

PERSONNEL SELECTION USING GROUP FUZZY AHP AND SAW METHODS

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Personnel evaluation and selection is a very important activity for the enterprises. Different job needs different ability and the requirement of criteria which can measure ability is different. It needs a suitable and flexible method to evaluate the performance of each candidate according to different requirements of different jobs in relation to each criterion. Analytic Hierarchy Process (AHP) is one of Multi Criteria decision making methods derived from paired comparisons. Simple Additive Weighting (SAW) is most frequently used multi attribute decision technique. The method is based on the weighted average. It successfully models the ambiguity and imprecision associated with the pair wise comparison process and reduces the personal biasness. This study tries to analyze the Analytic Hierarchy Process in order to make the recruitment process more reasonable, based on the fuzzy multiple criteria decision making model to achieve the goal of personnel selection. Finally, an example is implemented to demonstrate the practicability of the proposed method.

Keywords: Fuzzy AHP, SAW Method, Personnel selection, Fuzzy decision making.

PERSONNEL SELECTION BACKGROUND

As in many decision problems, personnel selection problem is very complex in real life. Multi criteria decision making (MCDM) has been widely used to deal with decision-making problems involving multiple criteria selection of alternatives. To manage this personnel selection problem, various methods have been proposed to decide on the selection of human resources. Liang and Wang (1992) presented a model by using concepts of fuzzy set theory assess personnel fitness and job vacation. On the other hand, fuzzy sets decision theory suggested by Alliger, Feinzig, and Janak (1993) for the personnel selection problem. Liang and Wang (1994) developed a fuzzy MCDM methodology to find the final ranking values for candidates in personnel selection problem. Yaakob and Kawata (1999) used fuzzy methodology for solving workers' placement problem. Lovrich (2000) used fuzzy linguistic model for personnel

selection. Capaldo and Zollo (2001) presented a model based on a case study in FIAT Research Centre (CRF) that is a major Italian company. Butkiewicz (2002) used fuzzy numbers for staff selection. Chen and Cheng (2005) combined Group decision support system (GDSS) with MCDM in fuzzy environment to solve the personnel selection problem. Golec and Kahya (2007) developed a hierarchical structure and used a fuzzy model for personnel selection. Zavadskas, Turskis, Tamošaitiene and Marina (2008) applied complex proportional assessment of alternatives with grey relations to select construction project manager. Liao and Chang (2009b) used ANP to choose public relations personnel for Taiwanese hospitals. Liao and Chang (2009a) applied ANP to select televised sportscasters for Olympic Games. Dağdeviren (2010) employed ANP and modified TOPSIS to select personnel. Dursun and Karsak (2010) used the principles of fuzzy information fusion, 2-tuple linguistic representation model, and

TOPSIS to select personnel. Kelemenis and Askounis (2010) proposed a new approach on the basis of fuzzy TOPSIS to select information technology (IT) professionals. Lin (2010) combined ANP and fuzzy data envelopment analysis (DEA) to select personnel. Boran, Genç and Akay (2011) applied Intuitionistic fuzzy TOPSIS to select a sales manager in a manufacturing company. Keršulienė and Turskis (2011) integrated the principles of fusion of fuzzy information, additive ratio assessment method with fuzzy numbers and step-wise weight assessment ratio analysis technique to select architect. Zhang and Liu (2011) proposed an intuitionistic fuzzy multi-criteria decision making method with grey relational analysis (GRA) to select system analysis engineer. Baležentis, Baležentis and Brauers (2012) modified fuzzy multi objective optimization by ratio analysis plus the full multiplicative form (MULTIMOORA) for personnel selection. Dadelo, Turskis, Zavadskas and Dadelienė (2012) presented The Use of a Hybrid MCDM Model for Public Relations Personnel Selection 391 model for personnel selection based on expert evaluation method and ARAS method. El-Santawy and El-Dean (2012) employ VIKOR to rank the candidates. Zolfani, Rezaeiniya, Aghdaie and Zavadskas (2012) used AHP and TOPSIS with grey relations to select a new drummer for a rock band. Kabak, Burmaoğlu and Kazançoğlu (2012) combine fuzzy ANP, fuzzy TOPSIS and fuzzy ELECTRE to select sniper. Rouyendegh and Erkan (2012) utilized fuzzy AHP to select most suitable academic staff. Afshari, Yusuff and Derayatifar (2013) propose a new linguistic extension of fuzzy measure and fuzzy integral for personnel selection. Dadelo, Turskis, Zavadskas and Dadelienė (2013) applied wisdom-of-crowds principle, TOPSIS, and SAW to select security guard. Hadad, Keren and Laslo (2013) proposed decision-making support system module to select project managers. Kabak (2013) applied fuzzy decision-making trial and evaluation laboratory DEMATEL-ANP model to select snipers. Rouyendegh and Erkan (2013) used fuzzy ELECTRE to select academic staff. Yu, Zhang and Xu (2013) explored aggregation methods for preferential hesitant fuzzy elements and their application on representative personnel evaluation. Ballı and Korukoğlu (2014) used fuzzy AHP and TOPSIS to select skilful basketball players. Dadelo et al. (2013) proposed 2 optimizing algorithms to select security guards. Keršulienė and Turskis (2014) integrated the principles of fusion of fuzzy information, ARAS method with fuzzy numbers, fuzzy weighted-

