Highlights

A study on multicriteria ABC classification with analytical hierarchy process

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- generative method for force consistency of pairwise comparisons matrix;
- importance of the correct balance of weights assigned to the criteria;
- evidence of the importance of ABC multicriteria clssf for forecasting.

A study on multicriteria ABC classification with analytical hierarchy process

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Abstract

Multicriteria classification is usualy very important to the decision-making in manufacturing management process. For such classification, the attribution of weights to the criteria strongly influences the coherence of the results found. Saaty's Analytic Hierarchy Process (AHP) is an important method for assigning weights to multiple criteria. AHP's logic is not complicated at all but, since matrices of pairwise comparisons of criteria are usually generated manually and based only on some employee know-how, there is a huge complexity on generating a consistent pairwise matrix. Especially when many criteria are used. This paper presents a constructive algorithm that can be used to adjust inconsistent matrices, forcing such matrices to have a better consistency rate. We tested this algorithm by applying the AHP method, for multicriteria ABC classification, to companies in two sectors. As a result we

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observed that the algorithm can adjust the pairwise matrices in just a few seconds, avoiding the manual work that would be done in weeks, therefore showing that it is an important resource for applying the AHP method. We also present in this paper an analysis of the importance of the attribution of the weights to the criteria and show how the multicriteria classification may influence the decision on the choice of the appropriate forecasting method.
Keywords: multi-product batch, processing time maximization, mathematical model, analytical solution, COPSolver, LINGO

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1. Introduction

2. Algorithm for forcing pairwise matrix consistency

The algorithm is not represented correctly.

Changes will be made during the preparation of the article according to the module of software COPSolver: library for solving classification problems.

Algorithm 1 function $consistencyRate()$

Require: $[a_{ij}]_{i,j=1}^{n}, RI[x]_{x=1}^{10}$
  $\lambda_{max} = mainEigenvalue([a_{ij}]_{i,j=1}^{n})$ [1]
  $CI = (\lambda_{max} - n)/(n-1)$
  $CR \leftarrow CI/RI[n]$
  return CR

Algorithm 2 function $constructivelyForceConsistency([a_{ij}]_{i,j=1}^{n})$

Require: $[a_{ij}]_{i,j=1}^{n}$
Ensure: $consistencyRate([a_{ij}]_{i,j=1}^{n}) \leq 0.1$
  $CR = consistencyRate([a_{ij}]_{i,j=1}^{n})$
  if $CR \leq 0.1$ **then**
    return $[a_{ij}]_{i,j=1}^{n}$
  else
    for $3 \leq k \leq n$ **do**
      $([a_{ij}]_{i,j=1}^{k}, CR) \leftarrow forceConsistency([a_{ij}]_{i,j=1}^{k})$
      if $CR \leq 0.1$ **then**
        break for
      end if
    end for
  end if
  return $([a_{ij}]_{i,j=1}^{n}, CR)$

2.1. Constructive algorithm

3. Tests and results

4. Conclusions and suggestions for future works

In this paper we presented ...

5. CRediT authorship contribution statement

T.B. Fraga: Conceptualization, Project administration, Supervision, Software, Methodology, Validation, Formal analysis, Writing – original draft, Writing – review & editing.

Algorithm 3 function $forceConsistency([a_{ij}]_{i,j=1}^{k})$

Require: $[a_{ij}]_{i,j=1}^{n} \quad | \quad consistencyRate([a_{ij}]_{i,j=1}^{n-1}) \leq 0.1$
Ensure: $consistencyRate([a_{ij}]_{i,j=1}^{n}) \leq 0.1$

```
CR ← consistencyRate([a_ij]^n_{i,j=1})
for j ≤ n − 2 do
    for j + 1 ≤ k ≤ n − 1 do
        g ← 0
        s ← 0
        if a_nj > a_nk and a_jk ≤ 1 then
            g ← j
            s ← k
        else if a_nj < a_nk and a_jk ≥ 1 then
            g ← k
            s ← j
        end if
        if g ≠ 0 then
            ([a_ij]^n_{i,j=1}, CR) ← reduce([a_ij]^n_{i,j=1}, g, s)
            if CR ≥ 0.1 then
                ([a_ij]^n_{i,j=1}, CR) ← encrease([a_ij]^n_{i,j=1}, g, s)
            end if
        end if
        if CR ≤ 0.1 then
            break for
        end if
    end for
    if CR ≤ 0.1 then
        break for
    end if
end for
return ([a_ij]^n_{i,j=1}, CR)
```

Algorithm 4 function $reduce([a_{ij}]_{i,j=1}^n, g, s)$

Require: $g, s < n$; $[a_{ij}]_{i,j=1}^n$

```
while a_ng > a_ns do
    a_ng ← a_ng^{--}
    a_gn ← a_gn^{++}
    aux_CR = consistencyRate([a_ij]_{i,j=1}^n)
    if aux_CR < CR then
        CR = aux_CR
        if CR ≤ 0.1 then
            break
        end if
    else
        a_ng ← a_ng^{++}
        a_gn ← a_gn^{--}
        break
    end if
end while
return ([a_ij]_{i,j=1}^n, CR)
```

6. Acknowledgments

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Algorithm 5 function $encrease([a_{ij}]_{i,j=1}^{n}, g, s)$

Require: $g, s < n; [a_{ij}]_{i,j=1}^{n}$
  while $a_{ng} > a_{ns}$ **do**
    $a_{ns} \leftarrow a_{ns}^{++}$
    $a_{sn} \leftarrow a_{sn}^{--}$
    $aux_{CR} = consistencyRate([a_{ij}]_{i,j=1}^{n})$
    if $aux_{CR} < CR$ **then**
      $CR = aux_{CR}$
      if $CR \leq 0.1$ **then**
        break
      end if
    else
      $a_{ns} \leftarrow a_{ns}^{--}$
      $a_{sn} \leftarrow a_{sn}^{++}$
      break
    end if
  end while
  return $([b_{ij}]_{i,j=1}^{n}, CR)$

Algorithm 6 function a_{ij}^{++}

Require: $a_{ij} \quad | \quad a_{ij} \in \{1/9, 1/7, 1/5, 1/3, 1, 3, 5, 7, 9\}$
  if $a_{ij} \geq 1$ and $a_{ij} \neq 9$ **then**
    $a_{ij} \leftarrow a_{ij} + 2$
  else if $a_{ij} < 1$ **then**
    $a_{ij} \leftarrow 1/(1/a_{ij} - 2)$
  end if
  return a_{ij}

Algorithm 7 function a_{ij}^{--}

Require: $a_{ij} \quad | \quad a_{ij} \in \{1/9, 1/7, 1/5, 1/3, 1, 3, 5, 7, 9\}$
  if $a_{ij} \geq 3$ **then**
    $a_{ij} \leftarrow b_{ij} - 2$
  else if $a_{ij} \leq 1$ and $a_{ij} \neq 1/9$ **then**
    $a_{ij} \leftarrow 1/(1/a_{ij} + 2)$
  end if
  return a_{ij}

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