ProBCA Taxonomy of MADM Methods for Ranking

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DANP	DEMATEL-based ANP	2011	An extension of ANP with the DEMATEL method for assigning criteria weights with high precision and solving dependence and feedback problem.	1	Weighting		Point Values		Preference Model		N/A		Reasonable		Unlimited		Weighted		Subjective		Point Value		Assignment		Interacting		Hierarchical		N/A		Any		N/A		N/A		Functional	
DEMATEL	Decision making trial and evaluation laboratory	1974	An adaptation of the original DEMATEL method for finding the cause-and-effect relationships between objects to MCDA tasks. May be used either to rank the alternatives with implicit consideration of the criteria; or to derive criteria weights. Represents a special case FCM.	2	Weighting		Point Values		N/A		Criteria Influence		Light		≤ 25		Weighted		Subjective		Ratio		Comparison		Interacting		Flat only		N/A		Any		N/A		N/A		Functional	
DIVAPIME	Détermination d'Intervalles de Variation pour les Parametres d'Importance des Methodes Electre	1995	An interview-based method for criteria weighting that uses a more detailed version of preference relations to model complex DM attitudes; includes hesitation and intransitive relations.	1	Weighting		Point Values		N/A		Criteria Influence		Reasonable		≤ 25		Weighted		Subjective		Order		Reference		Independent		Flat only		N/A		Any		N/A		N/A		Separation	
ELICIT	N/A (custom name)	2016	A semi-objective criteria weighting method that uses the order of criteria importance provided by the DM to infer the most probable criteria weights using a statistical approach.	1	Weighting		Point Values		Preference Model		N/A		Light		Unlimited		Weighted		Pre-determined		Order		Assignment		Independent		Flat only		N/A		Any		N/A		N/A		Functional	
EM	Eigenvector Method	1977	Used to retrieve criteria weights using matrix operations on the nominal criteria importance Scoring from multiple DMs.	1	Weighting		Point Values		N/A		N/A		Reasonable		Unlimited		Weighted		Subjective		Ratio		Comparison		Independent		Flat only		N/A		Any		N/A		N/A		Functional	
EWM	Entropy Weights Method	1992	Facilitates the definition of objective criteria weights from option performances where the DM has no information on criteria importance. Prone to resulting in criteria weights that may be 100s of times greater than for other criteria.	1	Weighting		Point Values		N/A		N/A		Light		Unlimited		Weighted		Objective		Point Value		Reference		Independent		Flat only		Unlimited		Measurable		N/A		N/A		Functional	
FARE	FActor RElationship	2011	A detailed method for determining the weights of criteria that exhibit measurable interdependence based on subjective scaling of the criteria importance by the DM.	1	Weighting		Point Values		N/A		N/A		Reasonable		≤ 25		Weighted		Subjective		Ratio		Comparison		Interacting		Flat only		N/A		Any		N/A		N/A		Functional	
FCM	Fuzzy Cognitive Maps	1986	The application of Cognitive Maps method to depict the relationships between interdependent criteria.	1	Weighting		Order		Preference Model		Criteria Influence		Heavy		≤ 25		Weighted		Subjective		Order		Comparison		Interacting		Flat only		N/A		Any		N/A		N/A		Programming	
FDEMATEL	Fuzzy DEMATEL	2011	DEMATEL modification intended for working with uncertainties in the decision input data.	1	Weighting		Point Values		Preference Model		N/A		Reasonable		Unlimited		Weighted		Subjective		Distribution		Probability		Independent		Flat only		N/A		Any		N/A		N/A		Functional	
FDM	Fuzzy Decision Maps	2006	An evolution of FCM dedicated to dealing with the feedback effect due to criteria dependencies.	2	Weighting		Point Values		N/A		Criteria Influence		Light		≤ 25		Weighted		Subjective		Ratio		Comparison		Interacting		Flat only		N/A		Any		N/A		N/A		Functional	
FUCOM	Full Consistency Method	2018	An elaborate method for deriving precise criteria weights based on simplified pairwise comparison procedure offering a more robust process.	1	Weighting		Point Values		N/A		N/A		Reasonable		Unlimited		Weighted		Subjective		Ratio		Comparison		Independent		Flat only		N/A		Any		N/A		N/A		Programming	
HRE	Heuristic Scoring Estimation	2013	An iterative process to retrieve the unknown criteria weights based on the known weights for the reference set of criteria. The unknown weights are determined as an arithmetic mean of the values and ratios determined from the known weights.	1	Weighting		Point Values		Preference Model		N/A		Heavy		≤ 25		Weighted		Subjective		Ratio		Comparison		Independent		Flat only		N/A		Any		N/A		N/A		Programming	
