

# Degree of Project Utility and Investment Value Assessments

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**Abstract:** This article recommends a new INVAR Method for a multiple criteria analysis (Degree of Project Utility and Investment Value Assessments along with Recommendation Provisions). Its use can be for a sustainable building assessment. The INVAR Method can additionally assist in determining the investment value of a project under deliberation and provide digital recommendations for improving projects. Furthermore, the INVAR Method can optimize the selected criterion seeking that the project under deliberation would be equally competitive in the market, as compared to the other projects under comparison. The INVAR Method is additionally able to calculate the value that the project under deliberation should be for this project to become the best among those under deliberation. The case studies presented in this research are for demonstrating this developed method.

**Keywords:** COPRAS, DUMA and INVAR Methods, Multiple criteria analysis, Investment value, Utility degree, Recommendations.

## 1 Introduction

The increased awareness about building energy consumption and sustainability has resulted in the development of various means for predicting performance and rating sustainability. The Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method (BREEAM) and Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) are the most commonly used Performance Rating Systems [1]. According to Lee [2], statistical analysis reveals a moderate degree of agreement amongst the five schemes (BREEAM, LEED, CASBEE, BEAM Plus and the Chinese ESGB) on weights and ranks of weights allocated to five key assessment aspects. Ferreira [3] compare the criteria weighting process of four sustainable construction assessment tools (LiderA, SB ToolPT, Code for Sustainable Homes and LEED for Homes 2012) and show that the four different weighting sets are robust and generally similar.

A discussion on BREEAM and multiple criteria decision making follows as an example.

The hierarchical structures of key criteria and features of BREEAM Offices are by levels of Issues, Categories and Criteria. The top level contains ten distinct issues (the maximum number of obtainable credits appears in parentheses): Management (22), Health & Well-being (14), Energy (30), Transport (9), Water (9), Materials (12), Waste (7), Land Use & Ecology (12), Pollution (13), Innovation (10). The second level includes 69 categories and the third level – 114 criteria. Expert opinion determines the total number of credits for each category [4]. The use of the BREEAM credits scoring system is for determining the overall assessment grade, which may be Pass ( $\geq 30\%$ ), Good ( $\geq 45\%$ ), Very Good ( $\geq 55\%$ ), Excellent ( $\geq 70\%$ ) and Outstanding ( $\geq 85\%$ ). No weightings are applied to credits awarded under different categories, as the number of obtainable credits assigned to each category already reflects the weight assigned to a category of assessment relative to other categories (as per [2]). For example, BREEAM (Code for Sustainable Homes) divides into nine categories, which subdivide into 34 issues (criteria). The award for each issue according to its performance can be a maximum number of credits. Then, for each category, the percentage of the total credits awarded for all its issues is determined. That percentage is

multiplied by its weight [5, 6]. In the end, the weighted values of all those nine categories are added up to obtain one of the six possible certification classes. Thus there is maintenance of the weighting structure with natural adjustments to market needs [3].

Multiple criteria decision making (MCDM) comprises a finite set of alternatives, which decision makers must select, evaluate or rank according to the weights of a finite set of criteria. The multiple criteria nature of the problem regarding energy performance assessment of buildings makes the MCDM Method ideal for coping with the complexity of the problem [7]. Berardi [8] emphasizes sustainability assessments in a built environment using multiple criteria rating systems. Other scientists [9–15] have also done multiple criteria and multi-aspect analysis of green buildings. COPRAS method [9, 10] was found to be an effective method for the green buildings assessment.

COPRAS (**C**omplex **P**roportional **A**ssessment Method) method was developed by E. Zavadskas and A. Kaklauskas [16]. The COPRAS method consists of five stages. Later, this method has been supplemented with a new “Method of **D**efining the **U**tility and **M**arket Value of a Property” (DUMA) developed by Kaklauskas [14], see [17]. The degrees of utility of the property considered as well as the market value of a property being valuated is determined in seven DUMA method stages.

The newly developed INVAR (Degree of Project Utility and Investment Value Assessments along with Recommendations) method by Kaklauskas integrates the philosophy of COPRAS and DUMA methods and offers the new opportunities. These new opportunities are as follows: defining the investment value of a project; providing digital tips for improving projects; optimizing a selected criterion; calculating the value of the project, which would permit it to be best among others under deliberation. Determining the priorities and utility degree of projects applying Stages 1-5 of the INVAR method are identical to COPRAS method. Other INVAR method 6-11 stages are different from the COPRAS and DUMA methods.

According to the International Valuation Standards [18], investment value is the value of an asset to the owner or a prospective owner for individual investment or operational objectives. As stated in Business Dictionary, investment value reflects the value of an asset to its owner, depending on his or her expectations and requirements. Schmidt [19] believes that investment value refers to the value to a specific investor, based on requirements of that investor, tax rate, and financing. The INVAR Method for an analysis of sustainable buildings (see case studies) use the same initial data as the BREEAM Method uses.

The INVAR Method was applied in research in various EU projects (INTELLITIES, IDESE-EDU, Brita in Pubs); the author took part in the research. The results of these projects were discussed in a number of publications by the author in conjunction with colleagues [20–25].

The structure of this paper is as follows: after this introduction, Section 2 describes the INVAR Method. Section 3 follows with Case Studies. Finally the discussion and conclusions appear in Section 4.

## 2 INVAR Method

Assessing utility degree and the value of a project under investigation along with the establishment of priorities for this project’s implementation is not especially difficulty. However, this first requires obtaining the numerical values and weights of criteria and applying multiple criteria decision making methods. The presentation of the analysis of projects under comparison is in the form of a grouped decision making matrix, where columns contain  $n$  alternative projects under consideration. Meanwhile the rows represent all the pertinent quantitative and conceptual information (see Table 1) [14].

Table 1: Grouped decision making matrix of the multiple criteria analysis of projects under comparison

Criteria describing the alternatives	*	Weights	Measurement units	Projects under comparison					
				$a_1$	$a_2$	...	$a_j$	...	$a_n$
$X_1$	$z_1$	$q_1$	$m_1$	$x_{11}$	$x_{12}$	...	$x_{1j}$	...	$x_{1n}$
$X_2$	$z_2$	$q_2$	$m_2$	$x_{21}$	$x_{22}$	...	$x_{2j}$	...	$x_{2n}$
$X_3$	$z_3$	$q_3$	$m_3$	$x_{31}$	$x_{32}$	...	$x_{3j}$	...	$x_{3n}$
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
$X_i$	$z_i$	$q_i$	$m_i$	$x_{i1}$	$x_{i2}$	...	$x_{ij}$	...	$x_{in}$
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
$X_m$	$z_m$	$q_m$	$m_m$	$x_{m1}$	$x_{m2}$	...	$x_{mj}$	...	$x_{mn}$

Conceptual information pertinent to projects (i.e., texts, drawings, graphics, video tapes and virtual and augmented realities)

\* – The sign  $z_i(+(-))$  indicates that a greater (lesser) criterion value corresponds to greater (lesser) significance for stakeholders.

