

## *Performance and Efficiency Evaluation of Airports. The Balance Between DEA and MCDA Tools.*

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## *Performance and Efficiency Evaluation of Airports. The Balance Between DEA and MCDA Tools.*

### Introduction

The air transportation provides to its users a fast net of transports at a global scale that is used annually by about 2.2 thousand million of **passengers**.

**Goods** carried by this mode of transport represent 35% of the international trade.

About 40% of the international **tourists** travel using air mode.

**About 2,000** air companies **in the world** operate a fleet with about 23,000 aircraft connecting about 3,750 airports through a net of routes of some millions of miles managed for about 160 providers of air services.

## *Performance and Efficiency Evaluation of Airports. The Balance Between DEA and MCDA Tools.*

### Introduction



Forecast of the evolution of the air transportation of passengers at a world-wide level, for the period between 2008 and 2027 (ICAO, 2008).

## *Performance and Efficiency Evaluation of Airports. The Balance Between DEA and MCDA Tools.*

### Introduction

Airport **benchmarking** depends on airport **performance** and **efficiency** indicators.

There are several sets of indicators to evaluate airports performance and efficiency.

**The aims** of this work are of two orders: to **balance** DEA and MCDA tools, and to **show** how airports benchmarking is **also possible** using a Multi-criteria Decision Analysis (MCDA) tool – **the MacBeth**.

Thus using MacBeth we evaluate:

Firstly, **the efficiency** of a set of worldwide airports; and  
Secondly, **the self-benchmarking** of two Portuguese airports.

## *Performance and Efficiency Evaluation of Airports. The Balance Between DEA and MCDA Tools.*

### Airports Benchmarking and Performance Indicators

The airport sector has in the **Benchmarking** a tool for analysis not only of the **performance and efficiency** of each airport but also for the **definition of objectives** on the basis of the performance and efficiency of its pairs.

There are some works concerning benchmarking of airports each one **using different indicators** of performance; some use **simple indicators** as, for example, the number of slots, while others consider **complex indicators** as, for example, the number of passengers for the area of passengers terminal.

The use of **simple indicators** in the process of benchmarking produces **rankings of performance**, in turn the use of **complex indicators** produces rankings of **efficiency**.

## *Performance and Efficiency Evaluation of Airports. The Balance Between DEA and MCDA Tools.*

### Airports Benchmarking and Performance Indicators

The **simple** indicators can be divided in two groups:

**Inputs:** Runways, Stands, Passenger Terminal Area, Cargo Terminal Area;

**Outputs:** Aircraft Movements, Passengers, Cargo.

The **complex** indicators are based on both input and output simple indicators:

Passengers / Passenger Terminal Area;

Cargo / Cargo Terminal Area;

Aircraft Movements / Stands;

Aircraft Movements / Runways.

## *Performance and Efficiency Evaluation of Airports. The Balance Between DEA and MCDA Tools.*

### MCDA and MacBeth

The **methodologies** in use to evaluate the performance and efficiency of airports are divided in two groups: single-dimensional and multi-dimensional.

Among **single-dimensional** ones the prominence goes for the Method of the Partial Measure.

The **multi-dimensional** ones are divided in 3 sub-groups:

those of Average Approach (Total Factor Productivity - TFP, and Ordinary Least Square - OLS);

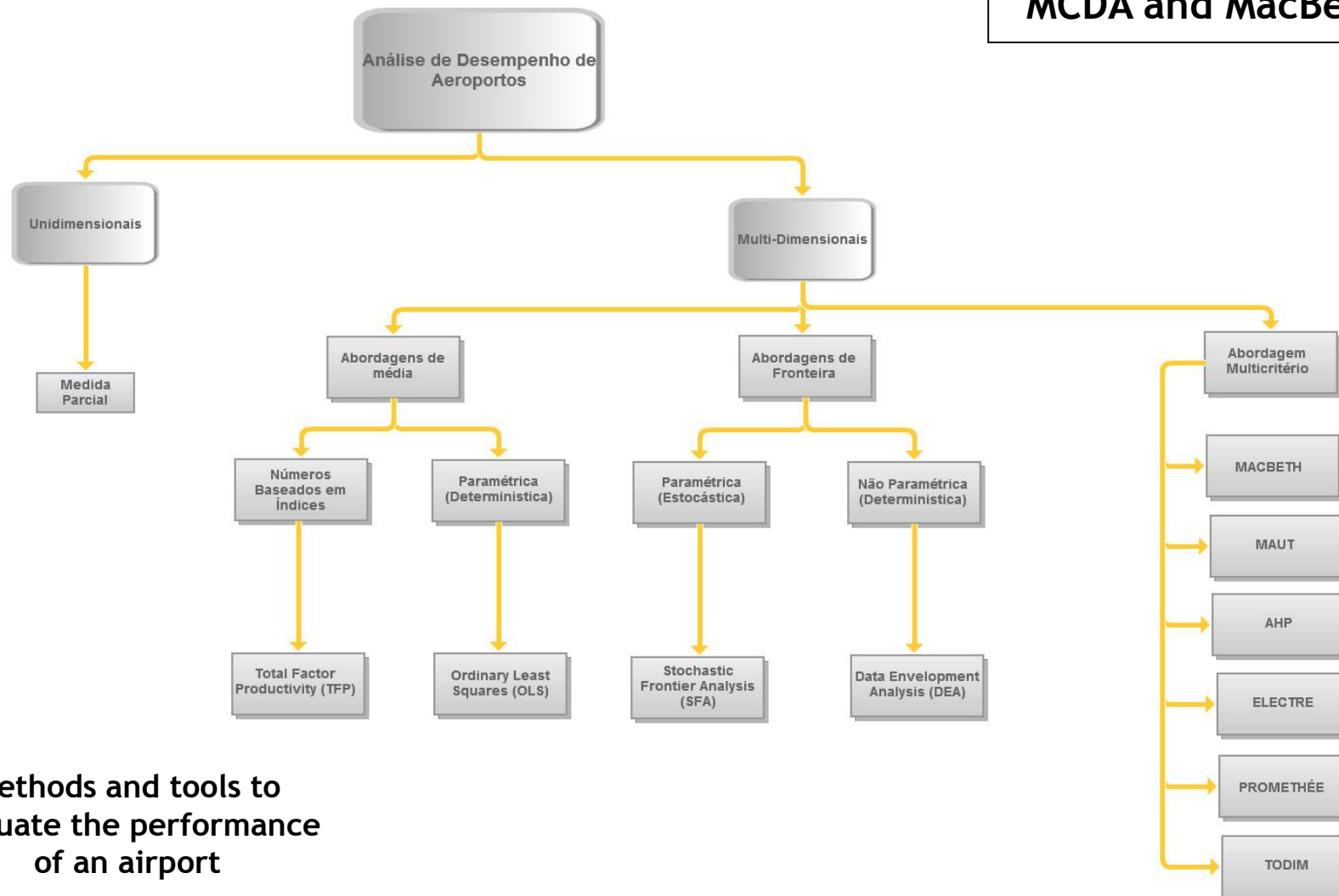
those of Frontier Approach (Stochastic Frontier Analysis - SFA, and Data Envelopment Analysis - DEA);

