

# Report on Bachelor / Master Thesis

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

<b>Student:</b>	<b>Pavel Zacharuk</b>
<b>Advisor:</b>	<b>Ing. Vilém Semerák, M.A., Ph.D.</b>
<b>Title of the thesis:</b>	<b>Border Effect and Openness of Chinese Economy</b>

## OVERALL ASSESSMENT:

**Contribution:** In the context of China being one of the world's largest economy, the question of its openness and how it will evolve is very actual. To investigate this, the Author had to use several existing data sources on the national level, but also had to construct the provincial Input-Output tables, by applying the GRIT technique. This technical part is the main contribution of the present Thesis, and a very important one. Although Author's research was limited by the availability of the data (only until 2011), and it cannot be extrapolated on more recent years, it is unfortunate the Author did not anyhow comment the recent events in the trade relationship between China and USA, which would definitely affect the openness of the Chinese Economy.

**Methods:** The methodology chosen by the Author is appropriate for the researched question. I appreciate that the Author has encountered data constraints that determined the methodology applied. However, the Author does not explain enough the choice of the provinces (why only four?) and only mentions the potential issues with the applied methods (eg. „Zombie companies“), but does not explain whether and how such were addressed in the research.

**Literature:** Although the literature review is rather short, it provides a good background for the research performed by the Author. Nevertheless, the number of quotations present in this section is rather limited, and some important researches are not referred to (eg. Amiti & Javorcik (2008)). I appreciate that the size of the „Literature review“ section was determined by the fact that the Author decided to present the historical context of China's economy and international trade, which is useful to an external reader.

**Manuscript form:** Although overall structure of the Thesis is in line with the requirements towards a Bachelor Thesis format, the text is often hard to read due to formulations and sometimes lack of punctuation. The author decided not to keep the legend in some of the graphs, and overall the graphs and tables are not presented in a way that would facilitate reading. For example, there are two figures labeled „Figure 15“ in the Thesis.

### Summary and suggested questions for the discussion during the defense

In case of a successful defence, I recommend grade „C“.

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

CATEGORY	POINTS
<i>Contribution</i> (max. 30 points)	25
<i>Methods</i> (max. 30 points)	23
<i>Literature</i> (max. 20 points)	15
<i>Manuscript Form</i> (max. 20 points)	8
<b>TOTAL POINTS</b> (max. 100 points)	<b>71</b>
<b>GRADE</b> (A – B – C – D – E – F)	<b>C</b>

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Title of the thesis:	Border Effect and Openness of Chinese Economy

**NAME OF THE REFEREE:** *Alina Cazachevici*

**DATE OF EVALUATION:** 30.05.2019



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**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.*

<i>Strong</i>	<i>Average</i>	<i>Weak</i>
30	15	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.*

<i>Strong</i>	<i>Average</i>	<i>Weak</i>
30	15	0

**LITERATURE REVIEW:** *The thesis demonstrates author's full understanding and command of recent literature. The author quotes relevant literature in a proper way.*

<i>Strong</i>	<i>Average</i>	<i>Weak</i>
20	10	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.*

<i>Strong</i>	<i>Average</i>	<i>Weak</i>
20	10	0

**Overall grading:**

TOTAL	GRADE
91 – 100	<b>A</b>
81 - 90	<b>B</b>
71 - 80	<b>C</b>
61 – 70	<b>D</b>
51 – 60	<b>E</b>
0 – 50	<b>F</b>