product model and AHP to select a chief accounting officer. Md Saad, Ahmad, Abu and Jusoh (2014) presented a novel approach of handling personnel selection process by using the Hamming distance method.

In the current study personnel selection problem is considered as a multi criteria group decision making problem. In this paper, we proposed a personnel selection system based on Fuzzy Analytic Hierarchy Process (FAHP) and SAW method. The FAHP is applied to evaluate the best adequate personnel dealing with the rating of both qualitative and quantitative criteria.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

In real-world cases, most problems have more than one decision criterion. As the result, MCDM methods have been developed to solve complex problems. The aim in MCDM is to determine overall preferences among alternatives.

Analytic Hierarchy Process (AHP)

The analytic hierarchy process (AHP) is a widely used multi criteria decision making method introduced by Saaty (1980). It resolves decision-making problems by structuring each problem into a hierarchy with different levels of criteria. In other words, AHP structures a decision problem into a hierarchy and evaluates multi-criteria tangible and intangible factors systematically. AHP also has been applied in numerous fields including many personnel selection decisions, (Vaidya & Kumar, 2006). The purpose of AHP is to capture the expert's knowledge; the conventional AHP still cannot reflect the human thinking style. Therefore, fuzzy AHP, a fuzzy extension of AHP, was developed to solve the hierarchical fuzzy problems. In the fuzzy-AHP procedure, the pair wise comparisons in the judgment matrix are fuzzy numbers that are modified by the designer's emphasis.

Fuzzy Sets Theory

Zadeh (1965), introduced the fuzzy set theory which was oriented to the rationality of uncertainty due to imprecision or vagueness. A major contribution of fuzzy set theory is its capability of representing vague data. The theory also allows mathematical operators and programming to apply to the fuzzy domain. A fuzzy set is a class of objects with a continuum of grades of membership.

Such a set is characterized by a membership (characteristic) function, which assigns to each object a grade of membership ranging between zero and one. A tilde “~” will be placed above a symbol if the symbol represents a fuzzy set. A triangular fuzzy number (TFN), \tilde{M} is shown in Figure 1.

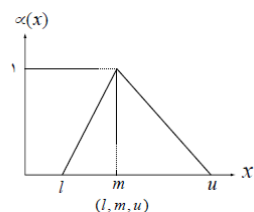


Figure 1: A triangular fuzzy number

A TFN is denoted simply as $\begin{pmatrix} m_1, m_2 \\ m_2, m_3 \end{pmatrix}$ or (m_1, m_2, m_3) . The parameters m_1, m_2 and m_3 respectively denote the smallest possible value, the most promising value, and the largest possible value that describes a fuzzy event, (Kahraman, Cebeci, & Ulukan, 2003).

Linguistic variables

According to Zadeh (1975), it is very difficult for conventional quantification to express reasonably those situations that are overtly complex or hard to define; so the notion of a linguistic variable is necessary in such situation. A linguistic variable is a variable whose values are words or sentences in a natural or artificial language. Here, we use this kind of expression to compare two criteria by nine basic linguistic terms from one to nine respectively, as ‘Equal Importance’, ‘Weak or Slight’, ‘Moderate Importance’, ‘Moderate Plus’, ‘Strong Importance’, ‘Strong Plus’, ‘Very Strong’, ‘Very, very Strong’ and ‘Extreme Importance’ with respect to a fuzzy nine level scale (see Table 1).

Simple Additive Weighting (SAW)

Simple Additive Weighting which is also known as weighted linear combination or scoring methods is a simple and most often used multi attribute decision technique. The method is based on the

weighted average. An evaluation score is calculated for each alternative by multiplying the scaled value given to the alternative of that attribute with the weights of relative importance, directly assigned by decision maker and followed by summing of the products for all criteria. The advantage of this method is that it is a proportional linear transformation of the raw data which means that the relative order of magnitude of the standardized scores remains equal.

