

University of British Columbia
ECON546
Monetary Theory and Policy
Referee Report

1 Referee Report

Choose an article on monetary economics, macro, macro-finance, or international finance from one of the following journals (in rough order of my preference for this assignment):

- Econometrica, JPE, AER, AEJ:Macro, Journal of Monetary Economics, Review of Economic Studies, Review of Economic Dynamics, QJE, IER

You can choose something empirically oriented or theoretical, but it must be dynamic in some sense (either estimation of time-series or panel data, or a dynamic model).

I am VERY open minded on the type of paper you choose and the field (just make sure it has some dynamic element to it). I don't want to give you hints on interesting papers, because I want you to look through lots of papers to find things you are interested in.

One suggestion: if you have a topic to explore, look in the Journal of Economic Literature or various handbooks for surveys on it. These will point out the seminal papers and put things in perspective (though you cannot do your report on a survey or handbook chapter)

2 Structure of a Referee Report

A few notes on what to submit

- If you are not sure if a paper is appropriate, send me an email.
- Keep things very brief, $\approx 2 - 3$ pages, as editors do not have time to read details
- Keep things very specific. Talking about equation numbers or commenting on particular assumptions is ideal.
- The basic structure of a referee report is something along the lines of
 - Summary of the contribution for the editor. Assume a competent macro-economist editor—who may not be a specialist in that particular literature—hasn't had a chance to read the paper and wants you to summarize it (and its position in the literature) in a few paragraphs.
 - Major Comments (i.e., things that they may need to change to be published)
 - Minor Comments (i.e., minor quibbles that may be more aesthetic, or small mistakes)
- Since the papers have already been published, I am not sure you will have much to say in the Major Comments, but don't hold back. I also don't expect you to find some "gotcha".

- But you need to tell me either "why the paper is important enough to publish" or "why the paper should not have been published".
- If you want to find samples of what they look like: <http://lmgty.com/?q=economics+referee+report+example>