

Preference information in DEA models: Value Efficiency Analysis (VEA) method + an application

Matti Staudinger Presentation 14 12.11.2021

> MS-E2191 Graduate Seminar on Operations Research Fall 2021

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- 1. Recap of DEA
- 2. VEA method
- 3. Application
- 4. Summary



Decision Making Unit, DMU

- DMU_i takes inputs, x_i
- Produces outputs, **y**_i
- Each DMU has *m* inputs and *p* outputs
- X input measures of all DMUs, $\mathbf{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}_+$
- Y output measures of all DMUs, $\mathbf{Y} \in \mathbb{R}^{p imes n}_+$



CCR-DEA and BCC-DEA

Output-Oriented CCR Primal (CCF	R _P -0)	Output-Oriented CCR Dua	l (CCR _D -0)
$\max Z_O = \theta + \epsilon (1^{T} \mathbf{s}^+ + 1^{T} \mathbf{s}^-)$) ¹	min $W_O = \boldsymbol{\nu}^T \boldsymbol{x}_0$	
s.t. (2	2.1a)	s.t.	(2.1b)
$\mathbf{Y}\boldsymbol{\lambda} - \theta\boldsymbol{y}_{\scriptscriptstyle 0} - \boldsymbol{s}^{\scriptscriptstyle +} = \boldsymbol{0}$		$\boldsymbol{\mu}^{T} \boldsymbol{y}_{O} = \boldsymbol{1}$	
$X\lambda + s^- = x_0$		$-\boldsymbol{\mu}^{T}\mathbf{Y} + \boldsymbol{\nu}^{T}\mathbf{X} \ge \boldsymbol{0}^{T}$	
$oldsymbol{\lambda}, \; oldsymbol{s}^-, \; oldsymbol{s}^+ \geq oldsymbol{0}$		$\mu, \ \nu \geq \epsilon 1$	
$\epsilon > heta$ ("Non-Archimedean") 2		$\epsilon > 0$	
Output-Oriented BCC Primal (BCC	; _P -0)	Output-Oriented BCC Dual	(BCC _D -0)
$\max Z_{O} = \theta + \epsilon (1^{T} \mathbf{s}^{+} + 1^{T} \mathbf{s}^{-})$	-)	min $W_{O} = \boldsymbol{\nu}^{T} \boldsymbol{x}_{0} + \boldsymbol{u}$	
s.t. (2	2.2a)	s.t.	(2.2b)
$\boldsymbol{Y}\boldsymbol{\lambda}-\boldsymbol{\boldsymbol{\theta}}\boldsymbol{\boldsymbol{y}}_{\scriptscriptstyle 0}^{}-\boldsymbol{\boldsymbol{s}}^{+}=\boldsymbol{\boldsymbol{\theta}}$		$\boldsymbol{\mu}^{T} \boldsymbol{y}_{0} =$	- 1
$X\lambda + s^- = x_0$		$-\boldsymbol{\mu}^{T}\mathbf{Y} + \boldsymbol{\nu}^{T}\mathbf{X} + u\boldsymbol{1}^{T} \geq$	0 ^T
$1^{T}\mathbf{\lambda} = 1$		$\mu, \ u \geq \epsilon$ 1	
$oldsymbol{\lambda}, \; oldsymbol{s}^-, \; oldsymbol{s}^+ \geq oldsymbol{0}$		$\epsilon > 0$	
$\epsilon > 0$			

input oriented DEA



Source: Halme et at. (1999)



DMU and Efficiency, General model



A and b specify the set of feasible lambdas.