Multi Criteria Decision Analysis (MCDA).



# Performance and Efficiency Evaluation of Airports. The Balance Between DEA and MCDA Tools.

## MCDA and MacBeth



Methods and tools to  
evaluate the performance  
of an airport



## *Performance and Efficiency Evaluation of Airports. The Balance Between DEA and MCDA Tools.*

### MCDA and MacBeth

**MCDA** is one of the most used methodologies; others, purely mathematical, as the SFA and the DEA, have more complex formulations.

#### **Advantages of the MCDA:**

It constructs a base for the dialogue between **analysts and deciders** that makes use of wide range and common points of view;

It **facilitates** the incorporation of **uncertainties** on the data in each point of view;

(...)

## *Performance and Efficiency Evaluation of Airports. The Balance Between DEA and MCDA Tools.*

### MCDA and MacBeth

#### Advantages of the MCDA:

It interprets each alternative as a commitment among the objectives in conflict; that is, it **prevents** any situation where may exist a **superior alternative** to the remaining ones on all the points of view;

It produces a **good ordinance** of the alternatives, essential when it is intended to **construct rankings**.

#### Disadvantages of the MCDA:

In the choice of the performance indicators, but **mainly** in the **attribution** of the respective relative **weights**, which of course **involve some degree of subjectivity**.

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### MCDA and MacBeth

Tools associated with MCDA:

MAUT (Theory of the *Multivariable* Utility);

AHP (Analytic Hierarchy Process);

**MACBETH (Measuring Attractiveness by a Categorical Based Evaluation Technique);**

ELECTRE (Elimination and Choice Expressing Reality);

TODIM (Taking Of Interactive Decision Multi Criteria);

PROMETHÉE (Ranking Organization Method for Enrichment of Evaluations).

## *Performance and Efficiency Evaluation of Airports. The Balance Between DEA and MCDA Tools.*

### MCDA and MacBeth

MacBeth allows to evaluate options having in account multiple criteria.

The basic distinction between MacBeth and other methods of Multi Criteria Decision Analysis is that this **requires only qualitative judgments** on the differences of attractiveness between elements to generate **punctuations** for the options in **each criterion** and to **ponder the criteria**.

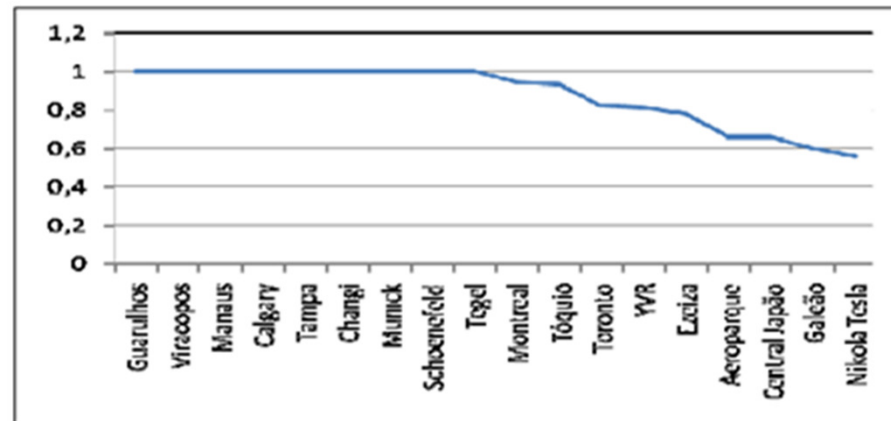
MacBeth **compares** the alternatives **among themselves** but also with **references**, that can be better or worse than the alternatives, being therefore an **ideal tool to produce rankings**.

The main **disadvantage** is the subjectivity that can be **induced** in the determination of the weights of the criteria, but... **can be mitigated**.

## *Performance and Efficiency Evaluation of Airports. The Balance Between DEA and MCDA Tools.*

### Case Study 1: efficiency of a set of worldwide airports

Ferreira et al. (2010) obtain an efficiency ranking of some worldwide airports, specially focused on Brazilian infrastructures, using a DEA approach.



Efficiency ranking for a set of worldwide airports

The authors use **7 single performance** criteria to produce their ranking: **4 Inputs** (Number of Runways, Number of Aircraft Parking Positions, Area of Passenger Terminal, and Area of Cargo Terminal) and **3 Outputs** (Number of Aircraft Operations, Number of Processed Passengers and Cargo Volumes).

