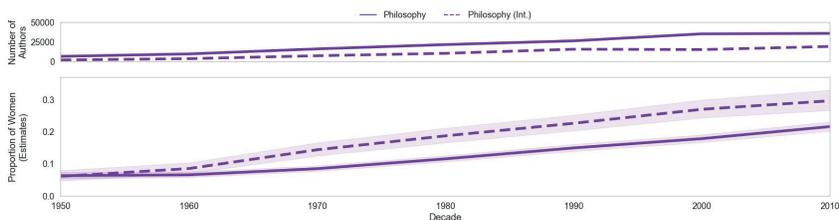

Figure 1. Trend for General Philosophy and Interdisciplinary Papers. Total number of authorships, men and women (top). GLM By Decade (bottom)authorships.

Although the two journal types performed similarly in the 1950s, Interdisciplinary Journals consistently publish a greater proportion of women authors than Philosophy Journals. As of 2020, women make up 30% of all publications in Interdisciplinary Journals. The lack of overlap between the CI's (depicted by the white space between the two shaded regions), signifies that the difference between the two journal types is statistically significant as of the 1960s.

Our results are consistent with those reported for "Non-Top Philosophy Journals" in Hassoun et al. (2022). To some extent, we are not surprised by these results, since existing literature on gender determination algorithms suggests that Namsor (2021) (used in our study) performs comparably to the approach used in Hassoun et al. (2022) (i.e., names from the US SSDB). However, we should highlight that Namsor (2021) is better at inferring gender from non-anglicized names, meaning that the algorithm gives us access to gender information about a diverse population of authors, which were not included in the large-scale authorship study by Hassoun et al. (2022). Our preliminary findings offer initial evidence for what seems to be a global trend—that, when we investigate philosophy authorship and gender in a more broadly international (i.e., by considering author names under-represented in the US SSDB), we find relatively few differences.

3.2. Comparison to Other Fields

Second, we compare the proportions of women authorship in Philosophy Journals to the proportions of women authorships in other disciplines.

For our comparison, we reuse the estimated proportions of women authorships in Philosophy Journals from the GLM in Section 3.1. However, we employed slightly different approaches for accessing authorship data for philosophy and non-philosophy disciplines (as noted in Section 2.1). For other fields, we provide raw proportion instead of modeling the estimated proportion. To calculate these proportions, we sum total number of women authorships and divide by the total number of all authorships. We show the resulting proportions for each discipline and each decade in Figure 2. We limit our analysis to a trend-level comparison.[17]
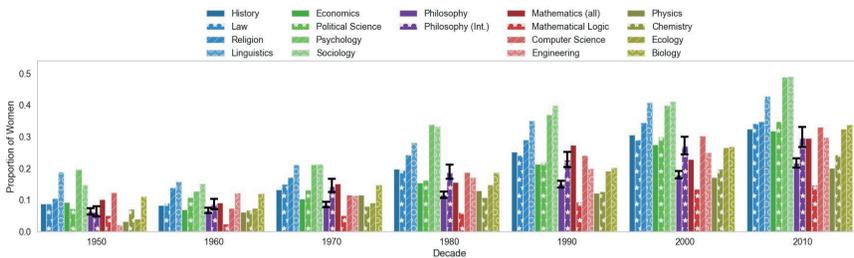
Figure 2. Field Comparison - By Field

Although journals across all fields publish somewhat low proportions of women authors in the 1950s and 1960s, the proportions of women authorships increase across all disciplines in the decades between 1950 and 2020. In the 1950s, Philosophy Journals (solid purple) published the lowest proportion of women (6%) compared to the journals in Humanistic fields (i.e., the Humanities and Social Sciences), but journals in the Humanistic fields showed a good deal of variation with those in political science (green

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[17] We use journal-year pairs in our GLM estimates. Because we accessed a random sampling of journals for each non-philosophy discipline and each year, the GLM's calculations for each journal-year pair would be incorrect. For example, our data contain many non-philosophy journals for which we have only a single entry in a particular year. This prevents us from building a comparable model, since we have complete data about Philosophy Journals. Similarly, we do not provide CIs for the non-philosophy data, as we are more uncertain about the statistical error, and any comparison to the CIs on the well modeled philosophy data would be misleading. This complication should not impact on our ability to examine overall trends in a discipline because of the size of our sample, but it does impede our ability to conduct accurate statistical comparisons between the different disciplines.

stars) publishing in proportions close to Philosophy Journals at 7% women authors and those in psychology journals (green lines) publishing 20% women authors. Law (blue stars), psychology, and sociology consistently publish the highest proportions of women authors in each decade and are approaching 50% women authors as of the 2000s.

Compared to journals in STEM fields, Philosophy Journals (6% ± 1) started higher than engineering at 2% (red circles), physics at 3% (solid yellow), ecology at 4% (yellow lines), and mathematical logic at 5% (red stars). However, by the 2010s engineering and ecology journals demonstrated rapid growth (1336% and 706% respectively) that ranked them 8-10% above Philosophy Journals. We can see that a slow start for journals in STEM fields did not indicate lower authorship in the future. Also, as of the 2010s, only journals in physics, chemistry (yellow stars), and mathematical logic publish a lower proportion of women authors than Philosophy Journals. While physics and chemistry are comparable to philosophy over the decades (frequently falling on the cusp of philosophy's CI), the only discipline consistently publishing a lower proportion of women authors than philosophy is mathematical logic, which never falls within philosophy's CI. Whereas mathematics overall (solid red) consistently publishes a greater proportion of women authors than Philosophy Journals and follows a trajectory more similar to Interdisciplinary Philosophy journals (purple stars). We highlight this difference for later discussion about the impact of sub-disciplines on the present research.

Comparing Philosophy Journals to Interdisciplinary Journals might be the closest comparison, as the content is more similar to that of philosophy, and we have a larger sample size for this category. While starting out similar Philosophy Journals with ≈ 6% women in the 1950s, the mean rate of growth for Interdisciplinary Journals was 8% faster. By the 2010s, Interdisciplinary Journals published a statistically significantly greater proportion of women authors at 30% (8% higher than Philosophy Journals).