Table 1: Membership function of linguistic scale

Intensity of Importance	Definition
(1,1,1)	Equal Importance
(1,2,3)	Weak or Slight
(2,3,4)	Moderate Importance
(3,4,5)	Moderate Plus
(4,5,6)	Strong Importance
(5,6,7)	Strong Plus
(6,7,8)	Very Strong
(7,8,9)	Very, very Strong
(8,9,9)	Extreme Importance

MCDM METHODS FOR PERSONNEL SELECTION

Step 1: If $X = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\}$ be an objective set and $U = \{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_m\}$ be a goal set, so regarding to Chang’s development analysis (Ateş, Çevik, Kahraman, Gülbay, & Erdoğan, 2006), we can compute the development analysis of goals (u), based on each objectives (x).

$$\begin{pmatrix} M_{g1}^1 & M_{g1}^2 & \dots & M_{g1}^m \\ M_{g2}^1 & M_{g2}^2 & \dots & M_{g2}^m \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ M_{gn}^1 & M_{gn}^2 & \dots & M_{gn}^m \end{pmatrix}$$

Goals and objectives are shown in rows and columns respectively. So in this matrix, there are n goals and m objectives. We can also say that M_{g4}^2 is a triangular fuzzy number in fourth goal and second objective. If we assume $M_{gi}^j = (l_{ij}, m_{ij}, u_{ij})$ then development analysis of m objectives will be computed as below:

$$\sum_{j=1}^m M_{gi}^j = (l_{i1}, m_{i1}, u_{i1}) \oplus (l_{i2}, m_{i2}, u_{i2}) \oplus \dots \oplus (l_{im}, m_{im}, u_{im}) = \quad (1)$$

$$= \left(\sum_{j=1}^m l_{ij}, \sum_{j=1}^m m_{ij}, \sum_{j=1}^m u_{ij} \right) = (l'_i, m'_i, u'_i) \tag{2}$$

For calculating $\left[\sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^m M_{gi}^j \right]^{-1}$ by using fuzzy operator (\oplus):

$$\sum \sum M_{gi}^j = \sum_{i=1}^n \left(\sum_{j=1}^m l_{ij}, \sum_{j=1}^m m_{ij}, \sum_{j=1}^m u_{ij} \right) = \left(\sum_{i=1}^n l'_i, \sum_{i=1}^n m'_i, \sum_{i=1}^n u'_i \right) \tag{3}$$

$$\left(\sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^m M_{gi}^j \right)^{-1} = \left(\frac{1}{\sum_{i=1}^n u'_i}, \frac{1}{\sum_{i=1}^n m'_i}, \frac{1}{\sum_{i=1}^n l'_i} \right) \tag{4}$$

Therefore, If $M_{gi}^1, M_{gi}^2, M_{gi}^m$ is the amount of development analysis for i_{th} goal, we will compute S_i as follow:

$$S_i = \sum_{j=1}^m M_{gi}^j \otimes \left(\sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^m M_{gi}^j \right)^{-1} = \tag{5}$$

$$= (l'_i, m'_i, u'_i) \otimes \left(\frac{1}{\sum_{i=1}^n u'_i}, \frac{1}{\sum_{i=1}^n m'_i}, \frac{1}{\sum_{i=1}^n l'_i} \right) = \left(\frac{l'_i}{\sum_{i=1}^n u'_i}, \frac{m'_i}{\sum_{i=1}^n m'_i}, \frac{u'_i}{\sum_{i=1}^n l'_i} \right) = (l_i, m_i, u_i) \tag{6}$$

As you see, (l_i, m_i, u_i) is a weight of i_{th} criteria with fuzzy numbers. The rest will be found in the same way. In group fuzzy AHP, the weights of each criteria for each expert should be computed in geometrical mean and the result of this step will be done in next step.

