

# Report on Bachelor / Master Thesis

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

<b>Student:</b>	Michal Nedelka
<b>Advisor:</b>	Mgr. Milan Ščasný Ph.D.
<b>Title of the thesis:</b>	<b>Analysis of Consumers' Preferences for Cars on Slovak Market</b>

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

Please provide a short summary of the thesis, your assessment of each of the four key categories, and an overall evaluation and suggested questions for the discussion. The minimum length of the report is 300 words.

### **Short summary**

The author aims to examine the market for passenger cars in the Slovakia. More specifically thesis examines the effect of registration fees on the number of passenger cars entering the national vehicle evidence and how the change in fuel price affects the decision of buying car.

### **Contribution**

The student generally demonstrates the ability to critical thinking and the ability to draw conclusions based on the knowledge of relevant theory and empirics.

### **Methods**

- 1) Author states that he grouped the cars for several categories using some of their characteristics according to some threshold values. I have not found any explanation of the methodology (maybe I have missed it) on how these threshold values were determined. What logic the author was applying when grouping the cars? Are the chosen thresholds for grouping justified? If yes, are there any sources that the reader can be referred to? The methods of threshold selection are very important as different thresholds may lead to very different results.
- 2) The textbook description of OLS methodology on page 27 is redundant. There is no need to derive OLS estimator in the paper.
- 3) As far as I understood the author tries to differentiate between the new and second-hand cars by introducing dummies and interaction terms in his empirical specification. However, as the author notes himself (maybe indirectly) the new car markets and the used car markets maybe structurally different. In other words, these cars may be treated as different goods, and thus including them in one empirical specification (one equation) may possibly create some problems. As a robustness check it would be nice to estimate the equations of interest for new and second-hand cars separately.

### **Literature**

The author demonstrates a full understanding of the literature on the car and fuel market in EU member states. But a number of the quoted literature is not relevant, in my opinion, to the research topic of the thesis.

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## Manuscript form

Generally, the student demonstrates a good command of English, and uses appropriate language, style, including academic format for graphs and tables. However, sometimes it is rather difficult to follow the flow of the paper either due to the language being too mechanical, or due to the inefficient reference to tables within the text.

## Overall evaluation and suggested questions for the discussion during the defense

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 A. However, I would like to suggest to ask the author regarding the points I outlined in the methodology section during the defense.

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)	30
Methods (max. 30 points)	25
Literature (max. 20 points)	19
Manuscript Form (max. 20 points)	18
<b>TOTAL POINTS</b> (max. 100 points)	<b>92</b>
<b>GRADE (A – B – C – D – E – F)</b>	<b>A</b>

**NAME OF THE REFEREE: Yermone Sargsyan**

**DATE OF EVALUATION: 27.08.2022**

Digitally signed (27.08.2022)

Yermone Sargsyan  
**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