Project Management Methodology Selection Using SWOT-Fuzzy AHP

Nurgul DEMIRTAS, Umut Rıfat TUZKAYA, and Sukran SEKER

Abstract—In this study, outcomes of implementing the agile methodologies to software application development are discussed. An integrated multi-criteria decision making technique is used to obtain reliable results. Firstly, various criteria related with project management methodology are defined by using SWOT. Then selection criteria are specified and weighted by fuzzy AHP. These weights are used in fuzzy AHP technique to determine the precedencies of the alternative project management methodology.

Index Terms— Decision Making, Fuzzy AHP, Project Management Methodology, SWOT,

I. INTRODUCTION

Decision-making process starts from the birth and continues during the life of human. The event of election or a decision making process come into existence if there is a certain period in the solution of specific problems related features that can be used separately for the options [1]. Multi-criteria decision making methods are the methods that allow evaluating of many strategic and operational factors that can be measured and cannot be measured and at the same time they are the analytical methods that include many people into the decision-making process. To use these methods in the decision making process helps to the managers to evaluate alternatives and provides more efficient usage of resources [2].

Software applications have become critical importance and indispensable component of the business with the developing technology. Especially in the banking sector, product development processes begin with software application development. For this reason, successful product development processes are based on fast and highquality software development processes. A software development process is there to help us build and deliver high quality software to satisfy customer/market demands.

Waterfall models have been used for many years in the software development projects. However, alternative have been emerged. Agile software development is a new paradigm in information systems development that provides a way to organize complex multi-participant software development while accommodating constant project change. Agile software development is a group of software development methods based on iterative and incremental development.[3]

In this study, outcomes of implementing the agile and waterfall methodologies to software application development are discussed and compared in detail using Fuzzy AHP-SWOT. There are many important criteria that affect the methodology decisions like etc.

II. METHODOLOGY

A. SWOT

According to [4,5,6] SWOT analysis, which originates from the business management literature and was adopted in the 1980s by public administration across such areas as regional development and municipal planning [7]. SWOT analysis is a primer tool to the strategic planning process. There are four categories that are obtained in SWOT analysis: strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats. Force field analysis supplements SWOT analysis by identifying the forces driving the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats [8].

[9,10] present that SWOT analysis is a precursor for analyzing environments to obtain both a systematic approach and support for a decision situation [11].

[12], [13], [14] used SWOT-AHP technique in areas such as environment, [15] in tourism and [16] in project management. [17] presents a process of integrating competitive strength, the environment, and the firm's strategy. Speed of designing, developing and producing new and less costly products through IT investment has proved to help organizations gain competitive advantage. According to [18] they also added that a market oriented IT company should focus on services that will enhance the relationship with customers and suppliers in order to achieve firm's advantage [19].

B. Fuzzy AHP

Buckley's Fuzzy AHP method is used to fuzzify the hierarchical analysis by allowing fuzzy numbers for the pairwise comparisons and find the fuzzy weights [20].

Step 1 : Construct pairwise comparison matrices among all the elements/criteria in the dimensions of the hierarchy system. Assign linguistic terms to the pairwise comparisons by asking which is the more important of each two elements/criteria.

N.D is with the Department of Industrial Engineering, Yildiz Technical University, Besiktas Istanbul, 34349, Turkey

⁽e-mail:nurguldemirtas@gmail.com)

U. R. T is with the Department of Industrial Engineering, Yildiz Technical University, Besiktas Istanbul, 34349, Turkey(e-mail:tuzkaya@gmail.com)

S. S. is with the Department of Industrial Engineering, Yildiz Technical University, Besiktas Istanbul, 34349, Turkey(e-mail:seker.sukran@gmail.com)

Step 2 : To use geometric mean technique to define the fuzzy geometric mean and fuzzy weights of each criterion by Buckley[21] as follows:

$$\begin{split} \widetilde{r}_{i} &= \left(\widetilde{a}_{i1} \otimes \widetilde{a}_{12} \otimes ... \otimes \widetilde{a}_{in}\right)^{1/n}, \quad \widetilde{w}_{i} \\ &= \widetilde{r}_{i} \otimes \left(\widetilde{r}_{i} \oplus ... \oplus \widetilde{r}_{n}\right)^{-1}, \end{split}$$

where \tilde{a}_{in} is fuzzy comparison value of criterion i to criterion n, thus, \tilde{r}_i is geometric mean of fuzzy comparison value of criterion i to each criterion, \tilde{w}_i is the fuzzy weight of the *i*th criterion, can be indicated by a TFN, $\tilde{w}_i = (Lw_i, Mw_i, Uw_i)$. Here Lw_i, Mw_i and Uw_i stand for the lower, middle and upper values of the fuzzy weight of the *i*th criterion.