IDOCRIW	Integrated Determination of Objective CRIteria Weights	2016	An integrated compensatory method that employs CILOS decision matrices and Entropy Method to measure relative criteria weights.	1	Weighting		Point Values		N/A		N/A		Reasonable		Unlimited		Weighted		Objective		Ratio		Reference		Independent		Flat only		Unlimited		Measurable		N/A		N/A		Functional	
ISM	Interpretive Structural Modelling	1975	A software-based method that uses DMs knowledge about the considered criteria to infer intercriteria influences and inform criteria structure by creating a binary relations matrix.	1	Weighting		Order		N/A		N/A		Reasonable		Unlimited		Weighted		Subjective		Order		Comparison		Interacting		Hierarchical		N/A		Any		N/A		N/A		N/A	
KANO	N/A (by Author's name)	1984	A qualitative method dedicated to ordering product attributes in accordance with their importance for the task at hand. Used as a precursor to calculating criteria weights using other methods.	1	Weighting		Order		N/A		N/A		Light		Unlimited		Weighted		Subjective		Point Value		Assignment		Independent		Flat only		N/A		Any		N/A		N/A		Programming	
KANO-F (F-KANO)	Fuzzy KANO	2009	An adaptation of the KANO method to allow for uncertainty or variability in the user/expert opinions, which may be expressed using more than 1 score, or withheld altogether.	1	Weighting		Order		Preference Model		N/A		Light		Unlimited		Weighted		Subjective		Point Value		Assignment		Independent		Flat only		N/A		Any		N/A		N/A		Programming	
KEMIRA	KEmeny Median Indicator Ranks Accordance	2014	Originally dedicated to Choice problematic and does not offer a ranking capability. Allows deriving criteria weights for problems involving 2 sets of different criteria e.g. qualitative and quantitative, positive and negative, etc. where sets do not exhibit equal importance. Options can be subsequently ranked using optimisation on both sets of criteria.	1	Weighting		Point Values		Preference Model		N/A		Heavy		Unlimited		Weighted		Objective		Order		Comparison		Independent		Flat only		Unlimited		Measurable		N/A		N/A		Programming	
KEMIRA-E	Entropy KEMIRA	2017	An extension of the KEMIRA method with entropy tools to incorporate the consideration of 3 or more groups of criteria when deriving weights.	1	Weighting		Point Values		Preference Model		Criteria Influence		Heavy		Unlimited		Weighted		Objective		Order		Reference		Independent		Hierarchical		Unlimited		Measurable		N/A		N/A		Programming	
LFDN	Linguistic Fuzzy Decision Networks	2013	An extension to FDM (II) for dealing with uncertain definitions in the relative criteria importance.	1	Weighting		Point Values		Preference Model		N/A		Reasonable		≤ 25		Weighted		Subjective		Ratio		Comparison		Interacting		Flat only		N/A		Any		N/A		N/A		Functional	
MEREC	MEthod based on the Removal Effects of Criteria	2021	A simple method for objective criteria weight elicitation that uses a logarithmic function and a permutation of the possible scenarios.	1	Weighting		Point Values		N/A		N/A		Light		Unlimited		Weighted		Objective		Point Value		Probability		Independent		Flat only		Unlimited		Measurable		N/A		N/A		Programming	
PACMAN	Passive and Active Compensability Multicriteria ANalysis	1998	Distinguishes between the active & passive criteria to demonstrate compensation asymmetry. Binary indexes are used to identify preference relations.	1	Weighting		Point Values		Preference Model		Criteria Influence		Heavy		≤ 25		Weighted		Subjective		Order		Comparison		Interacting		Flat only		N/A		Any		N/A		N/A		Programming	
PIPRECIA	Pivot Pair-wise RElative Criteria Importance Assessment	2017	A method for defining criteria weights in large GDM settings with highly diverse opinions.	1	Weighting		Point Values		Preference Model		N/A		Light		Unlimited		Weighted		Subjective		Order		Comparison		Independent		Flat only		N/A		Any		N/A		N/A		Functional	
RE	Rank Exponent	1981	A method for semi-objective criteria weighting. Similar to RR, but its formula involves an additional parameter for the number of ranking dimensions. Allows working with problems involving a mix of both ordered and equal weights.	4	Weighting		Point Values		N/A		N/A		Light		Unlimited		Weighted		Pre-determined		Order		Assignment		Independent		Flat only		N/A		Any		N/A		N/A		Functional	