As the per-field grouping is crowded, we group the individual fields into their broader respective disciplines as specified in Appendix B. Note we omit mathematical logic from the groupings to avoid double counting.[18]

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[18] To clarify on this point, we drop mathematical logic from the comparison between broader disciplinary groupings in order to prevent over-sampling mathematics, and specifically a single sub-

For this analysis, we examine Philosophy Journals and not Interdisciplinary Journals. For each field and category, we compute the decade over decade percent change in women authorships. We also compute the mean decade over decade percent change in the proportion of women authors, as well as the total field-wise percent change between the proportions of women authorships in the 1950s and 2010s.

We show the resulting proportions for each discipline and decade, as well as the rate of change per discipline, in Figure 3 and present a detailed table in Appendix C.
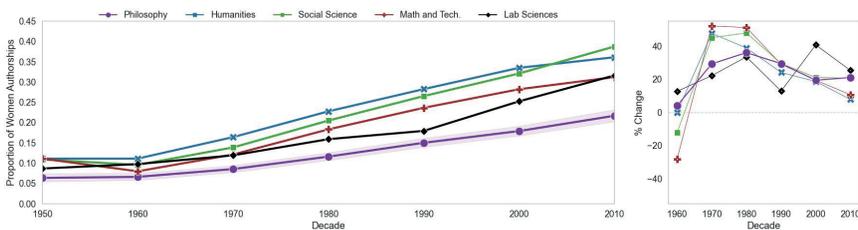
Figure 3. Field Comparison by discipline grouping. Proportion of women authorships by field and decade (left). Rate of growth by field and decade (right)

When grouping journals from individual fields into disciplines, we observe that Philosophy Journals had a slower start than other disciplines. While women in philosophy accounted for just 6% ± 1 of authorships in the 1950s, women in other fields accounted for 9-11% of authorships. Notably, the mean rate of growth is comparable to other disciplines (23% in philosophy compared to 22-25% in other disciplines). Similarly, the total change from the 1950s to 2010s is 241% additional women for philosophy, which is comparable to the mean rate of growth overall. The slow start does however put Philosophy Journals last in a discipline level comparison. The proportion of women authors in the 2010s is 9% ± 1 lower than in the next lowest discipline, Math and Technology, and 14% lower than the Humanities.

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field of mathematics, in the comparative analysis.

3.3. Journal Regional Affiliation

Third, we examine the proportions of women authorships in Philosophy Journals (excluding Interdisciplinary) by geographic regional affiliation. As previously noted in 2.3, geographic regional affiliation was assigned based on self-identified connections with regionally affiliated institutions or organizations. Journals self-identifying as genuinely internationally affiliated were also analysed for comparison.

For our analysis, we built a GLM, using the number of women authorships as the response variable, the log of the total number of authorships as an offset, and journal regional affiliations as the predictors. We show the resulting model estimates for each region in Figure 4. We provide all estimated values and confidence intervals in appendix D.
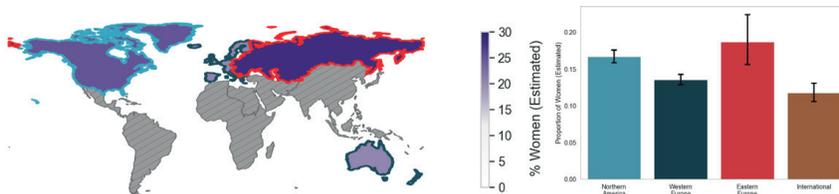
a) Map of GLM estimates
b) GLM Estimates with CI

Figure 4. Journal Region Comparison aggregated for all decades. Proportion of women based on GLM

We find that journals affiliated with Eastern Europe publish the largest proportions of women authors, followed by journals affiliated with Northern America, which somewhat contradicts our hypothesis. However, we find no statistically significant difference between the two journal types. An analysis of additional data from Eastern European journals could help clarify whether we are observing a meaningful difference in these regional journal categories. Interestingly, we find that journals affiliated with Western Europe (14% ± 1) publish statistically significantly lower proportions of women authors compared to those affiliated with Northern America(17% ± 1) and Eastern Europe (19% ± 3), as do journals with an International affiliation (12% ± 1). We observe no statistical difference between the proportions of women authorships in journals with International affiliations and those affiliated with Western Europe.

In our data set, we did have one journal regionally affiliated with Asia and one journal affiliated with the Middle East. We can draw no firm conclusions about journals with either geographic regional affiliation because the data set is too small. We did, however, observe that the journal affiliated with the Middle East published the lowest proportions of women (4% ± 2), compared to all other regionally affiliated journals, and that the difference in the proportions of women authorships is statistically significant. We believe this result merits further inquiry in future research.
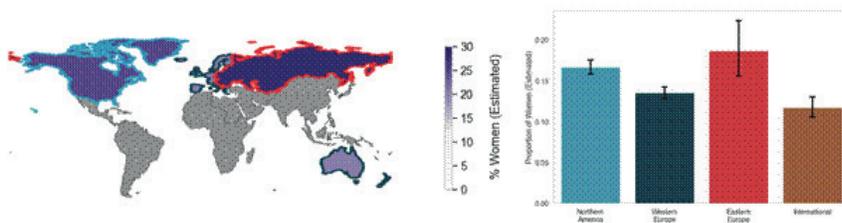

a) Map of GLM estimates
b) GLM Estimates with CI

Figure 5. Region Topic Comparison. Aggregated for all decades. Proportion of women based on GLM

3.4. Author Ethnicity

Fourth, we compare author gender distribution and the likely region correlating to author ethnicity (based on author first and last name) between 1950 and 2020. For this analysis, we consider only Philosophy Journals (excluding Interdisciplinary Journals).

We built a GLM, using journal-year pairs as input grouping, the number of female authorships as the response variable, the log of the total number of authorships as an offset, and the sub-region associated with author ethnicity as predictors. We show the resulting model estimates for each topic and decade in Figure 6b. We provide all estimated values and confidence intervals in appendix D.
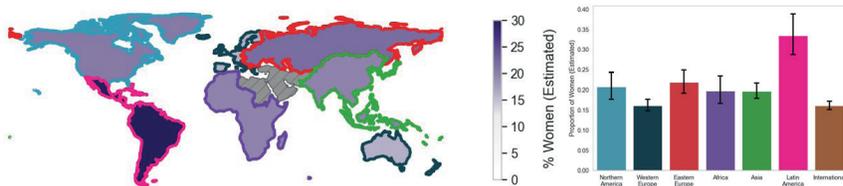
a) Map of GLM estimates

b) GLM of gender breakdown by author ethnicity.