The INVAR method [14] assumes direct and proportional dependence of significance and a priority of investigated versions in a system of criteria that adequately describe the alternatives and on the values and weights of those criteria. Significance, priority, utility degree and investment value of alternatives, presentation of quantitative recommendations and optimization of different criteria are determined in 11 stages.

INVAR method stages 1-5 are identical as COPRAS method [9, 10, 14].

**Stage 1.** First, form a weighted, normalized decision making matrix D. The purpose of this stage is to receive dimensionless, weighted values from the comparative indices. Upon establishing the dimensionless values of the indices, all criteria, originally having different dimensions, become comparable. The following formula for this purpose is:

$$d_{ij} = \frac{x_{ij} \cdot q_i}{\sum_{j=1}^n x_{ij}}, \quad i = \overline{1, m}; \quad j = \overline{1, n}, \quad (1)$$

where  $x_{ij}$  is the value of the  $i$ -th criterion in the  $j$ -th alternative of a solution,  $m$  – the number of criteria,  $n$  – the number of the alternatives compared and  $q_i$  – the weight of the  $i$ -th criterion.

The sum of dimensionless, weighted index values  $d_{ij}$  of each criterion  $x_i$  is always equal to the weight  $q_i$  of this criterion:

$$q_i = \sum_{j=1}^n d_{ij}, \quad i = \overline{1, m}; \quad j = \overline{1, n}. \quad (2)$$

In other words, the value of the weight  $q_i$  of the investigated criterion proportionally distributes over all the alternative versions  $a_j$  according to their values  $x_{ij}$ .

**Stage 2.** The sums of weighted, normalized indices describing the  $j$ -th version are calculated. The minimizing of index  $S_{-j}$  and maximizing of index  $S_{+j}$  describe the versions. The lower value of minimizing indices is better (investment). The greater value of maximizing indices is better (management, health & wellbeing, energy, transport, water, materials, waste, land use & ecology,

pollution, innovation). The formula for calculating the sums is:

$$S_{+j} = \sum_{i=1}^m d_{+ij}; \quad S_{-j} = \sum_{i=1}^m d_{-ij}, \quad i = \overline{1, m}; \quad j = \overline{1, n}. \quad (3)$$

In this case, the values  $S_{+j}$  (the greater the project "pluses" of this value, the greater the satisfaction of interested parties) and  $S_{-j}$  (the lower the project "minuses" of this value, the better the goal attainments by interested parties) express the degree of goals attained by interested parties pertinent to each alternative project. In any case, the sum of the "pluses"  $S_{+j}$  and the "minuses"  $S_{-j}$  of all alternative projects is always respectively equal to all the sums of the weights of the maximizing and minimizing criteria:

$$\begin{aligned} S_+ &= \sum_{j=1}^n S_{+j} = \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^n d_{+ij}, \\ S_- &= \sum_{j=1}^n S_{-j} = \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^n d_{-ij}, \quad i = \overline{1, m}, \quad j = \overline{1, n}. \end{aligned} \quad (4)$$

This way the calculations performed may be additionally checked.

**Stage 3.** The basis pertinent to determining the significance (efficiency) of the versions under comparison constitutes the descriptions of the features pertinent to positive project "pluses" and to negative project "minuses". The formula for finding the relative significance  $Q_j$  of each project  $a_j$  is:

$$Q_j = S_{+j} + \frac{S_{-min} \cdot \sum_{j=1}^n S_{-j}}{S_{-j} \cdot \sum_{j=1}^n \frac{S_{-min}}{S_{-j}}}, \quad j = \overline{1, n}, \quad (5)$$

where  $S_{-min}$  is the least value of the  $S_{-j}$ .

**Stage 4.** Determining the priorities of projects pertains to the axiom that the greater the  $Q_j$  the higher the efficiency (priority) of the project. The analysis of the method presented allows stating that it may be easily applied for evaluating projects and selecting the most efficient of them, while fully aware of the physical meaning of the process. Moreover, it allows formulating a reduced criterion  $Q_j$  directly proportional to the relative effect of the compared criteria values  $d_{ij}$  and weights  $q_i$  on the end result (see Table 2). Determining the utility degrees of the project under consideration as well as the investment value of a project under valuation occurs in seven stages.

**Stage 5.** The formula used for the calculation pertinent to project  $a_j$  utility degree  $N_j$  is:

$$N_j = (Q_j \div Q_{max}) \cdot 100\% \quad (6)$$

Here  $Q_j$  and  $Q_{max}$  are the significances of the project obtained from Equation 5.

The utility degree  $N_j$  of project  $a_j$  indicates the satisfaction level of the interested parties. The more goals achieved and the more important they are, the higher is the degree of project utility.

**Stage 6.** Calculating the investment value  $x_{1j \text{ cycle } e}$  of the project under deliberation  $a_j$  can be by means of  $e$  approximation. The problem may be stated as follows: What investment value  $x_{1j \text{ cycle } e}$  of the assessed project  $a_j$  will make it equally competitive on the market with the projects under comparison ( $a_1 - a_n$ ) (see Table 3)? The measurement of the value  $x_{1j \text{ cycle } e}$  is by price (Euro, British pounds, U.S. dollar or others) per square meter.

Table 2: Alternative results of a multiple criteria analysis

Criteria describing the alternatives	*	Weights	Measurement units	Projects under comparison					
				$a_1$	$a_2$	...	$a_j$	...	$a_n$
$X_1$	$z_1$	$q_1$	$m_1$	$d_{11}$	$d_{12}$	...	$d_{1j}$	...	$d_{1n}$
$X_2$	$z_2$	$q_2$	$m_2$	$d_{21}$	$d_{22}$	...	$d_{2j}$	...	$d_{2n}$
$X_3$	$z_3$	$q_3$	$m_3$	$d_{31}$	$d_{32}$	...	$d_{3j}$	...	$d_{3n}$
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
$X_i$	$z_i$	$q_i$	$m_i$	$d_{i1}$	$d_{i2}$	...	$d_{ij}$	...	$d_{in}$
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
$X_m$	$z_m$	$q_m$	$m_m$	$d_{m1}$	$d_{m2}$	...	$d_{mj}$	...	$d_{mn}$
Sums of weighted, normalized, maximizing indices (project "pluses") of the project				$S_{+1}$	$S_{+2}$	...	$S_{+j}$	...	$S_{+n}$
Sums of weighted, normalized, minimizing indices (project "minuses") of the project				$S_{-1}$	$S_{-2}$	...	$S_{-j}$	...	$S_{-n}$
Significance of the project				$Q_1$	$Q_2$	...	$Q_j$	...	$Q_n$
Priority of the project				$P_1$	$P_2$	...	$P_j$	...	$P_n$
Utility degree of the project (%)				$N_1$	$N_2$	...	$N_j$	...	$N_n$

\* - The sign  $z_i(+(-))$  indicates that a greater (lesser) criterion value corresponds to greater (lesser) significance for stakeholders.

