

# ***THE IMPACT OF EXTERNAL FACTORS ON THE DECISION TO GRANT A LOAN. A CASE STUDY ON ROMANIAN BANKS***

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***Abstract:***

*The objective of this study is to identify external factors having a significant impact on the probability of granting a loan, and to construct a credit scoring model for small and medium enterprises. Applying the logit analysis, we have found three external predictors which characterize the firm's financial condition. These predictors are as follows: EBITDA, ROI, and CR, and they influence the decision to grant a loan. The significant non-linear effects improve the quality and prediction power of the model. These external factors predict 85 percent, a high percentage of correctly classified observations.*

***Keywords:*** *the probability of granting a loan, credit scoring, logit model, non-linear effects*

***JEL codes:*** *G21, G23*