

# Composite Programming for Electric Passenger Car Selection in Multiple Criteria Decision Making

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**Abstract**—This paper discusses the use of the composite programming method to identify the optimum electric passenger automobile in multiple criteria decision making. With the composite programming approach, a set of alternatives are compared using an optimality measure that gauges how far apart they are from the optimum solution. In this paper, some key factors (range, battery, engine, maximum speed, acceleration) that customers should consider while purchasing an electric passenger car for daily use are discussed. A numerical illustration is provided to demonstrate the validity and applicability of the proximity measure approach.

**Keywords**—Electric passenger car selection, multiple criteria decision making, proximity measure method, composite programming, entropic weight method.

## I. INTRODUCTION

The choice of a car is a very important task for the customer because an electric passenger car is one of the essential demands for passenger transportation in real life environment. The quality of the electric passenger automobile varies depending on the evaluation criteria. Customers are looking for the best electric passenger car they can find in terms of evaluation criteria [1-9].

When a customer buys a compact electric passenger car for everyday use, there are countless areas of problems and uncertainties. Customers should choose which model electric passenger car to buy when making a purchasing decision. Also, customers should choose an electric passenger car based on the company's apparent value, product cost, product maintenance cost, product resale value, etc. It is normal for various customers to have different opinions about choosing an electric passenger car during the decision-making process. When choosing an electric passenger car, evaluation criteria such as price, boot volume, service costs, fuel/energy consumption, acceleration, such as safety, performance, economic aspect, exterior, convenience, dealer, warranty and emissions are considered [10-11].

An online questionnaire is used to follow the ranking set procedure to shortlist the evaluation criteria. Customers are asked to evaluate the list of factors/criteria that are very important to customers when choosing an electric passenger car. Each customer then assigns importance weights to the attributes listed in the online survey. Five important criteria, namely range, battery, engine, maximum speed, and acceleration, were determined by reviewing the literature and considering the customer's criteria evaluating [10-11].

In the electric passenger car selection problem, the objective criteria weights were determined by the entropic

weight method. In the existing literature, there are many multiple criteria decision making (MCDM) methodologies such as Analytical Hierarchy Process, Fuzzy Set Theory, DEA, Preference Programming, Goal Programming, VIKOR, ELECTRE, PROMETHEE, and TOPSIS. Also, these MCDM techniques can be classified as compensatory and noncompensatory methodologies. Due to some limitations in classical MCDM approaches, modern MCDM techniques utilize fuzzy set theory and its extensions such as intuitionistic fuzzy sets and neutrosophic sets [12-66].

Considering the MCDM model, the MCDM problem consists of a set of  $m$  alternatives  $a_i = (a_1, \dots, a_i)$ , a set of  $n$  criteria  $g_j = (g_1, \dots, g_j)$ , and a set of  $n$  weights  $\omega_j = (\omega_1, \dots, \omega_j)$ ,  $\omega_j \geq 0$ ,  $\sum_{j=1}^J \omega_j = 1$ , reflecting the relative importance of every criterion in the dataset for the decision maker. In MCDM problem, the value of alternative  $a_i$  under criterion  $g_j$  is denoted as  $x_{ij}$ . In this way, an MCDM approach uses a decision matrix as input and outputs a ranking of the alternatives. The approaches often give each alternative a numerical score value, which makes it simple to determine a ranking [42-57].

The current study outlines the selection process for choosing the optimum electric passenger car utilizing a multiple attribute decision-making method, specifically the technique for ranking preferences according to how closely they resemble the ideal solution based on various evaluation attributes. In this MCDM problem, there are ten options, and five factors are considered while choosing an electric passenger automobile. The proposed method aids in decision making process to overcome the complexity involved in the MCDM problem.

The rest of the paper is set up as follows: The composite programming model is then presented in Section 2. The proposed approach is used to address the problem of multiple criteria decision-making in Section 3. The paper concludes by outlining its findings, its limits, and its suggestions for future study.