## *Performance and Efficiency Evaluation of Airports. The Balance Between DEA and MCDA Tools.*

### Case Study 1: efficiency of a set of worldwide airports

Thus we use the **same data** from the same set of airports to obtain an efficiency ranking based on MacBeth.

If we introduce those **single** performance criteria within MacBeth we would produce not an efficiency ranking but a **performance one**; so it is necessary to create **new criteria**, which we call **complex ones**, combining the above mentioned inputs and outputs as follows:

A = Number of Processed Passengers / Area of Passenger Terminal;

B = Cargo Volumes / Area of Cargo Terminal;

C = Number of Aircraft Operations (Movements) / Number of Aircraft Parking Positions;

D = Number of Aircraft Operations (Movements) / Number of Runways.

# Performance and Efficiency Evaluation of Airports. The Balance Between DEA and MCDA Tools.

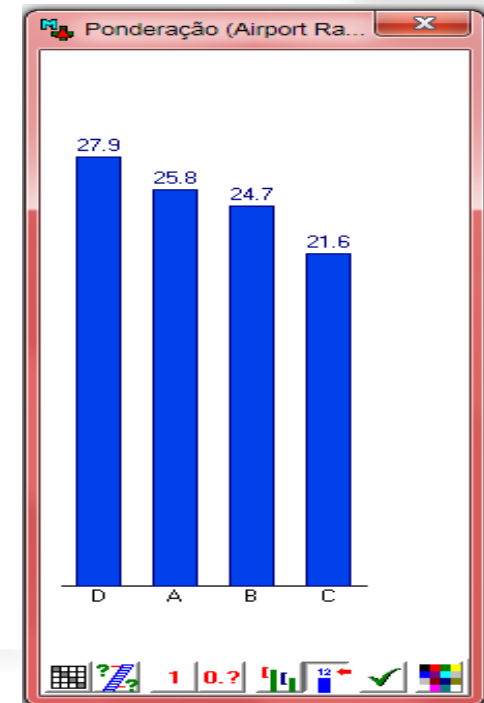
## Case Study 1: efficiency of a set of worldwide airports

### Ranking de Eficiência de Aeroportos

- Quantidade de Passageiros Processados / Área do Terminal de Passageiros
- Quantidade de Carga em Ton. / Área do Terminal de Carga
- Número de Operações de Aeronaves / Número de Posições de Estacionamento de Aeronaves
- Número de Operações de Aeronaves / Número de Pistas

### Decision Tree

Attractiveness (weight) of the indicators based on the opinion of 30 aeronautical specialists





# Performance and Efficiency Evaluation of Airports. The Balance Between DEA and MCDA Tools.

## Case Study 1: efficiency of a set of worldwide airports

| Options       | A     | B    | C      | D        |
|---------------|-------|------|--------|----------|
| Guarulhos     | 87.7  | 6.5  | 2347.7 | 77474    |
| Galeão        | 31.6  | 1.9  | 1903.7 | 50447.5  |
| Viracopos     | 94.8  | 2.7  | 2282.5 | 25107    |
| Manaus        | 36.5  | 15.8 | 2252.3 | 33785    |
| Calgary       | 74.6  | 2.1  | 4768.5 | 71527.7  |
| YVR           | 66.4  | 2.3  | 2985.1 | 64479.2  |
| Toronto       | 114.1 | 3.4  | 2861.2 | 80684.8  |
| Montreal      | 129.3 | 1.8  | 3209.9 | 68477.3  |
| Aeroparque    | 177.3 | 1.3  | 1201.1 | 81675    |
| Ezeiza        | 105.1 | 0.9  | 1600.3 | 33606    |
| Tampa         | 107.6 | 5.4  | 3437.4 | 85935.7  |
| Tóquio        | 44.7  | 2.7  | 1339.1 | 94410    |
| Central Japão | 54.5  | 1.1  | 1619.7 | 106897   |
| Changi        | 53.9  | 3.7  | 2086.4 | 177348   |
| Munich        | 67.2  | 3.4  | 2760.6 | 205667.5 |
| Schoenefeld   | 338.1 | 2.2  | 1880.6 | 33851    |
| Tegel         | 459.6 | 2.4  | 3195.7 | 140611   |
| Nikola Tesla  | 55.6  | 1.4  | 1925.5 | 42360    |

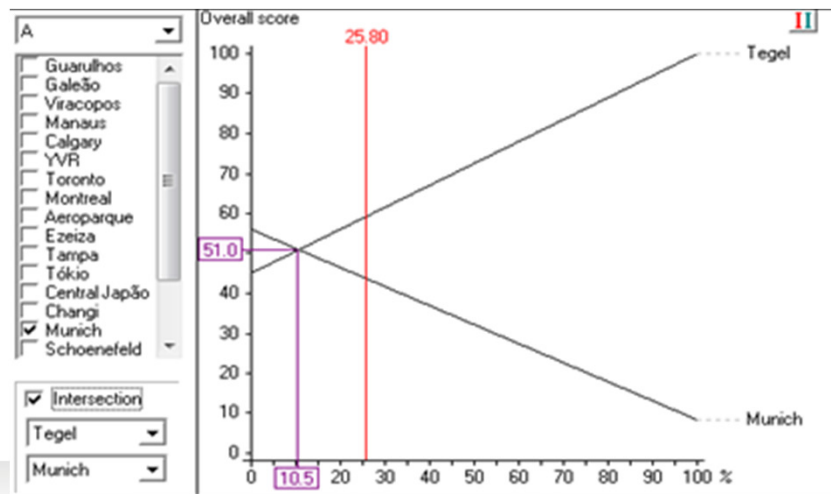
### Airports Data And Macbeth Robustness Analysis

