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Optimal taxation and beyond (ECON 9620)

Take-home exam: Referee Report

DUE DATE: October 7th, 2016. Send your report in pdf to submissions@econ.uio.no.

Pick ONE of the papers posted online and write a referee report for this paper assuming that the paper has been submitted to the Journal of Public Economics, which is the premier journal in the field of public economics.

Your referee report must include two items:

1) An anonymous report which briefly summarizes the key contributions of the paper (doing this you must replace the paper in the context of the relevant literature, clearly showing your knowledge of the latter), and then discusses constructively the main issues with the paper. Points which at least should be emphasized are: emphasizing problems/errors with some of the mathematical derivations, why some assumptions or arguments are not convincing or clearly presented and more broadly how the paper could be improved.

The length of this report should be between 2 or 3 pages of typed text (an extra page is allowed for detailed mathematical derivations if needed), 12 pt font, and 1.5 line spacing.

2) A letter to the editor with a recommendation on whether the paper should be published. The recommendation should be briefly justified (the length of the letter should be between 10 and 15 lines of typed text).