

Report on Rigorous Thesis

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

Student:	Bc. Lubomír Cingl
Advisor:	PhDr. Michal Bauer, PhD.
Title of the thesis:	Do information cascades arise easier under time pressure? Experimental approach.

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

This rigorous thesis examines the role of information cascades in the decision making process of individuals using experimental approach. The author tests numerous hypotheses concerning the effect of public information on decision making process. This thesis contains complex overview of the role of experiments in economics, theory of information cascades. The author uses an experiment to identify the effect of publicly available information on private decision. I strongly believe that this method is appropriate as it allows for full control of the behavior of the participants.

Concerning the econometric evaluation of the data, the author provides extended theoretical introduction into the econometrics of limited dependent variable and problem of selection. For the purpose of publication I would suggest shortening and simplifying this part and focusing more on the limitation and the assumptions of the identification strategy that is implemented.

Generally, I believe that this thesis is a very good start for PhD. dissertation, but it needs to be shortened substantially.

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

CATEGORY	POINTS
Literature (max. 20 points)	20

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<i>Methods</i>	<i>(max. 30 points)</i>	30
<i>Contribution</i>	<i>(max. 30 points)</i>	25
<i>Manuscript Form</i>	<i>(max. 20 points)</i>	20
TOTAL POINTS	<i>(max. 100 points)</i>	95
GRADE	(1 – 2 – 3 – 4)	1

NAME OF THE REFEREE: Filip Pertold

DATE OF EVALUATION: March 22nd, 2011

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