Assuming  $N_{je} > \sum_{j=1}^n N_j \div n$ , then continue increasing the value  $x_{1j\ cycle\ e}$  of this project  $a_j$  (see Table 3) by 1 unit costs per square meter (e.g., 1 Euro/m<sup>2</sup>) and performing calculations as per Stages 1-6 with the gained decision making matrix until arriving at Inequality  $N_{je} < \sum_{j=1}^n N_j \div n$  during  $e$  approximations. Then the final value  $x_{1j\ cycle\ e}$  (while  $N_{je} > \sum_{j=1}^n N_j \div n$ ) equals the investment value:

$$x_{1j\ iv} = x_{1j\ cycle\ e} \tag{7}$$

Assuming  $N_{je} < \sum_{j=1}^n N_j \div n$ , then continue reducing the value  $x_{1j\ cycle\ e}$  of this project  $a_j$  (see Table 3) by 1 unit costs per square meter (e.g., 1 Euro/m<sup>2</sup>) and performing calculations as per Stages 1-6 with the gained decision making matrix until arriving at Inequality  $N_{je} > \sum_{j=1}^n N_j \div n$  during  $e$  approximations. Then the final value  $x_{1j\ cycle\ e}$  (while  $N_{je} < \sum_{j=1}^n N_j \div n$ ) equals the investment value (see Formula 7).

**Stage 7.** Performing the optimization of value  $x_{ij}$  is possible for any criterion during  $e$  approximations. It is necessary to determine, what the optimized value  $x_{ij\ cycle\ e}$  should be for alternative  $a_j$  to be equally competitive in the market with the other alternatives under comparison ( $a_1 - a_n$ ) (see Table 3).

The optimization of value  $x_{ij}$  for any criterion pertinent to the project under deliberation  $a_j$  may be determined by performing complex analyses of the benefits and drawbacks of these projects. Development of a grouped, decision making matrix for the multiple criteria analysis of a project transpires by calculating the optimization of value  $x_{ij}$  during  $e$  approximations of a

Table 3: Grouped decision making matrix for the investment value assessment of project  $a_j$  (optimization of value  $x_{ij}$  for any criterion)

Criteria describing the alternatives	*	Weights	Measurement units	Project under valuation and projects under comparison					
				$a_1$	$a_2$	...	$a_j$	...	$a_n$
$X_1$	$z_1$	$q_1$	$m_1$	$x_{11}$	$x_{12}$	...	<b><math>x_{1j}</math> cycle <math>e</math></b>	...	$x_{1n}$
$X_2$	$z_2$	$q_2$	$m_2$	$x_{21}$	$x_{22}$	...	$x_{2j}$	...	$x_{2n}$
$X_3$	$z_3$	$q_3$	$m_3$	$x_{31}$	$x_{32}$	...	$x_{3j}$	...	$x_{3n}$
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
$X_i$	$z_i$	$q_i$	$m_i$	$x_{i1}$	$x_{i2}$	...	<b><math>x_{ij}</math> cycle <math>e</math></b>	...	$x_{in}$
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
$X_m$	$z_m$	$q_m$	$m_m$	$x_{m1}$	$x_{m2}$	...	$x_{mj}$	...	$x_{mn}$
$N_{je}$				$N_{1e}$	$N_{2e}$	...	<b><math>N_{je}</math></b>	...	$N_{ne}$

Conceptual information pertinent to projects (i.e., texts, drawings, graphics, video tapes and virtual and augmented realities)

\* – The sign  $z_i(+(-))$  indicates that a greater (lesser) criterion value corresponds to greater (lesser) significance for stakeholders.

project under valuation by the block-diagram, as presented in Figure 1. Use of Stages 1-5 and 7 accomplishes a set assessment of all the positive and negative features of a project (criteria, its values and weights). Perform calculations by using a grouped decision making matrix (see Table 3) and Stages 1-5 and 7.

The calculation for the corrected optimization of value  $x_{ij \text{ cycle } e}$  for any criterion  $a_j$  is by formula:

$$\text{Assuming } N_{je} > \sum_{j=1}^n N_j \div n \text{ and } X_i \text{ is } X_{i-}, \text{ then } x_{ij \text{ cycle } e} = x_{ij \text{ cycle } 0} \times (1 + e \times r), \quad e = \overline{1, r}$$

$$\text{Assuming } N_{je} > \sum_{j=1}^n N_j \div n \text{ and } X_i \text{ is } X_{i+}, \text{ then } x_{ij \text{ cycle } e} = x_{ij \text{ cycle } 0} \times (1 - e \times r), \quad e = \overline{1, r}$$

(8a)

$$\text{Assuming } N_{je} < \sum_{j=1}^n N_j \div n \text{ and } X_i \text{ is } X_{i-}, \text{ then } x_{ij \text{ cycle } e} = x_{ij \text{ cycle } 0} \times (1 - e \times r), \quad e = \overline{1, r}$$

$$\text{Assuming } N_{je} < \sum_{j=1}^n N_j \div n \text{ and } X_i \text{ is } X_{i+}, \text{ then } x_{ij \text{ cycle } e} = x_{ij \text{ cycle } 0} \times (1 + e \times r), \quad e = \overline{1, r}$$

(8b)

where  $e$  is the number of cycles during which optimization value  $x_{ij \text{ cycle } e}$  can be determined by means of  $e$  approximation of the project under deliberation  $a_j$ . Meanwhile  $r$  is the amount by which the optimization value  $x_{ij \text{ cycle } e}$  of the project under deliberation  $a_j$  increases (decreases) by means of cycling, to satisfy Inequality 9.  $X_{i+}(X_{i-})$  – indicates that a greater (lesser) criterion value corresponds to a greater (lesser) significance for stakeholders.

Assuming the utility degree  $N_{je}$  of the project under deliberation  $a_j$  is greater than the average utility degree (Formula 8a) of the projects under comparison, it means project  $a_j$  is more beneficial on average than the projects under comparison are. For the project under deliberation

