

# Multi Criteria Decision Making and Analytic Hierarchy Process

AT84.02 Business Intelligence and Analytics  
January 2024 Semester



# Discussion topics

01

## Multi Criteria Decision Making (MCDM)

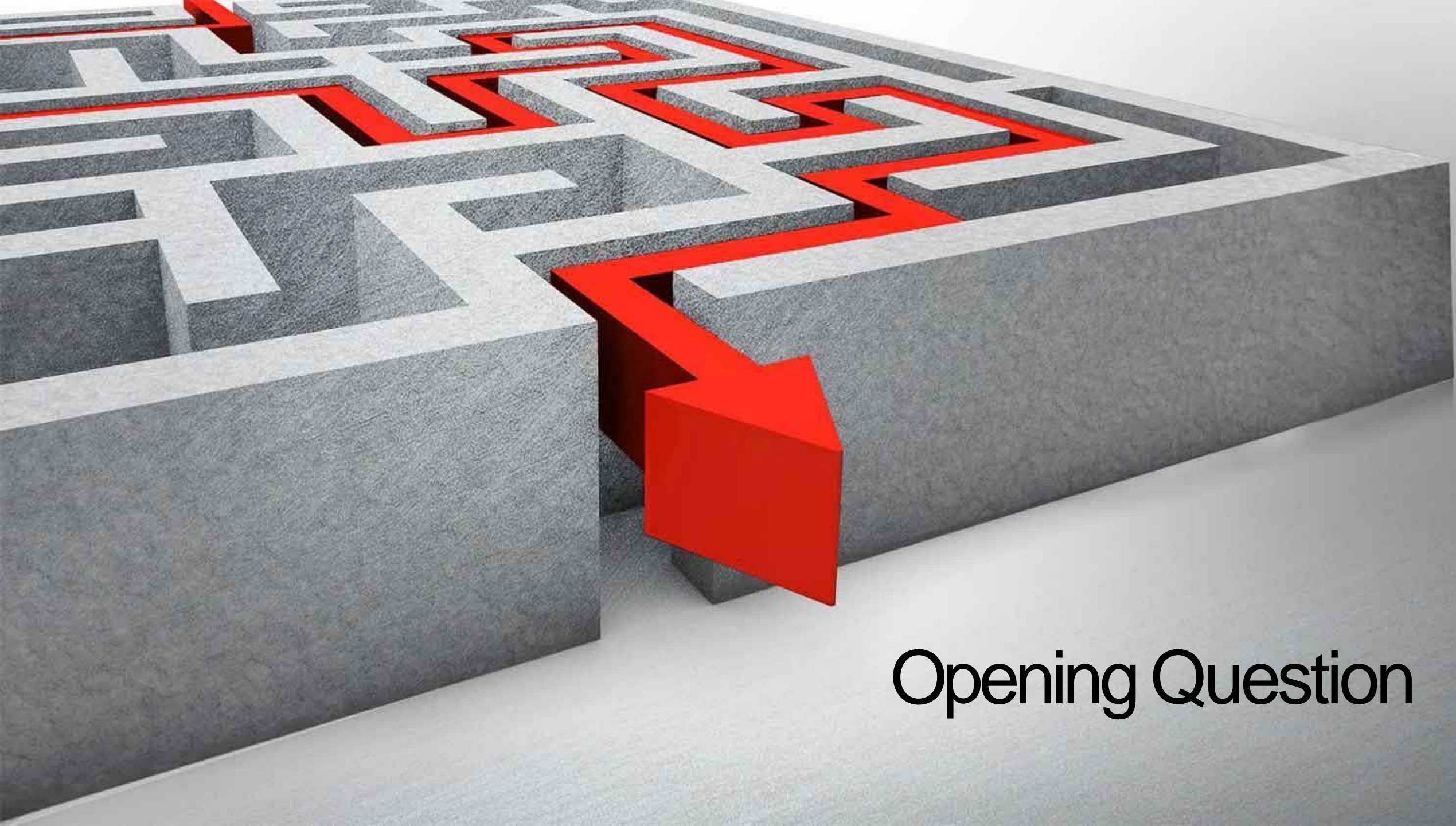
- Introduction
- Method
- Software

02

## Analytic Hierarchy Process (AHP)

- AHP Concepts
- AHP Process
- AHP Software - SuperDecision





Opening Question



A 3D maze made of white walls on a light gray floor. Two semi-transparent red rectangular boxes are overlaid on the maze. The top box contains the text "When you are making decision ?" and the bottom box contains the text "How will you make this decision ?".

When you are making  
decision ?

How will you make  
this decision ?

# Introduction

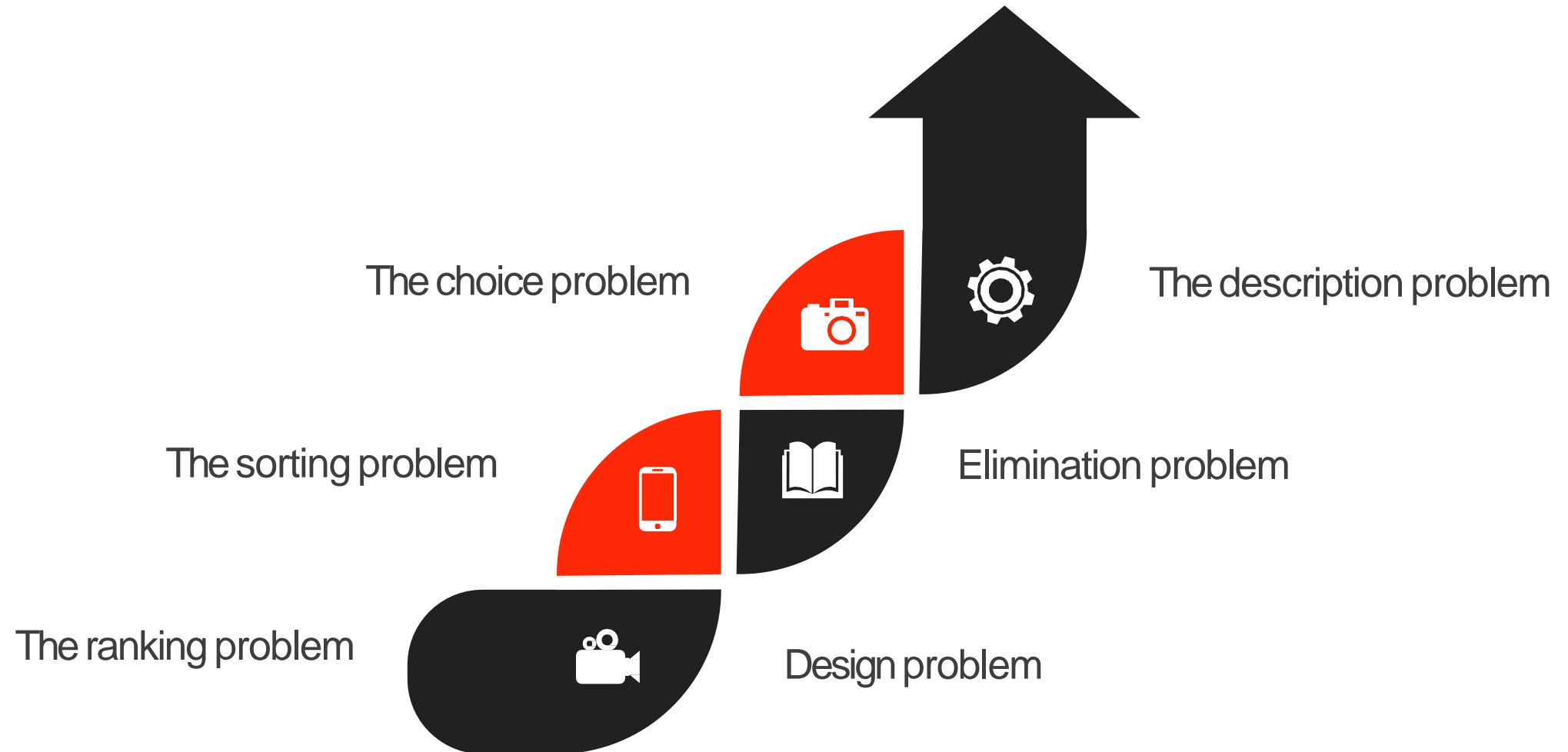
Decision making occur naturally in our daily life to figure our general problems.