Step 2: If $S_k = (l_k, m_k, u_k)$ and $S_i = (l_i, m_i, u_i)$ then the preference of S_i and S_k (the degree of possibility of $S_i \geq S_k$) will be calculated as below:

$$V(S_i \geq S_k) = SUP_{x \geq y} (\min \{ \alpha_{si}(x), \alpha_{sk}(y) \}) \tag{7}$$

The equation of triangle fuzzy number will be extracted as followed:

$$V(S_i \geq S_k) = \alpha_{si}(d) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } (m_i \geq m_k) \\ 1 & \text{if } (l_k \geq u_i) \\ \frac{l_k - u_i}{(m_i - u_i) - (m_k - l_k)} & \text{Otherwise} \end{cases} \tag{8}$$

Step 3: By finding the preference of S_i and S_k in step 2, we should calculate the degree of possibility for a convex fuzzy number as follow:

$$V(S \geq S_1, S_2, \dots, S_k) = V((S \geq S_1), (S \geq S_2), \dots, (S \geq S_k)) \tag{9}$$

$$= \min(V(S \geq S_1), (S \geq S_2), \dots, (S \geq S_k))$$

$$= \min V(S \geq S_i) \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, k$$

Assume that:

$$d'(A_i) = \min V(S_i \geq S_k) \quad (10)$$

For $k=1, 2, \dots, n, \quad k \neq i$. Then the weight vector is given by:

$$W' = (d'(A_1), d'(A_2), \dots, d'(A_n)) \quad (11)$$

Step 4: By normalizing this vector, we can get:

$$W = (d(A_1), d(A_2), \dots, d(A_n)) \quad (12)$$

Step 5: Construct a decision matrix ($m \times n$) that includes m personnel's and n criteria. So calculate the normalized decision matrix for positive criteria:

$$n_{ij} = \frac{r_{ij}}{r_j^*} \quad i=1, \dots, m, \quad j=1, \dots, n \quad (13)$$

And for negative criteria:

$$n_{ij} = \frac{r_j^{\min}}{r_{ij}} \quad i=1, \dots, m, \quad j=1, \dots, n \quad (14)$$

r_j^* is a maximum number of r in the column's j .

Step 6: Evaluate each alternative, A_i by the following formula:

$$A_i = \sum w_j \cdot x_{ij} \quad (15)$$

Where x_{ij} is the score of the i th alternative with respect to the j th criteria, w_j is the weighted criteria which have been found from Fuzzy AHP [3].

As a result, by comparing A_i ($i=1, 2, \dots, m$), the greater one is the best personnel and will be followed by rests.

CASE STUDY

One sector of Telecommunication Company should employ just one staff. The numbers of 40 people contributed in the written exam. In the first step, five of them were accepted and only one of them was chosen as the best one by using Group Fuzzy AHP and SAW methods in the second step. The authors used the opinions of three experts who contributed in the interview. A linguistic variable is a variable whose values are words or sentences in a natural or artificial language. So, three experts have filled up this kind of expression to compare two criteria by nine basic linguistic terms (Table 2 of first expert), based on table 1.

Table 2: Linguistic variable of first expert

	C1	C2	C3	C4	C5	C6	C7
C1	Equal Importance	Weak or Slight	Weak or Slight	Moderate Plus	Moderate Importance	Weak or Slight	Moderate Importance
C2		Equal Importance	Equal Importance	Moderate Importance	Weak or Slight	Equal Importance	Weak or Slight
C3			Equal Importance	Moderate Importance	Weak or Slight	Equal Importance	Weak or Slight
C4				Equal Importance	Weak or Slight	Moderate Importance	Weak or Slight
C5					Equal Importance	Weak or Slight	Equal Importance
C6						Equal Importance	Weak or Slight
C7							Equal Importance

The smallest possible value, the most promising value and the largest possible value for each expert was extracted. Each linguistic variable will be

transformed to three terms, therefore the authors did them in Table 3.

In order to make geometrical mean, the authors used each experts' viewpoint and computed fuzzy weights in Table 4 (step1).

In steps 3 and 4, in order to calculate the degree of possibility for a convex fuzzy number and finally the normalized weight vector of criteria (Table 5),

the preference of S_i and S_k should be used (steps 2, 3, 4).

To calculate the normalized decision matrix, it is necessary to construct a decision matrix (5×7) that includes m personnel and n criteria as follows (steps 5, 6) that will be shown in Table 6:

