

Energy and Economics: The Scientific Basics

We have made the argument in Part I of this book that it is important to bring more science, including the natural sciences but also the social sciences and all under the wing of the scientific method to economics. This section is meant as a review of the scientific method and as the basic information (mostly from the natural science) necessary to properly understand economics from the biophysical perspective and as represented in ■ Fig. 3.3. We start with the necessary history and facts about energy, then relate that to economics, then introduce basic mathematical skills, and finally ask whether economics today can properly be considered a science.

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