CCR-DEA
 $\lambda_i \ge 0$ **BCC-DEA**
 $\sum_{i=1}^{N_i=1}$
 $\lambda_i \ge 0$

Output-Oriented GEN Primal (GEN _P -C	0) Output-Oriented GEN Dual ((GEN _D -0)
$\max Z_O = \theta + \epsilon (1^T \mathbf{s}^+ + 1^T \mathbf{s}^-)$	min $W_{\rm O} = \nu^{\mathrm{T}} \boldsymbol{x}_{0} + \boldsymbol{u}^{\mathrm{T}} \boldsymbol{b}$	
s.t. (2.3a	a) s.t.	(2.3b)
$\mathbf{Y}\boldsymbol{\lambda} - \theta \boldsymbol{y}_{\scriptscriptstyle 0} - \boldsymbol{s}^{\scriptscriptstyle +} = \boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{\mu}^{T} \boldsymbol{y}_{0} =$	1
$X\lambda$ + $s^- = x_0$	$-\boldsymbol{\mu}^{T}\mathbf{Y} + \boldsymbol{\nu}^{T}\mathbf{X} + \boldsymbol{u}^{T}\mathbf{A} \geq$	0 ^T
A $\lambda \leq b$	$\mu, \nu \geq$ u \geq 0 ϵ 1	
λ , $m{s}^-$, $m{s}^+ \geq m{0}$	$\epsilon > 0$	
$\epsilon > 0$		

Source: Halme et at. (1999)

$$\Lambda = \{\lambda | \lambda \in \mathbb{R}^n_+, \ \mathbf{A}\lambda \leq \mathbf{b}\}$$
$$T = \{\mathbf{u} | \mathbf{u} = \mathbf{U}\lambda, \ \lambda \in \Lambda\}$$



DMU and Efficiency, General model

A DMU is efficient if at optimal solution $\theta^* = 1$ and all slack variable equal zero. Otherwise it is inefficient.

Output-Oriented GEN Primal (GEN_P-O) Output-Oriented GEN Dual (GEN_p-O) $\max Z_{O} = \theta + \epsilon (\mathbf{1}^{T} \mathbf{s}^{+} + \mathbf{1}^{T} \mathbf{s}^{-})$ min $W_{\Omega} = \nu^T \boldsymbol{x}_0 + \boldsymbol{u}^T \boldsymbol{b}$ s.t. (2.3a) s.t. (2.3b) $\mathbf{Y}\boldsymbol{\lambda} - \boldsymbol{\theta}\boldsymbol{y}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} - \boldsymbol{s}^{+} = \boldsymbol{\theta}$ $\mu^{T} y_{0}$ $-\boldsymbol{\mu}^{\mathsf{T}}\boldsymbol{\mathsf{Y}}+\boldsymbol{\nu}^{\mathsf{T}}\boldsymbol{\mathsf{X}}+\boldsymbol{u}^{\mathsf{T}}\boldsymbol{\mathsf{A}}\geq\boldsymbol{0}^{\mathsf{T}}$ $X\lambda$ + $s^- = x_0$ $A\lambda \leq b$ $\mu, \nu \geq u \geq 0 \epsilon 1$ λ , \boldsymbol{s}^{-} , $\boldsymbol{s}^{+} \geq \boldsymbol{0}$ $\epsilon > 0$ $\epsilon > 0$

Source: Halme et at. (1999)

Point $\mathbf{U}\lambda^* = \mathbf{u}^*$ Source: is efficient iff there does not exist another $\mathbf{u} \in T, \mathbf{u} \ge \mathbf{u}^*, \mathbf{u} \neq \mathbf{u}^*$



Data Envelopment Analysis, DEA

- Estimate the efficient frontier by measuring the relative efficiencies of the comparable DMUs
- Efficiency scores $\frac{|DMU_i|}{|DMU_i^*|}$ as performance indicators of DMUs
- DEA is value free
- How can we incorporate the preference of DM?



Source: Halme et at. (1999)



Most Preferred Solution, MPS

- MPS is the best input/output vector in DMs opinion. Such a vector is a convex combination of the input/output vectors of the DMUs under consideration.
- MPS, **u***, is a solution that is preferred to any other solution in T.
- MPS is assumed to be efficient.