Step 3 : Take \tilde{E}_{ij}^{k} to indicate the fuzzy performance value of evaluator k towards alternative i under criterion j, and all of the evaluation criteria will be indicated by $\tilde{E}_{ij}^{k} = (LE_{ij}^{k}, ME_{ij}^{k}, UE_{ij}^{k})$.

$$\widetilde{\mathbf{E}}_{ij} = (1/m) \otimes (\widetilde{\mathbf{E}}_{ij}^1 \oplus \widetilde{\mathbf{E}}_{ij}^2 \oplus ... \oplus \widetilde{\mathbf{E}}_{ij}^m)$$
(2)

The end-point values LE_{ij} , ME_{ij} and UE_{ij} can be solved by the method put forward by Buckley, that is,

$$LE_{ij} = (\sum_{k=l}^{m} LE_{ij}^{k}) / m; \quad ME_{ij} = (\sum_{k=l}^{m} ME_{ij}^{k}) / m; \quad UE_{ij} = (\sum_{k=l}^{m} UE_{ij}^{k}) / m.$$
(3)

Step 4: The criteria weight vector $\widetilde{w} = (\widetilde{w}_1, ..., \widetilde{w}_j, ..., \widetilde{w}_n)^t$, The fuzzy performance matrix of each of the alternatives $\widetilde{E} = (\widetilde{E}_{ij})$. The final fuzzy synthetic decision matrix $\widetilde{R} = \widetilde{E} \circ \widetilde{w}$.

 $\tilde{R}_i = (LR_i, MR_i, UR_i)$, where LR_i , MR_i and UR_i are the lower, middle and upper synthetic performance values of the alternative i, that is:

$$LR_{i} = \sum_{j=l}^{n} LE_{ij} \times Lw_{j}; \quad MR_{i} = \sum_{j=l}^{n} ME_{ij} \times Mw_{j}; \quad UR_{i} = \sum_{j=l}^{n} UE_{ij} \times Uw_{j}.$$
(4)

Step 5 : The procedure of defuzzification is to locate the Best Non-fuzzy Performance value (BNP). To utilize the COA(Center of area) method to find out the BNP is a simple and practical method, and there is no need to bring in the preferences of any evaluators, so it is used in this study. The BNP value of the fuzzy number \tilde{R}_i can be found by the following equation:

 $BNP_{i} = [(UR_{i} - LR_{i}) + (MR_{i} - LR_{i})]/3 + LR_{i} \qquad \forall i.$ (5)

III. CASE STUDY

In this study we propose a methodology to select the most appropriate project management methodology for an International Bank IT department projects using a combination of SWOT matrix and Fuzzy AHP.

Our proposal is to structure a hierarchy for the project management methodology based on a SWOT study, and to use a quantitative technique to estimate a global value for each one of the project management methodologies.

The hierarchy for our problem has been structured in four levels, as we describe next. The first level, as usual, is the goal to be achieved by the decision; the next level is constituted by the four groups of attributes

as defined by the SWOT technique: Strengths (S), Weaknesses (W), Opportunities (O) and Threats (T); the third level is about the pairwise of attributes finally, alternatives evaluated.

We evaluated the Waterfall and Agile Methodology that are used to manage⁽¹⁾ IT software applications.