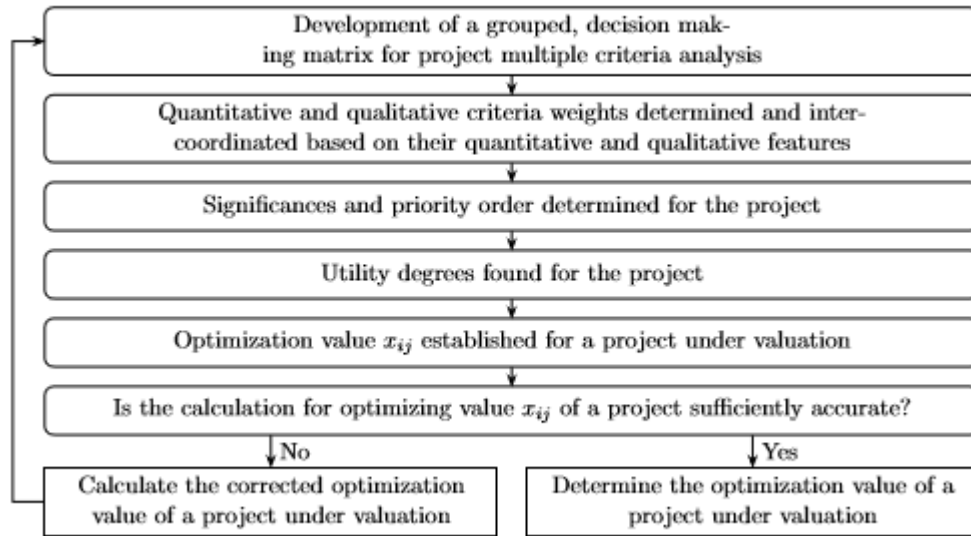


Figure 1: Block-diagram for a project's optimization value assessment

to be equally competitive on the market with the projects under comparison  $(a_2 - a_n)$ , reduce (increase) the value  $x_{ij\ cycle\ e}$  of its criterion (see formula 8a) under deliberation by an  $r$  amount over  $e$  cycles, until satisfying the next inequality:

$$|N_{je} - \sum_{j=1}^n N_{je} \div n| < s \quad (9)$$

where  $s$  is the accuracy, by percentage, to be achieved by calculating the value  $x_{ij\ cycle\ e}$  of the criterion under deliberation of project  $a_j$ . For example, given that  $s = 0.5\%$ , the number of calculation approximations will be lower than it is at  $s = 0.1\%$ .

The decision maker selects the  $r$  and  $s$  amounts depending on the accuracy needed for the calculations.

Assuming the utility degree  $N_{je}$  of the project under deliberation  $a_x$  is lower than the utility degree (Formula 8b) is on average of the projects under comparison, it means project  $a_j$  is less beneficial on average than the projects under comparison are. For the project under deliberation to be equally competitive on the market with comparison projects  $(a_1 - a_n)$ , increase (reduce) the value  $x_{ij\ cycle\ e}$  of its criterion (see formula 8b) under deliberation by an  $r$  amount over  $e$  cycles, until satisfying Inequality 9.

Assuming Inequality 9 is not satisfied, it means the calculation of the value  $x_{ij\ cycle\ e}$  of the criterion under deliberation of the project under valuation  $a_j$  is not sufficiently accurate, and it is necessary to repeat the approximation cycle. Thereby the corrected revision of value  $x_{ij\ cycle\ e}$  of the project under valuation substitutes into a grouped decision making matrix of a project's multiple criteria analysis. Recalculate Formulae 1-8 until satisfying Inequality 9.

There is a determination of the optimization value  $x_{ij\ cycle\ e}$  for any criterion of the project under valuation  $a_j$ . Upon satisfaction of Inequality 9, the application of the next, Formula 10 is to determine the optimization value  $x_{ij\ cycle\ e}$  for any criterion of project  $a_j$ :

$$x_{ij\ opt\ value} = x_{ij\ cycle\ e} \quad (10)$$

**Stage 9.** Presenting indicator  $x_{ij}$  of the quantitative recommendation  $i_{ij}$  showing the percentage of a possible improvement in the value of indicator  $x_{ij}$  for it to become equal to the best value

$x_{i\ max}$  of criterion  $X_i$  is by the formula (see Tables 4 and 8):

$$i_{ij} = |x_{ij} - x_{i\ max}| \div x_{ij} \times 100\% \quad (11)$$

where  $i_{ij}$  is the quantitative recommendation  $i_{ij}$  of indicator  $x_{ij}$  showing the percentage of a possible improvement in the value of indicator  $x_{ij}$  for it to become equal to the best value  $x_{i\ max}$  of criterion  $X_i$ . Meanwhile  $x_{i\ max}$  is the value of the indicator of the best criterion  $X_i$  of the variants under comparison.

**Stage 10.** Indicator  $x_{ij}$  of quantitative recommendation  $r_{ij}$  showing the percentage of possible improvement of utility degree  $N_j$  of alternative  $a_j$  upon presentation of  $x_{ij} = x_{i\ max}$ . In other words,  $r_{ij}$  shows the percentage of possible improvement in the utility degree  $N_j$  of alternative  $a_j$ , assuming the value of indicator  $x_{ij}$  can be improved up to the best value  $x_{i\ max}$  of the indicator of criterion  $X_i$ . The calculation is by formula:

$$r_{ij} = (q_i \times x_{i\ max}) \div (S_{-j} + S_{+j}) \times 100\% \quad (12)$$

where  $r_{ij}$  is the indicator  $x_{ij}$  of the quantitative recommendation  $r_{ij}$  showing the percentage of possible improvement in the utility degree  $N_j$  of alternative  $a_j$ , when  $x_{ij} = x_{i\ max}$ .

The submission of the quantitative recommendations  $i_{ij}$  and  $r_{ij}$  of value  $x_{ij}$  is in a matrix form (see Table 4).

**Stage 11.** This stage involves calculation by approximation  $e$  cycle to determine, what the value  $x_{1j\ cycle\ e}$  should be for the project under deliberation  $a_j$  to become the best among those under deliberation. The problem may be stated as follows: What investment value  $x_{1j\ cycle\ e}$  of the project under valuation  $a_j$  will make it the best on the market, as per the projects under comparison ( $a_1 - a_n$ ) (see Table 3)? The measurement of value  $x_{1j\ cycl\ e}$  is by price (Euro, British pounds, U.S. dollar or others) per square meter. The reduction in the price of this project per 1 square meter unit (e.g., 1 Euro/m<sup>2</sup>) continues until utility degree  $N_{j\ e}$  of the project under deliberation  $a_j$  equals 100%.

### 3 Case Studies: Describing the sustainability of buildings assessed by the INVAR Method

#### 3.1 Case Study 1: Calculations of the IKEA shopping center utility degree

A specific example appears next to demonstrate the INVAR method more clearly. Five buildings for retail operations  $a_1 - a_5$  are under analysis for this case study. All the data come from the BREEAM pre-assessment reports and other sources pertinent to IKEA shopping center  $a_1$  [26,27], Orchard Park District Centre  $a_2$  [28], Friargate Court & Retail Units  $a_3$  [29], Dorking Store  $a_4$  [30] and Retail Foodstore  $a_5$  [31]. Table 5 shows this data. Table 5 consists of criteria (BREEAM Sections and investment), their values (BREEAM Section scores and prices per square meter) and weights. The sum of the weights of all the BREEAM criteria (BREEAM Sections) is equal to one, because the calculation of the section score section has assessed the weighting. The weight of the Investment criterion is compared to the sum of the weights from all the other criteria (BREEAM Sections). This associates with the requirement that the price of these projects must equal the achieved results.

The basis for performing an assessment of the sustainability of retail buildings consists of the 11 INVAR method stages. These calculations appear in brief below.