Value Efficiency Analysis, VEA

- DM has an unknown value function $v(\mathbf{u})$
- Assist the DM to evaluate the value of each vector $\mathbf{u} = \begin{vmatrix} y \\ -x \end{vmatrix} \in T$

Assumptions:

- DM is able to come up with MPS, **u**^{*}
- v is strictly increasing (increasing in y and decreasing in x)
- v obtains its maximum value $v(\mathbf{u}^*)$ at \mathbf{u}^*
- v is pseudoconcave



VEA visually

- DMU_0^{VA} not possible to find
- DMU_0^{VE} is the approximation
- DMU_0^T is what we got with DEA
- Value efficiency score:

 $|\mathrm{DMU}_0 - \mathrm{DMU}_0^{\mathrm{VE}}|$ $|O - DMU_0|$

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- How can we find the approximation?
 - -> Tangent hyperplane



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Value Efficiency and weighted true Value Efficiency score

u is Value Efficient iff $v(\mathbf{u}) \ge v(\mathbf{u}^*)$, otherwise it is Value Inefficient.

Weighted true Value Efficiency score: $E_t^w(\mathbf{u}^0) = \gamma^t$

If $\gamma > 0$, point \mathbf{u}^0 is truely Value Inefficient If $\gamma = 0$, point \mathbf{u}^0 is Value Efficient If $\gamma < 0$, point \mathbf{u}^0 is Value Superefficient

sup
$$\gamma$$

s.t.
 $u - \gamma w \ge u^0$,
 $u \in V = \{u | v(u) \le v(u^*)\},$
 $w > 0.$

Source: Halme et at. (1999)



Tangent Cones

X is a nonempty polytope, $x \in X$ D(x), Cone of feasible directions: $D(x) = \{d|x + \lambda d \in X$

for all $\lambda \in (0, \delta)$ for some $\delta > 0$ }

 G_x is tangent cone of X $G_x = \{y|y = x + d, d \in D(x)\}$

 $W_{\rm x}$ is augmented tangent cone of X

 $W_x = \{s | s = y + z, y \in G_x, z \in \mathbb{R}_-\}$





Pseudoconcave function

f is pseudoconcave on a convex set S iff for all $x_1, x_2 \in S$ such that $\nabla f(x_1)^T (x_2 - x_1) \leq 0 \Rightarrow f(x_2) \leq f(x_1)$

x * belongs to a non-empty polytope X. $\Xi(x^*)$ is the set of increasing pseudoconcave functions $\xi(x^*)$, which obtain their maximum in X at **x***.

Augmented tangent cone of X at \mathbf{x}^* is $W_{\mathbf{x}^*}$, Then $x \in W_{x^*}$, iff $\xi(x) \leq \xi(x^*)$ for all $\xi \in \Xi(x^*)$



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Value function approximation

When working with set T. The set of all value functions $V = \{\mathbf{u} = \begin{bmatrix} y \\ -x \end{bmatrix} | v(\mathbf{u}) \le v(\mathbf{u}^*) \}$

 $W_{\mathbf{u}^*}$ is the largest cone with $W_{\mathbf{u}^*} \subset V = \{\mathbf{u} | v(\mathbf{u}) \leq v(\mathbf{u}^*)\}$, for any $\Xi(\mathbf{u}^*)$

V is approximated by the cone W in such way that resulting scores are not greater than real ones. $|\mathrm{DMU}_0-\mathrm{DMU}_0^{\mathrm{VE}}| \leq |\mathrm{DMU}_0-\mathrm{DMU}_0^{\mathrm{VA}}|$



Value Efficiency score

Value Efficiency score of point \mathbf{u}^0 is: $E^w(y^0, -x^0) = \sigma^s$

If $\sigma^s = 0$ and s⁻, s⁺ = 0, **u**⁰ is Value Efficient, but not necessarily truly Value Efficient.

Increase output and decrease inputs by σ^s percentage to become Value Efficient.

