Report on Master Thesis

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

Student:	Bc. Adam Láníček
Advisor:	doc. Ing. Tomáš Cahlík, CSc.
Title of the thesis:	Principles of Information Economy and Impact of IT on Company's Value Added: A Cross-Industry Analysis

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

The submitted master thesis deals with the topic of information economy. It studies the principles and micro- and macroeconomic circumstances of such economy and describes challenges faced by enterprises in this new environmen. Lastly, a cross-industry analysis on the impact of IT on company's value-added is performed. The extent of the work is adequate, comprising approximately thirty pages introducing the fundamental concepts and defining key vocabulary and another thirty pages of own econometric research, results interpretations and discussions.

In my opinion, the procedure used to deal with the topic is legitimate, the thesis itself is nicely structured and it is obvious the author got familiar with relevant research made in the field. The core chapters of the thesis are devoted to the application of pooled OLS and fixed effects panel data methods applied on the US economy as a whole and on separate industry sectors subsequently. The econometric part seems to be done completely and I appreciate a systematic approach in selecting the most suitable technique. I do nevertheless have a few comments and recommendations:

- The contribution of the thesis should be highligted and "sold" better. As it stands, it seems it is quite limited given the problems with the data and failure to reveal relationship between the share of IT assets in total assets and a company's value-added

- More possible explanations or suggestions addressing the counterintuitive results of the regression for separate industries are missing. Since the effect of IT variable proves negative for half of the industry sectors (even if usually not significant), this is something the author should comment on more.

- Even though this fact does not diminish the quality of the presented thesis, I noticed the author had deviated himself quite significantly from the thesis proposal submitted

Apart from these small imperfections, I consider the thesis to be a solid piece of work and I am convinced the author fulfilled all requirements for a master thesis to a satisfactory level. In case of a successful defence, I propose grade **1 (výborně).**

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

CATEGORY		POINTS
Literature	(max. 20 points)	20
Methods	(max. 30 points)	25
Contribution	(max. 30 points)	25
Manuscript Form	(max. 20 points)	20
TOTAL POINTS	(max. 100 points)	90
GRADE	(1 – 2 – 3 – 4)	1

NAME OF THE REFEREE: **PhDr. Oliver Polyák**

DATE OF EVALUATION: **3.2.2015**

Referee Signature