The number of main-criteria that we use to solve the problem is four and the number of sub-criteria is thirteen. The criteria are explained below:

Strengths: *Experience Skills In House (C1), Satisfied of Employees (C2), User Friendly (C3),Adaptability (C4), Management Control (C5)*

Weakneses: Project Team Adaptability (C6), Proposed Schedule (C7), Training Requirements (C8)

Opportunites: Trends (C9), requirements (C10)

Threats: replacement of project team (C11), Testing (C12), Product Definition (C13)

Firstly we determine the weights of main and sub-criteria by using the fuzzy AHP. In first stage, the pairwise comparisons of main and sub-criteria are made by experts. The pairwise comparison matrix is shown in the Table 1-Table 5

TABLE 1. THE MAIN-CRITERIA PAIRWISE COMPARISON MATRIX

Comparis on of main attribute	St	rengt	hs	We	akne	ses	Орј	portu	nites	Tł	Threats			
Strength s	1	1	1	4	5	6	2	3	4	2	3	4		
Weaknes ses	1/ 6	1/ 5	1/ 4	1	1	1	1/ 6	1/ 5	1/4	2	3	4		
Opportu nities	1/ 4	1/ 3	1/ 2	4	5	6	1	1	1	2	3	4		
Threats	1/ 4 (4)	1/ 3	1/ 2	1/ 4	1/ 3	1/ 2	1/ 4	1/ 3	1/2	1	1	1		

TABLE 2. THE SUB-CRITERIA OF STRENGTHS PAIRWISE COMPARISON MATRIX

sub attribute		С	C2 C3			C4			C5						
C1	1	1	1	2	3	4	2	3	4	1 / 4	1 / 3	1 / 2	1 / 4	1/3	1/2
C2	1 / 4	1 / 3	1/2	1	1	1	1 / 6	1 / 5	1 / 4	1 / 6	1 / 5	1 / 4	1 / 6	1/5	1/4
C3	1 / 4	1 / 3	1/2	4	5	6	1	1	1	1 / 4	1 / 3	1 / 2	1 / 4	1/3	1/2
C4	2	3	4	4	5	6	2	3	4	1	1	1	2	3	4
C5	2	3	4	4	5	6	2	3	4	1 / 4	1 / 3	1 / 2	1	1	1

TABLE 3. THE SUB-CRITERIA OF WEAKNESSES

		PA	IRWIS	SE COI	MPAR	ISON I	MATR	IX		
sub attribute	C6				C7		C8			
C6	1	1	1	1/6	1/5	1/4	1/4	1/3	1/2	
C7	4	5	6	1	1	1	4	5	6	
C8	2	3	4	1/6	1/5	1/4	1	1	1	

TABLE 4. THE SUB-CRITERIA OF OPPORTUNITIES

	P/	AIR WIS	E COMP	ARISOI	N MATR	XL
sub attribute	C9 C10					
С9	1	1	1	1/4	1/3	1/2
C10	2	3	4	1	1	1

TABLE 5. THE SUB-CRITERIA OF THREATS

		F	PAIRW	VISE C	OMPA	RISON	N		
sub attribute		C11			C12			C13	
C11	1	1	1	1/4	1/3	1/2	1/6	1/5	1/4
C12	2	3	4	1	1	1	1/4	1/3	1/2
C13	4	5	6	2	3	4	1	1	1

The pairwise comparison matrix of alternatives is shown in the Table 6-Table 13

TABLE 6. PAIRWISE COMPARISONS OF ALTERNATIVES WITH RESPECT TO SUB-ATTRIBUTE $C1 \label{eq:comparison}$

Strengths-Experience Skills In House		v	Vaterfa	Agile			
1	Waterfall	1	1	1	2	3	4
2	Agile	1/4	1/3	1/2	1	1	1

 TABLE 7. PAIRWISE COMPARISONS OF ALTERNATIVES

 WITH RESPECT TO SUB-ATTRIBUTE -C2

9	Strengths-Satisfied of Employees	v	Vaterfa	Agile			
1	Waterfall	1	1	1	1/6	1/5	1/4
2	Agile	4	5	6	1	1	1

TABLE 8. PAIRWISE COMPARISONS OF ALTERNATIVES WITH RESPECT TO SUB-ATTRIBUTE -C3

Si	Strengths-User Friendly		Vaterfa	Agile			
1	Waterfall	1	1	1	1/4	1/3	1/2
2	Agile	2	3	4	1	1	1

