

**STOCKHOLM UNIVERSITY Department of Statistics** Dan Hedlin

Autumn semester 2012

## **Statistical Methods Part 1**

## **Excercise 1**

Worth 3 marks out of 100 marks.

1. Read "Statistical Analysis and the Illusion of Objectivity" by Berger and Berry. Google on the title to find the link http://www.med.mcgill.ca/epidemiology/Joseph/courses/EPIB-668/Berger.Berry.pdf

Relate what they seem to mean by "subjective" and "objective" to the Gillies's concepts fully objective, artefactual, intersubjective and subjective as described in the course notes. Alternatively, you may use any other good source for the concepts objective, intersubjective, subjective. Do not write a summary of the paper, and do not discuss what they say about the relative merits of the 'standard method' and Bayesian methods. (1 page maximum).  Read Morrison, Stettler and Andersson (2004), Using Vignettes in Cognitive Research on Establishment Surveys, Journal of Official Statistics, vol 20, 319-340. The full text can be found on <u>www.jos.nu</u>.

What are their conclusions? They refer to the real world in at least two ways: they use facts from real world to support their arguments and they produce new (although tentative) knowledge that in some cases is expressed as advice to be used in the real world. What are their conclusions and how do they attempt to validate their conclusions (or advice), that is, to make it plausible that they are valid outside their study? Do not write a summary of the paper. (1 page maximum).

Deadline Monday 12 November at 8 am. On Monday 12 November we will discuss these two papers in class and if you have submitted a paper that may be slightly substandard, active participation in discussion will help you out.