1. Desire for immortality
2. Desire for pleasure

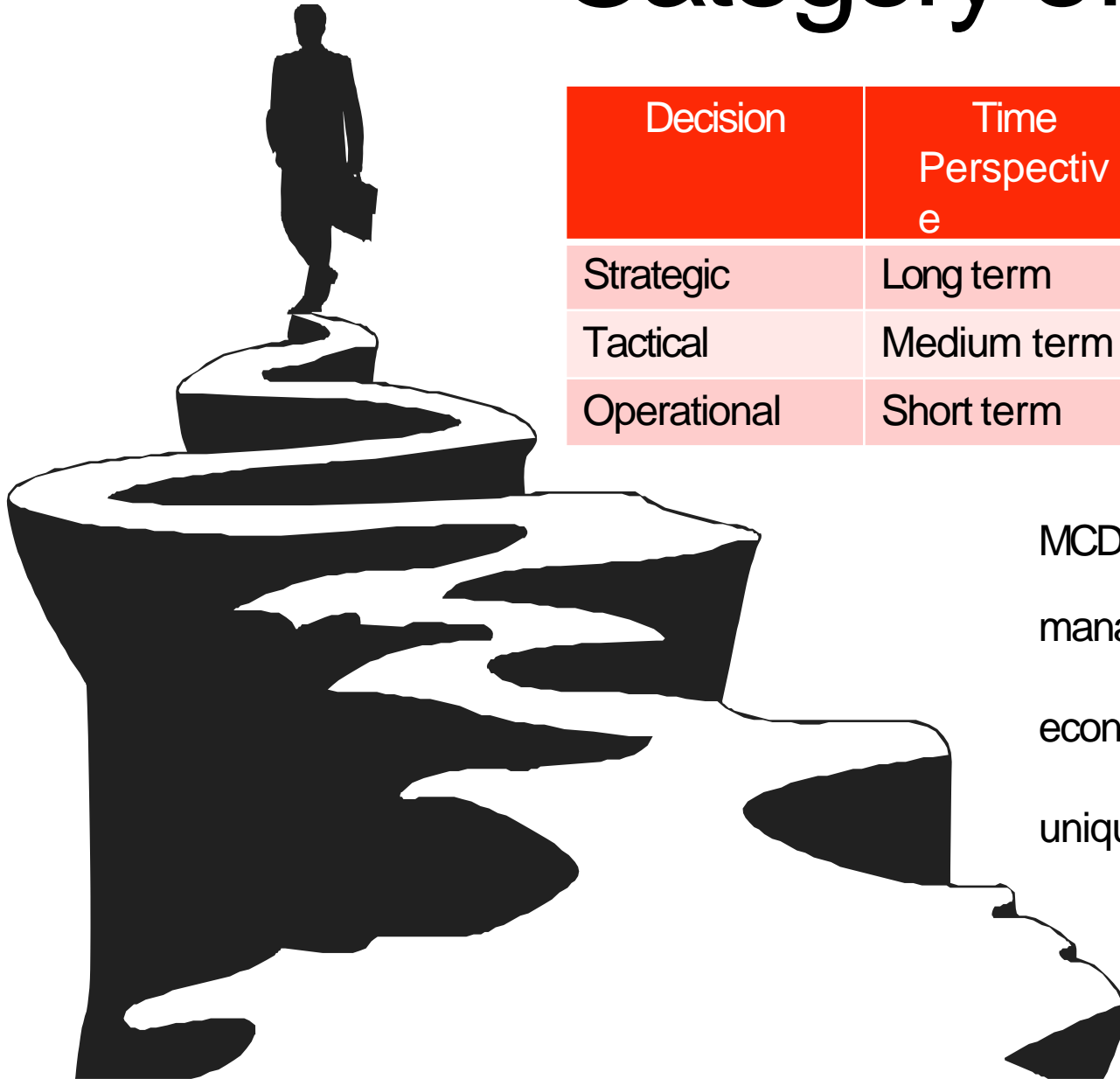
General decision problems usually involve with multiple criteria for decision process.



# Decision problems



# Category of Decision problem



Decision	Time Perspective	Novelty	Degree of structure	Automation
Strategic	Long term	New	Low	Low
Tactical	Medium term	Adaptive	Semi-structured	Medium
Operational	Short term	Every day	Well defined	High

MCDA(MCDM) is multidiscipline applying mathematics, management informatics, psychology, social science and economic, developed to support decision maker in their unique and personal decision process.

# MCDM Classification

Multi-Criteria  
Decision Making (MCDM)

Multi-Attribute Decision Making  
(MADM)

Genetic Algorithms  
(GA)

Goal Programming  
(GP)

Multi-Attribute Utility Theory (MAUT)

Analytic Hierarchy Process  
(AHP)

Elimination and Choice Translating Reality  
(ELECTRE)

Preference Ranking Organization Methods  
for Enrichment Evaluation (PROMETHEE)

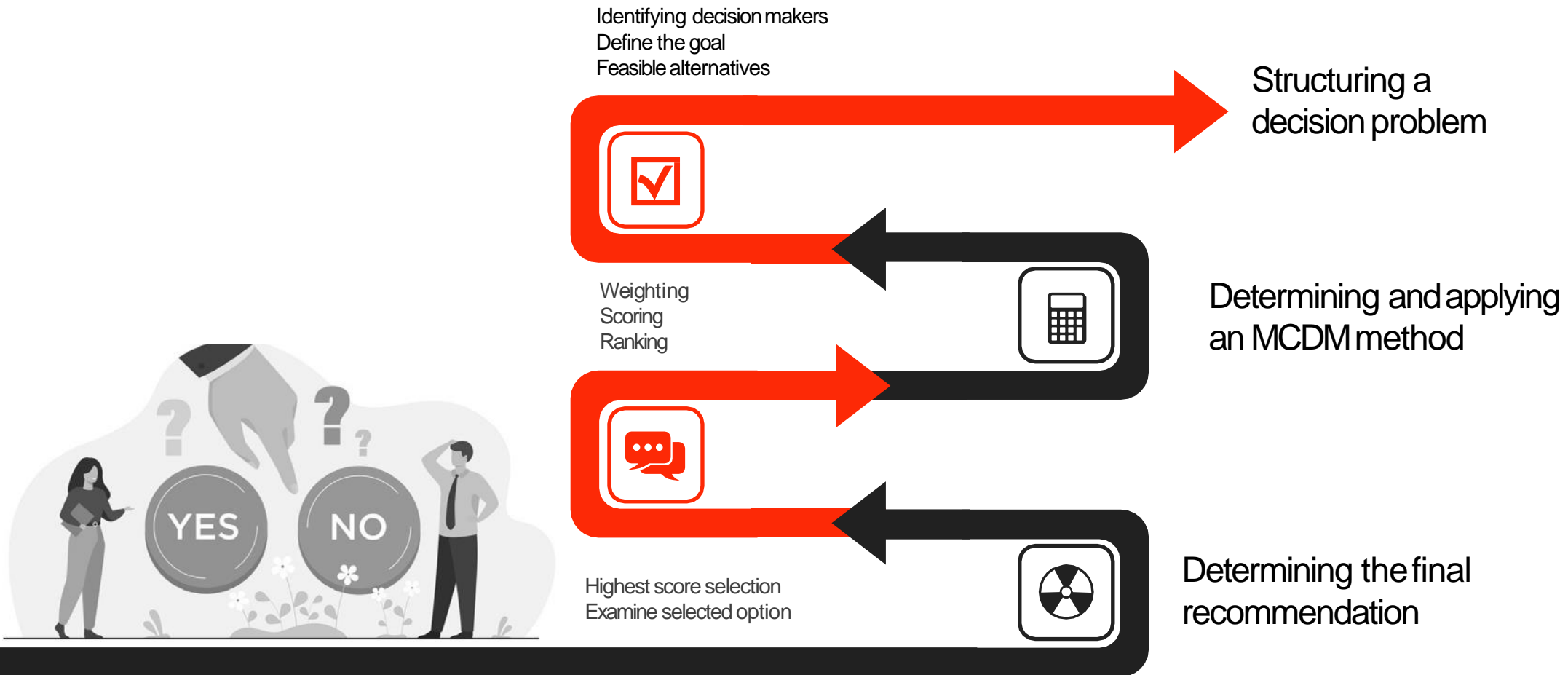
Technique for Order of Preference by  
Similarity to Ideal Solution (TOPSIS)

Multi-Objective Decision Making  
(MODM)