## II. METHODOLOGY

### A. Entropic Weight Method (EWM)

An objective way to determine attribute weights is to use the entropic weight approach. Entropy is a concept that determine the essential information and usable information of a given dataset. Entropy theory states that a criterion's information entropy is low if the value of the criterion among

the alternatives under consideration differs significantly. More pertinent facts about the supplied dataset are provided by a criterion with low information entropy, and vice versa.

As a result, the criteria's weights should be provided in the information entropy's inverse order, meaning that a criterion with low information entropy should have a high weight and vice versa. The measured value of the  $j$ th factor in the  $i$ th sample is recorded as  $x_{ij}$  in this approach, which uses  $J$  factors and  $I$  sample for the evaluation. The exact steps to put this method into practice are as follows [67-71]:

Step 1. The normalization of measured values is the initial stage. The method used to calculate the  $j$ th factor's standardized value in the  $i$ th sample is designated as  $p_{ij}$ :

$$p_{ij} = \frac{x_{ij}}{\sum_{i=1}^I x_{ij}} \quad (1)$$

Step 2. The entropy value  $E_j$  of the  $j$ th factor is defined as

$$E_j = -\frac{\sum_{i=1}^I p_{ij} \ln p_{ij}}{\ln I} \quad (2)$$

In the actual evaluation using the EWM,  $p_{ij} \ln p_{ij} = 0$ , is generally set when  $p_{ij} = 0$  for the convenience of calculation.

The range of entropy value  $E_j$  is  $[0, 1]$ . The larger the  $E_j$  is, the greater the differentiation degree of factor  $J$  is, and more information can be derived. Hence, a higher weight should be given to the factor.

Step 3. The calculation method of entropic weight ( $\omega_j$ ) is given by

$$\omega_j = \frac{1 - E_j}{\sum_{j=1}^J (1 - E_j)} \quad (3)$$

### B. Composite Programming Method

Suppose that multiple criteria decision making analysis problem has  $I$  alternatives  $a_i = (a_1, \dots, a_i)$ ,  $i \in \{1, \dots, I\}$ , and  $J$  criteria  $g_j = (g_1, \dots, g_j)$ ,  $j \in \{1, \dots, J\}$ , and the importance weight of each criterion ( $\omega_j$ ,  $j \in \{1, \dots, J\}$ ) is defined. The composite programming method is performed according to the following procedural steps:

Step 1. Constructing the decision matrix  $X = [x_{ij}]_{I \times J}$

MCDM Model	$\omega_1$	$\omega_2$	$\dots$	$\omega_j$	$\dots$	$\omega_n$
	$g_1$	$g_2$	$\dots$	$g_j$	$\dots$	$g_n$
$a_1$	$x_{11}$	$x_{12}$	$\dots$	$x_{1j}$	$\dots$	$x_{1n}$
$a_2$	$x_{21}$	$x_{22}$	$\dots$	$x_{2j}$	$\dots$	$x_{2n}$
$\dots$	$\dots$	$\dots$	$\dots$	$\dots$	$\dots$	$\dots$
$a_i$	$x_{i1}$	$x_{i2}$	$\dots$	$x_{ij}$	$\dots$	$x_{in}$
$\dots$	$\dots$	$\dots$	$\dots$	$\dots$	$\dots$	$\dots$
$a_m$	$x_{m1}$	$x_{m2}$	$\dots$	$x_{mj}$	$\dots$	$x_{mn}$

Step 2. Normalizing the decision matrix  $N = [n_{ij}]_{I \times J}$ . The decision matrix of the alternatives is normalized using the vector normalization scale.

$$n_{ij} = \frac{x_{ij}}{\sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^I x_{ij}^2}}, j \in B; n_{ij} = 1 - \frac{x_{ij}}{\sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^I x_{ij}^2}}, j \in C \quad (5)$$

where  $B$  represents a criterion as large as possible,  $C$  represents a criterion as small as possible.

Step 3. Computing the weighted product value ( $\phi_i$ )

$$\phi_i = \left( \prod_{j=1}^J n_{ij}^{\omega_j} \right)^{1/J} \quad (6)$$

where alternatives are ranked in descending order of rank according to the weighted product measure value ( $\phi_i$ ).