RI	Relative Importance	1999	A method for criteria weighting that uses a non-iterative analytical procedure to offer the result nearly identical to EM. Used to replace the EM method if the comnusational resource is limited or to validate EM outputs. Offers better alignment of relative results than AIP or CBS methods.	3	Weighting		Point Values		N/A		N/A		Light		Unlimited		Weighted		Subjective		Ratio		Comparison		Independent		Flat only		N/A		Any		N/A		N/A		Functional	
ROC	Rank Order Centroid	1992	A method for objective criteria weighting based on subjective ranking of criteria as a reflection of its ordinal importance. Based on the mathematical principle of centroid; but suffers from unconstrained range of the possible criteria weights resulting - which can differ far enough to appear that some criteria have negligible influence on the decision compared to others.	4	Weighting		Point Values		N/A		N/A		Light		Unlimited		Weighted		Pre-determined		Order		Assignment		Independent		Flat only		N/A		Any		N/A		N/A		Functional	
ROD	Rank Order Distribution	2002	A method for semi-objective criteria weighting that offers an improved, reliable performance over ROC method by using a more objective probabilistic assumption. Unrestricted-weights are assumed to have uniform distribution and calculated using probability density functions. Produced criteria weights are similar to RS method and more objective than ROC method.	1	Weighting		Point Values		Preference Model		N/A		Reasonable		Unlimited		Weighted		Subjective		Distribution		Assignment		Independent		Flat only		N/A		Any		N/A		N/A		Functional	
RR	Rank Reciprocal	1981	A method for semi-objective criteria weighting. Calculates the non-normalised weights in 0-1 range through division by rank reciprocals (1/n).	4	Weighting		Point Values		N/A		N/A		Light		Unlimited		Weighted		Pre-determined		Order		Assignment		Independent		Flat only		N/A		Any		N/A		N/A		Functional	
RS	Ranking Sum	1981	A method for semi-objective criteria weighting. Calculates normalised weights in the 0-1 range through the division of criteria ranks by the rank-sum. Suggested for use in place of ROD method in problems featuring too many criteria (>25).	4	Weighting		Point Values		N/A		N/A		Light		Unlimited		Weighted		Pre-determined		Order		Assignment		Independent		Flat only		N/A		Any		N/A		N/A		Functional	
SAST	Strategic Assumptions Surfacing and Testing	1979	The procedure for deriving criteria importance weights based on two key metrics: importance and uncertainty	1	Weighting		Point Values		N/A		N/A		Reasonable		Unlimited		Weighted		Subjective		Ratio		Comparison		Interacting		Flat only		N/A		Abstract		N/A		N/A		Programming	
SIMOS	N/A (by Author's name)	1990	A method for objective derivation of the criteria weights using a bespoke set of coloured cards. Simplifies the elicitation of relative criteria importance evaluations in a play-like process.	1	Weighting		Point Values		N/A		N/A		Light		Unlimited		Weighted		Subjective		Ratio		Comparison		Independent		Flat only		N/A		Any		N/A		N/A		Programming	
SRF	Simos-Rov-Figueira (Revised SIMOS)	2002	An improved version of the SIMOS method for criteria weights derivation based on reference points rather than mutual comparison between criteria.	1	Weighting		Point Values		N/A		Criteria Influence		Light		Unlimited		Weighted		Subjective		Ratio		Comparison		Independent		Flat only		N/A		Any		N/A		N/A		Programming	
SS	Light Scoring	2018	One of the simplest methods for ranking the alternatives. Relies on transforming a complex set of values and requirements into a clear (mutually exclusive, exhaustive, and relevant) criteria. Particularly effective in Group DM settings. Separate options are scored directly by voting and ranked using the sum or the average of the provided scores.	1	Weighting		Point Values		N/A		N/A		Light		Unlimited		Weighted		Subjective		Point Value		Assignment		Independent		Hierarchical		N/A		Any		N/A		N/A		Programming	
SWARA	Step-wise Weight Assessment Ratio Analysis	2010	A method for criteria weighting in Group DM settings based on the frequency of criteria mentions in respondent opinions. Requires the involved stakeholders to express their opinions regarding criteria importance, which are then combined to yield the resultant relative criteria weights.	1	Weighting		Point Values		Preference Model		N/A		Light		≤ 25		Weighted		Pre-determined		Order		Assignment		Independent		Flat only		N/A		Any		N/A		N/A		Functional	