# MCDM General Stage



# MCDM Software

Problem:  
1. Ranking  
2. Description  
3. Choice

Methods:  
1. PROMETHEE (GAIA)  
2. ELECTRE



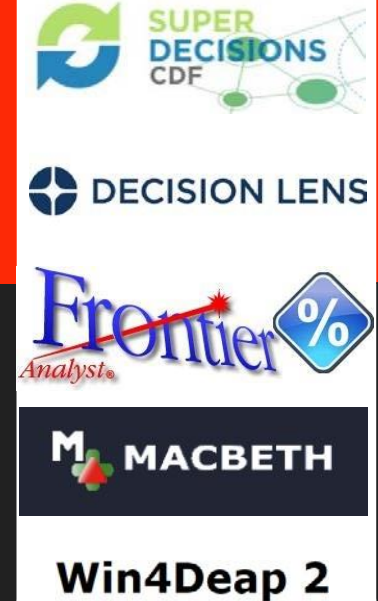
Problem:  
1. Ranking  
2. Choice

Methods:  
1. PROMETHEE  
2. UTA  
3. AHP



Problem:  
1. Ranking  
2. Choice

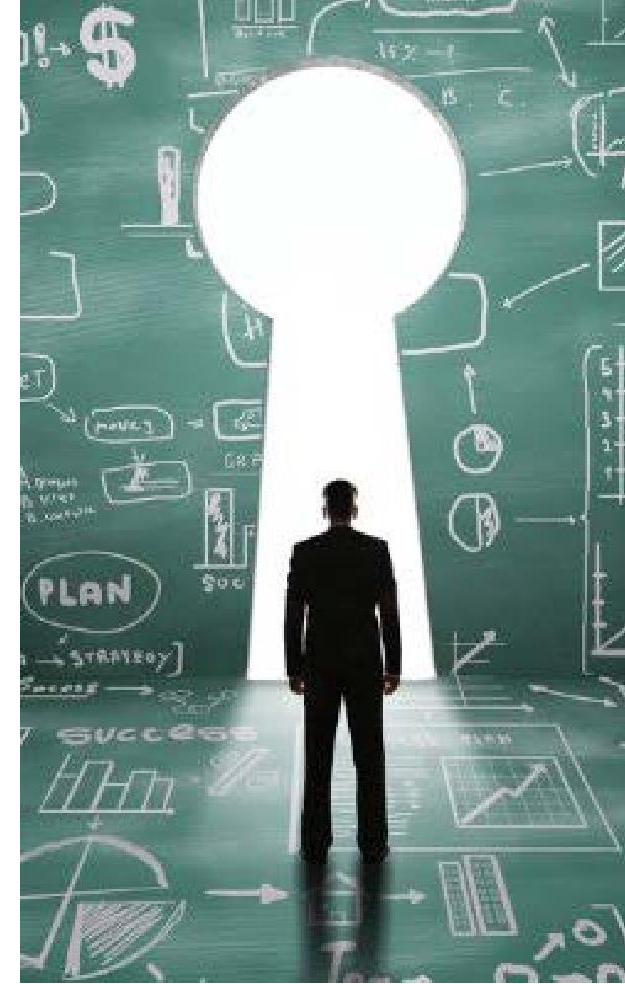
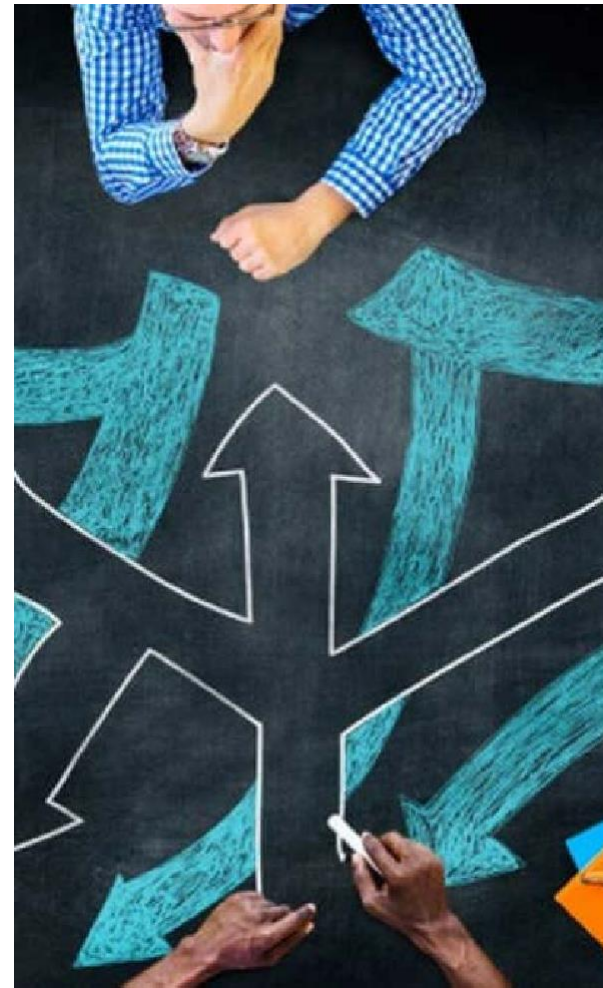
Methods:  
1. ANP  
2. MACBETH  
3. TOPSIS  
4. DEA



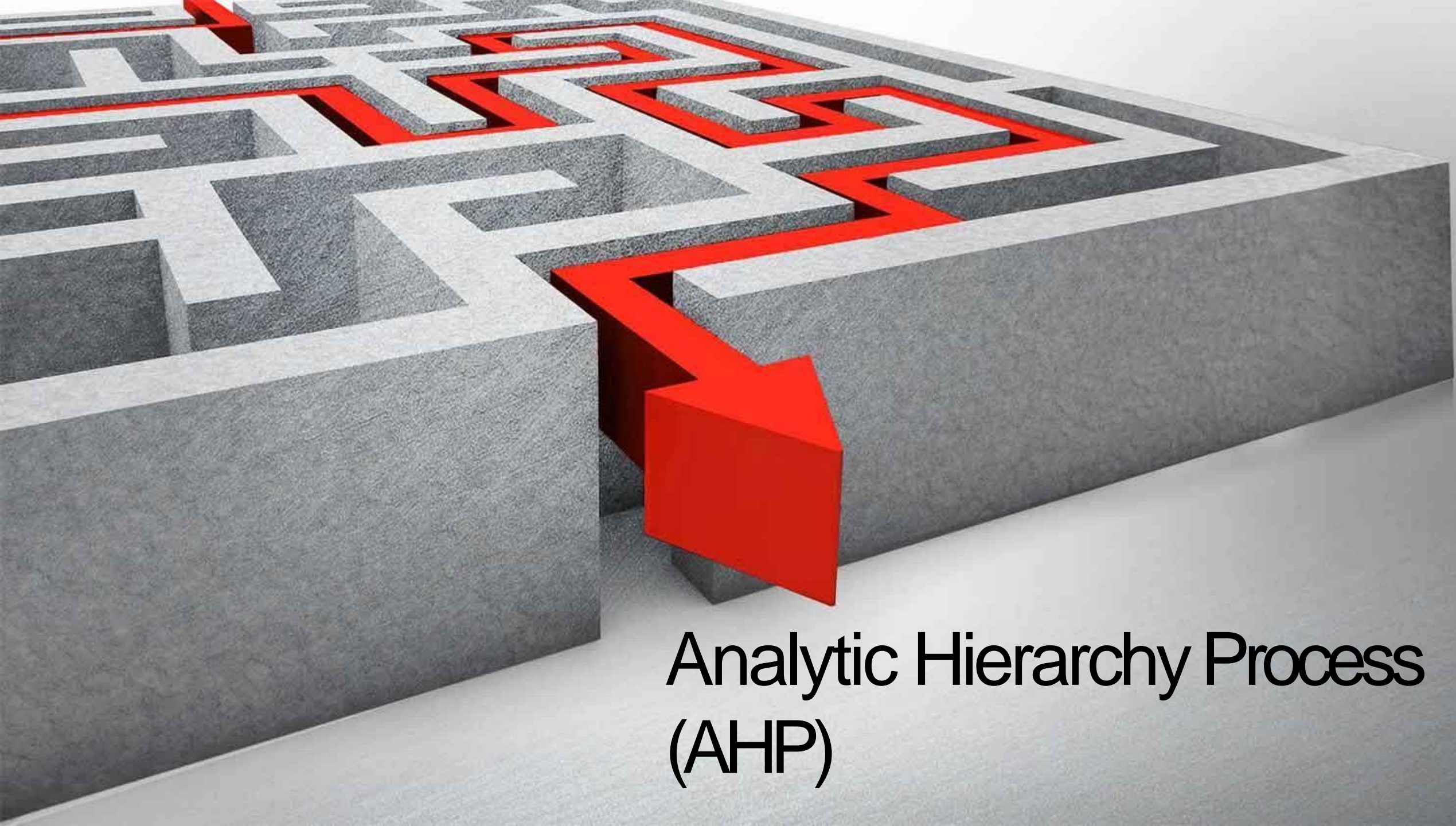
# Key Takeaway

## MCDM Concept

- The decision making process with multiple criteria
- Define weight on particular criteria base on priority
- Select the highest score or high ranking score if multiple options
- Evaluate the selected option







Analytic Hierarchy Process  
(AHP)

# AHP- Introduction

The analytic hierarchy process (AHP), developed by Thomas Saaty (1995 - 1996), is an excellent modeling structure for representing multi-criteria (multiple goals, multiple objectives) problems- with sets of criteria and alternatives (choices)- commonly found in business environments.



AHP will decompose a decision making problem  
into relevant criteria and alternatives.



The AHP separates the analysis of the criteria  
from the alternatives, which helps the decision  
maker to focus on small, manageable portions of  
the problem.



# AHP Process

Here is the step-by-step approach for Analytic Hierarchy Process.