 $\sigma^{s} = \frac{|\mathrm{DMU}_{0} - \mathrm{DMU}_{0}^{\mathrm{VE}}|}{|O - \mathrm{DMU}_{0}|}$



 $\max Z = \sigma + \epsilon (\mathbf{1}^{T} \mathbf{s}^{+} + \mathbf{1}^{T} \mathbf{s}^{-})$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{Y}\boldsymbol{\lambda} &- \sigma w^{y} - s^{+} &= y, \\ \mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\lambda} &+ \sigma w^{x} + s^{-} &= x, \\ \mathbf{A}\boldsymbol{\lambda} &+ \boldsymbol{\mu} &= b, \\ s^{-}, s^{+} &\geq \boldsymbol{0}, \\ \boldsymbol{\epsilon} &> 0 \; (\text{``Non-Archimedean''}), \\ \hline \boldsymbol{\lambda}_{j} &\geq 0, \quad \text{if } \boldsymbol{\lambda}_{j}^{*} &= 0, \; j = 1, \, 2, \, \dots, \, n, \\ \boldsymbol{\mu}_{j} &\geq 0, \quad \text{if } \boldsymbol{\mu}_{j}^{*} &= 0, \; j = 1, \, 2, \, \dots, \, k \end{aligned}$$

where $\lambda^* \in \Lambda$, μ^* correspond to the Most Preferred Solution:

 $y^* = Y\lambda^*$ $x^* = X\lambda^*.$

Source: Halme et at. (1999)

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s.t.



	DMU ₁	DMU_2	DMU_3	DMU_4	DMU_5	DMU_6
Output	1	4	7	9	12	8
Input	3	3	5	7	11	10

Problem, with BCC-model:

 $\max \lambda_1 + 4\lambda_2 + 7\lambda_3 + 9\lambda_4 + 12\lambda_5 + 8\lambda_6$

 $\min 3\lambda_1 + 3\lambda_2 + 5\lambda_3 + 7\lambda_4 + 11\lambda_5 + 10\lambda_6$ s.t. $\mathbf{1}^T \boldsymbol{\lambda} = 1$, $\boldsymbol{\lambda} \ge \mathbf{0}$.

DM chooses MPS: (4, 5.5)

Value efficiency for DMU₅ $\max \sigma + \epsilon(s^{+} + s^{-})$ s.t. $\lambda_{1} + 4\lambda_{2} + 7\lambda_{3} + 9\lambda_{4} + 12\lambda_{5} + 8\lambda_{6} - 12\sigma - s^{+} = 12$ $3\lambda_{1} + 3\lambda_{2} + 5\lambda_{3} + 7\lambda_{4} + 12\lambda_{5} + 10\lambda_{6} + 11\sigma - s^{-} = 11$ $\mathbf{1}^{T}\lambda = 1$ $\lambda_{1}, \lambda_{4}, \lambda_{5}, \lambda_{6} \geq 0, \ \lambda_{2}, \lambda_{3} \text{ unrestricted}$

General model

$$Y\lambda - \sigma w^{y} - s^{+} = y,$$

$$X\lambda + \sigma w^{x} + s^{-} = x,$$

$$A\lambda + \mu = b,$$

Source: Halme et at. (1999)



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Source: Halme et at. (1999)



Application: VEA of academic research



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Application: VEA of academic research

- Helsinki School of Economics: 18 research units as DMUs
- Results-oriented approach for evaluating academic research
- 1. Definition of criteria and indicators
- 2. Collection of data
- 3. Calculate value efficiency scores for each unit



Research unit evaluation criteria and indicators

Quality of research

• Articles, books, citations

Research activity

• Conference papers and presentations

Impact of research

• Citations, invitations abroad, foreign co-authors

Activity in educating young scientists

• Doctoral students and degrees produced

Activity in the scientific community

• Memberships in boards, expert servicies



Research unit indicators

- Values scaled to [0, 1], where 1 corresponds to best one.
- Relative weight of each indicator regard to each criterion
 - Average of 9 experts was used
- Weighted sum of the indicators was used as a scale for each criterion