Step 4. Computing the weighted normalized value  $Z = [z_{ij}]_{I \times J}$

$$z_{ij} = \omega_j n_{ij} \quad (7)$$

Step 5. Computing the weighted sum value ( $\varphi_i$ )

$$\varphi_i = \sum_{j=1}^J \omega_j n_{ij} \quad (8)$$

where alternatives are ranked in descending order of rank according to the weighted sum measure value ( $\varphi_i$ ).

Step 6. Determining the dispersion value ( $\pi_{ij}$ ) from the ideal solution

$$\pi_{ij} = \begin{cases} z_j^{\max} - z_{ij}, & j \in B \left\{ \max_j z_{ij} \right\} \\ z_{ij} - z_j^{\min}, & j \in C \left\{ \min_j z_{ij} \right\} \end{cases} \quad (9)$$

where  $B$  represents a criterion as large as possible,  $C$  represents a criterion as small as possible.

Step 7. Computing proximity measure value ( $\theta_i$ ) which is the algebraic sum of dispersion

$$\theta_i = \sum_{j=1}^J \pi_{ij} \quad (10)$$

where alternatives are ranked in ascending order of rank according to the proximity measure value ( $\theta_i$ ).

Step 8. Computing composite programming value ( $\gamma_i$ ) which is the compromise solution

$$\gamma_i = \lambda \phi_i + (1 - \lambda) \phi_j \quad (11)$$

where  $\lambda = 0, 0.1, \dots, 1$ . In the composite programming method, a joint optimality criterion is sought based on two optimality criteria. Feasible alternatives are now ranked according to their ( $\gamma_i$ ) values, and the best alternative has the highest ( $\gamma_i$ ) value.

When  $\lambda$  value is 0, composing programming method turns into weighted product model, when  $\lambda$  value is 1, it becomes weighted sum method. It is applied in solving MCDM problems to increase the ranking accuracy and has the capability to achieve the highest prediction accuracy.

### III. APPLICATION

In this section, the proposed entropic composite programming approach is applied to the electric passenger car selection problem. The alternatives and decision criteria for the selection of an electric passenger car were obtained after the thorough review of the literature and online customer survey.

Range (kilometers) ( $g_1$ ), battery (kilowatt-hours) ( $g_2$ ), engine (horse power) ( $g_3$ ), maximum speed (kilometers per hour) ( $g_4$ ), and acceleration (0–100 km/s) ( $g_5$ ) are the five evaluation factors for making a decision in the MCDM selection problem.

In the MCDM problem,  $B$  (benefit) represents a criterion as large as possible,  $C$  (cost) represents a criterion as small as possible.  $B$  (benefit) criteria are range, battery, engine, and maximum speed attributes.  $C$  (cost) criterion is acceleration attribute. The double-engine electric car alternatives are listed in the initial decision-making matrix as shown in Table 1.

Table 1. Initial decision-making matrix

Alternatives	Decision criteria				
	Range (km)	Battery (kWh)	Engine (HP)	MaxSpeed (km/h)	Acceleration (0-100km/s)
Electric SUVs					
TOGG C-SUV	500	90	400	180	4,8
Mercedes EQC 400 4MATIC	462	80	408	180	5,1
Tesla Model Y Performance	480	80	456	241	3,7
Audi Q4 E-tron	390	77	295	180	5,8
BMW iX3	460	80	286	180	6,8
Jaguar I-Pace EV400	470	90	400	200	4,8
Ford Mustang Mach-E AWD Extended Range	540	98,8	351	180	4,8
Hyundai Ioniq 5	481	77,4	325	185	5,1
Kia EV6 Long Range AWD	506	77,4	325	187	5,2
Toyota bZ4X AWD	470	72,8	217	180	7,7

The objective criteria weights determined by the entropic weight method are given in Table 2.