| Options       | Overall | A      | B      | C      | D      |
|---------------|---------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| [ tudo sup. ] | 100.00  | 100.00 | 100.00 | 100.00 | 100.00 |
| Tegel         | 63.10   | 100.00 | 15.19  | 67.02  | 68.37  |
| Munich        | 49.49   | 14.62  | 21.52  | 57.89  | 100.00 |
| Changi        | 42.32   | 11.73  | 23.42  | 43.75  | 86.23  |
| Tampa         | 41.71   | 23.41  | 34.18  | 72.09  | 41.78  |
| Manaus        | 41.53   | 7.94   | 100.00 | 47.23  | 16.43  |
| Calgary       | 38.77   | 16.23  | 13.29  | 100.00 | 34.78  |
| Guarulhos     | 36.23   | 19.08  | 41.14  | 49.23  | 37.67  |
| Toronto       | 35.63   | 24.83  | 21.52  | 60.00  | 39.23  |
| Schoenefeld   | 35.53   | 73.56  | 13.92  | 39.44  | 16.46  |
| Montreal      | 33.90   | 28.13  | 11.39  | 67.31  | 33.30  |
| YVR           | 29.59   | 14.45  | 14.56  | 62.60  | 31.35  |
| Aeroparque    | 28.51   | 38.58  | 8.23   | 25.19  | 39.71  |
| Central Japão | 26.62   | 11.86  | 6.96   | 33.97  | 51.98  |
| Tóquio        | 25.60   | 9.73   | 17.09  | 28.08  | 45.90  |
| Viracopos     | 23.29   | 20.63  | 17.09  | 47.87  | 12.21  |
| Galeão        | 20.21   | 6.88   | 12.03  | 39.92  | 24.53  |
| Nikola Tesla  | 19.78   | 12.10  | 8.86   | 40.38  | 20.60  |
| Ezeiza        | 19.11   | 22.87  | 5.70   | 33.56  | 16.34  |
| [ tudo inf. ] | 0.00    | 0.00   | 0.00   | 0.00   | 0.00   |
| Weights :     |         | 0.2580 | 0.2470 | 0.2160 | 0.2790 |

## Performance and Efficiency Evaluation of Airports. The Balance Between DEA and MCDA Tools.

### Case Study 1: efficiency of a set of worldwide airports

MacBeth approach also provides a sensitivity analysis tool on possible impacts of each criteria weight changes. The example is for criteria A (25.80%) and involves Munich and Tegel airports. At this stage Tegel has an overall score around 57.50% and Munich around 42.50%. If this criteria weight/importance decreases from 25.80% to less than 10.50% (keeping the proportionality among all other criteria) then Munich will have an overall score higher than Tegel. But it will be necessary a drastic change (around 15.30%) in the specialists opinion.



Macbeth sensitivity analysis on A criteria weight for Tegel and Munich airports.

## *Performance and Efficiency Evaluation of Airports. The Balance Between DEA and MCDA Tools.*

### **Case Study 1: efficiency of a set of worldwide airports**

**Ferreira et al. (2010)** put on the top of efficiency **9 Airports**. Efficiency starts dropping with Montreal airport (10th position within the ranking) till Nicola Tesla airport (18th position within the ranking).

**The results obtained with MacBeth approach are quite different.** It is possible a better understanding of each criteria values and how benchmark among airports gets more understandable too:

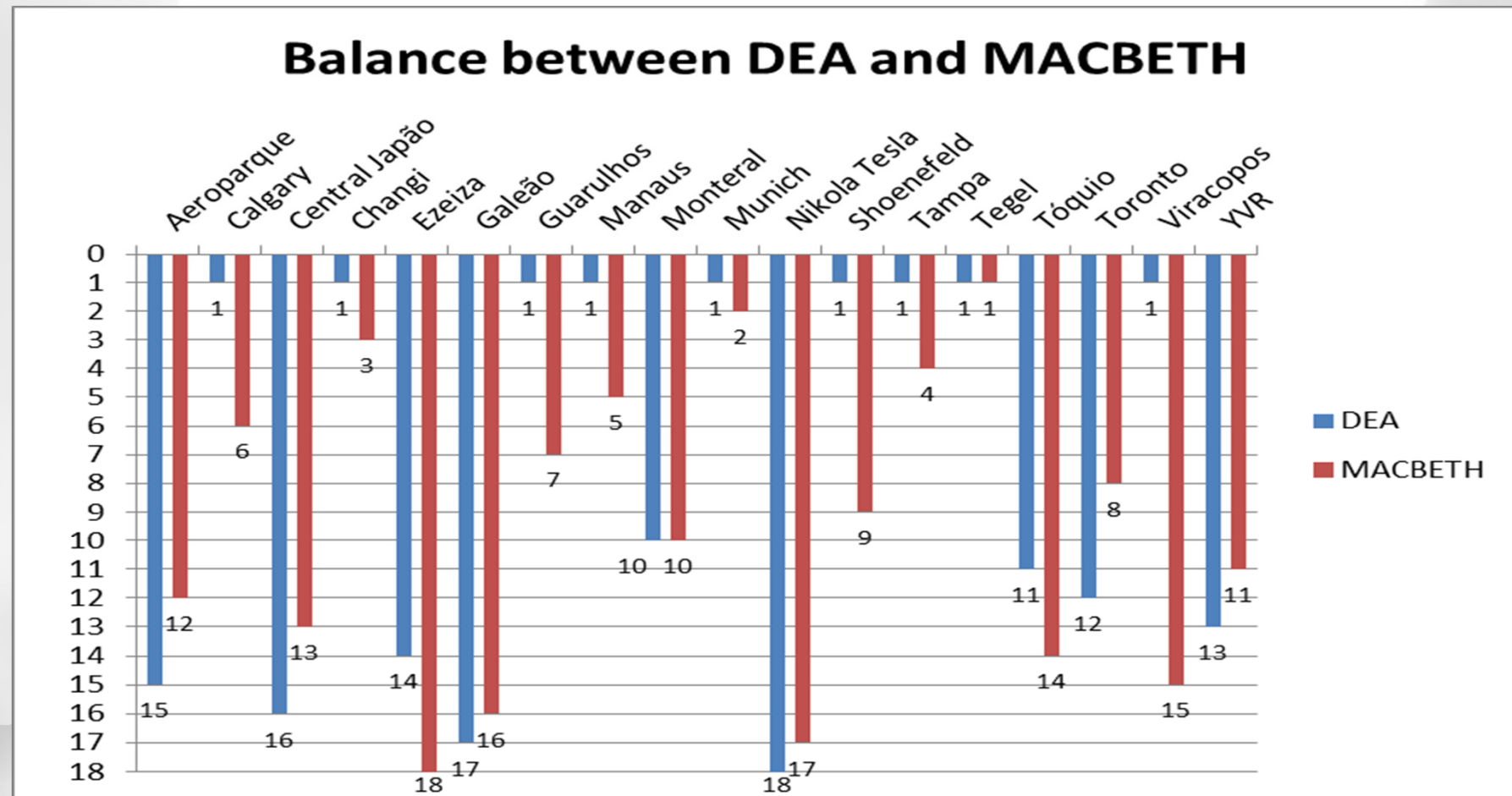
**Individually**, Tegel achieves the best position within criteria A, Manaus within criteria B, Calgary within criteria C and Munich within criteria D;