TABLE 9. PAIRWISE COMPARISONS OF ALTERNATIVES WITH RESPECT TO SUB-ATTRIBUTE -C4

	WINIKESTEET TO SOD ATTRIBUTE C4										
S	Strengths-Adaptability		W	aterfall	Agile						
1	Waterfall	1	1	1	1/4	1/3	1/2				
2	Agile	2	3	1/4	1	1	1				

TABLE 10. PAIRWISE COMPARISONS OF ALTERNATIVES WITH RESPECT TO SUB-ATTRIBUTE-C5

S	Strengths-Management Control		Vaterfa	Agile			
1	Waterfall	1	1	1	1/4	1/3	1/2
2	Agile	2	3	4	1	1	1

TABLE 11. PAIRWISE COMPARISONS OF ALTERNATIVES WITH RESPECT TO SUB-ATTRIBUTE -C6

	SUB-ATTRIBUTE -CU											
Pr	Project Team Adaptability		Vaterfa	II	Agile							
1	Waterfall	1	1	1	4	5	6					
2	Agile	1/6	1/5	1/4	1	1	1					

Table 12. Pairwise comparisons of alternatives with respect to sub-attribute $-\mathrm{C7}$

1	Proposed Schedule	Waterfall Agile					
1	Waterfall	1	1	1	2	3	4
2	Agile	1/4	1/3	1/2	1	1	1

TABLE 13. PAIRWISE COMPARISONS OF ALTERNATIVES WITH RESPECT TO

		SUB-A	TTRIBU	TE – C8						
Tre	aining Requirements	v	Vaterfa	II	Agile					
1	Waterfall	1	1	1	4	5	6			
2	Agile	1/6	1/5	1/4	1	1	1			

Table 14. Pairwise comparisons of alternatives with respect to sub-attribute -C9

	Trends	>	VaterFa	II	Agile					
1	WaterFall	1	1	1	1/6	1/5	1/4			
2	Agile	4	5	6	1	1	1			

Table 15. Pairwise comparisons of alternatives with respect to sub-attribute $-C10\,$

	Requirements	v	Vaterfa	II	Agile				
1	Waterfall	1	1	1	2	3	4		
2	Agile	1/4	1/3	1/2	1	1	1		

TABLE 16. PAIRWISE COMPARISONS OF ALTERNATIVES WITH RESPECT TO

R	eplace of project team	v	Vaterfa	Agile				
1	Waterfall	1	1	1	2	3	4	
2	Agile	1/4	1/3	1/2	1	1	1	

 TABLE 17. PAIRWISE COMPARISONS OF ALTERNATIVES WITH RESPECT TO

 SUB-ATTRIBUTE -C12

	Testing	v	Vaterfa	Agile				
1	Waterfall	1	1	1	1/8	1/7	1/6	
2	Agile	6	7	8	1	1	1	

TABLE 18. PAIRWISE COMPARISONS OF ALTERNATIVES WITH RESPECT TO

		SUB-ATTRIBUTE – C13								
	Product Definition	v	Agile							
1	Waterfall	1	1	1	2	3	4			
2	Agile	1/4	1/3	1/2	1	1	1			

After comparisons, the Buckley's fuzzy AHP methodology is applied and the criteria weights are calculated. The detailed results are shown in Table 19-Table 21.

	C1						St	ren	gths						
		C1			C2			C3			C4			C5	
	(),10	6	0	,03	1	0),07	6	0	,270)	(),171	7
	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2	;	,	;	;	,	;	,	,	;	,	,	;	,	,
	5 2	7 5	0 4	1 3	1 6	2 0	1	2 5	3 6	4	2 5	3 6	1 8	2 5	3 6
Wate rFall	2	5 0	4 5	3 8	6 7	8	8 5	5 0	0 9	4	5 0	0 9	8 5	5 0	0 9
Tran	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	4	0	9	5	0	9
	~	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,	Ŭ	~	0,	0,	1,
	, 1	,2	, 3	, 6	, 8	, 0	, 5	, 7	, 0	1	, 7	, 2	5	7	0
	8	5	6	7	3	1	2	5	4	7	5	6	2	5	4
Agile	5	0	9	8	3	7	2	0	5	2	0	1	2	0	5
BEST	5 0 9														
NON-															
FUZ															
ZY															
NUM															
BER															
(BNP															
)- AGIL															
E	6),26	Q	ſ),843	2	0,772			0,728			0,772		
BEST	, c	,20	0	C	,04.	5	C	,,,,,	2	0	,720	,	(), / / 2	<u>_</u>
NON-															
FUZ															
ZY															
NUM															
BER															
(BNP															
)-															
WAT															
ERF			~		. 1.7				2	_	2.4.5				
ALL	(),77	2	0),17	1	0),268	8	0	,345	5	(),268	3

