

INDEX

| | |
|--|----|
| <i>Abstract</i> | VI |
| 1. INTRODUCTION | 1 |
| 2. THEORETICAL BACKGROUND AND RESEARCH MOTIVATIONS | 3 |
| 3. RESEARCH QUESTIONS, AIM AND METHODOLOGY OF THE RESEARCH | 7 |
| 4. THE CHOICE OF THE EFFECTIVENESS AND EFFICIENCY PARAMETERS | 9 |
| 5. THE FORECASTING MODELS ANALYZED | 21 |
| 6. THE ASSESSMENT OF THE PARAMETERS | 27 |
| 7. CONCLUDING REMARKS | 45 |
| <i>References</i> | 51 |