

## AHP NEWS

### **AHP/ANP WAS WELL-REPRESENTED IN THE MCDM 2013 MEETING IN MÁLAGA, SPAIN**



Some AHP/ANP paper presenters in MCDM 2013, Málaga, Andalucía, Spain. From left to right: Ozay Ozaydin, Fusun Ulengin, Birsen Karpak, Valentina Ferretti and Ilker Topcu

It will for sure be very difficult to forget such a well-organized, sparkling and outstanding meeting as the MCDM 2013 Conference that took place in warm Málaga (Spain) from the 17<sup>th</sup> to the 21<sup>st</sup> of June 2013 (<http://www.mcdm2013.decytec.ccee.uma.es/>).

The general theme of the Conference was “MCDM for Tomorrow’s World” and called attention to the hard times of economical crisis that we are facing in many countries around the world, thus highlighting the need for decisions that provide us with solutions in the short term, but that also build a solid basis for future development in a more sustainable way.

Thanks to the active participation of more than 350 attendees, coming from 46 countries all over the world and including theoreticians, method and software

developers and people applying MCDM methods in numerous fields ranging from environment and policy, to engineering, healthcare, economics, etc, the conference brought together many research areas, applications, and perspectives into a truly international and interdisciplinary meeting.

Again the Analytic Hierarchy Process/ Analytic Network Process stream has raised a lot of attention and several sessions were organized throughout the Conference. It is thus worthy to briefly recall them so that the interested reader can find an update on the most recent applications and research in his or her field.

In a nutshell, the first AHP/ANP session, titled “Methodological issues (I)” and chaired by Professor Ludmil Mikhailov, took place on Monday afternoon and brought together applications in higher open and distance learning systems (by Zehra Kamisli Ozturk), defense planning (by Ahmet Kandakoglu, Y. Riza Kahraman & Ilker Topcu), in MCDM with Microsoft Excel as a tool (by Radomir Perzina & Jaroslav Ramik) and amultiobjective evolutionary approach to preference elicitation (by Ludmil Mikhailov). The second AHP/ANP session, titled “AHP/ANP for Sustainability” and chaired by Professor Birsen Karpak, took place on Tuesday morning and included contributions concerning strategic information systems for a sustainable supply chain (by Steve Taraszewski & Birsen Karpak), spatial ANP for supporting scenario analysis (by Valentina Ferretti, Marta Bottero & Giulio Mondini), MCDM for resource efficient bread supply chains (by Aleksander Banasik, G.D.H. Claassen, Argyris Kanellopoulos & Jack vander Vorst), and the prioritization of third party logistics providers (by Birsen Karpak & Ozden Bayazit).

The third AHP/ANP session, titled “AHP/ANP & DEMATEL” and chaired by Professor Gwo-Hshiung Tzeng, took place on Tuesday afternoon and brought together applications concerning optimal resort development investment projects (by Chiao-Chen Chang & T. Tyrone Lin), tourism competitiveness improvement strategy (by Gwo-Hshiung Tzeng, Ming Tsang Lu, Hsin Chuan Peng & Kua Hsin Peng), adoption of tourist guide mobile applications (by Yang Chieh Chin) and enhancement of smart mobile devices (by Gwo Hshiung Tzeng, Chi-Yo Huang & Yu Sheng Kao).

The fourth AHP/ANP session, titled “AHP/ANP in practice (I)” and chaired by Professor Michael Bruhn Barfod, took place on Tuesday afternoon and included contributions related to third-party logistic supplier identification (by Birsen Karpak), assessment of renewable energies (by Arayeh Afsordegan, Núria Agell, Lázaro V. Cremades, Monica Sanchez & Siamak Zahedi), and risk analysis (by Michael Bruhn Barfod, Kim BangSalling & Rob Van Den Honert).

The fifth AHP/ANP session, titled “AHP/ANP in practice (II)” and chaired by Professor Valerio Salomon, took place on Wednesday morning and brought together applications concerning hospital site selection (by Hafize Yilmaz, Sait Gül & Ilker Topcu), product eco-design (by Pedro Nicolás Casas Páez & Felix Antonio Cortes Aldana), the ElephasR project (by Fernando Pérez Rodríguez, Ángeles Camino Saco, Esteban Gomez García, Alejandro Mosquera & Alberto Rojo-Alboreca), and standardization of classroom furniture (by Valerio Salomon, Pedro Alonso & Fernando Marins).

The sixth AHP/ANP session, titled “AHP/ANP Applications to Development Economics” and chaired by Professor José A. Gómez-Limón, took place on Thursday afternoon and included contributions related to the assessment of investments (by Maria DoloresGuerrero-Baena & José A. Gómez-Limón), green supplier selection in Taiwan (by Hsu-Shih Shih, Chiau-Ching Chen & Yi-Chun Lin), analysis of global competitiveness (by Ozay Ozaydin, Bora Cekyay, Ozgur Kabak, Sule Onsel Ekici & Fusun Ulengin) and the provision of agricultural public goods (by Anastasio Villanueva-Rodríguez, Manuel Arriaza, José A. Gómez-Limón & Olexandr Nekhay).

Finally, the last AHP/ANP session, titled “Methodological issues (II)” and chaired by Professor Gang Kou, took place on Friday morning and included research concerning Bayesian analysis and group decision making (by Gang Kou, Changsheng Lin & Yi Peng), a structural modeling approach with interrelated components (by Jerzy Michnik) and, finally, a comparative analysis and evaluation of Multi-Criteria Decision Making methods (by Gang Kou, Daji Ergu & Thomas L. Saaty).

All these sessions have the merit of having stimulated a cross-fertilization of ideas and having provided many interesting insights for advancing research and practice in the MCDM field, thus creating very positive expectations for the next MCDM meeting that will be held in 2015 in Hamburg (Germany) and will be chaired by Professor Martin J. Geiger.

**Valentina FERRETTI**

Department of Housing and City (DICAS)

Politecnico di Torino - ITALY

E-mail: valentina.ferretti@polito.it

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