

Report on Bachelor / Master Thesis

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

Student:	Petra Valíčková
Advisor:	Doc. Roman Horváth
Title of the thesis:	The Role of Financial Development in Economic Growth: A Meta-Analysis

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

Petra has written a thesis on whether and how financial development promotes economic growth. This is clearly very important but also well-researched topic. Nevertheless, I believe that Petra has contributed substantially to this literature. Petra employs meta-analysis (quantitative literature survey) to do so. Therefore, she examines whether some features of primary studies influence the estimates and find that this is indeed the case. This is strongly needed exercise because previous literature was narrative and could not quantitatively evaluate the driving forces in finance-growth nexus.

I would like to emphasize that carrying out a large-scale meta-analysis requires an enormous effort to collect the data and classify all the characteristics of primary studies. The scale of this thesis is at the level typical for highly ranked journals and Petra employs appropriate modern meta-analytical techniques.

The thesis is reasonably written and Petra shows excellent knowledge of literature. If appropriately revised, there is a potential to publish a paper based on this thesis in good field journal.

All in all, I strongly recommend the thesis for the defense and suggest grade A. I also suggest a distinction from the Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences for an extraordinarily good MA thesis.

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

CATEGORY	POINTS
<i>Literature</i> (max. 20 points)	20
<i>Methods</i> (max. 30 points)	30
<i>Contribution</i> (max. 30 points)	30
<i>Manuscript Form</i> (max. 20 points)	17
TOTAL POINTS (max. 100 points)	97
GRADE (1 – 2 – 3 – 4)	1

NAME OF THE REFEREE: *Doc. Roman Horváth*

DATE OF EVALUATION: *August 15, 2012*

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