



## Supervisor review

Department:	Department of Statistics and Operational Analysis
Author:	Bc. Marek Slavík
Title:	Foreign trade with ICT goods in the Czech Republic
Supervisor:	Assoc. Prof. Václav Adamec, Ph.D.

### Part I – Basic requirements for master thesis

**Instructions:**

- The first part of the review concentrates on critical parts of master thesis that are required to recommend the thesis to be defended. These aspects could be evaluated only by answers yes-no.
- If at least one aspect is evaluated in the negative way, the thesis may not be recommended for defense. The reasons for the negative decisions should be specified and the second part of the review does not have to be completed.

1. Does the thesis contain objective defined correctly and does the objective correspond to the common requirements for the master thesis?	YES
2. Is the review of literature including the citations and references elaborated correctly from the methodological and formal point of view?	YES
3. Does the thesis include precise description of used methods and are these methods suitable for defined objective?	YES
4. Does the thesis covers the clear conclusions, reasoned recommendations, justified suggestions, etc. that bring new knowledge or information?	YES

Reasons for negative answers, specification of missing or unsatisfactory parts:

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### Part II – Quality of master thesis

**Instructions:**

- The second part of the review regards with quality evaluation of selected aspect of the thesis. The thesis could obtain 0-60 points in total. Zero points correspond to thesis meeting only the minimal requirements, while thesis evaluated by 60 points is excellent and inventive in all evaluated aspects.
- The evaluation scale has five levels:
  - accomplished, at the level of minimum of requirements given in part I (0 points)
  - accomplished with significant but not critical imperfections (2 points)
  - accomplished, the imperfections do not influence the merit of the thesis and mainly the results (5 points)
  - accomplished fully without any reservations and in the exhausting way (8 points)
  - excellent, extraordinary, originative and completely correct accomplishment (10 points)
- Points assigned in evaluation of individual aspect have to be briefly justified; the extraordinary solutions have to be considered.

<b>5. Contribution, originality, demandingness of the thesis</b>	<b>Points: 8</b>
(frequency of the issue, non-existence of conventional solution, unavailability of solution for researched conditions, expected and real contribution of the thesis, extent of the specific knowledge needed to meet the objective, ...)	
The author elaborated on an attractive and at the same time a challenging topic. It requires knowledge of economic theory, statistical methods and developed working skills with statistical software. Thesis objective was provided on pages 13 and 14 and was decomposed into partial objectives and working hypotheses.	

<b>6. Quality of the review of the literature</b>	<b>Points: 8</b>
(extent of surveyed literature and its up-to-dateness and representativeness, use of foreign and cardinal sources, suitability of survey for own research,, discussion of alternative approaches, analysis of citations and references, synthesis of theoretical knowledge for own research,...)	
Literature review was completed on 12 pages citing a large number of papers and books published mostly in English. The review was aimed primarily at international trade with ICT goods and services and reasons behind the recent economic crisis.	
<b>7. Methodology and its application</b>	<b>Points: 8</b>
(discussion of suitability of chosen method, comparison of alternative attitudes, possibility to verify the results, correctness of application of methods, suitability of data samples used, preventing errors and shortages of applied methods, comparison of results, variations reasoning, ...)	
In the chapter Material and Methodology, the author gives thorough overview of the data and statistical methods. Primarily, methods of regression and correlation analysis and analysis of univariate and multivariate time series within the Box-Jenkins framework were used.	
<b>8. Own research</b>	<b>Points: 5</b>
(depth and complexity of performed analysis, extent of use of knowledge from literature review, proving facts, suitability of samples and sources used, treatment of data errors, level of meeting the thesis objective, hypotheses answering, ...)	
The author estimated several models of value of Czech ICT import and export and described relationship of these variables with GDP growth in the Czech Republic and EU, respectively. The models were correctly applied and verified. Forward predictions were constructed for the time series of Czech ICT import and export from SARIMA models. Unfortunately, results of diagnostic tests were incorrectly marked in tables 10, 14 and 19.	
<b>9. Conclusions and recommendations</b>	<b>Points: 5</b>
(correctness of conclusions, explicit formulations, adequacy of suggestions, generalizing conclusions, applicability of recommendations, ...)	
The author provided comments on the coefficients of the estimated models and explained his findings in economic context. To my regret, critique of the current results or comparison with other authors was not provided.	
<b>10. Logical framework, formal requirements</b>	<b>Points: 8</b>
(correct structure, logical coherence of text, correctness of terminology, explicitness and clarity of graphics, accurateness of language, ...)	
Presentation of the material is well organized. Quality of tables and graphs is up to the standard. Clarity of the language and writing is evident despite several small problems with vocabulary.	

### Part III – Summary and final evaluation

#### Instructions:

1. After summarizing the points the reviewer marks with a cross the appropriate final evaluation according to corresponding interval of points.
2. The clear final decision has to be stated in the conclusion. The thesis can be recommended to be defended only in the case, when there is no negative evaluation in the part I of this review.
3. In the following part the reviewer has the opportunity to give his/her opinion to thesis as a whole and give further suggestions and comments.

Total points:            42 points

Final evaluation:

	0–12 points	accomplished at the level of minimum of requirements given in part I
	13–24 points	accomplished with significant but not critical imperfections
	25–36 points	accomplished, the imperfections do not influence the merit of the thesis and mainly the results
<b>X</b>	37–48 points	accomplished fully without any reservations and in the exhausting way
	49–60 points	excellent, extraordinary, originative and completely correct accomplishment

Final decision: **I RECOMMEND** thesis to be defended.

Further comments and suggestions the author should discuss within the defense of the thesis:

Date: June 3, 2015

Name and signature of the supervisor: Assoc. Prof. Václav Adamec, Ph.D.

Date: June 3, 2015

Name and signature of the head of the department: Assoc. Prof. Jitka Janová, Ph.D.