Research

units

Criterion values as the weighted sums of scaled indicators and resources

	Ref.	Books	Citat	C_1	Art	Other	Conf	C_2	Citat	Invit.	For.	C_3	Dis.	Sup.	C_4	1000
	Art.				+ books		Pres			Pres	Co-A					Fmk/
Voorei	02.06	02.06	00.05		02.06	04.06	05.06		00.05	05.06	02.04		02.06	02.04		month
Weights	92-90	0.27	90-95		92-90	0.23	93-90		90-95	0.27	0.25		92-90	92-90		
A A	0.55	1.00	0.10	(7	1.00	1.00	1.00	100	0.40	1.00	0.25	40	1.00	1.00	100	70
A	0.70	1.00	0.10	67	1.00	1.00	1.00	100	0.10	1.00	0.67	48	1.00	1.00	100	70
в	0.67	0.03	0.05	38	0.36	0.38	0.33	36	0.50	0.50	0.67	32	0.30	0.15	25	32
C	0.03	0.13	0.00	5	0.10	0.08	0.00	8	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0.13	0.00	9	34
D	0.30	0.16	0.01	21	0.25	0.26	0.12	23	0.01	0.05	0.00	2	0.52	0.04	35	101
E	0.90	0.13	0.06	54	0.54	0.13	0.08	37	0.06	0.00	0.25	9	0.04	0.08	0	25
F	0.20	0.95	0.38	43	0.71	0.77	0.23	64	0.38	0.23	0.33	33	0.70	0.27	55	64
G	0.50	0.24	0.06	35	0.41	0.50	0.35	42	0.06	0.41	0.17	18	0.83	0.31	65	46
Н	0.00	0.05	0.02	2	0.03	0.14	0.00	5	0.02	0.00	0.00	1	0.30	0.08	23	25
I	0.30	0.24	0.24	27	0.31	0.47	0.40	36	0.24	0.14	0.17	19	0.26	0.23	25	28
J	0.47	0.32	0.00	34	0.44	0.41	0.00	36	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0.17	0.00	11	23
K	0.07	0.13	0.00	7	0.12	0.03	0.00	8	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0.09	0.04	7	7
L	0.40	0.45	0.42	42	0.49	0.30	0.50	45	0.42	0.41	0.17	35	0.70	0.15	51	68
М	0.00	0.16	0.01	4	0.10	0.02	0.02	7	0.01	0.05	0.00	2	0.00	0.00	0	8
Ν	0.27	0.05	0.13	18	0.17	0.02	0.23	15	0.13	0.45	0.33	27	0.00	0.08	3	15
0	0.43	0.00	0.08	25	0.22	0.17	0.23	21	0.08	0.45	0.33	25	0.30	0.15	25	37
Р	0.90	0.26	0.92	74	0.63	0.18	0.33	47	0.92	0.55	0.92	82	0.00	0.15	5	29
Q	0.13	0.74	0.01	27	0.54	0.37	0.62	51	0.01	0.73	0.00	20	0.00	0.00	0	12
R	1.00	0.11	1.00	76	0.58	0.58	0.44	55	1.00	0.05	1.00	74	0.00	0.08	3	119
Σ				602	•			636				427	•		447	

outputs

Source: Korhonen et al. (2001)

input

Most preferred solution

- Pareto Race was used to compute and search efficient frontier for MPS
- Convex combination of A (0,748) and R (0,252) was selected as MPS

A multiple objective linear programming model for finding the MPS

				~	~			~												
	А	В	С	D	Е	F	G	Н	Ι	J	K	L	М	Ν	0	Р	Q	R		
Quality	67	38	5	21	54	43	35	2	27	34	7	42	4	18	25	74	27	76	\rightarrow	max
Activity	100	36	8	23	37	64	42	5	36	36	8	45	7	15	21	47	51	55	\rightarrow	max
Impact	48	32	0	2	9	33	18	1	19	0	0	35	2	27	25	82	20	74	\rightarrow	max
Post-grad	100	25	9	35	6	55	65	23	25	11	7	51	0	3	25	5	0	3	\rightarrow	max
1000 Fmk	70	32	34	101	25	64	46	25	28	23	7	68	8	15	37	29	12	119	\rightarrow	min
	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	\leq	1



Source: Korhonen et al. (2001)



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Value efficiency scores with output oriented BCC-model