Step 1: Define the problem and Criteria (also sub criteria if available)

Step 2: Define Alternatives

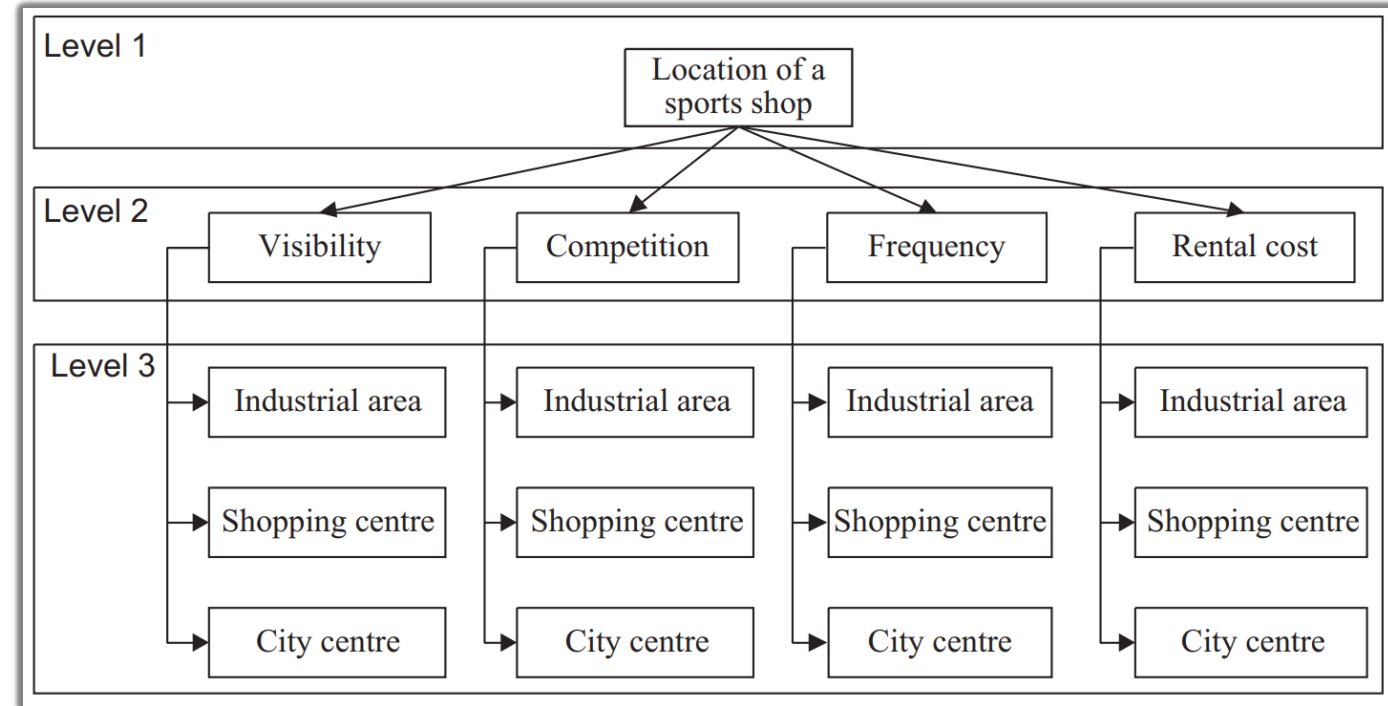
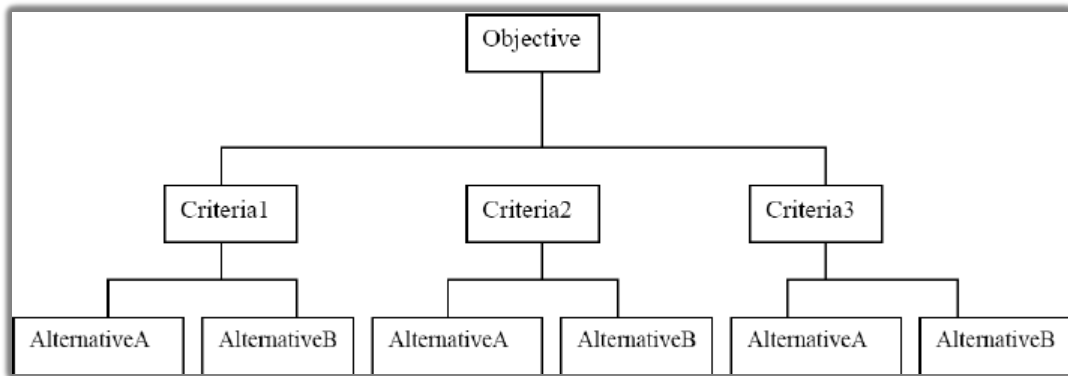
Step 3: Establish priority amongst criteria and alternatives using pairwise comparison.

Step 4: Check consistency amongst the pairwise comparison.

Step 5: Evaluate relative weights from the pairwise comparisons and get the calculated overall priorities for the alternatives.

Step 6: Perform Sensitivity Analysis

# Decision Hierarchy



# AHP Process (Example)

Page 18 – 44 are collected from the lecture of Dr. Rainer Haas and Dr. Oliver Meixner  
Institute of Marketing & Innovation  
University of Natural Resources and Applied Life Sciences, Vienna



