

Report on Bachelor Thesis

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

Student:	Jakub Bláha
Advisor:	Ing. David Kocourek
Title of the thesis:	An Empirical Investigation of Wage Discrimination in Professional Football

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

Contribution

The Bachelor thesis provides unique insight into the topic which might be considered as outdated. Some other might say that its relevance is not crucial for today since it is generally perceived that the racism in the USA still prevails, but definitely not in the top sports leagues which attract attention of wide range of public and it is under tight scrutiny. On top of that, as Jakub presents in his work that the professional sport suffers from lower asymmetry of information as compared to other economic sectors hence it is even more surprising that the discrimination was discovered. Therefore, the Bachelor thesis proves its original contribution showing that discussion about discrimination is not over in any field.

Methods

Crucial part for digging the data and finding the results was Jakub's eagerness to acquire more data, restructure it and lastly employ different techniques to test the hypothesis. Employing quantile regression as he suggested was proved to be the most important methodological contribution of the thesis. It really revealed that the discrimination surprisingly persists, however, only in lower parts of the wage distribution. It is worth to mention that employment of quantile regression was an idea of the student.

Literature

Literature used in the bachelor thesis is balanced between the theoretical work needed to introduce the concepts used in the thesis and the empirical papers relating Jakub's findings to existing set of results. Additionally, Jakub cites many sources out of the academic literature since the topic demands such coverage to introduce some features of the topic or provides explanations from the real US football life.

Manuscript form

Manuscript form corresponds to all requirements for bachelor thesis. However, the text in some parts is not easy to follow. In this aspect the thesis could still be definitely improved even after several editions which were made.

The biggest drawback of the thesis which is, however, outside of the student's control is lack of European data on this topic which would provide more relevant results for our region and even provide necessary comparison to the USA results.

All in all, despite the objection I might have towards the flow of the text I recommend the thesis to defend and I suggest the grade „1“, „excellent“ in word.

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

CATEGORY	POINTS
Contribution (max. 30 points)	25
Methods (max. 30 points)	25
Literature (max. 20 points)	19
Manuscript Form (max. 20 points)	15
TOTAL POINTS (max. 100 points)	84
GRADE (1 – 2 – 3 – 4)	1

NAME OF THE REFEREE: David Kocourek

DATE OF EVALUATION: 5 September 2017



Referee Signature