

Econometrics

Typical sections of an empirical paper

Abstract

1. Introduction
2. Analytical Framework
3. Data & Methodology
4. Results & Discussion
5. Conclusions

References

Abstract

1. Some background information
2. The principal purpose of the study and its scope
3. Some information about the methodology used in the study
4. The most important results of the study
5. A statement of conclusion

Introduction

1. General statements about a field of research to provide the reader with a setting for the problem to be reported
 - (a) Begin with generally accepted statements of fact related to your general area
 - (b) Identify one sub-area within the general area which includes your topic
 - (c) Indicate your topic
2. More specific statements about the aspects of the problem already studied by other researchers
 - Citations grouped by approach
 - Citations ordered from distant to close
 - Citations ordered chronologically (from earliest to latest one)
3. Statements that indicate the need for more investigation
 - An important aspect of the research area that has been ignored by previous studies
 - An unresolved conflict among the previous studies concerning the research topic
 - An extension of the topic or a new research question that previous studies suggest, but have not previously considered
4. Very specific statements giving the purpose or objectives of the writer's study
5. Optional statements that give a value or justification for carrying out the study
 - The practical benefits
 - The theoretical importance
6. Statements about the rest of sections in the paper

Analytical Framework

1. Economic Model (sometimes including literature review here)
 - (a) Describe the approach to answering the question you have posed

Econometrics

- (b) Give a discussion of what kind of mechanisms work through and of which factors should be controlled for; Suggest how the variables should appear in the econometric model
- 2. Econometric Model (sometimes including methodology here)
 - (a) Specify econometric models and mention any assumptions about the functional form

Data & Methodology

- 1. Data description
 - (a) Discuss the data sources, the measurement units, variable definitions and so on
 - (b) State the number of observations (the years in time series; # of units in panel)
 - (c) Present a table of summary statistics (min., max., avg., s.d., avg. growth rate)
- 2. Methodology
 - (a) Discuss estimation methods and explain why the method you are choosing is warranted
 - (b) Discuss any assumptions used in obtaining econometric models from underlying economic models

Results & Discussion

- 1. Statements that locates the figures or tables where the results can be found
- 2. Statements that present the most important findings
- 3. Statements that comment on the results
 - (a) Generalize from the results
 - (b) Explain possible reasons for the results
 - (c) Compare the results with results from other studies

Conclusions

- 1. A reference to the main purpose or hypothesis of the study
- 2. A review of the most important findings, whether or not they support the original hypothesis, and whether they agree with the findings of other researchers
- 3. Possible explanations for or speculations about the findings
- 4. Limitations of the study that restrict the extent to which the findings can be generalized
- 5. Implications of the study (generalizations from the results)
- 6. Recommendations for future research and practical applications

References

See APA style manual; <http://www.apastyle.org/>

Wooldridge, J. M. (2005) *Introductory Econometrics* 3rd ed., Mason, OH.: South-Western.

Appendix (optional)