




**Multicriteria Decision Making in Supply Chain Management**  
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Indian Institute of Science  
Bangalore, India  
March 12-13, 2015



**Agenda**

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**Symposium Themes**

- Multiple Criteria Decision Making (MCDM)
- Supply Chain Engineering (SCE)
- Health Systems
- Analytics
- Teaching Decision Sciences

**Symposium Organizers**

**My former PhD students**

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## Multicriteria Decision Making (MCDM) An Overview




- MCDM Basics
- MCDM Difficulties
- Basic MCDM Concepts
- MCDM Classification
- Multi Criteria Selection Problems
- Multi Criteria Mathematical Programming Methods

## MCDM Basics



- Most optimization models are based on single objective, such as, minimize cost or maximize profit
- In the real world, decisions are based on multiple and conflicting objectives.
- How to compare “apples” and “oranges”?
- In MCDM, decision alternatives are measured by several conflicting criteria. The problem is to choose the best alternative.


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## **MCDM Difficulties**

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- ❑ No optimal solution
- ❑ Not possible to compare two solutions objectively
- ❑ Need to involve the Decision Maker (DM) – one of the rare areas of Operations Research, where the DM plays a key role during the solution process!

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## **Basic MCDM Concepts**

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- ❑ Ideal Solution: Best values achievable for each objective ignoring other objectives!
- ❑ Dominated Solution: Possible to improve an objective without losing achievements on the other objectives
- ❑ Efficient/Non-dominated Solution: Can improve an objective only at the expense of at least one other objective

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## MCDM Classification

### 1. Multi Criteria Selection Problems (MCSP)

- Finite number of alternatives
- Alternatives measured by conflicting criteria
- Rank the alternatives from best to worst

#### Applications

- Buying a car, house, computer, etc.
- Ranking colleges (e.g: U.S. News)
- Supplier Selection under single sourcing


## MCDM Classification (continued)

### 2. Multi Criteria Mathematical Programming (MCMP) Problems

- Alternatives are defined by explicit constraints, resulting in infinite number of alternatives
- Several conflicting objective functions
- Determine the Best Compromise Solution

#### MCMP Applications

- Portfolio Optimization
- Quality Control
- Health Planning
- Project Management
- Supply Chain Network Design

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## Multi Criteria Selection Problems


### Ranking Methods

<input type="checkbox"/> Rating method	(Simplest)
<input type="checkbox"/> Pairwise Comparison/Borda Method	↓
<input type="checkbox"/> Analytic Hierarchy Process (AHP)	(Complex)

### Issues

- DM's cognitive burden
- DM's consistency
- Single or multiple DMs

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## Multi Criteria Mathematical Programming Methods

- Approaches that do not use any knowledge of DM's preferences
  - Compromise programming
- Approaches that use pre-specified preferences of the DM
  - Goal programming
- Interactive approaches that use progressively revealed preferences

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## Supply Chain Engineering (SCE)\*

Supply Chain Engineering emphasizes the design of the supply chain network and uses mathematical models and methods to determine the optimal strategies for managing the supply chain.

\*Ravindran and Warsing, *Supply Chain Engineering: Models and Applications*, CRC Press, 2013.

## U. S. Logistics Business (2014)

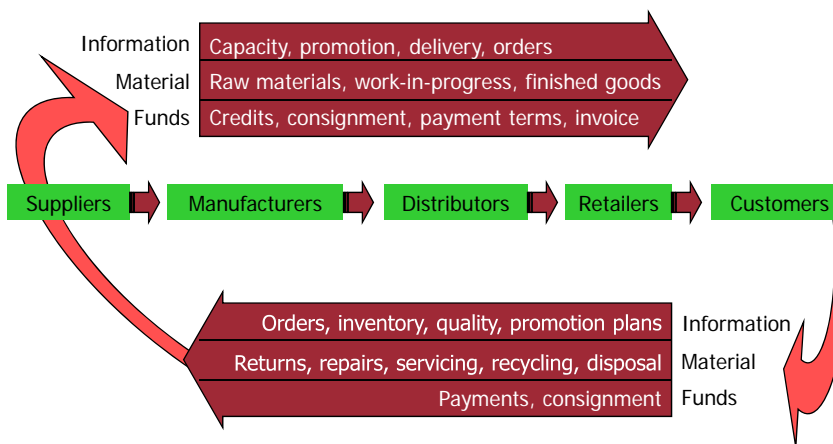
- ❑ \$1.3 trillion, accounts for 8.5% of US GDP
- ❑ Employs 6 million people
- ❑ Delivers daily 48 million tons of freight, worth \$48 billion
- ❑ Industry needs 1.4 million new supply chain workers by 2018
  - 270,000 per year
  - 8 jobs for each applicant!