TABLE 19. THE CRITERIA WEIGHTS OF STRENGTHS FOUND BY FUZZY AHP

TABLE 20. THE CRITERIA WEIGHTS OF WEAKNESSES AND OPPORTUNITIES FOUND BY FUZZY AHP

		V	Vea	akn	ess	es				(Opj	por	tuni	itie	5
	C	6			C7			C8			C9		•	C1()
	L	Μ	U	L	М	U	L	Μ	U	L	Μ	U	L	Μ	U
Fuzzy Weights of Main Attribute	0,077	0, 1 1 5	0 , 1 7 6	0 , 0 7 7	0 , 1 1 5	0 , 1 7 6	0 , 0 7 7	0 , 1 1 5	0 , 1 7 6	0 , 1 8 9	0 , 2 9 2	0 , 4 6 2	0 , 1 8 9	0 , 2 9 2	0 , 4 6 2
Fuzzy Weights of Sub Attribute	0,072	0, 0 9 7	0 , 1 4 0	0 , 5 2 5	0 , 7 0 1	0 , 9 2 8	0 , 1 4 4	0 ,2 0 2	0 , 2 8 1	0 , 1 8 5	0 , 2 5 0	0 , 3 6 9	0 , 5 2 2	0 ,7 5 0	1 , 0 4 5
Fuzzy Importance Degrees	0,006	0, 0 1 1	0 , 0 2 5	0 , 0 4 0	0 , 0 8 1	0 , 1 6 3	0 , 0 1 1	0 , 0 2 3	0 , 0 4 9	0 ,0 3 5	0 , 0 7 3	0 , 1 7 1	0 , 0 9 9	0 , 2 1 9	0 ,4 8 3
BEST NON- FUZZY NUMBER (BNP)	0,0	14		0	,09	5	0	,02	8	0	,09	3	0	,26	7

TABLE 21. THE CRITERIA WEIGHTS OF THREATS FOUND BY FUZZY AHP

				Т	hrea	ts			
		C11			C12			C13	
	L	М	U	L	Μ	U	L	Μ	U
Fuzzy Weights of Main Attribute	0, 05 6	0, 08 6	0, 14 8	0, 05 6	0, 08 6	0, 14 8	0, 05 6	0, 08 6	0, 14 8
Fuzzy Weights of Sub Attribute	0, 07 5	0, 10 5	0, 15 9	0, 17 1	0, 25 8	0, 40 1	0, 43 1	0, 63 7	0, 91 9
Fuzzy Importance Degrees	0, 00 4	0, 0, 0, 00 00 02		0, 01 0	0, 02 2	0, 05 9	0, 02 4	0, 05 5	0, 13 6
BEST NON-FUZZY NUMBER (BNP)		0,012	2		0,030)	0,071		

If an attribute on the left is more important than the one matching on the right, put your check mark to the left of the importance "equal" under the importance level you prefer. If an attribute on the left is less important than the one matching on the right, put your check mark to the right of the importance 'Equal' under the importance level you prefer.

The results of evaluating alternatives are shown in Table 22-Table 25.

