Report on **Bachelor / Master Thesis**

Institute of Economic Studies, Faculty of Social Sciences, Charles University in Prague

Student:	Jan Bílek
Advisor:	PhDr. Václav Korbel, Ph.D.
Title of the thesis:	Gender differences under competitive pressure: Evidence from skittles

***OVERALL ASSESSMENT** (provided in English, Czech, or Slovak):*

Contribution
The thesis contributes to the research analyzing different responses of men and women to stressful situations. Men and women may react differently when facing a successful competitor. The author aims to investigate behavior of men and women in competitions of skittles using data from the Czech first league of skittles from 4 years (seasons 2012/2013–2015/2016). The dataset is unique, collected by the author himself and perfectly suitable for an analysis of the question at hand. The topic has already been explored in the field of sports, but never for the skittles field.

Methods
The datasets consists of 6064 observations. I think the description of the dataset deserves more attention. The dependent variable, a score in a game, is explored thoroughly, but I did not learn how many players are observed and what is the average amount of observations per one player. The number of observations for women and men could be found only in the result's part. I also did not find how many observations for each season we observe. I think that a simple table with descriptive statistics would be worth to include.

The model is estimated using OLS with fixed effects for individual players in most of the specifications. The author splits the sample into subsamples of men and women and tests for different effects between these two subsamples. I agree with the division into subsamples when there are more variables which have different effects across subsamples, but I think at least general specification with fixed effects should have been estimated with the full sample with gender dummy and interaction variable of dummy and long-term average of opponent.

The author is aware of potential endogeneity when score of competitor is used among independent variables instead of his/her previous-year average score. But I think endogeneity should be discussed slightly more; it is important to mention why it emerges in the model.

The author does not provide any tests of OLS assumptions, but I think students should demonstrate that they know that some assumptions have to be satisfied and how to test them.

Literature
The author provides with an exhaustive review of literature related to differences across genders in behavior under competitive pressure. The author demonstrates a good command of recent literature and quotes relevant literature in a proper way. There are only small mistakes in the list of references – Dreber at al. (2014) and Shurkchov (2012).

Manuscript form
The thesis is very well written having a logical structure. The author uses appropriate language and style. The one shortcoming I find is that tables are called figures. I also think that semicolon is overused; comma or colon should be used instead in some cases.

Summary and suggested questions for the discussion during the defense
I think that this topic is perfectly suitable for bachelor thesis at the IES. The research question is clear and relevant and the author came with an original idea to test it in the sport field of skittles and collected data by himself. The econometric analysis was done quite carefully; it has its limitations, but I think it corresponds to the level of models that should be applied in bachelor theses in general.

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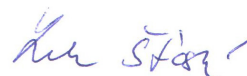|	
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Here is the question suggested for the defense:

What do you think about including player's own long-term average score among independent variables? Don't you think that this is a crucial variable that is missing in your model? Or are there any difficulties which inclusion of this variable would bring?

SUMMARY OF POINTS AWARDED *(for details, see below):*

CATEGORY		POINTS
Contribution	*(max. 30 points)*	28
Methods	*(max. 30 points)*	23
Literature	*(max. 20 points)*	20
Manuscript Form	*(max. 20 points)*	18
TOTAL POINTS	*(max. 100 points)*	**89**
GRADE	**(A – B – C – D – E – F)**	**B**

NAME OF THE REFEREE: PhDr. Lenka Šťastná, Ph.D.

DATE OF EVALUATION: 30.5.2019

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Referee Signature

EXPLANATION OF CATEGORIES AND SCALE:

CONTRIBUTION: *The author presents original ideas on the topic demonstrating critical thinking and ability to draw conclusions based on the knowledge of relevant theory and empirics. There is a distinct value added of the thesis.*

Strong	*Average*	*Weak*
30	*15*	*0*

METHODS: *The tools used are relevant to the research question being investigated, and adequate to the author's level of studies. The thesis topic is comprehensively analyzed.*

Strong	*Average*	*Weak*
30	*15*	*0*

LITERATURE REVIEW: *The thesis demonstrates author's full understanding and command of recent literature. The author quotes relevant literature in a proper way.*

Strong	*Average*	*Weak*
20	*10*	*0*

MANUSCRIPT FORM: *The thesis is well structured. The student uses appropriate language and style, including academic format for graphs and tables. The text effectively refers to graphs and tables and disposes with a complete bibliography.*

Strong	*Average*	*Weak*
20	*10*	*0*

Overall grading:

TOTAL	GRADE
91 – 100	A
81 - 90	B
71 - 80	C
61 – 70	D
51 – 60	E
0 – 50	F