**Combining all criteria**, Tegel airport is the most efficient and Ezeiza airport is the less efficient; Munich is 2nd, Manaus is 6th and Calgary is 7th;

In comparison with the ranking of Ferreira et al. (2010) Guarulhos is now 8th, Viracopos is 15th, Tampa is 4th, Changi is 3rd, and Schoenefeld is 9th.

## Performance and Efficiency Evaluation of Airports. The Balance Between DEA and MCDA Tools.

Case Study 1: efficiency of a set of worldwide airports



# Performance and Efficiency Evaluation of Airports. The Balance Between DEA and MCDA Tools.

## Case Study 2: Self Benchmarking of two Portuguese airports

| Number of Runways | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 |
|-------------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Porto (OPO)       | 1    | 1    | 1    | 1    | 1    |
| Madeira (FNC)     | 1    | 1    | 1    | 1    | 1    |

| Passenger T. Area (m <sup>2</sup> ) | 2006   | 2007   | 2008   | 2009   | 2010   |
|-------------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Porto (OPO)                         | 69.112 | 69.112 | 69.112 | 69.112 | 69.112 |
| Madeira (FNC)                       | 44.590 | 44.590 | 44.590 | 44.590 | 44.590 |

| Cargo T. Area (m <sup>2</sup> ) | 2006   | 2007   | 2008   | 2009   | 2010   |
|---------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Porto (OPO)                     | 19.141 | 19.141 | 19.141 | 19.141 | 19.141 |
| Madeira (FNC)                   | 7.535  | 7.535  | 7.535  | 7.535  | 7.535  |

| Aircraft Parking Stands | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 |
|-------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Porto (OPO)             | 48   | 48   | 48   | 48   | 48   |
| Madeira (FNC)           | 17   | 17   | 17   | 17   | 17   |

| Processed Passengers | 2006      | 2007      | 2008      | 2009      | 2010      |
|----------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Porto (OPO)          | 3.402.805 | 3.986.748 | 4.534.829 | 4.508.330 | 5.279.531 |
| Madeira (FNC)        | 2360857   | 2.419.697 | 2.448.574 | 2.348.040 | 2.239.353 |

| Aircraft Movements | 2006   | 2007   | 2008   | 2009   | 2010   |
|--------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Porto (OPO)        | 47.061 | 50.745 | 56.095 | 52.194 | 55.432 |
| Madeira (FNC)      | 25.828 | 25.616 | 25.961 | 25.162 | 25.898 |

| Cargo (ton)   | 2006   | 2007   | 2008   | 2009   | 2010   |
|---------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Porto (OPO)   | 34.444 | 32.585 | 32.215 | 27.375 | 28.782 |
| Madeira (FNC) | 9.368  | 9.012  | 9.303  | 8.732  | 8.654  |

Data for the airports of  
Porto (OPO) and Funchal  
(FNC), 2006 - 2010

## Performance and Efficiency Evaluation of Airports. The Balance Between DEA and MCDA Tools.

### Case Study 2: Self Benchmarking of two Portuguese airports

DEA software in use is **SIAD (Integrated Decision Support System)**, with CCR Model and Input oriented analysis (minimizing inputs while keeping output values fixed).

The indicators structure is as follows:

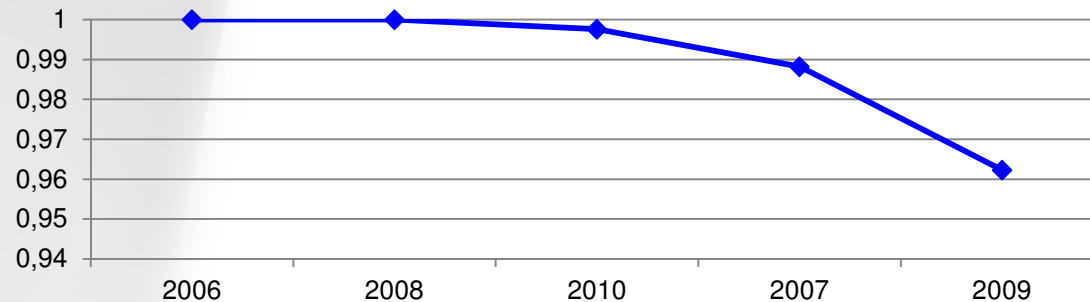
|            |                       |  |
|------------|-----------------------|--|
| <b>DEA</b> | <b><i>Inputs</i></b>  | Number of runways<br>Aircraft Parking Stands<br>Passenger Terminal Area<br>Cargo Terminal Area |
|            | <b><i>Outputs</i></b> | Aircraft Movements<br>Processed Passengers<br>Processed Cargo (Ton.)                           |