 Efficiency of a DMU is determined by maximizing outputs subject to given input levels

$$\max \quad Z_0 = \theta + \varepsilon (\mathbf{1}^{\mathrm{T}} \mathbf{s}^+ + \mathbf{1}^{\mathrm{T}} \mathbf{s}^-)$$

 $\varepsilon > 0$ ("Non-Archimedean"), $\lambda_j \ge 0$ if $\lambda_j^* = 0, \ j = 1, 2, ..., n$,

s.t.

$$\begin{split} \mathbf{Y} \boldsymbol{\lambda} &- \theta \mathbf{y}_0 - \mathbf{s}^+ = \mathbf{0}, \\ \mathbf{X} \boldsymbol{\lambda} &+ \mathbf{s}^- = \mathbf{x}_0, \\ \mathbf{1}' \boldsymbol{\lambda} &+ z \leqslant 1, \end{split}$$

$$s^{-}, s^{+}, \ge 0,$$

General model

$$Y\lambda - \sigma w^{y} - s^{+} = y,$$

$$X\lambda + \sigma w^{x} + s^{-} = x,$$

$$A\lambda + \mu = b,$$

 $z \ge 0$ if $z^* = 0$. where $\lambda^* \in \Lambda$, z^* correspond to the most preferred solution

$$\mathbf{y}^* = \mathbf{Y} \boldsymbol{\lambda}^*,$$

 $\mathbf{x}^* = \mathbf{X} \boldsymbol{\lambda}^*.$

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Results and efficient units

Depts.	BCC-efficienc	у				BCC-value efficiency						
	Efficiency	А	Р	Q	R	Efficiency	А	Р	Q	R		
Α	1.00	1.00				1.00	1.00					
В	0.79	0.30	0.39			0.55	0.43	0.73		-0.16		
С	0.17	0.49				0.08	1.04	0.38		-0.42		
D	0.35	1.00				0.32	1.12			-0.12		
E	0.88	0.02	0.81	0.03		0.75	0.05	1.01		-0.07		
F	0.68	0.89	0.05	0.06		0.65	1.02	0.32		-0.34		
G	0.98	0.66				0.54	1.19	0.16		-0.35		
Н	0.64	0.35				0.06	3.76	4.73		-7.49		
I	0.77	0.32	0.13	0.17		0.41	0.85	0.56		-0.40		
J	0.77	0.13	0.37	0.32		0.49	0.53	0.77		-0.30		
K	0.86	0.08	0.04			0.11	0.63	0.91		-0.54		
L	0.64	0.79	0.21			0.62	0.81	0.50		-0.31		
М	0.23	0.00	0.07	0.52		0.07	1.12	0.63		-0.75		
N	0.67	0.01	0.48			0.30	0.50	3.61		-3.11		
0	0.58	0.42	0.27			0.38	0.64	0.95		-0.59		
Р	1.00		1.00			1.00		1.00				
Q	1.00			1.00		0.45	1.49	1.06		-1.55		
R	1.00				1.00	1.00				1.00		

Value efficiency analysis with an output-oriented model

Source: Korhonen et al. (2001)



Summary

- VEA extends DEA to incorporate DMs preferences
- These preferences are modelled via MPS
- Optimistic efficiency scores as relative difference between MPS and DMU
- Efficiency can be calculated with different models (CCR, BCC, input oriented, output oriented)
 - Results differ!
- Value efficincy frontier covers the efficiency frontier



References

- Halme, M., Joro, T., Korhonen, P., Wallenius, J., 1999: A Value Efficiency Approach to Incorporating Preference Information in Data Envelopment Analysis, Management Science 45/1, s. 103-115.
- 2. Korhonen, P., Tainio, R., Wallenius, J., 2001: Value effciency analysis of academic research, European Journal of Operational Research 130/1, s. 121-132.



Homework

1. Explain why reseach unit H has such a drop in efficiency when moving from DEA to VEA (slide 25)?

2. Give examples of situations (one for a, one for b) where

- a) It's better to use VEA than DEA
- b) It's better to use DEA than VEA

Give also a brief explanation why.

Email answers to matti.s.staudinger@aalto.fi by 19.11. 9am.

