

Sports Econometrics

What Story Does Your Paper Have?

Papers are stories

- Story 1:
 - Testing conventional wisdom
 - Testing another paper's result
 - Testing someone's idea of truth
 - T-stats matter: Significant or not

Another Paper Story

- Story 2:
 - Hunting expedition
 - Virgin territory
 - What will we find?
 - T-stats: statistical significance

Another Paper Story

- Story 3:
 - How big is it?
 - Causal relationship exists
 - Coefficient size matters
 - If there's an increase in X by one std. dev. how much does Y increase

Titles

- Good titles tell you everything
- “How Wide is the Border?”
- “Can schools buy success in college football? Coach compensation, expenditures and performance”
- Titles determine whether a reader will look at your abstract

Paper structure

- Abstract: Tell your story to someone who won't read your paper
- Introduction: What kind of story you have
 - Conventional wisdom (or lit finding), hunting expedition, how big is it
 - End of introduction: Preview your results
- Data: Where did you go hunting?
 - Describe your data: Descriptive stats (mean and std. dev.)
- Results: Show us your best work
 - Regression results: answer your story
- Conclusion
 - Two jobs: rewrite your introduction, what could you do to do more (future work)