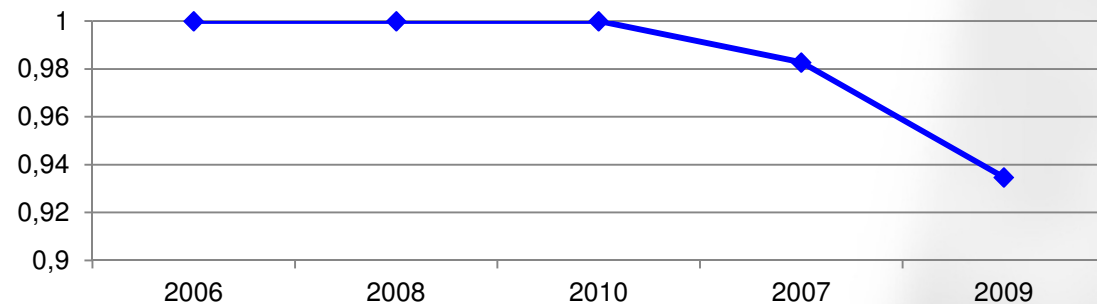
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### Case Study 2: Self Benchmarking of two Portuguese airports

**FNC Self-Benchmark DEA**



**OPO Self-Benchmark DEA**





## Performance and Efficiency Evaluation of Airports. The Balance Between DEA and MCDA Tools.

### Case Study 2: Self Benchmarking of two Portuguese airports

For **Macbeth** analysis we use the information of the same set of aeronautical specialist of the previous case study to fixe the weights (importance, attractiveness) of each indicator.

The related weights (importance) values are as follows:

|         |          |  |       |
|---------|----------|--|-------|
| Macbeth | <i>A</i> | Processed Passengers / Passenger terminal Area | 25,8% |
|         | <i>B</i> | Processed Cargo (ton.) / Cargo Terminal Area   | 24,7% |
|         | <i>C</i> | Aircraft Movements / Aircraft parking stands   | 21,6% |
|         | <i>D</i> | Aircraft Movements / Number of Runways         | 27,9% |

## Performance and Efficiency Evaluation of Airports. The Balance Between DEA and MCDA Tools.

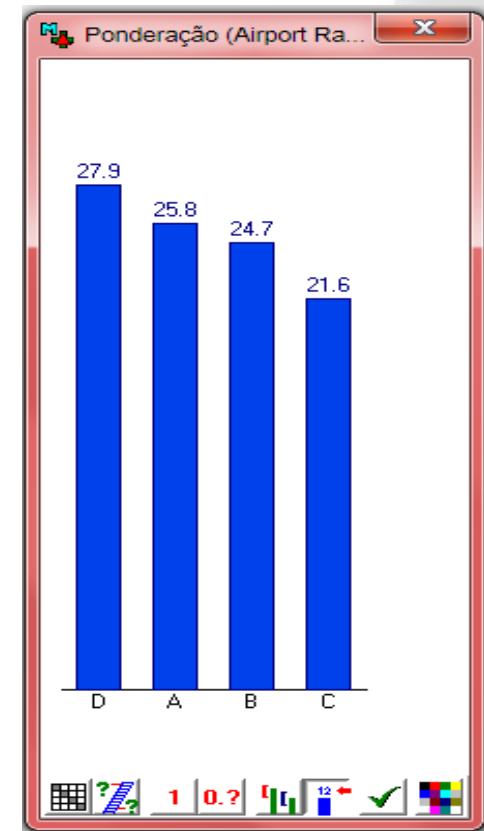
### Case Study 2: Self Benchmarking of two Portuguese airports

#### Ranking de Eficiência de Aeroportos

- Quantidade de Passageiros Processados / Área do Terminal de Passageiros
- Quantidade de Carga em Ton. / Área do Terminal de Carga
- Número de Operações de Aeronaves / Número de Posições de Estacionamento de Aeronaves
- Número de Operações de Aeronaves / Número de Pistas

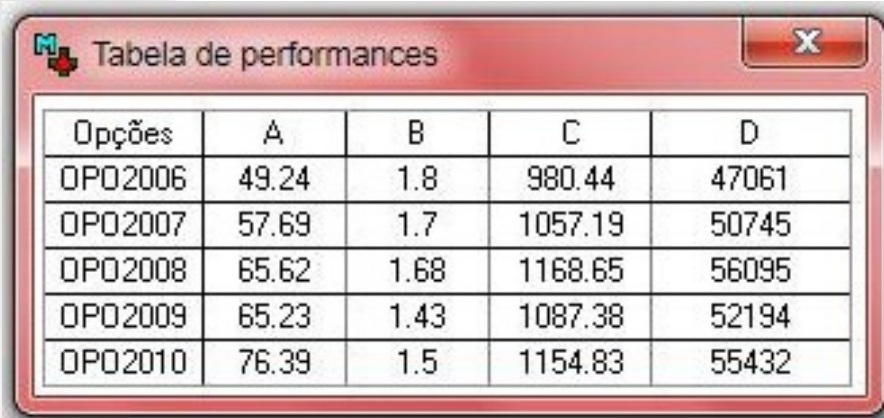
Decision tree

Attractiveness (weight) of each indicator based on the opinion of 30 aeronautical specialists