## What is a Supply Chain

A Supply Chain Consists of:

- (1) A collection of locations that includes suppliers, manufacturers, distributors, retailers, and customers.
- (2) A connected set of activities concerned with planning, coordinating and controlling materials, parts, and finished goods from supplier to customer.

## Supply Chain Flows



Source: Adapted from Hau Lee, *SCMR*, Sep-Oct, 2000.



## **Key Activities in Supply Chain Engineering**

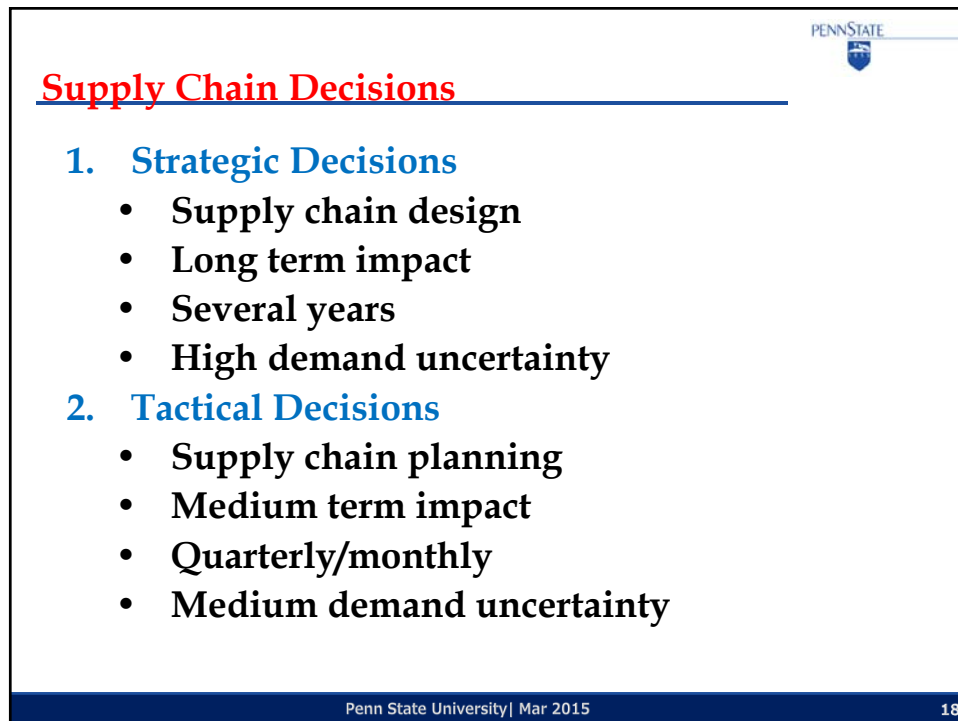
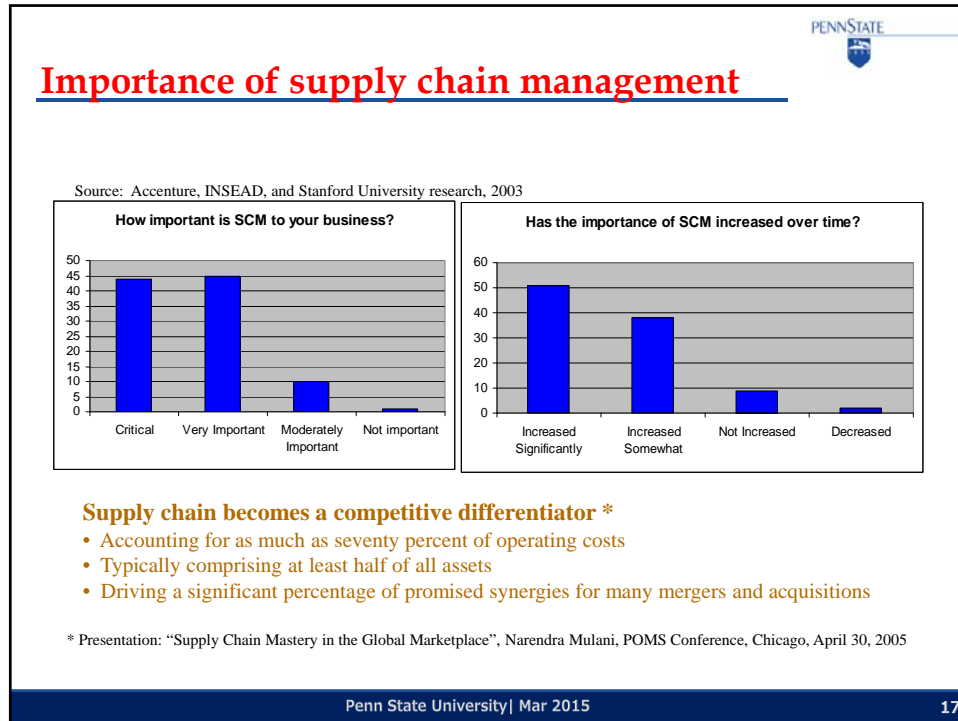
- Design of the supply chain network, namely the location of plants, DCs, etc.
- Procurement of raw materials and parts from suppliers to the plants
- Management of the production and inventory of finished goods to the customers




## **SCE Activities (continued)**

- Management of the transportation and the logistics network to deliver the final products to the warehouses and retailers
- Management of the integrity of the supply chain network by mitigating supply chain disruptions at all levels.