Stage 1: The weighted normalized decision making matrix  $D$  is formed (see Formula 1, Table 5 and 9). The first formula for this purpose is:



Table 4: Quantitative recommendations submitted in a matrix form

Criteria describing the alternatives	*	Weights	Measurement units	Compared projects					
				$a_1$	$a_2$	...	$a_j$	...	$a_n$
$X_1$	$z_1$	$q_1$	$m_1$	$x_{11}$	$x_{12}$	...	$x_{1j}$	...	$x_{1n}$
Possible improvement of the value of indicator $x_{1j}$ for it to become equal to the best value $x_{1max}$ of criterion $X_1$			%	$i_{11}$	$i_{12}$	...	$i_{1j}$	...	$i_{1n}$
Possible improvement of the utility degree $N_j$ of alternative $a_j$ upon presentation of $x_{1j} = x_{1max}$			%	$r_{11}$	$r_{12}$	...	$r_{1j}$	...	$r_{1n}$
$X_2$	$z_2$	$q_2$	$m_2$	$x_{21}$	$x_{22}$	...	$x_{2j}$	...	$x_{2n}$
Possible improvement in the value of indicator $x_{2j}$ for it to become equal to the best value $x_{2max}$ of criterion $X_2$			%	$i_{21}$	$i_{22}$	...	$i_{2j}$	...	$i_{2n}$
Possible improvement of utility degree $N_j$ of alternative $a_j$ upon presentation of $x_{2j} = x_{2max}$			%	$r_{21}$	$r_{22}$	...	$r_{2j}$	...	$r_{2n}$
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
$X_i$	$z_i$	$q_i$	$m_i$	$x_{i1}$	$x_{i2}$	...	$x_{ij}$	...	$x_{in}$
Possible improvement in the value of indicator $x_{ij}$ for it to be equal to the best value $x_{imax}$ of criterion $X_i$			%	$i_{i1}$	$i_{i2}$	...	$i_{ij}$	...	$i_{in}$
Possible improvement in utility degree $N_j$ of alternative $a_j$ upon presentation of $x_{ij} = x_{imax}$			%	$r_{i1}$	$r_{i2}$	...	$r_{ij}$	...	$r_{in}$
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
$X_m$	$z_m$	$q_m$	$m_m$	$x_{m1}$	$x_{m2}$	...	$x_{mj}$	...	$x_{mn}$
Possible improvement in the value of indicator $x_{mj}$ for it to be equal to the best value $x_{mmax}$ of criterion $X_m$			%	$i_{m1}$	$i_{m2}$	...	$i_{mj}$	...	$i_{mn}$
Possible improvement of utility degree $N_j$ of alternative $a_j$ upon presentation of $x_{mj} = x_{mmax}$			%	$r_{m1}$	$r_{m2}$	...	$r_{mj}$	...	$r_{mn}$

$$d_{11} = 10 \times 1774 \div (1774 + 1953.8 + 2370 + 1890 + 2045) = 1.7682$$

$$d_{12} = 1.1 \times 1953.8 \div (1774 + 1953.8 + 2370 + 1890 + 2045) = 1.9474$$

$$d_{13} = 1.1 \times 2370 \div (1774 + 1953.8 + 2370 + 1890 + 2045) = 2.3623$$

The value of weight  $q_i$  of the investigated criterion distributes proportionally among retail buildings under analysis  $a_j$  according to their values  $x_{ij}$  (see Table 6). For example:

$$q_2 = 0.1068 + 0.2403 + 0.1942 + 0.2403 + 0.2185 = 1.0$$

$$q_4 = 0.2709 + 0.1996 + 0.0925 + 0.1913 + 0.2457 = 1.0$$

Stage 2: The sums of weighted normalized indices describing the  $j$ -th version are calculated. Formula 3 calculates the sums:

$$S_{+1} = 0.1068 + 0.2293 + 0.2709 + 0.2056 + 0.0957 + 0.1186 + 0.13 + 0.1944 + 0.2557 + 0.0 = 1.607$$

$$S_{-1} = 1.7682 \text{ etc.}$$

In any case, the sums of the “pluses”  $S_{+j}$  and “minuses”  $S_{-j}$  of all alternative projects are always, respectively, equal to all sums of the weights of maximizing and minimizing criteria (see Formula 4):

$$S_{+} = 1.607 + 1.7515 + 2.2967 + 1.6557 + 2.689 = 10.0$$

$$S_{-} = 1.7682 + 1.9474 + 2.3623 + 1.8838 + 2.0383 = 10.0$$

Table 5: Initial data for INVAR method calculations (see [32])

Quantitative and qualitative information pertinent to retail buildings								
Criteria describing the retail buidlings	*	Measurement units	Weight	Compared retail buidlings				
				a <sub>1</sub>	a <sub>2</sub>	a <sub>3</sub>	a <sub>4</sub>	a <sub>5</sub>
Investment	-	Euro/m <sup>2</sup>	10	<b>1774</b>	1953.8	2370	1890	2045
Management	+	Points	1	4.8	10.8	8.73	10.8	9.82
Health & Wellbeing	+	Points	1	10.65	10	7.5	8.3	10
Energy	+	Points	1	14.44	10.64	<b>4.93</b>	10.2	13.1
Transport	+	Points	1	5.6	4.92	7.11	2.5	7.11
Water	+	Points	1	1.98	5.33	4	4.7	4.67
Materials	+	Points	1	4.12	5.77	9.62	4.8	10.42
Waste	+	Points	1	3.22	4.69	3.75	5.6	7.5
Land Use & Ecology	+	Points	1	7	6	7	7	9
Pollution	+	Points	1	5.8	3.08	6.15	3.8	3.85
Innovation	+	Points	1	0	0	2	0	2

\* – The sign “+/-” indicates that a greater (lesser) criterion value corresponds to greater (lesser) significance for a user (stakeholder).

Stage 3: Formula 5 finds the relative significance  $Q_j$  of each project  $a_j$  (see Table 6):

$$Q_1 = 1.607 + \frac{1.7682 \times (1.7682 + 1.9474 + 2.3623 + 1.8838 + 2.0383)}{1.7682 \times (1.7682 \div 1.7682 + 1.7682 \div 1.9474 + 1.7682 \div 2.3623 + 1.7682 \div 1.8838 + 1.7682 \div 2.0383)} = 3.8478$$

$$Q_2 = 1.7515 + \frac{1.7682 \times (1.7682 + 1.9474 + 2.3623 + 1.8838 + 2.0383)}{1.9474 \times (1.7682 \div 1.7682 + 1.7682 \div 1.9474 + 1.7682 \div 2.3623 + 1.7682 \div 1.8838 + 1.7682 \div 2.0383)} = 3.7861$$

Stage 4: The greater the  $Q_j$ , the higher is the efficiency (priority) of the retail buildings:  $Q_5 > Q_3 > Q_1 > Q_2 > Q_4$  (see Table 6:  $4.6329 > 3.974 > 3.8478 > 3.7861 > 3.759$ ).