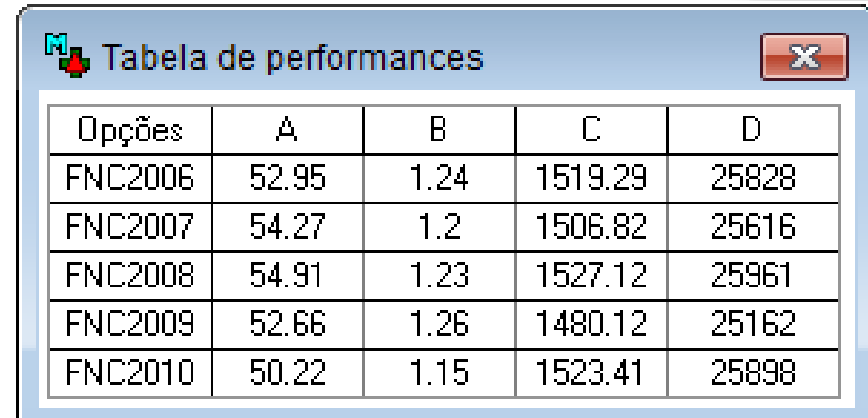
## Performance and Efficiency Evaluation of Airports. The Balance Between DEA and MCDA Tools.

### Case Study 2: Self Benchmarking of two Portuguese airports



| Opções  | A     | B    | C       | D     |
|---------|-------|------|---------|-------|
| OPO2006 | 49.24 | 1.8  | 980.44  | 47061 |
| OPO2007 | 57.69 | 1.7  | 1057.19 | 50745 |
| OPO2008 | 65.62 | 1.68 | 1168.65 | 56095 |
| OPO2009 | 65.23 | 1.43 | 1087.38 | 52194 |
| OPO2010 | 76.39 | 1.5  | 1154.83 | 55432 |

Data of the airport of Porto (OPO),  
(complex indicators)



| Opções  | A     | B    | C       | D     |
|---------|-------|------|---------|-------|
| FNC2006 | 52.95 | 1.24 | 1519.29 | 25828 |
| FNC2007 | 54.27 | 1.2  | 1506.82 | 25616 |
| FNC2008 | 54.91 | 1.23 | 1527.12 | 25961 |
| FNC2009 | 52.66 | 1.26 | 1480.12 | 25162 |
| FNC2010 | 50.22 | 1.15 | 1523.41 | 25898 |

Data on the airport of Funchal (FNC),  
(complex indicators)

## Performance and Efficiency Evaluation of Airports. The Balance Between DEA and MCDA Tools.

### Case Study 2: Self Benchmarking of two Portuguese airports

| Opções        | Global | A      | B      | C      | D      |
|---------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| [ tudo sup. ] | 100.00 | 100.00 | 100.00 | 100.00 | 100.00 |
| FNC2008       | 99.40  | 100.00 | 97.58  | 100.00 | 100.00 |
| FNC2006       | 98.43  | 96.43  | 98.39  | 99.49  | 99.49  |
| FNC2007       | 97.85  | 98.83  | 95.16  | 98.67  | 98.67  |
| FNC2009       | 97.42  | 95.90  | 100.00 | 96.92  | 96.92  |
| FNC2010       | 95.49  | 91.46  | 91.13  | 99.76  | 99.76  |
| [ tudo inf. ] | 0.00   | 0.00   | 0.00   | 0.00   | 0.00   |
| Pesos :       |        | 0.2580 | 0.2470 | 0.2160 | 0.2790 |

Ranking of efficiency of the airport of Funchal, (2006-2010)

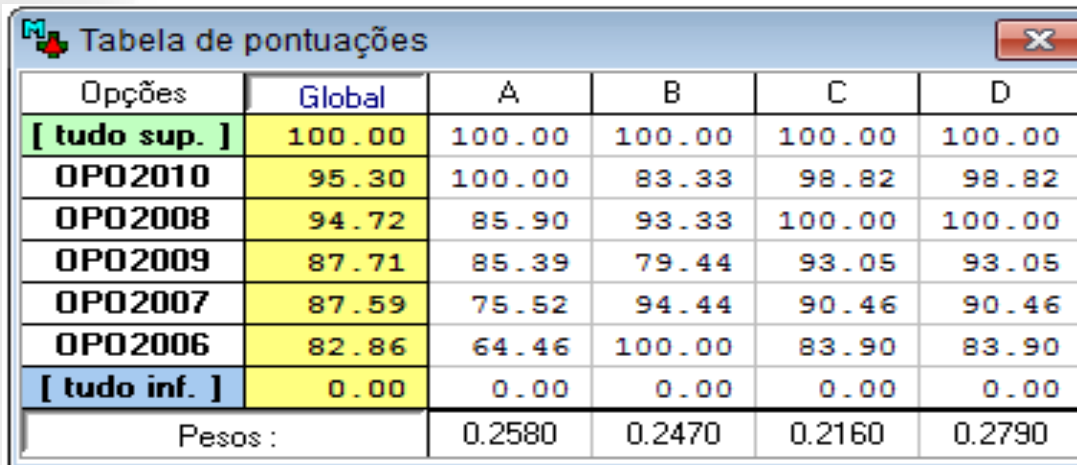
**2008 is the more efficient year of Madeira airport**, when it reached the best results for the criteria A, C and D.

2010 is the less efficient year, with the lowest results of all the period for the criteria A and B.

Although the efficiency of this airport always presents values above 95.49% between 2006 and 2010, in the really they oscillated from year to year.

