

ECON 282 Assignment 1

Respond to the Chris Anderson reading. Read the article and then write a 1/2 page response.

This article contrasts two approaches to science (and to business). One approach tries to build up theory and understand how things work. The other uses data to find relationships even when the theoretical underpinning is not clear.

In your response, pick an example of people solving a problem something. This could be from a science class you have taken, a historical example you know about, something you have worked on in a job, or you can research an example that interests you. It can be very micro – e.g. in my first job one problem we solved was to estimate the amount of cargo that would be carried by a new airline operating out of Crimea.

Was the problem solved using the theory approach or the whatever works data approach? Do you think the approach used was a good one?

This is not a right/wrong assignment – any reasonable and well-written response will get a check-plus.