Figure 6. Author Ethnicity Comparison. Aggregated for all decades.

Surprisingly, women with ethnicities associated with the Indo-Pacific region, which includes the Indian sub-continent, Pacific Islands, and South East Asia, publish in statistically significantly higher proportions (25% ± 3) compared to all other regions, except Latin America. Women with ethnicities in Latin America (22% ± 3), Northern America (19% ± 1), and Eastern Europe (17% ± 2) publish in the next largest proportions respectively. While these results are suggestive, we do not identify statistically significant differences in the proportions of women authors for these regions.

Interestingly, women authors with an ethnicity corresponding to Western Europe (12% ± 1) publish the statistically significantly lowest proportions overall—a 5% difference from Africa, the next lowest group. This observation may be somewhat impacted by the split of authors between the Northern America and Western Europe Group, as we will address more in the discussion in Section 4.[19]

Meanwhile, the proportions of women authors with an ethnicity corresponding to Africa, the Middle East, and Eastern Asia (encompassing China, Korea, and Japan) fall in the middle of the pack with no statistical difference.

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[19] As a prelude to this discussion, we note that Western European surnames, especially those traced from Anglophone countries, heavily overlap with historically Northern American surnames (e.g., names such as Smith, Jones, Roberts, and Miller), so we might be losing important information about diversity in author ethnicity when it comes to analysing Northern America.
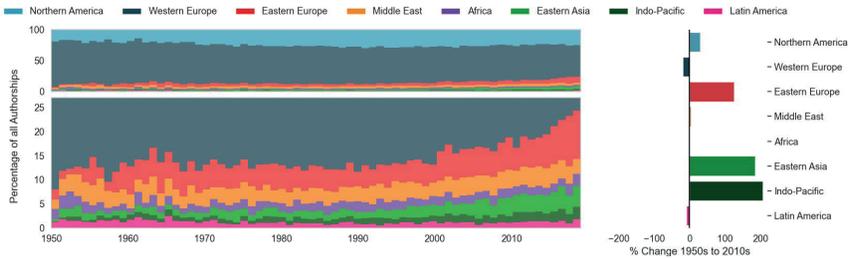
Figure 7. Proportion of authorships by region and ethnicity for all genders, by year. Full trend (top left). Zoomed in on non Western Origins (bottom left). Total Change from 1950s to 2010s by origin (right).

Next, we analyzed the breakdown of author ethnicity over time. Note, here we are looking at all genders. We present a graph of these trends in Figure 7. Unsurprisingly, for our data set, authors of Western European decent make up half of all authorships. In the 1950s, 69% of all authors were tagged as having a Western European origin, and, as authors associated with other ethnicities, became more represented, the number declined to 56% of all authorships. Authors with an ethnicity corresponding to Northern America comprise the next largest group with 19% of all authorships in the 1950s and 24% of all authorships as of the 2010s.

Authors with the remaining ethnicities comprise less than 25% of all authorships in our data set, with each region comprising between 1-7% of authorships. When we examined growth between the 1950s and 2010s, we found that the proportion of authors descending from the Indo-Pacific region had the highest growth at 207%. Eastern Asia had the second highest growth at 185%. Eastern European authorships grew by 125%, while authors with ethnicities associated with the remaining regions had less than 20% growth.

In general, these findings suggest that gender parity among authors in Philosophy Journals is least likely when considering authors of Western European decent, but women with Western European decent publish in considerably greater numbers than women with any other ethnicity. Women philosophers of African decent, however, are published both in some of the lowest proportions and the lowest number.

4. Discussion

This paper presents new data on the under-representation of women authors in Philosophy Journals across decades and across compounding factors, including regions associated with an author's ethnicity, journal geographic regional affiliation, as well as a comparative analysis to publication data from the same time period in journals from other disciplines. In what follows, we highlight interesting findings, address some limitations of this study, and provide ideas for future work.

We join the body of academic philosophers who are concerned that women are, in numerous ways, under-represented in the discipline of philosophy. As of 2020, we observe that the proportion of authorships by women in Philosophy Journals remains significantly lower than the proportions of authorships by men. Naturally, we would like to see equality in every aspect of the profession and ask our readers to consider our findings through this normative lens. However, we are also troubled by the under-representation of women authorships in Philosophy Journals in more limited ways.

For example, one standing concern is about the difference in the proportions of women faculty and the proportions of women authorships in philosophy journals. As of 2020, women comprise approximately 25% of faculty (across all professional ranks) but publish approximately 19% of articles, aggregated across ranked and unranked Philosophy Journals (Hassoun et al. 2022; Wilhelm et al. 2018; Schwitzgebel and Jennings 2017; Conklin et al. 2019). This disparity is troubling, since publishing is a key metric of academic success and is essential for progressing one's career in academia. This issue has been discussed at length, but the general worry involves the possibility of problematic biases against women arising at key points in the review process. Such biases, which would impede women from publishing, might manifest in many ways (Dotson 2013; Brogaard 2012; Blair 2002; Lee and Schunn 2010; Bourget and Chalmers 2014; Hagengruber 2015; Waithe 2020; Hengel 2017).

One might wonder whether gender representation among philosophy faculty is a fair comparison class for gender representation in philosophy journals. Different kinds of academic positions have differing requirements on the quantity and quality of academic publications. If, for example, women are

hired into teaching positions more easily than into research positions, then we might reasonably expect to observe a disparity between the proportions of women faculty and the proportions of women authorships in philosophy journals—one that is not obviously due to any biases in the peer review process. Because publications are more important to research positions, women would be under less pressure to publish and might correspondingly produce and submit fewer publications. This could help explain the gender productivity gap in philosophy (Bright 2017).

To get a better sense of the best comparison class, we would need to know more about the distribution of faculty, by gender, between teaching and research positions in philosophy as well as the distribution, by gender, of submission and acceptance rates at philosophy journals. Further research in this area seems warranted, but we note that this question is complicated by several compounding factors. For example, because publication success is typically required for hiring into research positions, low publication rates could restrict women philosophers to teaching positions, which afford less time and fewer material resources for producing and submitting articles.