Stage 5: Formula 6 is used for calculating utility degree  $N_j$ :

$$N_1 = (3.8478 \div 4.6329) \times 100\% = 83.05\%$$

$$N_2 = (3.7861 \div 4.6329) \times 100\% = 81.72\%$$

$$N_3 = (3.974 \div 4.6329) \times 100\% = 85.78\%$$

$$N_4 = (3.759 \div 4.6329) \times 100\% = 81.14\%$$

$$N_5 = (4.6329 \div 4.6329) \times 100\% = 100\%$$

The results of a multiple criteria evaluation of the sustainable retail buildings under analysis appear in Table 6. Table 6 shows that the fifth version  $a_5$  is the best by utility degree equaling  $N_5 = 100\%$ . The third version  $a_3$  was second according to priority, and its utility degree was equal to  $N_3 = 85.78\%$ .

### 3.2 Case Study 2: Calculations of the IKEA shopping center investment value

The calculations of the investment value of the IKEA shopping center under valuation are according to data from Table 5 and Stages 1-6. Construction of the IKEA shopping center for furniture and home furnishings was in several stages. First, there was selection of a lot and then, the detailed planning for merging two lots. Upon approval of the detailed plan, there were

Table 6: INVAR method calculation results

Quantitative and qualitative information pertinent to retail buildings								
Criteria describing retail buildings	*	Measurement units	Weight	Retail buildings under comparison				
				a <sub>1</sub>	a <sub>2</sub>	a <sub>3</sub>	a <sub>4</sub>	a <sub>5</sub>
Investment	-	Euro/m <sup>2</sup>	10	1.7682	1.9474	2.3623	1.8838	2.0383
Management	+	Points	1	0.1068	0.2403	0.1942	0.2403	0.2185
Health & Wellbeing	+	Points	1	0.2293	0.2153	0.1615	0.31787	0.2153
Energy	+	Points	1	0.2709	0.1996	0.0925	0.1913	0.2457
Transport	+	Points	1	0.2056	0.1806	0.261	0.0918	0.261
Water	+	Points	1	0.0957	0.2577	0.1934	0.2273	0.2258
Materials	+	Points	1	0.1186	0.1661	0.277	0.1382	0.3
Waste	+	Points	1	0.13	0.1894	0.1515	0.2262	0.3029
Land Use & Ecology	+	Points	1	0.1944	0.1667	0.1944	0.1944	0.25
Pollution	+	Points	1	0.2557	0.1358	0.2712	0.1675	0.1698
Innovation	+	Points	1	0	0	0.5	0	0.5
Sums of weighted, normalized maximizing indices (project "pluses") of the retail buildings				1.607	1.7515	2.2967	1.6557	2.689
Sums of weighted, normalized minimizing (projects "minuses") indices of the retail buildings				1.7682	1.9474	2.3623	1.8838	2.0383
Significance of the retail buildings				3.8478	3.7861	3.974	3.759	4.6329
Priority of the retail buildings				3	4	2	5	1
Utility degree of the retail buildings (%)				83.05%	81.72%	85.78%	81.14%	100%

\* – The sign "+/-" indicates that a greater (lesser) criterion value corresponds to greater (lesser) significance for a user (stakeholder).

ecological tests conducted on the lot, followed by the design and then the arrangement of the lot. Some 2,400 units of garages and their foundations were demolished. The partial use of processed construction materials was for new construction, and the remaining materials, for transferring to other waste handlers. The amount of contaminated soil removed was 1,000 tons (see Figure 2). The retail buildings designed a parking lot for 953 automobiles of which 37 are for the disabled and 36 for families with children. The unused areas of the lot have planted greenery. The water supply of the city provides the water for the building. Centralized sewage networks of the city handle the captured wastewater from the facilities and rainwater that then flow into appropriate piping. The facility contains an installed, autonomous water heating system using solar energy. Air conditioning installations consist of efficient heat pumps and the ventilation – of productive recovery systems. The centralized heating network supplies heat. The design and construction of the building were according to customer specifications and were in consideration of permissible noise level maintenance. The project blueprint stipulates an external enclosure that insulates noise to no less than 32 dB. The main indicators of the project are total building area – 25,359 m<sup>2</sup>, main area – 21,533 m<sup>2</sup>, building height – 15.84 m, drinking water supply pipeline – 3,300 m, wastewater pipeline – 1,900 m and rainwater pipeline – 2,358 m. Air conditioning and ventilation systems are installed in the retail buildings for assuring hygienic stipulations for the facilities and the required, stable air temperature and moisture stipulations for the administrative facilities of the work environment. The lighting for the building divides into zones that are all independently controlled. Only certified materials having the least impact on the environment over the life of the building were used for the building's internal and external systems. The insulation materials used were those having the least impact on the environment but containing the best thermal insulation properties. The investment of the IKEA shopping center was 47.2 mln. Euro.

The aim was to establish, what the investment value  $x_{11\ cycle\ e}$  (see the bold-faced numbers



Figure 2: IKEA shopping center for furniture and home furnishings: a) IKEA lot under arrangement and b) operating IKEA shopping center

in Tables 5 and 7) of the investment should be for  $a_1$  to be equally competitive in the market against the other retail buildings under comparison ( $a_2 - a_5$ ). Applications of INVAR Stages 1-6 serve to accomplish a set assessment of the positive and negative features of all these retail buildings.

As Table 7 shows, the most beneficial retail building during the 124<sup>th</sup> cycle of approximation ( $e = 124$ ), according to its designation for use, is  $a_5$  ( $N_{5\ 124} = 100\%$ ). The second under comparison that is most beneficial is  $a_1$  ( $N_{1\ 124} = 86.43\%$ ) and the third under comparison –  $a_3$  ( $N_{3\ 124} = 85.77\%$ ). The calculated utility degrees of the sustainable retail buildings under comparison make it apparent that the cost  $x_{11\ 124} = 1650$  (Euro/m<sup>2</sup>) for IKEA shopping center under valuation  $a_1$  is still too high. Therefore this retail buildings  $a_1$  is not equally competitive in the market, as compared to the sustainable retail buildings under comparison, once the assessment of their sets of specific positive and negative features is complete. Stage 6 also affirms the same fact: the calculation of the investment value for retail building  $a_1$  during the 124<sup>th</sup> cycle of approximation was not sufficiently accurate (see column 9 in Table 7). Table 7 shows that Inequality (see column 9 in Table 7) was unsatisfactory for the first 144 cycles. The determination of the investment value of  $a_1$  under valuation with respect to the other retail buildings under comparison appears in the final, 145<sup>th</sup> approximation cycle –  $N_{1\ 145\ cycle} = 87.04\%$  ( $N_{2\ 145\ cycle} = 81.53\%$ ,  $N_{3\ 145\ cycle} = 85.77\%$ ,  $N_{4\ 145\ cycle} = 80.91\%$  and  $N_{5\ 145\ cycle} = 100\%$ ). In the 144<sup>th</sup> approximation cycle, the utility degree of project under comparison  $a_1$  calculates at  $N_1 = 87.02\%$ . The degrees of utility for the retail buildings under analysis show that  $a_1$  under valuation in the 145<sup>th</sup> approximation cycle is more beneficial than is the second retail building under comparison  $a_2$  by 5.51% and more beneficial than retail building under comparison  $a_4$  by 6.13%. There was a revision of the investment value  $x_{11}$  in every cycle (from  $x_{11\ cycle\ 0} = 1774$  Euro/m<sup>2</sup>), each by 1 Euro/m<sup>2</sup> by size until Inequality (see column 9 in Table 7) was satisfied ( $x_{11\ cycle\ 145} = 1629$  Euro/m<sup>2</sup>). Thus investment value  $x_{11\ cycle\ e}$  (respectively, 1774, ..., 1629) is checked for accuracy pertinent to retail building  $a_1$  by placing them into the bold cell of the decision making matrix (see Table 5). All calculations were repeated according to Stages 1-6 until Inequality (see column 9 in Table 7) was satisfied in the 145<sup>th</sup> cycle. Table 7 shows that the calculations of investment value  $x_{11\ cycle\ e}$  become more and more accurate with each, next  $e$  approximation cycle for retail building  $a_1$  under analysis.