Table 2. Entropic weights of decision criteria

	Decision criteria				
	Range (km)	Battery (kWh)	Engine (HP)	MaxSpeed (km/h)	Acceleration (0-100km/s)
$E_j$	0,999	0,998	0,992	0,998	0,992
$1 - E_j$	0,001	0,002	0,008	0,002	0,008
$\omega_j$	0,061	0,082	0,388	0,086	0,383

The priority vector of decision criteria is determined by the EWM as follows :  $g_1 \prec g_2 \prec g_4 \prec g_5 \prec g_3$ . Therefore, engine (HP) criterion ( $g_3$ ) is assigned the highest priority in the selection problem. The second important criterion is acceleration (0-100 km/s) ( $g_5$ ), and the range (km) ( $g_1$ ) is given the least amount of weight for the decision criteria. The graphical representation of criteria weights is shown in Fig. 1.

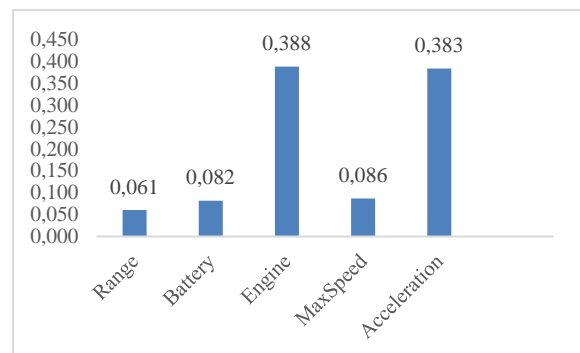


Fig. 1 Graphical representation of priority vector of evaluation criteria

The normalization of the measured values of the initial decision matrix is given in Table 3.

Table 3. Normalized decision-making matrix

Options	Decision criteria				
	$g_1$	$g_2$	$g_3$	$g_4$	$g_5$
$a_1$	0,331	0,344	0,359	0,299	0,723
$a_2$	0,306	0,306	0,366	0,299	0,706
$a_3$	0,318	0,306	0,409	0,401	0,787
$a_4$	0,258	0,294	0,264	0,299	0,666
$a_5$	0,305	0,306	0,256	0,299	0,608
$a_6$	0,311	0,344	0,359	0,333	0,723
$a_7$	0,358	0,378	0,315	0,299	0,723
$a_8$	0,319	0,296	0,291	0,308	0,706
$a_9$	0,335	0,296	0,291	0,311	0,700
$a_{10}$	0,311	0,278	0,194	0,299	0,556

Table 6. Proximity measure values ( $\theta_i$ )

Options	Decision criteria				
	$g_1$	$g_2$	$g_3$	$g_4$	$g_5$
$a_1$	0,002	0,003	0,019	0,009	0,936
$a_2$	0,003	0,006	0,017	0,009	0,943
$a_3$	0,002	0,006	0,000	0,000	0,912
$a_4$	0,006	0,007	0,056	0,009	0,958
$a_5$	0,003	0,006	0,059	0,009	0,980
$a_6$	0,003	0,003	0,019	0,006	0,936
$a_7$	0,000	0,000	0,037	0,009	0,936
$a_8$	0,002	0,007	0,046	0,008	0,943
$a_9$	0,001	0,007	0,046	0,008	0,945
$a_{10}$	0,003	0,008	0,083	0,009	1,000

The weighted product values are given in Table 4.

Table 4. Normalized weighted product values ( $\phi_i$ )

Options	Decision criteria				
	$g_1$	$g_2$	$g_3$	$g_4$	$g_5$
$a_1$	0,935	0,916	0,672	0,901	0,883
$a_2$	0,930	0,907	0,677	0,901	0,875
$a_3$	0,932	0,907	0,707	0,924	0,912
$a_4$	0,921	0,905	0,597	0,901	0,856
$a_5$	0,930	0,907	0,590	0,901	0,827
$a_6$	0,931	0,916	0,672	0,910	0,883
$a_7$	0,939	0,923	0,638	0,901	0,883
$a_8$	0,933	0,905	0,620	0,904	0,875
$a_9$	0,936	0,905	0,620	0,904	0,872
$a_{10}$	0,931	0,900	0,530	0,901	0,799

The weighted sum values are given in Table 5.