Setting this question aside, an alternative hypothesis for explaining the smaller proportion of women authors in philosophy journals, as compared to the proportion of women philosophy faculty, is that women philosophers instead publish in Interdisciplinary Journals with philosophical content, which are perhaps the next best option for women philosophers hoping to overcome this impediment to their academic careers and publish their research (Hassoun et al. 2022).

This hypothesis might be supported by our analysis. When we compared the proportion of women authorships in Philosophy Journals to that of Interdisciplinary Journals, we found that Interdisciplinary Journals publish a greater proportion of women authors as of the 1960s.[20] This finding is consistent with that of Hassoun et al. (2022), whose results show that Interdisciplinary Journals publish greater proportions of women authors

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[20] This finding is also consistent with the hypothesis that Interdisciplinary Journals with philosophical content, which are most frequently categorised as Social Science or Humanities journals, also publish from disciplines with greater proportions of women. As these hypotheses are not inconsistent with one another (i.e., it is possible for Interdisciplinary Journals to publish greater numbers of women philosophers and to publish high numbers of women from disciplines where women are more well represented), these are not counterpoints.

as compared to Leiter-ranked Top and unranked Non-Top Philosophy Journals. However, these authors only find statistically significant differences between the proportions of women authors published in Interdisciplinary and Top-Philosophy Journals.

The fact that this result holds, even though our analysis involves a broader corpus, highlights the confidence of the finding. Compared to Hassoun et al. (2022), we aggregate data from Top- and Non-Top philosophy journals to create a single Philosophy Journal category, since the focus of the present analysis is not concerned with so-called prestige effects (De Cruz 2018; Conklin et al. 2019; Wilhelm et al. 2018). We also include a greater number of journals for inclusion in our study—expanding the number of journals that would potentially categorize as Non-Top or Interdisciplinary Journals. Our work also expands on that of Hassoun et al. (2022), by broadening the inquiry beyond the US context. In our work, we specifically make an effort to include non-US based journals. We also implement a gender determination algorithm that allowed us to infer gender for authors with non-anglicized names, which were excluded in the analysis conducted by Hassoun et al. (2022). Despite the differences, both seem to clearly indicate that there is a real and meaningful difference between the representation of women in Philosophy Journals and Interdisciplinary Journals—one that is not US centric, as we test in the other analysis.

Perhaps the best way to explore this question would be to compare the names of individuals graduating with philosophy PhDs, over several decades, to the names of authors in both journal types. To our knowledge this type of study has not yet been performed in prior work, and we plan to explore it in future work.[21] More indirectly, this question supposes that there is something unique about philosophy, which encourages women to publish in adjacent disciplines. For this, we may consider adjacent fields, such as the Humanities and Social Sciences, and some of the traditionally male dominated STEM fields, including Math and Technology and the Lab Sciences.

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[21] Though Allen-Hermanson (2017) does compare the proportions of recent PhDs to their chances at publishing, which bears on the sort of analysis we have in mind. See also Jennings (2015) and Jennings et al. (2016).

4.1. Comparing Philosophy Journals to Other Disciplines and Fields

To test this, we compared the proportions of women authorships in Philosophy Journals to the proportions of women authorships in other disciplines. We found that the Humanities and the Social Sciences groupings consistently publish greater mean proportions of women authors, on aggregate, than philosophy or the STEM groupings, which taken in isolation supports the supposition that philosophy is more like STEM than its Humanistic counterparts. However, when comparing the mean proportions of the two STEM groupings (i.e., Math & Technology and Lab Sciences), philosophy publishes lower proportions of women. This comparison gives us some initial evidence to think that the seemingly low proportions of women authorships in Philosophy Journals are not best explained by philosophy's similarity to STEM and are instead better explained by unique difficulties for gender equity in Philosophy Journals.

However, our analysis of the changes in the proportions of women authors across discipline groupings over time suggests that the proportions of women authorships increase at comparable rate per decade (22-25%). Philosophy Journals are in the middle of the pack at a 23% mean increase. So, although Philosophy Journals tend to publish a lower proportion of women authors, on aggregate, than journals in other disciplines, this is better explained by philosophy's comparatively low starting point in the 1950s. This finding is surprising and should leave us wondering whether the relative starting points of journals in individual fields are better indicators of how journals in those fields compare to those in other fields over time. If so, the fact that Philosophy Journals publish comparatively low proportions of women authors might stem from historical demographics and not speak especially poorly of philosophy's progress on gender equity.

To make advancements on this question, we divide disciplines into individual fields. Psychology, Sociology, and Linguistics journals begin with the greatest proportions of women authors in the 1950s and end with the greatest proportions of women authors in the 2010s. Journals in these fields unsurprisingly demonstrate the least total percent gain between 1950 and 2020, and their gains have slowed as the proportions of women authorships in these fields approach gender parity (i.e, 50%). So, the initial starting points of journals in top performing fields do seem to impact on

a field's overall performance, but this might be attributed to their having relatively little runway to start with. We can compare journals in top performing fields to those in bottom performing fields. Journals in Physics, Chemistry, and Mathematical Logic start low and end low, demonstrating similarly small gains. But such small gains are not likely due to a limited runway. One might think these findings suggest that the relative starting points of journals in individual fields do predict how they compare to others over time.

However, many of the journals in other individual fields started out with proportions of women authorships comparable to that of philosophy and have subsequently demonstrated significant gains. Interdisciplinary Journals, for example, are similar to Philosophy Journals in the 1950s and engineering journals start out with a lower proportion of women authors than Philosophy Journals (and had the lowest proportions overall). Even so, Interdisciplinary Journals are much greater than ($p < .001$) Philosophy Journals as of the 2010s, and engineering journals demonstrated the greatest overall gains (1336%) in the decades between 1950 and 2020. So, the low starting points for journals in these fields did not seem to predict their gains, but, much like Philosophy Journals, these journals did end up in the middle of the pack, which suggests that starting points may be a compounding factor. In summary, the historical context prevents Philosophy Journals from reaching gender parity as of 2020, but, in our opinion, Philosophy Journals or the field of Philosophy more generally, probably could have seen greater gains. A number of researchers have made suggestions about how to improve equity in philosophy journals.

