

The influence of individual factors on group decision-making in dynamic environments

Michael Leyer Jürgen Strohhecker





What is the problem of decision making in operations management?





Focus on two main problems







What we are interested in

Individual influence?





Characteristics of our focus

- Going beyond individual decision making
- Related to team work / high performance teams
- No established teams
- No status differences
- Group decision-making



Underlying theory







The dynamic decision setting

- Buy and sell robots
- No inventory costs
- Fixed number of potential customers
- Word-of-mouth effect

Year	2014	2015	2016	
Demand	2000	4351	9396	Number /Year
Production	5000	0	10358	Number /Year
Sales	2000	3000	9396	Number /Year
Inventory	3000	0	962	Number
Sales revenue	40	60	188	Mio. €/Year

Year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Expenditures for								
Advertisement	10%	9%	9%					
Production	50%	0%	78%					
Dividends	0%	0%	13%					
Summe (≤ 100%!)	60%	9%	100%					

Goal: Maximise overall dividend payout





Underlying SD-Model











Participants

- Groups of 4 to 8 participants
- 237 participants from 34 groups
- Potential students
- High interest in performing well





Potential influences







Preliminary results (Linear regression)

	Coefficient	Significance
Intelligence	.112	.171
General economic knowledge	065	.434
Social competence	.225	.006
Strong personality <	159	.069
Systematic thinking	.099	.339
Goal orientation	096	.321
Rigour of contributions	018	.852
Group size	148	.039



Discussions

- Group dynamics seem stronger than individual attributes
- Convincing others is more important
- Individual attributes cannot be checked in the short time (Trust is important)
- Strong personalities undermine other connections



Theoretical implications

- Understanding social processes in group decision making
- Social connectedness of individuals with same status level
- Intellectual attributes vs. social attributes



- Smaller groups are more successful
- Social skills seem to be more important than intelligence (on a higher level)
- Contributions have to be accepted but no need to explain the rigour
- Strong personalities dominate negatively



- Determining the impact of individual performance
- Integrating group characteristics
- Analysis on group level
- Acknowledgement of others' contribution by participants



Questions & Comments