

IO- 2021.

Handin: Referee report.

The purpose of a referee report is to help the editor make a decision on whether to invite a resubmission or to reject. Choose one paper of the ones that we have for discussion on lectures 3, 4, 6 or 7. The referee report needs to be handed in before the respective lecture.

A report should

- 1) Provide a brief summary of the main points of the paper (In the current handin I want you to make this longer than in a regular report. Aim for 1 page – and don't just copy the abstract).
- 2) Give some evaluation of the contribution of the paper (maybe hard for you at this stage but try).
- 3) Numbered points that you feel should be addressed, these may be
 - a. For empirical papers: Is the methodology appropriate, is the data appropriate to test the predictions,...?
 - b. For theoretical papers: Are the results clear, what are the driving mechanisms, what are testable implications? Is there some distance between assumptions and results?
 - c. The clarity of the presentation and organization of the paper
- 4) Minor points.

The JME has a good description of how to write a report at <http://jme.rochester.edu/referees.html>.

Also write a separate letter to the editor. This is short and gives your recommendation: accept/accept with revision/minor revise&resubmit/major revise&resubmit/reject. Imagine that you are doing this for a good field journal in Industrial Organization such as the Journal of Industrial Economics.

I attach three reports that I've gotten which will give you flavor of how reports look.