

Report on Bachelor / Master Thesis

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

Student:	Martina Juračková
Advisor:	Mgr. Petr Polák, M.Sc.
Title of the thesis:	Analysis of investor's portfolio diversification on the Czech peer-to-peer market

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 presented thesis shed light on peer-to-peer lending in the Czech Republic using data from the biggest Czech platform Zonky. The author tries to explain portfolio performance based on demographic factors of the investors and the size of the investors. The author finds that several factors such as amount invested in loans with very low/medium risk level, geographic factors, etc. are significant.

Methods

Methods used in the thesis are relevant for the topic and are correctly described; the empirical analysis seems to be carried out properly, although it is rather short compared to the rest of the thesis.

Literature

Peer-to-peer lending is a relatively new topic in economics, and there is only a limited amount of relevant literature. From my point of view, the author was able to select important studies to describe peer-to-peer lending as such. Generally, the author shows a good knowledge of the literature and interest in the topic.

Manuscript form

The submitted thesis is nicely written and reads well. The drawback is quite long „narrative“ part that is 27 pages long (compared to 7 pages of actual empirical analysis). In the future work, author should stick to using the same term for work (thesis vs. paper) and not interchange them throughout the text. The same applies to abbreviations e.g. peer-to-peer vs P2P. There are also some incomplete references, e.g. Klein, T (2008) etc, and some references in the text include „no date“ or n.d. (e.g. p.8 second paragraph).

Summary and suggested questions for the discussion during the defense

Overall I think it is nice work, although the contribution is limited - in the last years, there were quite a few BA/MA thesis dealing with the P2P lending in the Czech Republic. During defense, author should explain how the submitted thesis differs from the thesis of Čermáková (2018) and Jonáš (2019). In my view, the thesis fulfills the requirements for a bachelor thesis at IES, Faculty of Social Sciences, Charles University, I recommend it for the defense and suggest a grade B. The results of the Urkund analysis do not indicate significant text similarity with other available sources.

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

CATEGORY	POINTS
Contribution (max. 30 points)	23

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<i>Methods</i>	<i>(max. 30 points)</i>	25
<i>Literature</i>	<i>(max. 20 points)</i>	18
<i>Manuscript Form</i>	<i>(max. 20 points)</i>	15
TOTAL POINTS	<i>(max. 100 points)</i>	81
GRADE	(A – B – C – D – E – F)	B

NAME OF THE REFEREE: *František Čech*

DATE OF EVALUATION: 26.8.2020

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