Chicken, Eggs, and Causality, or Which *Really* Came First?

Julian M. Alston and James A. Chalfant

In econometrics¹ nothing is stranger, Than the causality notion of Granger. But the question just begs: Did the chooks² cause the eggs? Or was it M1?³ That's the danger!

The authors are assistant professors at the University of California at Davis and at Berkeley, respectively.

¹ Thurman and Fisher propose poaching from econometrics to unscramble philosophical conundra. Without wishing to get egg on our own faces, we suggest the yolk [sic] may be on them. Bivariate causality testing is an over-easy approach to understanding the fundaments of modern poultry philosophy. A hard-boiled monetarist approach may be more fertile.

² "Chooks" is an Australian construct that, roughly translated, means chickens.

3 "M1" is a Chicagoan construct that, roughly translated, means money (which is normally assumed to be eggsogenous to the poultry sector).

Reference

Thurman, Walter N., and Mark E. Fisher. "Chicken, Eggs, and Causality, or Which Came First?" *Amer. J. Agr. Econ.* 70(1988):237-38.