OPPONENT’S REPORT ON THE MASTER’S THESIS

“ETIS - Application for Evaluation of Ticketing and Information Systems”

Author: Bc. Petr Hnyk

The main theme of this master thesis is public transport centralized information system. The tool for this information system is the ETIS web database which summarizes and compare tariff, transport ticketing, information systems and parameters about public transport from around the world. The author wants to prefer public transport in cities and regions to individual car traffic by making transport systems more clear and improve passenger information.

According to guides for elaboration, the first goal of this master thesis is the mentioned ETIS web application, which is unfortunately only in state of reconstruction at the time of writing this report. Only the map with a few completed transport systems can be viewed from the available application options. These systems only contain basic information about the system name, types of vehicles, and a link to the website of the transport system. Ticketing and another information are not available. It is not possible to create tables or charts or any analysis and comparison of any transport systems. All of these items have reconstruction status so nothing can be done in this app.

The second goal is to analyze and collect data from at least 20 cities or integrated transport systems. Even the author himself states in the text that this goal is not met „This goal was not fully achieved on the day of thesis submission“. The available data are only from the map section, see the first target, it means the link to the website, the type of system and the type of transport means.

The third objective is to compare collected data and to determine the quality of the transport system. Since no data is collected, it is not possible to compare and determine the quality of the transport system, so the thesis does not include this comparison and quality determination. It is also necessary to choose some parameters to which the quality can be determined. The author refers to the comparison of Prague integrated system with the integrated transport system of the South Moravian Region, but neither in the text nor in the web application is data or a specific comparison. The only comparison is Figure 5.16, which shows the comparison of the price of tickets in the ETIS application. But this application does not offer this comparison at the time of writing this report, this option is only in this figure.

The final goal is to improve the comparison system. The author suggests logical and correct improvements and innovations, but the suggestions are based on experience of operation rather than a comparison of transport systems, since the comparison is not described in any of the parts of the thesis.
The author considers the whole work as a general simple description of information systems and check-in systems focusing on a detailed description of the PID integrated transport system. The thesis also contains a description of the ETIS application structure and the ability to work with the application, which unfortunately cannot be verified.

On the whole thesis it is easy to identify lack of time and effort to quickly create some content. Therefore the promised parts of thesis are missing, there are mistakes in text formatting (paragraphs in conflict with images, page layout, page content is only one image) and the attached application is malfunctioning. The scope of work is at the edge of acceptability, even so the author still complains about the scope of work in paragraph 5.1.5 and does not see any reason why to write so much text. At the same time, author checks if the text has been read and asks for confirmation of the link to a special website if the work has actually been read (This page also does not work correctly).

Overall, the topic is interesting and it definitely makes sense to continue on this topic. However, this particular work shows a number of shortcomings and unfulfilled goals. An example is the non-functional web application and other missing promised parts. The author reduces the seriousness of work by inserted paragraph 5.1.5 where he controls thesis reading and comments the amount of work required. Due to these deficiencies, I do not recommend this work for the defence, and I recommend it to be completed correctly and in more detail.

I do not recommend the master thesis for the defence and I suggest F (insufficient) grade.

Question:

1. The application is designed for transport system organizers and transport fans. Will the organizers use this application and adding the information? Will anyone verify added information? Will organizers trust to this information if information are not verified? Can not the carrier abuse the system in a competitive fight? Is it not best to create an application primarily designated for passenger not for fun or for organizers?

2. What are parameters and relationships between parameters by which it is possible to compare and determine the quality of transport systems? Are there some rating scales of quality in transport system?

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Ing. Patrik Horaždovský
ROPID; Technical Development Department

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