

Economics 512

Term paper

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Other requirements for the term paper are as follows:

1. Provide **a short literature review** to summarize the main issues involved. Use, at least, three academic references and demonstrate a firm grasp of pertinent theoretical and empirical issues. In general, academic references mean journal articles or equivalent, both offline and online, including working papers.
2. Discuss **data issues**, using the WDI dataset. It is recommended that you also discuss **what country group is selected** and the **rationale behind your choice**. It is also a good practice to highlight what features/properties of the **dependent variable** are noteworthy and should be explained.
3. Specify and estimate a **pool/panel regression model**.

There is a title page that contains a title, an abstract, your name and ID.

The length of the main text body should be 4-5 pages (double-spaced?).

Tables, charts and other supporting materials should be appended.

Discuss data issues, using the WDI dataset.

It is recommended that you also discuss what country group is selected and the rationale behind your choice.

It is also a good practice to highlight what features/properties of the dependent variable are noteworthy and should be explained.

Specify and estimate a pool/panel regression model.

3+ academic sources

Organize it into a narrative: how does one of your sources connect or lead to your next source?

To **summarize** the state of knowledge on a topic

To **assess** the state of knowledge on a topic

To identify a deficit or gap in the state of knowledge on that topic

Take a position in relation to other voices

Identify yourself as a member of a group collectively

Construct knowledge

Take a turn in the conversation

From Janet Giltrow, *Academic Writing*, 3rd ed.,
Peterborough: Broadview, 2002 (41).

Citations are short summaries presenting the gist of what a researcher has said on a topic

Only the information relevant to the writer's point is used in a citation summary

Summaries can be one sentence or much longer.

Example that Undercuts Writer's Authority and Emphasizes the Citation:

“**Jones et al** note that these large molecules are problematic for biological transformation. They show that transformation rates are limited by the mass transfer of target molecules to the biocatalyst and, in the case of whole cells, across the cell membrane [19]. **I think** that interfacial mass transfer can be improved through emulsification, increasing the interfacial contact area; however, emulsification is of limited value in overcoming the barrier of transport into biological cells unless appropriate uptake mechanisms are available. Despite these difficulties, **I have found evidence in the literature that some researchers have made successful use** of bacterial transformation of complex, high molecular weight substrates (some of which are discussed in Section 2.2.3).

“These large molecules are problematic for biological transformation. Transformation rates are limited by the mass transfer of target molecules to the biocatalyst and, in the case of whole cells, across the cell membrane **(reviewed in [19])**. Interfacial mass transfer can be improved through emulsification, increasing the interfacial contact area; however, emulsification is of limited value in overcoming the barrier of transport into biological cells unless appropriate uptake mechanisms are available. Despite these difficulties, there is **evidence in the literature for bacterial transformation of complex, high molecular weight substrates** (some of which are discussed in Section 2.2.3).”

Kathlyn Kirkwood, *Bacterial Attack on Aliphatic Sulfides and Related Compounds Representing the Sulfur Groups in Heavy Crude Oil*, Spring 2006.

Allows writers to join a scholarly conversation

After the summary, writers take their turn

Summary prepares a new version of what has been said by someone else

Your summary will put a new spin on a researcher's subject to make it fit what you want to say

“Efficiencies of CdTe devices are slightly lower than those of CIGS [Copper Indium Gallium Silicon Selenium] devices, with a record cell efficiency of 16.5%, and average module efficiencies in the range of 7-9%.⁵ However, despite lower efficiencies, CdTe cells have been adopted for commercialization, in part due to the robust nature of CdTe and its **amenability to high throughput deposition**.^{6,23} When considering scale-up to hundreds of megawatts of production, the rapid rate at which CdTe can be deposited makes it one of the **most promising solar technologies**.⁶ Some material challenges associated with the use of CdTe include the fact that **p-type doping is difficult**, and that the high work function of CdTe (5.8 eV) makes fabrication of a stable back contact a challenge, since there is no suitable metal with a work function higher than that of CdTe (a property required for formation of an ohmic contact).²⁴ A final concern with CdTe is the **toxicity** of the material, which presents some environmental and safety issues; however, extensive studies indicate that the risk is minimal, and that any concerns can be mitigated by the **use of appropriate packaging and recycling programs**.⁶”

It represents the content accurately

It attributes the statements as originating with another writer

It characterizes the action of the original

Describes the development of the discussion

“Particularly worrisome has been the increase in adolescent gang membership. A subset of the offending population, estimated at 68% of institutionalized youth, are affiliated with a gang, yet **little research has been done to distinguish gang members from other types of young offenders** (Kratcoski & Kratcoski, 1996); Richter-White, 2003). It may be that young people are turning to gangs for protection from other gangs, as a way to gain respect, to escape from troubled homes, because their friends are doing it, peer pressure, or as a way to earn a living through drug trafficking, illegal weapons sales, robbery, and theft (Lloyd, 2002). However, **the reasons why adolescents choose to join a gang remain understudied with no clear answers.**

-Nicole Kostiuk, *Attachment in Incarcerated Adolescent Gang Members*, 2007.

Summarize citations effectively to highlight details relevant to your study

Use citations to validate your methodological choices, etc.

Point out gaps in a specific citation

Point out gaps in the literature generally

Build an inductive argument, constructed of telling details drawn from the published research

The culmination of your argument is the reader's realization that your study is essential

“As a general class, stochastic imperfect information games with partial observability are among the hardest problems known in theoretical computer science. This class includes many problems that are easy to express but are computationally undecidable [20, 38].

In practice, writing a program to play a legal game of poker is trivial, but **designing and implementing a competent poker player** (for example, the strength of an intermediate human player) **is a challenging task**. Writing a program that also adapts smoothly to exploit each opponent’s particular playing style, betting patterns, biases and tendencies is a **difficult learning problem.**”

Darse Billings, *Algorithms and Assessment in Computer Poker*, Fall, 2006, pp. 17 - 19.