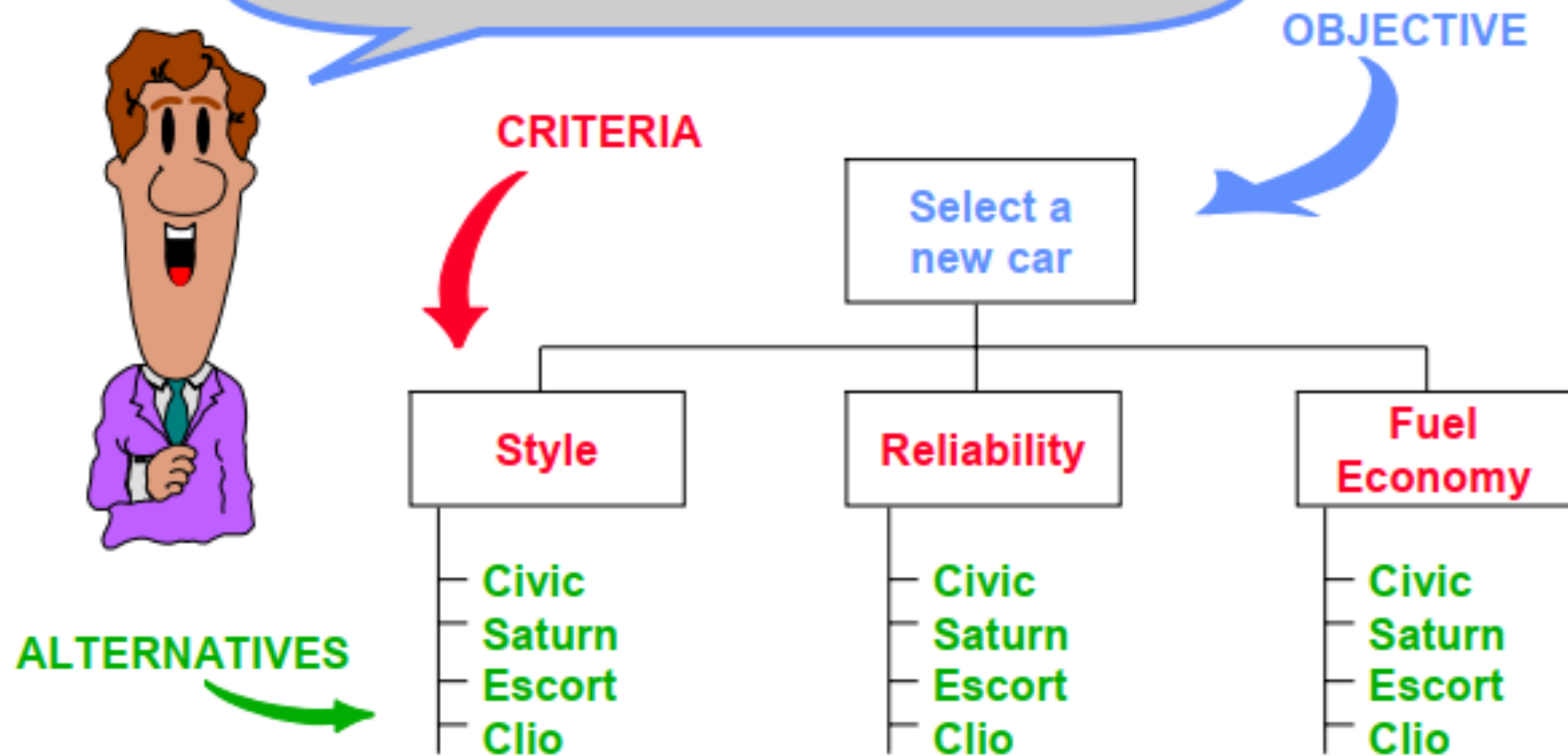


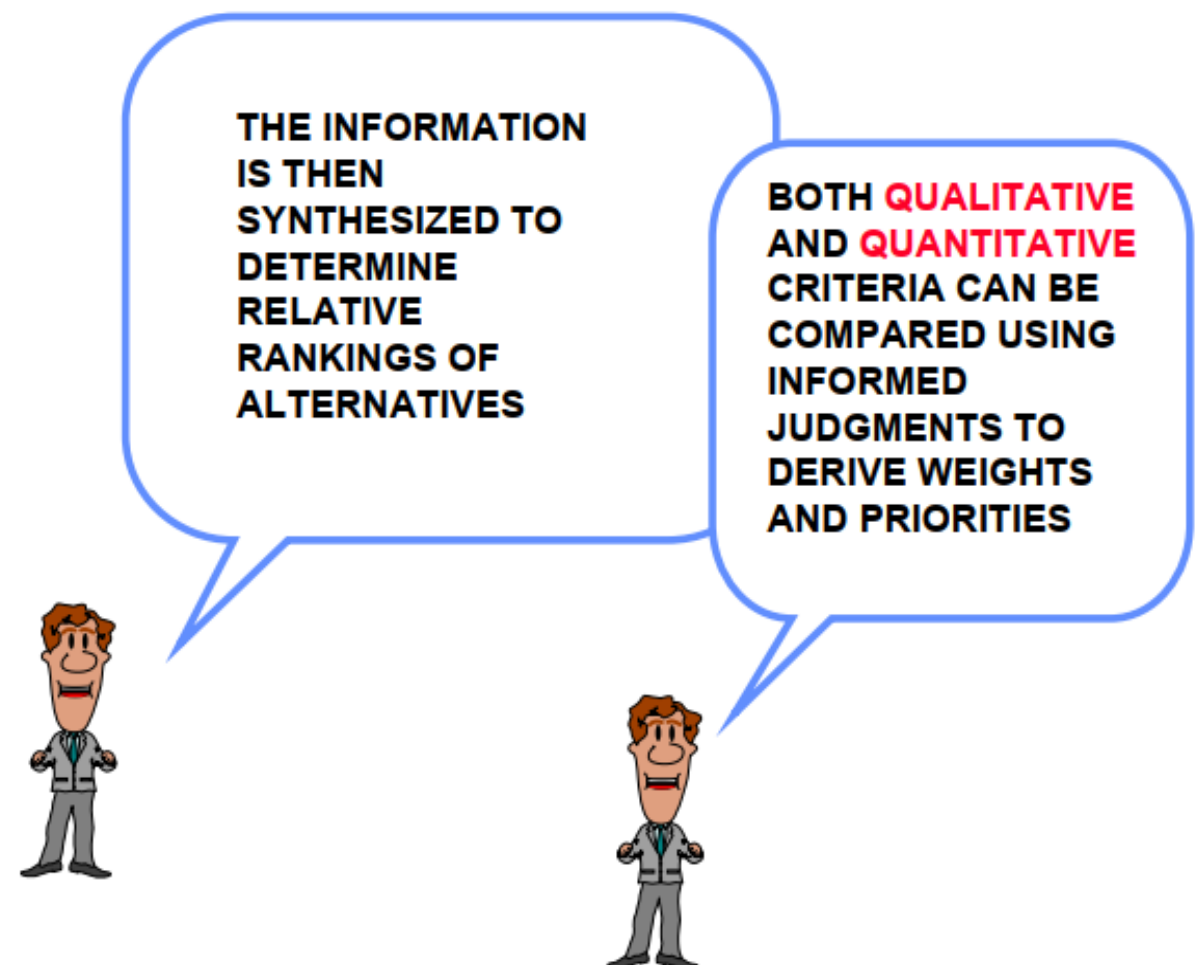


AN IMPORTANT PART OF THE  
PROCESS IS TO ACCOMPLISH THESE  
THREE STEPS

- **STATE THE OBJECTIVE:**
  - SELECT A NEW CAR
- **DEFINE THE CRITERIA:**
  - STYLE, RELIABILITY, FUEL ECONOMY
- **PICK THE ALTERNATIVES:**
  - CIVIC COUPE, SATURN COUPE, FORD ESCORT,  
RENAULT CLIO

THIS INFORMATION IS THEN ARRANGED  
IN A HIERARCHICAL TREE





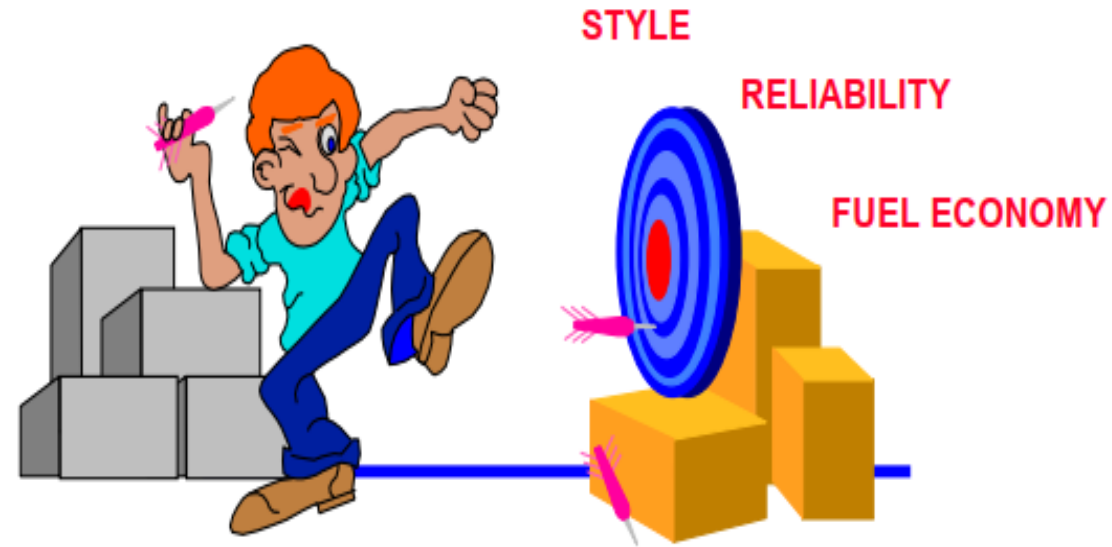
THE INFORMATION  
IS THEN  
SYNTHESIZED TO  
DETERMINE  
RELATIVE  
RANKINGS OF  
ALTERNATIVES

BOTH **QUALITATIVE**  
AND **QUANTITATIVE**  
CRITERIA CAN BE  
COMPARED USING  
INFORMED  
JUDGMENTS TO  
DERIVE WEIGHTS  
AND PRIORITIES



## HOW DO YOU DETERMINE THE RELATIVE IMPORTANCE OF THE CRITERIA?

Here's one way !



## HERE'S ANOTHER WAY

Hmm, I think reliability is the most important followed by style and fuel economy is least important so I will make the following judgements ....

### USING JUDGMENTS TO DETERMINE THE RANKING OF THE CRITERIA



1. RELIABILITY IS 2 TIMES AS IMPORTANT AS STYLE
2. STYLE IS 3 TIMES AS IMPORTANT AS FUEL ECONOMY
3. RELIABILITY IS 4 TIMES AS IMPORTANT AS FUEL ECONOMY

he's not very consistent here ... that's o.k.



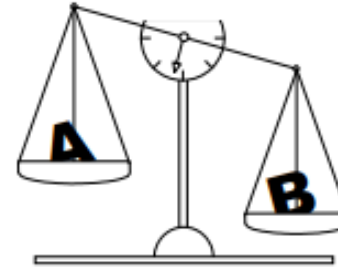
## Pairwise Comparisons



**USING PAIRWISE COMPARISONS, THE RELATIVE IMPORTANCE OF ONE CRITERION OVER ANOTHER CAN BE EXPRESSED**



## Pairwise Comparisons



USING PAIRWISE COMPARISONS, THE RELATIVE IMPORTANCE OF ONE CRITERION OVER ANOTHER CAN BE EXPRESSED

1 equal 3 moderate 5 strong 7 very strong 9 extreme

	STYLE	RELIABILITY	FUEL ECONOMY
STYLE	1/1	1/2	3/1
RELIABILITY		1/1	4/1
FUEL ECONOMY			1/1





## Pairwise Comparisons



USING PAIRWISE COMPARISONS, THE RELATIVE IMPORTANCE OF ONE CRITERION OVER ANOTHER CAN BE EXPRESSED

1 equal 3 moderate 5 strong 7 very strong 9 extreme

	STYLE	RELIABILITY	FUEL ECONOMY
STYLE	1/1	1/2	3/1
RELIABILITY	2/1	1/1	4/1
FUEL ECONOMY	1/3	1/4	1/1

How do you turn this **MATRIX**  
into ranking of criteria?



	STYLE	RELIABILITY	FUEL ECONOMY
STYLE	1/1	1/2	3/1
RELIABILITY	2/1	1/1	4/1
FUEL ECONOMY	1/3	1/4	1/1

**HOW DO YOU GET A RANKING OF PRIORITIES FROM A  
PAIRWISE MATRIX?**

AND THE  
SURVEY SAYS



**ACTUALLY...**

**DR THOMAS L. SAATY, CURRENTLY WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF  
PITTSBURGH, DEMONSTRATED MATHEMATICALLY THAT THE  
EIGENVECTOR SOLUTION WAS THE BEST APPROACH.**

**REFERENCE : THE ANALYTIC HIERARCHY PROCESS, 1990, THOMAS L. SAATY**

## HERE'S HOW TO SOLVE FOR THE EIGENVECTOR:

1. A SHORT COMPUTATIONAL WAY TO OBTAIN THIS RANKING IS TO RAISE THE PAIRWISE MATRIX TO POWERS THAT ARE SUCCESSIVELY SQUARED EACH TIME.
2. THE ROW SUMS ARE THEN CALCULATED AND NORMALIZED.
3. THE COMPUTER IS INSTRUCTED TO STOP WHEN THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THESE SUMS IN TWO CONSECUTIVE CALCULATIONS IS SMALLER THAN A PRESCRIBED VALUE.







IT'S MATRIX ALGEBRA TIME !!!

