

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):

The thesis studies the mechanisms and incentives provided by the prize money distribution in the UEFA Champions League. I have consulted the study extensively during its writing and all substantial comments were addressed before the thesis was finalized. Hence, I only provide the evaluation and minor comments. The student spent substantial time on the thesis.

Contribution

To the best of my knowledge, this thesis is the first study to examine the prize money incentives in the context of team sports. This makes the study novel and its findings potentially publishable.

Methods

The author clearly demonstrates a convincing ability to use econometric methods. The appropriate econometric specification is established by presenting several alternative models each including additional set of dummy variables to control for unobserved heterogeneity, exactly in the same way often found in published empirical articles.

Literature

The literature review is carefully executed and reviews previous academic literature which is relevant in the context of the research question.

Manuscript form

The manuscript is well structured and satisfies the formatting needed in a bachelor thesis. The English of the thesis is of a high level, both grammatically as well as stylistically. The writing style resembles the styles found in scientific articles published in some academic journals.

Summary and suggested questions for the discussion during the defense

In my opinion, this is an exceptionally well-written thesis which clearly satisfies the conditions to pass the defense as a bachelor thesis. It is visible that the author spent extensive time on the thesis. I recommend the thesis for a defense with the grade A.

I would suggest the following questions for the defense:

- Your baseline model shows that, controlling for the opponent's characteristics using a set of dummy variables, teams do not (*ceteris paribus*) exert higher effort in later stages of the tournament compared to earlier ones. How would you explain this finding?

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

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

NAME OF THE REFEREE: Radek Janhuba

DATE OF EVALUATION: May 24, 2020



Referee Signature