

Report #1

Economics of Growth and Innovation
Empirical Applications of the Solow/Neoclassical Model

Due 2/24/23 by 2:00PM

This assignment asks you to choose 1 of the academic papers listed below, read it carefully, and write a brief (~ 2 pages) report documenting your thoughts on the paper. Please double space and use 12 point font. You must complete this assignment individually. All papers are posted in the Reports LMS folder under “Report 1.” Your report should contain a summary of the paper, but this should comprise no more than half of your report. At least half of the report should be your original thoughts/questions/comments about the research.

Your report should address the following main points: (the sub-bullets are suggestions but not explicitly required to be included in your report)

1. Summary in your own words. Do not copy from the paper. Think of the summary portion as if you are explaining the academic paper to someone that has not studied economics. Summary should not comprise more than half of the report.

- What is the research question this paper addresses?
- Why is the issue important?
- How do the authors frame their contribution to the literature? New question? New data? New methodology?

(a) Methodology

- Do the authors address their questions using a theoretical model, data, or both?
- How does the theory used relate to the models we’ve developed in class?

(b) Results

- What do the authors find? Why does it matter?
- Are any of the results unclear/inconclusive?
- Are these findings different from results in previous literature?

2. Your thoughts/questions/comments/evaluation of the paper. This should comprise at least half of the report.

- Was the paper interesting/insightful/surprising? Why?
- Can you think of an application of the paper's results? A policy issue or in daily life, etc.
- Can you think of an application or example where the paper's results do not apply?
- How could the paper be improved?
- Is there anything that you would have done differently?
- How could future work build on the paper?

Papers

- Barro, R. J. (1999). Notes on growth accounting. *Journal of Economic Growth* 4(2), 119–137.
- Barro, R. J. (2015). Convergence and modernisation. *The Economic Journal* 125(585), 911–942.
- Caselli, F., G. Esquivel, and F. Lefort (1996). Reopening the convergence debate: a new look at cross-country growth empirics. *Journal of Economic Growth* 1(3), 363–389.
- Hall, R. E. and C. I. Jones (1999). Why do some countries produce so much more output per worker than others? *The Quarterly Journal of Economics* 114(1), 83–116.
- Hsieh, C.-T. and P. J. Klenow (2010). Development accounting. *American Economic Journal: Macroeconomics* 2(1), 207–23.
- Kremer, M., J. Willis, and Y. You (2022). Converging to convergence. *NBER Macroeconomics Annual* 36(1), 337–412.
- McMillan, M., D. Rodrik, and Í. Verduzco-Gallo (2014). Globalization, structural change, and productivity growth, with an update on africa. *World Development* 63, 11–32.
- Rodrik, D. (2012). Unconditional convergence in manufacturing. *The Quarterly Journal of Economics* 128(1), 165–204.
- Sala-i Martin, X. (2006). The world distribution of income: falling poverty and... convergence, period. *The Quarterly Journal of Economics* 121(2), 351–397.