Before moving on to a discussion of the regional analyses, which more literally addresses the question of "Where are the Women?", we should talk a bit about the implications and limitations of examining fields and disciplines at different levels. Consider our findings around Mathematics. On our initial round of data collection, we accessed data for Mathematical Logic on the intuition the Mathematical Logic would be representative of Mathematics overall and have some similarities to Philosophical Logic, making it good field for comparison to Philosophy. As it turned out, journals in Mathematical Logic publish the lowest proportions of women authors across all fields and is not representative of Mathematics (all), which is more similar to Interdisciplinary Journals. For all other fields in

our analysis, we took random samples from the field, rather than collecting data from specific sub-fields. The comparison between Philosophy Journals and Interdisciplinary Journals and between Philosophy Journals and other fields provides a clear picture of what is happening in these journals at the level of an entire field. But the comparison between Mathematical Logic and Mathematics (all) reminds us that a more fine-grained analysis of specific sub-fields can paint a very different picture. We wonder, for example, if the patterns observed in Mathematical Logic are similar to those of Philosophical Logic, since there is most likely some overlap in authors between these two sub-fields. If so, we might see that Philosophical Logic, as a journal AOS, publishes much lower proportions of women authors that Philosophy Journals in general.

A good deal of work has been done on AOS in Philosophy Journals (Hassoun et al. 2022; Schwitzgebel and Jennings 2017; Wilhelm et al. 2018). Our findings suggest that additional research on Philosophy Journals AOS, especially in comparison to sub-fields in other disciplines, is a promising area of future work.

4.2. Exploring Journal Regional Affiliation

To continue our exploration of the factors affecting women authorships in Philosophy Journals, we return to the observation that, despite the more global context of our work, we see trends that mirror prior US-focused analyses. To pull on this thread, we conducted a more fine-grained analysis of a topic that is little studied in the discipline—the relationship between authorship gender and geographic region in Philosophy Journals. This inquiry explores how the regional academic context, in which Philosophy Journals operate, may impact on gender proportions.

In our Introduction, we speculated that a journal's regional affiliation may impact on the proportion of women authorships. Perhaps the under-representation of women authors is more of a problem in the United States than the rest of the world. Contrary to our hypothesis, we did not find that journals affiliated with Northern America publish the lowest proportions of women authors. Journals affiliated with Western Europe published the lowest, while journals affiliated with Eastern Europe published the greatest. While these results contradict the intuition that the low proportions of

women authorships in Philosophy Journals is primarily a problem for the US, these results are consistent with the intuition that the problem belongs to the Western Philosophical Tradition more generally.[22]

With consideration to previous research, we note that our observations cannot be explained by the presence of Leiter (2015) ranked journals in our analysis. Although such journals tend to publish historically low proportions of women authors, they account for a small number of our data points. Journal AOS may, however, play a role in our results. All standard AOS categories were represented in our data set and were well distributed between journals affiliated with Northern America and Western Europe (the regions we had the most data for). Journals affiliated with Eastern Europe were a little more likely to be general philosophical journals lacking a particular specialization, which is notable because existing literature suggests that general philosophy journals tend to publish among the greatest proportions of women authors compared to other AOS categories (Hassoun et al. 2022; Wilhelm et al. 2018). Additional research on the role of AOS on author gender for journals with specified regional affiliations merits additional inquiry.

We suspect that the high proportions of women authors in journals affiliated with Eastern Europe could also stem from greater gender equality during the Soviet Era (Larivière et al. 2013; see also Skuhala Karasman and Boršić this issue of EuJAP).[23] If so, we would expect to see greater proportions of women authors in these journals prior to the fall of the Soviet Union in the 1990s, and we would expect to see lower proportions in subsequent decades.[24] We were unable to conduct a longitudinal analysis for journals in our regional affiliation comparison because we lacked sufficient data for that kind of statistical modeling. However, a cursory look at trends for journals affiliated with Eastern Europe were suggestive. We anticipate identifying additional data sources for further analyses of this kind in future work.

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[22] Though, there is plenty of research suggesting that women are under-represent as authors in many fields, across the globe, including Brazil (Lievore and Lievore 2022), Russia (Paul-Hus et al. 2015), China (Rosker 2021), and Poland (Kosmulski 2015).

[23] Larivière et al. (2013) also note that gender parity is more common in countries with lower scientific output, such as the Ukraine.

[24] Some literature suggests that the patterns is the same for Russia as elsewhere, with a steady increase in the proportions of women authors over time, but data does not seem to be available for philosophy (Krasnyak 2017).

We note, with interest, that journals identifying as genuinely International in regional affiliation performed about as well as journals affiliated with Western Europe. Several of such journals reported openness to a wide variety of philosophical traditions and border on interdisciplinarity, which, according to our findings, tend to publish larger proportions of women. Journal prestige could be a contributing factor to our findings, since around half of the journals self-identifying as genuinely International are highly sought after publication venues. It may also be that the "true" regional affiliations of these journals are regions where journals tend to publish women in lower proportions, since such self-reports may be more aspirational than actual. We recognize that many philosophical journals are in a period of transition as they take action to improve equity in authorship.

4.3. Exploring Author Ethnicity

To develop the more international aspect of our analyses, we conclude with an examination of the impact of author ethnicity on gender representation, and we examine the breakdown of author ethnicity across Philosophy Journals. While an ideal data set would contain either the author's self-reported ethnic identity or country of origin, we must infer ethnicity from the author's name. We encourage the reader to interpret these results with the understanding that there is some inherent error. That said, we are excited to provide a novel look into the ethnic diversity of philosophy authorship.

Unsurprisingly for our data set, we find that authors of Western European ethnicity and Northern American ethnicity comprise well over 75% of all authors, and this general pattern is observed over time. These findings are consistent with the hypothesis that authors of broadly "Western Decent" dominate academic publishing in philosophy regardless of gender. The explanation seems rather straightforward. Most of the journals in our data set are regionally affiliated with Northern America and Western Europe. While several journals in our data set publish in multiple languages, most are published in English, and a large number of these journals are based in primarily Anglophone countries.