Table 5. Normalized weighted sum values ( $\varphi_i$ )

Options	Decision criteria				
	$g_1$	$g_2$	$g_3$	$g_4$	$g_5$
$a_1$	0,020	0,028	0,139	0,026	0,277
$a_2$	0,019	0,025	0,142	0,026	0,270
$a_3$	0,019	0,025	0,159	0,034	0,301
$a_4$	0,016	0,024	0,103	0,026	0,255
$a_5$	0,019	0,025	0,099	0,026	0,233
$a_6$	0,019	0,028	0,139	0,029	0,277
$a_7$	0,022	0,031	0,122	0,026	0,277
$a_8$	0,019	0,024	0,113	0,026	0,270
$a_9$	0,020	0,024	0,113	0,027	0,268
$a_{10}$	0,019	0,023	0,075	0,026	0,213

The proximity measure values are given in Table 6.

The comparison of ranking order of alternatives based on weighted product model ( $\phi_i$ ), weighted sum model ( $\varphi_i$ ) and proximity measure model ( $\theta_i$ ) are given in Table 7.

Table 7. Comparison of ranking order of alternatives

Options	Ranking orders of alternatives					
	$\phi_i$	Rank	$\varphi_i$	Rank	$\theta_i$	Rank
$a_1$	0,855	3	0,490	3	0,969	3
$a_2$	0,853	4	0,482	4	0,977	4
$a_3$	0,872	1	0,539	1	0,920	1
$a_4$	0,826	8	0,423	8	1,036	8
$a_5$	0,820	9	0,402	9	1,057	9
$a_6$	0,856	2	0,492	2	0,967	2
$a_7$	0,849	5	0,478	5	0,981	5
$a_8$	0,838	7	0,454	6	1,005	6
$a_9$	0,838	6	0,453	7	1,006	7
$a_{10}$	0,796	10	0,356	10	1,103	10

The correlation analysis of the ranking orders of weighted product model ( $\phi_i$ ), weighted sum model ( $\varphi_i$ ) and proximity measure model ( $\theta_i$ ) is given in Table 8.

Table 8. The correlation analysis of the ranking orders of weighted product model ( $\phi_i$ ), weighted sum model ( $\varphi_i$ ) and proximity measure model ( $\theta_i$ )

	$\phi_i$	$\varphi_i$	$\theta_i$
$\phi_i$	1		
$\varphi_i$	0,99	1	
$\theta_i$	0,99	1	1

The weighted sum model ( $\varphi_i$ ) and proximity measure model ( $\theta_i$ ) yield the same ranking pattern order of alternatives. The correlation coefficient between the weighted product model ( $\phi_i$ ) and the other two methods is

0,99. The alternative ( $a_3$ ) ranks first (1), the alternative ( $a_6$ ) ranks second (2), and the alternative ( $a_1$ ) ranks third in the compared methods. The composite programming approach was used in the MCDM problem to improve ranking accuracy and the capability to reach the maximum prediction accuracy. The findings are shown in Tables 9 and 10. The composite programming values are given in Table 9.

Table 9. Composite programming values ( $\theta_i$ )

$\lambda_i$	0	0,1	0,3	0,5	0,7	0,9	1
$a_1$	0,855	0,819	0,746	0,673	0,600	0,527	0,490
$a_2$	0,853	0,816	0,741	0,667	0,593	0,519	0,482
$a_3$	0,872	0,839	0,772	0,705	0,639	0,572	0,539
$a_4$	0,826	0,785	0,705	0,624	0,544	0,463	0,423
$a_5$	0,820	0,778	0,695	0,611	0,527	0,444	0,402
$a_6$	0,856	0,820	0,747	0,674	0,601	0,528	0,492
$a_7$	0,849	0,812	0,738	0,663	0,589	0,515	0,478
$a_8$	0,838	0,800	0,723	0,646	0,569	0,492	0,454
$a_9$	0,838	0,800	0,723	0,645	0,568	0,491	0,453
$a_{10}$	0,796	0,752	0,664	0,576	0,488	0,400	0,356

Finally, the ranking patterns of composite programming values are given in Table 10.

