

# Report on Bachelor / Master Thesis

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

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| <b>Student:</b>             | <b>Ondřej Habán</b>  |
| <b>Advisor:</b>             | <b>Ladislav Křišťoufek</b>   |
| <b>Title of the thesis:</b> | <b>Consequences of Implementation of Video Assistant Referee in Fortuna Liga</b> |

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

*Please provide a short summary of the thesis, your assessment of each of the four key categories, and an overall evaluation and suggested questions for the discussion. The minimum length of the report is 300 words.*

### **Short summary**

The thesis touches a rather non-standard topic of the effect of Video Assistant Referee (VAR) on the behavior of players and referees represented by various metrics during soccer matches in the Czech elite league. The presence of VAR during matches is shown to have some effect, but maybe not as evident as expected. The reasons for this are discussed in detail, pointing towards further research on the topic.

### **Contribution**

There is only a limited amount of relevant literature and it is practically non-existent for the Czech league. Just by this, the thesis delivers important contributions to the local authorities. Some of the results (yellow cards) actually go against the evidence on the foreign leagues. The penalty decisions are influenced by the VAR presence, likely due to both the decision-corrections and self-censorship. The VAR presence also influences the on-pitch referee errors. An additional contribution, apart from the results themselves, is the discussion of limiting factors of similar studies, mostly with respect to the dataset construction. There can be used by other researchers when constructing the dataset.

### **Methods**

The data structure and properties have forced the author to go towards advanced techniques of Poisson regression type models which go above the standard bachelor's curriculum. The techniques are carried out without evident mistakes and their use is well described and justified.

### **Literature**

The thesis covers relevant literature on the topic and, due to its nature, also works with a large set of online sources. No issues found here.

### **Manuscript form**

The text is well structured and it reads nicely. The figures are carried out clearly, with informative captions. The appendix is used intelligibly.

The Urkund analysis has not uncovered any signs of plagiarism, with the score of only 2%, i.e., there is no sign of any misconduct.

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## Overall evaluation and suggested questions for the discussion during the defense

In my view, the thesis fulfills the requirements for a bachelor thesis at IES, Faculty of Social Sciences, Charles University, I recommend it for the defense and suggest a grade A.

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

| <b>CATEGORY</b>                         | <b>POINTS</b> |
|---|---------------|
| <i>Contribution</i> (max. 30 points)    | 28            |
| <i>Methods</i> (max. 30 points)         | 29            |
| <i>Literature</i> (max. 20 points)      | 20            |
| <i>Manuscript Form</i> (max. 20 points) | 19            |
| <b>TOTAL POINTS</b> (max. 100 points)   | <b>97</b>     |
| <b>GRADE</b> (A – B – C – D – E – F)    | <b>A</b>      |

**NAME OF THE REFEREE:** *Ladislav Křišťoufek*

**DATE OF EVALUATION:** *30 May 2022*

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**Referee Signature**