## Performance and Efficiency Evaluation of Airports. The Balance Between DEA and MCDA Tools.

### Case Study 2: Self Benchmarking of two Portuguese airports



| Opções        | Global | A      | B      | C      | D      |
|---------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| [ tudo sup. ] | 100.00 | 100.00 | 100.00 | 100.00 | 100.00 |
| OPO2010       | 95.30  | 100.00 | 83.33  | 98.82  | 98.82  |
| OPO2008       | 94.72  | 85.90  | 93.33  | 100.00 | 100.00 |
| OPO2009       | 87.71  | 85.39  | 79.44  | 93.05  | 93.05  |
| OPO2007       | 87.59  | 75.52  | 94.44  | 90.46  | 90.46  |
| OPO2006       | 82.86  | 64.46  | 100.00 | 83.90  | 83.90  |
| [ tudo inf. ] | 0.00   | 0.00   | 0.00   | 0.00   | 0.00   |
| Pesos :       |        | 0.2580 | 0.2470 | 0.2160 | 0.2790 |

Ranking of efficiency of the airport of Porto, (2006-2010)

For the airport of Porto (OPO) the year of 2010 was the most efficient, for opposition to the year of 2006 that was the less efficient.

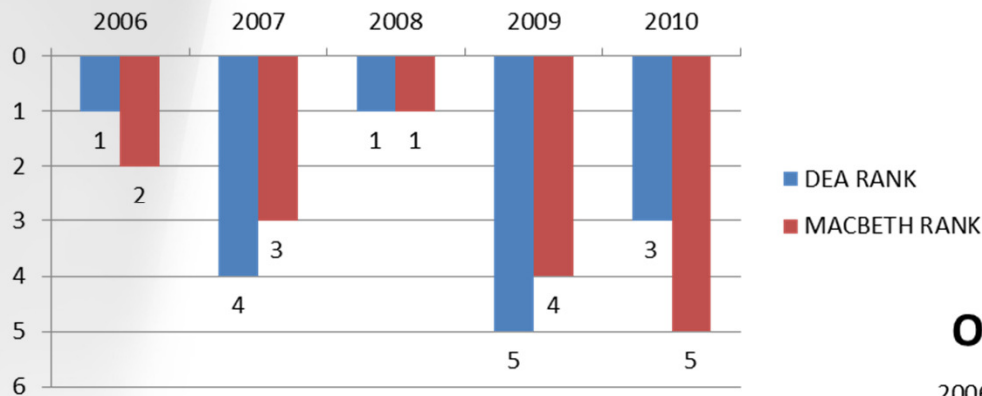
In the perspective of each criterion: 2006 presents the best score for B, 2008 for C and D, and 2010 for A.

It is remarkable the increment in the efficiency of this airport between 2006 (82.86%) and 2010 (95.30%), that is, 12.44% during these 5 years.

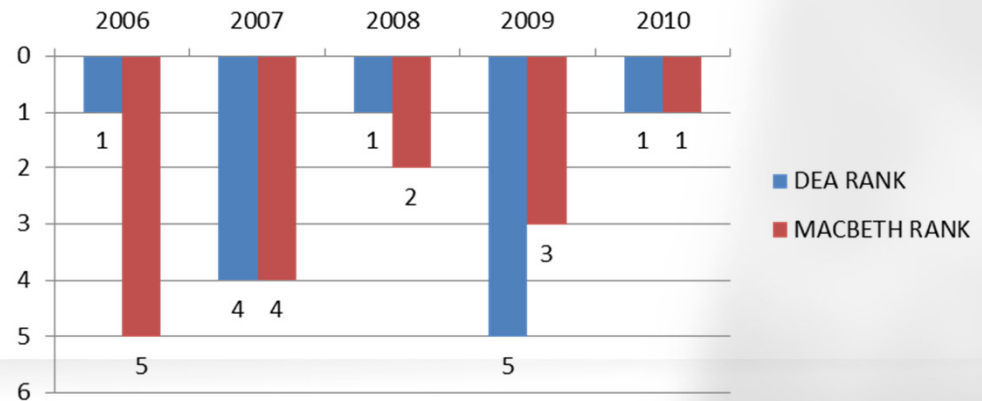
## Performance and Efficiency Evaluation of Airports. The Balance Between DEA and MCDA Tools.

### Case Study 2: Self Benchmarking of two Portuguese airports

#### FNC Self-Benchmark DEA vs MACBETH



#### OPO Self-Benchmark DEA vs MACBETH



## *Performance and Efficiency Evaluation of Airports. The Balance Between DEA and MCDA Tools.*

### Conclusion

**MacBeth and DEA** have the ability to **compare** either the airport with other **similar** infrastructures or the **own airport** in **different years**, offering to all stakeholders the possibility to be in touch with the **evolution of the performance and efficiency of the infrastructure**.

Results obtained within **MacBeth** tool are **quite different** than those obtained within **DEA** one, since MacBeth does a **thinner approach** and presents a non-convergence approach against DEA solutions.

The reason is that **DEA** determines the indicator weights by mathematical approach thus **leading to several airports** with **maximum efficiency** simply because exists at least one indicator on those airports which is much better than the others; therefore sometimes this approach does not allow a clear understanding of the efficiency ranking.



## *Performance and Efficiency Evaluation of Airports. The Balance Between DEA and MCDA Tools.*

### Conclusion

It seems that MacBeth allows any stakeholder:

1. to **analyze** more **easily** the **position** of any airport within the ranking; and
2. to **understand** easily **changes needed** within the airport to **modify** its individual and/or its overall classification.

The **disadvantage** of MacBeth to benchmark airports is based on the **subjectivity** of the indicators weights, which is possible to **mitigate** in two ways:

1. using the **opinions of specialists** in the appropriate fields of **knowledge**; and
2. getting as **much answers** as possible so that **related average** (and variance) values are as **close as possible** with the **reality**.

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### Conclusion

#### Future research:

- ✓ focused on **introducing** on both, DEA and MacBeth models, **new indicators** based on different, but complementary, **operational/technical constraints** to **improve models robustness**;
- ✓ (...)

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