SWING	Derived from the concept of swinging between extremes	1986	A multistage method for deriving criteria weighs based on the total range of possible option ratings. Uses dedicated functions (linear, non-linear) to allow different preference shapes between the extremes.	1	Weighting		Point Values		N/A		N/A		Light		≤ 25		Weighted		Subjective		Ratio		Reference		Independent		Flat only		N/A		Measurable		N/A		N/A		Functional	
SWING-I (ISWING)	Imprecise SWING	2017	SWING criteria weighting method adapted for partial preference inputs.	1	Weighting		Point Values		Preference Model		N/A		Reasonable		≤ 25		Weighted		Subjective		Ratio		Reference		Independent		Flat only		N/A		Measurable		N/A		N/A		Functional	
BSC	Balanced ScoreCard	1995	Originally a "pros-and-cons" type tool and not a formal MCDA method. A qualitative business analysis framework for aligning the decisions with organisational strategy. Uses 4 dimensions: Financial, Customer, Internal, Growth. Allows deriving the criteria and solution alternatives to apply with MCDA criteria weighting and aggregation.	1	Formulation		Statements		N/A		N/A		Light		Unlimited		Equivalent		N/A		N/A		N/A		Independent		Flat only		Unlimited		Any		Order		Comparison		N/A	
CM (II)	Cognitive Mapping	1988	A group method to map the DM's perception about the problem as a value tree (node & arrow diagram) representing the various connections and relationships between criteria. Useful for structuring complex problems with multi-level quantitative and qualitative criteria that are difficult to comprehend in precise terms. Used as a precursor to criteria weighting methods.	1	Formulation		Statements		Preference Model		N/A		Light		Unlimited		Equivalent		N/A		N/A		Assignment		Interacting		Hierarchical		N/A		Any		N/A		N/A		N/A	
DELPHI	N/A (Assigned name and not an acronym)	1962	A structured group interaction method to define, select, and structure the evaluation criteria and solution options for MCDA problems using statistical methods.	1	Formulation		Mixed		Both		N/A		Light		Unlimited		Weighted		Subjective		Distribution		Probability		Independent		Flat only		Unlimited		Any		Distribution		Probability		N/A	
DPSIR	Drivers, Pressures, States, Impacts, Responses	1993	A qualitative "pros-and-cons" type approach to structuring MCDA criteria. Describes interactions between the systems through cause-effect relationships expressed through the associated criteria and solution alternatives. Developed to simplify the representation of complex problems (e.g. environmental) for use before the application of an aggregation approach.	1	Formulation		Mixed		N/A		N/A		Light		Unlimited		Weighted		Subjective		Point Value		Assignment		Independent		Hierarchical		Unlimited		Any		Point Value		Direct Rating		N/A	
DPSWR	Driver, Pressure, State, Welfare, Response	2013	A DPSIR basis ("pros-and-cons" type approach) modified to identify measurement objects within a problem, which represents criteria interactions.	1	Formulation		Mixed		N/A		N/A		Light		Unlimited		Weighted		Subjective		Point Value		Assignment		Interacting		Hierarchical		Unlimited		Any		Point Value		Direct Rating		N/A	
EEP	Expert Elicitation Process	2011	A qualitative method for retrieving decision information from multiple experts before formulating an MCDA task. The information retrieved allows to formulate the objectives of the task (used as criteria in an MCDA task), prioritisation of the objectives (to inform criteria weights), and define action alternatives (used as options).	2	Formulation		Statements		N/A		N/A		Light		Unlimited		Equivalent		N/A		N/A		Assignment		Independent		Hierarchical		Unlimited		Any		N/A		N/A		N/A	
GCM	Group Cognitive Maps	1994	Cognitive Mapping ("CM-II") method adapted for Group DM.	1	Formulation		Mixed		Both		N/A		Reasonable		Unlimited		Weighted		Subjective		Distribution		Assignment		Interacting		Hierarchical		Unlimited		Any		Distribution		Direct Rating		N/A	
MADM-OPT	OPTimum MADM	2016	A method for defining the criteria, identifying the options and the ideal alternative, and deriving option performances based on a range of available documentation e.g. leaislative or technical. No aaareaation procedure is involved.	1	Formulation		Point Values		N/A		N/A		Light		Unlimited		Weighted		Pre-determined		Point Value		Assignment		Independent		Flat only		Unlimited		Measurable		Point Value		Reference		N/A	
