

Report on Bachelor / Master Thesis

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

Student:	Pavel Moraru
Advisor:	Doc. Roman Horváth, Ph.D.
Title of the thesis:	Influence of the knowledge capital of a bank on its performance

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

The thesis estimates the bank efficiency scores for the Czech banks and examines to what extent the knowledge management matters for the scores. The idea is that quality of management of commercial banks does not have to be assessed solely using the financial indicators but also using more softer information such as to what extent the management invests into the education and training of its employees. This is original idea that Pavel has come with.

The thesis has a standard structure and captures the existing studies relatively well. It uses stochastic frontier analysis to assess the efficiency of Czech banks (NLOGIT and R software are used). The flow of text is fine and the results are interpreted sufficiently.

I was missing a comparison with previous literature. To what extent is your approach of assessing knowledge management new? Some robustness checks vis-à-vis your baseline specifications would be vital. The thesis contains some typos but their number is relatively low. Bibliography at the end of the thesis is structured somewhat strangely. An econometric model should have been explained in a greater detail, especially the sequencing of individual steps to assess the bank efficiency.

Overall, it is a fine piece of empirical work with the ambition to introduce new concepts in the traditional measurement of bank efficiency. Even though I raised some critical remarks in the previous paragraph, I appreciate the novelty and originality. Therefore, I recommend this thesis to be defended and suggest a grade B.

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

CATEGORY	POINTS
<i>Literature</i> (max. 20 points)	14
<i>Methods</i> (max. 30 points)	24
<i>Contribution</i> (max. 30 points)	25
<i>Manuscript Form</i> (max. 20 points)	14
TOTAL POINTS (max. 100 points)	77
GRADE (1 – 2 – 3 – 4)	2

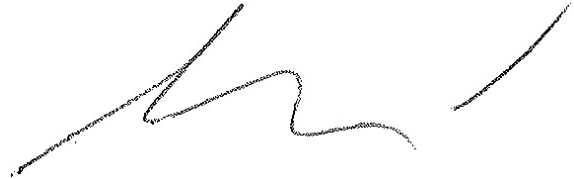
NAME OF THE REFEREE: Doc. Roman Horvath, PhD

DATE OF EVALUATION: January 10, 2013

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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