Report on Bachelor / Master Thesis

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

Student:	Kryštof Zatloukal
Advisor:	Mgr. Petr Polák, MSc. Ph.D
Title of the thesis:	Transfers and success of football players

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

Please provide a short summary of the thesis, your assessment of each of the four key categories, and an overall evaluation and suggested questions for the discussion. The minimum length of the report is 300 words.

Short summary
In hir thesis Kryštof Zatloukal analyses success of tranfers of football players. In order to do so, transfers into Premier league that happend during 2020. The analysis shows that the better a player is performing before the transfer, the more successful his transfer is going to be. Furthermore, performance of the club, from which a player is transferring, has also shown to be a determinant of transfer success. The definition of success is simply the change in the market value of the player.

Contribution
The thesis follows previous studies that analyze trades, transfers, market value and performance of football players, but the analysis of success after transfer is a an original an innovative perspective and was so far overlooked. The analysis shows, that some factors can help to explain the success of the transfer.

Methods
The thesis follows standard methodology for this type of data and Kryštof shows that he is aware of the aspects of linear regression. The data collection process is also very well described. It is a bit pity, that the data about transfers are not collected from a more time periods as it might have been partially influenced by the covid-19.

Literature
All sources are well referenced, the author follows citation rules. Relevant studies from the area of football player analysis are summarized.

Manuscript form
The thesis itself is easy to follow and the formatting is done with care. From my perspective, more visual presentation of the data could be part of the thesis, as the data gathering process and dataset creation took a large amount of time and work and it is pitty that it is not better presented. Also, some larger tables could be formatted with even more care, but these are just minor details which not affect on the content.

Overall evaluation and suggested questions for the discussion during the defense
From the perspective of a supervisor, Kryštof was able to collect the data fully by himself and was creative when trying to find the best measure of the success of football players. We discusses that a few times and decided to stick with the current solution even if we are aware of the limitations. Kryštof worked on his thesis continuously and with interest for the topic itself. Since I had the opportunity to see the progress of the thesis, my key remarks were incorporated.

I do not have a specific question for the defense, and I would suggest that Kryštof elaborates about the possible measures of football player success and what are the advantages and disadvantages of the chosen measure.

The results of the Urkund analysis do not indicate significant text similarity with other available sources.

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In my view, the thesis fulfills the requirements for a bachelor thesis at IES, Faculty of Social Sciences, Charles University, I recommend it for the defense and suggest a grade A.

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

CATEGORY	POINTS
Contribution *(max. 30 points)*	28
Methods *(max. 30 points)*	26
Literature *(max. 20 points)*	18
Manuscript Form *(max. 20 points)*	16
TOTAL POINTS *(max. 100 points)*	**88**
GRADE **(A – B – C – D – E – F)**	**B**

NAME OF THE REFEREE: Petr Polák

DATE OF EVALUATION: 30. 5. 2023

Digitally signed (30. 5. 2023)
Petr Polák

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Referee Signature

<u>***EXPLANATION OF CATEGORIES AND SCALE:***</u>

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.*

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.*

LITERATURE REVIEW: *The thesis demonstrates author's full understanding and command of recent literature. The author quotes relevant literature in a proper way.*

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.*

<u>***Overall grading:***</u>

TOTAL	GRADE
91 – 100	**A**
81 - 90	**B**
71 - 80	**C**
61 – 70	**D**
51 – 60	**E**
0 – 50	**F**