	STYLE	RELIABILITY	FUEL ECONOMY
STYLE	1/1	1/2	3/1
RELIABILITY	2/1	1/1	4/1
FUEL ECONOMY	1/3	1/4	1/1

FOR NOW, LET'S REMOVE THE NAMES AND  
CONVERT THE FRACTIONS TO DECIMALS :

1.0000	0.5000	3.0000
2.0000	1.0000	4.0000
0.3333	0.2500	1.0000

### STEP 1: SQUARING THE MATRIX

THIS TIMES



1.0000	0.5000	3.0000
2.0000	1.0000	4.0000
0.3333	0.2500	1.0000

THIS



1.0000	0.5000	3.0000
2.0000	1.0000	4.0000
0.3333	0.2500	1.0000

I.E.  $(1.0000 * 1.0000) + (0.5000 * 2.0000) + (3.0000 * 0.3333) = 3.0000$


RESULTS  
IN THIS



3.0000	1.7500	8.0000
5.3332	3.0000	14.0000
1.1666	0.6667	3.0000

STEP 2 : NOW, LET'S COMPUTE OUR FIRST EIGENVECTOR  
(TO FOUR DECIMAL PLACES)

FIRST, WE SUM THE ROWS


$$\begin{bmatrix} 3.0000 & + & 1.7500 & + & 8.0000 \\ 5.3332 & + & 3.0000 & + & 14.0000 \\ 1.1666 & + & 0.6667 & + & 3.0000 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 12.7500 & 0.3194 \\ 22.3332 & 0.5595 \\ 4.8333 & 0.1211 \end{bmatrix}$$


SECOND, WE SUM THE ROW TOTALS


$$\begin{bmatrix} 39.9165 \\ 1.0000 \end{bmatrix}$$

FINALLY, WE **NORMALIZE** BY DIVIDING  
THE ROW SUM BY THE ROW TOTALS  
(I.E. 12.7500 DIVIDED BY 39.9165 EQUALS 0.3194)

THE RESULT IS OUR EIGENVECTOR  
( A LATER SLIDE WILL EXPLAIN THE  
MEANING IN TERMS OF OUR EXAMPLE)




$$\begin{bmatrix} 0.3194 \\ 0.5595 \\ 0.1211 \end{bmatrix}$$

**THIS PROCESS MUST BE ITERATED UNTIL THE EIGENVECTOR SOLUTION DOES NOT CHANGE FROM THE PREVIOUS ITERATION (REMEMBER TO FOUR DECIMAL PLACES IN OUR EXAMPLE)**

**CONTINUING OUR EXAMPLE,  
AGAIN, STEP 1: WE SQUARE THIS MATRIX**

$$\begin{bmatrix} 3.0000 & 1.7500 & 8.0000 \\ 5.3332 & 3.0000 & 14.0000 \\ 1.1666 & 0.6667 & 3.0000 \end{bmatrix}$$

**WITH THIS RESULT**



$$\begin{bmatrix} 27.6653 & 15.8330 & 72.4984 \\ 48.3311 & 27.6662 & 126.6642 \\ 10.5547 & 6.0414 & 27.6653 \end{bmatrix}$$



**AGAIN STEP 2 : COMPUTE THE EIGENVECTOR (TO FOUR DECIMAL PLACES)**

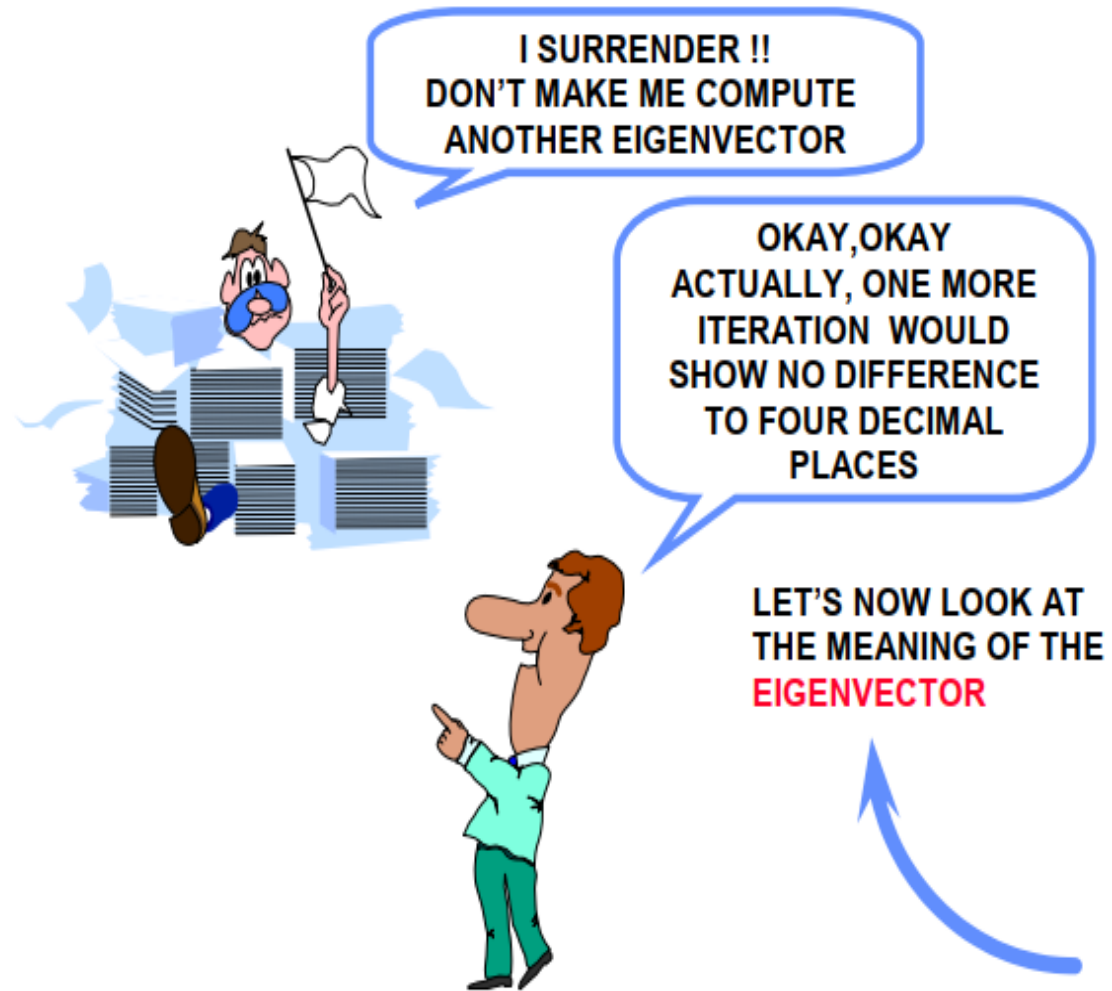
$$\begin{array}{rcl}
 \left[ \begin{array}{ccc} 27.6653 & + & 15.8330 & + & 72.4984 \\ 48.3311 & + & 27.6662 & + & 126.6642 \\ 10.5547 & + & 6.0414 & + & 27.6653 \end{array} \right] & = & \begin{array}{cc} 115.9967 & 0.3196 \\ 202.6615 & 0.5584 \\ 44.2614 & 0.1220 \end{array} \\
 & & \hline
 \text{TOTALS} \quad 362.9196 \quad 1.0000
 \end{array}$$

**COMPUTE THE DIFFERENCE OF THE  
PREVIOUS COMPUTED EIGENVECTOR  
TO THIS ONE:**

$$\begin{array}{rcl}
 \left[ \begin{array}{c} 0.3194 \\ 0.5595 \\ 0.1211 \end{array} \right] - \left[ \begin{array}{c} 0.3196 \\ 0.5584 \\ 0.1220 \end{array} \right] & = & \begin{array}{c} -0.0002 \\ 0.0011 \\ -0.0009 \end{array}
 \end{array}$$

