



Záznam o průběhu obhajoby disertační práce

Akademický rok: 2020/2021

Jméno a příjmení studenta: Mgr. Ing. Adam Kučera
Rok narození: 1989
Identifikační číslo studenta: 24933241

Typ studijního programu: doktorský
Studijní program: Ekonomie a finance
Studijní obor: Ekonomie a finance
Identifikační čísla studia: 487433

Název práce: Topics in Yield Curve Modeling
Pracoviště práce: Institut ekonomických studií (23-IES)
Jazyk práce: angličtina
Jazyk obhajoby: čeština
Školitel: prof. Ing. Evžen Kočenda, M.A., Ph.D., DSc.
Oponent(i): prof. Roman Horváth, Ph.D.
prof. Ing. Martin Mandel, CSc.
prof. Martin Berka, M.A., Ph.D.

Datum obhajoby: 17.03.2021 **Místo obhajoby:** Praha
Hlasování komise: prospěl/a: 5 neprospěl/a: 0

Průběh obhajoby: The Defense Committee Chair welcomed all participants and initiated the defense by verbal statements confirming (i) that a satisfactory number of Defense Committee Members were present, (ii) that the student fulfilled all the requirements as listed in the Study and Examination Code of Charles University including showing the appropriate documents.

The Defense Committee Chair introduced all committee members and asked Adam Kucera to present his dissertation thesis. Adam Kucera shortly described the main topics, methodologies, and findings of the dissertation. Afterward, Adam Kucera focused on the second chapter called „Identification of Triggers of U.S. Yield Curve Movements“ in more detail.

The defense proceeded by a summary of the advisor and present referee comments and with reading the not present referees' (appointed by the Graduation Council) comments, an open discussion followed. During the discussion, Adam Kucera satisfactorily answered all the questions from the audience. During the Defense Committee voting, Adam Kucera left the online session and re-connected to hear the defense result. Due to the current epidemiologic situation, the defense was in distant form through the Microsoft Teams online session.

Question: The German yields remain negative. How do you explain

it?

Answer: I think that they are also growing a bit so the policy changes are affecting them as well. However, in the euro area, I think the explanation is that no one expects the policy rates to return to 2% in some short term, for example, as in the U.S. The eurozone rates may be expected, even after being increased, to remain close to zero for some time. Additionally, in the case of 5year yields, the yield may be viewed as expectations about the rates over the next five years. Therefore, even the expected rates 5year ahead would be positive, the yield reflects the whole path to it which largely remains in the negative territory.

The Defense Committee was satisfied with the answer.

Question: Before the Slovak Republic joined the EU, their yields were similarly high to the Czech yields. However, once they joined the EU, the yields fell significantly. What is the rationale behind that?

Answer: I have not focused on the Slovak yields. But the Slovak market is a small market and the bid-ask spread and various transaction costs were high, which could be adjusted once Slovaks joined the eurozone and resulted in the shift of the yields. Second, the yield is comprised of the risk-free yield, which I see as close to interest rate swaps on the given currency. I do not know the interest rate swaps on the euro and Slovak koruna at the time they joined, but in general, I believe the euro currency swaps were well below the Slovak. Once they joined, the demand for the Slovak bonds could increase, which could help adjust the rates to match those of the new currency.

The Defense Committee was satisfied with the answer.

Question: Did you try to use weights by the news outlets?

Answer: No I have not. There was quite a lot of news and the area of research was new for me, so I did not try such additional fine-tuning.

The Defense Committee was satisfied with the answer.

Question: Can we observe any effect of the new Joe Biden administration on yields or inflation? Namely, because we can observe high debt. They have different mentality towards debt. It is just a speculative question. Do you think we can expect high inflation in the US economy?

Answer: Part of the increase in the yield and inflation expectations in February was due to the new Joe Biden administration. Some insight from the markets also hints that such an effect on inflation in the future could be around 0.4 percentage points. I do not believe there will be much more effect in the future because the markets have already priced all the information.

The Defense Committee was satisfied with the answer.

Výsledek obhajoby:	prospěl/a (P)	
Předseda komise:	doc. PhDr. Jozef Baruník, Ph.D. (přítomen)
Členové komise:	PhDr. Jaromír Baxa, Ph.D. (přítomen)
	prof. Roman Horváth, Ph.D. (přítomen)
	PhDr. Jiří Schwarz, Ph.D. (přítomen)
	doc. Ing. Zdeněk Tůma, CSc. (přítomen)
	prof. Ing. Martin Mandel, CSc.
	prof. Martin Berka, M.A., Ph.D.