Between the 1950s and 2010s, we do see a 64% growth in the representation of non-Western ethnicities. Based on the data available,

this growth is far slower than the 241% growth seen by women authors in the discipline. Perhaps unsurprisingly, origins in the Indo-Pacific (207%) and Eastern Asia (185%) see the greatest gains between 1950 and 2020. This finding makes sense, since the human population is largest in these geographic regions. Yet, philosophy is by no means approaching proportional representation compared to the general population. There is not enough data available for us to examine how the proportions of authors of non-Western Decent (broadly construed) compare to those in the field of philosophy more generally, but we are pursuing this avenue of research for future work. From what we do know, the ethnic breakdown within the discipline is somewhat comparable (Schwitzgebel et al. 2021; American Academy of Arts and Sciences 2019b; American Philosophical Association (APA) 1999; Schwitzgebel et al. 2021).

When looking at the impact of ethnicity on gender representation, we find that authors with a Western European origin show a much smaller number of women authors compared to other regions. We are a bit skeptical of this result, since Western European surnames, especially those traceable to Anglophone countries, heavily overlap with historically Northern American surnames (e.g., names such as Smith, Jones, Roberts, and Miller). This is an interesting result to investigate in future work, particularly in the context of decade over decade trends. As a result, it may actually be that we are losing important information about diversity in author ethnicity when it comes to analysing Northern America and that we are losing statistical power in the analyses comparing ethnicities associated with Western Europe and other regions.

While we recognize the broadly Western bias in our study, we also recognize that our data set includes information from the most well-regarded journals in the discipline of philosophy, in addition to over one hundred other journals that self-identify as primarily philosophy in content. Regardless of an author's ethnicity, the discipline's most prestigious journals have been established, throughout the world, as the venues to publish in when a philosopher aims to get hired and gain tenure (Schwitzgebel et al. 2018; Bandini 2020).

There are certainly highly regarded regional journals. For example, *Manuscrito*, *Kriterion*, *Transformação*, and *Philosophos* are well-regarded Continental Philosophy journals in Brazil. Meanwhile, China publishes

the largest number of academic articles world wide but not many more than the US. India publishes the next greatest number—at only one quarter of the other two. The question for the average author seems to be: Do I publish in Mandarin or English? With this in mind, we believe our sample is representative of the discipline outside of Asia and the Indo-Pacific.

5. Conclusion

In our opinion, the low proportions of women authorships in the Philosophy Journals discussed in this paper suggest that publication is a likely bottleneck in philosophy's academic pipeline at the professional level, contributing to the decrease in the proportions of women in the transitions between hiring, tenure, and promotion. While we recognize that women across all disciplines face similar difficulties, some hypothesize that the situation is perhaps among the worst in philosophy. Our findings seem consistent with this view. Moreover, women authors appear to be under-represented in philosophy journals across the globe, though more research on this topic seems necessary. The problem does not belong to the Anglophone world alone, as women are under-represented in multilingual philosophy journals throughout Europe, and we suspect the findings would be similar among philosophy journals with other regions known to have histories of systemic gender discrimination. The situation is more dire for women of non European or Northern American decent, who account for only a small proportion of authors in philosophy journals and who also experience the greatest precarity in the pursuit of academic careers. We now have a clearer picture of how well women and people of different ethnicities are represented in philosophy journals on a more global scale. We hope that this article contributes to the body of knowledge that can help improve things for the most vulnerable members of the philosophical community.

Acknowledgements

declined co-authorship on this article. We cannot overstate the way in which her intellectual contributions, as a co-author on previously published (and unpublished), related research, have shaped the way that we approach, frame, and discuss the issues examined in this paper. Here, we would like to credit her for any undeclared contributions as she has been essential to the development of this line of research. We thank Irina Artamonova, Eric Schwitzgebel, our anonymous reviewers, and the Demographics in Philosophy Project for contributions to the development of this research. We also give special thanks to Elly Vintiadis for her patience as we prepared this manuscript for publication.

Appendix A

All Philosophy Journals

Number of papers per decade with a gendered first author included in our data set.

Philosophy	1950	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010	Region
Aesthetics and Art Criticism	356	406	389	322	373	692	828	Northern America
American Catholic Philosophical Q...				45	434	444	475	Northern America
American Journal of Bioethics						415		Northern America
American Philosophical Quarterly		157	302	314	276	246	234	Northern America
Analysis	141	298	342	469	542	607	414	Western Europe
Annals of Philosophy	91	302	419	405	310	394	355	Eastern Europe
Apeiron		19	82	111	153	115		
Applied Philosophy				137	155	198	208	Northern America
Archives de Philosophie	66	164	253	274	221	253	230	Western Europe
Archives for Philosophy of Law an...		136	274	276	297	265	216	Western Europe
Archivio di Filosofia						113	233	Western Europe
Bioethics				59	227	297	694	
British Journal for the Philosoph...	111	153	183	216	285	307	190	Western Europe

Canadian Journal of Philosophy			314	306	209	300	301	Northern America
Charles S. Peirce Society		39	148	182	260	563	900	Northern America
Chinese Philosophy			110	234	255	396	408	
Croatian Journal of Philosophy						299	301	
Dialectica	303	234	359	362	307	565	513	Western Europe
Economics and Philosophy				72	254	109	312	
Educational Philosophy and Theory		5	52	78	130	493	257	Western Europe
Environmental Ethics			21	211	333	429	416	Northern America
Episteme						197	225	Western Europe
Epistemology & Philosophy of Scie...						36	406	Eastern Europe
Erkenntnis			116	296	351	379	619	Western Europe
Ethical Theory and Moral Practice					43	265	452	Western Europe
Ethics	200	243	298	334	261	216	188	Northern America

European Journal of Philosophy					112	225	639	Western Europe
Faith and Philosophy				194	335	332	281	Northern America
Frontiers of Philosophy in China						170	309	Asia
General Philosophy of Science					157	161	186	Western Europe
Hegel-Studien		56	81	115	94	55	40	Western Europe
Heidegger Studies				40	82	88	57	Western Europe
History of Philosophy						2567	614	Western Europe
Hume Studies				3	18	18	518	
Hypatia				237	896	1416	855	Northern America
Indian Philosophy			70	141	150	226	232	
Indian Philosophy and Religion					22	68	78	
Inquiry		121	346	338	350	288	209	Western Europe
International Philosophical Quart...		287	345	337	659	670	415	Western Europe
International Studies in Philosop...			213	344	1182	717		
Isis	190	258	251	196	181	260	208	Northern America
Iyyun	95	104	98	160	242	200	174	Middle East

