

Report on Bachelor / Master Thesis

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

Student:	Lukáš Novotný
Advisor:	Mgr. Petr Polák, MSc. Ph.D
Title of the thesis:	Second-hand Board Game Price Analysis

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 his thesis Lukáš Novotný collected a large dataset from a second-hand marketplace focused purely on board games. The marketplace is international, but for the simplicity of the analysis, it is focused on the United States market. The dataset is analysed using OLS method to determine the drivers of the price of a second-hand product. Second-hand markets are well developed and economic literature focuses on those, but it might be the first attempt to analyse second-hand board games.

Contribution

Lukáš collected the data from available sources using webscapping methods, since the BoardGameGeek platform does not provide the dataset for a download. The topic of board game is very original, but the marketplace as such is huge and the market for board games worldwide grows every year and from the most popular titles, several thousand copies are sold every year. The analysis also provides a valuable information for those who want to sell something on a second-hand market, want to maximize the profit but also want to sell it in a timely manner.

Methods

The thesis follows standard methodology for this type of data and Lukáš shows that he is aware of the aspects of linear regression. The data collection process is also very well described. The modelling process is also well commented.

Literature

All sources are well referenced, studies used belong to the core of the studied topic. Relevant studies from similar topic (games) and method (hedonic pricing) are briefly summarized.

Manuscript form

The thesis itself is very well written, using a standard template which is highly appreciated. 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 a pity that it is not better presented.

Overall evaluation and suggested questions for the discussion during the defense

From the perspective of a supervisor, Lukáš was able to collect the data fully by himself with only a few hints from my side and getting such data was not an easy task. Lukáš worked on his thesis continuously and with passion for the topic.

I do not have a specific question for the defense, but I would suggest that Lukáš elaborates about what would be his suggestion for buyers and sellers if they want to trade board games based on his analysis.

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
<i>Contribution</i> (max. 30 points)	27
<i>Methods</i> (max. 30 points)	28
<i>Literature</i> (max. 20 points)	18
<i>Manuscript Form</i> (max. 20 points)	20
TOTAL POINTS (max. 100 points)	93
GRADE (A – B – C – D – E – F)	A

NAME OF THE REFEREE: Petr Polák

DATE OF EVALUATION: 30. 5. 2023

Digitally signed (30. 5. 2023)
Petr Polák

Referee Signature

EXPLANATION OF CATEGORIES AND SCALE:

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.*

Overall grading:

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