MCIA	Multi-Criteria Intelligence Aid	2017	An AI-based approach for structuring complex problems with uncertain linguistic inputs, which also considers the DM's risk-taking attitude (represented as criteria influence thresholds).	1	Formulation		Mixed		Both		N/A		Light		Unlimited		Weighted		Subjective		Distribution		Assignment		Independent		Flat only		Unlimited		Nominal		Point Value		Direct Rating		N/A	
NGT	Nominal Group Technique	1970	A structured method for identifying ratios of subjective outcome likelihoods. Facilitates equal contribution from stakeholders and quick agreement on the final ranking.	1	Formulation		Mixed		Option Ratings		N/A		Light		Unlimited		Equivalent		N/A		N/A		N/A		Independent		Flat only		Unlimited		Nominal		Ratio		Probability		N/A	
PMADM	Procpective MADM	2016	A GDM approach to derive option Scoring based on future event probabilities and the limitations to possible Option Ratings.	1	Formulation		Point Values		Option Ratings		N/A		Light		Unlimited		Weighted		Pre-determined		Point Value		Assignment		Independent		Flat only		Unlimited		Measurable		Point Value		Direct Rating		N/A	
PRUF	Possibilistic Relational Universal Fuzzy	1978	A method for translating verbal (linguistic) assessments of option performances into probabilistic values with application of fuzzy logic to account for vagueness in verbal meanings.	1	Formulation		Distribution		Option Ratings		N/A		Heavy		Unlimited		Equivalent		N/A		N/A		N/A		Independent		Flat only		Unlimited		Any		Interval		Probability		N/A	
SA	Stakeholder Analysis	1997	Not a formal MCDA method originally. Offers decision-aiding function by helping the DM to identify the key actors / stakeholders in a project, and assess their respective interests and influences. The evaluations from different stakeholders are used to define the criteria. The possible actions affected by the evaluation define the options.	1	Formulation		Statements		N/A		N/A		Light		Unlimited		Equivalent		N/A		N/A		Assignment		Interacting		Flat only		N/A		Any		N/A		N/A		N/A	
SODA	Strategic Options Development and Analysis	2010	A qualitative method that uses a form of Cognitive Mapping process to build a value map, which in MADM problems can be used as a mean to define the criteria and their hierarchy. Dedicated to underdefined problems of both quantitative and qualitative nature. Centred around the subjectivity of stakeholder views in organisational decision-making tasks.	2	Formulation		Statements		N/A		N/A		Light		Unlimited		Equivalent		N/A		N/A		Assignment		Independent		Hierarchical		Unlimited		Any		N/A		N/A		N/A	
SSM	Soft Systems Methodology	1990	A method for defining objectives/criteria for complex, poorly defined or vague decision problems through an interactive interview/questionnaire process. Offers a strong qualitative capability and involves comparing the considered problem against the existing or past real-world examples. Results in sets of criteria that can be further used in MCDA process.	1	Formulation		Statements		N/A		N/A		Light		Unlimited		Equivalent		N/A		N/A		Assignment		Interacting		Hierarchical		Unlimited		Any		N/A		N/A		N/A	
SUSAIP	Sustainability appraisal in infrastructure projects	2006	A method for translating strategic objectives into finite criteria in large group settings (e.g. public polls) to pre-process objectives for MCDM activities before using an aggregation method (e.g. WSM).	1	Formulation		Point Values		Both		N/A		Light		Unlimited		Weighted		Subjective		Point Value		Comparison		Interacting		Hierarchical		Unlimited		Any		Distribution		Direct Rating		N/A	
SWOT	Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats	1998	Originally a "pros-and-cons" type tool and not a formal MCDA method. Can be used to inform the system of criteria for strategic decision problems. A qualitative tool for defining the parameters/KPIs considering the specifics of the surrounding business environment. Evaluates the situation and potential actions against 4 dimensions: Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats.	1	Formulation		Statements		N/A		N/A		Light		Unlimited		Equivalent		N/A		N/A		Assignment		Independent		Flat only		Unlimited		Any		N/A		N/A		N/A	