							Str	eng	ths						
		C1			C2			C3			C4			C5	
	L	Μ	U	L	Μ	U	L	Μ	U	L	Μ	U	L	Μ	U
FUZZY															
WEIG	0,	0,	0,	0,	0,	0,	0,	0,	0,	0,	0,	0,	0,	0,	0,
HTS OF	3	5	7	3	5	7	3	5	7	3	5	7	3	5	7
MAIN	1	0	7	1	0	7	1	0	7	1	0	7	1	0	7
ATTRI	8	7	7	8	7	7	8	7	7	8	7	7	8	7	7
BUTE															
FUZZY															
WEIG	0,	0,	0,	0,	0,	0,	0,	0,	0,	0,	0,	0,	0,	0,	0,
HTS OF	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	4	6	0	1	2
SUB	9	5	6	3	4	7	7	1	9	4	1	7	9	5	6
ATTRI	4	6	9	2	8	7	1	1	2	7	6	0	4	6	9
BUTE															
FUZZY	0,	0.	0,	0,	0,	0,	0,	0.	0,	0.	0,	0,	0,	0,	0,
IMPOR	0,	0,	2	0	0	0,	0,	0,	1	0	2	5	0	0	2
TANCE	3	7	0	1	2	6	2	5	4	7	1	2	3	7	0
DEGRE	0	9	9	0	4	0	3	6	9	8	1	0	0	9	9
ES	Ŭ	<i></i>	<i></i>	Ŭ		Ŭ	2	Ŭ	Ĺ	Ŭ	-	Ŭ	Ŭ	<i></i>	<u>́</u>
BEST															
NON-															
FUZZ															
Y															
NUM															
BER	0.106 0.021									~					
(BNP)	0,106 0,031			l	(),070	5	(),27()	(),177	7		

TABLE 22. EVALUATION OF ALTERNATIVES FOR STREBGTHS

TABLE 23. EVAULATION OF ALTERNATIVES FOR WEAKNESES

				Т	hrea	ts				
		C11			C12			C13		
		0,012	,		0,030)	0,071			
		0,	1,	0,	0,	0,	0,	0,	1,	
	0,5	75	04	10	12	14	52	75	04	
WaterFall	22	0	5	9	5	6	2	0	5	
	0,1	0,2	0,3	0,7	0,8	1,0	0,1	0,2	0,3	
Agile	85	50	69	57	75	09	85	50	69	
BEST										
NON-										
FUZZY										
NUMBER										
(BNP)-										
AGILE	0,26	8		0,88	0		0,268			
BEST										
NON-										
FUZZY										
NUMBER										
(BNP)-										
WATERF										
ALL	0,77	2		0,12	7		0,77	2		

TABLE 24. EVALUATION OF ALTERNATIVES FOR OPPORTUNITIES

			V	Veakı	nes	es			
	(6		C7	1		C	:8	
	0,0)14		0,09	95		0,0	028	
					0				
					,				
		0, 75	1, 04	0,	7	1,	0,	0,	1,
		52	5	04	67	83	01		
WaterFall	0,522	2	0	5	8	3	7		
					0				
		0,		0,	2		0,		
		25	0,3	18	5	0,3	13	0,1	0,2
Agile	0,185	0	69	5	0	69	8	67	08
BEST									
NON-									
FUZZY									
NUMBER									
(BNP) -									
AGILE	0,2	268		0,26	58		0,1	71	
BEST									
NON-									
FUZZY									
NUMBER									
(BNP)-									
WATERFA									
LL	0,7	772		0,77	12		0,8	343	

TABLE 25. EVALUATION OF ALTERNATIVES FOR THREATS

	Opportunities					
	С9			C10		
	0,093			0,267		
Waterfall	0,138	0,167	0,208	0,522	0,750	1,045
Agile	0,678	0,833	1,017	0,185	0,250	0,369
BEST NON-						
FUZZY						
NUMBER						
(BNP)-AGILE	0,843			0,268		
BEST NON-						
FUZZY						
NUMBER						
(BNP)-						
WATERFALL	0,171			0,772		

According to results, Agile which has the highest value with 0,68 is selected as the most appropriate project management methodology.

IV. CONCLUSION

Project management methodology is very important for IT Departments. In this study, we have presented multi criteria decision making problems based on fuzzy sets by combining SWOT with AHP techniques to select the most effective project management methodology for software development department in an international bank. Two-stage fuzzy decision making technique has been used for the decision. In the first stage, criteria have been defined using SWOT. In the second stage the most effective project management methodology, Agile, has been selected by applying weighted fuzzy AHP.

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