### 3.3 Case Study 3: Provision of recommendations

The results of the provision of recommendations by applying Stages 1-5, 9 and 10 of the INVAR method for the retail buildings appear in Table 8. Initial data for the calculations are presented in Table 5. Meanwhile, the recommendations for bettering the criteria for these retail buildings under comparison appear in Table 8. Recommendations arrive in a matrix (see Table

Table 7: Revised changes in value and investment value determinations for IKEA shopping center under valuation  $a_1$ 

Approximation cycle	*	Utility degree change in retail buildings under deliberation by rationalizing the corrected value $x_{11\ cycle\ e}$ of building $a_1$					**	***
		Utility degree $N_{1e}$	Utility degree $N_{2e}$	Utility degree $N_{3e}$	Utility degree $N_{4e}$	Utility degree $N_{5e}$		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
0	<b>1774</b>	83.05%	81.72%	85.78%	81.14%	100%	86.34%	$ -4.11\%  < 0.02\%$
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
124	<b>1650</b>	86.43%	81.56%	85.77%	80.95%	100%	86.94%	$ -0.64\%  < 0.02\%$
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
134	<b>1640</b>	86.72%	81.55%	85.77%	80.93%	100%	87.00%	$ -0.34\%  < 0.02\%$
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
144	<b>1630</b>	87.02%	81.53%	85.77%	80.91%	100%	87.05%	$ -0.03\%  < 0.02\%$
145	$x_{1j\ iv} =$ <b>1629</b>	87.04%	81.53%	85.77%	80.91%	100%	87.05%	$ -0.01\%  < 0.02\%$

\* - revised changes in value and investment value  $x_{11\ cycle\ e}$  (Euro/m<sup>2</sup>) of IKEA shopping center under valuation  $a_1$ .

\*\*  $(N_{1e} + N_{2e} + N_{3e} + N_{4e} + N_{5e}) \div 5$

\*\*\* Inequality to determine, whether the calculation of revised value  $x_{11\ cycle\ e}$  of IKEA shopping center under valuation  $a_1$  is sufficiently accurate.

8) by using Formulae 10 and 11 during Stages 9 and 10. Every window in Table 8 describing Alternative  $a_j$  consists of three parts:  $x_{ij}$  – the value of the  $i$ -th criterion ( $X_i$ ) in the  $j$ -th alternative; quantitative recommendation  $i_{ij}$  showing the percentage of a possible improvement in the value of indicator  $x_{ij}$  for it to become equal to the best value  $x_{i\ max}$  of criterion  $X_i$  ( $x_{ij} = x_{i\ max}$ ); and quantitative recommendation  $r_{ij}$  showing the percentage of possible improvement of utility degree  $N_j$  of alternative  $a_j$  upon presentation of  $x_{ij} = x_{i\ max}$ . If, for example, it would be possible to improve the assessment of the Health & Wellbeing criterion for building  $a_3$  ( $i_{33} = 42\%$ ) from the  $x_{33} = 7.5$  value achieved up to the best value for  $a_1$  ( $x_{34} = 10.65$ ), then the utility degree  $N_3$  for building  $a_3$  would increase by  $r_{33} = 2.1\%$ . Analogically, if the assessment of the Energy criterion for building  $a_3$  ( $x_{43} = 5.1$ ) could be improved up to the amount of the best assessment for building  $a_1$  ( $x_{41} = 14.44$ ), then the effectiveness of the criterion Energy for building  $a_3$  would increase by  $i_{43} = 183.14\%$ , and the utility degree  $N_3$  would increase by  $r_{43} = 9.1569\%$  (see Table 8).

### 3.4 Case Study 4: Optimization of the value

This example, based on Stages 1-5 and 7, will determine, what the value  $x_{43\ cycle\ e}$  of the BREEAM Energy Section (see the number in bold in Table 5) must be for project  $a_3$  to be equally competitive on the market, as compared to the other retail buildings under comparison ( $a_1, a_2, a_4, a_5$ ) by a set assessment of all their positive and negative features. It is possible to optimize any one of the criteria or their composite parts by the new INVAR method, which deliberates the sustainability of retail buildings under analysis in an integrated manner by using Pre-assessment Reports. The optimization of the score of the Energy Section of BREEAM, which appears next, will serve as an example (see Table 5).

The determination of the optimized score  $x_{43\ cycle\ e}$  for the project under valuation  $a_3$  appears

Table 8: Quantitative recommendations submitted in a matrix form

Quantitative and qualitative information pertinent to alternatives								
Criteria describing the alternatives	*	Measurement units	Weight	Alternatives				
				$a_1$	$a_2$	$a_3$	$a_4$	$a_5$
Health & Wellbeing	+	Points	1	$x_{31} = 10.65$ (0%) (0%)	10 (6.5%) (0.325%)	$x_{33} = 7.5$ ( $i_{33} = 42\%$ ) ( $r_{33} = 2.1\%$ )	8.3 (28.31%) (1.4157%)	10 (6.5%) (0.325%)
Energy	+	Points	1	$x_{41} = 14.44$ (0%) (0%)	10.64 (35.71%) (1.7857%)	$x_{43} = 5.1$ ( $i_{43} = 183.14\%$ ) ( $r_{43} = 9.1569\%$ )	10.2 (41.57%) (2.0784%)	13.1 (10.23%) (0.5115%)

\*- The sign “+/-” indicates that a greater (lesser) criterion value corresponds to a greater (lesser) significance for a user (stakeholder).