Table 10. Composite programming values ( $\gamma_i$ )

$\lambda_i$	0	0,1	0,3	0,5	0,7	0,9	1
$a_1$	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
$a_2$	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
$a_3$	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
$a_4$	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
$a_5$	9	9	9	9	9	9	9
$a_6$	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
$a_7$	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
$a_8$	7	7	6	6	6	6	6
$a_9$	6	6	7	7	7	7	7
$a_{10}$	10	10	10	10	10	10	10

Furthermore, the composite programming method is used to rank the electric passenger automobiles. In the form of a radar chart, Fig. 2 displays the rankings of various electric passenger cars based on the validity analysis.

Fig. 2 makes it clear that the disparity in ranks thus created is quite malleable. Therefore, it can be said that the combined MCDM techniques utilized in this research are effective at producing reliable ranks of electric passenger automobiles.

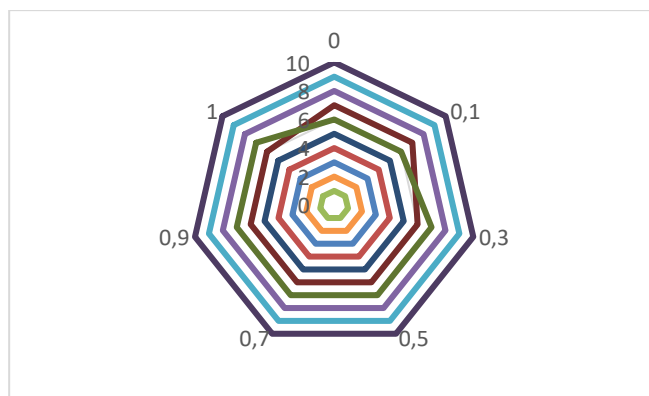


Fig. 2 Validity analysis results

The proposed method is put to the test using composite programming analysis, the weighted product method (WPM), the weighted sum method (WSM), and the proximity measure method (PMM).

Tesla Model Y Performance ( $a_3$ ) ranks first, Jaguar I-Pace EV400 ( $a_6$ ) ranks second, and TOGG C- SUV ( $a_1$ ) ranks third in the MCDM evaluation.

Even when identical dataset and criteria weights for the decision criteria are used, MCDM algorithms can produce different rankings of the alternatives. Different normalization scales can also produce different rankings of the alternatives. This is because each MCDM technique has a unique solution algorithm.

#### IV. CONCLUSION

The paper has made some contributions in the following areas. It proposes a comparative evaluation based on minimum deviation from optimal solution for the electric passenger cars utilizing proximity measure model:

(1) The proposed method considers a comparative MCDM analysis to consider the performance and characteristic values of electric passenger automobiles.

(2) The objective weights of criteria were determined by the entropic weight method.

(3) The composite programming technique between the weighted sum model and weighted products model is applied to improve ranking accuracy and the capability to reach the maximum prediction accuracy.

In MCDM analysis, five decision criteria are considered when evaluating the ten electric passenger car alternatives. Tesla Model Y Performance ( $a_3$ ) was found to be the top alternative, followed by the Jaguar I-Pace EV400 ( $a_6$ ) and the TOGG C- SUV ( $a_1$ ), according to the hybridized MCDM analysis.

The development of a novel method for multiple criteria decision-making was another goal of this study. It was intended to help the decision-maker in a decision problem involving the selection of an electric passenger car from a set of alternatives and several evaluation criteria.

To validate the findings, the ranking pattern of alternatives were examined and compared with three MCDM models and composite programming. The ranking outcomes demonstrate that the proposed method chooses the same electric passenger vehicle. Finally, the proposed approach can be used in a secure manner to address other complex engineering selection problems. The MCDM problem will eventually be considered within the continuous fuzzy information environment.

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