



# Multiple Criteria Decision Making: From Early History to the 21st Century

*By Murat Koksalan, Jyrki Wallenius, Stanley Zionts*

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Multiple Criteria Decision Making (MCDM) is all about making choices in the presence of multiple conflicting criteria. MCDM has become one of the most important and fastest growing subfields of Operations Research/Management Science. As modern MCDM started to emerge about 50 years ago, it is now a good time to take stock of developments. This book aims to present an informal, nontechnical history of MCDM, supplemented with many pictures. It covers the major developments in MCDM, from early history until now. It also covers fascinating discoveries by Nobel Laureates and other prominent scholars.

The book begins with the early history of MCDM, which covers the roots of MCDM through the 1960s. It proceeds to give a decade-by-decade account of major developments in the field starting from the 1970s until now. Written in a simple and accessible manner, this book will be of interest to students, academics, and professionals in the field of decision sciences.

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## **Editorial Review**

### **Review**

*"Our ability to analyze and resolve complex decision problems is one of the most important developments of the last half of the 20th century. But, like all such endeavors, advances were often based on earlier ideas from a multitude of fields, ideas that encouraged and gave impetus to new generations of researchers. All readers of Multiple Criteria Decision Making: From Early History to the 21st Century will find that the authors have woven the early and modern histories of MCDM into a scientific adventure story, one that helps us to understand better how advances in a field of research are the result of many, many seemingly unrelated activities."* --**Saul I Gass, Professor Emeritus, Department of Decision, Operations and Information Technologies, Robert H Smith School of Business, University of Maryland, College Park**

*"Rarely do we get to understand the evolution of a scientific field told with such care and understanding. And a handy guide to the MCDM literature as well! I'll have all of my students read it!"* --**Mark H Karwan, Praxair Professor in Operations Research, SUNY Distinguished Teaching Professor, Industrial and Systems Engineering at the University at Buffalo (SUNY)**

*"I really enjoyed reading this book. It was written by three experts who have lived with MCDM and its history for a long time (two of them for over 40 years!). Now our community has a useful and valuable book that can be used by students and researchers to learn about MCDM and its history. I particularly like the photos which bring the history and its people to life."* --**Pekka Korhonen, Professor of Statistics, Aalto University, School of Economics**

### **From the Inside Flap**

Multiple Criteria Decision Making (MCDM) is all about making choices in the presence of multiple-conflicting criteria. MCDM has become one of the most important and fastest growing subfields of Operations Research/Management Science. The last book on this topic was published about 50 years ago. This book aims to present an informal, nontechnical history of Multiple Criteria Decision Making, supplemented with many pictures. It covers the major developments in MCDM, from early history until now. It also covers fascinating discoveries by Nobel laureates and other prominent scholars.

The book begins with the early history of MCDM, which covers the roots of MCDM through the 1960s. It proceeds to give a decade-by-decade account of major developments in the field starting from the 1970s until now. Written in a simple and accessible manner, this book will be of interest to students and professionals in the field of decision sciences.

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