**TO FOUR DECIMAL PLACES THERE'S NOT MUCH DIFFERENCE  
HOW ABOUT ONE MORE ITERATION?**





HERE'S OUR PAIRWISE  
MATRIX WITH THE NAMES



STYLE

RELIABILITY

FUEL ECONOMY

STYLE   RELIABILITY   FUEL ECONOMY

1/1	1/2	3/1
2/1	1/1	4/1
1/3	1/4	1/1

AND THE COMPUTED EIGENVECTOR GIVES US THE RELATIVE  
RANKING OF OUR CRITERIA

STYLE

0.3196

← THE SECOND MOST IMPORTANT CRITERION

RELIABILITY

0.5584

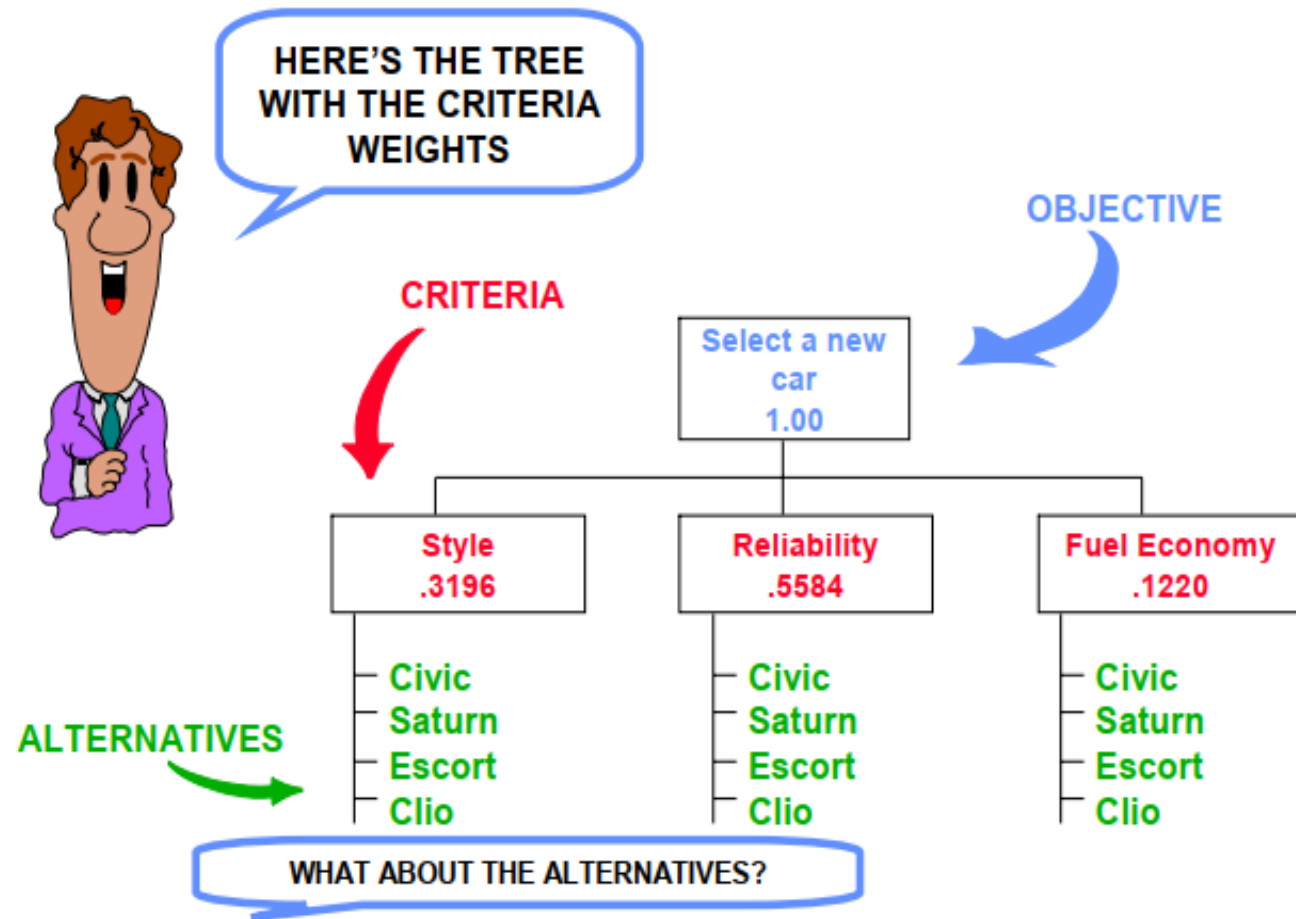
← THE MOST IMPORTANT CRITERION

FUEL ECONOMY

0.1220

← THE LEAST IMPORTANT CRITERION

NOW BACK TO THE HIEARCHICAL TREE...



IN TERMS OF STYLE, PAIRWISE COMPARISONS  
DETERMINES THE PREFERENCE  
OF EACH ALTERNATIVE OVER ANOTHER



	STYLE			
	CIVIC	SATURN	ESCORT	CLIO
CIVIC	1/1	1/4	4/1	1/6
SATURN	4/1	1/1	4/1	1/4
ESCORT	1/4	1/4	1/1	1/5
CLIO	6/1	4/1	5/1	1/1

AND...



IN TERMS OF RELIABILITY, PAIRWISE  
COMPARISONS DETERMINES THE PREFERENCE  
OF EACH ALTERNATIVE OVER ANOTHER



**RELIABILITY**

	CIVIC	SATURN	ESCORT	CLIO
CIVIC	1/1	2/1	5/1	1/1
SATURN	1/2	1/1	3/1	2/1
ESCORT	1/5	1/3	1/1	1/4
CLIO	1/1	1/2	4/1	1/1

**ITS MATRIX ALGEBRA TIME!!!**

COMPUTING THE EIGENVECTOR  
DETERMINES THE RELATIVE  
RANKING OF ALTERNATIVES  
UNDER EACH CRITERION



RANKING

STYLE

3 CIVIC

.1160

2 SATURN

.2470

4 ESCORT

.0600

1 CLIO

.5770

RANKING

RELIABILITY

1 CIVIC

.3790

2 SATURN

.2900

4 ESCORT

.0740

3 CLIO

.2570

WHAT ABOUT FUEL ECONOMY?



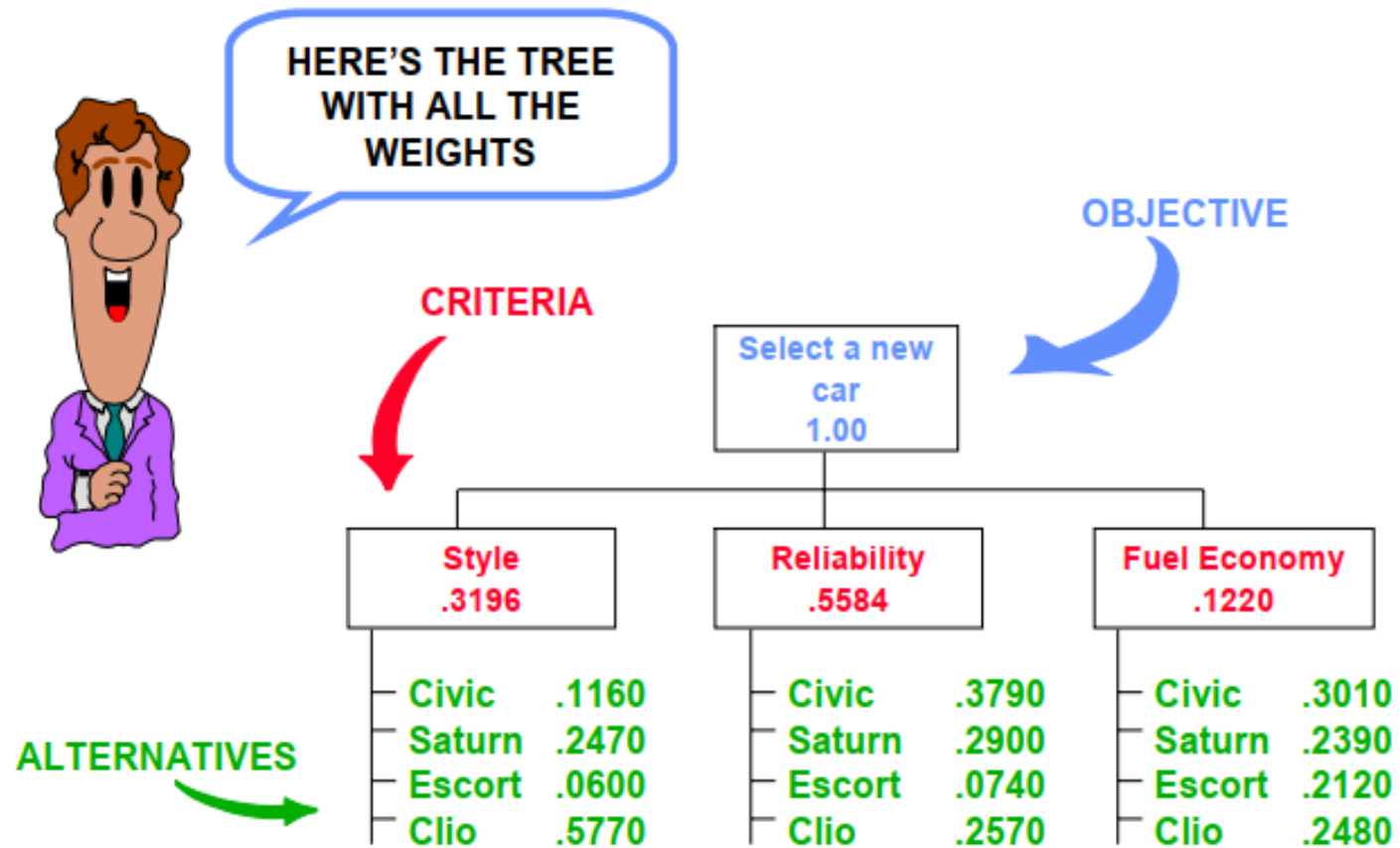
AS STATED EARLIER,  
AHP CAN COMBINE BOTH QUALITATIVE  
AND QUANTITATIVE INFORMATION

FUEL ECONOMY INFORMATION IS OBTAINED FOR EACH  
ALTERNATIVE:

	FUEL ECONOMY (MILES/GALLON)		
CIVIC	34	$34 / 113 =$	.3010
SATURN	27	$27 / 113 =$	.2390
ESCORT	24	$24 / 113 =$	.2120
CLIO	28	$28 / 113 =$	.2480
	<hr/> 113		<hr/> 1.0000

NORMALIZING THE FUEL ECONOMY INFO  
ALLOWS US TO USE IT WITH OTHER RANKINGS





OKAY, NOW WHAT ? I THINK WE'RE READY FOR THE ANSWER...

