

Report on Bachelor / Master Thesis

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

Student:	Ondrej Kokes
Advisor:	PhDr. Tomas Havranek
Title of the thesis:	Income Elasticity of Gasoline Demand: A Meta-Analysis

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

In this work the author conducts a meta-analysis on income elasticity gasoline demand. Considering the level of studies, the quality of research is high. The author uses up-to-date relevant literature and also brings contribution to the field. However, there are some of issues that should have further increased the quality of the thesis:

- Introduction part. It is a bit short! Some more information would have made the transition to the topic smoother. Also, more motivation is needed in my opinion.
- "...*This thesis is the first one in terms of income elasticity of gasoline demand that accounts for this publication bias...*"- this is a strong claim. Better use "To our knowledge ...".
- The methodology employed (Meta-analysis) in fact highly criticized in academia. In this work though, the author dedicates only a small paragraph in Chapter 3.5. Isn't this some kind of "*publication bias*" too?
- There are some issues with respect to the manuscript form e.g. writing in the first person in the "Conclusions" Section and some minor issues with the language used. Still, considering the level of studies, it is not of main concern.
- Introduction of Chapter 4: hardly understood it, needs rewriting!

When trying to replicate the results using the provided dataset and the "Do" file the execution of the code stops at the (almost) very end of the file because somehow the variable "tYrsrq" was missing. Otherwise it runs smoothly. Overall, the work shows also that the author has very good command of the IT skills.

I do not have other comments for this work.

In case of successful defense I recommend "**výborně**" (excellent 1).

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

CATEGORY	POINTS
Literature (max. 20 points)	18
Methods (max. 30 points)	25
Contribution (max. 30 points)	25
Manuscript Form (max. 20 points)	15
TOTAL POINTS (max. 100 points)	83
GRADE (1 – 2 – 3 – 4)	1

NAME OF THE REFEREE: Mgr. Krenar Avdulaj

DATE OF EVALUATION: 03.06.2012

Referee Signature

EXPLANATION OF CATEGORIES AND SCALE:

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

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

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

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 POINTS	GRADE		
81 – 100	1	= excellent	= výborně
61 – 80	2	= good	= velmi dobře
41 – 60	3	= satisfactory	= dobře
0 – 40	4	= fail	= nedoporučuji k obhajobě