Journal of Applied Philosophy				256	458	500	593	Western Europe
Journal of Ethics					46	182	172	
Journal of Philosophy	1398	1151	988	810	617	551	503	Northern America
Kantian Review					37	88	294	
Kennedy Institute of Ethics Journ...					114	308	212	Northern America
Law and Philosophy				108	171	190	196	
Les Etudes philosophiques	386	295	260	268	246	267	214	Western Europe
Linguistics and Philosophy			47	171	184	181	133	
Logique et Analyse	16	186	268	236	193	209	161	Western Europe
Logos & Episteme							310	
Metaphilosophy			444	513	506	588	650	
Methexis					100	91	69	
Midwest Studies in Philosophy			163	508	353	323	288	Northern America
Mind	210	367	410	340	311	278	177	Western Europe
Monist		392	528	612	607	602	395	
Moral Philosophy						155		

Nietzsche Studies					81	222	468	
Nomos			69	138	151	109	110	Northern America
Nous		77	248	294	360	592	558	Northern America
Owl of Minerva		5	61	168	170	133	89	
Pacific Philosophical Quarterly				240	197	252	361	Northern America
Phanomenologische Forschungen			36	97	98	123	96	Western Europe
Philo					26	153	54	
Philosophia Africana						124	45	
Philosophia Christi					31	428	366	
Philosophia Reformata	17	19	24	21	49	89	81	Western Europe
Philosophical Investigations			40	158	160	205	277	
Philosophical Issues					195	208	294	Northern America
Philosophical Logic			181	180	227	240	276	
Philosophical Perspectives				57	219	184	238	Northern America
Philosophical Quarterly	117	178	163	242	354	799	592	Western Europe

Philosophical Research				172	244	348	324	Northern America
Philosophical Review	246	218	176	138	122	128	78	Northern America
Philosophical Studies	333	634	913	963	662	833	1320	International
Philosophical Topics				333	438	404	608	Northern America
Philosophischer Literaturanzeiger							313	Western Europe
Philosophy	368	456	630	788	641	264	430	Western Europe
Philosophy & Public Affairs			124	150	191	268	180	
Philosophy & Social Criticism			110	187	295	422	721	
Philosophy Compass							605	
Philosophy East and West	150	142	279	228	211	548	1028	
Philosophy Today	89	234	293	275	365	550	606	
Philosophy and History		49	247	206	113			Western Europe
Philosophy and Literature			1	17	253	276	1089	Northern America
Philosophy and Phenomenological R...	347	431	379	350	433	1257	1089	
Philosophy in the Contemporary Wo...					119	237	134	Northern America
Philosophy of Education		5	79	228	265	421	422	Western Europe
Philosophy of Religion			165	207	187	165	167	
Philosophy of Science	273	273	369	359	477	733	419	
Philosophy of the Social Sciences			225	474	369	313	341	
Philotheos						232	224	Eastern Europe
Phronesis	22	71	134	136	130	121	107	
Polish Journal of Philosophy						86	125	
Political Philosophy					91	209	238	
Political Studies	176	298	531	723	910	841	977	Western Europe
Proceedings of the American Catho...	220	251	233	227	206	224	141	Northern America
Proceedings of the Aristotelian S...	61	109	138	186	233	424	255	Western Europe
Proceedings of the Aristotelian S...	61	109	138	186	233	424	255	Western Europe

Journal								Region
Public Affairs Quarterly				73	235	186	147	
Ratio				23	162	286	295	Western Europe
Religious Ethics			88	158	194	220	206	
Religious Studies		156	754	911	643	366	603	
Research in Phenomenology			90	118	106	149	150	
Review of Metaphysics	381	301	230	208	195	195	159	Northern America
Revista Portuguesa de Filosofia	270	177	150	290	319	533	522	Western Europe
Revue Internationale de Philosoph...	171	203	239	240	254	257	145	Western Europe
Revue Philosophique de la France ...	216	218	163	195	211	203	183	Western Europe
Revue de Metaphysique et de Moral...	184	225	221	280	229	265	205	Western Europe
Revue de Philosophie Ancienne				67	86	98	55	Western Europe
Rivista di Filosofia Neo-Scolasti...	215	284	317	259	225	232	384	Western Europe
Rivista di Storia della Filosofia	254	215	215	293	382	594	298	Western Europe
Social Philosophy			123	143	355	401	262	Northern America
Social Philosophy Today				53	317	206	153	Northern America
Southern Journal of Philosophy		174	436	489	395	290	344	Northern America
Speculative Philosophy				48	175	475	614	International
Studi Kantiani				7	77	87	51	Western Europe
Studia Phaenomenologica						386	264	Eastern Europe
Studies in East European Thought		75	134	236	140	153	150	Western Europe
Synthese	88	171	392	695	650	982	1442	International
Teaching Philosophy			115	402	619	521	496	Northern America
Teorema		188	113	97	274	282		Western Europe
Thought						282		Western Europe
Vivarium	19	37	42	83	125	119		Western Europe

Philosophy (Interdisciplinary)	1950	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010
Asian Studies	61	284	278	172	209	267	327
African Law	14	91	139	167	265	142	232
African Studies Bulletin	10	213					
African Studies Review			249	189	169	510	1115
American Slavic and East European...	247	43					
Behavioral and Brain Sciences				2	2339	894	2589
Bulletin of Symbolic Logic					176	654	481
Business & Professional Ethics Jo...				166	219	152	119
Business Ethics Quarterly					633	687	474
Cahiers du Monde russe	9	188	205	225	296	309	220
Cambridge Quarterly of Healthcare...					405	111	675
Canadian Journal of Latin America...			47	116	106	121	69
Classical Quarterly	106	196	342	571	887	708	1038
Confluencia				188	506	428	594
Critical Inquiry			254	411	362	406	251
Dialogos		329	669	585			
Eastern Buddhist		54	165	168	139	110	107
Educational Theory	287	347	355	327	320	321	430
Ethiopian Studies, International ...						61	62
Ethiopian Studies, Journal of		89	100	57	67	100	50
Europe-Asia Studies					395	577	319
Far Eastern Quarterly	120						
Feminist Studies			165	308	332	412	312
Harvard Law Review	288	233	166	198	190	193	170
Hastings Center Report			1042	1706	1695	1679	1944
History of Ideas	333	403	412	364	457	605	575

