

Report on Bachelor / Master Thesis

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

Student:	Šimon Scharf
Advisor:	PhDr. Radek Janhuba, M.A., Ph.D.
Title of the thesis:	The Prize Money Distribution in UEFA Champions League

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

Please provide your assessment of each of the following four categories, summary and suggested questions for the discussion. The minimum length of the report is 300 words.

Contribution

The value added of the thesis is clear, well described and explained. The author proved the ability of critical thinking and the ability to apply theory and empirical models on a problem. I enjoyed reading it, it made me think about the topic and to look forward for the season re-start even more.

Methods

I really liked the robustness of the research: 5 models were used and moreover a special chapter devoted to presenting alternative models was written (section 5 Robustness). I liked the idea and logical explanation behind using proxy for team market value based on Transfermarkt.com player value estimation data.

In my opinion, more space should have been devoted to the variable selection process. I miss more theoretical explanation behind the variables used in the model and some more discussion about variables used in papers with similar goals.

Also, I would welcome more explanation why is Market Value a good proxy for Effort and explain its limitations. Eg. during economic slowdown, player market values go down regardless of their quality – would you say that the Effort is then lower and competition worse?

Literature

The thesis uses a lot of relevant sources. Literature review section is well structured, organized, easy to follow and it brings on interesting findings regarding the topic and sometimes even slightly non-relevant for the research (but anyway interesting findings about NHL drafts; ideas of strongest contestant exclusion etc.).

Manuscript form

The thesis is well structured. Student uses appropriate language and style. I miss some information regarding data sources (e.g. I find no explanation on the origin of data in Table 1 (Prize money distribution)).

Summary and suggested questions for the discussion during the defense

- Why did not you use any proxies for economic market conditions that may affect player market values in the model?
- What about the effect of inflation on player market values – would it make sense to adjust for inflation in your research?
- Could you think about some non-financial proxy for the Effort that can be used in your thesis?
- Could you elaborate a bit on the usage and results regarding the dummies for „Top 5 leagues“?

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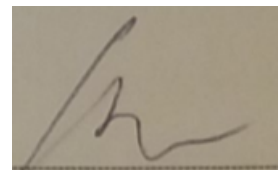
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SUMMARY OF POINTS AWARDED (for details, see below):

CATEGORY	POINTS
Contribution (max. 30 points)	28
Methods (max. 30 points)	26
Literature (max. 20 points)	20
Manuscript Form (max. 20 points)	19
TOTAL POINTS (max. 100 points)	93
GRADE (A – B – C – D – E – F)	A

NAME OF THE REFEREE: Matěj Kuc

DATE OF EVALUATION: 22.5.2020



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.*

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.*

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

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.*

Overall grading:

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