in Table 9. The formulation of this task is the following: determine, what the optimized score  $x_{43\ cycle\ e}$  should be for building under valuation  $a_3$  for it to be equally competitive in the market, as compared with the sustainable retail buildings ( $a_1, a_2, a_4, a_5$ ) after a complex assessment of their positive and negative features. The decision making matrix (see Table 5), the amalgamated block diagram submitted in Figure 1 and the calculations performed by Stages 1-5 and 7 serve as the basis for these calculations. The results of the  $e$  approximation cycles of these calculations appear in Table 9. The aim was to establish, what the score  $x_{43\ cycle\ e}$  should be (see the numbers

Table 9: What score  $x_{43\ cycle\ e}$  should be for building  $a_3$  to be equally competitive in the market with other retail buildings under comparison ( $a_1, a_2, a_4, a_5$ )

Approximation cycle	Score $x_{43\ cycle\ e}$	Utility degree $N_{1e}$	Utility degree $N_{2e}$	Utility degree $N_{3e}$	Utility degree $N_{4e}$	Utility degree $N_{5e}$	*	**
0	<b>4.93</b>	83.05%	81.72%	85.78%	81.14%	100%	86.34%	$ -0.7\%  > 0.1\%$
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
7	<b>5</b>	83.05%	81.72%	85.81%	81.14%	100%	86.34%	$ -0.67\%  > 0.1\%$
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
57	<b>5.5</b>	83.04%	81.72%	86.03%	81.14%	100%	86.39%	$ -0.45\%  > 0.1\%$
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
107	<b>6</b>	83.02%	81.72%	86.25%	81.14%	100%	86.43%	$ -0.19\%  > 0.1\%$
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
157	<b>6.5</b>	83.01%	81.72%	86.47%	81.14%	100%	86.47%	$ 0\%  < 0.1\%$

\*  $(N_{1e} + N_{2e} + N_{3e} + N_{4e} + N_{5e}) \div 5$

\*\* Inequality 9 to determine, whether the calculation of revised value  $x_{43\ cycle\ e}$  of under valuation  $a_3$  is sufficiently accurate.

in bold in Tables 5 and 9) for building  $a_3$  to be equally competitive in the market with other retail buildings under comparison ( $a_1, a_2, a_4, a_5$ ). Applications of INVAR Stages 1-5 and 7 serve to accomplish a set assessment of the positive and negative features of all these retail buildings. Table 9 shows that Inequality 9 was unsatisfactory for the first 156 cycles. The score  $x_{43}$  was increased in every cycle (from  $x_{43\ cycle\ 0} = 4.93$ ) by an amount of 0.01 until Inequality 9 was satisfied ( $x_{43\ cycle\ 157} = 6.5$ ). Then scores  $x_{43\ cycle\ e}$  (respectively, 4.94, ... and 6.5) are checked for accuracy pertinent to building  $a_3$  by placing these results into the bold cell of the decision making matrix (see Tables 5 and 9). All the calculations were repeated according to Formulae Stages 1-5 and 7 until Inequality 9 was satisfied in the 157<sup>th</sup> cycle. Table 9 shows the

Table 10: What should the value  $x_{11\ cycle\ e}$  of IKEA shopping center be for this project to become the best among those under deliberation?

Approximation cycle	Investment value $x_{11\ cycle\ e}$ (Euro/m <sup>2</sup> )	Utility degree				
		$N_{1e}$	$N_{2e}$	$N_{3e}$	$N_{4e}$	$N_{5e}$
0	1774	83.05%	81.72%	85.78%	81.14%	100%
124	1650	86.43%	81.56%	85.77%	80.95%	100%
134	1640	86.72%	81.55%	85.77%	80.93%	100%
174	1600	87.92%	81.49%	85.77%	80.86%	100%
274	1500	91.14%	81.34%	85.77%	80.68%	100%
424	1350	96.73%	81.07%	85.76%	80.37%	100%
474	1300	98.84%	80.97%	85.76%	80.25%	100%
484	1290	99.27%	80.95%	85.76%	80.23%	100%
494	1280	99.72%	80.93%	85.76%	80.20%	100%
499	1275	99.94%	80.92%	85.76%	80.19%	100%
504	1270	100%	80.78%	85.62%	80.04%	99.84%

calculations of score  $x_{43\ cycle\ e}$  becoming more and more accurate with each, next approximation cycle for building under analysis  $a_3$ .

### 3.5 Case Study 5: What should the value of the IKEA shopping center be for this project to be the best among those under deliberation?

The calculations in this example are by approximation  $e$  cycle to determine, what the value  $x_{11\ cycle\ e}$  of IKEA shopping center  $a_1$  should be for this project to become best among those under deliberation  $a_1$ - $a_5$ . The price of this project continues being reduced by 1 Euro/m<sup>2</sup> until  $N_{1e}$  becomes equal to 100% (Stages 1-5 and 11).

Table 10 shows that  $N_{1e} = 100\%$  had not been satisfied over 503 cycles. That is the reason the investment value  $x_{11\ cycle\ e}$  of the project under valuation  $a_1$ , which had been revised 504 times, was entered into the decision making matrix (Table 5) for the multiple criteria analysis of retail building. Table 10 shows that, in each following approximation cycle, the calculation of the revised investment value  $x_{11\ cycle\ e}$  of building under valuation  $a_1$  became more and more accurate.

All the calculations by Stages 1-5 and 11 were repeated, until  $N_{1e} = 100\%$  was satisfied in the 504<sup>th</sup> cycle. It can be stated that this project can become the most effective among the projects under comparison, once the value  $x_{11\ cycle\ e}$  of the IKEA shopping center = 1270 Euro/m<sup>2</sup>.

## 4 Conclusion

This article recommends a new multiple criteria analysis, the INVAR method (Degree of project Utility and investment value Assessments along with recommendation provisions). INVAR method stages 1-5 are identical as COPRAS method [9, 10, 14]. It generates conditions to assess management, health & wellbeing, energy, transport, water, materials, waste, land use

& ecology, pollution, innovation, comfort, quality of life and aesthetics as well as its technical, economic, legal/regulatory, educational, social, cultural, ethical, psychological, emotional, religious and ethnic aspects in conformity with requirements and opportunities for clients, designers, contractors, users and other stakeholders. The systems and the values and weights of the quantitative and qualitative criteria express these requirements. The INVAR method allows determining the strongest and weakest aspects of each project pertinent to a sustainable building and its constituent parts. Performance of the analyses is to learn by what degree one alternative is better than is another. Furthermore, this discloses the details, why this is so. The practical case studies presented in this research validate this developed method. An analysis of the results reached by the INVAR method permits making the following claims:

- The INVAR method can determine the utility degree and investment values of the projects under deliberation.
- The INVAR method can provide digital tips for improving projects.
- The INVAR method can define, what the value of a selected criterion needs to be for the project under deliberation to be equally competitive in the market, as compared with others under comparison after a set assessment of all their positive and negative features.
- The INVAR method can calculate, what the value of the project under deliberation should be for this project to become the best among others under deliberation.

## Acknowledgment

The author thanks Ms. Vijole Arbas for her help in translating to English and editing this article.

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