History of Political Thought				236	246	268	169
Idealistic Studies			153	181	227	188	177
India International Centre Quarte...			86	286	453	525	356
Inti			142	340	553	508	338
Islamic Studies		138	145	174	243	237	124
Janus Head					15	108	113
Japanese Journal of Religious Stu...			68	155	156	154	142
Journal of Islamic Studies					97	87	54
Latin American Perspectives			365	510	728	1022	1324
Medical Ethics			168	382	674	415	1645
Mind and Behavior				259	239	178	96
Monumenta Serica	48	107	113	54	114	158	57
Oriental Studies						49	79
Philosophical Forum							201
Pluralist						158	604
Political Theory			462	712	758	859	836
Polity		30	234	336	295	238	156
Rationality and Society				16	300	176	181
Review of Politics	677	771	851	856	990	766	852
Rivista degli studi orientali	163	179	120	123	170	208	150
Sign Systems Studies						634	498
Slavic Review		328	315	299	361	306	1021
South East Asia Research					151	277	525
Soviet Studies	96	200	275	335	139		
Studia Logica	62	177	276	314	370	570	461
Symbolic Logic	198	228	507	811	883	944	1064
Vienna Journal of South Asian Stu...					136	71	25

Appendix B

Comparison Subjects and Sample Sizes

	1950	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010	Total	Tag Gender	Tag Ethnicity
Philosophy Philosophy	7761	11041	17914	23915	29521	41216	42214	173582	86%	90%
Philosophy (Int.)	2719	4628	8868	12299	18465	18551	23401	88931	85%	91%
Humanities Linguistics	903	1416	2008	2386	2388	2592	2345	14038	84%	
Religion	941	1159	1528	1861	2240	2639	2177	12545	84%	
Law	1052	1336	1713	2044	2380	3175	3208	14908	86%	
History	1051	1161	1377	1547	1815	2005	1596	10552	86%	
Social Sciences Economics	730	1074	2062	2880	3439	3953	3474	17612	83%	
Political Science	766	1052	1485	1792	2256	3778	3455	14584	83%	
Psychology	1029	1586	2939	3128	3612	4483	3990	20767	84%	
Sociology	590	1073	1928	2452	3014	4623	5647	19327	81%	
Math and Technology Mathematics (all)	519	1124	2223	2703	3569	4080	3462	17680	80%	
Mathematical Logic [†]	530	1155	2295	2575	3345	3614	2989	16503	79%	
Computer Science	225	615	1077	2252	3005	3475	2657	13306	84%	
Engineering	68	114	280	624	1690	4671	10681	18128	66%	
Lab Sciences Physics	541	979	1314	1855	3038	3675	3254	14656	79%	
Biology	504	887	1350	2163	2896	4224	3747	15771	82%	
Ecology	176	314	670	1113	2199	4828	9125	18425	78%	
Chemistry	916	1349	1855	2193	2733	3155	2735	14936	80%	
Total	21021	32063	52886	69782	91605	118737	130157	516251	83%	90%

† These data are pulled as a separate sample from Mathematics (all). Some (but not all) results may overlap Mathematics (all).

Appendix C

Trends by Field

	% Women							% Change from last Decade						% Change	
	50s	60s	70s	80s	90s	00s	10s	60s	70s	80s	90s	00s	10s	Mean	Total
Philosophy[†]	6	7	9	12	15	18	22	4	29	36	29	19	21	23	241
Philosophy (Int.)[*]	6	9	14	19	23	27	30	40	69	30	21	19	10	31	385
Humanities	11	11	16	23	28	33	36	0	48	39	24	19	8	23	225
History	9	8	13	20	25	31	32	-5	58	49	28	22	6	26	270
Law	9	9	15	19	24	29	34	4	64	30	25	20	17	27	289
Linguistics	19	16	21	28	35	41	43	-16	33	33	24	16	5	16	127
Religion	10	14	17	24	29	35	35	33	23	42	20	19	1	23	232
Social Science	11	10	14	20	27	32	39	-12	45	48	29	21	21	25	256
Economics	9	7	10	15	21	27	32	-25	50	49	38	29	16	26	247
Political Science	7	11	13	16	22	30	35	47	22	23	37	36	16	30	377
Psychology	20	13	21	34	37	40	49	-35	66	60	9	8	23	22	148
Sociology	15	15	21	33	40	41	49	2	41	56	20	3	19	23	229
Math and Tech.	11	8	12	18	24	28	31	-28	52	51	29	19	11	22	181
Computer Science	12	7	12	19	24	30	33	-40	56	62	29	26	9	24	168
Engineering	2	12	11	17	20	25	30	488	-7	50	17	26	19	99	1336
Mathematics (all)	10	9	15	16	27	23	30	-11	68	3	75	-16	29	25	192
Mathematical Logic	5	2	5	6	9	13	15	-50	102	19	55	44	9	30	193
Lab Sciences	9	10	12	16	18	25	32	13	22	33	13	41	25	24	265
Biology	11	12	15	19	20	27	34	9	23	26	8	33	26	21	206
Chemistry	7	7	8	11	13	20	24	-6	20	33	18	56	22	24	240
Ecology	4	7	9	15	19	27	32	82	24	62	30	39	22	43	706
Physics	3	6	12	13	12	17	20	95	89	12	-5	40	17	41	544

[†] ±1% in a 95% CI.   [*] ±3% in a 95% CI.   Others are exact proportion based on random sample.

Appendix D

Authorship by Geographic Region
Percent of women authorships estimated by GLM for three region based
analyses. Data aggregated for all decades (1950s-2010s).

		Author Ethnicity	Journal Region
Europe	Western Europe Eastern Europe	12.1 [11.7,12.5]] 19.9 [18.5,21.4]	13.6 [12.9,14.3] 18.7 [15.6,22.4]
Americas	Northern America Latin America	19.4 [18.6,20.2] 22.3 [19.7,25.3]	16.7 [15.8,17.6]
Asia	Eastern Asia Indo-Pacific	17.3 [14.9,20.1] 24.5 [21.6,27.9]	
Africa		15.7 [13.9,17.6]	
Middle East		16.8 [15.4,18.4]	
International			11.8 [10.6,13.1]

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