

Report on Bachelor / Master Thesis

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

Student:	Jan Ján
Advisor:	doc. Mgr. Tomáš Holub Ph.D.
Title of the thesis:	Negative Interest Rates – How Far Can They Go?

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

The Bachelor Thesis presents a discussion on negative interest rates, a highly relevant and attractive topic for academia as well as policy-making. In the thesis the author tracks the policy experience of a number of countries with negative interest rates and provides some preliminary discussion on the zero lower bound and how far in the negative territory the policymakers can go in setting up their key policy rates.

Generally, the thesis is nicely structured and well written. It provides a concise overview of the relevant policy experiences worldwide. On the downside, the thesis states very little in terms of own contribution. It would be extremely interesting if the author focuses on one of the topics that were originally suggested in the thesis proposal, e.g. a pass-through of negative rates to the real economy, problems of financial intermediaries, role of capital flows. All these topics are touched upon in the presented thesis, yet I believe the thesis would greatly benefit from a deeper exploration of one of the originally proposed aspects.

With respect to the discussed literature, Jan walks us through the policymakers' experiences including relevant speeches and announcement. Additionally, the author also builds upon some historical perspective on negative interest rates. Another stream of literature worth covering would be current macroeconomic understanding and a more recent academic discussion on the transmission mechanism in the zero lower bound environment.

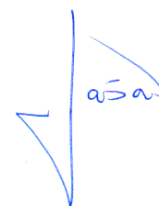
Overall, I recommend the thesis of Jan Ján to the defense at IES FSV UK and I suggest the grade B, "good".

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

CATEGORY	POINTS
<i>Literature</i> (max. 20 points)	15
<i>Methods</i> (max. 30 points)	22
<i>Contribution</i> (max. 30 points)	10
<i>Manuscript Form</i> (max. 20 points)	14
TOTAL POINTS (max. 100 points)	61
GRADE (1 – 2 – 3 – 4)	2

NAME OF THE REFEREE: *Martina Jašová*

DATE OF EVALUATION: 27.08.2016



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