
Advanced Topics in Industrial Organisation

Final Exam Fall 2005

John Asker and Mariagiovanna Baccara

Remember that the due date is Dec 23.

Part 1: Asker's Bit

Question 1 (50%): Read Jakub Kastl "Discrete Bids and Empirical Inference in Divisible Good Auctions", available at:

<http://pubweb.northwestern.edu/~jka484/discretebids.pdf>

Write a referee report on this paper. It should have the following sections:

1. A 1/2 – 1page outline of the paper
2. Clearly articulate the logic of the empirical strategy, referring to the theoretical part where appropriate.
3. A very clear discussion of the sources of identification that are being exploited. Critically assess the validity of the identification strategy
4. Provide specific comments on how you think the paper could be improved
5. What are the positive aspects of this paper?
6. Briefly outline a project that follows on from this paper.
7. What is your overall assessment of this paper? Why?

Part 2: Mariagiovanna's Bit

Question 2 (50%): Read Emeric Henry's "Runner-up Patents: Is Monopoly inevitable?" available at:

<http://www.stanford.edu/~ehenry/job%20market%20paper%20emeric%20henry.pdf>

Write a referee report on this paper. It should have the following sections:

1. A $\frac{1}{2}$ - 1 page outline of the paper.
2. A very clear discussion of the assumptions and the results (e.g. Is it a positive or a normative paper? Is it well motivated? Are the results robust? Are there key generalizations to worry about? etc.)
3. Any comments on changes that you would make to the paper to make it stronger.
4. An assessment of the value of the contribution made by the paper.
5. A recommendation to the editor (of, say, the AER)