

Klaus D. Goepel Feb. 2011

Developed by Prof. Thomas L. Saaty



The Analytic Network Process ANP is a **decision making method**



Analytic Network Process (ANP)

Overview

The analytic network process ANP is a decision finding method

Developed by Prof. Thomas L. Saaty



The Analytic Network Process ANP is a **decision making method**

ANP is a generalization of the Analytic Hierarchy Process AHP

Analytic Network Process (ANP)

Overview

The analytic network process ANP is a decision finding method and generalization of the analytic hierarchy process AHP.

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The Analytic Network Process ANP is a decision making method

ANP is a generalization of the **Analytic Hierarchy Process AHP**



Analytic Network Process (ANP)

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The Analytic Network Process ANP is a **decision making method**

ANP is a generalization of the Analytic Hierarchy Process AHP

ANP can model complex decision problems



Analytic Network Process (ANP)



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The analytic network process ANP is a decision finding method and generalization of the analytic hierarchy process AHP.

ANP can model complex decision problems, where a hierarchical model – as used in AHP – is not sufficient.

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Analytic Network Process (ANP)



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The analytic network process ANP is a decision finding method and generalization of the analytic hierarchy process AHP.

ANP can model complex decision problems, where a hierarchical model – as used in AHP – is not sufficient.

ANP allows for feedback connections and loops.

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Analytic Network Process (ANP)

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ANP can model complex decision problems, where a hierarchical model – as used in AHP – is not sufficient.

ANP allows for feedback connections and loops.



Overview

Example

Decision for the selection of a candidate in recruitment of a sales engineer

Hierarchical Model (AHP)



Analytic Network Process (ANP)

Overview

In **AHP** you do a pair-wise comparison of criteria and sub-criteria, resulting in local priorities or weighting factors.

Hierarchical Model (AHP)



Analytic Network Process (ANP)

Overview

In **AHP** you do a pair-wise comparison of criteria and sub-criteria, resulting in local priorities or weighting factors.

By applying the global priorities to alternatives, you finally get a ranking of alternatives with respect to these criteria and sub-criteria.

It's a top-down structure from the overall objective to criteria, from criteria to subcriteria down to alternatives.

Network Model (ANP)



Analytic Network Process (ANP)

Overview

In **ANP** criteria, sub-criteria and alternatives are treated equally as **nodes** in a network.

Each of these nodes might be compared to any other node, as long as there is a relation between them.

Network Model (ANP)

Given Alternatives can influence the weighting of criteria



Analytic Network Process (ANP)

Overview

In **ANP** criteria, sub-criteria and alternatives are treated equally as **nodes** in a network.

Each of these nodes might be compared to any other node, as long as there is a relation between them.

For example, the ranking of alternatives might not only depend on the weighting of criteria, but also given **alternatives can influence the ranking of criteria**.

Network Model

Clusters and Nodes



Analytic Network Process (ANP)



Overview

In contrast to AHP, where higher level elements connect to lower levels – i.e. criteria to sub-criteria – in ANP nodes might be grouped in **clusters**.

Beside local priorities in the comparison of one node to a set of other nodes, you might also introduce **cluster priorities** with respect to the goals.





The Super Matrix

The network of ANP is represented as a matrix.

The matrix is composed by listing all nodes horizontally and vertically,







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The Super Matrix

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Each non-zero element of the matrix represents the connection & weight from one node (columns-header) to another node (row-header) of the network.

The matrix is called **Super-Matrix**



Super Matrix

Hierarchy Model



Analytic Network Process (ANP)

The Super Matrix

The **comparison of nodes** – connected to others – follows the same principal and method as in AHP.



Experience is moderately

more important than Sales Skills (3x)

Analytic Network Process (ANP)

The Super Matrix

The **comparison of nodes** – connected to others – follows the same principal and method as in AHP. Local priorities result from the **Eigenvector of the comparison matrix**.

The so found priorities are then **arranged as column vectors** in the super-matrix.

Comparison Matrix wrt Hiring





Candidate 1 has equally technical Skills as Candidate 2 (1)

Hierarchy Model



Analytic Network Process (ANP)



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Comp. Matrix wrt Technical





Candidate 2 has moderately to strongly better Sales Skills than Candidate 1 (4x)

Hierarchy Model



Analytic Network Process (ANP)



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Comp. Matrix wrt Sales





Candidate 1 has equally to Moderately better Experience than Candidate 2 (2x)

Hierarchy Model



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Comp. Matrix wrt Experience





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Network Model

Impact of Alternatives on the priorities of criteria



Analytic Network Process (ANP)



The Super Matrix

The **comparison of nodes** – connected to others – follows the same principal and method as in AHP. Local priorities result from the **Eigenvector of the comparison matrix**.

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Comparison of Criteria wrt Candidate 1

Technical Skills are strongly to very strongly more prevalent than Sales Skills (6x)

Technical Skills are strongly to very strongly more prevalent than Experience (6x)

Sales Skills are equally to Experience (1)

Network Model

Impact of Alternatives on the priorities of criteria



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Comp. Matrix wrt Candidate 1







The Super Matrix

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Comp. Matrix wrt Candidate 2





Network Model



Analytic Network Process (ANP)

The Super Matrix

After all comparisons are done, we get the "**Unweighted Super Matrix**"

This matrix is then normalized i.e. the sum of all columns is scaled to 1



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The whole model is synthesized by calculating the "Limit Matrix". The Limit Matrix is the weighted Super matrix, taken to the power of k+1, where k is an arbitrary number.



Overview

Why changes the ranking of Candidate 2 from two in the hierarchy model to one in the Network model?





Overview

Both candidates have the required experience

- candidate 1 slightly more than candidate 2.



Overview

Both candidates have the required experience - candidate 1 slightly more than candidate 2.

Experience is given a relative high weight



Overview

Both candidates have the required experience

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Experience is given a relative high weight

Resulting in the slightly higher ranking for candidate 1 in the hierarchical model.



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In the network model we also look at each candidate's skills independent from the other candidate



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Now we see the outstanding sales skills of candidates 2



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Control Hierarchies

A decision network can be arranged under a control hierarchy of benefits and costs In our example here, we already evaluated the benefits of hiring – with respect to the hard – and soft-skills of the two candidates.

We can now evaluate the requested salary of both candidates under control criterion costs.

Depending on our overall objective, either benefits or costs could be assigned a higher weighting.



Control Hierarchies

We have now a two layer model with a control hierarchy – benefits and costs – and a sub-network under benefits and a hierarchy under costs.

Ranking of alternatives in a two layer model can be evaluated using a ratio formula Benefit/Cost or an additive formula (B-C)

Evaluation Formulas

Benefits/Costs (B/C)

Benefits - Costs (B-C)



Control Hierarchies

The control hierarchy could be extended with additional control parameter, e.g. opportunities and risks, to build a two layer BOCR model.

Evaluation Formulas (B*O) / (C*R) (B+O)- (C-R)



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