

SCIENTIFIC ADVISOR'S REFERENCE

Program:	Master in Corporate Finance
Student:	Valeriia Kruglova
Title of thesis:	IMPACT OF CAPITAL STRUCTURE ON THE VALUE OF LISTED RUSSIAN COMPANIES

<p>Justification of the topic choice. Accuracy in defining the aim and objectives of the thesis. Justification of the topic choice; accuracy in defining the aim and tasks of the thesis; originality of the topic and the extent to which it was covered; alignment of the thesis' topic, aim and objectives.</p>
<p>There are two different approaches for the definition of capital structure a company. The classical one is based on financial leverage where the values of equity and debt are treated in the terms of (financial) market value. Another approach is less common, but more close to real life applications. It is based on accounting information where debt ratio is treated in the terms of financial accounting (reports). The author provides econometric analysis of debt ratio influence on capitalization (for Russia). The content is original. Objectives of the paper are met.</p>
<p>Structure and logic of the text flow. Logic of research; full scope of the thesis; alignment of thesis' structural parts, i.e. theoretical and empirical parts.</p>
<p>The design of the study and logic of presentation are excellent. The paper explores several hypotheses in the framework of panel studies. The link of theoretical testing to practical applications is strait forward.</p>
<p>Quality of analytical approach and quality of offered solution to the research objectives. Adequacy of objectives coverage; ability to formulate and convey the research problem; ability to offer options for its solution; application of the latest trends in relevant research are for the set objectives.</p>
<p>The paper is based on contemporary studies and data.</p>
<p>Quality of data gathering and description. Quality of selecting research tools and methods; data validity adequacy; adequacy of used data for chosen research tools and methods; completeness and relevance of the list of references.</p>
<p>Data gathering is good.</p>
<p>Scientific aspect of the thesis. Independent scientific thinking in solving the set problem/objectives; the extent to which the student contributed to selecting and justifying the research model (conceptual and/or quantitative), developing methodology/approach to set objectives.</p>
<p>This is a rare study of debt ratio link to capitalization in Russia. The coverage of modern literature is very good.</p>
<p>Practical/applied nature of research. Extent to which the theoretical background is related to the international or Russian managerial practice; development of applied recommendations; justification and interpretation of the empirical/applied results.</p>
<p>The study gives a possibility for a general investor, who is able to read financial reports, to analyse the trends of capitalization due to the change of debt-to-equity ratio.</p>
<p>Quality of thesis layout. Layout fulfils the requirements of the Regulations for master thesis preparation and defence, correct layout of tables, figures, references.</p>
<p>Both layout and references are good.</p>
<p>Originality of the text. All sources of match identified by the Safe Assign system follow the allowed cases, the paper does not contain any elements of plagiarism.</p>
<p>The paper is original.</p>

The Master thesis of Valeriia Kruglova meets the requirements for master thesis of MCF program thus the author of the thesis can be awarded the required degree.

Date: July 16, 2021

Scientific Advisor:



Alexander Bukhvalov