Table 3: Opinion of first expert

CRITERIA	C1	C2	C3	C4	C5	C6	C7
C1	(1,1,1)	(1,2,3)	(1,2,3)	(3,4,5)	(2,3,4)	(1,2,3)	(2,3,4)
C2	(0.3,0.5,1)	(1,1,1)	(1,1,1)	(2,3,4)	(1,2,3)	(1,1,1)	(1,2,3)
C3	(0.3,0.5,1)	(1,1,1)	(1,1,1)	(2,3,4)	(1,2,3)	(1,1,1)	(1,2,3)
C4	(0.2,0.3,0.3)	(0.3,0.3,0.5)	(0.3,0.3,0.5)	(1,1,1)	(0.3,0.5,1)	(0.3,0.3,0.5)	(1,2,3)
C5	(0.3,0.3,0.5)	(0.3,0.5,1)	(0.3,0.5,1)	(1,2,3)	(1,1,1)	(0.3,0.5,1)	(1,1,1)
C6	(0.3,0.5,1)	(1,1,1)	(1,1,1)	(2,3,4)	(1,2,3)	(1,1,1)	(1,2,3)
C7	(0.3,0.3,0.5)	(0.3,0.5,1)	(0.3,0.5,1)	(0.3,0.5,1)	(1,1,1)	(0.3,0.5,1)	(1,1,1)

Table 4: Criteria's weight with fuzzy set

	Criteria	Fuzzy weights
C1	Ability to work in different business units	(0.129,0.255,0.483)
C2	Past experience	(0.095,0.179,0.341)
C3	Team player	(0.089,0.169,0.308)
C4	Fluency in a foreign language	(0.040,0.075,0.150)
C5	Strategic thinking	(0.052,0.091,0.196)
C6	Oral communication skills	(0.086,0.165,0.287)
C7	Computer skills	(0.036,0.064,0.122)

Table 5: Weights of criteria

	Criteria	Weights
C1	Ability to work in different business units	0.290
C2	Past experience	0.213
C3	Team player	0.196
C4	Fluency in a foreign language	0.030
C5	Strategic thinking	0.084
C6	Oral communication skills	0.184
C7	Computer skills	0.003

Table 6: Normalized decision matrix with alternatives' weights

Weights	0.290	0.213	0.196	0.030	0.084	0.184	0.003
	C1	C2	C3	C4	C5	C6	C7
P1	3.915	6.649	3.634	2.621	2.000	2.289	2.000
P2	4.000	3.634	5.313	3.302	4.309	2.621	6.952
P3	6.952	5.646	4.309	2.289	4.642	4.932	2.621
P4	3.634	2.520	4.932	2.621	2.621	2.000	4.932
P5	4.309	2.520	3.175	4.121	4.481	2.621	4.932

As a result, the rank of alternatives will be shown in Table 7. (Step 6)

Finally, Table 7 shows that personnel 3 is the best for the considered job and it will be followed by P2, P1, P5 and P4 respectively.

Table 7: Personnel rank

Personnel	Ranked
P3	1
P2	2
P1	3
P5	4
P4	5

CONCLUSION

Decision-makers face vagueness in the decision making process. In many cases, group decision making can improve the consistency of the human decision making process and using fuzzy numbers helps to reach a more effective decision. In this paper, personnel evaluation process is modeled by using the FAHP based on Chang's Algorithm. In order to validate the practicality of the proposed model, it is applied to a personnel selection problem in a Telecommunication company. There are many other multi-attribute evaluation methods that can be combined with fuzzy logics such as TOPSIS and ELECTRE as presented in the literature. The application of these methods to personnel evaluation problem with more evaluation criteria might be suggested for further research.

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SELEKCIJA KADROVA UPOTREBOM GRUPNE FAZI AHP I SAW METODE

Evaluacija i selekcija kadrova predstavlja veoma važnu aktivnost preduzeća. Različiti poslovi zahtevaju različite sposobnosti i kreiranje kriterijuma koji mogu da izmere te sposobnosti. Potreban je pogodan i fleksibilan metod koji bi vrednovao učinak svakog kandidata u skladu sa zahtevima određenog posla. Analitički hijerarhijski proces (AHP) predstavlja jednu od multikriterijumskih metoda donošenja odluka, metoda koja izvodi skalu odnosa iz uparenih poredjenja. Simple Additive Weighting je prosta i najčešće korišćena multiatributivna tehnika donošenja odluka. Ova metoda se zasniva na prosečnim težinama. Metoda koja je opisana u ovom radu uspešno modeluje dvosmislenost i nepreciznost koje se odnose na proces poredjenja i smanjuje ličnu pristrasnost. Rad daje analizu Analitičkog hijerarhijskog procesa da bi proces regrutovanja, zasnovan na fazi višestrukog kriterijumu za donošenje odluka bio racionalniji kako bi se postigao cilj u selekciji kadrova. Najzad, prikazan je jedan primer kojim se demonstrira upotrebljivost predložene metode.

Ključne reči: Fazi AHP, SAW metoda, Selekcija kadrova, Fazi donošenje odluka.