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## Supply Chain Decisions

### 3. Operational Decisions

- Supply chain operations
- Short term impact
- Weekly or daily
- Low demand uncertainty

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## Strategic Decision Examples

- Network design
  - Location of Factories, DCs
  - Capacity decisions
- Make/Buy
  - Internal
  - Outsource
  - Alliances/Partners
- IT System

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## Tactical Decisions Examples

- Purchasing/Production decisions
- Inventory policies
- Transportation strategies
- Distribution policies

## Examples of Operational Decisions

- Allocation of orders to inventory or production
- Set delivery schedules
- Place replenishment orders

## Conflicting Criteria in SCE

1. SC Efficiency
  - Make and deliver at low cost
2. SC Responsiveness
  - Deliver a variety of products quickly
  - Handle customization
  - High level of customer service
3. SC Risk
  - Hazard risks
  - Operational risks

## Top 25 Supply Chains (Gartner Rankings)

- ❑ Top 5 are Apple, McDonald's, Amazon, Unilever and Intel
- ❑ Attributes of supply chain leaders
  - Carry 15% less inventory
  - 60% faster-to-market
  - Complete 17% "more perfect" orders
  - Have 35% shorter cash-to-cash-cycle
  - 5% higher profit margins

## Contributions of my PhD students (1971 - 2015)

- ❑ 29 PhD dissertations completed
- ❑ 4 in progress
- ❑ Purdue (9), Oklahoma (7) and Penn State (13)
- ❑ Single objective optimization (5)
- ❑ Multiobjective optimization (24)
- ❑ MCDM in SCE (13)
  - All at Penn State (2001-2015)
  - Covered SC inventory control, network design, SC risk, supplier selection, SC sustainability

## Jeff Arthur (Purdue, 1977)

- Title: Contributions to the theory and applications of Goal Programming**
- ❑ Multiple objective optimization
  - ❑ Efficient algorithms for solving linear and integer goal programming problems
  - ❑ Use of "Partitioning" and "Variable Elimination" methods
  - ❑ Applied to Nurse Scheduling at the Indianapolis Medical center



### **P. Balasubramanian (Purdue, 1977)**

**Title: Optimal resource utilization in communicable disease control**

- Developed a dynamic growth and control model for syphilis
- Used “Black Box” optimization to evaluate cost-benefits of control programs to minimize disease incidence
- Applied to real world data for Chicago metro area
- Research is applicable now to control Ebola!



### **S. Sadagopan (Purdue, 1979)**

**Title: Multi-criteria mathematical programming – a unified interactive approach**

- Developed an interactive algorithm, called Pairwise Comparison Method (PCM), to solve bi-criteria nonlinear mathematical programming problems
- Applied to the U.S. Air Force Health Evaluation and Risk Tabulation (HEART) program to control heart disease among AF personnel.
- Use of simulation optimization method due to stochastic criterion



### **Wan-Seon Shin (Oklahoma, 1987)**

**Title: Interactive methods for multi-objective mathematical programming problems**

- Developed interactive methods to solve MCMP problems**
- Extended Sadagopan's method to more than two criteria**
- Applied to quality control problems**



### **Rodolfo Portillo (Penn State, 2008)**

**Title: Resilient global supply chain network design optimization**

- Developed multicriteria integer programming models for global supply chain network design**
- Applied to Kimberly Clark - Latin American Operations**
  - **KC - LAO sells products in 22 countries, with 21 manufacturing plants, 45 DCs, 100 customer zones and 22 branches.**
- Case study discussed in my Supply Chain Engineering text book**

## Ufuk Bilseel (Penn State, 2009)

**Title: Disruption and operational risk quantification models for outsourcing operations**

- ❑ **Mathematical models to quantify hazard risks and operational risks**
- ❑ **Use of extreme value distributions for hazard risk and Taguchi's loss functions for operational risks**
- ❑ **Multicriteria mixed integer programming models to select primary and back-up suppliers considering disruption risk**

## Most Recent Dissertations at Penn State

1. **Nok Kungwalsong (2013)**  
**"Managing disruption risks in global supply chains"**
2. **Subramanian Pazhani (2014)**  
**"Design of closed loop supply chain networks"**
3. **Aineth Torres (2015)**  
**"Multi-objective decision support system for sustainable supplier management"**