A LITTLE MORE MATRIX ALGEBRA GIVES US THE SOLUTION:

	STYLE	RELI- ABILITY	FUEL ECONOMY		CRITERIA RANKING	
CIVIC	.1160	.3790	.3010	*	0.3196	STYLE
SATURN	.2470	.2900	.2390		0.5584	RELIABILITY
ESCORT	.0600	.0740	.2120		0.1220	FUEL ECONOMY
CLIO	.5770	.2570	.2480			

I.E. FOR THE CIVIC  $(.1160 * .3196) + (.3790 * .5584) + (.3010 * .1220) = .3060$

=

Civic	.3060
Saturn	.2720
Escort	.0940
Clio	.3280

AND THE WINNER IS !!!

THE CLIO IS THE  
HIGHEST RANKED CAR

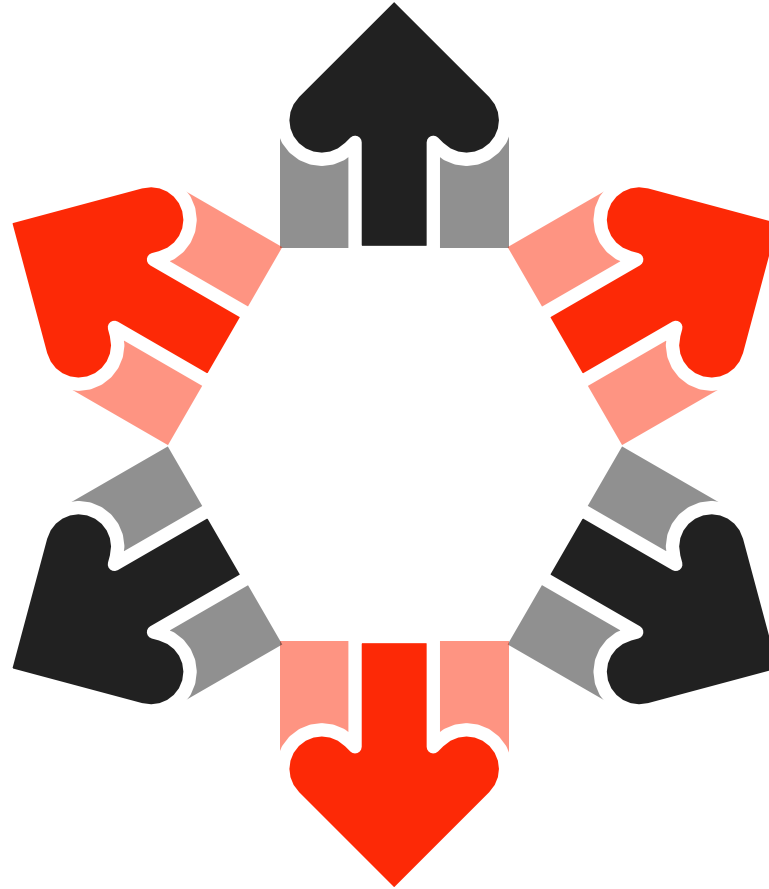




IN SUMMARY, THE ANALYTIC HIERARCHY  
PROCESS PROVIDES A LOGICAL FRAMEWORK  
TO DETERMINE THE BENEFITS OF EACH  
ALTERNATIVE

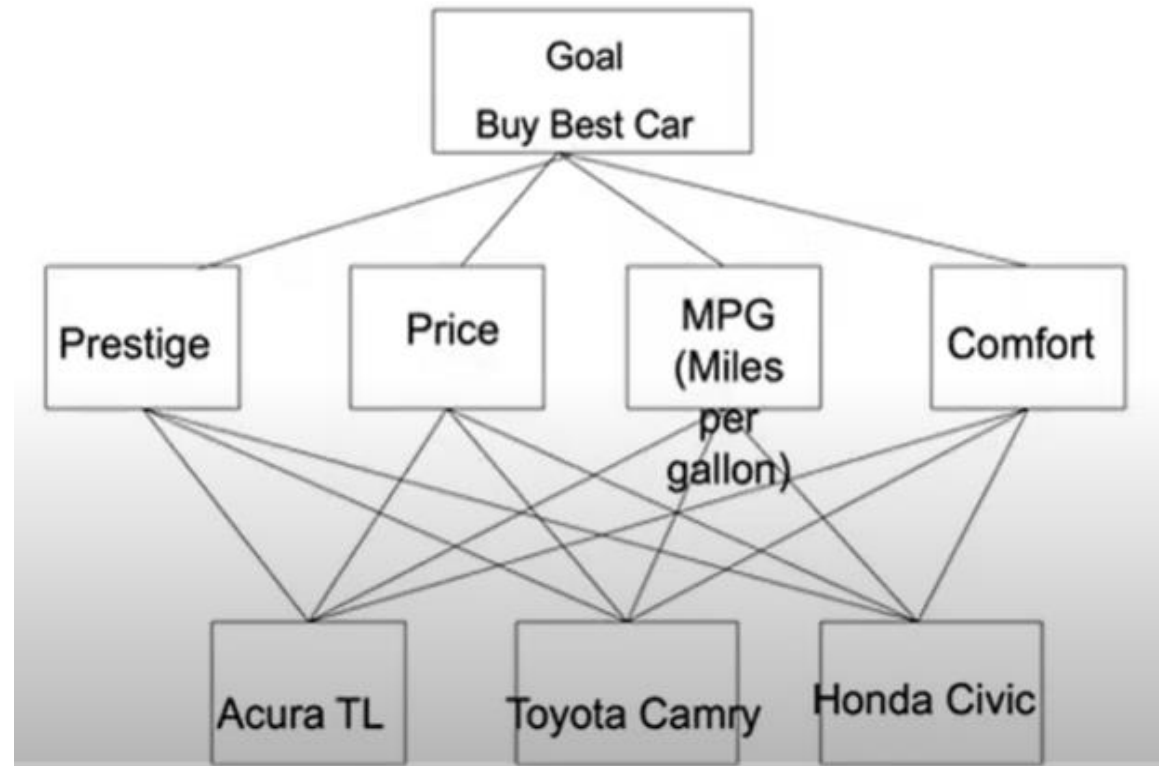
1. Clio	.3280
2. Civic	.3060
3. Saturn	.2720
4. Escort	.0940

# AHP-Based Software



# Building an AHP model in SuperDecisions

Case study: Choose the best car



Reference: <https://superdecisions.com/>

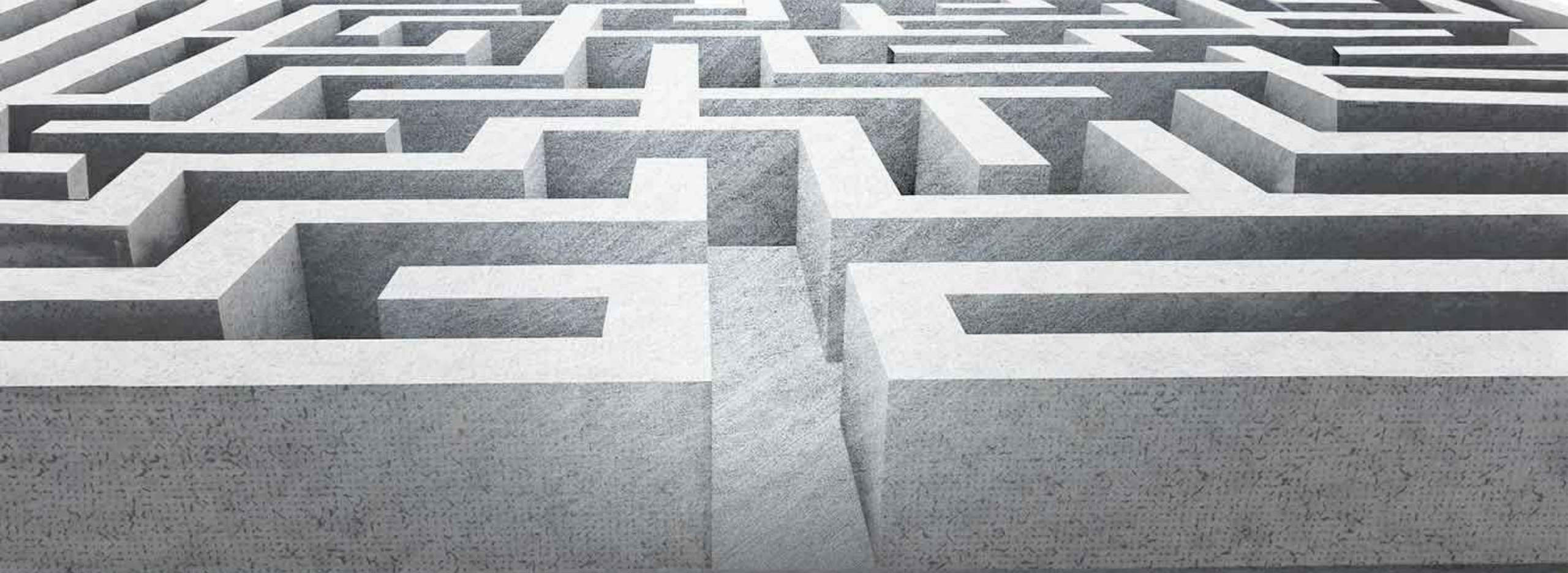
# Building an AHP model in SuperDecisions

Case study: Choose the best car.

We will follow official tutorial for this part. The links are given below.

- [Building AHP Model](#)

- I will also show Sensitivity Analysis in the class.



THANK YOU