

Molde, March 2017

Report from main supervisor on the PhD-project of Dusan Hrabec

I have acted as main supervisor, together with Pavel Popela as co-supervisor, for Dusan Hrabec's PhD.

The project was initially designed into Newsboy modelling with emphasis on pricing and advertising. Newsboy models constitute simple stochastic optimization models with opportunities for analytic solutions, and were hence considered as an interesting candidate for analysing pricing and marketing effects in logistics planning involving uncertainty.

In general, this topic has been kept as the main area of research during the whole process. The final PhD also contains some work related to transportation, but again with emphasis on pricing/marketing.

As such, the PhD as a whole fits nicely into this subject. Hrabec has given a very good impression during our collaborative period, always faithfully trying his best and in general with reasonable success. A supervisor could of course always hope for major break-throughs, although not necessarily expecting such.

In total, I am happy with the final thesis. I sincerely believe that Hrabec has learned a lot during the process, a process also involving periods outside Brno (Molde). As I see it, finishing a PhD is a learning process more than finalizing a career. As a consequence I focus a lot on learning 'tools of the trade'; for instance involving real publishing experience. It is safe to say that Hrabec has been exposed for real-world publishing and this integral part of the learning process has been just as important as the scientific part itself. As I see it, Hrabec is well qualified for a research career, I sincerely also believe he has necessary combined skills needed to be a successful researcher. I wish him luck in his future career, and both hope and expect future cooperation.

Prof. Dr. Kjetil Haugen

